



Florida Office of Insurance Regulation

APPLICATION FOR LICENSE PREMIUM FINANCE COMPANY

This packet is designed to assist individuals in preparing the application in accordance with Florida Statutes and Rules and to facilitate expeditious processing of the application by the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation (Office).

Please submit all documents required by this packet in searchable PDF format unless otherwise indicated or required by Florida Statutes.

If this packet requires submission of forms or rates, upon receipt of an email notification of acceptance of the application, the Applicant is directed to return to the Industry Portal <https://www.floir.com/iportal> and select Insurance Regulation Filing System (IRFS) to begin the submission of forms and/or rates.

In order for a submission to be considered a complete application, all required information must be included in the filing, including the completed application checklist.

The completed application packet must be submitted to the Office at the following link:

<https://www.floir.com/iportal>

Any questions concerning this application packet may be directed to pcappcoord@floir.com.

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INSTRUCTIONS

SECTION I - APPLICATION FEES

Section I-1 **Application Fees**

Applicants must pay a license fee of \$250 USD and an investigation fee of \$100 USD at the time of application for licensure, pursuant to Sections 627.828(5) and 627.849, Florida Statutes. These fees are due at the time the application packet is filed and are nonrefundable.

Section I-2 **Fingerprint Fees**

Applicants are required to pay a fee for the processing of the fingerprint cards required in Section IV-4. Please see Form OIR-C1-938, Fingerprint Payment and Submission Procedure, for instructions.

Section I-3 **Application Checklist and Certification**

Applicant should have pages 8-11 completed and submitted with its application.

SECTION II - LEGAL

Section II-1 **Articles of Incorporation**

Submit a copy of Applicant's Articles of Incorporation, or equivalent document, complete with all amendments, certified within the last year by the public official with whom the originals are on file in the state or jurisdiction of domicile.

Section II-2 **Certificate of Status from State of Domicile**

If Applicant is not a Florida domestic company, submit a certificate of status from the domiciliary jurisdiction dated within the last year. A certificate of status is a document issued by the public official having supervision of the records of business entities in the Applicant's home state or jurisdiction of domicile, usually the Secretary of State or equivalent office, that shows the company is duly organized in the state or jurisdiction of domicile and that all taxes and fees have been paid.

Section II-3 **Certificate of Status from Florida**

Submit a certificate of status from the Florida Secretary of State dated within the last year.

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Section II-4 Company Bylaws

Submit a copy of Applicant's Bylaws, or equivalent document. This document should be certified by Applicant's Secretary as a true and correct copy of the current document and dated within the last year. Only the Secretary's signature will be accepted, unless Applicant does not have this position.

Section II-5 Authorization Letter

Provide a letter of authorization for any person, other than Applicant's personnel, who is authorized to represent the Applicant before the Office in this matter. This letter should be dated within the last year.

Section II-6 Fictitious Name Filing

If Applicant plans to utilize a fictitious name, submit evidence of compliance with Section 865.09, Florida Statutes.

SECTION III – FINANCIAL

Section III-I Financial Requirements

All Applicants are required to provide evidence of one of the following:

- a. A statutory net worth of at least \$35,000 USD attested to by two officers of Applicant; **or**
- b. A surety bond in the amount of \$35,000 USD (Form OIR-A3-453, Premium Finance Company Surety Bond) as well as a statutory net worth of \$10,000 USD attested to by two officers of Applicant.
 - i. In lieu of a surety bond on the approved form, Applicant may elect to make a securities deposit in accordance with the provisions of Section 625.52, Florida Statutes. For information on how to make a securities deposit, contact the Bureau of Collateral Management at (850) 413-3167, or:

Department of Financial Services
Bureau of Collateral Management
200 East Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0345

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- c. Premium Finance Companies are required to, at all times, maintain an errors and omissions insurance policy of not less than \$500,000 USD covering the acts of its officers, employees, and agents. This policy may contain reasonable deductibles not to exceed 2% of the policy limits. Applicant must provide proof of this coverage.
 - i. Applicants with an unencumbered net worth of at least \$15 million USD may self-insure errors and omissions coverage provided they meet the additional requirements of Section 627.828(3)(b)(2), Florida Statutes.

