This proposal modifies the C-3 RBC instructions for 2020 and creates guidance for 2019 reporting. It also includes the deletion of instructions specific to 2019 which are not applicable for 2020 and beyond.

**REASON OR JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGE **
This proposal incorporates changes into the C-3 RBC instructions for 2020 to address an issue with the phase in of the new Variable Annuities Framework and guidance for a related issue with smoothing due to the treatment of voluntary reserves.

Additional Staff Comments:
- 1-13-20: Proposal was exposed for comments (DBF)
- 2-14-20: Proposal was exposed for comments adopted (DBF)
* 3-23-20: 2019 specific instruction deletion approved by Working Group and exposed for comment with no comments received. (DBF)
- 8-5-20: Capital Adequacy Task Force adopted the proposal on 8-5-20 for year-end 2020.

** This section must be completed on all forms. Revised 2-2019
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Overview

The amount reported on Line (35) and Line (37) is calculated using the 7-step process defined below. This calculation applies to all policies and contracts that have been valued following the requirements of AG-43 or VM-21. For contracts whose reserve was determined using the Alternative Methodology (VM-21 Section 7) see step 3 while all other contracts follow steps 1 and 2, then all contracts follow steps 4 - 7.

Step 1 CTE98: The first step is to determine CTE98 by applying the one of the two methodologies described in paragraph A below.

Step 2 C-3 RBC: using the formulas in paragraph B, determine the C-3 RBC amount based on the amount calculated in step (1). Floor this amount at $0.

Step 3 Determine the C-3 RBC using the Alternative Methodology for any business subject to that requirements as described in paragraph C.

Step 4 As described in paragraph D below, the C-3 RBC amount is the sum of the amounts determined in steps 2 and 3 above, but not less than zero. The Total Asset Requirement is the Reserve based on the requirements of VM-21 prior to the application of any phase-in, plus the C-3 RBC amount.

Step 5: For a company that has elected a Phase-in for reserves following VM-21 Section 2.B., the C-3 RBC amount is to be phased-in over the same time period following the requirements in paragraph E below.

Step 6 Apply the smoothing rules (if applicable) to the C-3 RBC amount in step (4) or (5) as applicable.

Step 7 Divide the amount from Step 4, 5, or 6 (as appropriate) by (1-enacted maximum federal corporate income tax rate). Split this amount into an interest rate risk portion and a market risk portion, as described in paragraph G.

The interest rate portion of the risk should be included in Line (35) and the market risk portion in Line (37).

The C-3 RBC is calculated as follows:

A. CTE (98) is calculated as follows: Except for policies and contracts subject to the Alternative Methodology (See C. below), apply the CTE methodology described in NAIC Valuation Manual VM-21 and calculate the CTE (98) as the numerical average of the 2 percent largest values of the Scenario Reserves, as defined by Section 4 of VM-21. In performing this calculation, the process and methods used to calculate the Scenario Reserves use the requirements of VM-21 and should be the same as used for the reserve calculations. The effect of Federal Income Tax should be handled following one of the following two methods

1. If using the Macro Tax Adjustment (MTA): The modeled cash flows will ignore the effect of Federal Income Tax. As a result, for each individual scenario, the numerical value of the scenario reserve used in this calculation should be identical to that for the same scenario in the Aggregate Reserve calculation under VM-21. Federal Income Tax is reflected later in the formula in paragraph B.1.

2. If using Specific Tax Recognition (STR): At the option of the company, CTE After-Tax (98) (CTEAT (98)) may be calculated using an approach in which the effect of Federal Income Tax is reflected in the projection of Accumulated Deficiencies, as defined in Section 4.A. of VM-21, when calculating the Scenario Reserve for each
scenario. To reflect the effect of Federal Income Tax, the company should find a reasonable and consistent basis for approximating the evolution of tax reserves in the projection, taking into account restrictions around the size of the tax reserves (e.g., that tax reserve must equal or exceed the cash surrender value for a given contract). The Accumulated Deficiency at the end of each projection year should also be discounted at a rate that reflects the projected after-tax discount rates in that year. In addition, the company should add the Tax Adjustment as described below to the calculated CTEAT (98) value.

3. A company that has elected to calculate CTEAT (98) using STR may not switch back to using MTA in the projection of Accumulated Deficiencies without prominently disclosing that change in the certification and supporting memorandum. The company should also disclose the methodology adopted, and the rationale for its adoption, in the documentation required by paragraph J below.

4. Application of the Tax Adjustment: Under the U.S. IRC, the tax reserve is defined. It can never exceed the statutory reserve nor be less than the cash surrender value. If a company is using STR and if the company’s actual tax reserves exceed the projected tax reserves at the beginning of the projection, a tax adjustment is required. The CTEAT (98) must be increased on an approximate basis to correct for the understatement of modeled tax expense. The additional taxable income at the time of claim will be realized over the projection and will be approximated using the duration to worst, i.e., the duration producing the lowest present value for each scenario. The method of developing the approximate tax adjustment is described below.

The increase to CTEAT (98) may be approximated as the corporate tax rate times \( f \) times the difference between the company’s actual tax reserves and projected tax reserves at the start of the projections. For this calculation, \( f \) is calculated as follows:

For the scenarios reflected in calculating CTE (98), the scenario reserve is determined and its associated projection duration is tabulated. At each such duration, the ratio of the number of contracts in force (or covered lives for group contracts) to the number of contracts in force (or covered lives) at the start of the modeling projection is calculated. The average ratio is then calculated over all CTE (98) scenarios and \( f \) is one minus this average ratio. If the Alternative Method is used, \( f \) is approximated as 0.5.

