CHAPTER 45-03-07.1
CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE MODEL REGULATION

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45-03-07.1-01. Credit for reinsurance - Reinsurer licensed in this state.

Pursuant to subsection 1 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01, the commissioner shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer that was licensed in this state as of any date on which statutory financial statement credit for reinsurance is claimed.

History: Effective October 1, 1995; amended effective October 1, 2002; January 1, 2016.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-02. Credit for reinsurance - Accredited reinsurers.

1. Pursuant to subsection 2 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01, the commissioner shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer that is accredited as a reinsurer in this state as of the date on which statutory financial statement credit for reinsurance is claimed. An accredited reinsurer must:

   a. File a properly executed form AR-1 as evidence of its submission to this state's jurisdiction and to this state's authority to examine its books and records;

   b. File with the commissioner a certified copy of a certificate of authority or other acceptable evidence that it is licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in at least one state, or, in the case of a United States branch of an alien assuming insurer, is entered through and licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in at least one state;

   c. File annually with the commissioner a copy of its annual statement filed with the insurance department of its state of domicile or, in the case of an alien assuming insurer, with the state through which it is entered and in which it is licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance, and a copy of its most recent audited financial statement; and

   d. Maintain a surplus as regards policyholders in an amount not less than twenty million dollars, or obtain the affirmative approval of the commissioner upon a finding that it has adequate financial capacity to meet its reinsurance obligations and is otherwise qualified to assume reinsurance from domestic insurers.

2. If the commissioner determines that the assuming insurer has failed to meet or maintain any of these qualifications, the commissioner may upon written notice and opportunity for hearing,

suspend or revoke the accreditation. Credit may not be allowed a domestic ceding insurer under this section if the assuming insurer's accreditation has been revoked by the commissioner, or if the reinsurance was ceded while the assuming insurer's accreditation was under suspension by the commissioner.

History: Effective October 1, 1995; amended effective October 1, 2002; January 1, 2016.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-03. Credit for reinsurance - Reinsurer domiciled in another state.

1. Pursuant to subsection 3 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01, the commissioner shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer that as of any date on which statutory financial statement credit for reinsurance is claimed:

   a. Is domiciled in, or, in the case of a United States branch of an alien assuming insurer, is entered through, a state that employs standards regarding credit for reinsurance substantially similar to those applicable under North Dakota Century Code chapter 26.1-31.2 and this chapter;

   b. Maintains a surplus as regards policyholders in an amount not less than twenty million dollars; and

   c. Files a properly executed form AR-1 with the commissioner as evidence of its submission to this state's authority to examine its books and records.

2. The provisions of this section relating to surplus as regards policyholders do not apply to reinsurance ceded and assumed pursuant to pooling arrangements among insurers in the same holding company system. As used in this section, "substantially similar" standards means credit for reinsurance standards which the commissioner determines equal or exceed the standards of North Dakota Century Code chapter 26.1-31.2 and this chapter.

History: Effective October 1, 1995; amended effective October 1, 2002; January 1, 2016.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-04. Credit for reinsurance - Reinsurers maintaining trust funds.

1. Pursuant to subsection 4 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01, the commissioner shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer that, as of any date on which statutory financial statement credit for reinsurance is claimed, and thereafter for so long as credit for reinsurance is claimed, maintains a trust fund in an amount prescribed in this section in a qualified United States financial institution as defined in subsection 2 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-03, for the payment of the valid claims of its United States domiciled ceding insurers, their assigns and successors in interest. The assuming insurer shall report annually to the commissioner substantially the same information as that required to be reported on the national association of insurance commissioners annual statement form by licensed insurers, to enable the commissioner to determine the sufficiency of the trust fund.

2. The following requirements apply to the following categories of assuming insurer:

   a. The trust fund for a single assuming insurer must consist of funds in trust in an amount not less than the assuming insurer's liabilities attributable to reinsurance ceded by United States domiciled insurers, and in addition, the assuming insurer shall maintain a trusteed surplus of not less than twenty million dollars, except as provided in subdivision b.

b. At any time after the assuming insurer has permanently discontinued underwriting new business secured by the trust for at least three full years, the commissioner with principal regulatory oversight of the trust may authorize a reduction in the required trusteed surplus, but only after a finding, based on an assessment of the risk, that the new required surplus level is adequate for the protection of United States ceding insurers, policyholders, and claimants in light of reasonably foreseeable adverse loss development. The risk assessment may involve an actuarial review, including an independent analysis of reserves and cash flows, and shall consider all material risk factors, including when applicable the lines of business involved, the stability of the incurred loss estimates and the effect of the surplus requirements on the assuming insurer's liquidity or solvency. The minimum required trusteed surplus may not be reduced to an amount less than thirty percent of the assuming insurer's liabilities attributable to reinsurance ceded by United States ceding insurers covered by the trust.

c. (1) The trust fund for a group, including incorporated and individual unincorporated underwriters, must consist of:

(a) For reinsurance ceded under reinsurance agreements with an inception, amendment, or renewal date on or after January 1, 1993, funds in trust in an amount not less than the respective underwriters' several liabilities attributable to business ceded by the United States domiciled ceding insurers to any underwriter of the group;

(b) For reinsurance ceded under reinsurance agreements with an inception date on or before December 31, 1992, and not amended or renewed after that date, notwithstanding the other provisions of this chapter, funds in trust in an amount not less than the respective underwriters' several insurance and reinsurance liabilities attributable to business written in the United States; and

(c) In addition to these trusts, the group shall maintain a trusteed surplus of which one hundred million dollars must be held jointly for the benefit of the United States domiciled ceding insurers of any member of the group for all years of account.

(2) The incorporated members of the group may not be engaged in any business other than underwriting as a member of the group and must be subject to the same level of regulation solvency control by the group's domiciliary regulator as are the unincorporated members. The group shall, within ninety days after its financial statements are due to be filed with the group's domiciliary regulator, provide to the commissioner:

(a) An annual certification by the group's domiciliary regulator of the solvency of each underwriter member of the group; or

(b) If a certification is unavailable, a financial statement prepared by independent public accountants, of each underwriter member of the group.

d. (1) The trust fund for a group of incorporated insurers under common administration, whose members possess aggregate policyholders surplus of ten billion dollars, calculated and reported in substantially the same manner as prescribed by the annual statement instructions and accounting practices and procedures manual of the national association of insurance commissioners, and which has continuously transacted an insurance business outside the United States for at least three years immediately prior to making application for accreditation, must:

(a) Consist of funds in trust in an amount not less than the assuming insurers' several liabilities attributable to business ceded by United States domiciled ceding insurers to any members of the group pursuant to reinsurance contracts issued in the name of the group;

(b) Maintain a joint trusteed surplus of which one hundred million dollars shall be held jointly for the benefit of United States domiciled ceding insurers of any member of the group; and

(c) File a properly executed form AR-1 as evidence of the submission to this state's authority to examine the books and records of any of its members and shall certify that any member examined will bear the expense of any examination.

(2) Within ninety days after the statements are due to be filed with the group's domiciliary regulator, the group shall file with the commissioner an annual certification of each underwriter member's solvency by the members' domiciliary regulators and financial statements, prepared by independent public accountants, of each underwriter member of the group.

3. a. Credit for reinsurance shall not be granted unless the form of the trust and any amendments to the trust have been approved by either the commissioner of the state where the trust is domiciled or the commissioner of another state who, pursuant to the terms of the trust instrument, has accepted responsibility for regulatory oversight of the trust. The form of the trust and any trust amendments also shall be filed with the commissioner of every state in which the ceding insurer beneficiaries of the trust are domiciled. The trust instrument must provide that:

(1) Contested claims shall be valid and enforceable out of funds in trust to the extent remaining unsatisfied thirty days after entry of the final order of any court of competent jurisdiction in the United States;

(2) Legal title to the assets of the trust shall be vested in the trustee for the benefit of the grantor's United States ceding insurers, their assigns and successors in interest;

(3) The trust shall be subject to examination as determined by the commissioner;

(4) The trust shall remain in effect for as long as the assuming insurer, or any member or former member of a group of insurers, shall have outstanding obligations under reinsurance agreements subject to the trust; and

(5) No later than February twenty-eighth of each year, the trustees of the trust shall report to the commissioner in writing setting forth the balance in the trust and listing the trust's investments at the preceding yearend, and shall certify the date of termination of the trust, if so planned, or certify that the trust shall not expire prior to the following December thirty-first.

b. (1) Notwithstanding any other provisions in the trust instrument, if the trust fund is inadequate because it contains an amount less than the amount required by this subsection or if the grantor of the trust has been declared insolvent or placed into receivership, rehabilitation, liquidation, or similar proceedings under the laws of its state or country of domicile, the trustee shall comply with an order of the commissioner with regulatory oversight over the trust or with an order of a court of competent jurisdiction directing the trustee to transfer to the commissioner with regulatory oversight over the trust or other designated receiver all of the assets of the trust fund.

