



# SIRCON FOR CARRIERS

# Maintain Business Units and Cost Centers



Section: Overview

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Section: Overview

# Overview

# Introduction and Background

In Sircon for Carriers, you have several options to categorize the producers in your organization. The main ways to organize producers are using:

- Business Units
- Cost Centers
- Locations and Departments

**Business units** are used to group producers (both individuals and firms) into logical or physical divisions for easier tracking, maintenance, and reporting.

**Cost centers** are used to link the cost of a particular transaction type to an accounting category or "cost center." For example, you can create a cost center for all Property & Casualty license and appointment fees.

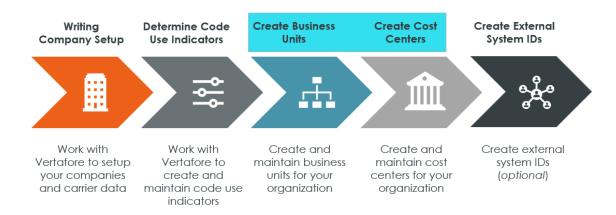
You can design the Sircon business units/cost centers to model your organization's existing departments and cost centers.

Business units and cost centers are required to complete several functions in Producer Central, including:

- License Applications
- Sales Authorizations
- Appointments
- Terminations

In the charts below, you can see that the business unit and cost center creation is a step in the Initial Sircon Administration Process and the User Administration Process.

# Initial Sircon Administration Process





Section: Overview

#### **User Administration Process** Set-up Business **Create Security** Add New User to Maintain **Units & Cost** Roles Organization **Security Roles** Centers Define the security Create the Add a new user to Maintain security roles for your business units and your organization roles and user organization cost centers for and assign user permissions your organization business units and cost centers

You can also use **Locations & Departments** to create a list of the different locations (cities, states, regions, or countries) where producers are located. You can also create different departments (such as Sales or Customer Support) to further categorize the producers in your organization. Unlike business units and cost centers, **the locations and departments feature is optional**.

**Note**: For information about how to maintain locations and departments, refer to the <u>Locations and Departments Quick Guide</u>.

#### What will be covered?

In this quick guide, we will discuss how to categorize producers in your organization using:

- Business Units
- Cost Centers

We will describe how to create and maintain business units and cost centers. Then we will explore how to assign users and producers to business units.

# Who should use this document?

Any users that need to create and maintain business units or cost centers in Producer Central.

This guide can also be used by individuals that need to assign producers to business units.

Note: Users need administrative access to create business units and cost centers.



Section: Configuring Your Organization

# When should you use this document?

Use this document when you need to:

- Learn the difference between business units and cost centers
- Create or Maintain Business Units and Cost Centers
- Assign Users to Business Units and Cost Centers
- Assign Producers to Business Units

# **Configuring Your Organization**

# **Business Units**

Business units are used to group producers (both individuals and firms) into logical or physical divisions for easier tracking, maintenance, and reporting. Business units are required to complete several transactions in Producer Central (such as Appointments and License Applications).

You can assign producers into multiple business units depending on the business needs. A business unit may also contain more granular divisions, or sub-codes.

**Note:** If you don't want to create multiple business units, you can use the "DEFAULT" business unit.

BUSINESS UNIT EXAMPLES

#### **Product Line**

Business Unit Name	Business Unit Short Name
Property & Casualty	PC
Accident	ACC
Life	LIFE
Annuities	ANN

# **Geographic Locations**

Business Unit Name	Business Unit Short Name
Northeast	NE
South	STH
Northwest	NW
Midwest	MW



Section: Configuring Your Organization

# **Distribution Channels**

Business Unit Name	Business Unit Short Name
Captive Agent	CAGT
Direct Agent	DAGT
Captive Agency	CAGY
Direct Agency	DAGY

# **Cost Centers**

In the Sircon Platform, the cost of a particular transaction type is associated with an accounting category or "cost center."

You can tie one or multiple cost centers to a single business unit, allowing a user associated with the business unit who is submitting a transaction to select a cost center to which to assign the transaction's cost.