**B. Determination of RBC amount using stochastic modeling:**

1. If using the MTA: Calculate the RBC Requirement by the following formula in which the statutory reserve is the actual reserve reported in the Annual Statement, in the second term – i.e., the difference between statutory reserves and tax reserves multiplied by the Federal Income Tax Rate – may not exceed the portion of the company’s non-admitted deferred tax assets attributable to the same portfolio of contracts to which VM-21 is applied in calculating statutory reserves:

\[
25\% \times (\text{CTE} (98) + \text{Additional Standard Projection Amount} - \text{Statutory Reserve}) \times (1 - \text{Federal Income Tax Rate})
\]

\[
- (\text{Statutory Reserve} - \text{Tax Reserve}) \times \text{Federal Income Tax Rate}
\]

2. If the company elects to use the STR: the C-3 RBC is determined by the following formula:

\[
25\% \times (\text{CTEAT} (98) + \text{Additional Standard Projection Amount} - \text{Statutory Reserve})
\]

The Additional Standard Projection Amount is calculated using the methodology outlined in Section 6 of VM-21.

**C. Determination of C-3 RBC using Alternative Methodology:** This calculation applies to all policies and contracts that have been valued following the requirements of AG-43 or VM-21, for which the reserve was determined using the Alternative Methodology (VM-21 Section 7). The C-3 RBC amount is determined by applying the methodology as defined in Appendix 2 to these instructions.
D. The C-3 RBC amount is the sum of the amounts determined in paragraphs B and C above, but not less than zero. The TAR is defined as the Reserve determined according to VM-21 plus the C-3 RBC amount. All values are prior to any consideration of Phase-in allowances for either reserve or C-3 RBC, or any C-3 RBC smoothing allowance. The RBC values are post-tax.

E. Phase in: A company that has elected to phase-in the effect of the new reserve requirements following VM-21 Section 2.B. shall phase in the effect on C-3 RBC over the same time period, using the following steps:
1. Begin with the C-3 RBC amount from step 7 for Dec. 31, 2019 LR027 Line (37) instructions for all business within the scope of the Variable Annuities modeling requirements as of 12/31/19. Add to this any voluntary reserves which were subtracted from TAR when the C-3 RBC amount reported for 2019 was determined. Also add to this the amount of C-3 RBC computed in the same manner as the 2019 value for any reinsurance ceded that is expected to be recaptured in 2020 and in the scope of the Variable Annuities modeling requirements. This amount is 2019 RBC.
2. Determine the C-3 RBC amount as of 12/31/19 using paragraphs A, B, C, and D for the same inforce business as in 1. Exclude any voluntary reserves in these calculations. Labeled as 2019 RBC New.
3. Determine the phase-in amount (PIA) as the excess of 2019 RBC New over 2019 RBC.
4. For 12/31/2020, compute the C-3 RBC following paragraphs A – D above, then subtract PIA times (2/3).
5. For 12/31/2021, compute the C-3 RBC following paragraphs A – D above, then subtract PIA times (1/3).

Guidance Note: For a company that has adopted a Phase-in for reserves longer than 3 years, adjust the above formula to reflect the actual period with uniform amortization amounts during that period.

Guidance Note: An adjustment is made for voluntary reserves. Voluntary reserve means any reserve that is not required by AG-43, VM-21 and/or a state in which the company is doing business and was subtracted from TAR in 2019 to determine the RBC.

F. Smoothing of C-3 RBC amount

A company should decide whether or not to smooth the C-3 RBC calculated in paragraph D or E above to determine the amount in Line (37). For any business reinsured under a coinsurance agreement that complies with all applicable reinsurance reserve credit “transfer of risk” requirements, the ceding company shall reduce the reserve in proportion to the business ceded while the assuming company shall use a reserve consistent with the business assumed.

A company may choose to smooth the C-3 RBC calculated in paragraph D or E above. A company is required to get approval from its domestic regulator prior to changing its decision about smoothing from the prior year. In addition, a company that has elected to smooth the risk-based capital is required to get approval from its domestic regulator prior to smoothing if it has experienced a material change in its Clearly Defined Hedging Strategy from the prior year. For this purpose, a company’s Clearly Defined Hedging Strategy is considered to have experienced a material change if any of the items outlined in VM-21 Section 1.D.2 in the current year differs from that in the prior year.

To implement smoothing, use the following steps. If a company does not qualify to smooth or a decision has been made not to smooth, go to paragraph G.
1. Determine the C-3 RBC amount calculated in paragraph D or E above.
2. Determine the aggregate reserve for the contracts covered by the Variable Annuity Stochastic modeling requirements.
3. Determine the ratio of the C-3 RBC / reserve for current year.
4. Determine the C-3 RBC as actually reported for the prior year Lines (35) plus (37) and adjust that amount to a post-tax amount by multiplying by (1- enacted maximum federal corporate income tax rate). Restate the amount to remove the effect of any voluntary reserves held in prior years that materially differ in amount from the voluntary reserves held in the current year.
5. Determine the aggregate reserve for the contracts in scope of these requirements for the prior year-end. Restate the aggregate reserve to remove any voluntary reserves held for the prior year-end that materially differ in amount from the voluntary reserves held as of the current year-end.
6. Determine the ratio of the C-3 RBC / reserve for prior year.
7. Determine a ratio as 0.4*(6) plus 0.6*(3) [40% prior year ratio and 60% current year ratio].
8. Determine the risk-based capital for current year as the product of (7) and (2) {adjust (2) to be actual 12/31 reserve}.

G. The amount determined in paragraphs D., E., or F. above for the contracts shall be divided by (1-enacted maximum federal corporate income tax rate) to arrive at a pre-tax amount. This pre-tax amount shall be split into a component for interest rate risk and a component for market risk. Neither component may be less than zero. The provision for the interest rate risk, if any, is to be reported in Line (35). The market risk component is reported in Line (37).

The amount reported in Line (37) is to be combined with the C-1cs component for covariance purposes.

H. The way grouping (of funds and of contracts), sampling, number of scenarios, and simplification methods are handled is the responsibility of the company. However, all these methods are subject to Actuarial Standards of Practice, supporting documentation and justification, and should be identical to those used in calculating the company’s statutory reserves following VM-21.

I. Certification of the work done to set the C-3 RBC amount for Variable Annuities and Similar products are the same as are required for reserves as part of VM-31. The certification should specify that the actuary is not opining on the adequacy of the company's surplus or its future financial condition.

The certification(s) should be submitted by hard copy with any state requiring an RBC hard copy.

