



Budget Planner Annual Report (NMLS) Calendar Year 2023

General Instructions

- The Annual Report is due at the Department of Financial Services (DFS) by the statutory deadline of **February 1, 2024**.
- All questions apply to the licensed legal entity as a whole, unless otherwise specified.
- Answer all questions. Type or print your answers legibly. Do not change the questions. State "None" or "Not Applicable" where appropriate.
- Attach an addendum to the report in response to any of the questions for which additional space is needed to provide all requested information.
- Subsequent to the initial submission of the Annual Report, if it is determined that information contained therein is substantially inaccurate, untrue, incorrect or incomplete, whether as a result of an audit, new information or otherwise, a revision must be submitted to the DFS within two weeks of discovery along with a cover letter on company letterhead signed by an authorized executive officer of the Licensee.

Reminder

DFS must be notified within specified timeframes according to the type of changes contemplated. For example:

- Change of licensed locations – *at least 30 days prior to change* [Section 582 of the New York Banking Law (NYBL) and Part 402.18 of the Superintendent's Regulations (SR)]
- Change in members of the governing board, executive officers and individuals who supervise the daily operations of the Licensee – *within 10 days of change* [NYBL Section 583 and SR Part 402.8(a) and (b)]
- Modification to the fee structure (whether it is an increase or decrease) for clients in New York State - *at least 30 calendar days prior to implementation* [SR Part 402.14]
- Change in control (i.e. control parties) – **prior approval of the Superintendent is required** [NYBL Section 583-a]
- Reports of any arrest, indictment or conviction and certain crimes committed against the Licensee – *immediately upon discovery* [SR Parts 402.19, 402.20, and 300]
- Utilizing another licensee or a non-licensee service provider that has access to the monies of the licensee's debtors in contract – *within 10 days of intention to do so* [SR Parts 404.3 and 404.4]

- Reports of Cybersecurity event - no later than 72 hours from a determination that a reportable Cybersecurity Event has occurred [23 NYCRR 500.17(a)].
- Annual Certification of Compliance with NYS DFS Cybersecurity Regulations – Due by April 15th [Title 23 NYCRR 500 - §500 .17(b)]

Additionally, licensees are permitted to conduct regulated activities only at licensed locations. Pursuant to NYBL Section 580.2, regardless of geographic location, each branch, office or call center that provides budgeting, counseling and other budget planning-related services to New York residents must be licensed.

NYS DFS 2023 BUDGET PLANNER ANNUAL REPORT (NMLS)

SCHEDULE A - GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Full legal name of the Licensee:

2. Toll-free telephone number pursuant to SR Part 402.9(a):

3. Does another entity have control over the Licensee?

_____ (Yes or No) If "Yes", provide the following information:

Full Name

Complete Address

Type of Legal Entity with Control over the Licensee
(such as corporation, LLC, partnership, etc.)

State in which it is
Incorporated/Organized

4. All locations where New York budget planner business was conducted during the reporting year:

Complete Address	Contact	Phone	Email

5. Membership in trade associations:

6. List all banking relationships:

Bank	Account Type*	Branch Address where the Account is Held

* For example, operating account, trust account, line of credit, loan, etc.

7. Have any of the following individuals and entities been involved in any of the following listed matters in the reporting year and at any time since?

Individuals and entities:

- The Licensee
- Any of the Licensee's parent, affiliate, and subsidiary companies
- Any of the Licensee's executive officers and members of the governing board

Listed matters:

- Felony conviction or guilty plea to felony
- Court proceeding or lawsuit *in which any of the above-listed individuals and entities was named a defendant*
- Investigation, civil or criminal
- Judgment
- Monetary penalty
- Regulatory or supervisory action
- Settlement *reached after a lawsuit, claim or court proceeding in which any of the above-listed individuals and entities was named a defendant*

_____ (Yes or No)

If "Yes", provide details. In addition, for the reported court proceedings, lawsuits and settlements, **attach** to this report a signed statement from legal counsel on whether the court proceedings, lawsuits and settlements, when aggregated, would materially impact the Licensee's financial condition and/or ability to meet obligations.

