

Rules coordinator (policy)

Reference #	12544721
Status	Complete
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Phone number	888-726-4276
Rule number/topic	CR-102 for R 2021-17
Comment(s) or question(s)	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on R 2021-17. Samaritan Ministries is one of the largest sharing ministries among the one hundred plus ministries that serve over one and a half million Americans using health care sharing and is a founding member of the Alliance of Health Care Sharing Ministries. For over 27 years Samaritan Ministries has been serving its members, as Christians bear one another's burdens through health care sharing, and that includes over 9,200 individuals here in Washington.</p> <p>We appreciate that the state of Washington, like 30 other states, has for years explicitly recognized in the state insurance code that health care sharing ministries are not in the business of insurance.</p> <p>As proposed, the Second Stakeholder Draft March 25, 2022, & Supplemental material, April 18, 2022, defines an "Annual audit" as meaning an audit occurring once a year at approximately the same time each year for the preceding calendar year.</p>

Samaritan Ministries and many other organizations operate on a fiscal, rather than calendar, year basis and therefore their annual audits must also be done on that fiscal year.

Please revise the definition of “annual audit” in the final rule accordingly to allow for audits to be performed on fiscal years as well as calendar years. Example:

(1)"Annual audit" means an audit occurring once a year at approximately the same time each year for the preceding calendar or fiscal year.

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