

Update from Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt

Greetings!

Too often, government is an impediment to economic growth and job creation, through burdensome regulation and unnecessary red tape. I do not believe that is how government should work and I am proud of the steps we are taking at the Insurance Department to help partner with the private sector to better serve Kansans.

COVID-19 has been tough on our economy and even more difficult on those looking for work. One thing we discovered during this pandemic is an increased number of Kansans applying for an insurance license who have not already found employment at a company or an agency. While not always the case, it is customary for someone to find employment and then seek a license. During the shutdown, Kansans without work have been resourceful and have spent time working to better themselves, finding new opportunities in the insurance industry. COVID may have us down, but the hardworking spirit of Kansans can certainly not be counted out!

For our part at the Department, we have updated our correspondence with those receiving their license to include a link to the Company and Agency search on our website to help them identify those that might be hiring in their area. In addition, we have provided links to industry associations that may also provide job postings for their membership all across the state.

This small change at the Department could have a big impact on a Kansas family looking to get back on their feet, a small business looking to expand, a college student looking for a new opportunity or a company looking to hire. Government can work and it is up to us to hold it accountable.

Election season was a perfect reminder that some think government should do more and some think government should do less. But, at the end of the day, government should be

doing right by the people it serves. It should not be an obstacle, but rather a partner in success.

It is an honor to serve you and your family as Insurance Commissioner. If there is something you think can work better or would help other Kansans have a better experience, please share it with me at kid.commissioner@ks.gov.

Thank you!

Vicki

Consumer Assistance Division

If you or someone you know has an issue with their insurance, we are happy to help! Please use the contact information below to reach out to us if we can be for assistance.

Main Line: (785) 296-3071

Consumer Assistance Hotline: 1-800-432-2484 Consumer Complaint: <u>kid.webcomplaints@ks.gov</u>

Producer Licensing: <u>kid.licensing@ks.gov</u>

Email: <u>KID.Commissioner@ks.gov</u> Website: <u>Insurance.kansas.gov</u>



News from the Insurance Department

2021 Marketplace open enrollment begins November 1

Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt unveiled the 2021 Overview of the Health Insurance Market in Kansas.

Read More



Commissioner reminds Kansans insurance should pay cost of COIVID-19 tests if you meet requirements

Medicare Supplement Guide



Medicare Open Enrollment for health and drug plans is from October 15 – December 7, 2020. Head over to <u>insurance.kansas.gov/medicare/</u> to view and download a copy of the 2020 Medicare Supplement Shopper's Guide!

Smartinvestks.com

To learn more about smart investment and how to avoid scams visit <u>smartinvestks.com</u>, an investor education initiative produced by the Department. If anyone has questions or would like to report a potential investment scam, visit our website at <u>insurance.kansas.gov</u> or call our Consumer Assistance Hotline at 1-800-432-2484.



By the Numbers- October 2020

The Kansas Insurance Department has always been a trusted resource for Kansans. Here are the stats for October 2020:

Consumer Assistance Division

New Complaints/Inquiries: 240 Closed Cases: 269

Calls: 1,253

Chats: 21

Producer Licensing Division

Resident agent licenses issued: 219

Non-Resident agent licenses issued: 5,114

Resident agency licenses issued: 15

Non-resident agency licenses issued: 146

Calls: 1,363

Chats: 18

Anti-Fraud Division

Fraud Referrals: 88

Open Investigations: 57

Cases Pending Prosecution: 27

Securities Commission

Pending Criminal Cases: 11

Registration Broker-Dealer Agents & Investment Advisor Reps: 258

Registration Broker-Dealer Firms: 9

Registration Investment Advisor Firms: 2

Financial Surveillance

Company Admissions: 5

New Applications: 1

Applications in Process: 18

Recent Happenings



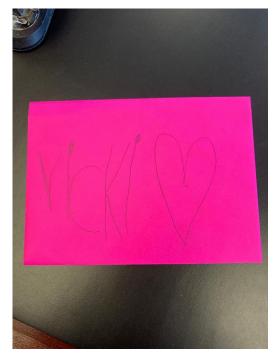
Thank you to the HINK board for the opportunity to visit with you about health insurance.



Thanks to Mike for always saving the day when I forget my phone at home!



Mike and I hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving. Our party of two used the time to decorate for Christmas!



Sometimes I get the best mail at the Department!



The Kansas Insurance Department

Vicki Schmidt, Commissioner 1300 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604 KID.Commissioner@ks.gov Insurance.kansas.gov (785) 296-3071 Consumer Hotline: 800-432-2484