J. An actuarial memorandum should be constructed documenting the methodology and assumptions upon which the required capital for the variable annuities and similar products is determined. Since the starting point for the C-3 RBC calculation is the cash flow modeling used for the reserves, the documentation requirements for reserves (VM-31) should be followed for the C-3 RBC. The reserve report may be incorporated by reference, with this C-3 RBC memorandum focused on identifying differences and items unique to the C-3 RBC process, or at the company’s option, the documentation of C-3 RBC may be merged into the VA Report with the differences for C-3 RBC discussed in a separate section of the Memorandum as outlined in VM-31.

These differences that would need to be identified either in the RBC Actuarial Memorandum or the VA Report will typically include:
  * the basis for considering federal income tax,
  * whether or not smoothing was applied, and the effect of that smoothing,
  * whether or not a phase in was used, and the impact on the reported values,
  * If the company elects to calculate CTEAT (98) using STR whereby the effect of Federal Income Tax is reflected in the projection of Accumulated Deficiencies, the company should still disclose in the memorandum the Total Asset Requirement and C-3 RBC that would be obtained if the company had elected to use the MTA method.
  * Documentation of the alternative methodology calculations, if applicable, and
  * Documentation of how the C-3 RBC values were allocated to the interest and market risk components.

This actuarial memorandum will be confidential and available to regulators upon request.
The lines on the alternative calculations page will not be required for **2019 or later**.

The total of all annual statement reserves representing exposure to C–3 risk on Line (36) should equal the following:

- Exhibit 5, Column 2, Line 0199999
- Page 2, Column 3, Line 6
- + Exhibit 5, Column 2, Line 0299999
- + Exhibit 5, Column 2, Line 0399999
- + Exhibit 7, Column 1, Line 14
- + Separate Accounts Page 3, Column 3, Line 1 plus Line 2 after deducting (a) funds in unitized separate accounts with no underlying guaranteed minimum return and no unreinsured guaranteed living benefits; (b) non-indexed separate accounts that are not cash flow tested with guarantees less than 4 percent; (c) non-cash-flow-tested experience rated pension reserves/liabilities; and (d) guaranteed indexed separate accounts using a Class II investment strategy.
- – Non policyholder reserves reported on Exhibit 7
- + Exhibit 5, Column 2, Line 0799997
- + Schedule S, Part 1, Section 1, Column 12
- – Schedule S, Part 3, Section 1, Column 14
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During the Life Risk-Based Capital (E) Working Group’s discussion at the Fall National Meeting, an issue was raised with respect to voluntary reserves and smoothing that may impact those companies that choose to early adopt for 2019. To highlight and address this issue, the Working Group exposed proposed modifications to the 2020 RBC instructions for comment. Additionally, as indicated, the Working Group is also now exposing the following recommendation for 2019 reporting for comment:

For insurers that meet the following three criteria:

1. Are early adopting the revised methodology for variable annuity reserves and C-3 RBC;
2. Held voluntary reserves in 2018 and intend to reduce or eliminate voluntary reserves in 2019;
3. Are currently smoothing or intend to request permission to smooth for 2019;

It is recommended those insurers do not smooth for 2019. Those insurers may then choose to begin smoothing in 2020. The smoothing instructions have been proposed to be revised for 2020 and the impact of the change will be a discontinuity in the C-3 RBC amount between 2019 and 2020 for those companies meeting the criteria identified above. A change in smoothing does require approval from the state of domicile.
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The following instructions for the Interest Rate Risk and Market Risk will remain effective independent of the status of the sunset provision, Section 8, of Actuarial Guideline XLVIII (AG 48) in a particular state or jurisdiction. This instruction will be considered for change once the amendment referenced in AG 48, Section 8, regarding credit for reinsurance, is adopted by the NAIC.

Cash Flow Modeling for C-3 RBC Requirements for Variable Annuities and Similar Products:

**Instructions for 2019:**

2019 is a transition year to a new modeling framework. A company must follow one of two options to develop the C-3 RBC amount:

A. If the company has elected to apply the requirements of VM-21 from the 2020 version of the NAIC valuation manual to determine reserves for the Variable Annuities for 12/31/19, the company shall follow the instructions beginning on page 16 labeled “Instructions for 2020 and Later” for determining the C-3 RBC requirement on the Variable Annuities and similar contracts, but may not apply the phase-in provisions of paragraph E on page 18. Otherwise,

B. The company shall follow the nine-step process below through page 15.

**Overview (2019)**

The amount reported on Line (37) is calculated using a nine step process. As in Step 3 of the Single Scenario C-3 Measurement Considerations section of Appendix 1a—Cash Flow Testing for C-3 RBC Methodology, existing AVR-related assets should not be included in the initial assets used in the C-3 modeling unless AVR has been excluded from TAC due to its use in the asset adequacy analysis supporting reserves. AVR-related assets may be included with C-3 testing to the extent that the AVR has been used in the cash flow testing and is therefore excluded from TAC, and that portion of the AVR related assets relates to the business being tested. These assets are available for future credit loss deviations over and above expected credit losses. These deviations are covered by C-1 risk capital. Similarly, future AVR contributions should not be modeled. However, the expected credit losses should be in the C-3 modeling. (Deviations from expected are covered by both the AVR and C-1 risk capital and should not be modeled).

IMR assets should be used for C-3 modeling. If negative cash flows are handled by selling assets, then appropriate modeling of contributions to and amortization of the IMR need to be reflected in the modeling.
(1) The first step is determined by applying the methodology described in the report “Recommended Approach for Setting Risk-Based Capital Requirements for Variable Annuities and Similar Products Presented by the American Academy of Actuaries’ Life Capital Adequacy Subcommittee to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners’ Capital Adequacy Task Force (June 2005)” to calculate the total asset requirement. Although Appendix 2 in the Report notes path dependent models under a different set of initialization parameters might produce scenarios that do not satisfy all the calibration points shown in Table 1, to be in compliance with the requirements in this first step, the actual scenarios used for diversified U.S. equity funds must meet the calibration criteria. The scenarios need not strictly satisfy all calibration points in Table 1 of Appendix 2, but the actuary should be satisfied that any differences do not materially reduce the resulting capital requirements. See the Preamble to the Accounting Practices and Procedures Manual for an explanation of materiality. Include the Tax Adjustment as described in the report using the enacted maximum federal corporate income tax rate. If using the Alternative Method for GMDB Risks, use 1 minus the enacted maximum federal corporate income tax rate in place of the 65% adjustment contained in paragraph 4 (page 55) and the enacted maximum federal corporate income tax rate in place of 35% Income Tax Rate shown in Table 8-9 (page 78). The discount rate in Table 8-9 should also be adjusted for the appropriate enacted maximum federal corporate income tax rate.

