



COMMONWEALTH AUTOMOBILE REINSURERS

101 Arch Street, Suite 400 Boston, Massachusetts 02110

www.commauto.com

617-338-4000

NOTICE OF MEETING

MAIP STEERING COMMITTEE

A meeting of the MAIP Steering Committee will be held virtually via Zoom video conferencing software on

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026, AT 10:00 A.M.

If you plan to attend this meeting and are not a member of this Committee, please RSVP by completing the Visitor Security Form located in the Contact Us/Visitor Information section of CAR's website. CAR will then forward to you, via email, meeting access information. Please do not share access information provided by CAR, but refer others wishing to attend the meeting to CAR's Visitor Security Form.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Barry Tagen – Chair
Pilgrim Insurance Company

Ms. Shi Adams
Mr. Matthew Cote
Ms. Sheila Doherty
Mr. Shaun Farley
Mr. Cory Hanson
Mr. David Hassey
Ms. Jean Houghton
Mr. Andrew Lajzer
Mr. Henry Risman
Mr. Mark Winkler
Ms. Qianyi Zhao

GEICO
Arbella Insurance Group
Doherty Insurance Agency, Inc.
Vermont Mutual Insurance Group
The Hanover Insurance Company
Mill City Insurance, Inc.
Norfolk and Dedham Group
Safety Insurance Company
Risman Insurance Agency, Inc.
A-Affordable Insurance Agency
MAPFRE U.S.A. Corporation

AGENDA

MSC

25.01 Records of Previous Meeting

The Records of the MAIP Steering Committee meeting of July 30, 2025, should be read and approved.

MSC

26.03 CAR Conflict of Interest Policy

The Chair will read a statement relative to CAR's Conflict of Interest Policy.

MSC

22.04 Electronic MAIP Stamp

The Committee should be prepared to discuss the continued use and availability of the MAIP wet stamp since the MAIP eStamp implementation three years ago. Staff will report on the industry's use of the MAIP eStamp and ask the committee to consider the feasibility of a gradual elimination of the MAIP wet stamp.

MSC

26.04 Electronic Signature

In response to requests from the producer community, the Committee should be prepared to discuss a requirement for all Assigned Risk Carriers to accept an electronic signature on the MAIP application and other applicable documents.

MSC

26.05 Premium Finance Agreement

An Assigned Risk Company has requested a review of the procedures and requirements in Rule 31 – Assigned Risk Producer Requirements as it pertains to the requirements for Assigned Risk Producers to timely submit premium finance agreements to the Assigned Risk Company. It was suggested the Rule be strengthened such that the agreements must be received within two business days of assignment of the MAIP application. Applicable Rule language is attached for the Committee's reference (Docket #MSC26.05, Exhibit #1).

MSC

26.06 940 CMR 38.00 Unfair and Deceptive Fees

Staff will provide a status report on the actions it has taken to be compliant with 940 CMR 38.00 Unfair and Deceptive Fees, issued by the Office of the Attorney General. To provide direction to ARCs regarding policyholder notification relating to the negative option feature, staff will review recommended amendments to Chapter III – Assigned Risk Company Responsibilities (Docket #MSC26.06, Exhibit #1)

Other Business

To transact any other business that may properly come before this Committee.

Executive Session

The MAIP Steering Committee may convene in Executive Session in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 30A, § 21.

ADRIANNE DONOVAN
Residual Market Services Liaison

Attachments

Boston, Massachusetts
February 3, 2026

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necessary to calculate the voluntary premium for comparison to the MAIP premium;

1. The ARP must notify the Eligible Risk that he has the option of utilizing an installment payment plan;
- m. The ARP must verify that the Eligible Risk has signed the new business application before it is submitted to the MAIP; and
- n. The ARP must sign the new business application before it is submitted to the MAIP.
4. The ARP must submit an electronic application for Private Passenger Motor Vehicle Insurance coverage to the MAIP to obtain MAIP coverage for an Eligible Risk.
5. Once the MAIP has notified the ARP of i) the certification number assigned to the application, ii) the ARC to which the policy is assigned and iii) the effective date of the coverage, the ARP is responsible for providing the ARC with the following items within two business days:
 - a. The original application form, any additional or supplemental information, and if applicable, a copy of the voluntary premium quote or voluntary premium quote identification number. The application must be signed by the Eligible Risk and the ARP; and
 - b. The required deposit premium pursuant to Rule 28.
6. The new business application, any additional coverage, and/or modifications in coverage must be submitted to the ARC within two business days of the effective date of coverage.
7. The ARP must forward premium payments to an ARC within two business days of receipt. However, an ARC shall extend the payment period for an additional seven days upon sufficient notice that all or part of a premium is being financed by a licensed premium finance company where the premium finance company has given its written assurance to pay the full premium financed to the ARC directly. This provision shall not obligate an ARC to provide such additional time if, notwithstanding any written assurances, the premium finance company has failed to perform its commitment previously.