#### BUSINESS UNIT AND COST CENTER EXAMPLES

Here are some examples of the ways you could organize your cost centers and business units.

# Line of Authority and Transaction Type

Business Unit Name	Business Unit Short Name	Cost Center
Property & Casualty	PC	License Transactions
Property & Casualty	PC	Appointment Fees
Property & Casualty	PC	Maintenance Fees
Life & Health	LIFE	License Transactions
Life & Health	LIFE	Appointment Fees

# Geographic Region & Line of Authority

Business Unit Name	Business Unit Short Name	Cost Center
Northeast	NE	P&C
Northeast	NE	Life & Health
South	STH	P&C
South	STH	Life & Health
Northwest	NW	P&C
Northwest	NW	Life & Health

# Distribution Channel and Geographic Regions

Business Unit Name	Business Unit Short Name	Cost Center
Captive Agent	CAGT	Northeast
Captive Agent	CAGT	Midwest
Captive Agent	CAGT	Northwest



Section: Configuring Your Organization

Captive Agency	CAGY	Northeast
Captive Agency	CAGY	Midwest
Captive Agency	CAGY	Northwest

Your account can choose to organize business units and cost centers in whatever way makes most sense for your business. If you have existing cost centers or business units, you can recreate them in Sircon Producer Central to make reporting easy.

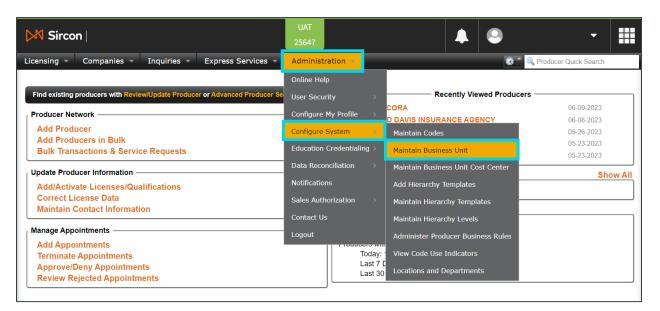


# Maintain Business Unit

If you have administrative permissions, use the Maintain Business Unit page to configure a business unit in the system.

You can also inactivate a business unit and thereby disassociate all staff member users and producers with the business unit.

1. To open the Maintain Business Unit page, from the Administration menu select Configure System, and then select Maintain Business Unit.



- 2. You will now see all the business units within your organization. Here are the fields displayed in the table:
  - BU Name: Full name of the business unit.
  - Short Name: Short Name of the business unit
  - Status: Current status of the business unit.
    - Active indicates that the business unit is currently available to configure.
    - **Inactive** indicates that the business unit is currently unavailable to configure.
  - **Begin Date**: Date on which the business unit **Status** most recently became Active in the system.
  - **End Date**: Date on which the business unit **Status** most recently became Inactive in the system.
  - Actions: Click the Edit button (
    ✓) to update the business unit information or inactivate the business unit.

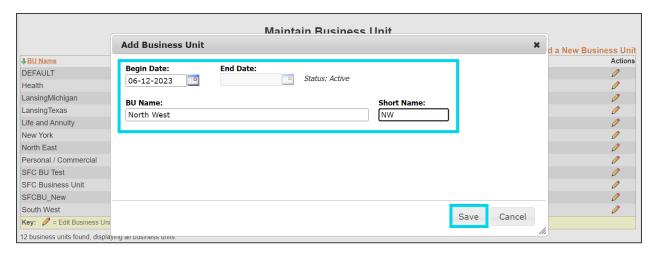


#### Create a New Business Unit

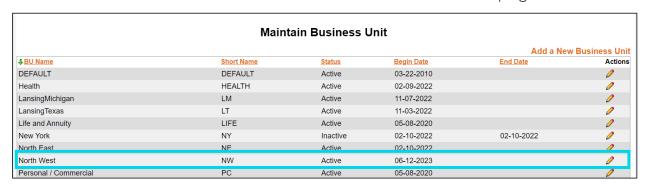
1. Click the Add a New Business Unit button.