(2) The assets shall be distributed by and claims shall be filed with and valued by the commissioner with regulatory oversight over the trust in accordance with the laws of the state in which the trust is domiciled applicable to the liquidation of domestic insurance companies.

(3) If the commissioner with regulatory oversight over the trust determines that the assets of the trust fund or any part thereof are not necessary to satisfy the claims of the United States beneficiaries of the trust, the commissioner with regulatory oversight over the trust shall return the assets, or any part thereof, to the trustee for distribution in accordance with the trust agreement.

(4) The grantor shall waive any right otherwise available to it under United States law that is inconsistent with this provision.

4. For purposes of this section, the term "liabilities" means the assuming insurer's gross liabilities attributable to reinsurance ceded by United States domiciled insurers excluding liabilities that are otherwise secured by acceptable means, and includes:

a. For business ceded by domestic insurers authorized to write accident and health and property and casualty insurance:

(1) Losses and allocated loss expenses paid by the ceding insurer, recoverable from the assuming insurer;

(2) Reserves for losses reported and outstanding;

(3) Reserves for losses incurred but not reported;

(4) Reserves for allocated loss expenses; and

(5) Unearned premiums.

b. For business ceded by domestic insurers authorized to write life, health, and annuity insurance:

(1) Aggregate reserves for life policies and contracts net of policy loans and net due and deferred premiums;

(2) Aggregate reserves for accident and health policies;

(3) Deposit funds and other liabilities without life or disability contingencies; and

(4) Liabilities for policy and contract claims.

5. Assets deposited in trusts established pursuant to North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01 and this section shall be valued according to their current fair market value and shall consist only of cash in United States dollars, certificates of deposit issued by a United States financial institution as defined in subsection 1 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-03, clean, irrevocable, unconditional, and "evergreen" letters of credit issued or confirmed by a qualified United States financial institution, as defined in subsection 1 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-03, and investments of the type specified in this subsection, but investments in or issued by an entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with either the grantor or beneficiary of the trust shall not exceed five percent of total investments. No more than twenty percent of the total of the investments in the trust may be foreign investments authorized under paragraph 5 of subdivision a, subdivision c, paragraph 2 of subdivision f, and subdivision g, and no more than ten percent of the total of the investments in the trust may be securities denominated in foreign currencies. For

purposes of applying the preceding sentence, a depository receipt denominated in United States dollars and representing rights conferred by a foreign security shall be classified as a foreign investment denominated in a foreign currency. The assets of a trust established to satisfy the requirements of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01 shall be invested only as follows:

a. Government obligations that are not in default as to principal or interest, that are valid and legally authorized, and that are issued, assumed, or guaranteed by:

   (1) The United States or by any agency or instrumentality of the United States;

   (2) A state of the United States;

   (3) A territory, possession, or other governmental unit of the United States;

   (4) An agency or instrumentality of a governmental unit referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 if the obligations shall be by law, statutory or otherwise, payable, as to both principal and interest, from taxes levied or by law required to be levied or from adequate special revenues pledged or otherwise appropriated or by law required to be provided for making these payments, but shall not be obligations eligible for investment under this paragraph if payable solely out of special assessments on properties benefited by local improvements; or

   (5) The government of any other country that is a member of the organization for economic cooperation and development and whose government obligations are rated A or higher, or the equivalent, by a rating agency recognized by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners.

b. Obligations that are issued in the United States, or that are dollar-denominated and issued in a non-United States market, by a solvent United States institution other than an insurance company or that are assumed or guaranteed by a solvent United States institution other than an insurance company and that are not in default as to principal or interest if the obligations:

   (1) Are rated A or higher or the equivalent by a securities rating agency recognized by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners, or if not so rated, are similar in structure and other material respects to other obligations of the same institution that are so rated;

   (2) Are insured by at least one authorized insurer, other than the investing insurer or a parent, subsidiary, or affiliate of the investing insurer, licensed to insure obligations in this state and, after considering the insurance, are rated AAA or the equivalent by a securities rating agency recognized by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners; or

   (3) Have been designated as class one or class two by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners.

c. Obligations issued, assumed, or guaranteed by a solvent non-United States institution chartered in a country that is a member of the organization for economic cooperation and development or obligations of United States corporations issued in a non-United States currency, provided that in either case the obligations are rated A or higher, or the equivalent, by a rating agency recognized by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners.

d. An investment made pursuant to the provisions of subdivisions a, b, or c shall be subject to the following additional limitations:

(1) An investment in or loan upon the obligations of an institution other than an institution that issues mortgage-related securities shall not exceed five percent of the assets of the trust;

(2) An investment in any one mortgage-related security shall not exceed five percent of the assets of the trust;

(3) The aggregate total investment in mortgage-related securities shall not exceed twenty-five percent of the assets of the trust; and

(4) Preferred or guaranteed shares issued or guaranteed by a solvent United States institution are permissible investments if all of the institution's obligations are eligible as investments under paragraphs 1 and 3 of subdivision b, but shall not exceed two percent of the assets of the trust.

e. As used in this section:

(1) "Mortgage-related security" means an obligation that is rated AA or higher or the equivalent by a securities rating agency recognized by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners and that either:

(a) Represents ownership of one or more promissory notes or certificates of interest or participation in the notes, including any rights designed to assure servicing of, or the receipt or timeliness of receipt by the holders of the notes, certificates, or participation of amounts payable under, the notes, certificates, or participation, that:

[1] Are directly secured by a first lien on a single parcel of real estate, including stock allocated to a dwelling unit in a residential cooperative housing corporation, upon which is located a dwelling or mixed residential and commercial structure, or on a residential manufactured home as defined in 42 U.S.C.A. section 5402(6), whether the manufactured home is considered real or personal property under the laws of the state in which it is located; and

[2] Were originated by a savings and loan association, savings bank, commercial bank, credit union, insurance company, or similar institution that is supervised and examined by a federal or state housing authority, or by a mortgagee approved by the secretary of housing and urban development pursuant to 12 U.S.C.A. sections 1709 and 1715-b, or, when the notes involve a lien on the manufactured home, by an institution or by a financial institution approved for insurance by the secretary of housing and urban development pursuant to 12 U.S.C.A. section 1703; or

(b) Is secured by one or more promissory notes or certificates of deposit or participations in the notes, with or without recourse to the insurer of the notes, and, by its terms, provides for payments of principal in relation to payments, or reasonable projections of payments, or notes meeting the requirements of subparagraph a.

(2) "Promissory note", when used in connection with a manufactured home, shall also include a loan, advance, or credit sale as evidenced by a retail installment sales contract or other instrument.

f. Equity interests.

(1) Investments in common shares or partnership interests of a solvent United States institution are permissible if:

(a) Its obligations and preferred shares, if any, are eligible as investments under this subsection; and

(b) The equity interests of the institution, except an insurance company, are registered on a national securities exchange as provided in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. § 78a to 78kk or otherwise registered pursuant to that Act, and if otherwise registered, price quotations for them are furnished through a nationwide automated quotations system approved by the financial industry regulatory authority, or successor organization. A trust shall not invest in equity interests under this paragraph an amount exceeding one percent of the assets of the trust even though the equity interests are not so registered and are not issued by an insurance company.

(2) Investments in common shares of a solvent institution organized under the laws of a country that is a member of the organization for economic cooperation and development, if:

(a) All its obligations are rated A or higher, or the equivalent, by a rating agency recognized by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners; and

(b) The equity interests of the institution are registered on a securities exchange regulated by the government of a country that is a member of the organization for economic cooperation and development.

