



GENERAL BROKER AGREEMENT

General Powers, Relationship and Duties

- 1. Appointment and Authority.** The undersigned producer (referred to as You or Your) is appointed as a General Broker of National Guardian Life Insurance Company (referred to as We, Us or Our) and is authorized to solicit applications for those plans of insurance described in the most recent Commission Schedule(s) then in effect. You agree to procure, renew and maintain any resident and/or non-resident licenses and appointments that any State may require for soliciting applications for Our products. You are also authorized to recommend for appointment lawfully licensed producers, subject to Our approval. You agree that We, at Our sole discretion, may refuse to accept and contract with any recommended producer and may terminate any producer contracted with Us. You understand that the determination of whether the producer candidate is satisfactory shall be absolutely within Our discretion, and Our determination shall be binding and conclusive upon You and the producer candidate.
- 2. Independent Contractor Status.** You and We agree that You are an independent contractor and that nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to create the relationship of employer or employee between Us and You. You will not be treated by Us as an employee for federal or state tax purposes and We will furnish You with an annual information return (1099-MISC). You are free to exercise your own judgment, including the time, place and persons from whom You solicit applications for insurance.
- 3. Business Conduct.** Your authority to represent Us is contingent on Your conforming to all rules and guidelines as may be stated in this Agreement, Our rate books, Our compliance manual or any other materials (the 'Company Rules') We provide to You. In addition, You agree to comply with all federal, state or local laws, rules and regulations (the 'Laws and Regulations') where You are doing business. You agree to aid in the care and conservation of Our insurance business and provide prompt service to Our policyholders. You also agree to train and supervise Your producers and Employees and ensure that they comply with all Company Rules and the Laws and Regulations. 'Employees' shall include, without limitation, any officer, director, employee, sub-contractor, or other person authorized to act on Your behalf.
- 4. Marketing.** You agree that no territory is exclusively assigned to You and that We may withdraw from any territory. You also agree that We can change, modify or discontinue any policy or rider. In addition, You agree that policyholders are considered Our policyholders and We reserve all rights regarding control, service and distribution of the policyholders.
- 5. Privacy.** You agree that all nonpublic personal financial information or nonpublic personal health information related to any insured or policyholder or to any consumer or customer (as such terms are defined under applicable state or federal privacy laws) of Us or any of Our affiliates, obtained by You in the performance of Your duties and obligations under this Agreement shall be held in the strictest confidence by You, Your producers and Employees. You shall not disclose or use such information except as necessary to carry out Your duties and obligations under this Agreement or as otherwise required under applicable state or federal law. This provision survives termination of this Agreement.
- 6. Legal Proceedings.** Any document that has been served upon You in connection with any legal proceedings involving Us must be transmitted to the Home Office by registered mail within 24 hours after receipt. You will be liable to Us for any loss or expense We incur resulting from Your failure to comply with this requirement. You hereby represent, and agree that this Agreement is contingent on Your continuing representation, that You have not been convicted, and to the best of your knowledge that none of Your producers or Employees have ever been convicted, of any state or federal felony involving dishonesty or a breach of trust or any crime under 18 U.S.C. § 1033 unless You obtained the prior written consent of the insurance regulatory official possessing regulatory authority over You. You agree to notify Us immediately in writing of any charges or actions brought in any court or by any regulatory body against You, Your producers or Employees and of any felony conviction(s) of You, Your producers or Employees. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall be cause for immediate termination of this Agreement.
- 7. Records.** We shall have the right, but not the obligation, at all reasonable times to inspect Your papers, documents and records, wherever located, which relate to Our business. All papers, documents and records of any sort relating to applications for insurance, existing policies, claims for benefits or inquiries from regulatory authorities must be promptly submitted to Us. All rate books, supplies, computer software and any other indicia of agency must be returned to Us upon demand.
- 8. Collection of Premiums.** You may not collect any money on Our behalf except for the initial premium. You agree to be responsible for and to remit promptly to Us all monies collected and to hold all monies in trust for Us, not subject to any offset by You and not to be commingled with your personal funds.

