

Instructions for Completing the Virginia ACA Rate Filing Template (Version 2025 – April 10, 2024)

The Virginia ACA Rate Filing Template (the Template) has been designed exclusively for the submission of annual single risk pool non-grandfathered individual and small group ACA rate filings, effective January 1, 2019 and later. The intent of the Template is to: (1) facilitate the rate review process, (2) consolidate and standardize the inputs supporting a rate filing, and (3) allow for the generation of reports to provide an overview of the individual and small group markets in Virginia. The Template contains updated versions of previous Virginia required forms (namely Form 130A, Form 130B, the Virginia Rate Template, and the Plan Schedule Comparison), in addition to other information, data, and assumptions that support the rate filing.

It is intended that the information reported in the Template is consistent with current State or Federal laws and regulations. If any subsequent changes are made to State or Federal laws/regulations/guidance that are in conflict with these instructions, the revised laws/regulations/guidance will supersede these instructions.

The Template requires two types of inputs: Manual Input – Free Form (yellow cells) and Manual Input – Dropdown List (orange cells). **Do not overwrite dropdown menu options (e.g., do not input “0” when menu options are “Y”, “N”, “P”).** Calculations (blue cells) do not require inputs and **should not be changed.** Carriers are highly encouraged to submit additional exhibits to further support the actuarial assumptions contained in a rate filing and within this Template.

Once populated with the required information, the Template should be submitted in Excel format in SERFF on the Supporting Documentation tab of the rate filing.

For purposes of completing the Template, the following definitions apply:

Allowed Claims are claims after the removal of any duplicates, claims for noncovered services or COB, and after the application of provider discounts, but prior to reduction for any member cost sharing.

Incurred Claims are claims after removal of any duplicates, claims for noncovered services or COB, and after the application of provider discounts and reduction for any member or HHS (as applicable) cost sharing.

Please employ the following when completing the Template:

- Do not adjust allowed or incurred claims for non-medical items (e.g., quality improvement expenses) that can be added to the numerator in the Federal Medical Loss Ratio (MLR) calculation.

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- The treatment of (inclusion or exclusion) any claims processed outside of the claims system should be consistent with how such claims were handled in pricing. The actuarial memorandum should include documentation of any adjustments made for non-system claims.

- The HIOS Plan ID field should be populated using the Standard Component Plan ID assigned in HIOS. The required information should include data for all non-grandfathered policies underlying the single risk pool included in the filing, including data for plans that were active during the experience period but are or will be terminated by the rate effective date.

- § 38.2-3447 of the Code of Virginia was amended to eliminate tobacco use as a rating factor for individual and small group health insurance plans effective 1/1/24. Therefore, filings should not include tobacco rating factors.

All worksheets in the Template have been protected so that data entry is allowed only in the cells where applicable. This is primarily so that rows/columns are not accidentally inserted/deleted, and the format of the workbook is not altered. **Do not attempt to alter the format of the worksheets or workbook in any way.** Alteration may cause the analytical tools to not function properly, in which case the carrier may be required to resubmit the Template. When completing sections of the Template where the number of rows a carrier may enter is variable (e.g., Tab V Plan Rates), please enter the first row of data in the first row of colored cells. Enter all subsequent rows of data in a continuous manner; **do not leave any blank rows between the records.**

All links to other workbooks should be removed prior to submitting the template. Failure to remove links may cause the analytical tools to not function properly, in which case the carrier may be required to resubmit the Template.

The Template must be submitted under Supporting Documentation in SERFF. Two templates should be submitted with each rate filing:

- 1. One for Plan Year 2025 using the April 10, 2024 version of the template.**
- 2. A copy of the final approved template for Plan Year 2024.**

Please include the plan year (2025 or 2024) at the beginning of each file name.