8. Current standing of the Licensee's tax-exemption status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code after the most recent IRS audit: (Mark one)

- _____ No change*
- _____ Not audited
- _____ Audit -- ongoing
- _____ Exemption revoked*, #
- _____ Revocation under appeal*, #

* **Attach** a copy of the latest notification/acknowledgement letter from the IRS.

Attach a copy of a good standing certificate as a non-profit organization issued by the Licensee's home state and New York State.

9. Employees working remotely (away from licensed locations) (Yes or No) _____

If yes,:

Number of staff permitted to work remotely _____

Percentage of total staff permitted to work remotely _____

Briefly describe procedures in place to mitigate increased cybersecurity risks attributable to remote work (*i.e. protection of expanded attack surfaces, vulnerable networks, cloud-based infrastructures; staff access monitoring (passwords, encryption, authentication, etc.); etc.*)

10. Describe current fee structure applicable to New York consumers (*initial set-up, monthly fees, etc.*)
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11. Is the Licensee in contract with any third-party service provider that has access to the Licensee's New York trust bank account with ability to deposit client payments and/or disburse creditor payments out of the same account?

(Yes or No) _____

If yes, please provide dates DFS was notified and surety bond requirement was satisfied in accordance with NYCRR Part 404.4 of S.R.

12. Person responsible for completion of this report:

Full Name	Title	Phone	Email

SCHEDULE B - OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

1. Budget planning clients¹:

	(A) # of Clients at close of 12/31/22	(B) # of Clients signed up during 2023	(C) # of Clients who completed program during 2023	(D) # of Clients who dropped out of program during 2023	(E) # of Clients at close of 12/31/23
New York State					
Nationwide					

On the *New York State* line, Column (E) must equal:

Column (A) [*This must match the # of NYS budget planning clients at the close of 2022 as reported in the 2022 Annual Report.*]

+ Column (B)

- Column (C)

- Column (D)

= Column (E)

2. Pursuant to NYBL Section 584-a, the Licensee must submit to DFS any form of written contract it intends to use between itself and clients in New York State. **Upload** both of the following to NMLS, under the document type *Debt Management Agreement* in the Document Uploads section of the Company Form (MU1):
- A complete copy of the Licensee's client agreement package (blank forms and disclosures) currently in use. Include "NY DMP" and the agreement's issuance date in the file name.

¹ Pursuant to Article 28-B Section 455.1 of the General Business Law, a budget planning client in New York State is an individual with whom the Licensee has entered into a contract for budget planning and who was a resident in the state of New York at the time the contract was entered into, regardless of his/her subsequent or current residency.

- b. A complete copy of ONE recently executed client agreement package, preferably one signed during December 2023. Confidential and sensitive information such as the borrower's identifying information and bank/creditor account numbers should be redacted. Include "NY DMP Executed Sample" and the DMP commencement date in the file name.
3. If the Licensee has been granted permission to employ the average daily balance criteria instead of the highest balance in the New York trust account in the setting of the surety bond/asset pledge requirement, pursuant to the DFS industry letter of March 24, 2005, **attach to this report** a copy of (a) the declarations page from the Licensee's Fidelity and Dishonesty insurance policy -- that is commensurate with the amount of money held on behalf of all debtors nationwide, and (b) the primary nationwide trust account bank statement for the month of December 2023.

AFFIDAVIT

*I, the undersigned, do hereby swear or affirm under the penalties of perjury that (i) I am an executive officer of the Licensee, (ii) I am authorized to submit the above report (including all addenda and schedules), (iii) the information contained therein is accurate, true, correct and complete, to the best of my knowledge and belief, and (iv) that the licensee has complied with New York Banking Law and Regulations pertaining to the notices, applications, and certifications mentioned in the **Reminder Section** of this report form, in addition to all other applicable laws and regulations.*

Full Name

Title

Signature

Date

Subscribed and sworn to before me this date:

NOTARY SIGNATURE:

DATE: