

MUNICIPAL EXCESS LIABILITY JOINT INSURANCE FUND

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BULLETIN MEL 26-25

Date: January 1, 2026

To: Fund Commissioners of Member Joint Insurance Funds

From: Underwriting Manager
Conner Strong & Buckelew

Re: Flood & Named Storm Deductibles & NFIP Coverage

The bulletin does not apply to the members of the NJUA JIF and “workers compensation only” members of the NJPHA JIF. This bulletin does not apply to the Board of Education members of the Suburban Metro JIF. This bulletin does not apply to members not participating in the MEL Property program.

Further to the Coverage Summaries in the earlier MEL Bulletin, following is a reminder of the Flood and Named Storm deductibles for which each member is responsible, as well as the purchasing of National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) coverage.

Deductibles

All Other Loss:

JIF-designated member deductible, per the chart in the Coverage Summary Bulletin or as otherwise stated. Certain members have special large deductibles; please reference your Member Manual for such deductibles. The larger of the below deductible or the special deductible shall apply for such members with special large deductibles.

Flood:

- All other zones (low hazard): The “All Other Loss” deductible noted above.
- Locations with any part of the legal description within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), **Per Location:**
 - Each Building: The lesser of the maximum available limits from NFIP for such location or the building and contents value of such location, regardless of whether such limits are actually purchased (typically \$500,000).
 - Contents, Each Building: The lesser of the maximum available limits from NFIP for such location or the building and contents value of such location, regardless of whether such limits are actually purchased (typically \$500,000).
 - Time Element, Each Building: The “All Other Loss” deductible noted above.

Vehicles driven into flood waters receive a separate deductible per vehicle.

“Special Flood Hazard Area” is an area defined by FEMA or any foreign equivalent that will be inundated by the flood event having a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The 1-percent annual chance flood is also referred to by FEMA as the base flood or 100-year flood. SFHAs, per FEMA, include, but are not limited to, Zones A, AO, AH, A1-A30, AE, A99, AR, AR/AE, AR/AO, AR/A1-A30, AR/A, V, VE, and V1-V30. If not defined by FEMA or any foreign equivalent, SHFA is an area that will be inundated by Flood events having a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

Named Storm:

- All Covered Property: "All Other Loss" deductible noted above.

NFIP Coverage

As noted in the Flood Deductibles section, locations within an SFHA have Building and Contents deductibles equivalent to the maximum available limits from NFIP, which are typically \$500,000 and \$500,000, regardless of whether such limits are purchased or not. Please note, certain properties are only eligible for limits lower than NFIP's \$500,000 / \$500,000.

Purchasing NFIP coverage, or equivalent coverage from another insurer, is a great solution to fulfill some of your SFHA Flood deductibles. Members should work closely with their risk management consultant or insurance broker to determine if you should purchase such coverage and how much coverage should be purchased.

This bulletin is for information purposes only. It is not intended to be all-inclusive but merely an overview. It does not alter, amend or change your coverage. Please refer to specific policies for limits, terms, conditions and exclusions. The Member Manual/Insurance Policies shall prevail.

cc: Risk Management Consultants
Fund Professionals
Fund Executive Directors