

# **Client Services Guide**

**JULY 2019** 

Corporate Headquarters Essent Guaranty, Inc. Two Radnor Corporate Cen

#### **Operations Center**

Essent Guaranty, Inc. 101 South Stratford Road Winston-Salem, NC 27104 877.569.6547

### Mortgage Insurance provided by Essent Guaranty, Inc.

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### **1.0 Introduction to Essent's Client Services Guide**

Essent is committed to providing an exceptional quality of service. To achieve this goal, Essent provides state-of-the-art MI Insurance processing capabilities coupled with a superior Client Services staff. The Client Services Specialists are dedicated to prompt, complete, individualized responses to inquiries regarding any phase of MI servicing. Essent specializes in accommodating lenders' MI needs through streamlined processes.

We hope these instructions and explanations are helpful to you in realizing the full benefit of your Essent MI coverage.

The Client Services department is available to assist you Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. EST. Our team is highly experienced in MI Servicing and our number one goal is to consistently provide you with excellent service.

We can be reached toll-free 877-569-6547 and our email address is clientservices@essent.us.

Our mailing address:

**Regular mail:** P.O. Box 881 Winston-Salem, NC 27102 **Overnight:** 101 South Stratford Road Suite 400 Winston-Salem, NC 27104

### 2.0 Master Policy Processing

The Master Policy is our legal contract with the loan originator and those who purchase the loans we insure. It sets forth the responsibilities, expectations and duties of the Insured; the Servicer, and Essent.

### Master Policy Approval Process

The Master Policy approval process is initiated by an Essent Account Manager. The following documents may be requested as part of the MP approval process:

- Master Policy Application
- Lender Information Form
- 2 or more resumes of lender's mortgage management team
- Audit report/lender's financial statements

Once the requested documents are received, Essent's Risk Department will review for approval. You will be assigned a 10-digit Master Policy number, and you will receive the following documents:

- Master Policy
- Clarity of Coverage Endorsement
- Privacy Policy
- Cancellation Schedule

Our Risk Department will also send a Terms and Conditions letter to the original Insured once the Master Policy has been issued, outlining the terms of coverage and providing delegated underwriting authority, if applicable.



If a lender has branch offices that will be submitting Applications, each office will be assigned its own unique branch Master Policy number. Branch locations will receive a letter indicating their assigned branch Master Policy number.

Our Rate Finder with EssentEDGE<sup>®</sup> and Underwriting Guidelines are available though our website, essent.us under Rates and Guidelines. This insures you will always receive the most up-to-date information. You may also request contact information for your Essent Account Manager by contacting <u>clientservices@essent.us</u>.

In the event of a name change, merger or acquisition after a Master Policy is issued, it is the lender's responsibility to notify Essent and provide documentation supporting the requested change. Depending on the change, a revised Master Policy may or may not be issued. Essent should also be notified of address changes for the Main Office or branches.

If you are a Servicer only, have received prior approval and been assigned a Servicer number, we will not issue you a Master Policy.

# 3.0 Activation

Essent has several premium plans available for a lender to choose from when submitting an Application. A description and activation requirements are listed in the table below:

PRODUCT	ACTIVATION REQUIREMENTS
Single Premium	Premium remittance, Loan Closing date and new Servicer information if applicable.
Split Premium	Upfront initial premium remittance, Loan Closing date and new Servicer information if applicable.
Annual	Initial premium remittance, Loan Closing date and new Servicer information if applicable.
Monthly	Upfront initial premium remittance, Loan Closing date and new Servicer information if applicable.
Deferred Monthly	Loan Closing date and new Servicer information if applicable. No Premium Required.

The required information must be submitted to Essent within thirty days of the Loan Closing date. For all product types that require premium to activate, the remittance can be mailed to either address provided in the Introduction to this guide on page 1.

If the product is a deferred monthly, coverage can be activated through our Essent Servicing Online website. If you are not registered, please contact <u>clientservices@essent.us</u>. You may also complete and email the Activation Notice page of the Commitment and Certificate of Insurance as shown on page 3 to <u>clientservices@essent.us</u>, or fax to us at 336-747-1219.

If activation does not occur within forty-five days of the Loan Closing date, we require a Loan payment history showing the Borrower has made the first mortgage payment on time. The Loan payment history can be emailed to <u>clientservices@essent.us</u> or faxed to 336-747-1219. Once the Loan payment history is reviewed, and approved or denied, you will be contacted by a Client Services member. If approved, the coverage will be activated by Client Services.



