



IOWA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION'S (IREC's) GROUP ERRORS AND OMISSIONS (E&O) PROGRAM

Administered by Rice Insurance Services Center (RISC)
A Division of Accretive Specialty Insurance Solutions, LLC
Issued by Continental Casualty Company

502-897-1876 / 1-800-637-7319
4211 Norbourne Blvd., Louisville, KY 40207
P.O. Box 6709, Louisville, KY 40206
www.risceo.com

RISC is pleased to continue to provide the IREC's group real estate E&O insurance program for Iowa licensees. After 30+ years of service to real estate licensees, exceeding our insureds' expectations remains our top priority. The insurance carrier, Continental Casualty Company, a CNA insurance company, rated "A Excellent" by A.M. Best.

BASIC POLICY only \$144

Limits of Liability – \$100,000 per claim / \$100,000 aggregate with NO deductible.

Increased Limits Available to Individual (Not Firm) Licensees

\$250,000 per claim / \$750,000 aggregate (\$78 additional premium) or \$500,000 per claim / \$1,000,000 aggregate (\$140 additional premium).

AUTOMATICALLY INCLUDES

First Dollar Defense – Applies WITH NO CONDITIONS to all covered claims.

Defense Outside Limits – NO LIMIT on the amount of defense costs the carrier will pay in connection with claims covered under the basic policy (there are limits under the subpoena and regulatory complaints supplementary coverages, which were traditionally not covered at all under many E&O policies).

Expanded Definition of Professional Services – Insured professional services include property management and services performed or advice given (including as a notary public and as a real estate consultant or counselor) in connection with licensed activity.

Firm / Team / Franchise Coverage – Real estate firm, real estate team, and franchisor insured for vicarious liability for covered claims.

Spousal Coverage – Licensee's spouse or domestic partner considered an insured in certain situations.

Retroactive / Prior Acts Coverage – Insures prior transactions, provided you have maintained continuous real estate E&O insurance from the date of the professional services to the date the claim is first made.

Discrimination / Fair Housing Sublimits – \$25,000 per discrimination claim / \$25,000 aggregate (damages).

Environmental Sublimits – \$10,000 per environmental claim / \$20,000 aggregate (damages).

Escrow / Earnest Money Sublimits – \$5,000 per escrow claim / \$10,000 aggregate (damages).

Lock Box Sublimits – \$5,000 per lock box claim / \$10,000 aggregate (damages).

Primary Residence Sublimits – \$100,000 per primary residence claim / \$100,000 aggregate (damages) for claims involving the sale or listing for sale of the insured licensee's primary residence if the sale or listing is performed under the licensee's real estate license and supervised by their real estate firm.

Subpoena Coverage – Up to \$2,500 in attorneys' fees in connection with a covered subpoena (\$2,500 maximum for all subpoenas).

Regulatory Complaints Coverage – \$2,500 per regulatory complaint / \$5,000 aggregate (defense costs).

Security Breach Supplementary Payment Coverage – Reimbursement up to \$5,000 to the real estate firm for costs incurred to provide required notification of a security breach when information may have been disclosed or used in an unauthorized manner (\$5,000 maximum regardless of the number of licensees or incidents involved). This is not personal identity theft risk coverage.

OPTIONAL ENDORSEMENTS AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUAL (NOT FIRM) LICENSEES

Appraisal Endorsement \$200 – Active Iowa real estate licensees who also have an active appraiser license may purchase an appraisal endorsement to add licensed appraisal services to the activity insured by the group policy. Eligibility Requirements: must have an active Iowa real estate license and an active appraisal license.

Appraiser Trainee Endorsement \$200 per appraiser trainee – For supervising appraisers, adds specific appraiser trainees listed as insureds under the supervising appraiser's insurance for services assisting with the supervising appraiser's professional services. Eligibility Requirement: must also purchase an appraisal endorsement.

Contingent Bodily Injury / Property Damage Endorsement \$25 – Sublimits of \$10,000 per claim / \$10,000 aggregate for damages and defense costs, combined, for bodily injury and property damage claims that arise from professional services under certain conditions.

Residential Personal Interest \$30 – Sublimits of \$100,000 per residential personal interest claim / \$100,000 aggregate for claims relating to the sale or listing for sale of residential property owned by the licensee, the licensee's spouse, or a company owned by the licensee under certain conditions.

Developed / Constructed by Spouse Endorsement \$250 – Sublimits of liability of \$100,000 per developed / constructed by spouse claim / \$100,000 aggregate for claims relating to the sale or listing for sale of residential property constructed or developed by the licensee's spouse under certain conditions.

OPTIONAL ENDORSEMENT AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUAL AND FIRM LICENSEES

Conformity \$20 – Conforms the insured licensee's coverage under the IA group policy to comply with the E&O requirements in another mandated state where you hold an active real estate license. To be eligible, you must be domiciled in IA or treated as domiciled in IA under the policy.

