

# **CURRICULUM**

Life License Qualification Program (LLQP)

May 2015



# LLQP Presentation of the Curriculum

As part of the initiative of the Canadian Insurance Services Regulatory Organizations (CISRO) to harmonize the Canadian life insurance qualification process (including group insurance), a Competency Profile was drafted in order to list, as competencies, the compiled tasks and operations that a life insurance agent can accomplish upon career entry. Following its publication, committees of subject matter experts (SMEs) were formed in order to derive an evaluation program which we refer to simply by the name of "Curriculum."

# DRAFTING AND EVOLUTION OF THE CURRICULUM

The Curriculum is the Life Licence Qualification Program (LLQP) component that defines expectations for competency assessment. It consists of a set of evaluation tables that specify the elements that need to be evaluated as part of the certification process.

The committees that drafted this document brought together agents and trainers from many provinces and included candidates having participated in the occupational analysis workshops (OAWs) held in 2012. These SMEs were given the opportunity to analyze, evaluate and improve the evaluated competencies' relevance, structure and scope.

Contents relating to each competency were also determined.

Because this document constitutes the cornerstone of the LLQP, a survey was drawn up to evaluate global appreciation for its scope and relevance. Changes to the Curriculum were made based on identifiable trends among respondents' feedback. Modifications were limited to minor adjustments to content lists and weightings. However, more important reorganizations served to better contextualize the importance of taxation for new life insurance agents.

Over the course of drafting the exam preparation manuals, some changes were made to the Curriculum. In this version, compared to the one published following the survey, the extent of the changes brought is variable. In most cases, adjustments correspond to small terminological changes. Some amount of detail has also been included to improve the clarity of the contents and to ensure that they reflect the material developed in the preparation manuals.

The most significant change is a small reorganization leading to the integration of a new competency sub-component and the contents defining it in the segregated funds and annuities

module. Competency sub-component 2.4 aims to ensure that candidates are able to "Analyze the types of group retirement and investment plans that meet the client's needs." Component 2 has been accordingly rephrased to reflect this reorganization.

#### **CURRICULUM COMPONENTS**

The competencies presented in the Curriculum stem from the Competency profile but they are not reproduced integrally and textually. In fact, as opposed to the Profile, that includes competencies illustrating the full scope of the tasks and operations that are accomplished by an agent upon career entry, only the competencies and the competency components that relate to CISRO's mandate have been selected for the licensing exams Therefore, the Curriculum includes every aspect that must be mastered to practice ethically in accordance with consumer rights; it also takes into consideration the fact that many competencies are perfected over time, with practical experience.

Each evaluated competency corresponds to a module and all modules are equally weighted in the licensing process – i.e. all competencies must be mastered in order to obtain a license to practice.

Consequently, CISRO will impose a modular licensing exam and will publish standardized study material for each of the Curriculum's modules.

To reflect the structure of the Competency Profile, individual and group insurance (including group annuities) have been addressed together. Therefore, there is no module specifically devoted to group insurance. This structure stems from the information gathered during the OAWs regarding the similarities in the skills required to practice in both those sectors. Accordingly, the editing team has defined the term "client" in an inclusive manner; it may refer to an individual, a group or an employer.

The Curriculum's competencies are integrated groups of skills, knowledge, and strategies. Every competency is split into components and then further, into sub-components, in order for its nature and scope as well as the underlying evaluation objective to be explicit. Competency components are weighted to quantify their relative importance in the exam. Many factors influence weighting, namely the component's importance for consumer protection as well as the complexity and scope of its underlying concepts and contents.

Moreover, the components and sub-components refer to processes or results. They may be formulated identically for different competencies, yet each one is contextualized based on the competency to which it refers.

To provide further specifications, a list of related contents is included with each competency sub-component. The contents offer indications on the products, knowledge, behaviors or attitudes required to master the competency sub-component. These indications delimit the scope of evaluation and will be developed in the study material that will be published by CISRO for each module. Additional contents may be addressed by trainers wishing to increase their candidates' employability and ability to advance professionally.

And so, each of the Curriculum's modules is divided into three main parts:

- The weighting indicates an element's relative importance in the exam, which will translate into a corresponding number of questions (orange column).
- The competency components and competency sub-components define the competency's nature and scope (blue columns).
- The **related contents** specify the object of the evaluation and will be addressed in the study material (green columns).

The time allotted to write each of the exam's modules and the number of questions it contains is specified at the beginning of each table.

Due to the information it provides, the Curriculum is at once:

- An internal tool that will provide the framework for the development of study material, exam questions and licensing exams;
- A pedagogical planning tool that will guide trainers in their course development;
- An exam preparation tool that will instruct candidates on the nature and scope of the evaluated competencies.



#### **CURRICULUM - LLQP**

**MODULE:** Ethics and professional practice

**DURATION OF THE EXAM: 75 minutes - NUMBER OF QUESTIONS: 20 questions** 

Competency: Develop an ethical professional practice, in compliance with the rules governing the life insurance<sup>1</sup> sector

%

60

#### **COMPETENCY COMPONENTS**

- 1. Integrate into practice the legal aspects of insurance and annuity contracts
  - 1.1. Delimit the legal framework governing life insurance
  - 1.2. Characterize the parties involved in the contract
  - 1.3. Contextualize the rules relating to the contract's formation, taking effect, reinstatement and termination
  - 1.4. Explain the main provisions and clauses of an insurance or annuity contract
  - 1.5. Integrate into practice the rules relating to beneficiary designation and exemption from seizure of benefits
  - 1.6. Contextualize the rules relating to claims and the payment of benefits
- 40 2. Integrate into practice the rules governing the activities of life insurance agents
  - 2.1. Explain the role of the organizations that protect clients
  - 2.2. Integrate into practice the obligations and responsibilities of life insurance agents

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the context of the ethics and professional practice module of the Curriculum, the term « life insurance » is used to refer broadly to all categories of <u>individual and group</u> insurance of persons, namely, life insurance, accident and sickness insurance (living benefits), annuity contracts (segregated funds, GIAs and immediate annuities) and supplemental pension plans.

%

60

#### **COMPETENCY COMPONENTS**

Integrate into practice the legal aspects of insurance and annuity contracts

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

1.1 Delimit the legal framework governing life insurance

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Overview of major legal principles

- Sources of law
- Persons, family and estate
- Natural persons, partnerships and corporations
- Capacity, age of majority and the 16 years old rule in life and accident and sickness insurance
- Marriage and marriage contract
- Family property
- Divorce and separation
- Common-law spouse
- Succession (estate) wills, certificate of estate trustee with a will (probate), certificate of estate trustee without a will (administration)
- Trust
- Contracts
  - Contracts in general
  - Conditions required for the validity of the contract
  - Agency, power of attorney, living will (enduring or continuing power of attorney)
  - Property and casualty vs. life and accident and sickness insurance contracts
  - Annuity contract
- Torts
- · Limitation periods

#### Public insurance and pension plans

- Social and tax legislation and economic and social aspects of insurance
- Federal public plans
  - Employment Insurance (EI)
  - Old Age Security Program (Old Age Security (OAS), Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), Allowance)
  - Canada Pension Plan (CPP) (pension and disability benefits)
- Provincial public plans
- No-fault automobile insurance plan
- Worker's compensation plan
- Public health, hospital and drugs plans
- Coordination of benefits between public and private insurance and pension plans

#### Other important statutes

- Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA)
- Human rights codes
- Criminal Code
  - Forgery and fraud
- Proceeds of crime (Money laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act and Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC)
- National Do Not Call List (DNCL)
- An Act to promote the efficiency and adaptability of the Canadian economy by
  regulating certain activities that discourage reliance on electronic means of carrying out
  commercial activities, and to amend the Canadian Radio-television and
  Telecommunications Commission Act, the Competition Act, the Personal Information
  Protection and Electronic Documents Act and the Telecommunications Act (anti-spam)



1.2 Characterize the parties involved in the contract

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Parties involved in the contract

- Insurer, policyholder (individual insurance) or member (group insurance), insured, beneficiary, contingent policyholder and contingent beneficiary
- Types of beneficiaries
- Revocable
- Irrevocable

- · Rights of parties under the contract
- Special cases
  - Minors (guardians)
  - Trustee
  - Authorized representative