Section III-2 Plan of Operations

It is important for the Office to have a clear understanding of Applicant's proposed operations and the goals it seeks to achieve. To fulfill this requirement, the plan of operations must consist of the following information:

- a. **Marketing and Growth:** A statement setting forth a projection of the volume of business Applicant anticipates writing for the next three years. Include an initial marketing plan for the proposed premium finance company.
- b. **Additional Sources of Capital:** A statement as to what sources of capital would be available to Applicant during periods of negative cash flow and what arrangements may have been made for handling volume which may exceed Applicant's capacity. Include any controls which Applicant may have in place to prevent acceptance of contracts in excess of Applicant's capacity to finance them, to obtain additional financing, or to notify the agent to use another premium finance company until further notice.

If the plan includes the use of personal resources of Applicant's owners, a Personal Financial Statement form must be provided for each owner (Form OIR-C1-454 Personal Financial Statement).

If the plan includes use of the resources of an affiliated or parent organization, audited financial statements of these organizations must be provided for the past three years. If no audit was performed, the financial statements must be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and be attested to by the president and secretary of the organization (or persons holding similar positions, if not a corporation).

If Applicant intends to utilize a line of credit with a bank or other financial institution as a source of additional capitalization, a letter from the financial entity must be presented which verifies the existence or approval of the line of credit. Only a financial institution licensed as a premium finance company or exempt from the license requirement in accordance with Section 627.826, Florida Statutes, is eligible to accept premium finance contracts as collateral for loans.

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- c. Assignments:** Provide a statement as to what arrangement may have been made for assigning contracts to another premium finance company, including complete details concerning the procedure to be followed in making assignments, to whom they will be made, on what terms, how and when the contracts are to be funded and by whom, and verify that the assignment will be with recourse against the assigning company.
- d. Types of Insurance Financed:** Provide a list of the types of insurance Applicant will finance.
- e. Other Business Conducted:** If business other than financing premiums will be conducted on the licensed premises, provide a statement as to what other business will be conducted and by whom.
- f. Branches, Subsidiaries, and Affiliates:** If Applicant has one or more branches, subsidiaries, or affiliates, provide a listing of the complete names and addresses of such places of business, together with a statement as to precisely where Applicant will make available all relevant books, records, accounts and documents.
- g. Organizational Charts:** Provide a complete organizational chart for Applicant fully disclosing the relationship between all entities in the organizational structure, including all parent, holding, and subsidiary entities, as well as any and all affiliated entities, and clearly stating all ownership percentages, if applicable.

Section III-3 Forms and Rates

Applicant must provide its service charge and interest rate plan as part of this application.

Applicant must submit the following forms, as well as any additional forms Applicant intends to use, for approval by the Office prior to use, via the Office's IRFS system (link and information provided on cover page):

- a.** Premium Finance Agreement
- b.** 10 Day Notice of Intent to Cancel
- c.** Standard Cancellation Notice

Applicant may wish to review Form OIR-C1-957 Instructions for Statutory Compliance of Forms: Premium Finance Companies, for guidance.

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SECTION IV – MANAGEMENT

Section IV-1 Management Information Forms

Submit Management Information Form OIR-C1-2221 fully describing Applicant's management, ownership, and all individuals or entities having direct or indirect control up to and including any 10% or greater interest holders of the ultimate parent. A Management Information Form should be submitted for each entity in the ownership chain.

Forms should contain the First, Middle, and Last name of listed individuals. Please state if a middle name does not exist.

Section IV-2 Biographical Affidavits as to Officers, Directors, and Shareholders

Provide a Uniform Certificate of Authority Application (UCAA) Biographical Affidavit Form OIR-C1-1423 (NAIC Form 11) for each individual listed in Section V-1. Applicant may omit individuals for those companies in the organizational structure between the immediate parent and the ultimate parent. Please note that if an individual has a Biographical Affidavit with an associated background report on file with the Office, and the Biographical Affidavit was signed and notarized within 2 years of the date of the Application being filed, a Biographical Affidavit and associated background report need not be submitted for that individual.

All questions must be answered. All "Yes" answers must be explained.

Each Biographical Affidavit must be signed and notarized.

The affiant's social security number must be submitted to the Office. Section 119.071(5), Florida Statutes, gives authority for an agency to collect social security numbers if imperative for the performance of that agency's duties and responsibilities as prescribed by law. Limited collection of social security numbers is imperative for the Office to ensure that the owners, management, officers, and directors of any entity regulated by the Office are competent and trustworthy, possess financial standing and business experience, and have not been found guilty of, or not pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, any felony or crime punishable by imprisonment of one year or more.

