

**TITLE 13        INSURANCE**  
**CHAPTER 2     INSURANCE COMPANY LICENSING AND OPERATION**  
**PART 8        CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE**

**13.2.8.1        ISSUING AGENCY:** Office of Superintendent of Insurance (OSI), Post Office Box 1689, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1689.

[13.2.8.1 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.1 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.2        SCOPE:** This rule applies to all domestic insurers.

[13.2.8.2 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.2 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.3        STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Sections 59A-2-9 and 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978.

[13.2.8.3 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.3 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.4        DURATION:** Permanent.

[13.2.8.4 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.4 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.5        EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 24, 2018, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.

[13.2.8.5 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.5 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.6        OBJECTIVE:** The purpose of this rule is to implement Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978.

[13.2.8.6 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.6 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.7        DEFINITIONS:**

**A.** As used in this rule:

(1) **“Annual financial statement”** means the statement required by Section 59A-5-29 NMSA 1978.

(2) **“Mortgage-related security”** means an obligation that is rated AA or higher (or the equivalent) by a securities rating agency recognized by the SVO 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 of amounts payable under, the notes, certificates or participation), that:

(i) 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

(ii) 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, where 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) of this subsection;

(3) **“NAIC”** means the national association of insurance commissioners;

(4) **“OECD”** means the organization for economic cooperation and development;

(5) **“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;

(6) **“Qualified United States financial institution”** has the meaning given in Subsection D of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978;

(7) **“SVO”** means the securities valuation office of the NAIC; and

(8) **“Superintendent”** means the superintendent of insurance, the office of superintendent of insurance or employees of the office of superintendent of insurance acting within the scope of the superintendent’s official duties and with the superintendent’s authorization.

**B.** As used in the referenced sections of this rule:

(1) **“Beneficiary”**, as used in 13.2.8.22 NMAC, 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) **“Beneficiary”**, as used in 13.2.8.15 NMAC through 13.2.8.17 NMAC and 13.2.8.21 NMAC 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 (including conservator, rehabilitator or liquidator);

(3) **“Grantor”**, as used 13.2.8.15 NMAC through 13.2.8.17 NMAC, 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;

(4) **“Liabilities”**, as used in 13.2.8.11 NMAC, 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, shall include:

(a) for business ceded by domestic insurers authorized to write accident and health, and property and casualty insurance;

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

(ii) reserves for losses reported and outstanding;

(iii) reserves for losses incurred but not reported;

(iv) reserves for allocated loss expenses; and

(v) unearned premiums; or

(b) for business ceded by domestic insurers authorized to write life, health and annuity insurance:

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

(ii) aggregate reserves for accident and health policies;

(iii) deposit funds and other liabilities without life or disability contingencies; and

(iv) liabilities for policy and contract claims;

(5) **“Obligations”**, as used in Subsection K of 13.2.8.15 NMAC, means:

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

(b) reserves for reinsured losses reported and outstanding;

(c) reserves for reinsured losses incurred but not reported; and

(d) reserves for allocated reinsured loss expenses and unearned premiums; and

(6) **“Substantially similar standards”**, as used in 13.2.8.10 NMAC, means credit for reinsurance standards which the superintendent determines are equal to or exceed the standards of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 and this rule.

**C.** As used in Paragraph (6) of Subsection B of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978, **“jurisdiction”** means any state, district or territory of the United States and any lawful national government. [13.2.8.7 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.7 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.8 CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE - REINSURER LICENSED IN THIS STATE:** Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subsection B of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978, the superintendent shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer which was licensed in this state as of any date on which statutory financial statement credit for reinsurance is claimed. [13.2.8.8 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.8 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.9 CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE - ACCREDITED REINSURERS:**

**A.** The superintendent shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer which is accredited as a reinsurer in this state as of the date on which statutory financial statement credit for reinsurance is claimed.

**B.** In addition to the requirements specified in Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978, the assuming insurer shall:

(1) file a properly executed *Form AR-1* with the superintendent as evidence of its submission to this state's jurisdiction and to this state's authority to examine its books and records;

(2) file with the superintendent 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;

(3) file annually with the superintendent 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

(4) maintain a surplus as regards policyholders in an amount not less than \$20,000,000, or obtain the affirmative approval of the superintendent upon a finding that it has adequate financial capacity to meet its reinsurance obligations and is otherwise qualified to assume reinsurance from domestic insurers.

