Agency Name: Real Estate Appraisers Board - Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Statutory Authority: 40-60-10(I)(3) and 40-60-360

Document Number: 4766

Proposed in State Register Volume and Issue: 41/9

House Committee: Regulations and Administrative Procedures Committee

Senate Committee: Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee

120 Day Review Expiration Date for Automatic Approval: 05/09/2018

Final in State Register Volume and Issue: 42/5

Status: Final

Subject: Amend Regulations for the Real Estate Appraisers Board; Delete Fees; Add Regulations for AMCs; and Make Editorial Changes

History: 4766

By Date Action Description Jt. Res. No. Expiration Date

- 09/22/2017 Proposed Reg Published in SR

- 01/09/2018 Received by Lt. Gov & Speaker 05/09/2018

H 01/09/2018 Referred to Committee

S 01/09/2018 Referred to Committee

S 02/13/2018 Resolution Introduced to Approve 997

H 04/19/2018 Resolution Introduced to Approve 5276

- 05/09/2018 Approved by: Expiration Date

- 05/25/2018 Effective Date unless otherwise

provided for in the Regulation

Document No. 4766

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION**

**REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS BOARD**

Chapter 137

Statutory Authority: 1976 Code Sections 40-60-10(I)(3) and 40-60-360

137-100. Definitions.

137-100.01. Appraisal Experience Point System.

137-100.02. Qualifications.

137-100.03. Residential Appraisal Categories.

137-100.04. Residential Point Values.

137-100.05. Nonresidential Point Values.

137-100.06. Nonresidential Appraisal Categories.

137-100.07. Other Appraisal Experience.

137-200.02. Residential Mass Appraisals.

137-200.03. Nonresidential Mass Appraisals.

137-200.04. Mass Appraisal Experience Verification.

137-300.01. Responsibilities of an Apprentice Appraiser.

137-300.02. Responsibilities of a Supervising Appraiser.

137-400.01. Temporary Practice.

137-500.01. Continuing Education.

137-600.02. Ex Parte Communications.

137-600.03. Disciplinary Information.

137-600.05. (New Section) Disciplinary Action for Appraisal Management Companies

137-700.01. Hearings.

137-700.02. Role of Board Members.

137-700.03. Failure to Appear.

137-800.01. Payment of Fees.

137-800.02. Bad Checks.

137-800.03. Biennial Fee Schedule.

137-800.04. Permit, License and Certification Renewals.

137-800.05. Expired Permit, License or Certificate.

137-900.05. Curriculum and Attendance.

137-900.09. Instructors.

**Synopsis:**

The South Carolina Real Estate Appraisers Board proposes to: amend its regulations relating to appraisal experience, qualifications, appraisal categories, mass appraisals, apprentice and supervisor requirements, temporary practice, continuing education, and disciplinary actions; delete fees; add regulations for AMCs; and make editorial changes.

A Notice of Drafting was published in the *State Register* on July 28, 2017.

**Instructions:**

Replace regulation as shown below. All other items and sections remain unchanged.

**Text:**

137-100. Definitions.

(1) “Asynchronous” means communication that does not take place at the same time. It is characterized by as needed, intermittent communication.

(2) “Co-Appraiser” refers to appraisals in which more than one appraiser works as a team. Applicants must have performed at least fifty (50%) percent of the work on an appraisal.

(3) “Direct Supervision” means personally reviewing an appraisal report prepared by an apprentice and signing and certifying the report as being independently and impartially prepared and in compliance with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice, these regulations and applicable statutory requirements.

(4) “Distance Education” means the process of delivering instruction when the instructors and the students are separated by distance.

(5) “Lister” refers to duties individuals perform in mass appraisals that are typically limited to the location of real property, measurement of improvements relative to such things as number of bedrooms and bathrooms, siding, decks, or other miscellaneous information.

(6) “Sole Appraiser” refers to appraisals that are completed by only one person.

(7) “Synchronous” means communication in which the interaction is simultaneous. It is characterized by live two-way communication.

137-100.01. Appraisal Experience Hourly System.

An hourly system shall be utilized by the Board to evaluate the appraisal experience of applicants.

137-100.02. Qualifications.