WHERE INSURANCE APPLIES

For licensees domiciled in IA, the policy applies to professional services provided anywhere in the world, provided the licensee is duly licensed in the state where services were provided, and the services would require a real estate license had they been performed in IA. Licensees not actually domiciled in IA or not considered to be domiciled in IA under the policy terms are insured only for professional services rendered in IA.

FIRM EXCESS COVERAGE, Subject to Underwriting Approval

Firm excess policies up to \$3,000,000 limits available to firms whose licensees are all insured through the group program.

RISK REDUCTION MATERIAL AVAILABLE AT WWW.RISCEO.COM

We incorporate our knowledge of the policy and extensive claims handling experience into educational articles and videos.

Online enrollment, sample policy and endorsement forms, and additional information available at www.risceo.com.

Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. We are always happy to hear from Iowa licensees.



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Please Support Your State Program

\$13+ Million in defense costs and damages have been incurred as of August 31, 2024 since the current carrier began issuing the Iowa state group program in 2003. RISC and the carrier share a commitment to their insureds and providing valuable coverage to Iowa licensees. When shopping for insurance coverage, it's important to ask about the company's experience and paid claims in Iowa. If a company is charging a very low amount, you may find the carrier doesn't provide much coverage or pay many claims.

The state group program offers affordable E&O insurance to each and every licensee by spreading the risk over a large number of insureds. Without the group program's low premium, other carriers have no incentive to offer real estate E&O policies at affordable prices. In states without a group program, real estate E&O premiums may cost thousands of dollars and some licensees report being unable to obtain insurance at any price.

Rely on the Most Experienced Provider in the Business

The Rice family and their colleagues have specialized in mandated real estate E&O programs since 1989. We provide group policies in the vast majority of states that have group programs and require licensees to maintain insurance. CNA has 50+ years of experience in E&O programs, including 30+ years in real estate E&O. CNA is the top provider of real estate liability insurance, delivering 100+ years of experience, industry knowledge, and financial strength to manage even the most complex risks. You can be confident we will be here for you even after you purchase coverage.

When a Claim is Made, Our In-House Adjusters Focus on You

Some people assume insurance companies look for reasons to deny coverage. Our duty to find coverage where the policy supports it is our utmost concern. Most insurance providers use one entity to sell the policy and another to handle claims. Because we do both, the information we provide about the policy reflects how it will actually apply in the event of a claim. Providers who don't administer claims may not know how the carrier actually applies the policy when a claim is made.

We Stand by You Even if there is a Claim

You may be involved in a claim even if you did everything by the book. Some providers won't write your coverage if you have had a claim. Or if you have a claim, they may not renew your policy! There is no need to fear reporting a claim under our program. We understand having a claim does not mean you did anything wrong. Anyone can be involved in a transaction that goes sour. Never think it can't happen to you. And we are here to help you if it does.

Our Website Makes Everything Easier

We are dedicated to exceptional customer service. Our website, www.risceo.com, makes it easy and convenient to enroll in the group policy, learn more about the group program, and find risk reduction information. Take a look at our website and learn how RISC puts the Experience and Options in E&O programs

All E&O Providers are Not the Same . . . Neither are All E&O Policies

Always Review the Actual Policy Provisions!

The most accurate representation of what a policy covers is the policy itself. We recommend you review any policy you are considering and ask these questions:

Does the policy provide first dollar defense? Yes. Under the RISC policy, there is no deductible for damages or defense costs. Other policies may have stringent requirements that must be followed to qualify for first dollar defense.

Does the policy offer unlimited defense costs? Yes. Under the RISC policy, there is no limit on the amount of defense costs available to pay covered claims (there are limits for subpoena and regulatory complaint coverages, which were not traditionally covered at all under many E&O policies).

Does the policy insure transactions you do for relatives? Yes. The RISC policy applies to claims involving services performed for your relatives and in-laws. This is important, since buyers and sellers often turn to a trusted relative who is a real estate licensee to represent them in a transaction.

Does the policy apply to claims relating to all types of real property? Yes. The RISC policy applies to any claim relating to professional services, regardless of the type of property involved. Other policies may limit coverage to a specific type of property, such as residential, or require additional premium for coverage for other kinds of property. Even if you currently handle only residential transactions, consider whether you are willing to forgo an opportunity to work with commercial property or farmland or to risk not having coverage for a claim resulting from the transaction.

Does the policy insure your firm for its vicarious liability for your professional services? Yes. Claims are often made against real estate firms as a result of their licensees' negligence. Under the RISC policy, the insured licensee's policy applies to covered claims alleging the firm's vicarious liability for negligence in the licensee's professional services. Some policies issued to individual licensees may not provide coverage for the firm's vicarious liability for their actions, which may leave the firm uncovered in the event of a claim.