(2) The second step is to reduce the amount calculated in (1) above by the interest rate portion of the risk (i.e., only the separate account market risk is included in this step).

(3) The third step is to calculate the Standard Scenario Amount.

(4) Take the greater of the amounts from steps (2) and (3).

(5) Apply the smoothing and transition rules (if applicable) to the amount in step (4).

(6) Add the general account interest rate portion of the risk to the amount in step (5).

(7) Subtract the reported statutory reserves for the business subject to the Report from the amount calculated in step (6). Floor this amount at $0.

(8) Divide the result from step (7) by \((1 - \text{enacted maximum federal corporate income tax rate})\) to arrive at a pre-tax amount.

(9) Split the result from step (8) into an interest rate risk portion and a market risk portion. Note that the interest rate portion may not equal the interest rate portion of the risk used in steps (2) and (6) above even after adjusting these to a pre-tax basis. The interest rate portion of the risk should be included in Line (35) and the market risk portion in Line (37).

The lines on the alternative calculations page will not be required for 2019.

Calculation of the Total Asset Requirement

The method of calculating the Total Asset Requirement is explained in detail in the AAA’s June 2005 report, referenced above. In summary, it is as follows:

A. Aggregate the results of running stochastic scenarios using prudent best estimate assumptions (the more reliable the underlying data is, the smaller the need for margins for conservatism) and calibrated fund performance distribution functions. If utilizing prepackaged scenarios as outlined in the American Academy of Actuaries’ report, Construction and Use of Pre-Packaged Scenarios to Support the Determination of Regulatory Risk Based Capital Requirements for Variable Annuities and Similar Products, Jan. 13, 2006, the Enhanced C-3 Phase I Interest Rate Generator should be used in generating any interest rate scenarios or regenerating pre-packaged fund scenarios for funds that include the impact of bond yields. Details concerning the Enhanced C-3 Phase I Interest Rate Generator can be found on the American Academy of Actuaries webpage at the following address http://www.actuary.org/pdf/life/c3supp_jan06.pdf. The Enhanced C-3 Phase I Interest Rate Generator with its ability to use the yield curve as of the run date and to regenerate pre-packaged fund returns using interest rate scenarios based on the current yield curve replaces the usage of the March 2005 pre-packaged scenarios.
B. Calculate required capital for each scenario by calculating accumulated statutory surplus, including the effect of federal income taxes at the enacted maximum federal corporate income tax rate, for each calendar year-end and its present value. The negative of the lowest of these present values is the asset requirement for that scenario. These values are recorded for each scenario and the scenarios are then sorted on this measure. For this purpose, statutory surplus is modeled as if the statutory reserve were equal to the working reserve.

C. The Total Asset Requirement is set at the 90 Conditional Tail Expectation by taking the average of the worst 10 percent of all the scenarios’ asset requirements (capital plus starting reserve). Risk-based capital is calculated as the excess of the Total Asset Requirement above the statutory reserves. For products with no guaranteed living benefit, or just a guaranteed death benefit, an alternative method is allowed, as described in the AAA report.

D. Risk-based capital is calculated as the excess of the Total Asset Requirement above the statutory reserves. Except for the effect of the Standard Scenario and the Smoothing and Transition Rules (see below), this RBC is to be combined with the C-1cs component for covariance purposes.

E. A provision for the interest rate risk of the guaranteed fixed fund option, if any, is to be calculated and combined with the current C-3 component of the formula.

F. The way grouping (of funds and of contracts), sampling, number of scenarios, and simplification methods are handled is the responsibility of the actuary. However, all these methods are subject to Actuarial Standards of Practice, supporting documentation and justification.

G. Certification of the work done to set the RBC level will be required to be submitted with the RBC filing. Refer to Appendices 10 and 11 of the AAA LCAS C-3 Phase II RBC Report (June 2005) for further details of the certification requirements. The certification should specify that the actuary is not opining on the adequacy of the company’s surplus or its future financial condition. The actuary will also note any material change in the model or assumptions from that used previously and the impact of such changes (excluding changes due to a change in these NAIC instructions). Changes will require regulatory disclosure and may be subject to regulatory review and approval. Additionally, if hedging is reflected in the stochastic modeling, additional certifications are required from an actuary and financial officer of the company.

The certification(s) should be submitted by hard copy with any state requiring an RBC hard copy.

H. An actuarial memorandum should be constructed documenting the methodology and assumptions upon which the required capital is determined. The memorandum should also include sensitivity tests that the actuary feels appropriate, given the composition of their block of business (i.e., identifying the key assumptions that, if changed, produce the largest changes in the RBC amount). This memorandum will be confidential and available to regulators upon request.

Application of the Tax Adjustment

Tax Adjustment: Under the U.S. IRC, the tax reserve is defined. It can never exceed the statutory reserve nor be less than the cash surrender value. If tax reserves assumed in the projection are set equal to Working Reserves and if tax reserves actually exceed Working Reserves at the beginning of the projection, a tax adjustment is required.

A tax adjustment is not required in the following situations:

- Tax reserves are projected directly; that is, it is not assumed that projected tax reserves are equal to Working Reserves, whether these are cash values or other approximations.
- Tax reserves at the beginning of the projection period are equal to Working Reserves.
- Tax reserves at the beginning of the projection period are lower than Working Reserves. This situation is only possible for contracts without cash surrender values and when these contracts are significant enough to dominate other contracts where tax reserves exceed Working Reserves. In this case the modeled tax results are overstated each year for reserves in the projection, as well as the projected tax results reversed at the time of claim.
If a tax adjustment is required, the Total Asset Requirement (TAR) must be increased on an approximate basis to correct for the understatement of modeled tax expense. The additional taxable income at the time of claim will be realized over the projection and will be measured approximately using the duration to worst, i.e., the duration producing the lowest present value for each scenario. The method of developing the approximate tax adjustment is described below.