Compensation

9. **Commissions.** You are entitled to compensation in accordance with the Commission Schedule(s) provided to You on business written by You or Your producers. The commissions specified in the Commission Schedule(s) shall constitute the total commissions which can be earned by You and Your producers. You agree that We have the right to reject any application and that commissions are not due on such applications. In addition, You agree that commissions on policies not listed on the Commission Schedules(s) shall be determined in each case by Us. We reserve the right to change the Commission Schedules(s) at any time by general announcement to Our producers for policies written thereafter.
10. **Unearned Compensation.** You agree that commissions are subject to chargebacks as set out in the Commission Schedule(s). In addition, if We return premium at any time for any reason, You agree that You are not entitled to commissions based on those premiums and any such commissions paid to You is a debt due Us. This provision survives termination of this Agreement.
11. **Vesting Of Commissions.** You agree that if this Agreement terminates for any reason, only first year and renewal commissions are 100% vested, subject to the following provisions, which survive termination of this Agreement:
- Any time Your total compensation from Us during a calendar year is less than \$1,000, We may, at Our option, pay You a single lump sum equal to 100% of that year's compensation as full payment in lieu of future vested commissions.
 - In the event of Your death, compensation payable to You under this Agreement will be paid to Your assigns, if any, otherwise to Your surviving spouse and to Your surviving spouse's estate thereafter. If You die leaving no assigns or spouse, such compensation will be paid to Your estate.
 - Unless all debts are fully repaid by You within sixty (60) days from the date such debts are due, we may immediately terminate Your rights to any future vested commissions.
 - If You fail to comply with Our Company Rules or the Laws and Regulations, or shall fail to conform to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, or any other agreement with Us, We may immediately terminate Your rights to any future vested commissions.
12. **Indebtedness.** Any indebtedness or debt of Yours or Your Producers to Us shall be a first lien against any monies payable hereunder or from any other source and may be deducted from such monies at any time. This provision survives termination of this Agreement. All such indebtedness shall be payable on demand with any applicable collection costs and interest thereon and thereafter at the then current prime rate plus 500 basis points.

Limits Of Authority, Termination and Other Provisions

13. **Limits of Authority.** You agree that this Agreement does not give You the authority to:
- Make, alter or discharge a contract for Us, set special rates, waive policy provisions, guarantee dividends, bind Us in any way, make any endorsement to any policy We have issued or extend the time for payment of premiums.
 - Publish or distribute advertising relating to Us and Our products unless it has been approved in writing by Us in advance.
 - Assign or transfer any right or interest in this Agreement without obtaining Our written consent in advance.
 - Waive a complete answer to any question in the application, pass on insurability or accept any underwriting information on Our behalf unless it is specifically entered in Our application forms.
 - Solicit applications in any state or for any products for which You are not duly licensed and appointed.
 - Collect the initial premium or deliver any policy not paid for unless the named Insured is at the time of delivery in good health and insurable condition.
14. **Termination.** This Agreement may be ended by either party at any time without cause upon advance written notice to the other party. The notice shall be the greater of ten (10) days or the time required by Your state of domicile. This Agreement shall be terminable for cause immediately by written notice to the other party. Cause includes, but shall not be limited to, failure to comply with Our Company Rules or the Laws and Regulations.
15. **Additional Provisions.** Our failure to insist upon strict performance of any provisions in this Agreement will not be construed as a waiver of such provisions. This Agreement replaces all agreements, written or oral, between You and Us relating to the same or similar subject matter. This Agreement is not binding on You unless signed by You and is not binding on Us unless signed by one of Our authorized officers.
16. **Governing Law.** This agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin without regard to the choice of law rules of Wisconsin. You hereby submit to the jurisdiction of courts located within the State of Wisconsin and any other state in which a Managing Producer who is financially responsible to Us for Your indebtedness is located.