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8. The ARP must conduct all monetary transactions with the Eligible Risk and the ARC as required by the Rules of Operation.
9. The ARP must advise the premium finance company and/or the policyholder that checks for premiums for all financed accounts are to be made payable to the ARC.
10. The ARP must report all coverages bound and all registrations/titles certified to the ARC within two business days after binding coverage or certifying a registration.
11. The ARP must forward to the Eligible Risk within 30 days of receipt from the ARC, all policies and endorsements if not mailed directly by the ARC to the Eligible Risk.
12. The ARP must properly order endorsements.
13. The ARP must retain the necessary documentation of ARC transactions in accordance with the Assigned Risk Producer Procedures Manual and the Assigned Risk Company Procedures Manual.
14. The ARP and his employees will be required to receive training on claims reporting and fraud recognition. For current ARPs and employees, such training must be completed within six months of the initial implementation of the MAIP. For new ARPs, such training must be completed within six months of certification by the Governing Committee or its designee to immediately submit Motor Vehicle Insurance policies for placement through the MAIP with an ARC. For new employees, such training must be completed within six months of hire. Any fraud training program that receives three CEU credits from the Massachusetts Division of Insurance will satisfy the claims reporting and fraud recognition training requirement. No other training that an ARC provides to its producers is sufficient to meet the claims reporting and fraud recognition training requirement set in this Section.
15. The ARP must notify the MAIP and the ARC of any suspected fraud surrounding a loss.
16. The ARP must cooperate with ARC and MAIP personnel during all audits and investigations.
17. The ARP and his employees are prohibited from accepting a fee or any other monetary or tangible property for referring the insured or parties

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to an accident to any glass, repair or rental facility, or to any legal or medical provider.

18. ARPs shall provide referral information to consumers consistent with company practices under regulations relating to motor vehicle repairs.
19. The ARP must return uncontested unearned commission within 45 calendar days from the date the producer receives notice from the insurer that such commission is due.

C. Service Fees

1. G.L. c. 175, § 182, in part, prohibits producers and others in connection with the placing or negotiation of insurance policies or the continuance or renewal thereof from selling or offering to sell anything of value whatsoever not specified in the policy of insurance. See also G.L. c. 176D, § 3(8). The following acts and practices are prohibited:
 - a. Charging a fee in addition to the premium for certifying a registration on behalf of an ARC;
 - b. Charging a fee in addition to the premium for acting as a producer and placing the applicant's Motor Vehicle Insurance business with an ARC;
 - c. Charging a fee in addition to the premium for providing assistance to the insured in the completion of forms which are required to procure or to continue Motor Vehicle Insurance; and
 - d. Charging a fee in addition to the premium for the sale of a service contract which provides for service or advice relating to the issuance, continuance, or renewal of an insured's Motor Vehicle Insurance policy.
2. Nothing set forth in the provisions of Section C.1. is intended to prohibit producers from charging courier fees and other non-insurance related fees if the following requirements are met:
 - a. The producer provides to the applicant a complete description of the non-insurance related services for which the fee, in addition to the premium rate, is being charged;
 - b. The producer advises the applicant that there is no obligation to

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2. Rates and Policy Issuance Responsibilities

- a. An ARC must charge the assigned risk the lower of the approved MAIP rates on file with the Commissioner or its own rates applicable to that policy as if the ARC had issued the policy voluntarily. An ARC must issue the policy on its own company paper.
- b. CAR's online MAIP Policy Application system will calculate the premium of policies assigned through the MAIP based upon information contained in the application. In order to accurately calculate the policy premium once in receipt of the assignment, the ARC must assure that any additional or supplemental information requirements are kept up to date. The required supplemental information must be submitted to the ARC with the application within two business days.
- c. Upon request from an ARP, provide a voluntary rate quote on a risk assigned through the MAIP for purposes of calculating the down payment. The ARC's voluntary rate must be made available to the ARP either through a direct link to the company's rating software, through a third-party comparative rating vendor, or through a dedicated toll-free telephone rating service. The quote must be provided within the same timeframe as the ARC's voluntary market quotes and in all cases within 48 hours of receiving from the ARP any additional or supplemental information required to calculate the risk's voluntary premium.