(3) An investment in or loan upon any one institution's outstanding equity interests shall not exceed one percent of the assets of the trust. The cost of an investment in equity interests made pursuant to this paragraph, when added to the aggregate cost of other investments in equity interests then held pursuant to this paragraph, shall not exceed ten percent of the assets in the trust.

g. Obligations issued, assumed, or guaranteed by a multinational development bank, provided the obligations are rated A or higher, or the equivalent, by a rating agency recognized by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners.

h. Investment companies.

(1) Securities of an investment company registered pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940, 15 U.S.C. section 80a, are permissible investments if the investment company:

(a) Invests at least ninety percent of its assets in the types of securities that qualify as an investment under subdivision a, b, or c or invests in securities that are determined by the commissioner to be substantively similar to the types of securities set forth in subdivision a, b, or c; or

(b) Invests at least ninety percent of its assets in the types of equity interests that qualify as an investment under paragraph 1 of subdivision f.

(2) Investments made by a trust in investment companies under this paragraph shall not exceed the following limitations:

(a) An investment in an investment company qualifying under subparagraph a of paragraph 1 shall not exceed ten percent of the assets in the trust and the aggregate amount of investment in qualifying investment companies shall not exceed twenty-five percent of the assets in the trust; and

(b) Investments in an investment company qualifying under subparagraph b of paragraph 1 shall not exceed five percent of the assets in the trust and the aggregate amount of investment in qualifying investment companies shall be included when calculating the permissible aggregate value of equity interests pursuant to paragraph 1 of subdivision f.

i. Letters of credit.

(1) In order for a letter of credit to qualify as an asset of the trust, the trustee must have the right and the obligation pursuant to the deed of trust or some other binding agreement, as duly approved by the commissioner, to immediately draw down the full amount of the letter of credit and hold the proceeds in trust for the beneficiaries of the trust if the letter of credit will otherwise expire without being renewed or replaced.

(2) The trust agreement shall provide that the trustee shall be liable for its negligence, willful misconduct, or lack of good faith. The failure of the trustee to draw against the letter of credit in circumstances in which a draw would be required shall be deemed to be negligence or willful misconduct.

6. A specific security provided to a ceding insurer by an assuming insurer pursuant to section 45-03-07.1-06 shall be applied, until exhausted, to the payment of liabilities of the assuming insurer to the ceding insurer holding the specific security prior to, and as a condition precedent for, presentation of a claim by the ceding insurer for payment by a trustee of a trust established by the assuming insurer pursuant to this section.

History: Effective October 1, 1995; amended effective December 1, 2001; October 1, 2002; January 1, 2016.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-04.1. Credit for reinsurance - Certified reinsurers.

1. Pursuant to subsection 5 of North Dakota Century Code Section 26.1-31.2-01, the commissioner shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer that has been certified as a reinsurer in this state at all times for which statutory financial statement credit for reinsurance is claimed under this section. The credit allowed shall be based upon the security held by or on behalf of the ceding insurer in accordance with a rating assigned to the certified reinsurer by the commissioner. The security shall be in a form consistent with the provisions of subsection 5 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01 and section 26.1-31.2-02 and North Dakota Administrative Code section 45-03-07.1-07, 45-03-07.1-08, or 45-03-07.1-09. The amount of security required in order for full credit to be allowed shall correspond with the following requirements:

a.

Ratings	Security Required
Secure - 1	0%
Secure - 2	0%
Secure - 3	20%

Secure - 4	50%
Secure - 5	75%
Vulnerable - 6	100%

b. Affiliated reinsurance transactions shall receive the same opportunity for reduced security requirements as all other reinsurance transactions.

c. The commissioner shall require the certified reinsurer to post one hundred percent, for the benefit of the ceding insurer or its estate, security upon the entry of an order of rehabilitation, liquidation, or conservation against the ceding insurer.

d. In order to facilitate the prompt payment of claims, a certified reinsurer shall not be required to post security for catastrophe recoverables for a period of one year from the date of the first instance of a liability reserve entry by the ceding company as a result of a loss from a catastrophic occurrence as recognized by the commissioner. The one year deferral period is contingent upon the certified reinsurer continuing to pay claims in a timely manner. Reinsurance recoverables for only the following lines of business as reported on the national association of insurance commissioners annual financial statement related specifically to the catastrophic occurrence will be included in the deferral:

(1) Line 1: Fire.

(2) Line 2: Allied lines.

(3) Line 3: Farmowners multiple peril.

(4) Line 4: Homeowners multiple peril.

(5) Line 5: Commercial multiple peril.

(6) Line 9: Inland marine.

(7) Line 12: Earthquake.

(8) Line 21: Auto physical damage.

e. Credit for reinsurance under this section shall apply only to reinsurance contracts entered into or renewed on or after the effective date of the certification of the assuming insurer. Any reinsurance contract entered into prior to the effective date of the certification of the assuming insurer that is subsequently amended after the effective date of the certification of the assuming insurer, or a new reinsurance contract, covering any risk for which collateral was provided previously, shall only be subject to this section with respect to losses incurred and reserves reported from and after the effective date of the amendment or new contract.

f. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the parties to a reinsurance agreement from agreeing to provisions establishing security requirements that exceed the minimum security requirements established for certified reinsurers under this section.

2. Certification procedure.

a. The commissioner shall post notice on the insurance department's website promptly upon receipt of any application for certification, including instructions on how members of the public may respond to the application. The commissioner may not take final action on

the application until at least thirty days after posting the notice required by this subdivision.

b. The commissioner shall issue written notice to an assuming insurer that has made application and been approved as a certified reinsurer. Included in the notice shall be the rating assigned the certified reinsurer in accordance with subsection 1. The commissioner shall publish a list of all certified reinsurers and their ratings.

c. In order to be eligible for certification, the assuming insurer shall meet the following requirements:

(1) The assuming insurer must be domiciled and licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in a qualified jurisdiction, as determined by the commissioner pursuant to subsection 3.

(2) The assuming insurer must maintain capital and surplus, or its equivalent, of no less than two hundred fifty million dollars calculated in accordance with paragraph 8 of subdivision d. This requirement may also be satisfied by an association including incorporated and individual unincorporated underwriters having minimum capital and surplus equivalents, net of liabilities, of at least two hundred fifty million dollars and a central fund containing a balance of at least two hundred fifty million dollars.

(3) The assuming insurer must maintain financial strength ratings from two or more rating agencies deemed acceptable by the commissioner. These ratings shall be based on interactive communication between the rating agency and the assuming insurer and shall not be based solely on publicly available information. These financial strength ratings will be one factor used by the commissioner in determining the rating that is assigned to the assuming insurer. Acceptable rating agencies include the following:

(a) Standard & Poor's;

(b) Moody's Investors Service;

(c) Fitch Ratings;

(d) A.M. Best Company; or

(e) Any other nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

(4) The certified reinsurer must comply with any other requirements reasonably imposed by the commissioner.

d. Each certified reinsurer shall be rated on a legal entity basis, with due consideration being given to the group rating where appropriate, except that an association including incorporated and individual unincorporated underwriters that has been approved to do business as a single certified reinsurer may be evaluated on the basis of its group rating. Factors that may be considered as part of the evaluation process include the following:

(1) The certified reinsurer's financial strength rating from an acceptable rating agency. The maximum rating that a certified reinsurer may be assigned will correspond to its financial strength rating as outlined in the table below. The commissioner shall use the lowest financial strength rating received from an approved rating agency in establishing the maximum rating of a certified reinsurer. A failure to obtain or maintain at least two financial strength ratings from acceptable rating agencies will result in loss of eligibility for certification.

