**Section 2008.81 Filing and Approval of Policies and Certificates and Premium Rates**

a) An issuer shall not deliver or issue for delivery a policy or certificate to a resident of this State unless the policy form or certificate form has been filed with and approved by the Director pursuant to 50 Ill. Adm. Code 916.

b) An issuer shall file any riders or amendments to policy or certificate forms to delete outpatient prescription drug benefits as required by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 only with the Director in the state in which the policy or certificate was issued.

c) An issuer shall not use or change premium rates for a Medicare supplement policy or certificate unless the rates, rating schedule and supporting documentation have been filed with and approved by the Director pursuant to 50 Ill. Adm. Code 916.

d) Except as provided in subsection (d)(1), an issuer shall not file for approval more than one form of a policy or certificate of each type for each standard Medicare supplement benefit plan.

1) An issuer may offer, with the approval of the Director, up to four additional policy forms or certificate forms of the same type for the same standard Medicare supplement benefit plan, one for each of the following cases:

A) The inclusion of new or innovative benefits;

B) The addition of either direct response or producer marketing methods;

C) The addition of either guaranteed issue or underwritten coverage;

D) The offering of coverage to individuals eligible for Medicare by reason of disability.

2) For the purposes of this Section, a "type" means an individual policy, a group policy, an individual Medicare Select policy, or a group Medicare Select policy.

e) Except as provided in subsection (e)(1), an issuer shall continue to make available for purchase any policy form or certificate form issued after the effective date of this Part that has been approved by the Director. A policy form or certificate form shall not be considered to be available for purchase unless the issuer has actively offered it for sale in the previous 12 months.

1) An issuer may discontinue the availability of a policy form or certificate form if the issuer provides to the Director in writing its decision at least 30 days prior to discontinuing the availability of the form of the policy or certificate. After receipt of the notice by the Director, the issuer shall no longer offer for sale the policy form or certificate form in this State.

2) An issuer that discontinues the availability of a policy form or certificate form pursuant to subsection (e)(1) shall not file for approval a new policy form or certificate form of the same type for the same standard Medicare supplement benefit plan as the discontinued form for a period of five years after the issuer provides notice to the Director of the discontinuance. The period of discontinuance may be reduced if the Director determines that a shorter period is appropriate.

3) The sale or other transfer of Medicare supplement business to another issuer shall be considered a discontinuance for the purposes of subsection (e).

4) A change in the rating structure or methodology shall be considered a discontinuance under subsections (e)(1) and (2) unless the issuer complies with the following requirements:

A) The issuer provides an actuarial memorandum, in a form and manner prescribed by the Director, describing the manner in which the revised rating methodology and resultant rates differ from the existing rating methodology and existing rates.

B) The issuer does not subsequently put into effect a change of rates or rating factors that would cause the percentage differential between the discontinued and subsequent rates as described in the actuarial memorandum to change. The Director may approve a change to the differential that is in the public interest.

f) Except as provided otherwise in this subsection, the experience of all policy forms or certificate forms of the same type in a standard Medicare supplement benefit plan shall be combined for purposes of the refund or credit calculation prescribed in Section 2008.80. Forms assumed under an assumption reinsurance agreement shall not be combined with the experience of other forms for purposes of the refund or credit calculation.

g) For ages 65 and older, the ratio between rates for successive ages shall be greater than or equal to 1.

(Source: Amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 21625, effective November 26, 2018)