**C.** If the superintendent determines that the assuming insurer has failed to meet or maintain any of the qualifications required by Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 or this rule, the superintendent may upon written notice and opportunity for hearing suspend or revoke the accreditation. No credit shall be allowed a domestic ceding insurer under this section if the assuming insurer's accreditation has been denied or revoked by the superintendent or if the reinsurance was ceded while the assuming insurer's accreditation was under suspension by the superintendent. [13.2.8.9 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.9 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

#### **13.2.8.10 CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE - REINSURER DOMICILED AND LICENSED IN ANOTHER STATE:**

**A.** The superintendent shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer which as of any date on which statutory financial statement credit for reinsurance is claimed:

(1) is domiciled and licensed in (or, in the case of a United States branch of an alien assuming insurer, is entered through and licensed in) a state which employs standards regarding credit for reinsurance substantially similar to those applicable under Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 and this rule;

(2) maintains a surplus as regards policyholders in an amount not less than \$20,000,000; and

(3) files a properly executed *Form AR-1* with the superintendent as evidence of its submission to this state's authority to examine its books and records.

**B.** The provisions of the section relating to surplus as regards policyholders shall not apply to reinsurance ceded and assumed pursuant to pooling arrangements among insurers in the same holding company system.

[13.2.8.10 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.10 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

#### **13.2.8.11 CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE - REINSURERS MAINTAINING TRUST FUNDS:**

**A.** The superintendent shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer which, 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 the form and amount prescribed in the following subsection in a qualified United States financial institution for the payment of the valid claims of its United States policyholders and ceding insurers, their assigns and successors in interest. The assuming insurer shall report annually to the superintendent substantially the same information as that required to be reported on the *NAIC Annual Statement* form by licensed insurers, to enable the superintendent to determine the sufficiency of the trust fund.

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

(1) **Trust fund for a single assuming insurer:**

(a) The trust fund for a single assuming insurer shall 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 trustee surplus of not less than \$20,000,000, except that,

(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 trustee 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:

(i) an actuarial review, including an independent analysis of reserves and cash flows, and

(ii) 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, but

(iii) the minimum required trustee 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.

(2) **Trust fund for a group including incorporated and individual unincorporated underwriters.**

(a) The trust fund for a group including incorporated and individual unincorporated underwriters shall consist of:

(i) 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 United States domiciled ceding insurers to any underwriter of the group; and

(ii) 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 rule, 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.

(b) In addition to these trusts, the group shall maintain a trustee surplus of which \$100,000,000 shall be held jointly for the benefit of the United States domiciled ceding insurers of any member of the group for all the years of account.

(c) The incorporated members of the group shall not be engaged in any business other than underwriting as a member of the group and shall be subject to the same level of regulation and solvency control by the group's domiciliary regulator as are the unincorporated members.

(d) The group shall, within 90 days after its financial statements are due to be filed with the group's domiciliary regulator, provide to the superintendent:

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

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

(3) **Trust fund for a group of incorporated insurers – common administration.**

(a) The trust fund for a group of incorporated insurers under common administration, whose members possess aggregate policyholders surplus of \$10,000,000,000 (calculated and reported in substantially the same manner as prescribed by the annual statement instructions and *Accounting Practices and Procedures Manual* of the NAIC) and which has continuously transacted an insurance business outside the United States for at least three years immediately prior to making application for accreditation, shall:

(i) 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 such group;

(ii) maintain a joint trustee surplus of which \$100,000,000 shall be held jointly for the benefit of United States domiciled ceding insurers of any member of the group; and

(iii) file a properly executed *Form AR-1* with the superintendent 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 such examination.

(b) Within 90 days after the statements are due to be filed with the group's domiciliary regulator, the group shall file with the superintendent an annual certification of each underwriter member's solvency by the member's domiciliary regulators, and financial statements, prepared by independent public accountants, of each underwriter member of the group.

**C. Form of the trust.**

(1) 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.

(2) The trust instrument shall provide that:

(a) contested claims shall be valid and enforceable out of funds in trust to the extent remaining unsatisfied 30 days after entry of the final order of any court of competent jurisdiction in the United States;

(b) 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;

(c) the trust shall be subject to examination as determined by the superintendent;

(d) 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

(e) no later than February 28 of each year the trustee of the trust shall report to the superintendent in writing setting forth the balance in the trust and listing the trust's investments at the preceding year-end, 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 31.