Ratings	Best	S&P	Moody's	Fitch
Secure - 1	A++	AAA	Aaa	AAA
Secure - 2	A+	AA+, AA, AA-	Aa1, Aa2, Aa3	AA+, AA, AA-
Secure - 3	A	A+, A	A1, A2	A+, A
Secure - 4	A-	A-	A3	A-
Secure - 5	B++, B+	BBB+, BBB, BBB-	Baa1, Baa2, Baa3	BBB+, BBB, BBB-
Vulnerable - 6	B, B-, C++, C+, C, C-, D, E, F	BB+, BB, BB-, B+, B, B-, CCC, CC, C, D, R	Ba1, Ba2, Ba3, B1, B2, B3, Caa, Ca, C	BB+, BB, BB-, B+, B, B-, CCC, CC, CCC-, DD

(2) The business practices of the certified reinsurer in dealing with its ceding insurers, including its record of compliance with reinsurance contractual terms and obligations;

(3) For certified reinsurers domiciled in the United States, a review of the most recent applicable national association of insurance commissioners annual statement blank, either schedule F for property and casualty reinsurers, or schedule S for life and health reinsurers;

(4) For certified reinsurers not domiciled in the United States, a review annually of form CR-F for property and casualty reinsurers, or form CR-S for life and health reinsurers, attached as exhibits to this chapter;

(5) The reputation of the certified reinsurer for prompt payment of claims under reinsurance agreements, based on an analysis of ceding insurers' schedule F reporting of overdue reinsurance recoverables, including the proportion of obligations that are more than ninety days past due or are in dispute. with specific attention given to obligations payable to companies that are in administrative supervision or receivership;

(6) Regulatory actions against the certified reinsurer;

(7) The report of the independent auditor on the financial statements of the insurance enterprise, on the basis described in paragraph 8;

(8) For certified reinsurers not domiciled in the United States. audited financial statements. regulatory filings, and actuarial opinion as filed with the non-United States jurisdiction supervisor. Acceptable audited financial statements are those performed using:

(a) United States generally accepted accounting principles;

(b) International financial reporting standards if an audited footnote reconciling equity and net income to United States generally accepted accounting principles is included; or

(c) With the permission of the commissioner, audited international financial reporting standards statements with a reconciliation to United States generally accepted accounting principles certified by an officer of the company.

Upon the initial application for certification, the commissioner will consider audited financial statements for the last three years filed with its non-United States jurisdiction supervisor;

(9) The liquidation priority of obligations to a ceding insurer in the certified reinsurer's domiciliary jurisdiction in the context of an insolvency proceeding;

(10) A certified reinsurer's participation in any solvent scheme of arrangement, or similar procedure, which involves United States ceding insurers. The commissioner shall receive prior notice from a certified reinsurer that proposes participation by the certified reinsurer in a solvent scheme of arrangement; and

(11) Any other information deemed relevant by the commissioner.

e. Based on the analysis conducted under paragraph 5 of subdivision d of a certified reinsurer's reputation for prompt payment of claims, the commissioner may make appropriate adjustments in the security the certified reinsurer is required to post to protect its liabilities to United States ceding insurers, provided that the commissioner shall, at a minimum, increase the security the certified reinsurer is required to post by one rating level under paragraph 1 of subdivision d if the commissioner finds that:

(1) More than fifteen percent of the certified reinsurer's ceding insurance clients have overdue reinsurance recoverables on paid losses of ninety days or more which are not in dispute and which exceed one hundred thousand dollars for each cedent; or

(2) The aggregate amount of reinsurance recoverables on paid losses which are not in dispute that are overdue by ninety days or more exceeds fifty million dollars.

f. The assuming insurer must submit a properly executed form CR-1, attached as an exhibit to this chapter, as evidence of its submission to the jurisdiction of this state, appointment of the commissioner as an agent for service of process in this state, and agreement to provide security for one hundred percent of the assuming insurer's liabilities attributable to reinsurance ceded by United States ceding insurers if it resists enforcement of a final United States judgment. The commissioner shall not certify any assuming insurer that is domiciled in a jurisdiction that the commissioner has determined does not adequately and promptly enforce final United States judgments or arbitration awards.

g. The certified reinsurer must agree to meet applicable information filing requirements as determined by the commissioner, both with respect to an initial application for certification and on an ongoing basis. All information submitted by certified reinsurers which are not otherwise public information subject to disclosure shall be exempted from disclosure under North Dakota Century Code section 44-04-18 and shall be withheld from public disclosure. The applicable information filing requirements are, as follows:

(1) Notification within ten days of any regulatory actions taken against the certified reinsurer, any change in the provisions of its domiciliary license or any change in rating by an approved rating agency, including a statement describing the changes and the reasons therefor;

(2) Annually, form CR-F or CR-S, as applicable;

(3) Annually, the report of the independent auditor on the financial statements of the insurance enterprise, on the basis described in paragraph 4;

(4) Annually, audited financial statements, regulatory filings, and actuarial opinion as filed with the certified reinsurer's supervisor. Acceptable audited financial statements are those performed using:

(a) United States generally accepted accounting principles;

(b) International financial reporting standards if an audited footnote reconciling equity and net income to United States generally accepted accounting principles is included; or

(c) With the permission of the commissioner, audited international financial reporting standards statements with a reconciliation to United States generally accepted accounting principles certified by an officer of the company.

Upon the initial certification, audited financial statements for the last three years filed with the certified reinsurer's supervisor;

(5) At least annually, an updated list of all disputed and overdue reinsurance claims regarding reinsurance assumed from United States domestic ceding insurers;

(6) A certification from the certified reinsurer's domestic regulator that the certified reinsurer is in good standing and maintains capital in excess of the jurisdiction's highest regulatory action level; and

(7) Any other information that the commissioner may reasonably require.

h. Change in rating or revocation of certification.

(1) In the case of a downgrade by a rating agency or other disqualifying circumstance, the commissioner shall upon written notice assign a new rating to the certified reinsurer in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 1 of subdivision d.

(2) The commissioner shall have the authority to suspend, revoke, or otherwise modify a certified reinsurer's certification at any time if the certified reinsurer fails to meet its obligations or security requirements under this section, or if other financial or operating results of the certified reinsurer, or documented significant delays in payment by the certified reinsurer, lead the commissioner to reconsider the certified reinsurer's ability or willingness to meet its contractual obligations.

(3) If the rating of a certified reinsurer is upgraded by the commissioner, the certified reinsurer may meet the security requirements applicable to its new rating on a prospective basis, but the commissioner shall require the certified reinsurer to post security under the previously applicable security requirements as to all contracts in force on or before the effective date of the upgraded rating. If the rating of a certified reinsurer is downgraded by the commissioner, the commissioner shall require the certified reinsurer to meet the security requirements applicable to its new rating for all business it has assumed as a certified reinsurer.

(4) Upon revocation of the certification of a certified reinsurer by the commissioner, the assuming insurer shall be required to post security in accordance with section 45-03-07.1-06 in order for the ceding insurer to continue to take credit for reinsurance ceded to the assuming insurer. If funds continue to be held in trust in accordance with section 45-03-07.1-04, the commissioner may allow additional credit equal to the ceding insurer's pro rata share of the funds, discounted to reflect the risk of uncollectibility and anticipated expenses of trust administration. Notwithstanding the change of a certified reinsurer's rating or revocation of its certification, a domestic insurer that has ceded reinsurance to that certified reinsurer

may not be denied credit for reinsurance for a period of three months for all reinsurance ceded to that certified reinsurer, unless the reinsurance is found by the commissioner to be at high risk of uncollectibility.

3. Qualified jurisdictions.

a. If, upon conducting an evaluation under this section with respect to the reinsurance supervisory system of any non-United States assuming insurer, the commissioner determines that the jurisdiction qualifies to be recognized as a qualified jurisdiction, the commissioner shall publish notice and evidence of the recognition in an appropriate manner. The commissioner may establish a procedure to withdraw recognition of those jurisdictions that are no longer qualified.

b. In order to determine whether the domiciliary jurisdiction of a non-United States assuming insurer is eligible to be recognized as a qualified jurisdiction, the commissioner shall evaluate the reinsurance supervisory system of the non-United States jurisdiction, both initially and on an ongoing basis, and consider the rights, benefits, and the extent of reciprocal recognition afforded by the non-United States jurisdiction to reinsurers licensed and domiciled in the United States. The commissioner shall determine the appropriate approach for evaluating the qualifications of jurisdictions, and create and publish a list of jurisdictions whose reinsurers may be approved by the commissioner as eligible for certification. A qualified jurisdiction must agree to share information and cooperate with the commissioner with respect to all certified reinsurers domiciled within that jurisdiction. Additional factors to be considered in determining whether to recognize a qualified jurisdiction, in the discretion of the commissioner, include the following:

(1) The framework under which the assuming insurer is regulated.

(2) The structure and authority of the domiciliary regulator with regard to solvency regulation requirements and financial surveillance.

(3) The substance of financial and operating standards for assuming insurers in the domiciliary jurisdiction.

(4) The form and substance of financial reports required to be filed or made publicly available by reinsurers in the domiciliary jurisdiction and the accounting principles used.