#### Life insurance

#### Accident and sickness insurance

Beneficiary's specific features in critical illness (CI) insurance

Beneficiary (critical illness)

#### Segregated funds and annuities

Some parties' specific features in annuity contracts

- Annuitant (life insured)
- Insurer
- Payee (annuity grantee)

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

1.3 Contextualize the rules relating to the contract's formation, taking effect, reinstatement and termination

#### **CONTENTS**

Rules relating to the formation, taking effect, reinstatement and termination of individual contracts

- Rules relating to the formation of contracts
  - Insurance application and its acceptance
  - Insurance policy
  - Payment of first premium
  - Covering note and temporary insurance
- · Insurable interest
- Duty to disclose (change in insurability and consequences for client and his/her assigns in case of fraud, misrepresentation or concealment)
- Effective date and continuation in force of contract
- Absolute assignment and collateral assignment
- Cancellation and termination (grace period)
- Reinstatement

#### al Group insurance contracts

- Determination of the group and eligibility
- Representation of group
- Types of group insurance
  - Workplace group insurance
  - Insurance offered through professional corporations and associations
  - Group creditor insurance
- Rules relating to the formation of contracts
  - Insurance application and its acceptance
  - Certificate or booklet and distribution of certificates by the policyholder
- Enrolment process and coverage of dependents
- Laws applicable to member (residence)
- Term of group insurance contract
  - Renewal of master policy
  - Termination of master policy
  - Conversion rights upon end of life insurance protection (CLHIA Guideline G3)
  - Incidence of change of insurer
- Termination

#### Life insurance

#### Accident and sickness insurance

Some specific features in accident and sickness insurance

- Effective date
- · Termination notice

#### Segregated funds and annuities

Some specific features in annuity contracts

- Immediate or deferred annuity (payment and accumulation)
- Life or term annuity deemed to be life insurance



1.4 Explain the main provisions and clauses of an insurance or annuity contract

#### **CONTENTS**

Major provisions and terms of individual insurance contracts

- General provisions
- Statutory conditions
- Exclusion, limitations and reduction provisions
- Distinction between reduction and exclusion
- Legal and contractual exclusions
- Pre-existing conditions
- Suicide clause
- Contract amendments (riders)
- Cash surrender value (CSV)
- Policy loans

• Content of the certificate or other document given to members

Specific provisions concerning group insurance

Statutory conditions

# Life insurance Specific sickness Statut Natur Di Cr ar Ac

#### Accident and sickness insurance Segregated funds and annuities

Specific provisions concerning accident and sickness insurance

- Statutory conditions
- Nature of coverage
  - Disability insurance
- Drug insurance multijurisdiction
- Critical illness (CI) insurance (premium refund) and long term care(LTC)
- Accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D)

# Specific provisions concerning segregated funds and annuities

- Withdrawal and surrender rights
- Various accumulation annuity products such as:
  - Annuity contracts backed by segregated funds (individual variable insurance contracts (IVICs) and CLHIA Guidelines)
- Guaranteed investment account (GIA)-type contracts (insurance company general funds)
- Registered annuity contracts: registered retirement savings plan (RRSP), tax-free savings account (TFSA), registered retirement income fund (RRIF) and life income fund (LIF), locked-in retirement account (LIRA) and non-registered contracts
- Specific provisions concerning group annuity contracts
- Defined benefit pension plan (DBPP)
- Defined contribution pension plan (DCPP)
- Specific types of defined contribution pension plans: pooled registered pension plan (PRPP)
- Group RRSP, deferred profit-sharing plan (DPSP), group tax-free savings account (TFSA)
- CLHIA Guidelines for Capital Accumulation Plans
- Transfer instruments: locked-in retirement account (LIRA), life income fund (LIF) and annuity contract



1.5 Integrate into practice the rules relating to beneficiary designation and exemption from seizure of benefits

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Beneficiary designation, succession and exemption from seizure

- Authority to designate (power of attorney)
- Means of designating a beneficiary and filing with insurer
- Contingent beneficiary or multiple beneficiaries
- Effects of designation
- Consequences of conjugal breakdown for a spousal beneficiary (separation, divorce, annulment of marriage)
- Minor as a beneficiary
  - Trustee for minors
  - Beneficiary under disability
- Revocation of beneficiary
- Exemption from seizure resulting from beneficiary designation

#### Life insurance

#### Accident and sickness insurance

#### Specific features in accident and sickness insurance Beneficiary (right to designate)

#### Segregated funds and annuities

#### Specific provisions concerning annuity contracts

- Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (exemption from seizure) RRSP, RRIF, DPSP
- Division of family property

#### Specific features in supplemental pension plans

- Supplemental pension plan exemption from seizure
- Death benefit and exemption from seizure of locked-in retirement account (LIRA) and life income fund (LIF)

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

1.6 Contextualize the rules relating to claims and the payment of benefits

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Rules pertaining to claims and payment of benefits

Life insurance

- Notice of claim
- Other documents required (e.g. death certificate, medical records)
- Delay to pay benefits
- Specific case: attempt on insured's life

#### Accident and sickness insurance

#### Specific features of health and accident insurance

- Specific features of health/accident insurance (timelines)
- Documents required (e.g.: physician's statement for disability claims)

#### Segregated funds and annuities

#### Payout annuities

Annuity with a guarantee period

#### Supplemental pension plans

- Death benefit before retirement
- Death benefit after retirement

2 Integrate into practice the rules governing the activities of life insurance agents

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

2.1 Explain the role of the organizations that protect clients

#### CONTENTS

#### Regulatory, disciplinary and client protection agencies for life insurance

- Provincial and territorial insurance regulators
- Canadian Insurance Services Regulatory Organizations (CISRO)
- Canadian Council of Insurance Regulators (CCIR)
- Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association (CLHIA)
- Assuris
- Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC)
- Ombudsman for Life and Health Insurance

#### COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS

2.2 Integrate into practice the obligations and responsibilities of life insurance agents

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Distinctions between banking, securities and insurance products: regulators and licensing rules

- Difference with banking and securities
- Practice within scope of licence
- Financial planners in some provinces

#### Agent's responsibilities

- Contract delivery
  - Ensure no change in health status since the application was signed
- Canadian Council of Insurance Regulators (CCIR) 3 principles
- Understanding client needs
- Duty to act in good faith
- Conducting business with integrity
- Avoiding conflict of interest
- Practicing within scope of abilities; explain illustration
- Commission sharing rules
- Replacement disclosure
- Documenting the file
- · Liability insurance, errors and omissions and embezzlement

#### Registration of agent and agencies

- Agent certification
- Agency certification
- Managing General Agent (MGA)

#### Deceptive practices

- Tied selling
- Churning
- Policy rebates
- Traffiking of insurance
- Twisting
- Inducing
- Fronting
- Misrepresentations
- Coercing
- Forgery
- Fraud
- Holding out
- Incomplete comparisons



#### **CURRICULUM - LLQP**

**MODULE:** Ethics and professional practice (Québec)

**DURATION OF THE EXAM: 75 minutes - NUMBER OF QUESTIONS: 20 questions** 

Competency: Develop an ethical professional practice, in compliance with the rules governing the insurance of persons<sup>1</sup> sector

% **COMPETENCY COMPONENTS** 1. Understand the legal framework governing insurance of persons 20 1.1 Define the provisions of the Civil Code of Québec applicable to insurance of persons 1.2 Define the other sources of law applicable to insurance of persons 2. Integrate into practice the legal aspects of insurance and annuity contracts 40 2.1 Characterize the parties involved in the contract 2.2 Contextualize the rules relating to the contract's formation, taking effect, reinstatement and termination 2.3 Explain the main provisions and clauses of an insurance or annuity contract 2.4 Integrate into practice the rules relating to beneficiary designation and exemption from seizure of benefits 2.5 Contextualize the rules relating to claims and the payment of benefits 40 3. Integrate into practice the rules governing the activities of representatives in insurance of persons 3.1 Explain the role of the organizations that protect consumers

3.2 Integrate into practice the duties and obligations set out in the Code of ethics of the Chambre de la sécurité financière

3.3 Integrate into practice the obligations and responsibilities of representatives in insurance of persons

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the context of the ethics and professional practice module of the Curriculum, the term "insurance of persons" is used to refer broadly to all categories of individual and group insurance of persons products, namely, life insurance, accident and sickness insurance (living benefits), annuity contracts (segregated funds, GIAs and immediate annuities) and supplemental pension plans.