However, pursuant to Section 119.071(5), Florida Statutes, social security numbers collected by an agency are confidential and exempt from Section 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and Section 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution and must be segregated on a separate page. Therefore, please include the affiant's name and social security number on the separate page marked CONFIDENTIAL and provided in this packet and attach that page to the Uniform Certificate of Authority Application (UCAA) Biographical Affidavit Form OIR-C1-1423 (NAIC Form 11) that is also included in this packet.

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Section IV-3 Background Investigative Report

A Background Investigative Report must be provided for each person for whom a Biographical Affidavit is required, as described above. Background reports must be submitted by an approved background investigation vendor directly to the Office. Attach proof of payment confirming that all background reports have been ordered when submitting the application. Please refer to Form OIR-C1-905, Instructions for Furnishing Background Investigative Reports, included in this packet.

The NAIC approved background investigation vendor list can be found at:

https://www.naic.org/documents/industry_ucaa_third_party.pdf

Section IV-4 Fingerprint Cards

Fingerprint cards must be provided to the Office for each person for whom a Biographical Affidavit is required. Please refer to Form OIR-C1-938, Fingerprint Payment and Submission Procedure, for instructions. If an individual has submitted a fingerprint card dated within 5 years of the date of the Application filing, a fingerprint card need not be submitted for that individual.

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CHECKLIST

Applicant Name: _____

Federal Employer Identification Number ("FEIN"): _____

Home Office Address: _____
(Street Address) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Phone Number: _____

Please complete and check off all items prior to submission. Applicant should provide an explanation for any items that have not been checked off and submitted.

SECTION I - APPLICATION FORM & FEES

- 1. Application fee paid
- 2. All fingerprint fees paid electronically
 - a. Copies of online payment confirmation
- 3. Application certification and checklist

SECTION II – LEGAL

- 1. Articles of Incorporation (or equivalent)
 - a. Certified by public official
- 2. Certificate of Status from domiciliary jurisdiction
- 3. Certificate of Status from Florida
- 4. Company Bylaws (or equivalent)
 - a. Certified by Secretary
- 5. Authorization Letter (if applicable)
- 6. Fictitious Name Filing (if applicable)

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CHECKLIST

Applicant Name: _____

SECTION III – FINANCIAL

1. Financial Requirements (a or b)

- a. Attestation of net worth of at least \$35,000 USD; or
- b. Attestation of net worth or at least \$10,000 USD and Premium Finance Company Surety Bond (Form OIR-A3-453) for \$35,000 USD.
 - i. Or, proof of deposit in lieu of surety bond (as applicable)
- c. Proof of errors & omissions coverage
 - i. Or, self-insured errors and omissions coverage (as applicable)

2. Plan of Operations

- a. Marketing and Growth
- b. Additional Sources of Capital
- c. Assignments
- d. Types of Insurance Financed
- e. Other Business Conducted
- f. Branches, Subsidiaries, and Affiliates
- g. Organizational Charts

3. Forms and Rates

- a. Service charge and interest rate plan

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CHECKLIST

Applicant Name: _____

SECTION IV – MANAGEMENT

- 1. Management Information Form (OIR-C1-2221) submitted for all required entities
- 2. Uniform Certificate of Authority Application (UCAA) Biographical Affidavit (Form OIR-C1-1423) submitted for all required individuals
 - a. All information completed (no blanks)
 - b. “Yes” answers explained
 - c. Signed
 - d. Notarized
- 3. Background investigative reports for all required individuals (Form OIR-C1-905). The reports must be based on the Biographical Affidavits submitted to the Office with this Application.
 - a. Proof of order and confirmation of payment submitted to the Office
- 4. Fingerprint cards for all required individuals (Form OIR-C1-938)
 - a. All information completed (no blanks)
 - b. Signed

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APPLICATION CERTIFICATION

The below certification must be executed by two officers of Applicant, one of whom must be the President or Chief Financial Officer, and the other the Secretary*.

The undersigned state that they are officers having personal knowledge of the application submitted to the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation in connection with the intention of _____ (“Applicant”) to seek licensure as a Premium Finance Company; that they have read all of the responses, information, exhibits, and documents submitted with, and in support of, this application; and that the submissions are true, correct, and complete to the best of their knowledge. The undersigned further represent that they have the authority to bind the Applicant, and that by their signatures on the instrument the Applicant has executed the instrument.

The undersigned understand that whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his or her official duties is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, pursuant to Section 837.06, Florida Statutes, punishable as provided in Section 775.082 or Section 775.083, Florida Statutes.

By: _____

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

*Other officers will be accepted only if Applicant does not have these positions.