Below is a sample of our Activation Notice that is part of our Commitment and Certificate of Insurance.

Ç	ESSENT ESSENT QUARANTY, INC.	Commitment and Certificate Lender Lean Number: Maater Policy Number:	898698989
	ACTIVATION	NOTICE	
	Notice to Master Policyholders:		
	Essent's Commitment activates into a Certificate of Insurance when the Insure the Commitment and Certificate of Insurance policy form.	ad pays the initial premium and makes the Certific	ation contained on
	To facilitate timely activation, please instruct your closing agent to comp	plete and return this document immediately aft	ar closing.
	Insurance Activation Information The following information should be provided after closing.		
	Loan Closing Date		
	Servicer Loan Number		
	Premium Due for Certification		
	To activate your Deferred Monthly Certificate you may: <ul> <li>Activate online at <u>www.essent.us</u>, go to LOG IN ESSENT ONLINE,</li> <li>Return this Activation Notice either by: <ul> <li>Email to <u>clientservices@essent.us</u></li> <li>Fax to [336] 747-1219</li> <li>Meil at address below</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	and then LOG IN TO MI SERVICING, $\sigma r$	
	If you need assistance, contact Client Services at 877-569-6547 or Email client For plans other than Deferred Monthly Premium Plan;	itservices@essent.us.	
	Mail check and this Activation Notice to:		
	Essent Client Services 101 S. Stratford Road, Suite 400 Winston Salem, NC 27104		
	Servicing		
	Please identify the Servicer for this Loan.		
	Servicer Name	1	
	Address		
	City/State/Zip		
	Servicer Loan Number		
	If mortgage insurance is no longer required, please indicate "Cancel" and fax	to Essent at the Number above.	
	© Essent Guaranty, Inc.   101 South Stratford Road, Suite 400, Winston Sale EGI-5006.001(07/14)		Page 1 of 1
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You must complete the top section of the Activation Notice and return to Essent Client Services. If the Loan is being sold to another Servicer, you will need to complete the Servicing section.

### 4.0 Billing Process

Essent provides multiple billing options for you to choose from when you become an approved Servicer:

- Standard mailed invoice, email invoice (PDF or Excel) and EDI
- Billing dates available are 1st, 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th
- · Invoices can reflect all premiums due on Certificates or the current month premium due only



Essent also offers the option of Current Month Billing or Delayed Billing. A description of both options is outlined below.

### **Current Month Billing:**

#### **Regular Monthly:**

• Two months premiums should have been collected at Closing. The Loan Closing date is June 21st, so the Borrower's first mortgage payment is due in August. The two premiums will be applied to the June and July premium. In August, you will be billed for the August premium due.

#### **Deferred Monthly:**

• There is no premium collected at Closing. The Loan Closing date is June 21st. The premium due date will be July 1st. You will be billed in July for the July premium due. You will have until August 31st to pay the invoice which allows sufficient time for you to collect the Borrower's first mortgage payment.

#### Standard Annual:

• The Loan Closing date is June 21st. The first annual premium should have been collected at Closing and sent to Essent to activate the coverage. You will be billed in May of the following year for the June annual premium.

#### Split Premium:

• The upfront premium is collected at Closing and sent to Essent to activate coverage. The billing process for the deferred monthly premium portion is the same as stated above.

### **Delayed Billing:**

#### **Regular Monthly:**

• Two months premium should have been collected at Closing and one payment should be sent to Essent to activate coverage. The Loan Closing date is June 21st so the Borrower's first mortgage payment is due in August. The premium sent to Essent will be applied to the June premium. You will be billed in August for the July premium.

#### **Deferred Monthly:**

• There is no premium collected at Closing. The Loan Closing date is June 21st. The premium due date is July 1st. You will be billed in August for the July premium. The invoice will be due August 31st.

#### Standard Annual:

• The Loan Closing date is June 21st. The first annual premium should have been collected at Closing. You will be billed in June of the following year for the June annual premium. The invoice will be due no later than June 30th.

#### Split Premium:

• The upfront premium is collected at Closing and remitted to activate coverage. The billing process for the deferred monthly premium portion is the same as stated above.

Before selecting the Delayed Billing option you may want to consider that you only have thirty days to remit premium.

In order to best meet your needs, please contact us at <u>clientservices@essent.us</u> to discuss how you would like your billing account set up. If you are an EDI client, please have your Service Bureau and Client Number, or Institution Number available so we can work together to initiate the process.