The increase to TAR may be approximated as the corporate tax rate times \( f \) times the difference between tax reserves and Working Reserves at the start of the projections. For this calculation, \( f \) is calculated as follows: For the scenarios reflected in calculating 90 CTE, the lowest of these present values of accumulated statutory surplus is determined for each calendar year-end and its associated projection duration is tabulated. At each such duration, the ratio of the number of contracts in force (or covered lives for group contracts) to the number of contracts in force (or covered lives) at the start of the modeling projection is calculated. The average ratio is then calculated, over all 90 CTE scenarios, and \( f \) is one minus this average ratio. If instead, RBC is determined under the standard scenario method then \( f \) is based on the ratio at the worst duration under that scenario. If the Alternative Method is used, \( f \) is approximated as 0.5.

**Calculation of the Standard Scenario Amount**

**Standard Scenario for C-3 Phase II Risk Based Capital (RBC) Determination**

I) **Overview**

A) **Application to Determine RBC**:

A Standard Scenario Amount shall be determined for all of the contracts under the scope described in the June 2005 report, “Recommended Approach for Setting Risk-Based Capital Requirements for Variable Annuities and Similar Products.” If the Standard Scenario Amount is greater than the Total Asset Requirement less any amount included in the TAR but attributable to and allocated to C-3 (Interest Rate Risk) otherwise determined based on the Report, then the Total Asset Requirement before tax adjustment used to determine C-3 Phase II (Market Risk) RBC shall be the Standard Scenario Amount.

The Standard Scenario Amount shall be the sum of the following:

1. For contracts for which RBC is based on the Alternative Methodology applied without a model office using 100 percent of the MGDB mortality table, the Standard Scenario Amount shall be the sum of the total asset requirement before tax adjustment from the Alternative Methodology applied to such contracts.
2. For contracts without guaranteed death benefits for which RBC is based on the Alternative Methodology applied without a model office, the Standard Scenario Amount shall be the sum of the total asset requirements before tax adjustment from the Alternative Methodology applied to such contracts.
3. For contracts under the scope of the Report other than contracts for which paragraphs 1 and 2 apply, the Standard Scenario Amount is determined by use of The Standard Scenario Method described in Section III. The Standard Scenario Method requires a single projection of account values based on specified returns on the assets supporting the account values. On the valuation date an initial drop is applied to the account values based on the supporting assets. Subsequently, account values are projected at the rate earned on supporting assets less a margin. Additionally, the projection includes the cash flows for certain contract provisions, including any guaranteed living and death benefits using the assumptions in Section III. Thus, the calculation of the Standard Scenario Amount will reflect the greatest present value of the accumulated projected cost of guaranteed benefits less the accumulated projected revenue produced by the margins in accordance with Subsection III (D).

B) **The Standard Scenario Amount under the Standard Scenario Method**:

The Standard Scenario Amount for all contracts subject to the Standard Scenario Method is determined as of the valuation date under the Standard Scenario Method described in Section III based on a rate, \( DR \). \( DR \) is the annual effective equivalent of the 10-year constant maturity treasury rate reported by the Federal Reserve for the month of valuation plus 50 basis points. However, \( DR \) shall not be less than 3 percent or more than 9 percent. If the 10-year constant maturity treasury rate is no longer available, then a substitute rate determined by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners shall be used. The accumulation rate, \( AR \), is the product of \( DR \) and one minus the tax rate defined in paragraph III(D)(10).
No modification is allowed from the requirements in Section III unless the Domiciliary Commissioner approves such modification as necessary to produce a reasonable result.

C) Illustrative Application of the Standard Scenario Method to a Projection, Model Office and Contract by Contract.

To provide information on the significance of aggregation, a determination of the Standard Scenario Amount based on paragraphs III(B)(1) and III(B)(2) is required for each contract subject to paragraph I(A)(3). The sum of all such Standard Scenario Amounts is described as row B in Table A. In addition, if the Conditional Tail Expectation Amount in the Report is determined based on a projection of an inforce prior to the statement date and/or by the use of a model office, which is a grouping of contracts into representative cells, then additional determinations of the Standard Scenario Amount shall be performed on the prior inforce and/or model office. The calculations are for illustrative purposes to assist in validating the reasonableness of the projection and/or the model office and to determine the significance of aggregation.

Table A identifies the Standard Scenario Amounts required by this section. The Standard Scenario Amounts required are based on how the Conditional Tail Expectation projection or Alternative Methodology is applied. For completeness, the table also includes the Standard Scenario Amount required by paragraph I(A)(3). The amounts in Table A should be included as part of the certifying actuary's annual supporting memorandum specified in paragraph (H) of the “Calculation of the Total Asset Requirement” section of the RBC instructions.

- Standard Scenario Amounts in rows A and B in Table A are required of all companies subject to paragraph I(A)(3). No additional Standard Scenario Amounts are required if a company's stochastic or alternative methodology result is calculated on the statement date using individual contracts (i.e., without a model office).
- A company that uses a model office as of the statement date to determine its stochastic or alternative methodology result must provide the Standard Scenario Amount for the model office. This is row C.
- A company that uses an aggregation by duration of contract by contract projection of a prior inforce to determine its stochastic or alternative methodology with result PS and then projects requirements to the statement date with result S must provide the Standard Scenario Amount for the prior inforce, row D.
- A company that uses a model office of a prior inforce to determine its stochastic or alternative methodology requirements with result PM and then projects requirements to the statement date with result S must provide the Standard Scenario Amount for the model office on the prior inforce date, row E.
Table A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Scenario Amounts</th>
<th>Guideline Variations</th>
<th>Validation Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Model Office Projection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Aggregate valuation on the statement date on inforce contracts required in I(A)(3)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Seriatim valuation on the statement date on inforce contracts</td>
<td>None: Compare to A</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Aggregate valuation on the statement date on the model office</td>
<td>If not material to model office validation</td>
<td>A/C compare to 1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Aggregate valuation on a prior inforce date on prior inforce contracts</td>
<td>If not material to projection validation</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Aggregate valuation on a prior inforce date of a model office</td>
<td>If not material to model office or projection validation</td>
<td>(A/E—S/PM) compare to 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Modification of the requirements in Section III when applied to a prior inforce or a model office is permitted if such modification facilitates validating the projection of inforce or the model office. All such modifications should be documented. No modification is allowed for row B as of the statement date unless the Domiciliary Commissioner approved such modification as necessary to produce a reasonable result under the corresponding amount in row A.