(A) In order to qualify as a state apprentice, licensed or certified appraiser, an applicant must meet the requirements set forth below, as well as any requirements established by the Appraiser Qualifications Board (AQB) and the Appraisal Standards Board (ASB) of the Appraisal Foundation, as subsequently endorsed by the Appraisal Subcommittee pursuant to Title XI of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989.

(B) In order to qualify as an apprentice appraiser, an applicant:

(1) must have received 75 hours of Core Curriculum prescribed by the AQB in qualifying education covering thirty (30) hours in Basic Appraisal Principles, thirty (30) hours in Basic Appraisal Procedures, and fifteen (15) hours in National Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice or its equivalent as determined by the AQB;

(2) must attend a trainee/supervisor orientation conducted in compliance with AQB requirements.

(C) In order to qualify to become a state licensed real estate appraiser, an applicant:

(1) must have received one hundred fifty (150) hours of Core Curriculum prescribed by the AQB in qualifying education covering thirty (30) hours in Basic Appraisal Principles, thirty (30) hours in Basic Appraisal Procedures, fifteen (15) hour National Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice or its equivalent as determined by the AQB, fifteen (15) hours in Residential Market Analysis and Highest and Best Use, fifteen (15) hours in Residential Appraiser Site Valuation and Cost Approach, thirty (30) hours in Residential Sales Comparison and Income Approaches, and fifteen (15) hours in Residential Report Writing and Case Studies.

(2) Applicants for the Licensed appraiser classification must hold an Associate degree or higher, from an accredited college, community college, or university. In lieu of the Associate degree, an applicant for the Licensed appraiser credential shall successfully complete 30 semester hours of college-level education from an accredited college, junior college, community college or university. The college or university must be a degree-granting institution accredited by the Commission on Colleges, a regional or national accreditation association, or by an accrediting agency that is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education. If an accredited college or university accepts the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) examination(s) and issues a transcript for the exam, showing its approval, it will be considered as credit for the college course.

(3) must have earned a minimum of two thousand hours of appraisal experience in appraising either residential or nonresidential properties. However, the maximum number of hours which an applicant can earn in review (field, documentary, or desk) appraisal experience is limited to one thousand (1,000) hours. Qualifying experience must be obtained after January 1, 1992, be in appraisal work conforming to USPAP Standards where the appraiser demonstrates proficiency in appraisal principles, methodology, procedures (development), reporting conclusions, and be of a variety sufficient to demonstrate competency in all USPAP recognized approaches to value; and

(4) must have at least twenty-four (24) months of real estate appraisal experience commencing as of the date that the first assignment is completed; and

(5) must stand for and pass an exam administered or approved by the Board. An applicant who does not become licensed within two years after passing the examination must retake the examination.

(D) In order to qualify to become a state certified residential real estate appraiser, an applicant:

(1) must have received two hundred (200) hours of Core Curriculum prescribed by the AQB in qualifying education covering thirty hours in Basic Appraisal Principles, thirty (30) hours in Basic Appraisal Procedures, fifteen (15) hour National Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice or its equivalent as determined by the AQB, fifteen (15) hours in Residential Market Analysis and Highest and Best Use, fifteen (15) hours in Residential Appraiser Site Valuation and Cost Approach, thirty (30) hours in Residential Sales Comparison and Income Approaches, fifteen (15) hours in Residential Report Writing and Case Studies, fifteen (15) hours in Statistics, Modeling, and Finance, fifteen (15) hours in Advanced Residential Applications and Case Studies, and twenty (20) hours in appraisal subject matter electives;

(2) must hold a Bachelor’s degree or higher, from an accredited college, community college, or university;

(3) must have earned a minimum of two thousand five hundred hours of appraisal experience in appraising either residential or nonresidential properties. However, the maximum number of hours which an applicant can earn in review (field, documentary, or desk) appraisal experience is limited to one thousand two hundred fifty (1,250) hours. Qualifying experience must be obtained after January 1, 1992, be in appraisal work conforming to USPAP Standards where the appraiser demonstrates proficiency in appraisal principles, methodology, procedures (development), reporting conclusions, and be of a variety sufficient to demonstrate competency in all USPAP recognized approaches to value;

(4) must have at least twenty-four (24) months of real estate appraisal experience commencing as of the date that the first assignment is completed; and

(5) must stand for and pass an exam administered or approved by the Board. An applicant who does not become certified within two years after passing the examination must retake the examination to qualify for residential certification.

