

WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §33-60-2

§33-60-2. Application for admission to regulatory sandbox.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, on or before December 31, 2025, an applicant may apply to the commissioner for admission to the regulatory sandbox by submitting an application in the form prescribed by the commissioner, accompanied by the following:

(1) A filing fee of \$750;

(2) A detailed description of the innovation, which shall include:

(A) An explanation of how the innovation will:

(i) Add value to customers and serve the public interest;

(ii) Be economically viable for the applicant;

(iii) Provide suitable consumer protection; and

(iv) Pose no unreasonable risk of consumer harm.

(B) A detailed description of the statutory and regulatory issues that prevents the innovation from being utilized, issued, sold, solicited, distributed, or advertised in the market currently;

(C) A description of how the innovation functions, as well as the manner in which it will be offered or provided;

(D) If the innovation involves the use of software, hardware, or other technology developed for the purpose of implementing or operating it, a technical white paper setting forth a description of the operation and general content of technology to be utilized, including:

(i) The problem addressed by that technology; and

(ii) The interaction between that technology and its users;

(E) If the innovation involves the issuance of a policy of insurance, a statement that:

(i) If the applicant will be the insurer on the policy, the applicant holds a valid license or certificate of authority and is authorized to issue the insurance coverage in question; or

(ii) If some other person will be the insurer on the policy, the other person holds a valid license or certificate of authority and is authorized to issue the insurance coverage in question; and

(F) A statement by an officer of the applicant certifying that no product, process, method, or procedure substantially similar to the innovation has been used, sold, licensed, or otherwise made available in this state before the filing date of the application;

(3) The name, contact information, and bar number of the applicant's insurance regulatory counsel, which shall be a person with experience providing insurance regulatory compliance advice;

(4) A detailed description of the specific conduct that the applicant proposes should be permitted by the limited no-action letter;

(5) Proposed terms and conditions to govern the applicant's beta test, which shall include:

(A) Citation to the provisions of West Virginia law that should be excepted in the notice of acceptance issued under §33-60-3(d)(2) of this code; and

(B) Any request for an extension of the time period for a beta test under §33-60-5(a) of this code and the grounds for the request;

(6) Proposed metrics by which the commissioner may reasonably test the innovation's utility during the beta test;

(7) Disclosure of all:

(A) Persons who are directors and executive officers of the applicant;

(B) General partners of the applicant if the applicant is a limited partnership;

(C) Members of the applicant if the applicant is a limited liability applicant;

(D) Persons who are beneficial owners owning 10 percent or more of the voting securities of the applicant;

(E) Other persons with direct or indirect authority to direct the management and policies of the applicant by contract, other than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement services; and

(F) Conflicts of interest with respect to any person listed in this subdivision and the commissioner;

(8) A statement that the applicant has funds of at least \$25,000 available to guarantee its financial stability through one or a combination of any of the following:

(A) A contractual liability insurance policy;

(B) A surety bond issued by an authorized surety;

(C) Securities of the type eligible for deposit by authorized insurers in this state;

(D) Evidence that the applicant has established an account payable to the commissioner in a federally insured financial institution in this state and has deposited money of the United States in an amount equal to the amount required by this subdivision that is not available for withdrawal except by direct order of the commissioner;

(E) A letter of credit issued by a qualified United States financial institution; or

(F) Another form of security authorized by the commissioner; and

(9) A statement confirming that the applicant is not seeking authorization for, nor shall it engage in, any conduct that would render the applicant unauthorized to make an application under subsection (b) of this section.

(b)(1) The following persons shall not be authorized to make an application to the commissioner for admission to the regulatory sandbox:

(A) Any person seeking to sell or license an insurance innovation directly to any federal, state, or local government entity, agency, or instrumentality as the insured person or end user of the innovation;

(B) Any person seeking to sell, license, or use an insurance innovation that is not in compliance with §33-60-2(a)(2)(E) of this code;

(C) Any person seeking to make an application that would result in the person having more than five active beta tests ongoing within the state at any one time; or

(D) Any person seeking a limited or extended no-action letter or exemption from any administrative regulation or statute concerning:

(i) Assets, deposits, investments, capital, surplus, or other solvency requirements applicable to insurers;

(ii) Required participation in any assigned risk plan, residual market, or guaranty fund;

(iii) Any licensing or certificate of authority requirements; or

(iv) The application of any taxes or fees.

(2) For the purposes of this subsection, “federal, state, or local government entity, agency, or instrumentality” includes but is not limited to any county, city, municipal corporation, local government, special district, public school district, or public institution of education.