(5) The domiciliary regulator's willingness to cooperate with United States regulators in general and the commissioner in particular.

(6) The history of performance by assuming insurers in the domiciliary jurisdiction.

(7) Any documented evidence of substantial problems with the enforcement of final United States judgments in the domiciliary jurisdiction. A jurisdiction will not be considered to be a qualified jurisdiction if the commissioner has determined that it does not adequately and promptly enforce final United States judgments or arbitration awards.

(8) Any relevant international standards or guidance with respect to mutual recognition of reinsurance supervision adopted by the international association of insurance supervisors or successor organization.

(9) Any other matters deemed relevant by the commissioner.

c. A list of qualified jurisdictions shall be published through the national association of insurance commissioners committee process. The commissioner shall consider this list in

determining qualified jurisdictions. If the commissioner approves a jurisdiction as qualified that does not appear on the list of qualified jurisdictions, the commissioner shall provide thoroughly documented justification with respect to the criteria provided under paragraphs 1 through 9 of subdivision b.

d. United States jurisdictions that meet the requirements for accreditation under the national association of insurance commissioners financial standards and accreditation program shall be recognized as qualified jurisdictions.

4. Recognition of certification issued by a national association of insurance commissioners accredited jurisdiction.

a. If an applicant for certification has been certified as a reinsurer in a national association of insurance commissioners accredited jurisdiction, the commissioner has the discretion to defer to that jurisdiction's certification, and to defer to the rating assigned by that jurisdiction, if the assuming insurer submits a properly executed form CR-1 and the additional information as the commissioner requires. The assuming insurer shall be considered to be a certified reinsurer in this state.

b. Any change in the certified reinsurer's status or rating in the other jurisdiction shall apply automatically in this state as of the date it takes effect in the other jurisdiction. The certified reinsurer shall notify the commissioner of any change in its status or rating within ten days after receiving notice of the change.

c. The commissioner may withdraw recognition of the other jurisdiction's rating at any time and assign a new rating in accordance with paragraph 1 of subdivision g of subsection 2.

d. The commissioner may withdraw recognition of the other jurisdiction's certification at any time, with written notice to the certified reinsurer. Unless the commissioner suspends or revokes the certified reinsurer's certification in accordance with paragraph 2 of subdivision g of subsection 2, the certified reinsurer's certification shall remain in good standing in this state for a period of three months, which shall be extended if additional time is necessary to consider the assuming insurer's application for certification in this state.

5. Mandatory funding clause. In addition to the clauses required under section 45-03-07.1-10, reinsurance contracts entered into or renewed under this section shall include a proper funding clause, which requires the certified reinsurer to provide and maintain security in an amount sufficient to avoid the imposition of any financial statement penalty on the ceding insurer under this section for reinsurance ceded to the certified reinsurer.

6. The commissioner shall comply with all reporting and notification requirements that may be established by the national association of insurance commissioners with respect to certified reinsurers and qualified jurisdictions.

History: Effective January 1, 2016.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-05. Credit for reinsurance required by law.

Pursuant to subsection 6 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01, the commissioner shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of subsections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01, but only as to the insurance of risks located in jurisdictions where the reinsurance is required by the applicable law or regulation of that jurisdiction. As used in this section, "jurisdiction" means state, district, or territory of the United States and any lawful national government.

History: Effective October 1, 1995; amended effective October 1, 2002; January 1, 2016.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-06. Asset or reduction from liability for reinsurance ceded to an unauthorized assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of sections 45-03-07.1-01 through 45-03-07.1-05.

1. Pursuant to North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-02, the commissioner shall allow a reduction from liability for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01 in an amount not exceeding the liabilities carried by the ceding insurer. The reduction must be in the amount of funds held by or on behalf of the ceding insurer, including funds held in trust for the exclusive benefit of the ceding insurer, under a reinsurance contract with the assuming insurer as security for the payment of obligations under the reinsurance contract. The security must be held in the United States subject to withdrawal solely by, and under the exclusive control of, the ceding insurer or, in the case of a trust, held in a qualified United States financial institution as defined in subsection 2 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-03. This security may be in the form of any of the following:

    a. Cash;

    b. Securities listed by the securities valuation office of the national association of insurance commissioners, including those deemed exempt from filing as defined by the purposes and procedures manual of the securities valuation office, and qualifying as admitted assets;

    c. Clean, irrevocable, unconditional, and "evergreen" letters of credit issued or confirmed by a qualified United States institution, as defined in subsection 1 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-03, effective no later than December thirty-first of the year for which filing is being made, and in the possession of, or in trust for, the ceding insurer on or before the filing date of its annual statement. Letters of credit meeting applicable standards of issuer acceptability as of the dates of their issuance or confirmation, shall, notwithstanding the issuing or confirming institution's subsequent failure to meet applicable standards of issuer acceptability, continue to be acceptable as security until their expiration, extension, renewal, modification, or amendment, whichever occurs first; or

    d. Any other form of security acceptable to the commissioner.

2. An admitted asset or a reduction from liability for reinsurance ceded to an unauthorized assuming insurer pursuant to this section shall be allowed only when the requirements of section 45-03-07.1-10 and the applicable portions of sections 45-03-07.1-07, 45-03-07.1-08, or 45-03-07.1-09 have been satisfied.

History: Effective October 1, 1995; amended effective December 1, 2001; October 1, 2002; January 1, 2016.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-07. Trust agreements qualified under section 45-03-07.1-06.

1. As used in this section:

    a. "Beneficiary" means the entity for whose sole benefit the trust has been established and any successor of the beneficiary by operation of law. If a court of law appoints a successor in interest to the named beneficiary, then the named beneficiary includes and

is limited to the court-appointed domiciliary receiver, conservator, rehabilitator, or liquidator.

b. "Grantor" means the entity that has established a trust for the sole benefit of the beneficiary. When established in conjunction with a reinsurance agreement, the grantor is the unlicensed, unaccredited assuming insurer.

c. "Obligations", as used in subdivision k of subsection 2 means:

(1) Reinsured losses and allocated loss expenses paid by the ceding company, but not recovered from the assuming insurer;

(2) Reserves for reinsured losses reported and outstanding;

(3) Reserves for reinsured losses incurred but not reported; and

(4) Reserves for allocated reinsured loss expenses and unearned premiums.

2. Required conditions:

a. The trust agreement must be entered into between the beneficiary, the grantor, and a trustee which shall be a qualified United States financial institution as defined in subsection 2 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-03.

b. The trust agreement must create a trust account into which assets must be deposited.

c. All assets in the trust account must be held by the trustee at the trustee's office in the United States.

d. The trust agreement must provide that:

(1) The beneficiary shall have the right to withdraw assets from the trust account at any time, without notice to the grantor, subject only to written notice from the beneficiary to the trustee;

(2) No other statement or document is required to be presented in order to withdraw assets, except that the beneficiary may be required to acknowledge receipt of withdrawn assets;

(3) It is not subject to any conditions or qualifications outside of the trust agreement; and

(4) It shall not contain references to any other agreements or documents except as provided for in subdivisions k and l.

e. The trust agreement must be established for the sole benefit of the beneficiary.

f. The trust agreement must require the trustee to:

(1) Receive assets and hold all assets in a safe place;

(2) Determine that all assets are in a form that the beneficiary, or the trustee upon direction by the beneficiary, may whenever necessary negotiate any assets, without consent or signature from the grantor or any other person or entity;

(3) Furnish to the grantor and the beneficiary a statement of all assets in the trust account upon its inception and at intervals no less frequent than the end of each calendar quarter;

(4) Notify the grantor and the beneficiary within ten days of any deposits to or withdrawals from the trust account;

(5) Upon written demand of the beneficiary, immediately take any and all steps necessary to transfer absolutely and unequivocably all right, title, and interest in the assets held in the trust account to the beneficiary and deliver physical custody of the assets to the beneficiary; and

(6) Allow no substitutions or withdrawals of assets from the trust account, except on written instructions from the beneficiary, except that the trustee may, without the consent of but with notice to the beneficiary, upon call or maturity of any trust asset, withdraw the asset upon condition that the proceeds are paid into the trust account.

g. The trust agreement must provide that at least thirty days, but not more than forty-five days, prior to termination of the trust account, written notification of termination must be delivered by the trustee to the beneficiary.