**(3) Inadequate trust fund.**

(a) 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 Subsection B of this section 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.

(b) 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.

(c) 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.

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

**D. Allowable trust assets.** Assets deposited in trusts established pursuant to Paragraph (4) of Subsection B of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 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 qualified United States financial institution, clean, irrevocable, unconditional and "evergreen" letters of credit issued or confirmed by a qualified United States financial institution, and investments of the type specified in this subsection. However, 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 Subparagraph (e) of Paragraph (1), Paragraph (3), Paragraph (5), and Subparagraph (c) of Paragraph (6) of this subsection, 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 requirement, 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 Paragraph (3) of Subsection B of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 shall be invested only as follows:

(1) 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:

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

(b) a state of the United States;

(c) a territory, possession or other governmental unit of the United States;

(d) an agency or instrumentality of a governmental unit referred to in Subparagraphs (b) and (c) of this paragraph 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 Subparagraph (d) of this paragraph if payable solely out of special assessments on properties benefited by local improvements; or

(e) the government of any other country that is a member of the OECD and whose government obligations are rated A or higher, or the equivalent, by a rating agency recognized by the SVO;

(2) 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:

(a) are rated A or higher (or the equivalent) by a securities rating agency recognized by the SVO, or if not so rated, are similar in structure and other material respects to other obligations of the same institution that are so rated;

(b) 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 SVO; or

(c) have been designated as class one or class two by the SVO;

(3) Obligations issued, assumed or guaranteed by a solvent non-United States institution chartered in a country that is a member of the OECD and 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 SVO;

(4) An investment made pursuant to the provisions of Paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) of this subsection shall be subject to the following additional limitations:

(a) 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;

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

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

(d) 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 Subparagraphs (a) and (c) of Paragraph (2) of this subsection, but shall not exceed two percent of the assets of the trust.

**(5) Equity interests.**

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

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

(ii) 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. Sections 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.

(b) Investments in common shares of a solvent institution organized under the laws of a country that is a member of the OECD and, if:

(i) all its obligations are rated A or higher, or the equivalent, by a rating agency recognized by the SVO; and

(ii) 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 OECD.

(c) 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.

(6) 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 SVO.

(7) **Investment companies.**

(a) 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:

(i) invests at least ninety percent of its assets in the types of securities that qualify as an investment under Paragraphs (1), (2) or (3) of this subsection or invests in securities that are determined by the superintendent to be substantively similar to those types of securities; or

(ii) invests at least ninety percent of its assets in the types of equity interests that qualify as an investment under Subparagraph (a) of Paragraph (5) of this subsection; and

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

(i) an investment in an investment company qualifying under Item (i) of Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph 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

(ii) investments in an investment company qualifying under Item (ii) of Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph 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 Subparagraph (a) of Paragraph (5) of this subsection.

(8) **Letters of Credit.**

(a) 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 superintendent), 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.

(b) 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 where such draw would be required shall be deemed to be negligence and/or willful misconduct.

E. A specific security provided to a ceding insurer by an assuming insurer pursuant to 13.2.8.13 NMAC 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.  
[13.2.8.11 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.11 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.12 CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE – CERTIFIED REINSURERS:**

A. Pursuant to Paragraph (5) of Subsection B of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978, the superintendent 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 superintendent. The security shall be in a form consistent with the provisions of Paragraph (5) of Subsection B of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978, Subsection C of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 and 13.2.8.15 NMAC, 13.2.8.22 NMAC and 13.2.8.23 NMAC, or 13.2.8.24 NMAC. The amount of security required in order for full credit to be allowed shall correspond with the following requirements:

(1)	Ratings	Security Required
	Secure - 1	zero percent
	Secure - 2	ten percent
	Secure - 3	twenty percent
	Secure - 4	fifty percent
	Secure - 5	seventy-five percent
	Vulnerable - 6	one hundred percent

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

(3) The superintendent 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.