The following are descriptions of each tab in the Template, including instructions for manual and dropdown entries. The row and column references of the input section for each tab is in parentheses for convenience. **Please note: there are no changes in the Template from the 2024 version.**

Tab I: Data (A1:N54)

Table 0. Identifying Information

- **Carrier Name:** Enter the name of the legal entity submitting the filing.
- **NAIC Number:** Enter the legal entity's NAIC number.
- **Product(s):** Enter the product(s) included in the filing (HMO, PPO, etc.)
- **Market Segment:** Drop down indicating either individual or small group.
- **Projected Rating Period:** Enter the first effective date of the rating period. For individual this must be January 1, 20XX; for small group, this should be the beginning of the first calendar quarter for which the filed rates apply.
- **Experience Period & Manual Experience Period:** Once the Projected Rating Period is entered, these cells will auto-populate with beginning dates two years prior. If needed, these dates can be changed.
- **Most Recent Membership Date:** Once the Projected Rating Period is entered, this cell will auto-populate with a date of March 1, 20XX-1 (e.g., for a projected rating period of January 1, 2020 the cell will auto-populate with March 1, 2019).

Table 1. Number of Members

Enter the average age (rounded to the nearest tenth), members, and member months corresponding to the experience, current, and projected rating periods. Enter a zero or leave blank for any age range with no membership. The dates of the periods will auto-populate based on those entered in Table 0. Please note that the current period information is a membership snapshot on March 1, 20XX-1 (i.e., a count of members and not member months).

Table 2. Experience Period Claims and Premium

Enter the following for the Experience Period:

- **Earned Premium:** This value should be net of MLR rebates and should equal the value reported on the URRT.
- **Incurred & Paid Claims:** This value should include reinsurance but not capitation or prescription drug rebates. Please include reinsurance receipts as a positive amount in cell F38, "Estimated Cost Sharing (Member & HHS)". This will allow cell M38, "Total Incurred Claims" to tie to the URRT.
- **Ultimate Incurred Claims:** This value should include **Incurred & Paid Claims** and the carrier's best estimate of IBNR.
- **Estimated Cost Sharing (Member & HHS):** This value includes payments made by the member against allowed claims, in addition to payments made by HHS (as applicable) on behalf of low-income members.
- **Allowed Claims (Non-Capitated):** This value should include non-EHBs.
- **Total Prescription Drug Rebates:** This value should be entered as a negative number.

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- **Estimated Risk Adjustment:** This value should be negative for payments and positive for receipts.

Total Incurred Claims & Total Allowed Claims will be calculated automatically and should equal the amounts found on the URRT.

Table 3. Manual Experience Period Claims and Premium

The definitions for entries in this table are identical to those described above for Table 2. An entry is also required for **Member Months**. *No entries are required if the experience period data is 100% credible.*

Tab II: Form 130A (A1:W30)

Table 4. Form 130A - Experience Information

This tab is very similar to and replaces VA Form 130A the carrier filed in previous years. Several cells will auto-populate from entries made in Tab I Data. A few items are worth noting:

- **IBNR:** These entries will be added to **Incurred & Paid Claims** automatically to result in **Incurred Claims**. Zeros should be entered if the associated calendar year claims are complete.
- **Estimated Risk Adjustment:** Enter either actual (if known) or estimated risk adjustment, net of any risk adjustment user fees. This value should be negative for payments and positive for receipts.
- **Net Incurred Claims** (Projected years only): Enter projected calendar year incurred claims net of prescription drug rebates.
- **Interest Assumption:** Enter the interest rate that will be used to calculate present values.

In addition to **Estimated Risk Adjustment** and **Net Incurred Claims**, projected calendar year values should be entered for **Member Months** and **Earned Premium**.

Capitation has been added to Form 130A. Please enter total capitation dollars, not PMPM amounts. Dollar amounts will be added to Net Incurred Claims.

For Reinsurance - Please adjust actual incurred claims and projected net incurred claims for reinsurance in Tab II (Form 130A) in the VA ACA Filing Template.

Note: Form 130A is also used for other types of business (e.g., Medicare Supplement) where future and lifetime loss ratio minimums must be met. This does NOT apply to ACA plans, where the statutory minimum loss ratio is 75% for the projected rating period.

Tab III: Form 130B (A1:U38)

This tab is very similar to and replaces VA Form 130B the carrier filed in previous years. Several cells will auto-populate from entries made in Tab I Data.

