

General Insurance Financial and Regulatory Environment–US Exam

Spring 2019

Important Exam Information:

[Exam Registration](#)

Candidates may register online or with an application.

[Order Study Notes](#)

Study notes are part of the required syllabus and are not available electronically but may be purchased through the online store.

[Introductory Study Note](#)

The Introductory Study Note has a complete listing of all readings as well as errata and other important information.

[Case Study](#)

A copy of the case study will be provided with the examinations. Candidates will not be allowed to bring their copy of the case study into the examination room.

[Past Exams](#)

Past copies of this exam from 2014-present are available on the SOA website.

[Updates](#)

Candidates should be sure to check the Updates page on the exam home page periodically for additional corrections or notices.

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| 1. Topic: Financial Reporting |
| Learning Objective |
| The candidate will understand the elements of financial reporting for general insurance companies. |
| Learning Outcomes |
| The candidate will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Understand and apply the concepts of insurance accountingb) Understand and compare different financial reporting standards for general insurers including: U.S. Statutory Accounting Principles (SAP), U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)c) Describe the elements of the NAIC Annual Statementd) Complete and interpret selected pages/schedules in the NAIC Annual Statement as included in the resourcese) Understand and apply the concepts of reinsurance accountingf) Understand and apply the elements of discounting for general insurance loss reservesg) Demonstrate knowledge of taxation for general insurers in the U.S.h) Estimate the premium asset for retrospectively rated policies for financial reporting |
| Resources |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>General Insurance Financial Reporting Topics</i>, Society of Actuaries, Fourth Edition, 2018:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Chapter 1 Accounting Concepts for General Insurance○ Chapter 2 Accounting for Insurance Contracts○ Chapter 3 Accounting for Financial Instruments○ Chapter 4 Accounting for Reinsurance Contracts○ Chapter 5 Accounting Perspectives for Nonadmitted Assets○ Chapter 6 Schedule F, Statutory Credit for Reinsurance○ Chapter 7 Schedule P, Statutory Loss Accounting○ Chapter 8 Notes to Financial Statements○ Chapter 9 Measuring Total Income by Line of Business○ Chapter 10 Returns on Capital: Planning, Pricing and Performance○ Chapter 15 Federal Income Taxes for General Insurers, excluding sections 15.11 and 15.12• National Association of Insurance Commissioners, Official NAIC Annual Statement Blank, Property / Casualty, for the 2017 reporting year, pages 2--19, 20-29 (Schedule F) and 33-93 (Schedule P)• FRE-801-19: Excerpts from National Association of Insurance Commissioners, Accounting Practices and Procedures Manual, 2017:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Preamble○ Statement of Statutory Accounting Principles 3, "Accounting Changes and Corrections of Errors"○ Statement of Statutory Accounting Principles 5 Revised, "Liabilities, Contingencies, and Impairment of Assets," excluding paragraphs 13-25, 30-32 and Appendix A○ Statement of Statutory Accounting Principles 9, "Subsequent Events"○ Statement of Statutory Accounting Principles 53, "Property Casualty Contracts-Premiums"○ Statement of Statutory Accounting Principles 55, "Unpaid Claims, Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses," excluding paragraphs 7-9○ Statement of Statutory Accounting Principles 62 Revised, "Property and Casualty Reinsurance"○ Statement of Statutory Accounting Principles 63, "Underwriting Pools and Associations Including Intercompany Pools"○ Statement of Statutory Accounting Principles 65, "Property and Casualty Contracts"○ Statement of Statutory Accounting Principles 66, "Retrospectively Rated Contracts" |

Resources for this topic continued on the next page

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- *“Risk Transfer Testing of Reinsurance Contracts,”* Brehm, P. and Ruhm, D., *Variance*, 2007, Volume 01, Issue 01, pages 9-17

This article may be accessed at www.casact.org through the following navigation:

- Publications
 - Variance Journal
 - Journal Issues
 - Volume 01 Issue 01
 - 9 Risk Transfer Testing of Reinsurance Contracts...
 - *Download PDF of Full Text*

- *“Estimating the Premium Asset on Retrospectively Rated Policies,”* Teng, M. and Perkins, M., *Casualty Actuarial Society*, 1996 Proceedings, Vol. LXXXIII, pages 611-647, excluding Section 5

This article may be accessed at www.casact.org through the following navigation:

- Publications
 - Yearbook/Proceedings
 - 1996 Proceedings of the Casualty Actuarial Society, Volume LXXXIII
 - Estimating the Premium Asset on Retrospectively Rated Policies

