

# Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool

1821 Rutherford Lane, First Floor • Austin, Texas 78754

## CYBER LIABILITY AND DATA BREACH RESPONSE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

This Contract and Interlocal Agreement is entered into by and between political subdivisions of this state (hereinafter referred to as “Pool Members”) to form a joint self-insurance pool to be named the Texas Municipal League Joint Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Self-Insurance Fund (hereinafter referred to as the “Fund”) for the purpose of providing coverages against risks which are inherent in operating a political subdivision.

WITNESSETH:

The undersigned Pool Member, in accordance with Chapter 2259, Texas Government Code, the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Tex. Gov’t Code § 791.001, et seq., and the interpretation thereof by the Attorney General of the State of Texas (Opinion #MW-347, May 29, 1981), and in consideration of other political subdivisions executing like agreements, does hereby agree to become one of the Pool Members of this self-insured pool. The conditions of membership agreed upon by and between the parties are as follows:

1. Definitions of terms used in this Interlocal Agreement.
  - a. Board. Refers to the Board of Trustees of the Fund.
  - b. Fund Year. 12:01 a.m. October 1 through 12:01 a.m. the following October 1.
  - c. Manual Rates. The basic rates applicable to each cyber liability and data breach response classification promulgated by the Insurance Service Office or the Board.
  - d. Texas Municipal League Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Self-Insurance Plan. The Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Coverage Document that sets forth in exact detail the coverages provided as part of the overall plan.
  - e. Adjustments. Refers to any offsets to manual premium that may result from the Pool Member’s election of deductibles, loss experience, or Fund Modifier which reflects the savings to the Pool Member by entering into this Interlocal Agreement.
  - f. Premium and Contribution. Used interchangeably in some parts of this Interlocal Agreement. Any reference at any time in this Interlocal Agreement to an insurance term not ordinarily a part of self-insurance shall be deemed for convenience only and is not construed as being contrary to the self-insurance concept except where the context clearly indicates no other possible interpretation such as but not limited to the reference to “reinsurance.”
  - g. Reimbursable Deductible. The amount that was chosen by this Pool Member to be applicable to the first monies paid by the Fund to effect judgment or settlement of any claim or suit. The Pool Member, upon notification of the action taken, shall promptly reimburse the Fund for all or such part of the deductible amount as has been paid by the Fund. Further, however, the Fund’s obligation to pay damages shall be subject to the limits of liability stated in the Declarations of Coverage or Endorsements to this Interlocal Agreement less the stated deductible amount.
  - h. Fund Modifier. A percentage figure that is applied to the manual rates by the Fund to reflect the savings to the Pool Member by entering into this Interlocal Agreement.
  - i. Agreement Period. The continuous period since the Pool Member first became a member of this Fund excluding, however, any period or periods of time therein that the member did not participate as a member of the Pool.
  - j. Declarations of Coverage. The specific indication of the coverages, limits, deductibles, contributions, and special provisions elected by each individual Pool Member. The Declarations of Coverages may be modified by Endorsement.
2. The Board, acting through its agents and Fund staff, is responsible for the administration of all Fund business on behalf of the Pool Members.
3. In consideration of the execution of this Interlocal Agreement by and between the Pool Member and the Fund and of the contributions of the Pool Member, the coverage elected by the Pool Member is afforded according to the terms of the Texas Municipal League Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Self-Insurance Plan. The affirmative declaration of contributions and limits of liability in the Declarations of Coverage and Endorsements determine the applicability of the Self-Insurance Plan.

Each Pool Member agrees to adopt and accept the coverages, provisions, terms, conditions, exclusions, and limitations as further provided for in the Texas Municipal League Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Self-Insurance Plan or as specifically modified by the Pool Member's Declarations of Coverage. This Interlocal Agreement shall be construed to incorporate the Texas Municipal League Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Self-Insurance Plan, Declarations of Coverage, and Endorsements and addenda whether or not physically attached hereto.

4. It is understood that by participating in this risk sharing mechanism to cover cyber liability and data breach response exposures, the Pool Member does not intend to waive any of the immunities that its officers or its employees now possess. The Pool Member recognizes the Texas Tort Claims Act and its limitations to certain governmental functions as well as its monetary limitations and that by executing this Interlocal Agreement does not agree to expand those limitations.
5. The term of this Interlocal Agreement and the self-insurance provided to the Pool Member shall be continuous commencing 12:01 a.m. on the date designated in this Interlocal Agreement until terminated as provided below. Although the self-insurance provided for in this Interlocal Agreement shall be continuous until terminated, the limit of liability of the Fund under the coverages that the Pool Member elects shall be limited during any Fund Year to the amount stated in the Declarations of Coverage for that Fund Year.

This Interlocal Agreement may be terminated by either party giving to the other sixty (60) days' prior written notice of intent to terminate except the Pool Member may terminate this Interlocal Agreement and its coverages thereunder without giving the sixty (60) days' notice if the reason is because of a change by the Fund in the Pool Member's contribution, coverage, or other change in the limits of liability, terms, conditions, exclusions, and limitations provided for in the Texas Municipal League Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Self-Insurance Plan provided that no termination by the Member shall be effective prior to the date that written notice of termination is actually received in the offices of the Fund and provided that the Pool Member agrees to and shall pay the applicable premium and contribution for those coverages it is terminating until the date the notice of termination is actually received by the Fund.