Table 5a. Form 130B – Trend Information

Enter values for calendar years in the Actuals and Projected sections, corresponding to the basis used to project **Allowed Claims** cost and utilization trends by service category: **Inpatient Hospital, Outpatient Hospital, Physician, Prescription Drugs, Other and Capitation**. Entries are also required for Actual and Projected **Member Months**. Projected Rating Period trends by service category should correspond to those in the URRT and reflect the amounts used in rate development.

Drop down boxes are provided to describe the unit of measurement for cost and utilization (e.g., Admits, Days or Other for Inpatient Hospital).

Table 5b. Form 130B – Trend Calculation

Annual trends are calculated from the values entered in Table 5a. No entries are required.

Tab IV: Rate Development (A1:N74)

This tab provides details for the development of the Projected Index Rate and the Market-Adjusted Index Rate, in addition to Retention and Commission information. Several cells will auto-populate from entries made in Tab I Data and Tab III Form 130B. The Commission Detail in cells C69 – D71 on Tab IV will only accept numeric inputs.

Table 6. Development of the Projected Index Rate, Market-Adjusted Index Rate, and Total Allowed Claims

The following are manual entries and should be entered under Actual Experience Data and Manual Data (if applicable):

- **Change in Morbidity:** Enter the value as defined in the URRT instructions.
- **Change in Demographics/Network/Benefits/Other:** Enter the value(s) as defined in the URRT Instructions. These are possible components of the Change in Other, in addition to trend and change in morbidity.
- **Credibility Factors:** Enter the amount of credibility assigned to Actual Experience Data (Manual Data credibility will auto-populate).
- **Projected Paid to Allowed Ratio:** Enter the Paid to Allowed Ratio in the Projection Period as defined in the URRT Instructions.

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The following are manual entries for the Market-wide Adjustments:

- **Projected Risk Adjustment PMPM:** Payments should be negative and receipts should be positive. Value should be net of risk adjustment user fees.
- **Projected Paid Exchange User Fees PMPM:** Enter the expected Exchange User Fee based on the amount specified in the corresponding HHS Final Annual Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters.
- **Projected Reinsurance PMPM:** Enter the projected reinsurance amount as a positive value.

The Market-Adjusted Projected Allowed Total Claims PMPM will be calculated automatically.

The Market-Adjusted Index Rate will be calculated automatically. If applicable, enter **Projected Allowed Non-EHB Claims PMPM**.

Table 6a. Small Group Projected Index Rate with Quarterly Trend

Please refer to the URRT Instructions under “Guidance for Quarterly Rate Increases” for the required entries in this table. The Months of Trend and Annualized Quarterly Trend will auto-populate but can be changed if necessary.

Table 7. Retention

This section requires retention details that support the retention categories as defined in the URRT Instructions. All values should be entered under Percentages, and the PMPM values will be calculated automatically.

The following are allowed entries under Administrative Expenses and the total should equal the Administrative Expense Load on the URRT:

- **General and Claims**
- **Agent/Broker Fees and Commissions**
- **Quality Improvement Initiatives**

The following are allowed entries under Taxes & Fees and the total should equal Taxes & Fees on the URRT:

- **PCORI Fees**
- **VA Premium Tax (if applicable)**
- **Federal Income Tax**
- **Risk Adjustment Fee**

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Note: The totals for Administrative Expenses and Taxes and Fees, in addition to Profit/Contingency (after tax) are auto-populated from entries on Tab V Plan Rates. It is acceptable for the user to enter the above retention details prior to making entries in Tab V; when this is done, the following error message will appear: “The calculated percentage does not equal the sum of the pieces below.” Once the correct values are entered in Tab V, this error message will disappear.

If all entries have been made correctly, the calculated cell Projected Required Revenue PMPM should equal the Single Risk Pool Gross Premium Avg. Rate, PMPM on the URRT.

The following should be entered under Commission Details (on either a percent or PMPM basis; entering both for any of the following categories will result in an error message):

- **New Business**
- **Renewing Business**
- **Special Enrollment Period**

Tab V: Plan Rates (A1:AL523)

Table 8. Plan Rates

This tab calculates current year calibrated plan adjusted index rates for all new and existing plans contained in the rate filing. Up to 500 plans can be entered Please do not skip any rows when making entries.