- The Add Business Unit popup will appear. Enter the Begin Date, BU Name, and the business unit Short Name.
- 3. Click Save.



4. You will now see the business unit in the Maintain Business Unit page.





# Edit or Inactivate a Business Unit

Follow this process to edit an existing business unit. You can also use this process to inactivate a business unit.

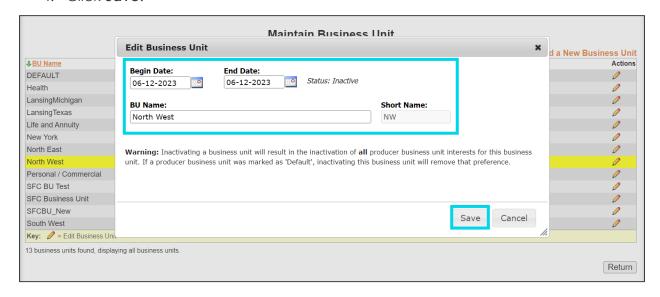
1. Click the **Edit** button ( ≥) next to the business unit you need to modify.



- 2. You will see the Edit Business Unit popup appear.
- 3. From here you can edit the **BU Name**, **Begin Date**, or you can add an **End Date** to make the Business Unit inactive.

**Note**: If you inactivate a business unit, the business unit will be inactivated for all producers associated with the BU. If the business unit is marked as the default business unit for the producer, that preference will be removed.

4. Click Save.





5. The business unit update will appear on the Maintain Business Unit page.

				Add a Nev	w Business Uni
<b>↓</b> <u>BU Name</u>	Short Name	<u>Status</u>	Begin Date	End Date	Actions
DEFAULT	DEFAULT	Active	03-22-2010		0
Health	HEALTH	Active	02-09-2022		Ø
LansingMichigan	LM	Active	11-07-2022		0
LansingTexas	LT	Active	11-03-2022		Ø
Life and Annuity	LIFE	Active	05-08-2020		0
New York	NY	Inactive	02-10-2022	02-10-2022	Ø
North East	NE	Active	02-10-2022		0
North West	NW	Inactive	06-12-2023	06-12-2023	Ø
Personal / Commercial	PC	Active	05-08-2020		Ø
SFC BU Test	SFCBU	Active	03-01-2021		Ø
SFC Business Unit	BUSFC	Active	08-09-2022		0
SFCBU_New	NEWBU	Active	08-23-2022		Ø
South West	LUV	Active	02-10-2022		Ø
Key: 🥖 = Edit Business Unit					
Key:	nits				

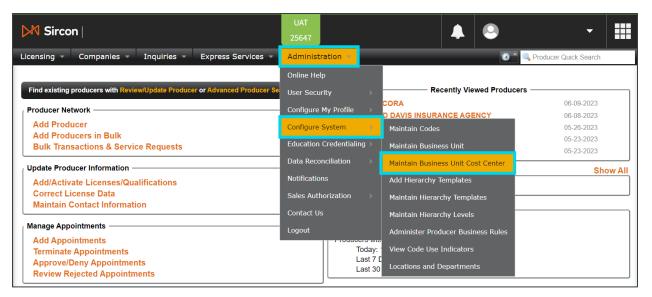


# Maintain Cost Center

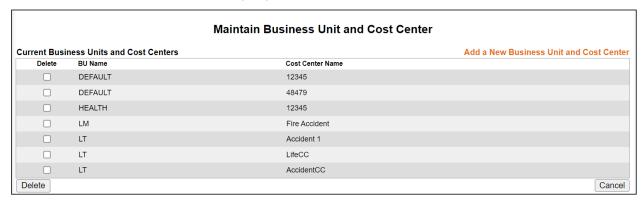
The cost of a particular transaction type can be associated with an accounting category or "cost center." You can tie one or multiple cost centers to a single business unit, allowing a user assigned to the business unit and submitting a transaction to select a cost center to which to assign the transaction's cost.