h. The trust agreement must be made subject to and governed by the laws of the state in which the trust is domiciled.

i. The trust agreement must prohibit invasion of the trust corpus for the purpose of paying compensation to, or reimbursing the expenses of, the trustee. In order for a letter of credit to qualify as an asset of the trust, the trustee shall have the right and the obligation pursuant to the deed of trust or some other binding agreement, as duly approved by the commissioner, to immediately draw down the full amount of the letter of credit and hold the proceeds in trust for the beneficiaries of the trust if the letter of credit will otherwise expire without being renewed or replaced.

j. The trust agreement must provide that the trustee is liable for its own negligence, willful misconduct, or lack of good faith. The failure of the trustee to draw against the letter of credit in circumstances in which the draw would be required shall be deemed to be negligence or willful misconduct.

k. Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, when a trust agreement is established in conjunction with a reinsurance agreement covering risks other than life, annuities, and accident and health, when it is customary practice to provide a trust agreement for a specific purpose, the trust agreement may provide that the ceding insurer shall undertake to use and apply amounts drawn upon the trust account, without diminution because of the insolvency of the ceding insurer or the assuming insurer, only for the following purposes:

(1) To pay or reimburse the ceding insurer for the assuming insurer's share under the specific reinsurance agreement regarding any losses and allocated loss expenses paid by the ceding insurer, but not recovered from the assuming insurer, or for unearned premiums due to the ceding insurer if not otherwise paid by the assuming insurer;

(2) To make payment to the assuming insurer of any amounts held in the trust account that exceed one hundred two percent of the actual amount required to fund the assuming insurer's obligations under the specific reinsurance agreement; or

(3) If the ceding insurer has received notification of termination of the trust account and if the assuming insurer's entire obligations under the specific reinsurance agreement remain unliquidated and undischarged ten days prior to the termination date, to withdraw amounts equal to the obligations and deposit those amounts in a separate account, in the name of the ceding insurer in any qualified United States

financial institution as defined in subsection 2 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-03 apart from its general assets, in trust for the uses and purposes specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 as may remain executory after the withdrawal and for any period after the termination date.

l. Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, when a trust agreement is established to meet the requirements of section 45-03-07.1-06 in conjunction with a reinsurance agreement covering life, annuities, or accident and health risks, if it is customary practice to provide a trust agreement for a specific purpose, the trust agreement may provide that the ceding insurer shall undertake to use and apply amounts drawn upon the trust account, without diminution because of the insolvency of the ceding insurer or the assuming insurer, only for the following purposes:

(1) To pay or reimburse the ceding insurer for:

(a) The assuming insurer's share under the specific reinsurance agreement of premiums returned, but not yet recovered from the assuming insurer, to the owners of policies reinsured under the reinsurance agreement on account of cancellations of the policies; and

(b) The assuming insurer's share under the specific reinsurance agreement of surrenders and benefits or losses paid by the ceding insurer, but not yet recovered from the assuming insurer, under the terms and provisions of the policies reinsured under the reinsurance agreement;

(2) To pay to the assuming insurer amounts held in the trust account in excess of the amount necessary to secure the credit or reduction from liability for reinsurance taken by the ceding insurer; or

(3) If the ceding insurer has received notification of termination of the trust and the assuming insurer's entire obligations under the specific reinsurance agreement remain unliquidated and undischarged ten days prior to the termination date, to withdraw amounts equal to the assuming insurer's share of liabilities, to the extent that the liabilities have not yet been funded by the assuming insurer, and deposit those amounts in a separate account, in the name of the ceding insurer in any qualified United States financial institution apart from its general assets, in trust for the uses and purposes specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 as may remain executory after withdrawal and for any period after the termination date.

m. Either the reinsurance agreement or the trust agreement must stipulate that assets deposited in the trust account shall be valued according to their current fair market value and shall consist only of cash in United States dollars, certificates of deposit issued by a United States bank and payable in United States dollars, and investments permitted by the insurance code or any combination of the above, provided investments in or issued by an entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with either the grantor or the beneficiary of the trust shall not exceed five percent of total investments. The agreement may further specify the types of investments to be deposited. If the reinsurance agreement covers life, annuities, or accident and health risks, then the provisions required by this subdivision must be included in the reinsurance agreement.

3. Permitted conditions:

a. The trust agreement may provide that the trustee may resign upon delivery of a written notice of resignation, effective not less than ninety days after the beneficiary and grantor receive the notice and that the trustee may be removed by the grantor by delivery to the trustee and the beneficiary of a written notice of removal, effective not less than ninety

days after the trustee and the beneficiary receive the notice, provided that no such resignation or removal shall be effective until a successor trustee has been duly appointed and approved by the beneficiary and the grantor and all assets in the trust have been duly transferred to the new trustee.

b. The grantor may have the full and unqualified right to vote any shares of stock in the trust account and to receive from time to time payments of any dividends or interest upon any shares of stock or obligations included in the trust account. Any interest or dividends must be either forwarded promptly upon receipt to the grantor or deposited in a separate account established in the grantor's name.

c. The trustee may be given authority to invest, and accept substitutions of, any funds in the account, provided that no investment or substitution may be made without prior approval of the beneficiary, unless the trust agreement specifies categories of investments acceptable to the beneficiary and authorizes the trustee to invest funds and to accept substitutions which the trustee determines are at least equal in current fair market value to the assets withdrawn and that are consistent with the restrictions in paragraph 2 of subdivision a of subsection 4.

d. The trust agreement may provide that the beneficiary may at any time designate a party to which all or part of the trust assets are to be transferred. The transfer may be conditioned upon the trustee receiving, prior to or simultaneously, other specified assets.

e. The trust agreement may provide that, upon termination of the trust account, all assets not previously withdrawn by the beneficiary, with written approval by the beneficiary, must be delivered over to the grantor.

4. Additional conditions applicable to reinsurance agreements:

a. A reinsurance agreement may contain provisions that:

(1) Require the assuming insurer to enter into a trust agreement and to establish a trust account for the benefit of the ceding insurer, and specifying what the agreement is to cover;

(2) Require the assuming insurer, prior to depositing assets with the trustee, to execute assignments or endorsements in blank, or to transfer legal title to the trustee of all shares, obligations or any other assets requiring assignments, in order that the ceding insurer, or the trustee upon the direction of the ceding insurer, may whenever necessary negotiate these assets without consent or a signature from the assuming insurer or any other entity;

(3) Require that all settlements of account between the ceding insurer and the assuming insurer be made in cash or its equivalent; and

(4) Stipulate that the assuming insurer and the ceding insurer agree that the assets in the trust account, established pursuant to the provisions of the reinsurance agreement, may be withdrawn by the ceding insurer at any time, notwithstanding any other provisions in the reinsurance agreement, and shall be utilized and applied by the ceding insurer or its successors in interest by operation of law, including without limitation any liquidator, rehabilitator, receiver, or conservator of the company, without diminution because of insolvency on the part of the ceding insurer or the assuming insurer, only for the following purposes:

(a) To pay or reimburse the ceding insurer for:

[1] The assuming insurer's share under the specific reinsurance agreement of premiums returned, but not yet recovered from the assuming insurer, to the owners of policies reinsured under the reinsurance agreement because of cancellations of the policies;

[2] The assuming insurer's share of surrenders and benefits or losses paid by the ceding insurer pursuant to the provisions of the policies reinsured under the reinsurance agreement; and

[3] Any other amounts necessary to secure the credit or reduction from liability for reinsurance taken by the ceding insurer.

(b) To make payment to the assuming insurer of amounts held in the trust account in excess of the amount necessary to secure the credit or reduction from liability for reinsurance taken by the ceding insurer.

b. The reinsurance agreement may also contain provisions that:

(1) Give the assuming insurer the right to seek approval from the ceding insurer, which shall not be unreasonably or arbitrarily withheld, to withdraw from the trust account all or any part of the trust assets and transfer those assets to the assuming insurer, provided:

(a) At the time of withdrawal, the assuming insurer shall replace the withdrawn assets with other qualified assets having a current fair market value equal to the market value of the assets withdrawn so as to maintain at all times the deposit in the required amount; or

(b) After withdrawal and transfer, the current fair market value of the trust account is no less than one hundred two percent of the required amount.

