

March 23, 2015 (Revised)

## **Notice Regarding New State-Specific Education Requirements for Washington Department of Financial Institutions (WA-DFI)**

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### **Purpose**

The purpose of this notice is to inform NMLS approved course providers of the pre-licensure education (PE) requirements that must be met as a condition for licensure with Washington Department of Financial Institutions (WA-DFI) that began April 1, 2013.

### **Background and Reason for the Notice**

Washington Department of Financial Institution (WA-DFI) informed NMLS that it adopted the Uniform State Test (UST) in April 2013. As part of the adoption of the UST, individuals seeking licensure with WA-DFI were no longer required to take the Washington State Component of the MLO SAFE Test. However, individuals seeking licensure with WA-DFI on and after April 1 are required to complete four (4) hours of WA-DFI specific PE prior to licensure by the agency.

### **WA-DFI State-Specific Education Requirements and Reference List**

WA-DFI pre-licensure education requirements will be as follows:

- 3 hours of Federal Law;
- 3 hours of Ethics (must include fraud, consumer protection, and fair lending issues);
- 2 hours lending standards for Non-Traditional mortgage products;
- 10 hours of General Electives
- 4 hours of WA-DFI Defined Electives

**Total PE: 22 hours**

WA-DFI has established the following the course content standards that must be met as a condition for NMLS course approval:

- **1.5 hours** covering the Washington Mortgage Brokers Act
- **1 hour** covering the Consumer Loan Act
- **1.5 hours** covering the Escrow Agent Registration Act, the usury Act, Unfair practices with respect to real estate transaction, mortgage deed of trust, and real estate contract statuses set forth in Title 61 RCW, real estate and appraisal law to include the provisions of chapters 18.85 and 18.140 RCW, Washington principle and agent law and any other subsequent act or regulations(s) applying to mortgage brokers.

To assist in course development, the following reference list applies:

The Washington Mortgage Broker Practices Act, chapter 19.146 RCW (<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=19.146>) and chapter 208-660 WAC (<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=208-660&full=true#208-660-600>)

The Consumer Loan Act, chapter 31.04 RCW (<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=31.04>) and chapter 208-620 WAC (<http://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=208-620>) )

The Escrow Agent Registration Act, chapter 18.44 RCW (<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=18.44>) and chapter 208-680 WAC (<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=208-680>)

The Usury Act, chapter 19.52 RCW

Unfair practices with respect to real estate transactions, RCW 49.60.222

Mortgage, deed of trust, and real estate contract statutes set forth in Title 61 RCW

Real estate and appraisal law, including without limitation, the provisions of chapters 18.85 and 18.140

RCW

Mortgage Lending and Homeownership, RCW 19.144, <http://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=19.144&full=true>

Washington principal and agent law

Any subsequent act(s) or regulation(s) applying to mortgage brokers

In accordance with the SAFE Act, NMLS is the approval authority for courses that are intended to satisfy either the PE or CE requirement for an MLO to be licensed by a state-agency. Courses intending to satisfy WA-DFI requirements must also meet NMLS course approval standards as detailed in the *Functional Specification for All NMLS Approved Courses*.