Are insureds satisfied with the provider's service? Yes. Below are excerpts from actual emails we have received:

Rice Insurance Services has consistently responded to our needs in a timely and professional manner. With the current atmosphere of frequent litigation, it is very important to our survival as a real estate service provider to have access to this level of quality when the need arises for insurance coverage. M.G., Iowa insured

I have had many occasions to work with RISC, and I always have received timely professional service. I have consistently found RISC's management and staff to be friendly, cooperative and fair. J.J., general counsel for large Iowa real estate firm

Questions?

Call us at 1-800-637-7319 or visit our website at www.risceo.com. We look forward to hearing from you.



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NOTICE – Iowa law requires that all active real estate licensees, including firms, carry and maintain E&O insurance to cover all licensed activities. New licensees must obtain insurance before their license can be activated. Failure to carry the required insurance or to timely submit proof of coverage upon the IREC's request are grounds for license denial, suspension, and denial of application or renewal. Licensees may purchase insurance outside of the group program, as long as coverage meets state requirements and proof of coverage is provided to the IREC as required by state law.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Monday, 12/2/2024** – For licensees enrolling by mail, recommended deadline to return completed enrollment form and payment to allow time for processing (online enrollment is encouraged).
- **Tuesday, 12/31/2024** – Deadline to obtain / renew coverage for 2025 with no administrative penalty. **Licensees who do not have insurance for the 1/1/2025 to 1/1/2026 policy period by 1/1/2025 may be in violation of licensing law and subject to IREC penalties and fines.**
- **Wednesday, 1/1/2025** – Expiration of current group policy. **If you are currently enrolled in the IREC's group policy, your coverage expires 1/1/2025 at 12:01 A.M. CT.**

PROTECTION FROM THE MOST EXPERIENCED PROVIDER IN THE BUSINESS – RISC's management team has been involved in state-mandated real estate E&O insurance programs longer than any other group in the business. This program is specially tailored to meet the specific needs of Iowa licensees. The insurance carrier is Continental, a CNA insurance company. RISC's experience and excellent claims service, combined with CNA's strong financial performance and ratings (rated "A" (Excellent) by A.M. Best), ensures a quality program.

FIRM EXCESS POLICIES AVAILABLE – Firm excess policies (written by Continental) with \$3,000,000 limits are available on an underwritten basis. To qualify, all the firm's licensees must participate in the group program. Contact us for an application to obtain a quote.

OPTION FOR RENEWING E&O COVERAGE FOR MULTIPLE LICENSEES – Companies with 10+ licensees can request a Multiple Licensee Renewal Form to electronically submit enrollment information for all the firm's licensees timely and expediently.

REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND SIGN BELOW

What Is and Is Not Covered – We urge all licensees to review a sample policy, including the Exclusions section. A sample policy and additional information are available on our website, www.risceo.com, or by calling us toll-free at 1-800-637-7319, ext. 1.

This is a Claims-Made-and-Reported Policy – There is no coverage for claims first made before the beginning or after the end of your firm's individual policy period. If you or your firm has any knowledge of a claim; potential claim; or any act, error, omission, fact, or situation that may give rise to a claim against your firm, it must be reported in writing immediately to your firm's insurance carrier before your firm's current policy period expires. Failure to do so may jeopardize any coverage that would have otherwise been available. Any claim under the group policy must be reported to us in writing during the individual policy period in which it is first made against the insured. For further instructions and a notice of claim form, visit our website, www.risceo.com, then select the "Resources" tab and click "Forms" or call us toll-free at 1-800-637-7319, ext. 2.

Prior Acts and Importance of Timely Renewal – Your firm's "retroactive date" determines whether its insurance applies to claims involving services performed before the new policy's effective date. The retroactive date is the date from which your firm has continuously maintained uninterrupted E&O insurance with no breaks between policy periods. Even a one-day gap will result in loss of coverage for ALL professional services performed before the new policy's effective date, even if your firm had E&O insurance when the services were provided and again when the claim arises. If your firm fails to enroll timely, call RISC immediately to see if your firm qualifies to backdate its individual policy period to January 1, 2025 (subject to approval, \$20 cost if requested more than 60 days after group policy inception). This procedure will not remedy noncompliance with mandatory insurance laws, which will result in penalties and fines.

Not Renewing Coverage through RISC's Program? Consider an Optional Extended Reporting Period (ERP) Endorsement – There is no coverage for claims that arise after the end of your firm's individual policy period unless an ERP is in place. Claims often arise years after the subject transaction occurred. If your firm is not renewing coverage for any reason (e.g., inactivating/retiring its license or switching to another provider), your firm should consider purchasing an ERP Endorsement. We offer optional 1, 2, 3, or 5 year ERP Endorsements to extend the policy's reporting date to apply to claims that are first made and reported within that period. An ERP endorsement may only be purchased any time during or up to 90 days after the end of your firm's individual policy period.

