

FLOOD FACTS

A newsletter for agents of American Bankers Insurance Company
of Florida

www.abciflood.com

May 2010



ASSURANT
Specialty
Property

Claims Information

American Bankers Insurance
Company of Florida

PO Box 6099

Scottsdale AZ 85261-6099

8655 E Via De Ventura

Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Email

claims.department@assurant.com

Phone 1-800-245-1505

Fax 1-800-224-4170

Hours of operation: "24 Hours"

Mon-Fri 5:30am-5:00pm PST

Claim status, please call:

1-800-245-1505

If you need help to submit a
claim via AccessFlood, call the
Flood Service Center at 1-800-
423-4403.

www.floodsmart.gov

An official site of the National
Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

WATERMARK is published 3
times a year by the National
Flood Insurance Program
(NFIP). The current issue and
selected back issues of

Watermark are available at:

[www.fema.gov/business/nfip/w
m.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/wm.shtm)

May 1, 2010 NFIP Changes

- The Federal Policy will increase:
 - * Standard Flood Insurance Policy \$40 (was \$35)
 - * Residential Condominium Association Policy:
 - 1 unit \$40 (was \$35)
 - 2-4 units \$80 (was \$70)
 - 5-10 units \$200 (was \$175)
 - 11-20 units \$440 (was \$385)
 - 21 or more \$840 (was \$735)
 - * Preferred Risk Policy \$20 (was \$13)
- Most PRP rates have increased to take into account the Federal Policy Fee increase (between \$1 and \$7)
- Some rates under the Standard Flood Insurance Policy and the RCBAP will decrease to comply with the statutory annual limitation on premium increases that were effective on October 1, 2009
- The Lowest Floor Guide section of the manual has been revised/improved
- The Community Rating System section has been updated
- Part 2 of the application is now required with all applications except for the PRP and MPPP unless the building is a manufactured (mobile) home.

Pay Your Premium Online

The Flood Insurance Renewal Invoice can now be paid by logging onto website listed under "Special Instructions" on the Renewal Invoice. An **ID** and **Pin** are provided on the insured payor copies only of the Flood Insurance Renewal Invoice.

Elevation Certificates

Certificates certified prior to September 30, 2000 can be used if:

- The Lowest Adjacent Grade and diagram number are on the form (dated October 1, 1997 and later)
- The Base Flood Elevation (BFE) and Lowest Floor Elevation (LFE) is listed.

Contact Information

New Business Applications,
Rollovers, Endorsements,
Cancellations and Other
Correspondence
American Bankers Insurance
Company of Florida
Flood Service Center
PO Box 4337
Scottsdale, AZ 85261-4337

Hours of Operation

Mon-Fri 6:00am-4:00pm MST

Flood Service Center

Phone: 1-800-423-4403

Fax: 1-714-712-3842

Email

flood.service.center@assurant.com

submitforrate@assurant.com

flood.rollovers@assurant.com

agencybrokerchange@assurant.com

Overnight Mail

American Bankers Insurance
Company of Florida
Flood Service Center
8655 E Via De Ventura
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Lockbox Address for**Renewal Payments Only**

American Bankers Insurance
Company of Florida
PO Box 29861
Phoenix, AZ 85038-9861

2010 Holiday Schedule

5/31 Memorial Day
7/5 Independence Day (Obs)
9/6 Labor Day
11/25 Thanksgiving
11/26 Day after Thanksgiving
12/24 Christmas Day (Obs)

Save Paper – Save Time

It is not necessary to fax or e-mail a new business application with a copy of the check prior to mailing original documents. Effective dates are calculated based the signature date and receipt of the premium by the Company. Flood insurance cannot be bound.

New Business Applications

New business applications submitted without the required signatures and documentation take longer to issue, may affect the effective date of the policy or even be returned. All submissions must include the following:

- **Part I & II of the application signed and dated. Effective May 1, 2010 - Part II of the application must be completed, signed, dated and submitted with all applications except for Preferred Risk Policies unless the structure is a manufactured (mobile) homes.**
- **The loan close/lender required date and mortgagee address.**
- **Elevation certificate, if required for rating, and original color photos of the front and back of the structure taken within 90 days of submission of application. The photos must include the date taken, be at least 3 x 3 inches, and clearly show the foundation elements of the building. (Faxed photos are not acceptable).**
- **Photos can be emailed to the flood.service.center@assurant.com separate from the application and payment. Include the application number and the insured's name in the Subject line and note on the application or cover letter that "photos are being emailed to the FSC separately".**
- **Photos and Replacement Cost Estimator are required with all RCBAP application.**
- **Premium (check or credit card payment).**

Completing Part 2 Of the Flood Application

After completing Part 1 of the Flood Insurance Application, all relevant items in Part 2 of the Application must be completed for all buildings.

Completing Part 2 is not an option it is mandatory for all buildings, except for Preferred Risk Policies and the MPPP unless the building is a manufactured mobile home.

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Part 2 of the Application collects information about risk factors affecting the building, occupancy information, and elevation data relative to the ground level. To complete Part 2 of the Application:

- Obtain all necessary information from the applicant. Then select the building diagram that best illustrates the applicant's building.
- Transcribe the information from the applicant and/or Elevation Certificate onto Part 2 of the Application.
- The applicant or the applicant's representative must complete all numbered sections of the document, check all appropriate boxes, provide all information, and respond to all YES/NO questions that are applicable to the building. (For example, Section II should be completed only for Elevated Buildings.)

**Flood Service Center will be closed
Memorial Day
Monday, May 31, 2010**

NFIP'S FLOOD TRAINING - ONLINE, WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS:

- **Online Classes:** The NFIP's online courses are unavailable at this time. The online course may be down through May 2010, or longer, due to system restraints. We will let you know, via Flood Facts, when the online training becomes available again.
- **Webinars:** NEW!! The NFIP is now offering Basic Agent training via a Webinar. This web based training does not provide CE Credits, unless specifically stated on their website below. The Webinar does provide a Certificate of Completion to all attendees for the FloodSmart cooperative programs and any WYO requesting proof of training.
- **Workshops (classroom style):** The NFIP's workshop, "Basic Agent Flood Seminar", provides 3 CE Credits to all licensed agents/producers except for those agents/producers licensed in the following three States (Montana, Michigan and Massachusetts) as well as agents/producers in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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For more information, on the NIFP Webinars or Workshops, please go to:
http://www.nfipiservice.com/training/schedule_agents.html

***American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida offers two different Flood Insurance Training Classes that are "NFIP Compliant" for our agents and producers:

- **Level I - Fundamentals of Flood Insurance.** This class covers all basic rules and requirements of completing a Standard Flood Insurance Application.
- **Level II - Advanced Flood Insurance.** This class would be for the more experienced agent. The class reviews the Fundamentals of Flood Insurance with emphasis on elevated buildings in Special Flood Hazard Areas, Condominiums, and coverage Limitations.

For more information on the Level I and Level II classes, including CE Credits available, please visit our website at www.abicflood.com and select Education and then select your State from the drop down box.

AccessFlood Web Training

The Flood Service Center is committed to providing the best training programs to our agents. Have you signed up to have an AccessFlood training class? It will take no more than 1.5 hours. Call or email to schedule a training session and let us help you write more flood business. Please contact: Flood Marketing Support at 800-423-4403 x8803, or (email: Flood.Marketing.Support@Assurant.com).