(E) In order to qualify to become a state certified general real estate appraiser, an applicant:

(1) must have received three hundred (300) hours of Core Curriculum prescribed by the AQB in qualifying education covering thirty (30) hours in Basic Appraisal Principles, thirty (30) hours in Basic Appraisal Procedures, fifteen (15) hour National Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice or its equivalent as determined by the AQB, thirty (30) hours in General Appraiser Market Analysis and Highest and Best Use, fifteen (15) hours in Statistics, Modeling, and Finance, thirty (30) hours in General Appraiser Sales Comparison Approach, at least thirty (30) hours in General Appraiser Site Valuation and Cost Approach, sixty (60) hours in General Appraiser Income Approach, thirty (30) hours in General Appraiser Report Writing and Case Studies, and thirty (30) hours in appraisal subject matter electives;

(2) must hold a Bachelors degree or higher from an accredited college or university;

(3) must have earned a minimum of three thousand hours of appraisal experience, fifty (50%) percent of which must come from appraising nonresidential properties. The maximum number of hours which an applicant can earn in review (field, documentary, or desk) appraisal experience is limited to one thousand five hundred (1,500) hours. Qualifying experience must be obtained after January 1, 1992, be in appraisal work conforming to USPAP Standards where the appraiser demonstrates proficiency in appraisal principles, methodology, procedures (development), reporting conclusions, and be of a variety sufficient to demonstrate competency in all USPAP recognized approaches to value;

(4) must have at least thirty (30) months of real estate appraisal experience commencing as of the date that the first assignment is completed; and

(5) must stand for and pass an exam administered or approved by the Board. An applicant who does not become certified within two years after passing the examination must retake the examination to qualify for general certification.

(F) Courses taken in satisfying the qualifying education requirements should not be repetitive in nature. Each course credited toward the required number of qualifying education hours should represent a progression in which the appraiser’s knowledge is increased.

(G) The Board may waive the examination requirements for those applicants who are currently licensed or certified in another state upon proof that the applicant has successfully passed an Appraisal Qualifications Board approved exam which served as a requirement for licensure or certification in the state where he is currently licensed or certified.

137-100.03. Appraisal Categories.

The following categories pertain to various forms of appraiser involvement and the percentage which may be awarded by the Board when evaluating appraisal experience:

Category Percentages Assigned

(A) Sole Appraiser – 100%

(B) Co-Appraiser – 75%

(C) Field review – In order to 50%

qualify for field review experience credit, the applicant must

have conducted a physical inspection of the property, as well

as verified the data and checked the calculations contained in

the appraisal under review. In addition, in order to qualify

for experience credit in this category, an applicant must have

prepared a written report recommending the acceptance,

revision, or rejection of the appraisal under review.

(D) Documentary or Desk Review – of an 25%

appraisal performed by another person (including a person

under the applicant’s supervision) but does not include a

physical inspection of the subject property. In order to

qualify for experience credit in this category, an applicant

must have thoroughly and critically reviewed all portions of

the appraisal report and recommended the acceptance, revi-

sion, or rejection of the appraisal under review.

137-100.04. Residential Experience Hours.

The following hours may be awarded by the Board concerning property types when evaluating residential appraisal experience:

Type of Appraisal Hours Assigned

1. Appraisal of Single-Family 8

(one unit dwelling)

2. Appraisal of Multi-Family 16

(two-four units)

3. Appraisal of Vacant Residential Lot 6

4. Appraisal of Rural Residential Land 16

(10-50 acres)

5. All other residential properties, Hours to be determined by the Board upon

larger or more complex than typical properties. submission.

137-100.05. Nonresidential Experience Hours.

The following hours may be awarded by the Board concerning property types when evaluating nonresidential appraisal experience:

Type of Appraisal Hours Assigned

A. Vacant Land: 20

(Undeveloped nonresidential tracts, residential multifamily sites, commercial sites, industrial sites, lands in transition, etc.)

