

South Dakota Division of Insurance

Spring 2007

Sircon for States in South Dakota

South Dakota will begin using Sircon for States to provide the insurance industry with online services and other services, such as license renewals and producer education tracking. In addition, individual agents can apply for licenses, look for education course offerings, change personal and contact information, and perform many other self service activities directly over the Internet.

The processes are paperless and fast. South Dakota serves more than 49,000 active agents and more than 2,700 agencies. South Dakota online services available through Sircon allow producers or agencies to:

Apply for License

Submit new license requests or add a line of authority to an active license

Renew a License

Submit license renewal requests in "real time" over the internet

Update Information

Keep current name, address, phone, and email address information on file with the state.

Long Term Care Partnership Program

In a joint effort with the Department of Social Services and a Working Group composed of stakeholders and legislators, the Division of Insurance is moving forward with implementing the long term care partnership program in South Dakota. A necessary precursor to full implementation of the program will be administrative rules by both the Division of Insurance and the Department of Social Services. Notices of the rules hearings can be expected to be issued in April. The overall goal is to have the partnership program up and running by July 1, 2007.

Look up Education Course Information

Check compliance education courses and upcoming classroom offerings.

Print a letter of certification

Download and print an official letter stating that your license is in good standing.

Workers Compensation First Aid

The definition of first aid is important in the area of workers' compensation insurance but not always clearly understood by employers or the insurance industry. Bulletin 06-08 prepared by the Division of Insurance provides a guide intended to provide assistance in determining whether treatment provided for an injury is first aid. You may obtain a copy of the bulletin at http://www.state.sd.us/drr2/reg/insurance/legal/bulletin_index.html

2007 Legislation

The following Legislation will be enacted July 1, 2007

HB 1016

An act to exempt law enforcement and emergency vehicle accidents and convictions from certain driving records. Disallows increases in auto insurance premiums for accidents if the insured is responding to a call of duty as a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical technician. This legislation is not applicable to commercial lines.

HB 1051

An act to amend insurance producer license requirements. This legislation removes the unnecessary requirement for a business entity to have a licensed producer in order to maintain its license. It will make the Annual Agent licensing renewal date and the date their fees are due consistent. The dates will be amended from May 1st every two years to April 30th every two years. It will also change the agent appointment termination reporting format so that South Dakota is consistent with national reporting standard.

HB 1052

An act to modify requirements for coordination of benefits between health plans. When the NAIC model legislation was adopted in South Dakota a clerical error resulted in a portion of a subsection being omitted from the legislation. The legislation will add missing language on what constitutes a plan

HB 1053

An act to provide for standards for Health Maintenance Organizations in individual health insurance. With the entering of HMOs into the Individual Health Insurance market it is important to clarify for consumer protection reasons that those same statutory provisions apply to HMOs as well as to regular health insurers. This will add HMOs to the requirements found in the individual health chapter.

HB 1054

An act to modify the requirements for the audit of independent insurers. The bill ensures South Dakota will maintain NAIC accreditation. It will allow the Division to ensure confidentiality of information that is shared and received on a state, federal and international level. The legislation disallows certain contract provisions for accountants and insurance companies.

HB 1169

An Act to establish the Zaniya Project Task Force, to prescribe its mission and composition, and to declare an emergency. The Zaniya Project Task Force, will be attached to the South Dakota Health Care Commission. The task force is required to develop a plan, to provide health insurance to South Dakota residents who lack health insurance coverage.

SB 39

An act to provide claims information to commercial property casualty insureds. Legislation will require insurance companies to provide claims information to their commercial policyholders to allow them to adequately seek bids on their insurance. It will allow them to obtain the most cost effective commercial coverage.

SB 46

An act to clarify tax exempt and licensure status of fraternal benefit societies. The legislation will correct an erroneous statutory cross reference. It will remove the inappropriate license exemption based upon fraternal formed based upon certain trades or occupations. Other fraternal exemptions such as premium tax will be maintained.

SB 47

An act to prevent illegal multiple employer welfare arrangements and other illegal health insurers. Legislation will set up reporting requirements for licensees to report unlicensed MEWAs to the Division. Legislation will also require due diligence for licensees determining whether an unlawful MEWA exists and requires insurers to set up supervisory procedures and controls.

SB 65

An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the reimbursement for medical assistance made by certain insurers to the state. This legislation is designed to enhance data matching for the Medicaid recovery program. It will also change the definition of Insurer to be in compliance with federal regulatory changes.

SB 108

An Act to provide for the continuation of certain health insurance coverage for dependents. This will allow parents the option to continue coverage for their adult children until age 30 if they are full time students. Employers will not be required to contribute premiums for those who choose to continue coverage. Those that have other creditable coverage are ineligible for mandatory continuation of coverage under this legislation.

SB 186

An Act to revise the definition of long-term care insurance. The partnership program encourages citizens to purchase long term care insurance rather than depend solely upon Medicaid for their long term care needs. This act reduces the minimum coverage to one year to encourage more people to buy long term care insurance.

Mark the Date

April 25, 2007 - 2:00 p.m.

Administrative Rules Public Hearing on Chapters 20:06:08,
20:06:21, 20:06:28 and 20:06:49

April 30, 2007

Last day the Division will accept Paper filings

May 1, 2007

Non Resident Producer renewal available at Sircon for States

Surplus Line Broker License renewal available at Sircon for States

Appointment Renewals for Insurance Companies are available at Sircon for States

Carriers can subscribe to Sircon for States and take advantage of online appointment processing and other compliance and producer management services by calling 517-381-4450. www.sircon.com/southdakota



South Dakota Division of Insurance
445 E Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605-773-3563
Fax: 605-773-5369
Insurance@state.sd.us