If an ARC's voluntary rate is made available to an ARP via a direct link to the company's rating software, the quote must be returned to the ARP in a printable format. If a toll-free telephone service is provided, respond with a voluntary premium quote and provide the ARP with an identification number which will be used to match the quote to the new business application upon receipt by the ARC.

If an ARP has elected to obtain a voluntary rate quote from the assigned ARC, 30% of the lower of either the assigned company's voluntary premium or the MAIP premium, rather than 25% of the MAIP premium, must be collected as a down payment.

- d. If during the underwriting process an ARC discovers third-party information that appears inconsistent with the information provided on the application for insurance or is inconsistent with any

supplemental information, the ARC shall: 1) initiate an inquiry either directly with the insured or through the producer of record to resolve any factual errors; and 2) obtain the insured's consent before issuing a notice of adjustment to the down payment and/or total premium. If the inquiry is made directly to the applicant, the producer of record shall be furnished a copy.

If the resolution of an apparent inconsistency results in a change to the information used to calculate premium, the ARC shall charge an appropriate premium based upon the additional or corrected information and adjust the applicant's next bill accordingly. If, however, the applicant is unwilling to consent to the modification, and the ARC has independent evidence that the applicant had the actual intent to deceive or the material misrepresentation increases the ARC's risk of loss, the ARC may cancel the policy as provided by Massachusetts law.

- e. An ARC must provide the same level of service to its assigned MAIP policies as it provides to policies that the company issues voluntarily. At a minimum, the ARC must provide timely access to billing and claim information which will reflect current premium due, payments made, and if applicable, cancellation status and effective date, claim status and claim payments made. ~~Policies and other forms provided to the policyholder on a policy assigned through the MAIP must be the same as those filed by CAR and approved by the Commissioner for private passenger motor vehicle business.~~
- f. An ARC must assure that all risks assigned to it through the MAIP meet the established MAIP placement provisions specified in Rule 21. – General Provisions and the MAIP eligibility criteria specified in Rule 26.A. – Policyholder Rights and Responsibilities of CAR's Rules of Operation. Additionally, an ARC must assure that information contained in the application for insurance and any supplemental information is accurate relative to classification, garaging, discounts, credits, merit rating, vehicle use and vehicle description.
- g. Policies and other forms provided to the policyholder for a policy assigned through the MAIP must be the same as those filed by CAR and approved by the Commissioner for private passenger residual market business. However, an ARC should also attach those Policyholder Notifications addressing the Negative Option Feature

requirements of 940 CMR 38.00 on file for their voluntary business to their MAIP policies.

3. Responsibilities Relative to Non-Renewal of a MAIP Risk after the Three-Year Assignment Period

As specified in Rule 29.C.2. of CAR's Rules of Operation, specific non-renewal and billing procedures apply for a policy that an ARC intends to non-renew at the end of its three-year assignment period.

On or about the first business day of each month, an ARC must distribute to the ARP a list of policies that the ARC does not intend to renew and which will expire during the month at least 120 days from the distribution date. This will provide the ARP an opportunity to seek replacement coverage for the risk in the voluntary market.

Note that if the ARP is unable to obtain replacement coverage for the risk in the voluntary market, the ARP will submit the risk's application for coverage through the MAIP and the application will be assigned to a different ARC.

If the assignment is made at least 60 days prior to the policy expiration date, the ARP will submit a Notice of Transfer of Insurer to the risk's former ARC identifying the newly designated ARC. The ARP will not be required to collect a down payment from the risk at the time of assignment. However, upon receipt of the risk's application, the newly designated ARC must bill the risk for 20% of the premium to be charged, which will be the lower of the MAIP premium or the voluntary premium for which the risk qualifies. Additionally, the newly designated ARC must waive the pre-inspection requirement provided that the vehicle(s) to be insured is the same as the vehicle(s) insured under the previous policy.

If the assignment is made 60 days or less from the policy expiration date, the ARP will collect the required down payment as specified in Section A.2. of Chapter VII – Application Process of this Manual and in accordance with Rule 28 – Application Process of CAR's Rules of Operation and will forward it to the ARC along with the signed application and any other required additional or supplemental information within two business days from the date of assignment.