(4) 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 superintendent. 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 NAIC annual financial statement related specifically to the catastrophic occurrence will be included in the deferral:

- (a) Line 1: Fire.
- (b) Line 2: Allied lines.
- (c) Line 3: Farmowners multiple peril.
- (d) Line 4: Homeowners multiple peril.
- (e) Line 5: Commercial multiple peril.
- (f) Line 9: Inland marine.
- (g) Line 12: Earthquake.
- (h) Line 21: Auto physical damage.

(5) 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.

(6) 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.

**B. Certification Procedure.**

(1) The superintendent shall post notice on the OSI website promptly upon receipt of any application for certification, including instructions on how members of the public may respond to the application. The superintendent may not take final action on the application until at least 30 days after posting the notice required by this paragraph.

(2) The superintendent shall issue written notice to an assuming insurer that has made application and been approved as a certified reinsurer. Included in such notice shall be the rating assigned the certified reinsurer in accordance with Subsection A of this section. The superintendent shall publish a list of all certified reinsurers and their ratings.

(3) In order to be eligible for certification, the assuming insurer shall meet the following requirements:

(a) The assuming insurer must be domiciled and licensed to transact insurance or reinsurance in a qualified jurisdiction, as determined by the superintendent pursuant to Subsection C of this section.

(b) The assuming insurer must maintain capital and surplus, or its equivalent, of no less than \$250,000,000 calculated in accordance with Subparagraph (h) of Paragraph (4) of this subsection. 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 \$250,000,000 and a central fund containing a balance of at least \$250,000,000.

(c) The assuming insurer must maintain financial strength ratings from two or more rating agencies deemed acceptable by the superintendent. 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 superintendent in determining the rating that is assigned to the assuming insurer. Acceptable rating agencies include the following:

- (i) Standard & Poor's;
- (ii) Moody's investors service;
- (iii) Fitch ratings;
- (iv) A.M. Best company; or
- (v) any other nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

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

(4) 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, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) 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 superintendent 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

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

(c) for certified reinsurers domiciled in the United States, a review of the most recent applicable *NAIC Annual Statement Blank*, either *Schedule F* (for property/casualty reinsurers) or *Schedule S* (for life and health reinsurers);

(d) for certified reinsurers not domiciled in the United States, a review annually of *Form CR-F* (for property/casualty reinsurers) or *Form CR-S* (for life and health reinsurers), which are provided on the OSI website;

(e) 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 90 days past due or are in dispute, with specific attention given to obligations payable to companies that are in administrative supervision or receivership;

(f) regulatory actions against the certified reinsurer;

(g) the report of the independent auditor on the financial statements of the insurance enterprise, on the basis described in Subparagraph (h) of this paragraph;

(h) for certified reinsurers not domiciled in the United States, audited financial statements (audited United States GAAP basis if available, audited IFRS basis statements are allowed but must include an audited footnote reconciling equity and net income to a United States GAAP basis, or, with the permission of the superintendent, audited IFRS statements with reconciliation to United States GAAP basis certified by an officer of the company), regulatory filings, and actuarial opinion (as filed with the non-United States jurisdiction supervisor). Upon the initial application for certification, the superintendent will consider audited financial statements for the last three years filed with its non-United States jurisdiction supervisor;

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

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

(k) any other information deemed relevant by the superintendent.

(5) Based on the analysis conducted under Subparagraph (e) of Paragraph (4) of this subsection of a certified reinsurer's reputation for prompt payment of claims, the superintendent 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 superintendent shall, at a minimum, increase the security the certified reinsurer is required to post by one rating level under Subparagraph (a) of Paragraph (4) of this subsection if the superintendent finds that:

(a) more than fifteen percent of the certified reinsurer's ceding insurance clients have overdue reinsurance recoverables on paid losses of 90 days or more which are not in dispute and which exceed \$100,000 for each cedent; or

(b) the aggregate amount of reinsurance recoverables on paid losses which are not in dispute that are overdue by 90 days or more exceeds \$50,000,000.

(6) The assuming insurer must submit a properly executed *Form CR-I*, which is provided on the OSI website, as evidence of its submission to the jurisdiction of this state, appointment of the superintendent 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 superintendent shall not certify any assuming insurer that is domiciled in a jurisdiction that the superintendent has determined does not adequately and promptly enforce final United States judgments or arbitration awards.