1. Understand the legal framework governing insurance of persons

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

1.1 Define the provisions of the Civil Code of Québec applicable to insurance of persons

#### CONTENTS

#### Overview of important Civil Code of Québec provisions for insurance of persons representatives

- Sources of law
- Persons, family and successions
- Legal and natural persons
- Capacity
- Marriage and civil union
- Matrimonial regimes
- Family patrimony
- Divorce and separation from bed and board
- De facto spouses
- Successions
- Trustees

#### Contracts

- Contract in general
- Conditions required for the validity of the contract
- Contract of adhesion and external clause
- Mandate (including the mandate in anticipation of incapacity)
- Insurance of persons and damage insurance contracts
- Annuity contract
- Civil liability
- Prescription

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

1.2 Define the other sources of law applicable to insurance of persons

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Other important legislation for the insurance representative

- An Act respecting the distribution of financial products and services (Distribution Act)
- An Act respecting the Protection of personal information in the private sector
- Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms (Québec)
- Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act and FINTRAC
- Criminal Code: fraud and forged signature
- National Do Not Call List (DNCL)
- An Act to promote the efficiency and adaptability of the Canadian economy by regulating
  certain activities that discourage reliance on electronic means of carrying out commercial
  activities, and to amend the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications
  Commission Act, the Competition Act, the Personal Information Protection and Electronic
  Documents Act and the Telecommunications Act (anti-spam legislation)

#### Public insurance and pension plans

- Social and tax legislation and economic and social aspects of insurance
- Federal public plans
  - Employment insurance
  - Old Age Security Program (Old Age Security (OAS), Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), Allowance)
- Québec public plans
  - Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ)
  - Régie des rentes du Québec (RRQ)
  - Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail (CSST)
  - Indemnisation des victimes d'actes criminels (IVAQ)
  - Québec Parental Insurance Plan (QPIP)
  - Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ) (Drug insurance, Health insurance, Hospital insurance)
- Coordination of benefits between public and private insurance and pension plans



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#### COMPETENCY COMPONENTS

2. Integrate into practice the legal aspects of insurance and annuity contracts

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

2.1 Characterize the parties involved in the contract

#### CONTENTS

#### Parties to the contract

- Insurer, policyholder (individual insurance) or member or participant (group insurance), insured, beneficiary, contingent policyholder and contingent beneficiary
- Types of beneficiaries
  - Revocable
- Irrevocable
- Rights of parties under the contract
- Policyholders specific cases
   Minors (guardians)
- Trustee
- Authorized representative

Life insurance	Accident and sickness insurance	Segregated funds and annuities
		Some parties' specific features in annuity contracts  Annuitant (life insured)  Debtor (insurer)  Annuitant



2.2 Contextualize the rules relating to the contract's formation, taking effect, reinstatement and termination

#### **CONTENTS**

Rules relating to the formation, entry into force, reinstatement and termination of individual contracts

- Rules relating to the formation of contracts
  - Insurance application and its acceptance
  - Insurance policy
  - Covering note and interim insurance
- Insurance interest
- Initial declaration of risk by client and consequences for client and his/her assigns in case of fraud, misrepresentation or concealment
- Change in insurability
- Entry into force and continuation in force of contract
- Assignment and hypothecation
- Cancellation and termination (grace period)
- Reinstatement

#### Group insurance contract

- Determination of group and eligibility (Civil Code of Québec, RARI, Act respecting prescription drug insurance and the Québec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms)
- Representation of group (representation of client, rules of agency in respect of client, client's duty to disclose)
- Types of group insurance
  - Workplace group insurance
  - Insurance offered through professional corporations and associations
  - Group insurance without a representative offered to consumers on savings and credit via distribution guide (life and health/accident insurance offered by non-licensed distributors: banks and credit unions (mortgages), automobile dealerships)
- Rules relating to the formation of group insurance contracts
  - Insurance application and its acceptance
  - Insurance policy, certificate and distribution of certificates by policyholder
- Enrolment process and coverage of dependents
- Laws applicable to participant (residence)
- Term of group insurance contract
- Renewal of the master policy
- Termination of the master policy (RARI)
- Rights upon end of life insurance protection (RARI)
- Impact of change of insurer
- Termination

#### Life insurance Accident and sickness insurance

Some specific features in accident and sickness insurance

- Entry into force
- Termination notice
- An Act respecting prescription drug insurance

#### Segregated funds and annuities

Some specific features in annuity contracts

- Immediate or deferred annuity (payment and accumulation)
- Life or term annuity deemed to be life insurance



2.3 Explain the main provisions and clauses of an insurance or annuity contract

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Major provisions and terms of individual insurance contract

- General provisions
- Provisions of public order
- Divergences between policy and application
- Exclusion and coverage reduction provisions
  - Distinction between reduction, limitation and exclusion
- Legal and contractual exclusions
- Pre-existing conditions
- Suicide clause
- Contract amendments (riders)
- Cash value
- Advances

Specific provisions concerning group insurance

Policy and certificates: divergences

#### Life insurance

#### Accident and sickness insurance

#### Specific provisions concerning accident and sickness insurance

- Nature of coverage
- Disability insurance
- Drug insurance: An Act respecting prescription drug insurance
- Critical illness insurance (premium refund) and long-term care
- Accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D)

#### Segregated funds and annuities

#### Specific provisions concerning segregated funds and annuities

- Specific provisions concerning the annuity contract (Civil Code and an Act respecting insurance)
- Redemption rights
- Various accumulated annuity products such as:
  - Annuity contracts backed by segregated funds (individual variable insurance contracts (IVICs) and AMF quidelines
- Guaranteed Investment Account (GIA)-type contracts (insurance company general funds)
- Registered annuity contracts (RRSP, TFSA, RRIF, LIF and LIRA) and non-registered contracts
- Specific provisions concerning group annuity contracts
  - Defined benefit pension plans (DBPP)
- Defined contribution pension plans (DCPP)
- Specific types of defined contribution pension plans: simplified pension plan (SIPP) and voluntary retirement savings plan (VRSP) (also pooled registered pension plan (PRPP))
- Group registered retirement savings plan (RRSP), deferred profitsharing plan (DPSP)
- Guidelines for Capital Accumulation Plans
- Transfer instruments: locked-in retirement account (LIRA), life income fund (LIF) and annuity contract



2.4 Integrate into practice the rules relating to beneficiary designation and exemption from seizure of benefits

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Beneficiary designation, succession and exemption from seizure

- Authority to designate and mandatary's authority
- Contingent beneficiary or multiple beneficiaries
- Rules concerning beneficiary designations: presumption in favour of the spouse, whether married or in a civil union
- Means of designating a beneficiary (designation in insurance contract, designation in a written instrument other than a will, communication to insurer for the purpose of setting up)
- Consequences of conjugal breakdown for a spousal beneficiary (separation from bed and board, divorce after 1982, annulment of marriage)
- Minor as a beneficiary / incapable
- · Revocation of beneficiary
- Exemption from seizure resulting from beneficiary designation (relationship with policyholder or participant in group insurance)

Life ins	urance	

#### Accident and sickness insurance

#### Specific features in accident and sickness insurance

• Exemption from seizure of benefits (disability insurance)

#### Segregated funds and annuities

#### Specific provisions concerning annuity contracts

- Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (exemption from seizure) RRSP, RRIF. DPSP
- Effects of partition of family patrimony

#### Specific features in supplemental pension plans

- Supplemental pension plan exemption from seizure
- Death benefit and exemption from seizure of locked-in retirement account (LIRA), and life income fund (LIF)
- Priority of spouse over designated beneficiary in the event of death

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

2.5 Contextualize the rules relating to claims and the payment of benefits

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Rules pertaining to claims and payment of benefits

- · Notice of claim
- Other documents required (e.g., death certificate, medical records)
- Time the insurer has to pay benefits
- Specific case: attempt on insured's life

# Life insurance

#### Accident and sickness insurance

#### Specific features of health/accident insurance

- Specific features of health/accident insurance (timelines, documents required as evidence)
- Other documents required (e.g., physician's statement for disability claims)

