

(c) If the principal amount of a surety bond is reduced by payment of a claim or judgment, the licensee shall file with the Commissioner any new or additional surety bond in the amount that the Commissioner sets.

(d) The Commissioner may waive the surety bond requirement under this section if the Commissioner determines that the volume of debt management services provided by the applicant or licensee does not warrant the need for a surety bond.

(e) A penalty imposed under § 12-928 or § 12-929 of this subtitle may be paid and collected from the proceeds of a surety bond required under this section.

12-920.

(a) A licensee may not:

- (1) Purchase any debt or obligation of a consumer;
- (2) Lend money or provide credit to a consumer;
- (3) Obtain a mortgage or other security interest in property owned by a consumer;
- (4) Operate as a collection agency, as defined in § 7-101 of the Business Regulation Article;
- (5) Structure a debt management services agreement in a manner that would result in a negative amortization of any of the consumer's debts;
- (6) Make any false, misleading, or deceptive representations or omissions of information in connection with the offer, sale, or performance of any service;
- (7) Offer, pay, or give a substantial gift, bonus, premium, reward, or other compensation to a person for referring a prospective customer to the licensee;
- (8) Offer an incentive, including a gift, bonus, premium, reward, or other compensation, to a consumer for executing a debt management services agreement with the licensee;
- (9) Charge for or provide credit insurance; [or]
- (10) Compromise any debts of a consumer unless the licensee has obtained the prior written approval of the consumer, and the compromise benefits the consumer;
- (11) ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR FEE-FOR-SERVICE ARRANGEMENT WITH A PERSON OWNED, CONTROLLED BY, OR AFFILIATED WITH AN OFFICER, A DIRECTOR, OR AN EMPLOYEE OF THE DEBT MANAGEMENT SERVICE PROVIDER, OR WITH A RELATIVE OF AN OFFICER, A DIRECTOR, OR AN EMPLOYEE, THAT BENEFITS AN OFFICER, A DIRECTOR, OR AN EMPLOYEE OF THE DEBT MANAGEMENT SERVICE PROVIDER;