(7) The certified reinsurer must agree to meet applicable information filing requirements as determined by the superintendent, 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 the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act and shall be withheld from public disclosure. The applicable information filing requirements are, as follows:

(a) 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 such changes and the reasons therefore;

(b) annually, *Form CR-F* or *Form CR-S*, as applicable, based on instructions on the OSI website;

(c) annually, the report of the independent auditor on the financial statements of the insurance enterprise, on the basis described in Subparagraph (d) of this paragraph;

(d) annually, audited financial statements (audited United States GAAP basis if available, audited IFRS basis statements are allowed but must include an audited footnote reconciling equity and net income to a United States GAAP basis, or, with the permission of the superintendent, audited IFRS statements with reconciliation to United States GAAP certified by an officer of the company), regulatory filings, and actuarial opinion (as filed with the certified reinsurer's supervisor). Upon the initial certification, audited financial statements for the last three years filed with the certified reinsurer's supervisor;

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

(f) 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

(g) any other information that the superintendent may reasonably require.

**(8) Change in Rating or Revocation of Certification.**

(a) In the case of a downgrade by a rating agency or other disqualifying circumstance, the superintendent shall upon written notice assign a new rating to the certified reinsurer in accordance with the requirements of Subparagraph (a) of Paragraph (4) of this subsection.

(b) The superintendent 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 superintendent to reconsider the certified reinsurer's ability or willingness to meet its contractual obligations.

(c) If the rating of a certified reinsurer is upgraded by the superintendent, the certified reinsurer may meet the security requirements applicable to its new rating on a prospective basis, but the superintendent 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 superintendent, the superintendent 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.

(d) Upon revocation of the certification of a certified reinsurer by the superintendent, the assuming insurer shall be required to post security in accordance with 13.2.8.14 NMAC 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 13.2.8.11 NMAC, the superintendent may allow additional credit equal to the ceding insurer's pro rata share of such 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 superintendent to be at high risk of uncollectibility.

**C. Qualified Jurisdictions.**

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

(2) 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 superintendent 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 superintendent shall determine the appropriate approach for evaluating the qualifications of such jurisdictions, and create and publish a list of jurisdictions whose reinsurers may be approved by the superintendent as eligible for certification. A qualified jurisdiction must agree to share information and cooperate with the superintendent 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 superintendent, include but are not limited to the following:

- (a) the framework under which the assuming insurer is regulated;
- (b) the structure and authority of the domiciliary regulator with regard to solvency regulation requirements and financial surveillance;
- (c) the substance of financial and operating standards for assuming insurers in the domiciliary jurisdiction;
- (d) 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;
- (e) the domiciliary regulator's willingness to cooperate with United States regulators in general and the superintendent in particular;
- (f) the history of performance by assuming insurers in the domiciliary jurisdiction.
- (g) 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 superintendent has determined that it does not adequately and promptly enforce final United States judgments arbitration award;
- (h) 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; and
- (i) any other matters deemed relevant by the superintendent.

(3) A list of qualified jurisdictions shall be published through the committee process. The superintendent shall consider this list in determining qualified jurisdictions. If the superintendent approves a jurisdiction as qualified that does not appear on the list of qualified jurisdictions, the superintendent shall provide thoroughly documented justification with respect to the criteria provided under Subparagraphs (a) through (i) of Paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(4) United States jurisdictions that meet the requirements for accreditation under the NAIC financial standards and accreditation program shall be recognized as qualified jurisdictions.

**D. Recognition of Certification Issued by an NAIC Accredited Jurisdiction.**

(1) If an applicant for certification has been certified as a reinsurer in an NAIC accredited jurisdiction, the superintendent 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 such additional information as the superintendent requires. The assuming insurer shall be considered to be a certified reinsurer in this state.

(2) 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 superintendent of any change in its status or rating within ten days after receiving notice of the change.

(3) The superintendent may withdraw recognition of the other jurisdiction's rating at any time and assign a new rating in accordance with Paragraph (8) of Subsection B of this section.

(4) The superintendent may withdraw recognition of the other jurisdiction's certification at any time, with written notice to the certified reinsurer. Unless the superintendent suspends or revokes the certified reinsurer's certification in accordance with Paragraph (8) of Subsection B of this section, 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.

**E. Mandatory Funding Clause.** In addition to the clauses required under 13.2.8.25 NMAC, 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.