B. Rural/Agricultural:

(51 to 250 acres) 20

(more than 250 acres) 32

C. Residential Multi-Family (5-12 units): 40

(apartments, condominiums, townhouses, mobile home parks, etc.)

D. Residential Multi-Family (13 units or more): 56

(Apartments, condominiums, townhouses, mobile home parks, etc.)

E. Commercial Single-Tenant: 40

(Office building, retail store, restaurant, service station, bank,

day-care center, etc.)

F. Commercial Multi-Tenant: 64

(Office building, shopping center, hotel/motel, etc.)

G. Industrial:

(Warehouse, manufacturing plant, etc.)

Under 20,000 square feet 40

20,000 square feet or more 72

H. Institutional: 72

(Nursing home, hospital, school, church, government building, etc.)

I. Specialized or more complex properties Hours to be determined by Board upon

submission.

137-100.06. Co-Appraiser Experience

An appraiser with any credential, licensed under this chapter, can assist in any appraisal assignment, as long as the appraiser signs the report for providing professional assistance. A co-appraiser can claim experience credit using seventy-five (75%) of the experience hours as allowed in 137-100.04 and 137-100.05.

137-100.07. Other Appraisal Experience.

(A) Applicants may receive credit for appraisals of other types of real property not listed in these Regulations. The Board may, on an individual basis, determine the amount of credit to be awarded for such appraisals based on information provided to the Board by the applicant.

(B) Experience credit may be awarded for mass appraisal activity provided such activity is in compliance with the standards set forth in the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice. However, the maximum number of experience hours an applicant will be awarded for mass appraisal activity is fifty percent (50%).

(C) Mass appraisal experience will not be awarded for activity performed by individuals commonly referred to as “listers.” Activity by listers does not, in and of itself, apply the methods and techniques utilized in the appraisal process and consequently will not be credited as appraisal experience.

(D) Duties performed by listers are not considered regulated appraisal activity and therefore listers are not required to become licensed or certified under the South Carolina Real Estate Appraisers and Appraisal Management Companies Act.

137-200.01. Mass Appraisal Activity.

(A) Appraisal experience may be obtained through mass appraisal activity when applicants can demonstrate that after receiving information supplied by the lister the person claiming mass appraisal experience credit inspected the subject property, determined the quality or classification of the property, estimated the depreciation of the improvements, determined the land or lot value based on market sales of comparable properties adjusted to the subject property, and reviewed the estimated value of the property against comparable sales in order to ensure the value estimate approximated market value.

(B) Ad valorem appraisal experience may be obtained through individual property appraisals utilizing the entire appraisal process.

137-200.02. Residential Mass Appraisals.

The following categories pertain to various forms of appraiser involvement and the point values which may be awarded by the Board when evaluating residential mass appraisal experience:

(A) Sole Appraiser

Type of Appraisal Hours Assigned

1. Single-Family New 2

(one-unit dwelling) Update 1

2. Multi-Family New 2

(two-four units) Update 1

3. Residential Lots New 2

(4 lots or less) Update 1

4. Rural Residential Land New 2

(50 acres or less) Update 1

(B) Co-Appraiser

Type of Appraisal Hours Assigned

1. Single-Family New 1

(one unit dwelling) Update .50

2. Multi-Family New 1

(two-four units) Update .50

3. Residential Lots New 1

(4 lots or less) Update .50

4. Rural Residential Land New 1

(50 acres or less) Update .50

137-200.03. Nonresidential Mass Appraisals.

The following categories pertain to various forms of appraiser involvement and the hourly values which may be awarded by the Board when evaluating nonresidential mass appraisal experience:

(A) Sole Appraiser

Type of Appraisal Hours Assigned

1. Vacant Land New 2

Update 1

2. Rural Agricultural New 2

(51 acres to 250 acres) Update 1

3. Rural Agricultural New 2

(more than 250 acres) Update 1

4. Multi-Family New 8

(5-12 units) Update 4

5. Multi-Family New 12

(13 or more units) Update 6

6. Commercial New 8

(single tenant) Update 4

7. Commercial New 16

(multi-tenant) Update 8

8. Industrial New 8

(under 20,000 square feet) Update 4

9. Industrial New 12

(more than 20,000 square feet) Update 6

10. Institutional New 12

Update 6

(B) Co-Appraiser.