(2) Provide for the return of any amount withdrawn in excess of the actual amounts required for paragraph 5 of subdivision a and interest payments, at a rate not in excess of the prime rate of interest, on those amounts.

(3) Permit the award by any arbitration panel or court of competent jurisdiction of:

(a) Interest at a rate different from that provided in paragraph 2;

(b) Court or arbitration costs;

(c) Attorney's fees; and

(d) Any other reasonable expenses.

c. Financial reporting. A trust agreement may be used to reduce any liability for reinsurance ceded to an unauthorized assuming insurer in financial statements required to be filed with the department in compliance with this chapter when established on or before the date of filing of the financial statement of the ceding insurer. Further, the reduction for the existence of an acceptable trust account may be up to the current fair market value of acceptable assets available to be withdrawn from the trust account at that time, but the reduction must be no greater than the specific obligations under the reinsurance agreement that the trust account was established to secure.

d. Existing agreements. Any trust agreement or underlying reinsurance agreement in existence prior to October 1, 1995, will continue to be acceptable until January 1, 1996,

at which time the agreements will have to fully comply with this chapter for the trust agreement to be acceptable.

e. The failure of any trust agreement to specifically identify the beneficiary as defined in subsection 1 may not be construed to affect any actions or rights which the commissioner may take or possess pursuant to the provisions of the laws of this state.

History: Effective October 1, 1995; amended effective December 1, 2001; October 1, 2002; January 1, 2016.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-08. Letters of credit qualified under section 45-03-07.1-06.

1. The letter of credit must be clean, irrevocable, unconditional, and issued or confirmed by a qualified United States financial institution as defined in subsection 1 of North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-03. The letter of credit must contain an issue date and expiration date and stipulate that the beneficiary need only draw a sight draft under the letter of credit and present it to obtain funds and that no other document need be presented. The letter of credit must also indicate that it is not subject to any condition or qualifications outside of the letter of credit. In addition, the letter of credit itself may not contain reference to any other agreements, documents, or entities, except as provided in subdivision a of subsection 9. As used in this section, "beneficiary" means the domestic insurer for whose benefit the letter of credit has been established and any successor of the beneficiary by operation of law. If a court of law appoints a successor in interest to the named beneficiary, then the named beneficiary includes and is limited to the court-appointed domiciliary receiver, including conservator, rehabilitator, or liquidator.

2. The heading of the letter of credit may include a boxed section containing the name of the applicant and other appropriate notations to provide a reference for the letter of credit. The boxed section must be clearly marked to indicate that the information is for internal identification purposes only.

3. The letter of credit must contain a statement to the effect that the obligation of the qualified United States financial institution under the letter of credit is in no way contingent upon reimbursement with respect thereto.

4. The term of the letter of credit must be for at least one year and must contain an "evergreen clause" that prevents the expiration of the letter of credit without due notice from the issuer. The "evergreen clause" must provide for a period of no less than thirty days' notice prior to the expiration date or nonrenewal.

5. The letter of credit must state whether it is subject to and governed by the laws of this state or the uniform customs and practice for documentary credits of the international chamber of commerce, publication 600 (UCP 600) or international standby practices of the international chamber of commerce publication 590 (ISP98), and all drafts drawn thereunder must be presentable at an office in the United States of a qualified United States financial institution.

6. If the letter of credit is made subject to the uniform customs and practice for documentary credits of the international chamber of commerce, publication 500, then the letter of credit must specifically address and provide for an extension of time to draw against the letter of credit in the event that one or more of the occurrences specified in article 17 of publication 500 occur.

7. If the letter of credit is issued by a financial institution authorized to issue letters of credit, other than a qualified United States financial institution as described in subsection 1, then the following additional requirements must be met:

   a. The issuing financial institution shall formally designate the confirming qualified United States financial institution as its agent for the receipt and payment of the drafts; and

   b. The "evergreen clause" must provide for thirty days' notice prior to the expiration date for nonrenewal.

8. Reinsurance agreement provisions.

   a. The reinsurance agreement in conjunction with which the letter of credit is obtained may contain provisions that:

      (1) Require the assuming insurer to provide letters of credit to the ceding insurer and specify what they are to cover.

      (2) Stipulate that the assuming insurer and ceding insurer agree that the letter of credit provided by the assuming insurer pursuant to the provisions of the reinsurance agreement may be drawn upon at any time, notwithstanding any other provisions in the agreement, and shall be utilized by the ceding insurer or its successors in interest only for one or more of the following reasons:

         (a) To pay or reimburse the ceding insurer for:

            [1] The assuming insurer's share under the specific reinsurance agreement of premiums returned, but not yet recovered from the assuming insurers, to the owners of policies reinsured under the reinsurance agreement on account of cancellations of the policies;

            [2] The assuming insurer's share, under the specific reinsurance agreement, of surrenders and benefits or losses paid by the ceding insurer, but not yet recovered from the assuming insurers, under the terms and provisions of the policies reinsured under the reinsurance agreement; and

            [3] Any other amounts necessary to secure the credit or reduction from liability for reinsurance taken by the ceding insurer.

         (b) If the letter of credit will expire without renewal or be reduced or replaced by a letter of credit for a reduced amount and if the assuming insurer's entire obligations under the specific reinsurance agreement remain unliquidated and undischarged ten days prior to the termination date, to withdraw amounts equal to the assuming insurer's share of the liabilities, to the extent that the liabilities have not yet been funded by the assuming insurer and exceed the amount of any reduced or replacement letter of credit, and deposit those amounts in a separate account in the name of the ceding insurer in a qualified United States financial institution apart from its general assets, in trust for the uses and purposes specified in paragraph 2 of subdivision a as may remain after withdrawal and for any period after the termination date.

      (3) All of the provisions of this subdivision must be applied without diminution because of insolvency on the part of the ceding insurer or assuming insurer.

   b. Nothing contained in subdivision a precludes the ceding insurer and assuming insurer from providing for:

(1) An interest payment, at a rate not in excess of the prime rate of interest, on the amounts held pursuant to paragraph 2 of subdivision a; or

(2) The return of any amounts drawn down on the letters of credit in excess of the actual amounts required for the above or any amounts that are subsequently determined not to be due.

History: Effective October 1, 1995; amended effective December 1, 2001; October 1, 2002; January 1, 2016.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-09. Other security.

A ceding insurer may take credit for unencumbered funds withheld by the ceding insurer in the United States subject to withdrawal solely by the ceding insurer and under its exclusive control.

History: Effective October 1, 1995.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-10. Reinsurance contract.

Credit will not be granted, nor an asset or reduction from liability allowed, to a ceding insurer for reinsurance effected with assuming insurers meeting the requirements of section 45-03-07.1-01, 45-03-07.1-02, 45-03-07.1-03, 45-03-07.1-04, 45-03-07.1-04.1, or 45-03-07.1-05 or otherwise in compliance with North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01 after October 1, 1995, unless the reinsurance agreement:

1. Includes a proper insolvency clause, which stipulates that reinsurance is payable directly to the liquidator or successor without diminution regardless of the status of the ceding company, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-06.1-31; and

2. Includes a provision pursuant to North Dakota Century Code section 26.1-31.2-01 whereby the assuming insurer, if an unauthorized assuming insurer, has submitted to the jurisdiction of an alternative dispute resolution panel or court of competent jurisdiction within the United States, has agreed to comply with all requirements necessary to give the court or panel jurisdiction, has designated an agent upon whom service of process may be effected, and has agreed to abide by the final decision of the court or panel; and

3. Includes a proper reinsurance intermediary clause, if applicable, which stipulates that the credit risk for the intermediary is carried by the assuming insurer.

History: Effective October 1, 1995; amended effective October 1, 2002; January 1, 2016.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

45-03-07.1-11. Contracts affected.

All new and renewal reinsurance transactions entered into after October 1, 1995, must conform to the requirements of the Act and this chapter if credit is to be given to the ceding insurer for such reinsurance.