**F.** The superintendent shall comply with all reporting and notification requirements that may be established by the NAIC with respect to certified reinsurers and qualified jurisdictions.  
[13.2.8.12 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.12 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.13 CREDIT FOR REINSURANCE REQUIRED BY LAW:** Pursuant to Paragraph (6) of Subsection B of 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978, the superintendent shall allow credit for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of Paragraphs (1), (2), (3) (4) or (5) of Subsection B of 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 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.  
[13.2.8.13 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.13 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.14 ASSET OR REDUCTION FROM LIABILITY FOR REINSURANCE CEDED TO AN UNAUTHORIZED ASSUMING INSURER NOT MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTIONS 13.2.8.8 THROUGH 13.2.13 NMAC:**

**A.** Pursuant to Subsection C of 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978, the superintendent shall allow a reduction from liability for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of Subsection B of 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 in an amount not exceeding the liabilities carried by the ceding insurer. The reduction shall 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 such assuming insurer as security for the payment of obligations under the reinsurance contract. The security shall 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 Paragraph (2) of Subsection D of 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978. This security may be in the form of any of the following:

- (1) cash;
- (2) securities listed by the SVO, including those deemed exempt from filing as defined by the *Purposes and Procedures Manual* of the SVO and qualifying as admitted assets;
- (3) clean, irrevocable, unconditional and "evergreen" letters of credit issued or confirmed by a qualified United States institution, effective no later than December 31 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 first occurs; or
- (4) any other form of security acceptable to the superintendent.

**B.** 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 13.2.8.25 NMAC and the applicable portions of 13.2.8.15 NMAC through 13.2.8.24 NMAC have been satisfied.  
[13.2.8.14 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.14 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.15 REQUIRED CONDITIONS FOR TRUST AGREEMENTS QUALIFIED UNDER 13.2.8.14 NMAC:**

- A.** The trust agreement shall be entered into between the beneficiary, the grantor and a trustee which shall be a qualified United States financial institution.
- B.** The trust agreement shall create a trust account into which assets shall be deposited.
- C.** All assets in the trust account shall be held by the trustee at the trustee's office in the United States.
- D.** The trust agreement shall 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 under Subsections K and L of this section.
- E.** The trust agreement shall be established for the sole benefit of the beneficiary.
- F.** The trust agreement shall require the trustee to:
- (1) receive assets and hold all assets in a safe place;
  - (2) determine that all assets are in such form that the beneficiary, or the trustee upon direction by the beneficiary, may whenever necessary negotiate any such 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 10 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 unequivocally 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 such asset upon condition that the proceeds are paid into the trust account.
- G.** The trust agreement shall provide that at least 30 days, but not more than 45 days, prior to termination of the trust account, written notification of termination shall be delivered by the trustee to the beneficiary.
- H.** The trust agreement shall be made subject to and governed by the laws of the state in which the trust is established.
- I.** The trust agreement shall 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 superintendent), 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 shall provide that the trustee shall be liable for its own negligence, willful misconduct or lack of good faith. The failure of the trustee will to draw against the letter of credit in circumstances where such draw would be required shall be deemed to be negligence or willful misconduct.
- K.** Notwithstanding other provisions of this rule, when a trust agreement is established in conjunction with a reinsurance agreement covering risks other than life, annuities and accident and health, where 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, 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) where the ceding insurer has received notification of termination of the trust account and where the assuming insurer's entire obligations under the specific reinsurance agreement remain unliquidated and undischarged 10 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 apart from its general assets, in trust for such uses and purposes specified in Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection as may remain executory after such withdrawal and for any period after the termination date.

**L.** Notwithstanding other provisions of this rule, when a trust agreement is established to meet the requirements of 13.2.8.14 NMAC in conjunction with a reinsurance agreement covering life, annuities, or accident and health risks, where it is customary 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 of:

(a) premiums returned, but not yet recovered from the assuming insurer, to the owners of policies reinsured under the reinsurance agreement on account of cancellation of policies; and

(b) surrenders and benefits of 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) Where the ceding insurer has received notification of termination of the trust and where 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) of this subsection as may remain executory after withdrawal and for any period after the termination date.

**M.** The reinsurance agreement may, but need not, contain the provisions required by Subsection B of 13.2.8.17 NMAC, so long as these required conditions are included in the trust agreement.