Silver Plan Variants: Enter the actual and expected membership by silver plan and each variant (73%, 87% and 94%).

- **Age Calibration Factor**
- **Geographic Calibration Factor**
- **Tobacco Calibration Factor – Must be 1.0 for 2025**

The Aggregate Calibration Factor will be calculated automatically.

The following are Free Form entries for each plan:

- **Current year HIOS Plan ID** (up to 14 alphanumeric values per plan ID): Each unique HIOS Plan ID should only appear on one row of this tab
- **Metallic Tier Actuarial Value:** Enter the value determined using the Actuarial Value Calculator.
- **Pricing AV:** Enter the actuarial value that was determined by the carrier.
- **Benefit Richness:** Enter the value that represents induced demand.
- **Non-Funding of CSR Adjustment:** Enter the value that represents the cost to the carrier for the lack of CSR (Cost Sharing Reduction) funding. Please enter 1.000 for any plan where such cost has no impact on rates.
- **Benefits in Addition to EHBs:** Enter the value of any non-EHBs, if applicable. Please enter 1.000 for any plan that covers only EHBs.
- **Provider Network:** Enter the value of the provider network and delivery system for each plan, as well as utilization management practices.
- **Catastrophic Eligibility:** Enter the value that represents the expected impact of specific eligibility categories for these plans. Please enter 1.000 for all other plans.
- **Admin Costs:** Enter the value that represents administrative expenses.
- **Taxes & Fees:** Do not include Exchange User fees in this value.
- **Profit or Contingency**
- **Prior Year Calibrated Plan Adjusted Index Rate:** Enter the value for each plan that was in existence in the prior year, with either no plan design changes or plans that have been modified (i.e., plans that underwent plan design changes).
 - If terminating plan membership is being mapped into a new plan, a Prior Year Calibrated Plan Adjusted Index Rate should be entered that reflects the data for the plan members are currently enrolled in. If multiple terminating plans are being mapped to the same new plan, the Prior Year Calibrated PAIR should reflect the member-weighted average amount among the terminating plans.
 - If terminating plan enrollment is being mapped into an existing plan, the Prior Year Calibrated PAIR for the existing plan should reflect the member-weighted average amount for the existing plan and the terminating plan(s).
- **Number of Members by Rating Area:** Enter the number of members for each plan by rating area as of March 1, 20XX-1. Please enter 0 or leave blank for plans with no membership in any rating area. The date shown in the title of the chart will auto-populate from Tab I. Data. Membership for plans which are terminating should be included in the plan they will be mapped into.

Note: Any plan with a membership figure in Tab V, Column R must have a corresponding prior year PAIR entry in Tab V, Column V.

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The following are Drop Down Lists:

- **Product Type**
- **Metallic Tier**
- **Exchange Indicator**

Cells Z23:AK23 were changed to “N/A” and are non-editable

Tab VI A: Plan Premiums Individual (A1:GL522)

This tab replaces the VA Rate Template for individual rate filings. Current and prior year’s rates for a 21-year-old Non-Tobacco user, for each plan and rating area, are calculated from entries made in Tab V Plan Rates. ***Please note that these calculated amounts may not exactly match the rates in the Rates Table Template due to rounding differences.*** Average rate changes, weighted by enrollment, are also calculated.

Drop Down List entries indicate whether or not coverage is available in each county or independent city of a rating area. When the carrier submits a rating area factor for a rating area, the entry for all counties and independent cities in that area will default to “Y.” The carrier should change this entry, if applicable, to an “N” for no coverage or a “P” for partial coverage to accurately present the availability of coverage in each county/independent city of the rating area. ”N/A” will appear for the premium amount if the county/independent city coverage is all “N” for that plan and rating area combination. Please note that the entries will initially be populated with “N” until the appropriate rating area factors are populated on Tab VIII Cons Factors & Rate Pres.

Note: Please do not change the age entry of 21 in cell BB15. This has been provided for use by the Bureau to perform random rate checks.

Tab VI B: Plan Premiums Small Group (A1:IB522)

This tab replaces the VA Rate Template for small group rate filings. Entries are required for the prior year’s Q1 rates for 21-year-old Non-Tobacco user, for each plan and rating area. Otherwise, please refer to the instructions above (Tab VI A Plan Premiums Individual).

