



# ND Debt Settlement Service Provider New Application Checklist (Branch)

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## CHECKLIST SECTIONS

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Who is required to have this license?

Any person engaging in, or holding itself out as engaging in, the business of providing debt settlement service in exchange for any fee or compensation, or any person who solicits for or acts on behalf of any person engaging in, or holding itself out as engaging in, the business of providing debt-settlement service in exchange for any fee or compensation. "Debt-settlement service" means:

- (1) Offering to provide advice or service, or acting as an intermediary between or on behalf of a consumer and one or more of a consumer's creditors, where the primary purpose of the advice, service, or action is to obtain a settlement, adjustment, or satisfaction of the consumer's unsecured debt to a creditor in an amount less than the full amount of the principal amount of the debt or in an amount less than the current outstanding balance of the debt;
- (2) Offering to provide services related to or providing services advising, encouraging, assisting, or counseling a consumer to accumulate funds for the primary purpose of proposing or obtaining or seeking to obtain a settlement, adjustment, or satisfaction of the consumer's unsecured debt to a creditor in an amount less than the full amount of the principal amount of the debt or in an amount less than the current outstanding balance of the debt; or
- (3) Offering to provide advice or service, or acting as an intermediary between or on behalf of a person and a state or federal government agency where the primary purpose of the advice, service, or action is to obtain a settlement, adjustment, or satisfaction of the person's tax obligation to the government agency in an amount less than the current outstanding balance of the tax obligation.

This license should only be applied for by a company that also holds or is applying for a ND Debt Settlement Service Provider License.

North Dakota Century Code Chapter 13-11.

### Activities Authorized Under This License

This license authorizes the following activities...

- Debt negotiation

- Debt settlement/debt adjuster
- Debt management/credit counseling
- Other- debt

### Pre-Requisites for License Applications

- None

The ND Dept. of Financial Institutions does not issue paper licenses for this license type.

### Document Uploads

Documents that must be uploaded to the *Document Uploads* section of the Branch Form (MU3) in NMLS are indicated in the checklist below. When uploading documents:

- Follow the guidance in [Document Upload Descriptions and Examples](#).
- Only upload documents relevant to the company application.
- Only upload documents where there is a selectable document category. If inappropriate documents are uploaded that should not be, you will be contacted by your regulator and asked to remove them from NMLS.
- Do not upload the same company documents multiple times. Generally, unless the document is state-specific, if the document has already been uploaded for another state, a new upload is not required unless changes have been made.
- If a document previously uploaded has been revised, delete the old document and replace it with the new document (history of the old document will remain in NMLS).
- For state-specific documents (e.g., Surety Bonds), be sure to indicate the applicable state.

### Helpful Resources

- [Branch Form \(MU3\) Filing Quick Guide](#)
- [Document Upload Descriptions and Examples](#)
- [Payment Options Quick Guide](#)
- [License Status Definitions Quick Guide](#)

### Agency Contact Information

Contact ND Dept. of Financial Institutions licensing staff by phone at (701) 329-9933 or send your questions via email to [dfi@nd.gov](mailto:dfi@nd.gov) for additional assistance.

*For U.S. Postal Service:*

*ND Dept. of Financial Institutions  
Non-Depository Division  
2000 Schafer Street, Suite G  
Bismarck, ND 58501*

*For Overnight Delivery:*

*ND Dept. of Financial Institutions  
Non-Depository Division  
2000 Schafer Street, Suite G  
Bismarck, ND 58501*

THE APPLICANT/LICENSEE IS FULLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LICENSE FOR WHICH THEY ARE APPLYING. THE AGENCY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED HEREIN ARE FOR GUIDANCE ONLY TO FACILITATE APPLICATION THROUGH NMLS. SHOULD YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONSULT LEGAL COUNSEL.

**LICENSE FEES** - Fees collected through NMLS are not REFUNDABLE or TRANSFERABLE.

Complete	ND Debt Settlement Service Provider Branch Registration	Submitted via...
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>ND License/Registration Fee:</b> \$25</p> <p><b>ND Application Fee:</b> \$25</p> <p><b>NMLS Initial Processing Fee:</b> \$0</p>	<b>NMLS (Filing submission)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Credit Report for Control Persons:</b> \$15 per control person.	<b>NMLS (Filing submission)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>FBI Criminal Background Check for MU2 Individual:</b> \$36.25 per person.	<b>NMLS (Filing submission)</b>