History: Effective October 1, 1995.
General Authority: NDCC 26.1-31.2-04
Law Implemented: NDCC 26.1-31.2

FORM AR-1
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMING INSURER

I, _____, _____

(name of officer) (title of officer)

of _____, the assuming insurer

(name of assuming insurer)

under a reinsurance agreement(s) with one or more insurers domiciled in

_____, hereby

(name of state)

certify that _____ ("Assuming Insurer"):

(name of assuming insurer)

1. Submits to the jurisdiction of any court of competent jurisdiction in

   _____

   (ceding insurer's state of domicile)

   for the adjudication of any issues arising out of the reinsurance agreement(s), agrees to comply with all requirements necessary to give such court jurisdiction, and will abide by the final decision of such court or any appellate court in the event of an appeal. Nothing in this paragraph constitutes or should be understood to constitute a waiver of Assuming Insurer's rights to commence an action in any court of competent jurisdiction in the United States, to remove an action to a United States District Court, or to seek a transfer of a case to another court as permitted by the laws of the United States or of any state in the United States. This paragraph is not intended to conflict with or override the obligation of the parties to the reinsurance agreement(s) to arbitrate their disputes if such an obligation is created in the agreement(s).

2. Designates the Insurance Commissioner of _____

   (ceding insurer's state of domicile)

   as its lawful attorney upon whom may be served any lawful process in any action, suit or proceeding arising out of the reinsurance agreement(s) instituted by or on behalf of the ceding insurer.

3. Submits to the authority of the Insurance Commissioner of
   _____ to examine its books and records and

   (ceding insurer's state of domicile)

   agrees to bear the expense of any such examination.

4. Submits with this form a current list of insurers domiciled in _____ reinsured by Assuming Insurer and

   (ceding insurer's state of domicile)

   undertakes to submit additions to or deletions from the list to the Insurance Commissioner at least once per calendar quarter.

Dated: _____ _____

(name of assuming insurer)

BY: _____

(name of officer)

_____

(title of officer)

FORM CR-1
CERTIFICATE OF CERTIFIED REINSURER

I, _____, _____

(name of officer) (title of officer)

of _____, the assuming insurer

(name of assuming insurer)

under a reinsurance agreement with one or more insurers domiciled in

_____, in order to be considered for

(name of state)

Approval in this state, hereby certify that _____ ("Assuming Insurer"):

(name of assuming insurer)

1. Submits to the jurisdiction of any court of competent jurisdiction in

   _____

   (ceding insurer's state of domicile)

   for the adjudication of any issues arising out of the reinsurance agreement, agrees to comply with all requirements necessary to give such court jurisdiction, and will abide by the final decision of such court or any appellate court in the event of an appeal. Nothing in this paragraph constitutes or should be understood to constitute a waiver of assuming insurer's rights to commence an action in any court of competent jurisdiction in the United States, to remove an action to a United States District Court, or to seek a transfer of a case to another court as permitted by the laws of the United States or of any state in the United States. This paragraph is not intended to conflict with or override the obligation of the parties to the reinsurance agreement to arbitrate their disputes if such an obligation is created in the agreement.

2. Designates the Insurance Commissioner of _____

   (ceding insurer's state of domicile)

   as its lawful attorney upon whom may be served any lawful process in any action, suit, or proceeding arising out of the reinsurance agreement instituted by or on behalf of the ceding insurer.

3. Agrees to provide security in an amount equal to 100% of liabilities attributable to U.S. ceding insurers if it resists enforcement of a final United States judgment or properly enforceable arbitration award.

4. Agrees to provide notification within 10 days of any regulatory actions taken against it, any change in the provisions of its domiciliary license or any change in its rating by an approved rating agency, including a statement describing such changes and the reasons therefor.

5. Agrees to annually file information comparable to relevant provisions of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners financial statement for use by insurance markets in accordance with paragraph 2 of subdivision g of subsection 2 of North Dakota Administrative Code Section 45-03-07.1-04.1.

6. Agrees to annually file the report of the independent auditor on the financial statements of the

insurance enterprise.

7. Agrees to annually file audited financial statements, regulatory filings, and actuarial opinion in accordance with paragraph 4 of subdivision g of subsection 2 of North Dakota Administrative Code Section 45-03-07.1-04.1.

8. Agrees to annually file an updated list of all disputed and overdue reinsurance claims regarding reinsurance assumed from United States domestic ceding insurers.

9. Is in good standing as an insurer or reinsurer with the supervisor of its domiciliary jurisdiction.

Dated: _____ _____

(name of assuming insurer)

BY: _____

(name of officer)

_____

(title of officer)

Form CR-F-PART 1

Assumed Reinsurance as of December 31, Current Year (000 Omitted)

1	2	3	4	5	Reinsurance On			9	10	11	12	13	14	15
					6	7	8							
Company Code or ID Number		Name of Reinsured	Domiciliary Jurisdiction	Assumed Premium	Paid Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses	Known Case Losses and LAE	Cols. 6 + 7	Contingent Commissions Payable	Assumed Premiums Receivable	Unearned Premium	Funds Held By or Deposited With Reinsured Companies	Letters of Credit Posted	Amount of Assets Pledged or Compensating Balances to Secure Letters of Credit	Amount of Assets Pledged or Collateral Held in Trust

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9999999 Totals														

Form CR-F-PART 2

Ceded Reinsurance as of December 31, Current Year (000 Omitted)

1	2	3	4	5	6	Reinsurance Recoverable On									Reinsurance Payable		18	19
						7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
Company Code or ID Number		Name of Reinsured	Domiciliary Jurisdiction	Reinsurance Contracts Ceding 75% or More of Direct Premiums Written	Reinsurance Premiumds Ceded	Paid Losses	Paid LAE	Known Case Loss Reserves	Known Case LAE Reserves	IBNR Loss Reserves	IBNR LAE Reserves	Unearned Premiums	Contingent Commissions	Cols. 7 through 14 Totals	Ceded Balances Payable	Other Amounts Due to Reinsurers	Net Amount Recoverable From Reinsurers Cols. 15 - [16 + 17]	Funds Held by Company Under Reinsurance Treaties
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9999999 Totals																		

Form CR-S-PART 1-SECTION 1

Reinsurance Assumed Life Insurance, Annuities, Deposit Funds, and Other Liabilities
Without Life or Disability Contingencies, and Related Benefits Listed by Reinsurance Company as of December 31, Current Year

1 Company Code or ID Number	2	3 Effective Date	4 Name of Reinsured	5 Location	6 Type of Reinsurance Assumed	7 Amount of In Force at End of Year	8 Reserve	9 Premiums	10 Reinsurance Payable on Paid and Unpaid Losses	11 Modified Coinsurance Reserve	12 Funds Withheld Under Coinsurance

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Totals											

Form CR-S-PART 1-SECTION 2

Reinsurance Assumed Accident and Health Insurance Listed By Reinsured Company as of December 31, Current Year

1 Company Code or ID Number	2	3 Effective Date	4 Name of Reinsured	5 Domiciliary Jurisdiction	6 Type of Reinsurance Assumed	7 Premiums	8 Unearned Premiums	9 Reserve Liability Other Than For Unearned Premiums	10 Reinsurance Payable on Paid and Unpaid Losses	11 Modified Coinsurance Reserve	12 Funds Withheld Under Coinsurance

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Totals											

Form CR-S-PART 2

Reinsurance Recoverable on Paid and Unpaid Losses Listed by Reinsuring Company as of December 31, Current Year

1 Company Code or ID Number	2	3 Effective Date	4 Name of Company	5 Location	6 Paid Losses	7 Unpaid Losses

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Totals--Life, Annuity, and Accident and Health						

Form CR-S-PART 3-SECTION 1

Reinsurance Ceded Life Insurance, Annuities, Deposit Funds and Other Liabilities
Without Life or Disability Contingencies, and Related Benefits Listed by Reinsuring Company as of December 31, Current Year

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Reserve Credit Taken		10	Outstanding Surplus Relief		13	14
							8	9		11	12		
Company Code or ID Number		Effective Date	Name of Company	Location	Type of Reinsurance Ceded	Amount in Force at End of Year	Current Year	Prior Year	Premiums	Current Year	Prior Year	Modified Coinsurance Reserve	Funds Withheld Under Coinsurance

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Totals													

Form CR-S-PART 3-SECTION 2

Reinsurance Ceded Accident and Health Insurance by Reinsuring Company as of December 31, Current Year

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Outstanding Surplus Relief		12	13
									10	11		
Company Code or ID Number		Effective Date	Name of Company	Location	Type	Premiums	Unearned Premiums (Estimated)	Reserve Credit Taken Other Than for Unearned Premiums	Current Year	Prior Year	Modified Coinsurance Reserve	Funds Withheld Under Coinsurance

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