

# **Professional Indemnity Insurance Code**

In this Code 'you' refers to individuals and bodies regulated by the *CLC*; all individuals and bodies regulated by the *CLC* must comply with this Code. You must not permit anyone else to act or fail to act in such a way as to amount to a breach of this Code.

# **Outcomes-Focused**

The *Code of Conduct* requires you to deliver the following *Outcomes*:

- Each *Client*'s best interests are served; (*Outcome* 3.1)
- You act in accordance with your regulatory responsibilities. (Outcome 5.1)

Providing *clients* with access to appropriate redress helps you deliver these *Outcomes* and requires you to act in a principled way:

- 1. Act in the best interests of your *Clients*. (Overriding Principle 3)
- 2. Deal with regulators and ombudsmen in an open and co-operative way. (*Overriding Principle* 5)
- 3. You only accept instructions and act in relation to matters which are within your professional competence. (*CoC* P3a)
- 4. You only provide *Regulated Services* whilst you have *CLC*-approved *professional indemnity insurance* in force. (*CoC* P3i)
- 5. You ensure there are adequate indemnity *arrangements* in respect of *claims* made against you for work carried out by you before you ceased to practice by taking out *professional indemnity insurance* for a minimum period of 6 years from the expiry of the period of *professional indemnity insurance* stated in your evidence of insurance or policy document. (*CoC* P30)
- If you seek to exclude or limit liability, you do so only to the extent that such exclusion or limitation is above the minimum level of cover afforded by *CLC*-approved *professional indemnity insurance*; you must obtain the written informed consent of the *Client* for such exclusion or limitation to be effective. (CoC P3p)

You must also comply with the following specific requirements:

- 7. When providing services which are not regulated by the *CLC*, you advise your *Client* of this and inform them in writing that the activity is not covered by *CLC*-approved *professional indemnity insurance* or the *CLC*-administered *Compensation Fund*. (*CoC* P3q)
- 8. You *promptly* notify insurers in writing of any facts or matters which may give rise to a claim under *CLC*-approved *professional indemnity insurance*. (*CoC* P5k)

## **Professional Indemnity Insurance**

- 9. When providing *CLC-regulated services* you must have *professional indemnity insurance* in place at all times, which complies with the minimum requirements of Article 10(4) IDD and the CLC's PII Policy Wording 3 IMD, either through the *CLC's Master Policy* or with another *Authorised Insurer* (see requirement 11), provided the *CLC* is satisfied that in all its conditions and extent it is at least equivalent to the cover provided under the *CLC's Master Policy*.
- 10. You must:
- 10.1 Pay the applicable annual premium for professional indemnity insurance;
- 10.2 Comply with the professional indemnity insurance terms as apply to you;
- 10.3 Comply with the Self Insured Excess policy (set out at 13) and such other policies as the *CLC* may issue;
- 10.4 Produce a current *Evidence of Insurance* when requested by the *CLC*;
- 10.5 Permit the Participating *Insurers* or the *Brokers* to notify the *CLC* should any circumstances arise whereby the Participating *Insurers* or the *Brokers* consider that the body has failed to comply with their responsibilities as a *CLC* body or when any *Evidence of Insurance* is avoided.

# European Union (EU) Bodies – if you are a European Lawyer

- 11. If on application:
- 11.1 you satisfy the *CLC* that the *EU body* (of which you are a *Manager*) has *EU Professional Cover* which complies with the *CLC's PII Policy Wording* in all its conditions and cover then the *EU body* will be exempted from obligation to comply with requirement 10.1 whilst the *EU Professional Cover* (and any agreement with the cover provider) remains in force and is complied with;
- 11.2 you satisfy the *CLC* that the *EU body* (of which you are a *Manager*) has *Partial EU Professional Cover* then the *EU body* and its *Manager*s shall be exempted from the obligation to comply with regulation 10.1 whilst the *Partial EU Professional Cover* (and any agreement with the cover provider) and a *Supplemental Policy* remain in force and is complied with.

## Claims

12. In the event of a professional indemnity insurance *claim* you produce any information the *CLC* deems appropriate within five *working days* of the *CLC*'s information request.

## Self Insured Excess

- 13.1 Should your self-insured Excess exceed:
  - (1) £3,500 or
  - (2) the sum of the following:

- 5% Fees (as defined in the CLC's PII *Policy* Wording) where the Fees are no more than £200,000; plus
- (ii) 3% Fees on Fees between £200,001 and £500,000; plus
- (iii) 2% Fees on Fees between £500,001 and £1,000,000;

you report this to the *CLC*. The *CLC* will need to be satisfied that the body will avoid additional exposure of the *CLC*'s *Compensation Fund* to unpaid excesses.

- 13.2 If you are satisfied that the body you manage has the ability to meet additional liability over and above this you may make a specific application to the *CLC* to increase the self-insured Excess where Fees are greater than £1,000,000.
- 13.3 Your application outlines how the body intends to meet the obligation to avoid additional exposure of the *CLC*'s *Compensation Fund* to unpaid excesses.

Should you require information on how to meet your responsibilities under this Code, please see the *CLC's Professional Indemnity Insurance Guidance*.