#### Segregated funds and annuities

#### Supplemental pension plans

- Death benefit before retirement
- · Death benefit after retirement

#### Immediate annuities

Guaranteed period annuity



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#### **COMPETENCY COMPONENTS**

 Integrate into practice the rules governing the activities of representatives in insurance of persons

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

3.1 Explain the role of the organizations that protect consumers

#### CONTENTS

#### Regulatory, disciplinary and consumer protection agencies for insurance of persons

- Canadian Insurance Services Regulatory Organizations (CISRO)
- Canadian Council of Insurance Regulators (CCIR)
- Canadian Association of Pension Supervisory Authorities (CAPSA)
- Inint forur
- Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association (CLHIA) (guidelines)
- Régie des rentes du Québec (RRQ)

- Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF)
- Chambre de la sécurité financière (CSF)
- Assuris
- Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC)
- Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
- Ombudsman for Life and Health Insurance
- Commission d'accès à l'information (CAI)

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

3.2 Integrate into practice the duties and obligations set out in the Code of ethics of the Chambre de la sécurité financière

#### General

- Restricted occupations
- Availability requirement
- Titles /representation / client soliciting
- Tied selling
- Remuneration, commission sharing and other benefits: contests / promotions
- · Collection of payments: separate account
- Liability insurance

#### Representative in insurance of persons

- Needs analysis
- Information notice on products
- Contract delivery
  - Ensure no change in health status since the application was signed
  - Extra premium
  - Reduced insurer's commitments and divergences
- Policy replacement

#### Firm

- Definition
- General obligations
- Titles
- Advertising and representations
- Responsibility
- Client file management
- · Records management
- Complaint settlement
- Commission sharing
- Liability insurance

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Registration of insurance representatives and insurance firms

- Representative's certification (including distinction between licences)
- Firm, independent representative and independent partnership registration

#### Representative's responsibility

#### Representative in group insurance

- Mandate
- Needs analysis
- Recommendation

#### Financial planner

- Definition of financial planner
- Titles
- Mandate and reporting





#### Independent partnership

- Definition
- General obligations
- Titles
- Advertising and representations
- Client file management
- Records management
- Complaint settlement
- Commission sharing
- Liability insurance

### Distinction between bank products, securities and insurance, regulating agencies and licensing rules

- Difference with bank products and securities
- Compliance with limits of registration

#### Independent representative

- Definition
- General obligations
- Titles
- Advertising and representations
- Client file management
- Records management
- Complaint settlement
- Commission sharing
- Liability insurance

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

3.3 Integrate into practice the obligations and responsibilities of representatives in insurance of persons

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Ethics and conduct of representatives in insurance of persons, group insurance of persons and health/accident insurance

- Code of ethics of the Chambre de la sécurité financière (CSF)
  - Duties and obligations towards the public
  - Duties and obligations towards clients
  - Duties and obligations towards other representatives
  - Duties and obligations towards firms and financial institutions
  - Duties and obligations towards insurers
  - Duties and obligations towards the profession



# **CURRICULUM – LLQP**

**MODULE: Life insurance** 

**DURATION OF THE EXAM: 75 minutes - NUMBER OF QUESTIONS: 30 questions** 

#### Competency: Recommend individual and group life insurance products adapted to the client's needs and situation

COMPETENCY COMPONENTS
1. Assess the client's needs and situation
1.1 Determine the client's situation
1.2 Assess the appropriateness of the client's existing coverage in regards to his or her situation
1.3 Articulate the client's needs based on the risks that could affect his or her financial situation
2. Analyze the available products that meet the client's needs
2.1 Analyze the types of contracts that meet the client's needs
2.2 Analyze the riders that meet the client's needs
3. Implement a recommendation adapted to the client's needs and situation
3.1 Consider the impact of underwriting criteria as they apply to the client's situation
3.2 Propose a recommendation adapted on the client's needs and situation
3.3 Confirm the requirements that must be met to implement the recommendation
4. Provide customer service during the validity period of the coverage
4.1 Validate the appropriateness of contract amendment, renewal and termination applications in regards to the client's situation

1 Assess the client's needs and situation

#### COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS

1.1 Determine the client's situation

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Personal situation

- Family dynamics, particularly on-going dependency relationships
  - Spouse or common-law partner
  - Support obligations to ex-spouse or common-law partner (or multiple exspouses)
  - Minor children
  - Adult dependents
  - Stay-at-home parent or caregiver
  - Blended family
- Lifestyle risks
- Dangerous hobbies
- Occupation
- Regular employment vs. self-employed
- Job stability
- Current income and future income potential
- Time to retirement
- Tax exposure of client, spouse and other beneficiaries

#### Group client's situation

- Types of group plans (employer, association)
- Conditions of membership
- Vulnerability to termination

#### Financial situation

- Current and future income
- Current and future expenses
- Assets (liquid and fixed assets)
- Liabilities (including payment terms)
- Capital expenses arising upon death
  - Funeral expenses
  - Income taxes
  - Debt repayment
  - Setting up education or legacy funds
  - Charitable donations
- · Additional resources available upon death
  - Existing life insurance policies
  - Lump-sum payment from an employment pension or guaranteed annuity



1.2 Assess the appropriateness of the client's existing coverage in regards to his or her situation

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Individual life insurance

- Coverage details
  - Type of policy
  - Policyholder
  - Life/lives insured
  - Beneficiary
  - Face amount
  - Supplementary benefits and/or riders
  - Renewability and convertibility
  - Premiums (amount, monthly vs. yearly pay)
  - Limitations or exclusions

#### Group life coverage (non-government)

- Coverage details
- End date
- Face amount
- Beneficiary
- Additional benefits
- · Limitations of group insurance coverage
- When it expires
- Convertibility upon termination from group
- Security (employer could terminate or change the plan without notice)
- Limits on face amount

#### Benefits that might be lost or reduced upon death

- Group or individual health insurance coverage
- Group or individual disability insurance benefits
- Retirement pension income from employer

#### Tax implications of existing policies

- Consumer value of 1982 and 2015 grandfathering rules
- Cash value relative to adjusted cost basis (ACB) as the policy matures
- Partial or full policy surrender vs. policy loan vs. collateral loan taxation
- Tax considerations of replacements and other dispositions

#### Government death and survivor benefits

- Eligibility and method for receiving Canada Pension Plan (CPP) death benefit
- CPP survivors' benefits for spouse and dependent children
- Old Age Security (OAS), Allowance for surviving spouse
- Provincial Workers' Compensation benefits related to death
- Québec Pension Plan (QPP)



1.3 Articulate the client's needs based on the risks that could affect his or her financial situation

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Needs analysis process

- Principles, concepts and techniques involved in needs analysis and fact-finding
- The math behind insurance needs analysis
  - Income replacement approach
  - Capital needs approach
  - General discussion of the impacts of inflation, investment returns and
- Benefits of using life insurance proceeds to defray the tax on capital gains that may be triggered at death
- Current coverage assessment
- Short term and/or permanent insurance needs
- Coverage shortfall
- Available cash flow to pay for additional coverage
- Suitable beneficiaries
- Impact of potential job advancement or job loss

- Severity of risk (i.e., what will be the financial impact of death on the survivors)
- Probability of risk
- Client's risk tolerance

#### Business life insurance needs

- Why a business might buy life insurance
  - Funding a buy-sell cross-purchase agreement
  - Funding a share (or units) redemption plan
  - Key person insurance
- Why a buy-sell agreement might be an important part of a business continuation plan

2. Analyze the available products that meet the client's needs

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

2.1 Analyze the types of contracts that meet the client's needs

#### CONTENTS

#### Term life insurance

- How term life insurance works
- Advantages/disadvantages, and limitations of term life insurance for the policyholder
- Level term, increasing term, and decreasing term life insurance
- Renewable and non-renewable term insurance
- Convertible term insurance
- Common situations when term insurance may be appropriate (short-term risks, limited funds for premiums, etc.)

