

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: TARGET SURPLUS FUNDING

DATE: October 22, 2007

AMENDED DATE: January 17, 2019

REVIEWED DATE: August 24, 2022

I. PURPOSE

It is the policy of ACCEL to conservatively fund its programs to maintain sufficient assets to pay all losses and avoid substantial fluctuations to contributions. The ACCEL Board of Directors' acknowledge actuarial estimates are relied upon heavily when making financial decisions and that there is a high degree of uncertainty in such estimates due to the possibility of occasional catastrophic claims and inconsistent or inaccurate case reserving; therefore, the Board of Directors desires to fund the Pooled Layer program in a cautious and prudent manner and return equity to its members in an equally cautious and prudent manner.

In order to fund program years in a fiscally prudent manner, the ACCEL Board of Directors collects contributions at an actuarially determined confidence level as determined by the Board annually. The ACCEL Board of Directors strives to annually collect at the 90% confidence level or higher as determined by the actuary.

II. DEFINITIONS

- “Claims Paid to Date” is the amount actually paid on reported claims at the date of valuation. “Claims Paid to Date” includes those amounts paid for both defense and indemnity of claims.
- “Confidence Level” is a statistical term used to express the degree to which an actuarial projection (usually “Ultimate Net Loss” or “IBNR”) will be an accurate prediction of the dollar losses ultimately paid for a given program year or combination of years. The higher a “Confidence Level” the greater certainty the actuary has that losses will not exceed the dollar value used to attain that “Confidence Level”.
- “Equity” is the amount of funds remaining, after deducting all administrative and excess insurance costs, available to pay claims in excess of actuarial expected losses discounted for investment income at the actuarially determined “Expected” “Confidence Level”.
- “Expected” by industry standard translates roughly to the 50% to 56% “Confidence Level” as determined by the independent actuary.

- “Expected Liabilities” is the total of all “Outstanding Reserves” and “IBNR”, discounted, at the “expected” “confidence level”.
- “Incurred But Not Reported (IBNR)” is the estimate of the funds needed to pay for covered losses that have occurred but have not yet been reported to the member and/or ACCEL. “IBNR” includes (a) known and unknown loss events that are expected to be claims; and (b) expected future development on claims already reported.
- “Net Contribution” includes the total contributions from members less the excess insurance cost.
- “Net Present Value” is the discounting of future cash flows to current values by taking into account the time-value of money.
- “Self Insured Retention” is the maximum amount of pooled risk retained by ACCEL before any excess coverage.
- “Outstanding Reserves” are the sum total of unpaid case reserves in the Banking and Shared Risk Layers determined by the ACCEL Claims Administrator.
- “Ultimate Net Loss” is the sum of “Claims Paid to Date”, “Outstanding Reserves” and “IBNR”, all within ACCEL’s Banking and Shared Risk Layers. It is the estimate of the total value of all claims that will ultimately be made against members for which ACCEL is responsible.

III. IMPORTANT EQUITY RATIOS

The ACCEL Board of Directors will only consider returning “Equity” to the members after evaluating and concluding the following ratios remain appropriate for the group prior to and following any potential return of “Equity”:

☞ **“Net Contribution” to “Equity” ratio:** **Target \leq 2:1**

This ratio is a measure of how “Equity” is leveraged against possible pricing inaccuracies. A low ratio is desirable.

☞ **“Outstanding Reserves” to “Equity” ratio:** **Target \leq 3:1**

This ratio is a measure of how “Equity” is leveraged against possible reserve inaccuracies. A low ratio is desirable.

☞ **“Equity” to “Self Insured Retention” ratio:** **Target \geq 5:1**

This ratio is a measure of the maximum amount that “Equity” could decline due to a single loss. A high ratio is desirable.

☞ **Reserve Development:**

Target \leq 20%

This is a measure of the change in aggregate ultimate losses from one valuation period to the prior valuation(s). Generally, the one-year and two-year reserve development to “Equity” threshold should be less than 20%.

☞ **Change in Equity:**

Target \geq -10%

This ratio measures if a decline in equity in excess of 10% warrants an increase in annual contribution or an assessment.

IV. ANNUAL ACTUARIAL STUDY

ACCEL will conduct an annual actuarial analysis to assist the Board of Directors in making funding decisions on a prospective and retrospective basis.

V. RETROSPECTIVE RETURN OF EQUITY CRITERIA

After annual review of the “Equity” portion of the program, the ACCEL Board will review the Retrospective Refunds available and compare these findings to the “Equity” necessary to hold in the pool. If the Board desires to decrease “Equity”, by return “Equity” to the members, it will not return funds if the funding of the program as a whole will fall below the 90% “Confidence Level” and the Board of Directors will only consider returning

“Equity” to the members after evaluating and concluding the Equity Ratios remain appropriate for the group prior to and following any potential return of “Equity”. Return of “Equity” may be available from the “closing” of a program year in accordance with the Master Plan Documents (Bylaws).