Below is an example of our standard invoice.

ESSENT GUARA	ESSENT CUARANTY, INC. 101 Soch Statistic Road, Salte-400, Windon-Solant, NC 20104 (Tal Free] 877-869-8047 (Pai) S36-V47-7278 (B-mai) denterwices@neworf.ae									PREMIUM DUE NOTICE 07/14/2014		
	SERVICER ADDRESS ADDRESS ADDRESS CITY, ST 2 AB: NAM	LINE 1 LINE 2 LINE 3 ZIP			- 1	Renewal	Siling		Servicer Ansured Maeter Policy Number	Pron. Duo D	Nato	
Bonower Name	Loan Namber	Certificate Duo Data	Certificate Number	Current Balance	Pton Ratz%	Tax/S Ass Ratio	anthangsi summent Arril	Promium Duo	Vietos		Ecoplans See Instruction	
AST NAME FIRST NAME				\$.00	.0000 *	.0000	\$.00					
AST NAME FIRST NAME				\$.00	.0000 *	.0000	\$20					
AST NAME FIRST NAME				\$.00	* 0030.	0301	\$.00					
AST NAME FIRST NAME		-		\$ 10	- 0030.	0000	\$.00					
					Renit	Signed Capy					Рарк	
	Inter Q: Honorelet and the page on the billing, places provide Deal Canodi Man.     Processory: Places worthy can be unclear via an extender via control and control Processory.     Programmer Record provides the bag page of the provide places by promise roles of exceptions and exception of the control and control Processory.     Provide Dealer D											
Exception & Note Column Verity Level Premium Annual Declining Premium	Enter Q : If cancelled and Please verify each service? Pay amount shown in Prem Record anniversary balance Record anniversary/current this total by 12 and record)	's loan number ium Due Cola e in appropriat balance which arround in Pro If copy.	r and correct rm. e column; n tewer is app	witiply anniversity dicable in appropria						rone Number		

### 5.0 Collection Process

All premiums are due by the Premium Due Date that is indicated on the invoice. If you are on standard invoice by mail, you can return your remittance and invoice copy in the envelope that is provided to you. If you are set up for email billing, you must return the PDF or Excel file to <u>clientservices@essent.us</u> with any reconciliation clearly marked. For check remittances, please mail to either address as shown in the Introduction on page 1.

We also accept remittance through ACH credit or wire. Please contact <u>clientservices@essent.us</u> for our account information. Once you are set up and remit through ACH or wire you will need to send notification and the backup to <u>clientservices@essent.us</u>.

# 6.0 Servicer Transfers

The transfer of Servicing in no way changes the terms or condition under which the Commitment and Certificate of Insurance was issued. The new Servicer/Insured is merely replacing the original Servicer/Insured and the representations of the original Servicer/Insured become the representations of the new Servicer/Insured.

You can request the transfer of Servicing by email, fax, EDI transaction or by logging on to Servicing Online. If you are sending a commitment by email or fax with the Closing date to activate coverage, you may complete the Servicing section on the Activation Notice received with the commitment (shown on page 3). Once a Commitment and Certificate of Insurance is transferred to a new Servicer, you can no longer obtain any information on the Commitment/Certificate.

All Servicers must be approved with Essent. If the Servicer is not approved, the Commitment/Certificate will remain with the original Servicer until the approval process has been completed.



### 7.0 Disclosures

If you have a Commitment and Certificate of Insurance and the Borrower was not disclosed the correct amount you will need to contact <u>clientservices@essent.us</u>. If the premium amount is higher than what was disclosed to the Borrower, Client Services will calculate the amount needed to buy down the premium to the disclosed amount. The calculation is based on the difference in premium times sixty months.

**Example:** Borrower was disclosed premium \$68.20 but the correct premium is \$79.50. The difference is \$11.30 per month. \$11.30 X 60 = \$678.00. That is the amount needed to buy down the premium amount to \$68.20.

Any disbursement for a disclosure needs to be sent separately from any other premium payments with an explanation that it is intended for a disclosure.

### 8.0 Reinstatements

#### Commitment and Certificate of Insurance Termination (Post-Activation):

If a Commitment and Certificate of Insurance terminates for non-payment of premium, a satisfactory Loan payment history must be provided and approved by Essent before coverage can be reinstated. The Loan payment history must include all mortgage payments beginning with the first mortgage payment through the current date. If approved, you will be notified and will be expected to remit all premiums due to bring the certificate current. Client Services can provide you with the premium due information, or send you an invoice for all premiums due. If a reinstatement request is denied, you will receive a letter of explanation.