Type of Appraisal Hours Assigned

1. Vacant Land New 1

Update .50

2. Rural Agricultural New 1

(51 acres to 250 acres) Update .50

3. Rural Agricultural New 1

(more than 250 acres) Update .50

4. Multi-Family New 4

(5-12 units) Update 2

5. Multi-Family New 6

(13 or more units) Update 3

6. Commercial New 4

(single tenant) Update 2

7. Commercial New 8

(multi-tenant) Update 4

8. Industrial New 4

(under 20,000 square feet) Update 2

9. Industrial New 6

(more than 20,000 square feet) Update 3

10. Institutional New 6

Update 3

137-200.04. Mass Appraisal Experience Verification.

Persons claiming mass appraisal experience must provide a statement of verification of the experience claimed. This verification should be completed by the applicant’s supervisor or employer where the mass appraisal experience was required. The experience claimed by the applicant must be reported on a form approved by the Board.

137-300.01. Responsibilities of an Apprentice Appraiser.

(A) The holder of an apprentice appraiser permit issued by the Board must comply with the following:

(1) The apprentice shall perform appraisal assignments only under the direct supervision of a state certified residential or state certified general real estate appraiser.

(2) The apprentice and supervisor are required to complete a course that is oriented toward the requirements and responsibilities of supervisory appraisers and expectations for trainee appraisers prior to obtaining an apprentice credential.

(3) The apprentice shall maintain a log which shall contain the following for each appraisal assignment:

(a) Date of appraisal.

(b) Address of appraised property.

(c) Description of work performed by the apprentice and scope of the review and supervision of the supervising appraiser.

(d) Type of property.

(e) Hours by the apprentice on the assignment.

(f) Name, signature and certification number of supervising appraiser.

(4) The apprentice shall maintain copies or have access to all appraisals.

(5) The apprentice shall make the log and all appraisals available at all times for inspection by the Board.

(6) When performing appraisal assignments, the apprentice shall have in his or her possession the permit issued by the Board.

(7) The apprentice is eligible to take the appraisal licensing or certification examinations after completing the requisite Board-approved AQB Core Curriculum and experience required for the Licensed or Certified appraiser classification.

137-300.02. Responsibilities of a Supervising Appraiser.

(A) With respect to an apprentice appraiser employed or retained by or associated with a state certified appraiser:

(1) A state certified appraiser having direct supervisory authority over the apprentice appraiser shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that the apprentice’s conduct is compatible with the professional standards of the supervising appraiser.

(2) A supervising appraiser shall be responsible for conduct of an apprentice appraiser that would be a violation of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice if:

(a) the supervising appraiser orders or, with the knowledge of the specific conduct, ratifies the conduct involved; or

(b) the supervising appraiser has direct supervisory authority over the apprentice, and knows of the conduct at a time when its consequences can be avoided or mitigated but fails to take reasonable remedial action.

(B) A supervising appraiser of an apprentice appraiser shall also:

(1) The supervisor and apprentice are required to complete a course that is oriented toward the requirements and responsibilities of supervisory appraisers and expectations for trainee appraisers prior to obtaining an apprentice credential.

(2) Acknowledge in the appraisal certification the professional contribution of the apprentice in accordance with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice; and

(3) Provide the apprentice with a copy or allow access of any final appraisal document in which the apprentice participated.

(4) Jointly maintain with the apprentice appraiser an experience log as established in Section 137-300.01(A)(3).

(5) Must be certified for a minimum of three years prior to being eligible to become a supervisory appraiser.

(6) Be in good standing with the Board and not subject to any disciplinary action in any jurisdiction within the last three years that affects the supervisor’s legal eligibility to engage in the practice of appraising. A supervisory appraiser subject to a disciplinary action would be considered to be in “good standing” three (3) years after the successful completion/termination of the sanction imposed against the appraiser.

137-400.01. Temporary Practice.

(A) The Board shall grant a temporary permit to practice as a state licensed, state certified residential, or state certified general appraiser to persons who are licensed or certified to perform appraisals in another state. A person desiring a temporary practice permit must file an application as prescribed by the Board.