#### Whole life insurance

- How whole life insurance works
- Premium options
- Policy reserve
- Potential for policy loans
- Guaranteed or adjustable whole life
- Non-participating whole life policies
- Identifying the difference between participating and non-participating policy
- Participating whole life policies and their dividend payment options
- Cash
- Premium reduction/Offset
- Accumulation
- Paid-up additions
- Term insurance
- Non-forfeiture benefits
- Cash surrender value (CSV)
- Automatic premium loans
- Reduced paid-up insurance
- Extended term insurance
- Limited payment whole life
- Impact of a changing dividend scale on the completion of a premium offset policy
- Advantages/disadvantages of whole life insurance
- Common situations when whole insurance may be appropriate (e.g., longer term risks, savings component, etc.)

#### Permanent life insurance

- Primary characteristics that distinguish permanent life insurance from term life insurance
- Three types of permanent insurance
- Whole life
- Term-100 (T-100)
- Universal life

#### Term-100 insurance

- How term-100 (T-100) life insurance works
- Level cost of insurance (LCOI)
- Advantages/disadvantages of T-100 life insurance
- Common situations when term-100 may be appropriate (e.g., needs are long term but non-forfeiture benefits are not required)



#### Universal life insurance

- How universal life (UL) works, including the flexibility to change
- Face amount
- Live(s) insured
- Timing and amount of premiums ("deposits")
- Impact of modal factor
- How the three separate parts of a UL policy are unbundled (insurance, investments and expenses)
  - Premium tax
- Difference between yearly renewable term (YRT) and LCOI /T-100 mortality costing in a universal life product
- Impact of investment choices on the viability of a UL policy
- Implications of early withdrawals, loans, and leveraging of a UL insurance policy
- · Limitations on premiums to meet exemption test
- Advantages/disadvantages of UL insurance
- Common situations when UL insurance may be appropriate (e.g., wealth transfer to children, variable financial means and insurance need, an alternative for experienced investors)
- Differences between whole life policies and universal life policies

#### **Business insurance**

- Nature of business continuation insurance
- Buy-sell insurance
- Purpose of buy-sell agreements
- Cross-purchase agreements
- Share redemption plans
- Using life insurance to fund buy-sell agreements
- Key person insurance
- Role of the capital dividend account
- Split-dollar arrangements for employer/key employee
- Contract analysis
- Current contract offerings
- Client needs vs. products available in marketplace

#### Group life insurance specificities

- How group life insurance works, including
  - Who is the policyholder
  - Master contract
  - How a group is defined
  - Who is a member
  - Membership classes
  - Who pays the premiums
- Types of group life insurance, including
- Term life
- Dependent life
- Survivor income benefit
- Optional group life
- Accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D)
- · Basic vs. voluntary AD&D plans, including their
  - Qualification requirements
  - Exclusions
- Favourable tax treatment of group life insurance for both the employer and the employee
- Understand Canadian commodity tax system as it applies to employee benefits (federal and provincial)

#### Tax implications of the contracts that meet the client's needs

- Policy values
- Collateralization
- Policy loans
- Dividends and benefits purchased via dividends
- Gain calculations
- Accrual calculations
- Exempt test concepts and calculations
- Situations and corrective actions where a tax-exempt policy fails the exempt test
- Corporately-owned policies
- Tax treatment of co-owned corporate and personal insurance products shared ownership
- Crediting of "mortality gain" to Capital Dividend Account (CDA)



2.2 Analyze the riders that meet the client's needs

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Supplementary benefits and riders

- Difference between a policy benefit and a rider
- Accidental death (AD)
- Accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D)
- Waiver of premium benefit
- Waiting period
- Purpose and key provisions of accelerated death benefit riders
  - Terminal illness (TI) benefit
  - Dread disease (DD) benefit
- Term insurance riders on term or permanent life insurance policies
  - Additional term insurance coverage for the primary insured
  - Coverage for additional insured persons, including family coverage riders
- Guaranteed insurability benefit (GIB) rider
- Paid-up additions rider
- Critical illness rider
- Parent/payor waiver

#### Rider analysis

- · Customization and enhancement of coverage
- Meaning and value of coverage in spite of limitations, modifications and
- Difference between each carrier's equivalent riders
- Advantages and disadvantages of policy options

Implement a recommendation adapted to the client's needs and situation

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

Consider the impact of underwriting criteria as they apply to the client's situation

#### CONTENTS

#### Underwriting concepts and criteria

- Underwriting and factors considered
- Eligibility requirements (e.g., newly landed immigrant, international students or frequent travelers)
- Key components of the life insurance application
- Agent comments section
- Accurate completion of medical questions
- Financial information
- Product selection
- Material misrepresentation vs. fraud vs. mistake
- Insurable interest
- Impact of incomplete or inaccurate information in the application
- Temporary insurance agreements (TIAs)
- Factors at the client level that may increase or decrease premium rates
- Age
- Health
- Gender
- Occupation
- Family history
- Life style
- Substandard risks and rated policies
- No underwriting required for basic and minimum amounts of group life insurance (underwriting only for additional coverage)

#### Reinsurance

- How reinsurance works
- · Reasons why insurance companies use reinsurance

#### **Underwriting process**

- How head office processes an application for life insurance when it is received from the field, including
  - Medical exam
  - Attending Physician's Statement (APS)
  - Role of the Medical Information Bureau (MIB) and ramifications for the
  - Motor vehicle report (MVR)
  - Inspection reports
  - Hazardous sports and occupations
  - Financial underwriting
  - Multiple applications
- Factors at the company level that may affect the pricing of a life insurance product, including
  - Mortality costs
  - Administration costs and expenses
  - Investment returns
- Company's underwriting guidelines
- Client's need to understand what underwriting is, its importance, and its implications for future applications



3.2 Propose a recommendation adapted on the client's needs and situation

#### CONTENTS

#### Recommendation process

- How to present the findings from the needs analysis
- Needs that can suitably be met with life insurance, such as:
- Income replacement
- Estate liquidity (final expenses, tax liabilities, debt elimination, etc.)
- Charitable bequests
- Estate equalization
- Support for children, including education funding
- Lifetime support of a spouse or special needs dependent
- Funding a buy-sell agreement or meeting other business needs
- How to choose the most appropriate life insurance category
- How to identify specific products within that category that would address the client's needs
- Purpose and limitations of using scenarios or illustrations to help the client compare products

#### Characteristics of recommendation

- Selected product(s)
- Amount of coverage
- Term (if applicable)
- Premium
- Recommended riders
- Beneficiaries (primary and contingent)
- Exclusions
- Important clauses

#### Strategies for tax efficiency

- General strategies
- Leveraging or borrowing to invest Income splitting
- Gift strategies
- Credits and deductions
- Charitable donations or tax credit
- Tax-advantaged returns in investing





3.3 Confirm the requirements that must be met to implement the recommendation

#### CONTENTS

#### Implementation process

- Application and delivery process, including
   Application

  - Signed illustration
  - Interim or temporary insurance
  - Underwriting
  - Acceptance

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#### **COMPETENCY COMPONENTS**

4. Provide customer service during the validity period of the coverage

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

4.1 Validate the appropriateness of contract amendment, renewal and termination applications in regards to the client's situation

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Review/update process

- Role of an effective financial planning process to address a client's ongoing needs, including
  - Factors that could impact insurance needs (e.g., change in dependents, marital status, employment or income, mortgage or new business owner, leaving Canada)
  - Updated needs analysis
  - New recommendations, including recommended policy changes
  - Periodic review cycle

- How to make changes as a result of the review, including
- Procedures for amending, renewing, terminating or cancelling an existing policy
- Replacement rules and non-compliance penalties
- How to handle minor amendments such as name changes or a change in address
- Absolute and partial policy assignments

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

4.2 Inform the claimant of the claims process

#### Claims process

- Company requirements for a death claim
  - Completed claim form
  - Proof of death
  - Proof of age
  - Attending Physician's Statement (APS)
  - Confirmation of beneficiaries
- Factors that could result in a lower payment
- Time requirements
- Tax treatment of death benefit (individual and group plans)

Agent's role in claims process

**CONTENTS** 

- How to assist the executor (liquidator in Québec) or beneficiary with completing a claims form
- Role of the estate's executor (liquidator in Québec) or professional advisors



# **CURRICULUM – LLQP**

**MODULE: Accident and sickness insurance DURATION OF THE EXAM: 75 minutes - NUMBER OF QUESTIONS: 30 questions** 

Competency: Recommend individual and group accident and sickness insurance products adapted to the client's needs and situation