If you have system administrator permissions, use the Maintain Business Unit and Cost Center page to view and manage cost centers associated with specific business units.

1. From the **Administration** menu select **Configure System**, and then select **Maintain Business Unit and Cost Center**.



- 2. You will now see the Maintain Business Unit and Cost Center page. Here you will see all the current business units and cost centers. This page displays the following fields:
  - BU Name: Short name of the business unit associated with the cost center.
  - Cost Center Name: Displays the name of the cost center.



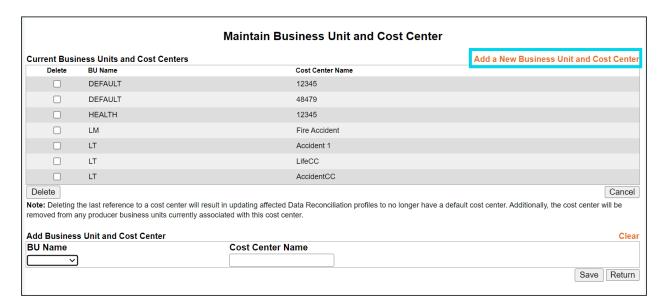


# Add a New Cost Center

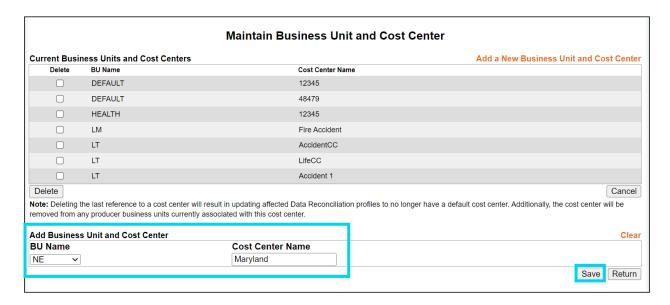
Follow this process to add a new business unit and cost center combination to your organization.

**Note**: You can assign multiple cost centers to the same business unit.

1. Click the Add a New Business Unit and Cost Center button.

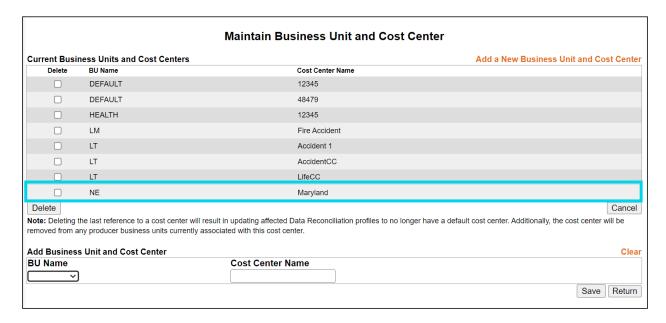


- 2. In the Add Business Unit and Cost Center section, select the **Business Unit Name** from a drop-down list then type the **Cost Center Name**.
- 3. Click Save.





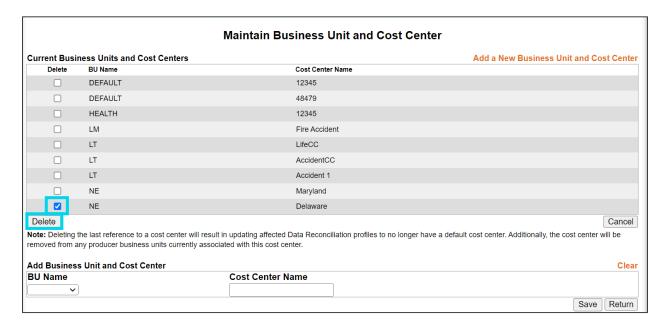
4. You will now see the cost center in the list.



