

History of NASW Assurance Services

1957

NASW offers insurance to its members

NASW began offering insurance products to its members who wished to join in the 1950s. Sickness and Accident Income Protection was offered first.

1967

Insurance Trust formed

NASW formed a nonprofit Insurance Trust as the sole and exclusive vehicle for selecting and offering its insurance programs to its members. For the next 40 years, the Trustees oversaw the NASW-sponsored professional liability insurance program and sponsored members' insurance plans.

1969

NASW offers malpractice insurance

NASW began offering malpractice insurance in partnership with the American Professional Agency (APA) to protect social workers against professional liability risks.

1995

NASW Purchasing Group established

The NASW Purchasing Group was established as a subsidiary of the NASW Insurance Trust. It was a vehicle for purchasing and filing social work professional liability insurance with state insurance departments.

2007

Insurance Trust dissolved, and NASW Assurance Services, Inc. (ASI) created

To better serve NASW members and policyholders, NASW transitioned from the Insurance Trust to a newly formed entity, NASW Assurance Services, Inc. (ASI). This change was driven by the desire to overcome structural limitations and enhance the quality of services. ASI was established to diversify products, deliver greater benefits, and promote the advancement of the social work profession and NASW as a whole.

2008

ASI formed NASW Insurance Company

NASW ASI formed NASW Insurance Company (NASWIC) as a captive insurance company to self-insure the risk of the NASW professional liability insurance program through ASI. NASWIC is a wholly-owned subsidiary created to provide insurance to the NASW Insurance Program.

2012

NASW Risk Retention Group formed

ASI transitioned from former insurance partners APA and AIG to establish the NASW Risk Retention Group (RRG), a move designed to give policyholders ownership of their coverage. ASI continued to add value by providing comprehensive program administration and overseeing key service providers, including accounting and management information, ensuring a seamless and efficient experience for policyholders.

2014

ASI began offering general liability and cyber liability

ASI added general liability insurance and cyber liability insurance to its product suite to meet the growing needs for various types of liability coverage in the social work profession.

2018

ASI expands market to social worker nonmembers

ASI began marketing to nonmember social workers by offering professional liability, general liability, and cyber liability products, while maintaining the primary focus on NASW members and providing premium discounts and exclusive offers for members.

2023

NASW Risk Retention Group changed its name to Preferra

The NASW RRG board adopted the new name, Preferra, to replace NASW RRG.

2024

Preferra separated from ASI and NASWIC; ASI relaunches NASW-endorsed liability program

Preferra, formerly the NASW RRG, became a former partner of NASW. ASI remains committed to providing affordable insurance coverage for social workers. Throughout 2024, ASI collaborated with insurance regulators to develop and launch a new NASW-endorsed liability product with expanded benefits. The new program is expected to roll out in all states and jurisdictions by February 2025.

About us: NASW Assurance Services (ASI), a wholly-owned subsidiary of NASW, manages the NASW Insurance Program by designing, securing, and overseeing high-quality, competitive insurance programs and services offered to social workers. ASI is NASW's insurance arm and coordinates with different service providers to serve NASW members.

The ASI office is located in Frederick, MD.

For more information:

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