# BOND RANDERVICE

### By Universal Fire & Casualty Insurance Company

Surety Bond Platform for Wholesalers, MGAs, and Retail Agents

## HOW TO USE BOND RAMP

### How does it work?

- Select and Quote your bond
- Send Quote after the initial quote or after the application is completed
- Principal E-Signs Indemnity Agreement and Pays
- Receive Commission from your wholesaler

### **Table of Contents**

- Getting Started
  - Setting up your Account
  - o <u>Contact Us</u>
  - <u>Report a Claim</u>
  - Doing a Transaction
    - o Quote a Bond
    - Instant Issue vs.
      Underwriter Required
      Bonds
    - <u>Basic Eligibility</u>
    - o Basic Information
    - Auxiliary Questions
    - Sending the Quote via Link
    - o Indemnity Agreement
    - View the Bond
    - o <u>Payment</u>
    - o <u>Issuance of Bond</u>
  - Monitor your Book
    - Quoted Table
    - Pending Table
    - D Purchased Table

Welcome to Bond Ramp where you can quote and bind surety bonds in minutes. Bond Ramp allows for Quote Links and Payment Links to be sent directly from the platform, minimizing paperwork and the hassle that is typically required to complete a surety bond purchase. You may choose to do as little or as much of the process before the quote is sent to the principal or agent for completion. Take advantage of the flexibility Bond Ramp offers to streamline your surety book of business.

### Setting up your Account

Your Wholesaler or MGA will provide an **Access Code** the connects you to them when your agent account is set-up. Use this access code when you register as a new user.

Admin Users – These users will see activity of all their agents and can add additional agents by passing along their access code or by using the *Add Agent* feature accessed through the *Users* menu tab.

Agent User – These users will only see their own activity and are not able to add additional users.

### Quote a Bond

Use the *Get Quote* Tool to choose your bond. If you can't find your bond, submit a request by clicking *Click Here to Submit Request*.

### Select State

- Choose the State the bond is being required in.
- Choose "Federal Bond" from the *State* drop down for Freight Broker Bonds (BMC-84), DMEPOS Bonds, International Carrier Bonds, etc.

#### Who is Requiring the Bond

• Choose if the bond is being required by a State Department or by a City, County, Township, or Village.

#### What Jurisdiction is Requiring the Bond

• Choose the specific Obligee requiring the bond.

### Agent of Record

• The Agent of Record is used to identify who the retail broker on the transaction is. This field is included in your bond tables and monthly reports. If you are not the agent of record, input the agency of record in the prompted field for your own tracking purposes.

#### **Bond Amounts**

• After you select the bond, you may be prompted to enter the bond amount. Some bonds have RANGE bond amounts, and the Obligee will specify what bond amount is required.

#### **Effective Date**

• Enter the Effective Date needed for the bond. If the effective date has passed before the principal completes the payment, the bond will not process.

### **Instant Issue vs Underwriting Required Bonds**

#### Instant Issue Bonds

These bonds are instantly issued without consideration of underwriting aside from the basic eligibility of an applicant. These quotes will not have an Underwriting Required disclaimer once you receive the initial quote after clicking *Get Quote Now*. You will still be required to *Send Quote* to the principal for them to E-Sign the indemnity and pay before the bond before the transaction is completed and the bond is ready for download.

### **Underwriter Required Bonds**

These bonds require our underwriters review the submission to determine eligibility and the premium for the bond. An *Underwriting Disclaimer* is shown once you click *Get Quote Now*. The initial price is an indication of our best rate on that bond; however, your price may vary based upon underwriter review. You may be instructed to gather *Required Documents* for upload before you proceed. Please do not proceed until you have gathered the required documents. In addition, a "*Soft" Credit Check acknowledgment* will be required as you complete the online application. You may complete the acknowledge on behalf of the applicant.

### **Basic Eligibility Questions**

We ask standard eligibility questions to determine an applicant's eligibility upfront. This helps to eliminate applicant's we will not bind in order to save everyone time. These questions vary by Bond Type, so they will always be relevant to the bond you are quoting.

### **Basic Information**

Input the information about the applicant. If the applicant is a Company, you will input the Owner's information and choose which owner will be signing the Indemnity Agreement on behalf of the Company.

### **Auxiliary Questions**

These are questions specific to the bond you selected. There may be additional information that is required on the bond form, or questions that assist with the underwriting of the bond.

### Send Quote Link

**Send Quote** sends the agent who is doing the quote an email with a Link to complete the remaining steps in the application or purchase. You may choose to send the link directly to the recipient from the **Send Quote** prompt by entering their email as an additional recipient.

You may choose to Send Quote:

#### 1. After the Initial Quote indication (Get Quote Now)

- a. Instant Issue Bonds: Allows the Principal to complete all the steps themselves, including the purchase of the bond
- b. UW Required Bonds: Allows the Principal to complete the application, upload required documents, and submit it to our underwriters

### 2. When the bond is ready for Purchase

- a. Instant Issue Bonds: After the agent completes Basic Eligibility, Basic Information, and Auxiliary Questions
- b. UW Required Bonds: After the application has been approved by an underwriter by going to your *Pending Bonds Table* and clicking the *Action* button next to the bond that has been *UW Approved*

### **Indemnity Agreement**

Have your client sign the indemnity agreement using the **Send Quote** link. Indemnity Agreements are standard with all surety bonds, but Bond Ramp simplifies this process by allowing the indemnitor to electronically sign the indemnity agreement before they pay.

### View the Bond Form

To ensure the client receives the the correct bond form, view the bond form prior to payment. This step is provided when the *Send Quote* link is accessed.

### **Payment**

Payment is done on a direct pay basis and must be completed before the bond will process. Have your client pay using debit card, credit card, or PayPal.

### **Bond Issuance and Delivery**

The bond is immediately available to whomever paid for the bond. In addition, all bond documents, including the bond form, are available in your Purchased Bond table.

### **Bond Tables**

### **Quoted Bonds Table**

This table shows bonds that were initially quoted without the quote being sent out or bonds that were denied due to basic eligibility.

### Action on Quoted Bonds:

• You may *Resume a Quote* by navigating the *Action* column

### Statuses on Quoted Bonds:

- Indicated Quote Link was not generated
- Expired Quotes with an effective date past the current date
- Denied Quote was rejected due to Basic Eligibility

#### Pending Bonds Table

This table allows you to easily track bonds that you generated a *Quote Link* for or bonds that are in the *Underwriter Review* process.

#### Action on Pending Bonds:

• You may *Retrieve a Link* that was generated by navigating to the *Action* column

#### Statuses on Pending Bonds:

- UW Review: The application is being reviewed by our underwriters
- **UW Approved**: The application has been approved by our underwriters. This bond is ready to be sent to the principal for processing
- **Pending**: The Quote Link has been generated but no further action has been taken by the principal to finish the bond purchase
- **UW Denied**: The application was denied by our underwriters
- Expired: The application had an effective date that is passed the current date

#### Purchased Bonds Table

This table provides a log of all your purchased bonds along with the Bond Form, Receipt, and Application.

### **Contact Us**

Submit help requests through the *Contact Us* feature on the menu.

Technical Support:

• For items that involve system issues, such as page errors or when data isn't populating correctly in your bond tables.

Other:

• For items that involve bond questions, pricing, or underwriting.

### **Report a Claim**

In the event you are notified of a claim on one of your bonds, please submit all information immediately for our claims team to review.