### Delete a Cost Center

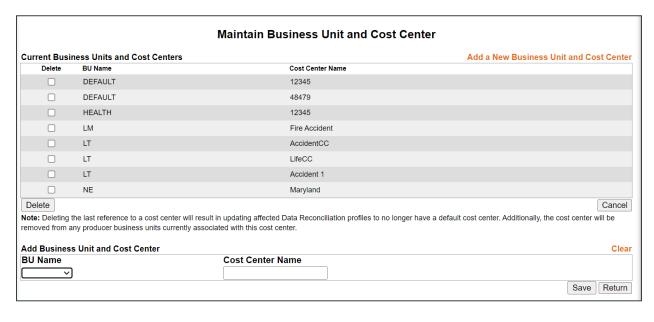
Use these steps to remove a cost center from the system. Deleting the cost center will remove it from the producer's business units that are associated with the cost center. If the producer's default cost center is deleted, they will no longer have a default maintained in the system.

1. Click the check box next to the **Cost Center** you need to remove then click the **Delete** button.





2. The cost center will be removed from the Maintain Business Unit and Cost Center page.





# Assign Users to a Business Unit and Cost Center

In this section, we will discuss how to assign business units and cost centers to a system user. Business unit and cost center assignments are required before users from your organization can complete transactions on behalf of producers.

For example, we set up Sircon for Carriers to have a Property & Casualty business unit. The cost centers are the resident states of the producers.

A user in the team needs to request a state appointment for a P&C producer in Maryland. In order for that user to complete the transaction, they will need the "Property & Casualty" business unit and the "Maryland" cost center assigned to them.

**Note**: Users with Administrative access can assign other users to business units and cost centers. For more information, refer to the User Security Quick Guide.

In this section, we will focus on how an individual user can assign themselves to a business unit and cost center.

# **Business Unit Assignments**

Follow these steps to add or edit your business unit assignments.

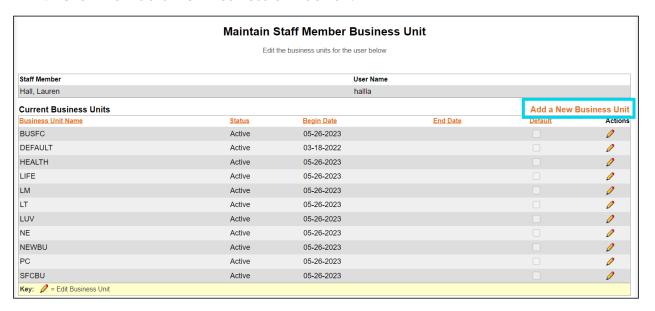
### ADD USER TO BUSINESS UNIT

1. From the **Administration** menu select **Configure My Profile**, and then select **Maintain Staff Member Business Unit**.

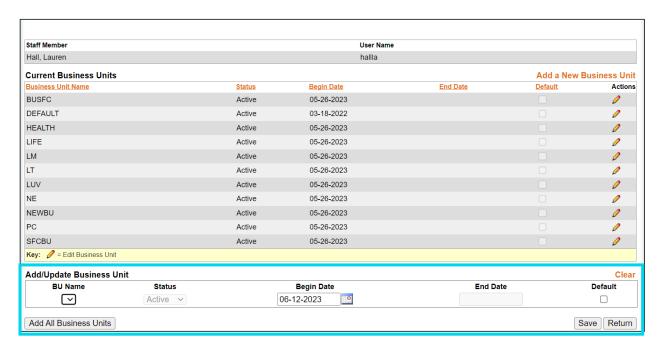




- 2. You will now see all the current business units in the Maintain Staff Member Business Unit page.
- 3. At the top of the page, you will see the name of the **Staff Member** that you are updating.
- 4. Click the Add a New Business Unit button.



- 5. In the Add/Update Business Unit section, select the **BU Name** from the dropdown list and enter a **Begin Date**. You can also select the **Default** checkbox to make this the user's main business unit.
- 6. If the user needs to work in all the business units, click Add All Business Units.
- 7. Click Save.





