

Arkansas Insurance Department

Asa Hutchinson
Governor



Allen Kerr
Commissioner

March 27, 2020

BULLETIN NO. 11-2020

TO: ALL RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT ARKANSAS INSURANCE AGENCIES AND PRODUCERS, ALL LICENSED INSURERS, APPROVED SURPLUS LINE INSURERS, LICENSED SURPLUS LINES BROKERS, HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS, FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES, FARMERS' MUTUAL AID SERVICES CORPORATIONS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

FROM: ARKANSAS INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF INSURANCE PRODUCER LICENSE RENEWALS AND CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

The Arkansas Insurance Commissioner is issuing this Bulletin to assist individuals and entities regulated by the Arkansas Insurance Department as they deal with urgent needs caused by the occurrence of the COVID-19 virus in Arkansas.

The Arkansas Insurance Department is committed to assisting its fellow state agencies, local health departments, emergency managers, and health care providers in providing for the health and welfare of the people of Arkansas.

On March 11, 2020, Governor Asa Hutchinson issued Executive Order 20-03 declaring a statewide state of emergency in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus among Arkansans. The Order may impact various insurance regulatory statutes so that the Department may effectively render maximum assistance to overcome any potential impediment to the rapid and orderly rendering of assistance to our citizens affected by the virus.

LICENSE RENEWALS

The Arkansas Insurance Department is aware of the widespread business and employee disruptions caused by the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus.

To assist agencies and producers affected by these disruptions the Department is **temporarily halting converting any individual producer's license status from active to inactive for failure to submit their producer renewal application or renewal fees** as required by Ark. Code Ann. § 23-64-507 and Arkansas Insurance Department Rule 57.

To avoid further disruptions, the final renewal date for individual producers has been extended and individual producer licenses shall not be converted to inactive status for the 60-day period beginning with the date Executive Order 20-03 was issued.

All producer licensees may continue to operate as normal.

Appointments should remain in effect consistent with Ark. Code Ann. § 23-64-219(b).

FAILURE TO RENEW BEFORE EXTENDED EXPIRATION DATE

If a producer fails to renew their license on or before the expiration of the Executive Order 20-03, then the license will expire as of that date. Upon expiration, individual producers will be assessed fees and penalties in order to lift the expiration pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 23-64-507(c), 23-61-401 and Arkansas Insurance Department Rule 57.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Any continuing education hours required to be completed by an individual producer's renewal date pursuant to Arkansas Insurance Department Rule 50 shall not be due until May 15, 2020.

Any questions regarding this Bulletin should be directed to insurance.license@arkansas.gov at the Arkansas Insurance Department or by phone at 501-371-2600.



ALLEN KERR
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
STATE OF ARKANSAS

March 27, 2020
DATE