II) Basic Adjusted Reserve

For purposes of determining the Standard Scenario Amount for Risk-Based Capital, the Basic Adjusted Reserve for a contract shall be the Working Reserve, as described in the Report, as of the valuation date.

III) Standard Scenario Amount—Application of the Standard Scenario Method

A) General

Where not inconsistent with the guidance given here, the process and methods used to determine results under the Standard Scenario Method shall be the same as required in the calculation under the modeling methodology required by the Report. Any additional assumptions needed to apply the Standard Scenario Method to the inforce shall be explicitly documented.
B) Results for the Standard Scenario Method.

The Standard Scenario Amount is equal to (1) + (2) – (3) where:

1) Is the sum of the Basic Adjusted Reserve as described in Section II for all contracts for which the Standard Scenario Amount is being determined,

2) Is zero or if greater the aggregate greatest present value for all contracts measured as of the end of each projection year of the negative of the Accumulated Net Revenue described below using the assumptions described in Subsection III(D) and a discount rate equal to the Accumulation Rate, AR. The Accumulated Net Revenue at the end of a projection year equals (i) + (ii) – (iii) where:
   
   (i) Is the Accumulated Net Revenue at the end of the prior projection year accumulated at the rate AR to the end of the current projection year. The Accumulated Net Revenue at the beginning of the projection (i.e., time 0) is zero.
   
   (ii) Are the margins generated during the projection year on account values as defined in paragraph III(D)(1) multiplied by one minus the tax rate and accumulated at rate AR to the end of current projection year, and
   
   (iii) Are the contract benefits paid in excess of account value applied plus the Individual reinsurance premiums (ceded less assumed) payable or receivable during the projection year multiplied by one minus the tax rate and accumulated at rate AR to the end of current projection year. Individual reinsurance is defined in paragraph III(D)(2).

3) Is the value of approved hedges and Aggregate reinsurance as described in paragraph III(E)(2). Aggregate reinsurance is defined in paragraph III(D)(2).

C) The actuary shall determine the projected reinsurance premiums and benefits reflecting all treaty limitations and assuming any options in the treaty to the other party are exercised to decrease the value of reinsurance to the reporting company (e.g., options to increase premiums or terminate coverage). The positive value of any reinsurance treaty that is not guaranteed to the insurer or its successor shall be excluded from the value of reinsurance. The commissioner may require the exclusion of any portion of the value of reinsurance if the terms of the reinsurance treaties are too restrictive (e.g., time or amount limits on benefits correlate to the Standard Scenario Method).

D) Assumptions for Paragraph III (B) (2) Margins and Account Values.

1) Margins on Account Values. The bases for return assumptions on assets supporting account values are shown in Table I. The Initial returns shall be applied to the account values assigned to each asset class on the valuation date as immediate drops, resulting in the Account Values at time 0. The "Year 1" and "Year 2+" returns are gross annual effective rates of return and are used (along with other decrements and/or increases) to produce the Account Values as of the end of each projection year. For purposes of this section, money market funds shall be considered part of the Bond class.

   The Fixed Fund rate is the greater of the minimum rate guaranteed in the contract or 3.5 percent but not greater than the current rates being credited to Fixed Funds on the valuation date.

   Account Values shall be accumulated after the initial drop using the rates from Table I with appropriate reductions applied to the supporting assets. The appropriate reductions for account values supported by assets in the Equity, Bond or Balance Classes are all fund and contract charges according to the provisions of the funds and contracts. The appropriate reduction for Account Values supported by Fixed Funds is zero.
The margins on Account Values are defined as follows:

a) During the Surrender Charge Period:
   i. 0.10% of Account Value; plus
   ii. The maximum of:
       • 0.20% of Account Value; or
       • Explicit and optional contract charges for guaranteed living and death benefits.

b) After the Surrender Charge Period:
   i. The amount determined in (a) above; plus
   ii. The lesser of:
       • 0.65% of Account Values; and
       • 50% of the excess, if any, of all contract charges over (a) above.

However, on fixed funds after the surrender charge period, a margin of up to the amount in (a) above plus 0.4% may be used.

Table I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equity Class</th>
<th>Initial</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bond Class</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>4.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balanced Class</td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Separate Accounts and General Account</td>
<td>Fixed Fund Rate</td>
<td>Fixed Fund Rate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2) Reinsurance Credit. Individual reinsurance is defined as reinsurance where the total premiums for and benefits of the reinsurance can be determined by applying the terms of the reinsurance to each contract covered without reference to the premiums or benefits of any other contract covered and summing the results over all contracts covered. Reinsurance that is not Individual reinsurance is Aggregate reinsurance.

Individual reinsurance premiums projected to be payable on ceded risk and receivable on assumed risk shall be included in the subparagraph III(B)(2)(iii). Similarly, Individual reinsurance benefits projected to be receivable on ceded risk and payable on assumed risk shall be included in subparagraph III(B)(2)(iii). No Aggregate reinsurance shall be included in subparagraph III(B)(2)(iii).
3) Lapses, Partial Withdrawals, and Moneyness. Partial withdrawals elected as guaranteed living benefits or required contractually (e.g., a contract operating under an automatic withdrawal provision on the valuation date) are to be included in subparagraph III(B)(2)(iii). No other partial withdrawals, including free partial withdrawals, are to be included. All lapse rates shall be applied as full contract surrenders.