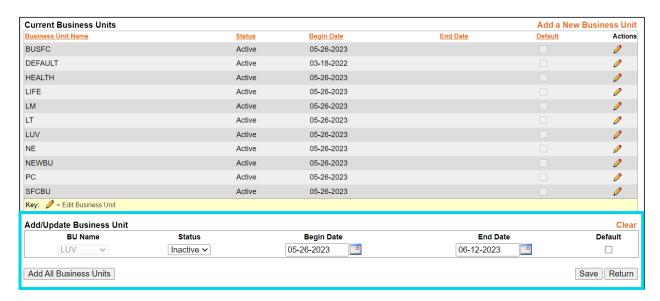
#### EDIT BUSINESS UNIT ASSIGNMENT

Follow these steps to edit or inactivate a business unit assignment.

1. Click the **Edit** button ( ≥ ) next to the business unit you need to modify.



- Update the necessary information, such as the Begin Date or the Default checkbox. You can also change the Status to Inactive and update the End Date to reflect that the business unit is no longer active for the users.
- 3. Click Save.

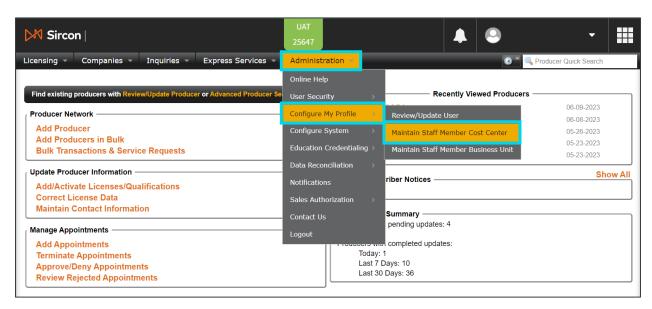




# Add Users to Cost Centers

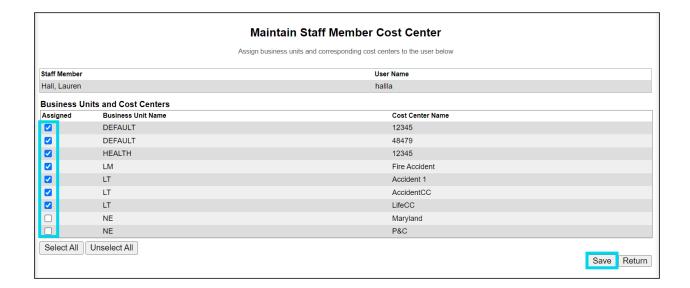
Follow these steps to add or edit your cost center assignments.

1. From the **Administration** menu select **Configure My Profile**, and then select **Maintain Staff Member Cost Center**.



- 2. Click the check box next to the business unit and cost center you want to assign to the staff member.
- 3. Click Save.

Note: You can also click the Select All button to add all the cost centers.





Section: Assign Producers to Business Units

# **Assign Producers to Business Units**

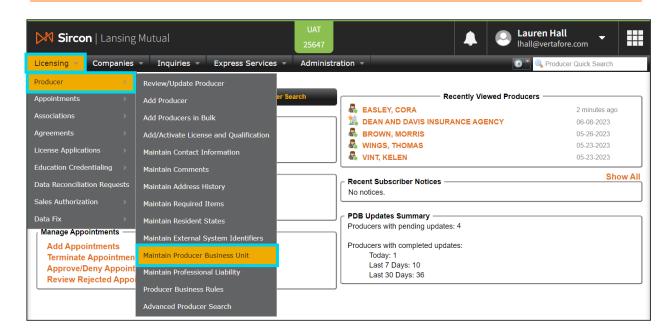
Follow these steps to assign producers to business units. You will need to assign a producer to a business unit and cost center before you can complete transactions (such as appointments and terminations) on behalf of the producer.

# **Assign Producers to Business Units**

Follow these steps to assign a producer to a business unit.

 In the Licensing menu, click Producer then select Maintain Producer Business Unit.

**Note**: You can also assign business units from the producer record. You can use the **Producer Quick Search** to open the producer record and navigate to the Business Unit data section. For more information, refer to the <u>Maintain Producer Record Quick Guide</u>.