**REQUIREMENTS COMPLETED IN NMLS**

Complete	ND Debt Settlement Service Provider Branch Registration	Submitted via...
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Submission of Branch Form (MU3):</b> Complete and submit the Branch Form (MU3) in NMLS. This form serves as the application for the license through NMLS.	<b>NMLS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Other Trade Names:</b> If this branch is operating under a name that is different from the applicant’s legal name, that name (“Trade Name”, “Assumed Name” or “DBA”) must be listed under the <i>Other Trade Names</i> section of both the Branch Form (MU3) and the Company Form (MU1). North Dakota does not limit the number of other trade names.</p> <p>ND Trade Name/Assumed Name Registration Certificates must be submitted related to this change type under the Company Form (MU1) <u>only</u>.</p>	<p><b>Upload in NMLS:</b> under the Document Type <u>Trade Name/Assumed Name Registration Certificates</u> in the <i>Document Uploads</i> section of the Company Form (MU1).</p> <p><b>Titled:</b> <i>ND-Debt Settlement Service Provider Trade Name – Assumed Name.</i></p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Branch Manager:</b> A Branch Manager must be designated for each licensed location. A Branch Manager is defined as an individual whose principal office is physically located in, who is in charge of, and who is responsible for the business operations of a branch office.	<b>NMLS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Branch Manager (MU2) Attestation:</b> Complete the Individual Form (MU2) in NMLS. This form must be attested to by the applicable branch manager before it is able to be submitted along with the Branch Form (MU3).	<b>NMLS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Credit Report:</b> Branch Managers are required to authorize a credit report through NMLS. Individuals will be required to complete an Identity Verification	<b>NMLS</b>

	Process (IDV) along with an individual attestation before a license request for your company can be filed through NMLS. This authorization is made when the Individual Form (MU2) is submitted as part of the Branch Form (MU3).	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>MU2 Individual FBI Criminal Background Check Requirements:</b> Branch Managers are required to authorize a FBI criminal background check (CBC) through NMLS.</p> <p>See the <a href="#">Criminal Background Check section</a> of the NMLS Resource Center for more information.</p> <p><b>Note: <u>Please authorize access for North Dakota to view the background check prior to submitting the request.</u></b> After authorizing a FBI criminal background check through the submission of the Company Form (MU1) and Individual Form (MU2), you must schedule an appointment to be fingerprinted if new prints are required. If you are able to 'Use Existing Prints' to process the FBI criminal background check, you DO NOT have to schedule an appointment. NMLS will automatically submit the fingerprints on file.</p>	NMLS

#### REQUIREMENTS/DOCUMENTS UPLOADED IN NMLS

Complete	ND Debt Settlement Service Provider Branch Registration	Submitted via...
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No branch documents are required to be uploaded into NMLS for this license/registration at this time.

#### INDIVIDUAL (MU2) DOCUMENTS UPLOADED IN NMLS

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Credit Report Explanations:</b> Submit a line by line, detailed letter of explanation of all derogatory credit accounts along with proof of payoffs, payment arrangements and evidence of payments made, or evidence of any formal dispute filed (documents must be dated). Accounts to address include, but are not limited to: collections items, charge offs, accounts currently past due, accounts with serious delinquencies in the last 3 years, repossessions, loan modifications, etc.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Items regarding bankruptcy, foreclosure actions, outstanding judgments or liens, or delinquent child support payments should be addressed in the <i>Disclosure Explanations</i> section of your Individual Form (MU2).</p>	<p><b>Upload in NMLS:</b> under the Document Type <u>Credit Report Explanations</u> in the <i>Document Uploads</i> section of the Individual Form (MU2).</p> <p><b>Titled:</b> <i>Credit Report Explanations – [Individual Name – Document Creation Date]</i>.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Legal Name/Status Documentation:</b> Upload legal documentation of legal name or legal status. This may be certified copies of divorce decree, marriage certificate, copy of driver's license, passports, etc.</p>	<p><b>Upload in NMLS:</b> under the Document Type <u>Legal Name/Status Documentation</u> in the <i>Document Uploads</i> section of the Individual Form (MU2).</p> <p><b>Titled:</b> <i>[Document Name]</i> (Ex. Driver's</p>

		License, Marriage Certificate, etc.).
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<b>REQUIREMENTS SUBMITTED OUTSIDE OF NMLS</b>		
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<b>Complete</b>	<b>ND Debt Settlement Service Provider Branch Registration</b>	<b>Submitted via...</b>
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No items are required to be submitted outside of NMLS for this license/registration at this time.		
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