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| 2. Topic: Financial Health Measurement |
| Learning Objective |
| The candidate will understand the analysis of a general insurer's financial health through prescribed formulas, ratios and other solvency regulation methods. |
| Learning Outcomes |
| The candidate will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Evaluate the financial health of a general insurer using information contained in the Annual Statementb) Understand and apply the elements of the NAIC RBC formulac) Calculate and interpret the results of financial health ratiosd) Discuss the Canadian Minimum Capital Test and the Canadian Dynamic Capital Adequacy Teste) Understand the development and principles of solvency regulation, including that in the U.S., Canada and the EUf) Demonstrate knowledge of the EU Solvency II standard formula solvency capital requirementg) Demonstrate knowledge of ORSA and its implementationsh) Compare different solvency standardsi) Discuss the function of credit rating agencies and their influence on general insurers |
| Resources |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>General Insurance Financial Reporting Topics</i>, Society of Actuaries, Fourth Edition, 2018:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Chapter 11 Measuring Insurer Financial Strength○ Chapter 12 Solvency Monitoring○ Chapter 13 General Insurance Financial Ratings, excluding sections 13.7 to 13.9• <i>"The U.S. National State-Based System of Insurance Regulation and the Solvency Modernization Initiative,"</i> National Association of Insurance Commissioners, NAIC White Paper, 2013, excluding all Appendices, Section 4 and Section 5 paragraphs 30-45, 69-86 http://www.naic.org/documents/committees_e_isftf_related_white_paper_state-based_financial_reg_smi_130825.pdf• <i>"NAIC Own Risk and Solvency Assessment (ORSA) Guidance Manual,"</i> National Association of Insurance Commissioners, as of July 2014 http://www.naic.org/store/free/ORSA_manual.pdf• <i>"The Implications of Solvency II for U.S. Insurance Regulation,"</i> Vaughan, T., Policy Brief, Networks Financial Institute at Indiana State University, 2009-PB-03, February 2009, Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=1350539 (Link on page to <i>Open PDF in Browser</i>) |

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| 3. Topic: Responsibilities of the Actuary |
| Learning Objective |
| The candidate will be able to apply the standards of practice regarding the responsibilities of the actuary as defined by regulators and the American Academy of Actuaries. |
| Learning Outcomes |
| The candidate will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Describe, interpret and apply the applicable Standards of Practiceb) Describe, interpret and apply the responsibilities of the actuary with respect to the Statement of Actuarial Opinion and the Actuarial Reportc) Compare the Statements of Actuarial Opinion in the U.S. and Canadad) Describe and apply the concept of materialitye) Discuss the International Actuarial Association position on the function of the actuary in prudential supervision |
| Resources |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>General Insurance Financial Reporting Topics</i>, Society of Actuaries, Fourth Edition, 2018:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Chapter 14 Overview of the General Insurance Statement of Actuarial Opinion• Actuarial Standards of Practice, Actuarial Standards Board of the American Academy of Actuaries,<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ No. 1, Introductory Actuarial Standard of Practice, 2013○ No. 20, Discounting of Property/Casualty Unpaid Claim Estimates, 2011○ No. 21, Responding to or Assisting Auditors or Examiners in Connection with Financial Statements for All Practice Areas, 2016○ No. 23, Data Quality, 2016○ No. 36, Statements of Actuarial Opinion Regarding Property/Casualty Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense Reserves, Updated 2011○ No. 38, Using Models Outside the Actuary's Area of Expertise (Property/Casualty), Updated 2011.○ No. 41, Actuarial Communications, 2010○ No. 43, Property/Casualty Unpaid Claim Estimates, Updated 2011http://www.actuarialstandardsboard.org/standards-of-practice/• "International Standard of Actuarial Practice 1, General Actuarial Practice," Adopted by the IAA Council November 18, 2012 (reformatted October 2013, conformance April 2017), International Actuarial Association https://www.actuaries.org/IAA/Documents/CTTEES_ASC/ISAP1_docs_reposted/ISAP1_Conformance_April2017_reposted.pdf• "International Standard of Actuarial Practice 1A, Governance of Models," Adopted by the IAA Council November 21, 2016, International Actuarial Association https://www.actuaries.org/CTTEES_ASC/isaps/Final_ISAPs_posted/ISAP_1A_Final_November2016_Web.pdf• "A Public Policy Practice Note, Statements of Actuarial Opinion on Property and Casualty Loss Reserves," American Academy of Actuaries, Committee on Property and Liability Financial Reporting, 2017, excluding Appendices I.3 and IV http://www.actuary.org/files/publications/PC_Loss_Reserve_Practice_Note_2017.pdf• "Materiality, Concepts on Professionalism," American Academy of Actuaries, Task Force on Materiality, Discussion Paper, Professionalism Series, 2006, No. 8 http://www.actuary.org/files/materiality_06.8.pdf/materiality_06.8.pdf• "The Function of the Actuary in Prudential Supervision," International Actuarial Association, September 2002 http://www.actuaries.org/LIBRARY/Papers/Prudential_Supervision_EN.pdf |