For additional information regarding terminated or lapsed Certificates of Insurance, please refer to the original Insured Master Policy, section 46. Please contact Client Services to obtain this document.

#### Commitment and Certificate of Insurance Expiration (Prior to Activation):

If a Commitment and Certificate of Insurance has expired, but the Loan closed prior to the expiration date, Essent will activate the coverage as long as the Loan Closing date is within forty-five days of current date. If the Loan has been closed more than forty-five days, Essent will require a payment history showing the borrower has made their first mortgage payment on time. If the Loan Closing date is after the expiration date, you will need to contact <u>clientservices@essent.us</u>. Additional documents may be requested in order to activate the Commitment.

### 9.0 Assumptions/Partial Releases

Any loan assumptions, with or without a release of liability, and any partial releases affecting the subject property must be reviewed and approved by Essent prior to completion. A request in writing, detailing the particular scenario and the applicable required documentation as outlined below, should be submitted to us via email, fax, or mail, using the information provided in section 1.0 on page 1. Once we receive your request, we will underwrite the request with the then current underwriting guidelines in effect at the time of submission. The following documentation is required before a decision can be made:

### Assumptions and Release of Liability:

- Fully executed Loan Application (1003)
- Borrower Certification and Authorization Form(s)

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- Credit:
  - New/Remaining borrower's current credit report
- Income:
  - Salaried Borrower(s) Verification of Employment (VOE), or past 2 years W-2s, or past 2 years IRS tax transcripts, and most recent 30 days pay stub(s), indicating year-to-date earnings
  - Self-Employed Borrower(s) Most recent 2 years signed personal and business tax returns
- Assets:
  - Verification of deposit or most recent 2 months depository/financial statements
- Other (if applicable):
  - Fully executed Sales Contract/Purchase Agreement
  - Complete copy of Divorce Decree or Separation Agreement, or other evidence of subject property disposition

### Partial Release of Collateral:

- Letter/statement addressing the reason for the release, the dollar amount of any consideration being paid, and the details regarding the release
- Current mortgage payment history
- New subject property appraisal report, indicating the value of the parcel being released and the value of the remaining property
- Survey of the subject property, indicating the parcel to be released
- Other (if applicable):
  - Fully executed Sales Contract/Purchase Agreement

Essent reserves the right to request additional documentation as applicable. Once we receive any requested documents and a decision has been made, you will receive an email, and if approved, you will receive a Commitment/Confirmation Endorsement reflecting the changes.

### **10.0 Cancellations**

Cancellation of an active Certificate of Insurance must be requested by the Servicer. The Servicer may cancel coverage through Servicing Online, email, written request, or through EDI. Essent will not accept requests from Borrowers. If the cancellation is initiated by email or written request, the following information is required:

- Essent Certificate Number
- HPA Yes or No
- Borrower's Name
- Property Address
- Effective Date of Cancellation
- Mailing Instructions if Refund is Applicable

Please refer to our Master Policy, Section I (E) (3) (Refund of Premium upon Cancellation prohibits cancellations from being backdated more than 60 days).



# 11.0 Refunds

If a cancellation results in a refund of premium, Essent will mail a check as instructed by the Servicer. If the check is mailed to the Borrower, Essent will notify the Servicer that such action has occurred. If a check is mailed to the Borrower and is returned for incorrect address, Essent will re-issue the check and make it payable to the Servicer. The re-issued check will be mailed to the Servicer and it is the Servicer's responsibility to obtain the Borrower's mailing information.

# 12.0 Changes to Certificate

Once a Loan has closed and a Commitment has been activated into a Certificate of Insurance, any change to the Certificate must be communicated by email to <u>clientservices@essent.us</u>. You may be asked to provide specific documents depending on the change you are requesting. For example, if you are requesting a change in the Loan amount, we will ask for a copy of the original note.

For additional information regarding changes after activation of the Commitment and Certificate of Insurance, please refer to the original Insured's Master Policy, section 50 and 51. Please contact Client Services to obtain this information.

# 13.0 Mortgage Payment Records

The Insured's Servicer is required to maintain the mortgage payment history records, and make them available upon request by Essent, until the Certificate of Insurance is canceled.