		COMPETENCY COMPONENTS
_	1.	Assess the client's needs and situation
		1.1. Determine the client's situation
		1.2. Assess the appropriateness of the client's existing coverage in regard to his or her situation
		1.3. Articulate the client's needs based on the risks that could affect his or her financial situation
	2.	Analyze the available products that meet the client's needs
		2.1. Analyze the types of contracts that meet the client's needs
		2.2. Analyze the riders that meet the client's needs
	3.	Implement a recommendation adapted to the client's needs and situation
		3.1. Consider the impact of underwriting criteria as they apply to the client's situation
		3.2. Propose a recommendation adapted to the client's needs and situation
		3.3. Confirm the requirements that must be met to implement the recommendation
	4.	Provide customer service during the validity period of the coverage
		4.1. Validate the appropriateness of contract amendment, renewal and termination applications in regards to the client's situation
		4.2. Inform the claimant of the claims process



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#### **COMPETENCY COMPONENTS**

1. Assess the client's needs and situation

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

1.1 Determine the client's situation

#### CONTENTS

#### Individual client's personal situation

- Family
- Past and present marital status
- Financial responsibilities and commitments between family members
- Family generations
- Occupation
- Type of job, profession or business
- Daily job duties
- Length of time in current role
- Training and education
- Health and medical situation
- Past and present health and personal care issues
- List of past and present medications used

#### Group client's situation

- Nature of business
- Employee data sheet
- Two years of claims experience

#### Individual client's financial situation

- Sources of income
- Earned income
- Investment income
- Unearned income
- Pension income
- Employee benefits
- Insurance coverage benefits
- Net income
- Assets and liabilities
- Types of ownership of assets
- Beneficiaries for assets
- Tax consequences related to liquidation of assets
- Details of all debt (type, amount, purpose, interest rate, repayment schedule, management by client)
- Participation in employer-sponsored registered and non-registered savings plans
- Monthly and yearly cash-flow for family and business
- Amount of savings available for emergencies
- Prior years' tax returns and notices of assessment (at least past two years)





1.2 Assess the appropriateness of the client's existing coverage in regard to his or her situation

#### CONTENTS

#### Individual client's existing coverage

- Personal coverage
  - Type of coverage (disability income replacement, accident and dismemberment, critical illness, long-term care)
  - Characteristics of coverage (benefit amount, waiting and benefit periods, main features, premium)
- Group coverage
- Type of coverage, including extended health benefits
- Characteristics of coverage, such as basis of coverage (salary, bonuses, non-evidence maximum)
- · Government coverage
- Employment Insurance (EI)
- Canada Pension Plan (CPP)
- Workers' Compensation
- Provincial health and disability plans
- Tax characteristics of government benefits (non-deductibility, taxation of benefits, eligibility and contribution criteria, calculation of benefit amounts, integration with privately-funded employment benefits)
- Lending institution coverage
- Other resources (community and family resources, income, savings and postretirement benefits)

#### Group client's existing coverage

- Plan design and premium rates
- Funding mechanisms
- Claims administration
- Satisfaction with current group provider

#### Appropriateness of existing coverage

- Comparison of available coverage and resources against anticipated expenses and need for liquidity and income, in cases of disability and sickness and during retirement
- Advantages and disadvantages of existing coverage



1.3 Articulate the client's needs based on the risks that could affect his or her financial situation

#### CONTENTS

## Needs analysis process

- Determining needs and goals
- Documenting the client's current financial position, obligations and risks
- Comparing needs against existing resources (surplus, overlap, gaps)
- Identifying suitable coverage or changes to existing coverage
- Identifying the implications of changes to insurance coverage

#### Client needs

- Liquidity to achieve financial goals
  - Time horizon and source of funds
- Income during retirement based on objectives
  - Retirement duration vs. longevity of family
  - Desired budget considering inflation
- Additional capital required after a disability
- Expenses to be covered
- Impact of disability on family, wealth accumulation goals, retirement and estate plan
- Additional capital required after a critical illness diagnosis
- Medical treatments and time off work
- Additional capital required after a long-term care diagnosis
- Loss of independence and daily care

#### Risks

- Financial risks associated with a loss of livelihood, or standard of living, including impact on estate planning initiatives, survivors' needs and tax consequences at death
- Client's exposure to financial risk
- Client's risk tolerance



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#### **COMPETENCY COMPONENTS**

Analyze the available products that meet the client's needs

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

2.1 Analyze the types of contracts that meet the client's needs

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Individual disability insurance (DI)

- Types of contracts
- Specific provisions and their potential impact
- Application in meeting client needs
- Definitions of disability
- Definitions: non-cancellable and guaranteed renewable
- Benefit periods
- Short-term and long-term disability insurance (STD and LTD)
- Meaning and purpose of a waiting period
- Limitations and possible modifications
- Exclusions
- Impact of offsets and integration of benefits

#### Group disability insurance (DI)

- Types of contracts
- Definitions of disability as used by short-term and long-term income replacement plans
- Rationale for the use of waiting periods in pricing plans
- Qualification period
- Coverage amounts
- Non-evidence maximum amount
- Maximum overall amount
- All-sources maximum amount
- Benefit amounts and benefit period requirements of an STD plan to qualify for registration under the Employment Insurance Act for premium reduction purposes
- Advantages to employers of having an STD plan that is registered with Human Resources Canada for premium reduction purposes
- Rationale for having an employee pay the premiums for group LTD
- Impact of coordination of benefits and subrogation on a group policy

#### Long-term care insurance (LTC)

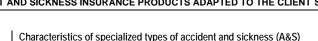
- Description of how policy benefits work
- Definition of activities of daily living (ADLs)
- Comparison between home care and facility care benefits
- Guaranteed and non-guaranteed benefits

#### Critical illness insurance (CI)

- Types of contracts
- Application in meeting client needs
- Conditions that are generally covered
- Circumstances that will result in a payment of benefit
- Medical definitions
- Role of critical illness insurance in financial planning

and disability coverage





- Types and characteristics of business insurance
- Disability business overhead expense (BOE) insurance
- Disability buyout coverage
- Business loan protection
- Key person coverage
- Types and characteristics of corporately owned policies
- Health and welfare trusts (HWTs)
- Employee health trusts (EHTs)
- Personal health spending plans
- Private health Services Plans (PHSPs) for business owners
- Grouped policies
- Tax implications of a personal insurance policy being corporately held
- Mortgage DI and CI insurance
- Options for clients unable to qualify for traditional DI, such as special risk DI
- · Clients whose needs cannot be fully met by traditional DI
- Underwritten and guaranteed plans

#### Individual extended health insurance products

- Types of contracts, including accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D)
- Specific provisions and their potential impact
- Application in meeting client needs
- Rationale to supplement provincial and territorial coverage

### Group extended health insurance products

- Types of contracts, including AD&D
- Types of medical services usually included
- Rationale for the inclusion of deductibles and co-payments
- Typical limitations and exclusions
- Coverage and coordination of benefits
- Coverage offered by group extended health plans
- Primary features of a typical Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

#### Contract analysis

- Current contract offerings
- Client needs vs. products available in marketplace
- Implications of statutory provisions for the administration of A&S contracts
- Taxation of A&S premiums and benefits
- Tax-free return of premium benefit on critical illness (CI) or disability
- Sales tax applicable to employee benefits (federal and provincial)
- Policy guidelines

#### Group insurer's services

- Claims adjudication
- Member enrolment
- Premium billing





2.2 Analyze the riders that meet the client's needs

# CONTENTS

# Types of riders

- Future purchase option (FPO)
- Cost of living adjustment (COLA)
- Accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D)
- Long-term injury protection
- Specific injury benefits
- Rehabilitation program benefit
- Hospitalization benefit
- Homecare
- Recurrent disabilityPartial and residual disability
- Presumptive disability
- Waiver of premium
- Return of premium (ROP)
- Definitions of occupation (regular, own or any)

## Rider analysis

- · Customization and enhancement of coverage
- Meaning and value of coverage in spite of limitations, modifications and exclusions
- Differences between each carrier's equivalent riders
- Advantages and disadvantages of policy options