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| 4. Topic: Regulation |
| Learning Objective |
| The candidate will be able to describe the current and historical regulatory environment. |
| Learning Outcomes |
| The candidate will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Describe the functions of key regulatory bodies in the U.S. including the NAIC and SECb) Describe and interpret the current state of general insurance regulation in the U.S. and its developmentc) Compare different forms of rate regulationd) Discuss market conduct regulatione) Discuss the issues regarding usage based insurance and telematics in automobile insurancef) Describe the development of general insurance programs controlled by government or collective insurance industry organizationsg) Describe the mechanisms of operation for government and/or collective insurance industry controlled programs as included in the resourcesh) Understand the regulation of reinsurancei) Outline the function and regulation of captives |
| Resources |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Insurance Regulation</i>, Porter, K., The Institutes, 1st Edition, 2008• FRE-100-19: “<i>Government Provision of General Insurance</i>,” Cappelletti, A., Society of Actuaries Study Note, Revised November 2018• FRE-104-17: “<i>Usage Based Insurance and Telematics</i>,” Cappelletti, A., Society of Actuaries Study Note, Revised October 2016• FRE-106-18: “<i>Captive Insurance</i>,” Cappelletti, A., Society of Actuaries Study Note, October 2017• “<i>The Economic Crisis and Lessons from (and for) U.S. Insurance Regulation</i>,” Vaughan, T., Journal of Insurance Regulation, National Association of Insurance Commissioners, Volume 28, No. 1, Fall/Winter 2009 http://www.naic.org/documents/cjpr_jir_vaughan.pdf• “<i>Code of Conduct for Insurers’ use of Credit Information (CODE)</i>,” Insurance Bureau of Canada http://assets.ibc.ca/Documents/Consumer%20Protection/Code_of_Conduct.pdf• “<i>Use of Credit Scores by Insurers</i>,” Canadian Council of Insurance Regulators, Issues Paper, Credit Scoring Working Group, June 2011 https://www.ccir-ccra.org/CreditScoringWorkingGroup (Link on page Issues Paper: Use of Credit Scores by Insurers)• “<i>Insurance and the discrimination laws: motor and travel insurance</i>,” Edmunds, T., House of Commons Library Standard Note SN04601, Published March 2013 (Date on the report is October 2015) http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/research/briefing-papers/SN04601/insurance-and-discrimination-laws-motor-and-travel-insurance (Link on page to <i>download the full report</i> in pdf format)• “<i>The National Flood Insurance Program: Challenges and Solutions</i>,” American Academy of Actuaries Flood Insurance Work Group, Public Policy Monograph, American Academy of Actuaries, April 2017, excluding Sections 7 and 8, and the Appendices http://www.actuary.org/files/publications/FloodMonograph.04192017.pdf |

Resources for this topic continued on the next page

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- *“Considerations for Residual Market Regulation,”* Facility Association, Position Paper, November 2003
http://www.facilityassociation.com/docs/position_paper/Considerations_for_Residual_Market_Regulation-Nov24.pdf
- *“Understanding the New Financial Reform Legislation: The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act,”* Mayer Brown, July 2010, Section on Title V – Insurance
<https://www.mayerbrown.com/publications/The-Dodd-Frank-Wall-Street-Reform-and-Consumer-Protection-Act-07-09-2010/> (Link on page to *Download Document*)

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| 5. Topic: Law |
| Learning Objective |
| The candidate will be able to understand tort law and insurance law with respect to its impact on the general insurance industry. |
| Learning Outcomes |
| The candidate will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Describe and interpret the key elements of tort law and the underlying principles of insurance lawb) Discuss the influence of the U.S. tort law environment in other countriesc) Discuss the issues of tort trends and tort reform as it applies to the general insurance industryd) Understand mass torts/class action suits and discuss their impact on the general insurance industrye) Describe and interpret legal cases/issues included in the syllabus resources |
| Resources |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FRE-103-14: <i>Excerpts from Business Law for Insurance Professionals</i>, The Institutes, Institutes Custom Publishing, 1st edition, 2013• FRE-105-19: “Tort Law – Topics for General Insurance Actuaries,” Cappelletti, A., Society of Actuaries Study Note, November 2018 |