

2018 Kansas Statutes

40-5008. Same; required disclosures. (a) With each application for a viatical settlement, a viatical settlement provider or viatical settlement broker shall provide the viator with at least the following disclosures no later than the time the application for the viatical settlement contract is signed by all parties. The disclosures shall be provided in a separate document that is signed by the viator and the viatical settlement provider or viatical settlement broker, and shall provide the following information:

(1) There are possible alternatives to viatical settlement contracts including any accelerated death benefits or policy loans offered under the viator's life insurance policy.

(2) That a viatical settlement broker represents exclusively the viator and not the insurer or the viatical settlement provider. Furthermore the viatical settlement broker owes a fiduciary duty to the viator including the duty to act according to the viator's instructions and in the best interest of the viator.

(3) Some or all of the proceeds of the viatical settlement may be taxable under federal income tax and state franchise and income taxes, and assistance should be sought from a professional tax advisor.

(4) Proceeds of the viatical settlement could be subject to the claims of creditors.

(5) Receipt of the proceeds of a viatical settlement may adversely affect the viator's eligibility for medicaid or other government benefits or entitlements, and advice should be obtained from the appropriate government agencies.

(6) The viator has the right to rescind a viatical settlement contract for 15 calendar days after the receipt of the viatical settlement proceeds by the viator, as provided in subsection (c) of K.S.A. 2018 Supp. 40-5009a, and amendments thereto. If the insured dies during the rescission period, the settlement contract shall be deemed to have been rescinded, subject to repayment of all viatical settlement proceeds and any premiums, loans and loan interest to the viatical settlement provider or purchaser.

(7) Funds will be sent to the viator within three business days after the viatical settlement provider has received the insurer or group administrator's acknowledgment that ownership of the policy or interest in the certificate has been transferred and the beneficiary has been designated.

(8) Entering into a viatical settlement contract may cause other rights or benefits, including conversion rights and waiver of premium benefits that may exist under the policy or certificate, to be forfeited by the viator. Assistance should be sought from a financial adviser.

(9) Disclosure to a viator shall include distribution of a brochure describing the process of viatical settlements. The form for the brochure shall be developed by the commissioner.

(10) The disclosure document shall contain the following language: "All medical, financial or personal information solicited or obtained by a viatical settlement provider or viatical settlement broker about an insured, including the insured's identity or the identity of family members, a spouse or a significant other may be disclosed as necessary to effect the viatical settlement between the viator and the viatical settlement provider. If you are asked to provide this information, you will be asked to consent to the disclosure. The information may be provided to someone who buys the policy or provides funds for the purchase. You may be asked to renew your permission to share information every two years."

(11) The insured may be contacted by either the viatical settlement provider or viatical settlement broker or such viatical settlement provider's or viatical settlement broker's authorized representative for the purpose of determining the insured's health status. This contact is limited to once every three months if the insured has a life expectancy of more than one year, and no more than once per month if the insured has a life expectancy of one year or less.

(b) A viatical settlement provider shall provide the viator with at least the following disclosures no later than the date the viatical settlement contract is signed by all parties. The disclosures shall be conspicuously displayed in the viatical settlement contract or in a separate document signed by the viator and the viatical settlement provider or viatical settlement broker, and contain the following information:

(1) The affiliation, if any, between the viatical settlement provider and the issuer of the insurance policy to be viaticated.

(2) The name, address and telephone number of the viatical settlement provider.

(3) A viatical settlement broker shall disclose to a prospective viator the amount and method of calculating the broker's compensation. The term "compensation" includes anything of value paid or given to a viatical settlement broker for the placement of a policy.

(4) If an insurance policy to be viaticated has been issued as a joint policy or involves family riders or any coverage of a life other than the insured under the policy to be viaticated, the viator shall be informed of the possible loss of coverage on the other lives under the policy and shall be advised to consult with such viator's insurance producer or the insurer issuing the policy for advice on the proposed viatical settlement.

(5) State the dollar amount of the current death benefit payable to the viatical settlement provider under the policy or certificate. If known, the viatical settlement provider shall also disclose the availability of any additional guaranteed insurance benefits, the dollar amount of any accidental death and dismemberment benefits under the policy or certificate and the viatical settlement provider's interest in those benefits.

(6) State the name, business address and telephone number of the independent third party escrow agent, and the fact that the viator or owner may inspect or receive copies of the relevant escrow or trust agreements or documents.

(c) Without limiting the ability of an insurer from assessing the insurability of a policy applicant and determining whether or not to issue the policy, and in addition to other questions an insurance carrier may lawfully pose to a life insurance applicant, insurance carriers may inquire in the application for insurance whether the proposed owner intends to pay premiums with the assistance of financing from a lender that will use the policy as collateral to support the financing.

(1) If, as described in paragraph (3) of subsection (o) of K.S.A. 40-5002, and amendments thereto, the loan provides funds which can be used for a purpose other than paying for the premiums, costs, and expenses associated with obtaining and maintaining the life insurance policy and loan, the application shall be rejected as a violation of this act.

(2) If the financing does not violate this section in this manner, the insurance carrier:

(A) May make disclosures, including, but not limited to, such as the following, to the applicant and the insured, either on the application or an amendment to the application to be completed no later than the delivery of the policy:

"If you have entered into a loan arrangement where the policy is used as collateral, and the policy does change ownership at some point in the future in satisfaction of the loan, the following may be true:

(i) A change of ownership could lead to a stranger owning an interest in the insured's life;

(ii) a change of ownership could in the future limit your ability to purchase future insurance on the insured's life because there is a limit to how much coverage insurers will issue on one life;

(iii) should there be a change of ownership and you wish to obtain more insurance coverage on the insured's life in the future, the insured's higher issue age, a change in health status, or other factors, or both, may reduce the ability to obtain coverage or may result in significantly higher premiums or both;

(iv) you should consult a professional advisor, since a change in ownership in satisfaction of the loan may result in tax consequences to the owner, depending on the structure of the loan;" and

(B) may require certifications, such as the following, from the applicant or the insured or both:

"(i) I have not entered into any agreement or arrangement providing for the future sale of this life insurance policy;

(ii) my loan arrangement for this policy provides funds sufficient to pay for some or all of the premiums, costs, and expenses associated with obtaining and maintaining my life insurance policy, but I have not entered into any agreement by which I am to receive consideration in exchange for procuring this policy; and

(iii) the borrower has an insurable interest in the insured."

History: L. 2002, ch. 158, § 8; L. 2008, ch. 96, § 7; July 1.