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#### COMPETENCY COMPONENTS

Implement a recommendation adapted to the client's needs and situation

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

3.1 Consider the impact of underwriting criteria as they apply to the client's situation

#### 3

#### Underwriting concepts and criteria

- Standards, coverage limits, premium rates and underwriting requirements relating to client characteristics
  - Income
  - Employment
  - Lifestyle
  - Health
- Family history
- Basic underwriting criteria for disability insurance (DI), critical illness insurance (CI) and long-term care insurance (LTC)
- Resulting exclusions and modifications
- Circumstances under which benefits might not be payable or when the coverage might be rescinded
- Group insurance underwriting criteria
- Makeup of the group
- Nature of the business
- Comparative businesses
- Employee data sheet
- Coverage offered
- Claims experience

#### CONTENTS

- Underwriting process
- Factors that are relevant in the development and pricing of an accident and sickness insurance product
- Morbidity rates
- Administrative costs
- Expenses
- Cost drivers for group products
- Key components of the policy application
- Agent comments section
- Medical questions
- Financial information
- Product selection
- Additional requirements
- Impact of incomplete or inaccurate information in the application
- Steps head office undertakes in processing an application received from the field
- Medical exam
- Attending Physician's Statement (APS)
- Medical Information Bureau (MIB)
- Inspection reports
- Hazardous sports and occupations
- Financial underwriting
- Potential additional questionnaires or client interview



3.2 Propose a recommendation adapted to the client's needs and situation.

#### CONTENTS

#### Recommendation process

- Quotes for appropriate coverage options based on needs
- Group brokerage services
- Adjustments to recommendation based on client input
- Management of client expectations regarding underwriting

#### Factors that impact the recommendation

- Client situation
- Age
- Occupation
- Investments
- Family structure and dynamics
- Health, disability and potential exclusions
- Risk management
- Retirement planning
- Taxation
- Strategies to maximize taxation efficiency (medical expense tax credit, health and welfare trust or PHSP for business owners)
- Risk tolerance
- Time horizon
- Factors that impact the group insurance recommendation
- Fundi
- Responsibility for premium payment
- Costs
- Claims administration
- Coordination of benefits

#### Characteristics of the recommendation

- Selected product(s)
- · Amount of coverage
- Premium
- Recommended riders
- Beneficiaries
- Exclusions
- Important clauses

# **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

3.3 Confirm the requirements that must be met to implement the recommendation

# **CONTENTS**

#### Requirements

- Requirements to issue the contract, according to product type
- Required documents (physician's report, income tax report, financial statements, identification)

#### Implementation process

- Ratings (medical or risk ratings) and exclusion riders under which a contract is issued
- Full disclosure in case of modification
- Identification of timelines to review or remove exclusions, limitations and ratings

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# COMPETENCY COMPONENTS

4. Provide customer service during the validity period of the coverage

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

4.1 Validate the appropriateness of contract amendment, renewal and termination applications in regards to the client's situation

#### **CONTENTS**

#### Client services

- Policy feature opportunities and options
- Future purchase
- Guaranteed insurability
- Conversion
- Timed modifications
- Timed ratings
- Review or removal of exclusions, limitations and ratings based on policy timelines
- Policy service forms
- Basic form processing rules

#### Review process

- Determining suitability or changes needed
- Providing full disclosure and taking notes
- Providing the client with a rationale for recommended action
- Assessing the implications of changes to insurance coverage
- Developing a client service strategy to remain aware of client's needs and situation
- Re-setting client expectations

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

4.2 Inform the claimant of the claims process

#### Claims process

- Requirements for a claim
- Factors that could result in lower benefits
- Time requirements
- Tax treatment of benefits

#### CONTENTS

# Agent's role in the claims process

- Describing the claims process
- Knowing where to access and send forms and how they should be completed
- Communicating with the benefit's adjudicator
- Understanding the carriers' expectations of the agent's role



# **CURRICULUM - LLQP**

**MODULE:** Segregated funds and annuities

**DURATION OF THE EXAM: 75 minutes - NUMBER OF QUESTIONS: 30 questions** 

Competency: Recommend segregated funds, individual annuities and group pension plans adapted to the client's needs and situation

% **COMPETENCY COMPONENTS** 1. Assess the client's needs and situation 35 1.1. Determine the client's situation, investment objectives, and investor profile 1.2. Assess the appropriateness of the client's existing coverage in regard to his or her situation 1.3. Articulate the client's needs based on the risks that could affect his or her financial situation 2. Analyze the available products that meet the client's needs 30 2.1. Analyse the types of investments that can constitute a segregated fund and that meet the client's needs 2.2. Analyze the advantages of segregated funds in comparison to other types of investments in regard to the client's needs 2.3. Analyze the types of annuities that meet the client's needs 2.4. Analyze the types of group retirement and investment plans that meet the client's needs 25 3. Implement a recommendation adapted to the client's needs and situation 3.1. Propose a recommendation adapted to the client's needs and situation 3.2. Confirm the requirements that must be met to implement the recommendation 4. Provide customer service during the validity period of the coverage 10 4.1. Validate the appropriateness of contract amendment, renewal and termination applications in regard to the client's situation 4.2. Inform the claimant of the claims process



#### **COMPETENCY COMPONENTS**

1. Assess the client's needs and situation

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

1.1 Determine the client's situation, investment objectives, and investor profile

#### **CONTENTS**

## Individual client's personal situation

- Health concerns
- · Longevity of the client
- Power of attorney
- Will

#### Individual client's financial situation

- Documents for review
- Income tax return (for the individual and his or her spouse, and business for the small business owner)
- Mortgage statement
- Statement of registered retirement savings plan (RRSP) contributions
- Pension plan statements
- Credit card statements
- Bank statements
- Line of credit or Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC) statement
- Other sources of income and debt, such as investment real estate, royalties, family support obligations, personal loans
- Non-registered investment account statements
- Preparation and analysis
- Basic balance sheet (assets and liabilities, including creditor liabilities)
- Budget
- Net worth statement
- Cash flow statement

#### Investor investment objectives

- Account purpose
- Financial goals
- Need for guaranteed investments
- Time horizon

#### Investor profile

- Current savings
- Risk tolerance
- Knowledge of investments
- Investment experience
- Tolerance of volatility
- Results of financial review
- · Results of needs review
- Results of income survey

#### Group plan intention

- Composition of the group
- Short term or long term needs
- Funding commitment and payroll contributions
- Timing of plan implementation



1.2 Assess the appropriateness of the client's existing coverage in regard to his or her situation

#### CONTENTS

#### Government retirement pensions

- · Eligibility, contributions, and benefits
- Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Quebec Pension Plan (QPP)
- Old Age Security (OAS)
- Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)
- Allowance
- Tax characteristics
- Non-deductibility of mandatory government plans
- Taxation of benefits

### Group pension plans

- Group plan eligibility, contributions and benefits:
- Defined benefit pension plan (DBPP)
- Defined contribution pension plan (DCPP)
- Deferred profit-sharing plan (DPSP)
- Group registered retirement savings plan (GRRSP)
- Locked-in plan restrictions and benefits
- Life income fund (LIF)
- Locked-in retirement account (LIRA)
- Locked-in retirement savings plan (LRSP) or Locked-in RRSP
- Locked-in retirement income fund (LRIF)
- Prescribed registered retirement income fund (PRRIF)
- Restricted life income fund (RLIF)

#### Individual or group registered plans

- Pooled registered pension plan (PRPP)
- Tax-free savings account (TFSA)

#### Individual registered plans

- Registered retirement savings plan (RRSP)
- Spousal RRSP
- Registered retirement income fund (RRIF)
- Income splitting
- Registered disability savings plan (RDSP)
- Registered education savings plan (RESP)

#### Individual non-registered plans

- Non-registered accounts
- Savings
- Investments
- Life insurance
- Insurance policies
- Annuities

#### Group plan coverage

- Plans available
- Form of existing plan



1.3 Articulate the client's needs based on the risks that could affect his or her financial situation

#### CONTENTS Risks facing the individual investor Needs • Economy as a whole Need for income Investment risks - Individual Inflation risk - Spouse - Interest rate risk Couple Market risk Need for retirement income Liquidity risk Individual Foreign exchange risk Spouse Credit risk Couple Industry risk Need for estate planning Client-specific financial risks Need for emergency fund Low level of financial literacy Need for creditor proofing Risk of job loss Need for lump-sum savings Risk of outliving money (longevity) • Return on investment Risk of bankruptcy Capital preservation - Liquidity issues Growth Inflation protection Diversification