Tab VII: Rate Change Calculation (A1:E43)

This tab calculates the estimated impact of various components of the rate change compared to the previous year's rate filing. Assumption values for the current year filing will be calculated automatically. Corresponding entries are required for the assumptions contained in the previous rate filing.

Reinsurance is included as a rate change element in Tables 11 and 12.

Tab VIII: Cons Factors & Rate Pres (A1:I45)

Entries are required for the current and prior year's tobacco and geographic factors. Please enter "N/A" if no plans are offered in the entire rating area. Table 14 replaces a separate file that the Bureau distributes prior to the annual rate presentations, usually held near the middle of August. This will allow carriers to complete these exhibits directly in conjunction with their submitted rate filings.

Table 13. Overall Rate Change Information

- An entry is only required for the carrier calculated amount of total average rate change.

Table 14. Plan Specific Rate Change Information

- Reinsurance is included as a rate change element. For consistency in the presentations, where applicable please include the reinsurance impact in cell C35.

Table 16. Geographic Factors

- Enter the current and proposed area factors.

Tab IX: Plan Schedule Comparison (A1:N514)

Table 16. VA Plan Schedule Comparison

This tab replaces the Virginia Plan Schedule Comparison previously filed separately by carriers to support plan management activities. The HIOS Plan ID and Metallic Tier will auto-populate from Tab V Plan Rates for the current year. Other required information should be entered for each Schedule of Benefits form filed for use in the current benefit year for ACA plans.

For the prior year, enter the following if the plan is Existing or Modified in the current year:

- **HIOS Plan ID**
- **Plan Marketing Name**
- **Form Number**
- **Metallic Tier** (Drop Down List)
- **HDHP Indicator** (Drop Down List)
- **Form SERFF Tracking Number**

The HIOS Plan ID and Metallic Tier will be auto populated from the inputs in Tab V (Plan Rates). Plan data on Tabs V and IX must be input in the same order.

Note: Options for “Discontinued and Mapped” and “Discontinued and Not Mapped” have been removed from Column C.

For the prior year, enter “same” in each of the above Free Form cells if there are no changes to the Schedule of Benefits; enter “N/A” if the plan is New. In either case, both Drop Down List cells must be entered.

Tab X: Rate Sheet (A1:O513)

Table 17. VA ACA Rate Sheet

There are no entries required for this tab, as information is pulled directly from other tabs. For small group submissions, the quarterly trend factors are now included on this tab in order to have the ability to calculate rates for all quarters of the plan year. Column H has been added to signify the rating areas in which a plan is offered (e.g., Areas 1, 2, 6, 8).

- Rate Sheet must be printed to a PDF file using “Print” button in tab
- Rate Sheet must be submitted under Rate/Rules Schedule in SERFF
- One Rate Sheet PDF per carrier and market

Column F has been added to capture current membership by plan. This column will not print when the “Print Tab” button is pressed.

Tab XI: Risk Adj Calc (A1:E28)

Table 18. Summarized Risk Adjustment Calculation

This tab requires entries for the carrier's risk adjustment calculation. In addition to the statewide average premium, the following entries should be made for both statewide and the carrier:

- Actuarial Value (AV)
- Plan Liability Risk Score (PLRS)
- Allowable Rating Factor (ARF)
- Induced Demand Factor (IDF)
- Geographic Cost Factor (GCF)

Several values associated with the risk adjustment development will automatically calculate. Please note that the calculated transfer PMPM amount may not match what is used on Tab IV due to differing approaches being utilized; however, any discrepancy should be discussed and supported in the actuarial memorandum.

Tab XII: Area Factor Compare (A1:H40)

This tab will perform the calculations necessary to comply with 14VAC5-130-50, F1 – F3. If the carrier is in both the individual and small group markets, the corresponding area factors for the opposite market (i.e., individual factors for a small group filing) must be entered in Table 20 in order to show compliance with 14VAC5-130-50 F3. Individual only carriers and small group only carriers are not required to enter any data in Table 20.