General Broker Data: (Please include a copy of insurance license(s) for all states you wish to do business in)

Name _____ Designations _____
Social Security or Tax ID# _____ Sex _____ Date of Birth _____
Business Address _____
Shipping Address (if Business is PO Box) _____
Residence Address _____
Business Phone (____) _____ Fax Number (____) _____ Residence Phone (____) _____
Email Address _____ Agency Name _____

Background: (Please explain, including dates, any "yes" answers on a separate sheet)

Complaint filed against you with an Insurance Department: Yes State? _____ No
Filed Bankruptcy: Yes No Judgment in last seven years: Yes No
Felony conviction or violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1033: Yes No
Been bonded and had a claim against a bond due to your actions: Yes No
Applied for a bond and been refused: Yes No
Had a claim against your E & O insurance due to your actions: Yes No
Applied for E & O insurance and been rejected for coverage: Yes No
Had a license refused/suspended/revoked, currently restricted or under investigation: Yes No
Indebted to any Insurance Company/Agency/Manager: Yes No

Direct Deposit: I request, at no extra cost to myself, that my commissions be automatically deposited to my account at:

Financial Institution (Bank Name): _____ (Attach a voided check)
I would like my commissions deposited: Daily **OR** Bi-Weekly Savings **OR** Checking
I would like to receive my Bi-Weekly Commission Statement via the Website only: Yes No
Routing # (lower left hand corner of check): _____ Account # (lower middle of check): _____

General Authorization and Release: I hereby authorize National Guardian Life Insurance Company (NGL) to contact any past employer, business associate, business partner, military service, court, law enforcement agency, insurance company, financial institution, or any other person or entity to obtain information about my background, employment, schooling, business activities and experience, character, criminal record, or financial status.

I hereby authorize any of the above persons, institutions, or entities to provide the above information to NGL and waive and release any claims I may have related to the providing of such information. I also authorize them to rely on a photocopy or facsimile copy of this authorization.

I also acknowledge that NGL may participate in programs which provide background and financial information on insurance agents or producers, including debit balances. I authorize NGL to obtain information from these programs and to share any information obtained from other sources with these programs. I also waive and release any claims I may have related to the sharing of such information by NGL or the programs in which NGL participates.

This authorization is continuing and remains in effect until revoked by me in a writing delivered to an officer of NGL.

Signature of General Broker: _____ Date: _____
(Signature also required on the reverse side.)

Commission Schedule(s) of General Broker: _____

Acknowledged by Managing Producer: _____ Date: _____

Managing Producer # _____

Appointment accepted: _____
(Date)

Signature of Authorized Officer: _____

Fair Credit Reporting Act Consumer Disclosure:

Obtaining a "Consumer Report" NGL, when making a decision to offer you a producer Agreement or to continue an Agreement, may obtain and use a "consumer report" from a "consumer reporting agency." These terms are defined in the Fair Credit Reporting Act as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq. ("FCRA").

A "consumer reporting agency" is defined in the FCRA as a person or business that, for monetary fees, dues, or on a cooperative nonprofit basis, regularly engages in whole or in part in the practice of assembling or evaluating consumer credit information or other information on consumers for the purpose of furnishing consumer reports to others.

A "consumer report" is defined by FCRA as including any written, oral or other communication of any information by a "consumer reporting agency" bearing on a consumer's credit worthiness, credit standing, credit capacity, character, general reputation, personal characteristics, or mode of living, which is used or expected to be used or collected in whole or in part for the purpose of serving as a factor in employment-related decisions affecting a consumer.

As an individual with an interest in a relationship as a producer with NGL, you are a "consumer" with rights under the FCRA. If NGL obtains a "consumer report" about you and if NGL considers any information in the consumer report when making a decision that adversely affects you, you will be provided with a copy of the "consumer report" before the decision becomes final. You may also contact the Federal Trade Commission about your rights under the FCRA.

Authorization to Obtain Consumer Reports:

Further, by signing below, I hereby voluntarily authorize NGL to obtain "consumer reports" about me from a "consumer reporting agency," as those terms are defined in the Fair Credit Reporting Act as amended, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq., and to consider the "consumer reports" when making decisions for any producer status purpose with NGL. I understand that I have rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, including the rights discussed in the separate disclosure statement provided to me.

I hereby authorize NGL to obtain such reports. I also hereby acknowledge receipt of the Fair Credit Reporting Act Consumer Disclosure.

Signature of General Broker: _____

Date: _____

**NGL Insurance Group
2 East Gilman Street
P. O. Box 1191
Madison, WI 53701-1191
1-800-762-9883**