Investment management



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## COMPETENCY COMPONENTS

2. Analyze the available segregated funds and annuities that meet the client's needs

## **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

2.1 Analyze the types of investments that can constitute a segregated fund and that meet the client's needs

# CONTENTS

# Types of segregated funds

- Money market funds
- Bond funds
- Income funds
- Mortgage funds
- Equity funds
- Dividend funds
- Real estate funds
- Balanced funds
- Index funds
- Fund of funds
- Specialty funds

# Fund analysis

- Current offerings
- Client needs vs. products available
- Application of basic taxation principles
- Investment allocations and dispositions triggering capital gains or losses
- Withholding tax on income and fund surrenders



2.2 Analyze the advantages of segregated funds in comparison to other types of investments in regard to the client's needs

#### **CONTENTS**

### Other types of investments Adv

- Stocks
- Bonds
- Real estate
- Mutual funds
- Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs)
- Guaranteed Investment Certificates (GICs)
- Canada Premium Bonds (CPBs)
- Canada Savings Bonds (CSBs)

# Advantages of segregated funds for individual investors

- Issue as individual variable insurance contract (IVIC)
- Guarantees
- On maturity
- On death
- Creditor protection
- Reset option
- Exemption from probate
- Income benefit
- Guaranteed Minimum Withdrawal Benefit (GMWB)
- Guaranteed Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit (GLWB)
- Managed volatility
- Professional management
- No requirement for ongoing decisions
- Allocations
- Switches between funds
- · Ability to withdraw
- Diversification
- Assuris coverage
- Right to cancel
- Ongoing deposits
- · Absence of medical underwriting

# Advantages of segregated funds for groups

- Lower management expense ratio
- Forced savings
- Professional management
- No requirement for ongoing decisions
- Allocations
- Member participation
- Fund switches
- Rebalancing of assets
- Withdrawals
- · Absence of medical underwriting

#### Tax implications

- Capital gains or loss on redemption of non-registered annuity contracts (segregated funds only)
- Tax treatment of death guarantee and maturity guarantee top ups of segregated fund annuity contracts
- Tax treatment of GMWB and GLWB plans



2.3 Analyze the types of annuities that meet the client's needs

# CONTENTS

# Types of annuities

- · By type of contract
- Single-life
- Joint first and joint last to die
- Registered and non-registered annuities
- Annuities for group
- By duration
- Term certain annuity
- Straight life annuity (guarantees, e.g., number of payments, instalment refund, cash refund)
- Impaired life annuity
- By need for income
- Immediate annuity
- Indexed life annuity
- Deferred annuity
- Variable annuity
- By form of taxation
- Prescribed rate
- Accrued rate
- By capitalization
- Accumulation annuity
- Defined contribution pension (DCP) and locked-in retirement account (LIRA) transfer
- Registered retirement savings plan (RRSP) maturity transfer
- By need for estate planning
- Insured annuity

#### Advantages of annuities for individual investors

- Income security
- Ease of understanding
- Creditor protection

#### Tax implications

- Accrual reporting vs. prescribed annuity contract reporting
- Income tax on registered annuity contracts

## Factors affecting annuity payments

- Withdrawal rights and market value adjustment
- Guarantees
- Annuity rate
- Length of benefit period



2.4 Analyze the types of group retirement and investment plans that meet the client's needs

# CONTENTS Sponsor's needs in setting up a group plan Group plans providing savings and investment for retirement Attract and retain top-quality employees Registered plans Non-registered group investment account Assist with retirement saving Group plans converting registered savings into pension income Serve group members short term and long term needs Contributions linked to business profitability Factors that impact the analysis of group plans Funding Costs Sponsor characteristics Group members Administration



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#### **COMPETENCY COMPONENTS**

3. Implement a recommendation adapted to the client's needs and situation

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

3.1 Propose a recommendation adapted to the client's needs and situation

#### **CONTENTS**

## Recommendation for segregated fund for the individual investor

- Minimum deposit and funding
- Type of fund and its specific characteristics
- Total value
- Date of inception
- Portfolio turnover rate
- Portfolio manager
- Minimum investment
- Performance data (average return, year-over-year returns)
- Fund Facts
- Adjusted cost base
- Notional units
- Financial statement
- Taxation
- Net asset value and market value
- Value of guarantees
- Death guarantee
- Maturity guarantee
- Enhanced death benefits
- Guaranteed Minimum Withdrawal Benefit (GMWB) and Guaranteed Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit (GLWB) riders and withdrawals
- Time value of money
- Reset rules
- Tax considerations
- Tax treatment of maturity guarantee
- Tax treatment of death benefits
- Riders
- Fund options
- Maturity date

## Limitations of segregated funds for the individual investor

- · Specific sales charge applied
- Management expense ratio (MER) of fund
- Trailing commission of fund
- Principal risks of fund
- Age restrictions
- Penalties applied
- Early termination and surrender
- Withdrawals

#### Recommendation for segregated fund for the group

- Selection of appropriate plan for the group
- Presentation of alternatives

#### Recommendation for annuity for the individual investor

- Timing: immediate or deferred
- Value of guarantees
- Life annuity
- Riders
- Annuity rate
- Variable
- Fixed
- Taxation
- Benefit payment
- Type of annuity and its specific characteristics
- Creditor protection

#### Strategies for tax efficiency

- General strategies
- Leveraging or borrowing to invest
- Income splitting
- Gift strategies
- Credits and deductions
- Charitable donations or tax credit
- Using tax credits in higher or lower income spouse's name
- Tax-advantaged returns in investing
- Tax deductibility of interest on leveraging for non-registered plans
- Insurance-specific strategies
- Prescribed annuities
- Tax deferral plans
- Tax Free Savings Account, Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP), spousal RRSP
- Home Buyers' Plan and Lifelong learning Plan as RRSP strategies





# Limitations of segregated funds for groups

- Absence of guarantees
- Mandatory contributions
- Vesting period

# Limitations of annuities for the individual investor

- Interest rate risk
- Inflation risk
- Risk of loss of capital at death
- Penalties
- Early termination and surrender
- Withdrawals





3.2 Confirm the requirements that must be met to implement the recommendation

# Individual investor

- Application form
- Rider election form
- Beneficiary form
- · Correct form of account
- Proper client identification for account opening purposes
- Ascertaining owner, annuitant and beneficiary
- Consideration (payment) to accompany application or specifying the source of funding, i.e. transfer of registered retirement savings plan (RRSP) or locked-in retirement account (LIRA)
- Delivery of information folder and Fund Facts
- Determining fund value
- Notice of confirmation with signatures and date

# CONTENTS Group

- Role of group administrator
- Data from group administrator
- Documentation to group members
- Application form
- Payroll contributions
- Eligibility of members
- Need for annual review

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#### COMPETENCY COMPONENTS

4. Provide customer service during the validity period of the coverage

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

4.1 Validate the appropriateness of contract amendment, renewal and termination applications in regard to the client's situation

#### CONTENTS

#### Service needs of individual investors

- Follow-up
- Monitor and review
- Scheduled review
- Annual review
- Change in client circumstances
- Change in product
- Deposits
- Fund switches
- Change of beneficiary
- Reset
- Renewal
- Withdrawals
- Surrender

#### Service needs of group plan members

- Follow-up
- Monitor and review
- Annual review
- Change in client circumstances
- Change in product
- Locked-in account transfer
- · Change of beneficiary
- Withdrawals
- · Purchase of annuity
- · Termination of employment
- Transfer to another group plan
- Transfer to individual locked-in account

#### **COMPETENCY SUB-COMPONENTS**

4.2 Inform the claimant of the claims process

#### Agent's role in the claims process

- Describing the claims process
- Knowing where to access and send forms and how they should be completed
- Understanding the carrier's expectations of the agent's role

#### Claims information for group members

- Notice of change
- Death
- · Withdrawal by member

#### Claims information for individual investors

Death

CONTENTS

- Withdrawals
- Surrender
- Maturity
- Power of attorney

#### Factors affecting claim

- · Maturity guarantee
- Death benefit guarantee
- · Market value adjustment
- Allocations
- Sales charge