The Fund shall provide the Pool Member with Declarations of Coverage and any Endorsements that determine the applicability of the Texas Municipal League Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Self-Insurance Plan annually by December 1. Such Declarations of Coverage shall include, but not be limited to, the coverage period which shall be the applicable Fund Year, limits, deductibles, contributions, special provisions, and limitations. Changes made during the Fund Year, whether requested by the Pool Member or required by the Fund, will be handled by Endorsement.

It is the intention of the parties that the Pool Member's coverages under this Interlocal Agreement shall remain in full force and effect from Fund Year to Fund Year, subject to the limits of liability that the Fund can provide each Fund Year and the terms, conditions, and limitations that the Fund may require to protect its solvency and to comply with reinsurance requirements, until notice of termination is given as herein provided. Realizing that the Pool Member needs the earliest possible information concerning the Fund coverages, limits, and exclusions, and the Pool Member's contribution that will be required for any new Fund Year, the Fund will endeavor to provide this information as soon as possible before the beginning of each Fund Year. The parties recognize, however, that conditions in the reinsurance industry are such that the Fund may not be able to provide this information to the Pool Member before the beginning of a Fund Year for various reasons including the failure of the Pool Member to timely submit the appropriate exposure summary or delays on the part of reinsurers in getting information to the Fund, and so, to protect the Pool Member from gaps in its coverage and to protect the solvency of the Fund, the parties agree as follows:

*If, for any reason other than the Pool Member's failure to provide the information requested in the exposure summary, the Fund has not been able to provide the Pool Member with information concerning available coverages for a new Fund Year or advise the Pool Member of the amount of its contribution for the new Fund Year by the beginning of the Fund Year, the Fund shall nevertheless continue the Pool Member's coverages at the same limits of liability (if still available and if not, then at the highest limit of liability available for the new Fund Year) so that the Pool Member shall at all times remain covered as herein provided and the Pool Member's initial contributions for the new Fund Year shall be determined by a "tentative contribution" as determined by the Board with the Pool Member's actual annual contribution to be credited by the amount paid in accordance with the tentative contribution and adjusted during the Fund Year. In the event the Pool Member does not wish to have its coverages extended or renewed at the end of any Fund Year, the burden shall be upon the Pool Member to give written notice to the Fund as provided hereinabove and the Pool Member agrees to pay as hereinabove stated all contributions or pro rata contributions until the date such written notice is received in the offices of the Fund or the date of termination of this Interlocal Agreement, whichever is later.*

6. Commensurate with the execution of this Interlocal Agreement and annually thereafter, the Pool Member shall complete the appropriate exposure summary and deliver it or cause it to be delivered to the Fund, or, if so instructed, to a designated contractor, no later than September 1 of each year and new annual contributions shall be calculated using manual rates times exposure, less any adjustments. Intentional or reckless misstatements on the exposure summary shall be grounds for cancellation. In the event that the Pool Member fails or refuses to submit the appropriate exposure summary, the Fund reserves the right to terminate such Pool Member by giving thirty (30) days' written notice and to collect any and all contributions that are earned pro rata for the period preceding contract termination.

The Pool Member agrees to pay the annual contribution to the Fund in four (4) equal quarterly installments, in advance, commencing at the beginning of this Interlocal Agreement with subsequent installments due the first quarter thereafter. In the event this Interlocal Agreement is terminated as herein provided, the Fund shall promptly repay to the Pool Member any such unearned annual contribution prorated as of the date of termination and the Pool Member agrees during the term of this Interlocal Agreement to promptly pay all reimbursable deductibles upon receipt of statement.

At the end of each and every Fund Year, the Fund may require the Pool Member to submit the actual data requested on the exposure summary as reflected by the books and records of the Pool Member. The Fund reserves the right to audit the records of any Pool Member and adjust contributions accordingly.

In the event that the Pool Member fails or refuses to make the payments, including accrued interest, as herein provided, the Fund reserves the right to terminate such Pool Member by giving them ten (10) days' written notice and to collect any and all amounts that are earned pro rata for the period preceding contract termination. If the amounts owed, including reimbursable deductibles, must be collected by suit, the Pool Member agrees to pay attorneys' fees and costs incurred in such suit.

