

Update on License Fee Proposal

Well it's been a tumultuous time around the Real Estate Commission and still as of this writing we have not heard from the Director for the Division, Don Habeger, as to whether or not he will increase the real estate license fee for this next renewal cycle and if he does, to what extent. Will it be the proposed maximum of \$685 or within the realm of what the Commission suggested at their September 7th meeting of \$355 to \$385?

Once a renewal fee is determined all licensees will receive a postcard in the mail with instructions to renew their license. Therefore, please make sure the Commission has your most current mailing information. You can go online to the REC web site and review what is listed as your current mailing address. If you need to make changes, you may email or fax the REC your current information so that it can be updated before you renew.

The renewal period this year will only be open for 30-days. It will begin January 1 and end January 31. However, don't wait until the last moment to renew! It has happened before and can happen again, where the system crashed and there were victims, those who weren't able to renew before the deadline. If you have completed your 20 hours of CE, don't hesitate to renew online. If you are unable to renew online because you are required to provide us your CE certificate(s), then send those in immediately for processing. Hardcopy renewals can be more cumbersome and require more time to process than online renewals. However, we do our best to renew your license and have it out to your broker in a timely manner.

Be Aware of Some Changes before you renew your license

Do you plan to "inactivate your license"? You will need to complete the "Application to Change License Status", and pay the \$50 fee to "inactivate". If you are doing this at the same time you are renewing your license, you will also need to pay the renewal fee so you can "renew inactive". When you renew inactive you do not have to pay the Recovery Fund fee until you reactivate. If you don't renew your license in an active or inactive status by January 31, 2012, then you run the risk of incurring additional fees when you want to reinstate and/or reactivate your license. What is different? Licensees, who have allowed their license to lapse due to non-renewal or non-compliance of PLE but still want to practice, **will have to pay a \$250 Reinstatement Fee**, which became effective 9/17/2011. This means, if you want to reinstate or reactivate your license that is in a lapsed status, you will be required to pay the licensing fee, recovery fee, reactivation fee (if inactive) and the reinstatement fee.

If you have any questions about this process or need additional information about this renewal please, contact the staff at the Commission. We wish you all Happy Holidays!!

*Submitted by Sharon Walsh
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