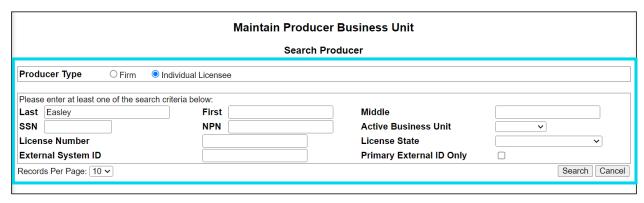


- 2. You will see the Maintain Producer Business Unit page.
- Select if you need to search for an Individual Licensee or a Firm from the Producer Type.
- 4. Enter at least one of the search criteria to search for the producer you need to modify.

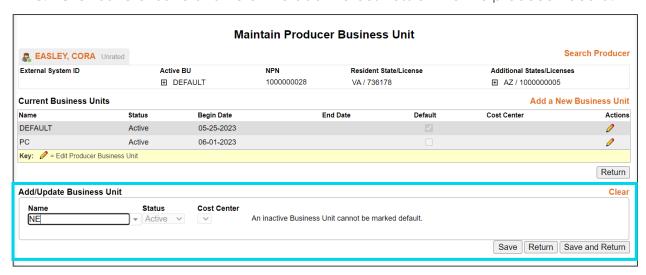
5. Click Search.



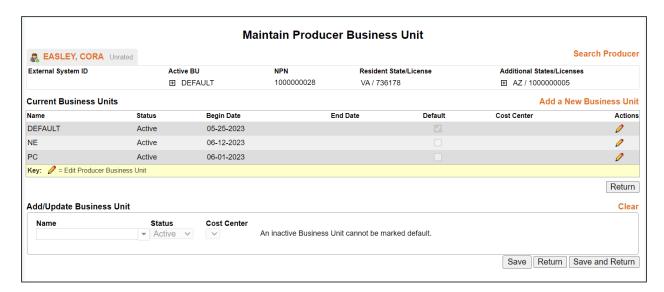
Section: Assign Producers to Business Units



- 6. Click the Add New Business Unit button.
- 7. Select the **Name** of the business unit you need to add.
- 8. Click Save or Save and Return to add the business unit to the producer record.



9. The business unit will appear in the Current Business Units section.





Section: APPENDIX 1: Sircon for Carriers Help Resources

# **APPENDIX 1: Sircon for Carriers Help Resources**

Help is just a click away. Vertafore has two resources available to support you 24/7:

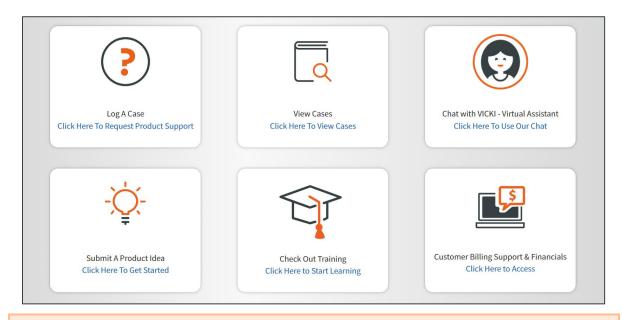
- My Vertafore
- Sircon Support

# My Vertafore

My Vertafore is our free online customer support portal and knowledge base.

With My Vertafore you can:

- Log a Case Cases are used to request product support
- **Submit Ideas** Send Vertafore ideas for new product features or enhancements
- Search Knowledgebase Search for detailed articles on the Sircon Knowledge Base



Note: Sircon does not use the Submit a Product Idea or Chat with VICKI functions.

# **Contact Vertafore Customer Support**

Cannot find what you are looking for at My Vertafore? Our Customer Support team is here to help. Click here to email Support or call 877-876-4430.



Section: APPENDIX 2: Document History

# **APPENDIX 2: Document History**

Version	Revision Date	Revision Record
1.0	6/12/2023	Original Document



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