A contract is in the money (ITM) if it includes a guaranteed living benefit and at any time the portion of the future projected account value under the Standard Scenario Method required to obtain the benefit would be less than the value of the guaranteed benefit at the time of exercise or payment. If the projected account value is 90 percent of the value of the guaranteed benefit at the time of exercise or payment, the contract is said to be 10 percent in the money. If the income from applying the projected account value to guaranteed purchase rates exceeds the income from applying the projected benefit base to GMIB purchase rates for the same type of annuity, then there is no GMIB cost and the GMIB is not in the money. A contract not in the money is out of the money (OTM). If a contract has multiple living benefit guarantees then the contract is ITM to the extent that any of the living benefit guarantees are ITM. Lapses shall be at the annual effective rates given in Table II.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table II — Lapse Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death Benefit Only Contracts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Guaranteed Living Benefits OTM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITM≤10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any Guaranteed Account Balance Benefits ITM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any Other Guaranteed Living Benefits ITM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) Account Transfers and Future Deposits. No transfers between funds shall be assumed to determine the greatest present value amount required under paragraph III(B)(2) unless required by the contract (e.g., transfers from a dollar cost averaging fund or contractual rights given to the insurer to implement a contractually specified portfolio insurance management strategy or a contract operating under an automatic re-balancing option). When transfers must be modeled, to the extent not inconsistent with contract language, the allocation of transfers to funds must be in proportion to the contract’s current allocation to funds.

Margins generated during a projection year on funds supporting account values are transferred to the Accumulation of Net Revenue at year-end and are subsequently accumulated at the Accumulation Rate. Assets for each class supporting account values are to be reduced in proportion to the amount held in each asset class at the time of transfer of margins or any portion of Account Value applied to the payment of benefits.

No future deposits shall be assumed unless required by the terms of the contract to prevent contract or guaranteed benefit lapse, in which case they must be modeled. When future deposits must be modeled, to the extent not inconsistent with contract language, the allocation of the deposit to funds must be in proportion to the contract’s current allocation to funds.

5) Mortality. Mortality at 80 percent of the 1994 MGDB tables through age 95 increasing by 1 percent each year to 100 percent of the 1994 MGDB table at age 115 shall be assumed in the projection used to determine the greatest present value amount required under paragraph III(B)(2).
6) Projection Frequency. The projection used to determine the greatest present value amount required under paragraph III(B)(2) shall be calculated using an annual or more frequent time step, such as quarterly. For time steps more frequent than annual, assets supporting Account Values at the start of each projection year may be retained in such funds until year-end (i.e., pre-tax margin earned during the year will earn the fund rates instead of the Discount Rate until year-end) or removed after each time step. However, the same approach shall be applied for all years. Subsequent to each projection year-end, Accumulated Net Revenues for the year shall earn the Accumulation Rate. Similarly, projected benefits, lapses, elections and other contract activity can be assumed to occur annually or at the end of each time step, but the approach shall be consistent for all years.

7) Surrender Charge Period. If the surrender charge for the contract is determined based on individual contributions or deposits to the contracts, the surrender charge amortization period may be estimated for projection purposes. Such estimated period shall not be less than the remaining duration based on the normal amortization pattern for the remaining total contract charge assuming it resulted from a single deposit, plus one year.

8) Contract Holder Election Rates. Contract holder election rates to determine amounts in subparagraph III(B)(2)(iii) shall be 15 percent per annum for any elective ITM benefit except guaranteed withdrawal benefits, but only to the extent such election does not terminate a more valuable benefit subject to election. Guaranteed Minimum Death Benefits are not benefits subject to election. Exception: Contract holder election rates shall be 100 percent at the last opportunity to elect an ITM benefit, but only to the extent such election does not terminate a more valuable benefit subject to election. A benefit is more valuable if it is more ITM in absolute dollars using the definition of ITM in paragraph III(D)(3).

For guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits, a partial withdrawal equal to the applicable percentage in Table III applied to the contract’s maximum allowable partial withdrawal shall be assumed in subparagraph III(B)(2)(iii). However, if the contract’s minimum allowable partial withdrawal exceeds the partial withdrawal from applying the rate in Table III to the contract’s maximum allowable partial withdrawal, then the contract’s minimum allowable partial withdrawal shall be assumed in subparagraph III(B)(2)(iii).

### Table III—Guaranteed Withdrawal Assumptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attained Age</th>
<th>Attained Age</th>
<th>Attained Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Less than 50</td>
<td>50 to 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawals do not reduce elective Guarantees that are in the money</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawals reduce elective Guarantees that are in the money</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9) GMIBs. For subparagraph III(B)(2)(iii), GMIB cost at the time of election shall be the excess, if positive, of the reserve required for the projected annuitization stream over the available account value. If the reserve required is less than the account value, the GMIB cost shall be zero. The reserve required shall be determined using the Annuity 2000 Mortality Table and a valuation interest rate equal to the Discount Rate. If more than one annuity option is available, chose the option with a reserve closest to the reserve for a life annuity with 10 years of certain payments.

10) Indices. If an interest index is required to determine projected benefits or reinsurance obligations, the index must assume interest rates have not changed since the last reported rates before the valuation date. If an equity index is required, the index shall be consistent with the last reported index before the valuation date, the initial drop in equity returns and the subsequent equity returns in the standard scenario projection up to the time the index is used. The sources of information and how the information is used to determine indexes shall be documented and, to the extent possible, consistent from year to year.

11) Taxes. All taxes shall be based on the enacted maximum federal corporate income tax rate.

E) Assumptions for use in paragraph III (B) (3).
1) The Value of Aggregate Reinsurance. The value of Aggregate reinsurance is the discounted value, at rate AR, of the excess of: a) the benefit payments from the reinsurance, over b) the reinsurance premiums, where (a) and (b) are determined under the assumptions described in Subsection III(D).

2) The Value of Approved Hedges. The value of approved hedges shall be calculated separately from the calculation in paragraph III(B)(2). The value of approved hedges is the difference between: a) the discounted value at rate AR of the after-tax cash flows from the approved hedges; less b) their statement values on the valuation date.

