

Streamlining Annuity Management: The ACORD Change of Annuity Financial Professional and/or Broker Form

Annuity contracts are long-term investments with complex structures. Investors often need to make changes to their financial professional, broker/dealer, or even initiate transfers of their holdings. To streamline these processes, ACORD recently developed the Change of Annuity Financial Professional and/or Broker Form (ACORD 950).

Key Uses of the Form

- **Changing Financial Professionals:** This form simplifies the process of updating the financial professional of record on an annuity contract.
- **Updating Broker/Dealer Affiliations:** Financial professionals often work with different brokers/dealers. This form allows for smooth updates of broker/dealer information associated with the annuity contract.
- **Initiating Block Transfers:** Investors may decide to transfer their annuity holdings partially or fully to another custodian or broker/dealer. This form initiates these block transfers, ensuring a standardized and efficient process.
- **Changing Ownership and Beneficiary Designation:** This form accomplishes changing the ownership and beneficiary designation for custodian to self-directed.

Form Accessibility and Usage

ACORD 950 is available to our Life and Annuity members. It's crucial to follow the specific instructions provided by the annuity carrier regarding the form's submission and any additional requirements.

The form provides a valuable tool for managing annuity contracts. By understanding its uses and following best practices, investors and professionals can streamline processes, reducing hassle and potential errors.

The Value of the ACORD 950

- **Accuracy and Consistency:** This form requires everyone to provide the same essential information in the same way. This drastically reduces errors that result from missing data or misinterpretation of differently structured documents.
- **Processing Efficiency:** Insurance carriers and other institutions handling annuities can process documents with standard layouts more efficiently. When data is predictable and easily found, handling requests is smoother and faster, reducing administrative costs and benefiting the client.
- **Collaboration within the Industry:** Standard forms aren't made in a vacuum. This form is the result of ACORD working groups and collaborations. This represents a commitment from our membership to make processes work for everyone – carriers, brokers/dealers, financial providers, intermediaries, and clients.

Please contact ACORD for more information about this form or any other opportunity for standardization.