**N.** Notwithstanding any other provisions in the trust instrument, 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 court of competent jurisdiction directing the transfer to the commissioner with regulatory oversight or other designated receiver all of the assets of the trust fund. The assets shall be applied in accordance with the priority statutes and laws of the state in which the trust is domiciled applicable to the assets of insurance companies in liquidation. If the commissioner with regulatory oversight determines that the assets of the trust fund or any part thereof are not necessary to satisfy claims of the United States beneficiaries of the trust, the assets or any part of them shall be returned to the trustee for distribution in accordance with the trust agreement.

**O.** 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 permitted by the insurance code or any combination of the above, provided investments in or issued by an entity controlling, controlled by or 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 investment to be deposited. If the reinsurance agreement covers life, annuities or accident and health risks, then the provisions required by this subsection must be included in the reinsurance agreement.

[13.2.8.15 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.15 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

#### **13.2.8.16 PERMITTED CONDITIONS FOR TRUST AGREEMENTS QUALIFIED UNDER 13.2.8.14 NMAC:**

**A.** The trust agreement may provide that the trustee may resign upon delivery of a written notice of resignation, effective not less than 90 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 90 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 such interest or dividends shall 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 shall 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 that the trustee determines are at least equal in current fair market value to the assets withdrawn and that are consistent with the restrictions in Subsection B of 13.2.8.17 NMAC.

**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. Such 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 shall, with written approval by the beneficiary, be delivered over to the grantor.

[13.2.8.16 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.16 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.17 ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO REINSURANCE AGREEMENTS FOR TRUST AGREEMENTS QUALIFIED UNDER 13.2.8.14 NMAC:** A reinsurance agreement may contain provisions that:

**A.** Require the assuming insurer to enter into a trust agreement and to establish a trust account for the benefit of the ceding insurer, and that specify what the agreement is to cover;

**B.** 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 reinsurance agreement may further specify the types of investments to be deposited. Where a trust agreement is entered into in conjunction with a reinsurance agreement covering risks other than life, annuities and accident and health, then the trust agreement may contain the provisions required by this subsection in lieu of including such provisions in the reinsurance agreement;

**C.** 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 signature from the assuming insurer or any other entity;

**D.** Require that all settlements of account between the ceding insurer and the assuming insurer be made in cash or its equivalent; and

**E.** 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 such company, without diminution because of insolvency on the part 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 because of cancellations of such policies;

(b) 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

(c) any other amounts necessary to secure the credit or reduction from liability for reinsurance taken by the ceding insurer; and

(2) 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. [13.2.8.17 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.17 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.18 PERMITTED REINSURANCE AGREEMENT PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO REINSURANCE AGREEMENTS FOR TRUST AGREEMENTS QUALIFIED UNDER 13.2.8.14 NMAC:**

The reinsurance agreement may also contain provisions that:

**A.** 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 that:

(1) the assuming insurer shall, at the time of withdrawal, 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

(2) 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.

**B.** Provide for the return of any amount withdrawn in excess of the actual amounts required for Subsection E of 13.2.8.17 NMAC and for interest payments at a rate not in excess of the prime rate of interest on the amounts held pursuant to Subsection E of 13.2.8.17 NMAC.

**C.** Permit the award by any arbitration panel or court of competent jurisdiction of:

(1) interest at a rate different from that provided in Subsection B of this section;

(2) court of arbitration costs;

(3) attorney's fees; and

(4) any other reasonable expenses.

[13.2.8.18 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.18 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.19 FINANCIAL REPORTING APPLICABLE TO REINSURANCE AGREEMENTS FOR TRUST AGREEMENTS QUALIFIED UNDER 13.2.8.14 NMAC:** 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 superintendent in compliance with the provisions of this rule 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 such reduction shall be no greater than the specific obligations under the reinsurance agreement that the trust account was established to secure.

[13.2.8.19 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.19 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.20 EXISTING AGREEMENTS APPLICABLE TO REINSURANCE AGREEMENTS FOR TRUST AGREEMENTS QUALIFIED UNDER 13.2.8.14 NMAC:** Any trust agreement or underlying reinsurance agreement in existence prior to June 1, 1997 and in compliance with Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 will continue to be acceptable until June 30, 1998 after which time the agreements will have to fully comply with this rule for the trust agreement to be acceptable.

