

**COMMON OWNERSHIP/AFFILIATED COMPANIES**

Carrier	Guidelines
	<p>Groups who have more than one business with different TINs may be eligible to enroll as one group if the following are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One owner has controlling interest of all businesses to be included</li> <li>• Companies that are affiliated and that are eligible to file a combined income tax return for purposes of state taxation shall be considered one employer</li> <li>• All groups filed under one combined tax return are considered one group</li> <li>• There are 100 or fewer employees in the combined groups</li> <li>• Business with equal controlling interest may be considered if the owners of the company designate an individual to act on behalf of all the groups</li> <li>• A completed Common Ownership form must be submitted</li> <li>• Underwriting reserves the right to final underwriting review and may consider common ownership on a case-by-case underwriting exception</li> </ul>
	<p>Companies that are affiliated and eligible to file a combined tax return for purposes of state taxation shall be considered one employer            A letter from the employer's CPA which states the groups are eligible to file consolidated tax returns is required            Common ownership groups must meet the definition of a small employer when combined</p>
	<p>Copies of Articles of Incorporation/Partnership Agreements are required for each group            Common ownership groups must meet the definition of a small employer when combined</p>
	<p>Each company must share a minimum of 50% common ownership            Companies must have a related industry (The groups would be able to file payroll taxes jointly)            The total number eligible for all combined groups may not exceed 100            Completed Common Ownership Statement            Proof of related industries may be required by the Underwriter</p>
	<p>Small employers qualified to enroll as a single employer are required to submit a letter from a CPA certifying how they are eligible            The CPA must not be an owner or employee of the groups seeking coverage            The letter must be on CPA letterhead and it must explicitly state how the groups are eligible to enroll under a single policy            Allowable reasons for how common ownership groups are eligible to enroll under a single policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affiliated companies that are eligible to file a combined tax return for state taxation</li> <li>• Controlled groups of corporations</li> <li>• Trades and businesses, whether or not incorporated, under common control</li> <li>• Affiliated service groups</li> </ul> <p>Common ownership groups must meet the definition of a small employer when combined</p>
	<p>Business entities that are affiliated and eligible to file a combined tax return for purposes of state taxation will be considered 1 employer and must apply as 1 employer            Common ownership groups must meet the definition of a small employer when combined</p>
	<p>Copies of the filed/stamped Statement of Information reflecting all officer/owners, or signed/dated Partnership Agreements listing all partners' names            A letter from the employer's CPA stating that all business entities are eligible to file a combined tax return            Submission of a completed and signed Common Ownership Certificate form</p>

This guide has been created as a quick reference and does not replace the full underwriting guidelines published by each carrier  
 Please refer to the carrier guidelines for additional information