7. The Fund shall maintain adequate protection from catastrophic losses to protect its financial integrity. Aggregate protection shall also be maintained. The Member's contributions shall be limited to that amount as calculated under this Interlocal Agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the total combined aggregate limit of liability of the Fund for all Pool Members in any Fund Year, regardless of the number of occurrences or claims, shall be limited to the amount of money contained in the Fund. As to the Pool annual aggregate limits or the amount of money in the Fund, the Board of Trustees, in its sole discretion, may determine an allocation methodology among affected Pool Members should the Pool annual aggregate limit be reached, or should the money in the Fund be exhausted.
8. Notwithstanding the provisions of the foregoing paragraph, it is agreed the Board shall have the right to adjust the financial protection outlined above and/or amend coverages as it finds available or deems necessary to maintain the fiscal soundness of the Fund at the beginning of or during any Fund Year.
9. The Fund will make available loss control services to the Pool Members to assist them in following a plan of loss control that may result in reduced losses. The Pool Member agrees that it will cooperate in instituting any and all reasonable loss control recommendations. In the event that the recommendations submitted seem unreasonable, the Pool Member has a right to appeal to the Board. The Board shall hear the objections of the Pool Member at its next regularly scheduled meeting and its decisions will be final and binding on all parties. Any Pool Member who does not agree to follow the decision of the Board shall be withdrawn from the Fund immediately.
10. The Pool Member agrees that it will appoint a contact of department head rank, and the Fund shall not be required to contact any other individual except this one person. Any notice to or any agreements with the contact shall be binding upon the Pool Member. The Pool Member reserves the right to change the contact from time to time by giving written notice to the Fund.
11. The Fund agrees to handle all cyber liability and data breach response claims, and provide a defense for any and all cyber liability and data breach response claims covered under this Interlocal Agreement after prompt notice has been given. The Pool Member hereby appoints the Fund staff and Contractors as its agents to act in all matters pertaining to processing and handling of claims covered under this Interlocal Agreement and shall cooperate fully in supplying any information needed or helpful in settlement or defense of such claims. As respects cyber liability and data breach response claims, the Fund staff and Contractors shall carry on all negotiations with the claimant and his/her attorney, when applicable, and negotiate within authority previously granted by the Fund. If a personal appearance by the Pool Member or an employee is necessary, the expense of this appearance will not be the responsibility of the Fund. With the advice and consent of the Fund, the Fund staff and the Contractors will retain and supervise legal counsel for the prosecution and defense of any litigation. All decisions on individual cases shall be made by the Fund through the Fund staff and the Contractors, which include, but are not limited to, the decision to appeal or not to appeal, settlement negotiations, the decision of whether to settle, and other litigation tactics. However, any Pool Member shall have the right in any case to consult with the Fund on any decision made by the Fund staff or Contractors. The Board shall hear the objections of the Pool Member at its next regularly scheduled meeting and its decision will be final and binding on all parties. Any suit brought or defended by the Fund shall be brought or defended only in the name of the Pool Member and/or its officers or employees. There shall be supplied periodically to each Pool Member a computer printout involving a statement of claims. As respects the Texas Municipal League Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Self-Insurance Plan, the Fund shall have priority in enforcing its subrogation claims against the claims of Pool Member.
12. The Pool Member acknowledges that it has received a copy of the Bylaws of the Fund and agrees to abide by the Bylaws and any amendments thereto.
13. The Fund agrees that all Fund transactions will be annually audited by a nationally recognized certified public accounting firm.
14. If legally required, the Fund shall cause to be filed the necessary tax forms with the Internal Revenue Service.

15. As the administrators of the Fund, the Board shall primarily and consistently keep foremost in their deliberations and decisions in operating the Fund that each of the participating Pool Members is a “self-insured.” At least annually, the Board shall carefully review, study, and consider the actual claims or loss experience (including reserves for future claims payments) of each of the Pool Members, the pro rata savings to the Fund resulting from overall loss experience attributed to each Pool Member, and the pro rata portion of the cost of all catastrophic loss protection and aggregate stop loss protection allocated to each Pool Member as well as the pro rata allocation, as determined by the Board of the other and necessary administrative expenses of the Pool, in order to reasonably determine the actual pro rata cost, expense, and loss experience of each Pool Member in order to maintain as nearly as possible an equitable and reasonable self-insurance administration of the Fund as applied to each Pool Member.

The Fund shall maintain case reserves and supplemental reserves computed in accordance with standard actuarial principles, taking into account historical and other data, designed to measure claims development and claims incurred but not yet reported, so that funds will be available to meet these claims as they become due, subject to paragraph 7 above. The Board has complete authority to determine all matters pertaining to the existence and dissolution of the Fund.

16. Venue of any suit or action arising out of or related to this Interlocal Agreement shall be exclusively in the state and federal courts of Travis County, Texas. The parties agree they shall assume their own expenses for attorney’s fees in any suit or action arising out of or related to this Interlocal Agreement.
17. The parties agree this Interlocal Agreement may be executed by original written ink signature on paper documents, an exchange of copies showing the original written ink signature on paper documents, or electronic or digital signature technology in such a manner that the signature is unique and verifiable to the person signing. The use of any one or combination of these methods of execution shall constitute a legally binding and valid signing of this Interlocal Agreement, which may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which, when duly executed, shall be deemed an original.

EMPLOYER MEMBERS’ FUND CONTACT (See Section 10):

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED MEMBER OFFICIAL

\_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Member’s Federal Tax I.D. Number \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**This Information is MANDATORY**

**TO BE COMPLETED BY FUND: (OFFICE USE ONLY)**

Effective Date of This Agreement \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contract Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED FUND OFFICIAL

\_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_