[13.2.8.20 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.20 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.21 FAILURE TO IDENTIFY BENEFICIARY APPLICABLE TO REINSURANCE AGREEMENTS FOR TRUST AGREEMENTS QUALIFIED UNDER 13.2.8.14 NMAC:** The failure of any trust agreement to specifically identify the beneficiary as defined in Paragraph (2) of Subsection B of 13.2.8.7 NMAC shall not be construed to affect any actions or rights which the superintendent may take or possess pursuant to the laws of this state.

[13.2.8.21 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.21 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.22 LETTERS OF CREDIT APPLICABLE TO REINSURANCE AGREEMENTS FOR TRUST AGREEMENTS QUALIFIED UNDER 13.2.8.14 NMAC:**

**A.** The letter of credit must be clean, irrevocable, unconditional and issued or confirmed by a qualified United States financial institution. The letter of credit shall contain an issue date and expiration date and shall 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 shall 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 shall not contain reference to any other agreements, documents or entities, except as provided in Subsection A of 13.2.8.23 NMAC.

**B.** 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 shall be clearly marked to indicate that such information is for internal identification purposes only.

**C.** The letter of credit shall 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.

**D.** The term of the letter of credit shall be for at least one year and shall contain an “evergreen clause” which prevents the expiration of the letter of credit without due notice from the issuer. The “evergreen clause” shall provide for a period of no less than 30 days notice prior to expiration date or nonrenewal.

**E.** The letter of credit shall 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), or any successor publication, and all drafts drawn thereunder shall be presentable at an office in the United States of a qualified United States financial institution.

**F.** If the letter of credit is made subject to the *UCP 600* or *ISP98*, or any successor publication, then the letter of credit shall 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 36 of *UPC 600* or any other successor publication occur.

**G.** The letter of credit shall be issued or confirmed by a qualified United States financial institution authorized to issue letters of credit.

**H.** If the letter of credit is issued by a qualified United States financial institution authorized to issue letters of credit, other than a qualified United States financial institution, then the following additional requirements shall be met:

- (1) the issuing qualified United States financial institution shall formally designate the confirming qualified United States financial institution as its agent for the receipt and payment of the drafts, and
- (2) the “evergreen clause” shall provide for 30 days notice prior to expiration date for nonrenewal.

[13.2.8.22 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.22 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

### **13.2.8.23 REINSURANCE AGREEMENT PROVISIONS FOR LETTERS OF CREDIT QUALIFIED UNDER 13.2.8.14 NMAC:**

**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:

- (i)** 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 such policies;

**(ii)** 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

**(iii)** any other amounts necessary to secure the credit or reduction from liability for reinsurance taken by the ceding insurer;

**(b)** where the letter of credit will expire without renewal or be reduced or replaced by a letter of credit for a reduced amount and where the assuming insurer’s entire obligations under the specific reinsurance 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 such uses and purposes specified in Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph may remain after withdrawal and for any period after the termination date; and

(3) all of the provisions of this subsection shall be applied without diminution because of insolvency on the part of the ceding insurer or assuming insurer.

**B.** Nothing contained in Subsection A of this section shall preclude 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 Subsection A of this section; 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.

[13.2.8.23 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.23 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.24 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.  
[13.2.8.24 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.24 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.25 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 13.2.8.8 NMAC through 13.2.8.13 NMAC and 13.2.8.14 NMAC or otherwise in compliance with Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 after the adoption of this rule unless the reinsurance agreement:

**A.** 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 Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978;

**B.** includes a provision pursuant to Subsection B of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 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 such 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 such court or panel; and

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

[13.2.8.25 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.25 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.26 CONTRACTS AFFECTED:** All new and renewal reinsurance transactions entered into after June 1, 1997 shall conform to the requirements of Section 59A-7-11 NMSA 1978 and this rule if credit is to be given to the ceding insurer for such reinsurance.

[13.2.8.26 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.26 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

**13.2.8.27 SEVERABILITY:** If any provision of this rule, or the application of the provision to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of the rule, and the application of the provision to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected.

[13.2.8.27 NMAC;- Rp, 13.2.8.27 NMAC, 7/24/2018]

#### **HISTORY OF 13.2.8 NMAC:**

13.2.8 NMAC - Credit For Reinsurance, filed 7/1/1997; Recompiled 11/30/2001 was repealed and replaced by 13.2.8 NMAC - Credit For Reinsurance, effective 7/24/2018.