To be an approved hedge, a derivative or other investment has to be an actual asset held on the valuation date, be designated as a hedge for one or more contracts subject to the Standard Scenario, and be part of a clearly defined hedging strategy as described in the Report. If the approved hedge also supports contracts not subject to the Standard Scenario, then only that portion of the hedge designated for contracts subject to the Standard Scenario shall be included in the value of approved hedges. Approved hedges must be held in accordance with an investment policy that has been implemented for at least six months and has been approved by the Board of Directors or a subcommittee of Board members. A copy of the investment policy and the resolution approving the policy shall be maintained with the documentation of the Standard Scenario and available on request. Approved hedges must be held in accordance with a written investment strategy developed by management to implement the Board’s investment policy. A copy of the investment strategy on the valuation date, the most recent investment strategy presented to the Board if different and the most recent written report on the effectiveness of the strategy shall be maintained with the documentation of the Standard Scenario and available on request.

The commissioner may require the exclusion of any portion of the value of approved hedges upon a finding that the company’s documentation, controls, measurement, execution of strategy or historical results are not adequate to support a future expectation of risk reduction commensurate with the value of approved hedges.

The item being hedged, the contract guarantees, and the approved hedges are assumed to be accounted for at the average present value of the tail scenarios. The value of approved hedges for the standard scenario is the difference between an estimate of this “tail value” and the “fair value” of approved hedges. For this valuation to be consistent with the statement value of approved hedges, the statement value of approved hedges will need to be held at fair value with the immediate recognition of gains and losses. Accordingly, it is assumed that approved hedges are not subject to the IMR or the equity component of the AVR. Approved hedges need not satisfy SSAP No. 86. In particular, as gains and losses of approved hedges are recognized immediately, approved hedges need not satisfy the requirements for hedge accounting of fair value hedges.

It is the combination of hedges and liabilities that determine which scenarios are the tail scenarios. In particular, scenarios where the hedging is least effective are likely to be tail scenarios and liabilities that are a left tail risk could in combination with hedges become a right tail risk.

The cash flow projection for approved hedges that expire in less than one year from the valuation date should be based on holding the hedges to their expiration. For hedges with an expiration of more than one year, the value of hedges should be based on liquidation of the hedges one year from the valuation date. Where applicable, the liquidation value of hedges shall be consistent with Black-Scholes pricing, a risk-free rate of DR, annual volatility implicit as of the valuation date in the statement value of the hedges under Black-Scholes pricing and a risk-free rate of DR and the assumed returns in the Standard Scenario from the valuation date to the date of liquidation.

There is no credit in the Standard Scenario for dynamic hedging beyond the credit that results from hedges actually held on the valuation date. There is no credit for hedges actually held on the valuation date that are not approved hedges as the commitment to maintain the level of risk reduction derived from such hedges is not adequate.

3) Retention of Components. For the Standard Scenario Amounts on the statement date the company should have available to the Commissioner the following values:

   a) For runs A and B as defined in I(C) by contract and in aggregate the amounts determined in III(B)(1) and III(B)(2).

   b) For run A the aggregate amounts determined in III(E)(1) and III(E)(2).

Smoothing and Transition Rules
If a company is following a Clearly Defined Hedging Strategy (See “Recommended Approach for Setting Risk-Based Capital Requirements for Variable Annuities and Similar Products” presented by the American Academy of Actuaries’ Life Capital Adequacy Subcommittee to the National Association of Insurance Commissioner’s Capital Adequacy Task Force (June 2005) for the definition of this phrase) on some or all of its business, a decision should be made whether or not to smooth the TAR. In all cases where ‘cash value’ is to be used, the values used must be computed on a consistent basis for each block of business at successive year-ends. For deferred annuities with a cash value option, direct writers will use the cash value. For deferred annuities with no cash value option, or for reinsurance assumed through a treaty other than coinsurance, use the policyholder account value of the underlying contract. For payout annuities, or other annuities with no account value or cash value, use the amount as defined for variable-payout annuities in the definition of Working Reserve. For any business reinsured under a coinsurance agreement that complies with all applicable reinsurance reserve credit “transfer of risk” requirements, the ceding company shall reduce the value in proportion to the business ceded while the assuming company shall use an amount consistent with the business assumed.

A company who reported an amount in Line (37) last year may choose to smooth the Total Asset Requirement. A company is required to get approval from its domestic regulator prior to changing its decision about smoothing from the prior year. To implement smoothing, use the following steps. If a company does not qualify to smooth or a decision has been made not to smooth, go to the step “Reduction for Reported Statutory Reserves.”

Instructions—2007 and Later

1. Determine the Total Asset Requirement as the greater of that produced by the “Recommended Approach for Setting Risk-Based Capital Requirements for Variable Annuities and Similar Products” presented by the American Academy of Actuaries’ Life Capital Adequacy Subcommittee to the National Association of Insurance Commissioner’s Capital Adequacy Task Force (June 2005) or the value produced by the “Standard Scenario” as outlined above.

2. Determine the aggregate cash value for the contracts covered by the Stochastic modeling requirements.

3. Determine the ratio of TAR / CV for current year.

4. Determine the Total Asset Requirement as actually reported for the prior year Line (37).

5. Determine the aggregate cash value for the same contracts for the prior year-end.

6. Determine the ratio of TAR / CV for prior year.

7. Determine a ratio as 0.4*(6) plus 0.6*(3) (40% prior year ratio and 60% current year ratio).

8. Determine TAR for current year as the product of (7) and (2) (adjust (2) to be actual 12/31 cash value).

Reduction for Reported Statutory Reserves

The amount of the TAR (post-Federal Income Tax) determined using the instructions for the applicable year is reduced by the reserve, net of reinsurance, for the business subject to this instruction reported in the current statutory annual statement.

Allocation of Results to Line (35) and Line (37)

See step (9) located in the overview section at the beginning of the instructions for this line.
Cash Flow Modeling for the C-3 RBC Requirements for Variable Annuities and Similar Products: Instructions for 2020 & Later

Drafting Note: in the material that follows, Oliver Wyman’s proposed instructions are modified to present a more understandable requirement, but the only changes to actual requirements are for: C. Alternative Methodology, E. Phase-in, F. Smoothing, and I. Format of documentation.