Territory – Licensees domiciled in Iowa are insured for real estate services performed anywhere they hold an active real estate license, provided the services would require a real estate license if performed in Iowa. Licensees not domiciled in Iowa are insured for Iowa transactions only. Out-of-state licensees may be considered domiciled in Iowa if their principal real estate license is affiliated with a real estate office in Iowa and they reside within 50 miles of the Iowa state line. See the Territory section of the policy for more information.

Effective Date – Licensees who enroll before January 1, 2025 will have an effective date of January 1, 2025. Licensees who enroll after January 1, 2025 will have an inception date of the day we receive the licensee's *completed enrollment form and premium*. Licensees not currently enrolled in the current group policy may request a different inception date (after January 1, 2025) for Continental's consideration: _____

Premium/Deductible – All premiums are fully earned at policy inception and no refunds are permitted after that date. If your firm's payment is returned for nonsufficient funds, your firm is responsible for payment of any resulting bank fees or penalties. The deductible will be due in accordance with the policy. Enrollee agrees to reimburse Continental for any and all costs and expenses it incurs by employing a collection agency to collect any overdue deductible.

Enrollee has reviewed and understands the information contained herein. Enrollee declares that the above statements are true and that Enrollee has not suppressed or misstated any material facts. Enrollee understands that it is a crime to knowingly provide false, incomplete, or misleading information to an insurance company for the purpose of defrauding the company. Penalties include imprisonment, fines, and denial of insurance benefits. Enrollee agrees that this enrollment form shall be the basis of the contract with the Company and that coverage, if written, will be provided on a claims-made-and-reported basis. Enrollee understands and agrees that the completion of this enrollment form does not bind the Company to issue a policy.

COMPLETE IF ENROLLING BY MAIL			
FIRM NAME			
SIGNATURE OF PERSON WITH AUTHORITY FOR FIRM			
PRINT NAME		DATE	



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FIRM ENROLLMENT FORM

NOTICE – Iowa law requires that all active real estate licensees (including firm licensees) carry and maintain E&O insurance to cover all licensed activities. Licensees may purchase insurance outside of the group program, as long as coverage meets state requirements and proof of coverage is provided to the IREC as required by state law. **Licensees who do not have insurance in place for the January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2026 policy period by January 1, 2025 may be in violation of licensing law, and the IREC may issue penalties and fines.**

HOW TO ENROLL

ONLINE – At www.risceo.com with a Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover and download a certificate of coverage immediately (a \$5 nonrefundable convenience fee applies).

MAIL – Select desired coverages below. Send completed form (both pages) with a check or money order payable to RISC by Monday, December 2, 2024 to allow us time to process your firm's enrollment.

Mailing Address

RISC, P.O. Box 6709, Louisville, KY 40206-0709

Overnight Delivery

RISC, 4211 Norbourne Blvd., Louisville, KY 40207-4048

FIRM INFORMATION

Please correct any incorrect information and fill in any blanks.
Failure to do so may delay issuance of your firm's coverage and confirmation to the IREC.

Real Estate Firm (as appears on license):	Firm License No.:	
D/B/A:	Designated Broker:	
EIN Number:	Secretary of State Number: (can be located on https://sos.iowa.gov)	
Address:		
City:	State:	ZIP:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Cell Phone: <input type="checkbox"/> Check to receive text reminders if / when that option is available.
Fax:	Email:	

*We occasionally send important notices by email. To receive these notices, provide your firm's current email address and add our email domain (@risceo.com) to your firm's address book.

SELECT DESIRED COVERAGES BELOW

Basic Premium – January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2026 Limits of Liability – \$100,000 per claim / \$100,000 aggregate Deductible – \$0	\$144	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conformity Endorsement – Conforms your firm's coverage under the IA policy to comply with the E&O requirements in another mandated state where your firm holds an active real estate license. To be eligible for this endorsement, your firm must be actually domiciled in IA or treated as domiciled in IA by the policy terms. Please circle applicable state(s): CO ID LA Other State License #: _____ (if more than one conformity state, also identify state)	\$20 regardless of number of states at issuance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Basic Premium	\$ 144	
+ Optional Endorsement Premium (If Any)	\$ _____	
TOTAL	\$ _____	

CNA is a service mark and trade name registered with the US Patent and Trademark Office. The program referenced herein is underwritten by Continental Casualty Company, a CNA insurance company. The information included on both pages of this document is for illustrative purposes only and is not a contract. It is intended to provide a general overview of the products and services offered. Only the policy can provide the actual terms, coverages, amounts, conditions, and exclusions. This program is only available in Iowa. © 2024