(B) The temporary practice permit shall be effective for one specific appraisal assignment. The application for temporary practice must state the specific appraisal assignment to which it will apply.

(C) If the appraisal assignment is not completed within six (6) months from the date of the permit, the Board may request that the appraiser show cause why the assignment is not complete. The Board may grant a six (6) month extension upon request of the appraiser and prior to the expiration of the current permit.

(D) A temporary practice permit issued by the Board must bear a number assigned by the Board. When signing an appraisal report while practicing under a temporary practice permit in this State, the holder thereof shall place the following notation: “Practicing in the State of South Carolina under Temporary Practice Permit No.”. The notation must be used in all statements of qualification, contracts, or other instruments used by the appraiser when reference is made to his authority to perform appraisal activity in this State.

137-500.01. Continuing Education.

(A) All appraisers, including apprentice appraisers, prior to their first and all subsequent renewals of their authorization to engage in real estate appraisal activity, must complete the continuing education requirement of at least twenty-eight (28) class hours of approved instruction biennially.

(B) Continuing education is to be reported on a form approved by the Board and must have all supporting documentation attached. To ensure that it is recorded prior to the renewal deadline of June 30 and does not delay an appraiser’s renewal, it should be received by the Board no later than June 1. The Board cannot guarantee that a renewal will be processed prior to the expiration date of June 30 if forms are received after June 1.

(C) Approved qualifying courses may be used to meet the continuing education requirement provided that the following conditions are met:

(1) Qualifying courses taken after July 1, 1992, must be on the approved list.

(2) The level of the course must be above the appraiser’s current status [e.g. a licensed appraiser may receive continuing education credit for taking a Certified Residential or Certified General Level Course].

(3) Credit will not be given for the same category course taken within a two (2) year period.

(4) The current 7-hour National Uniform Standards of Professional Appraiser Practice Update Course must be taken by all appraisers prior to each renewal.

(D) Appraisers may request that they receive credit for continuing education for a course taken that has not been approved by the Board. Appraisers may use qualifying courses for continuing education credit provided that the content is substantially different from their previously completed qualifying courses. Credit will be granted only if the appraiser provides satisfactory proof of course completion and the Board finds that the course meets the criteria set for continuing education courses with regard to subject matter, course length, instructor qualification and student attendance. Requests for continuing education credit for non-approved courses must be made on a form approved by the Board and must be submitted along with a nonrefundable fee.

(E) Appraisers who received their authority to engage in real estate appraisal activity in South Carolina through either a reciprocal agreement with their state of residence or as a non-resident South Carolina appraiser may meet the continuing education requirements by providing evidence that they have met the continuing education requirements of their state of residence. Such real estate appraisal requirements must meet South Carolina's minimum hour requirements and be approved by the regulatory agency in their state.

(F) Submission of false or misleading information is grounds for immediate revocation of the appraiser's authority to practice and other disciplinary actions.

(G) Approved instructors may receive up to one-half of their continuing education credit for teaching continuing education courses, subject to Board approval. Credit will not be given for the same continuing education course more than once during a continuing education cycle.

137-600.01. Member Request for Investigation.

If a member of the Board files a complaint or requires an investigation, such compliant or request shall serve to disqualify the member from participating in any hearing or a consent agreement regarding the matter. That member shall be prohibited from discussing the issue with other members, except as a witness or party, until after final agency action and the time for appeal has lapsed or appeal rights have been exhausted.

137-600.03. Disciplinary Actions For Appraisers, Providers and Instructors.

(A) The Board may, upon its own motion, and shall, upon the written complaint of any aggrieved person, investigate the activities of an applicant or a person permitted, licensed, or certified under this chapter and may deny, suspend, revoke, or otherwise restrict a permit, license, or certification and/or impose a public or private reprimand, other discipline, and/or a fine not to exceed two thousand dollars for each violation with a total fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars, if the Board finds an applicant, State apprentice appraiser, licensed appraiser, or certified appraiser has violated any provision of the South Carolina Real Estate Appraisers and Appraisal Management Companies Act or these regulations.

(B) When an appraiser has previously been sanctioned by the Board or by any other state’s real estate appraiser regulatory authority, the Board may consider these prior sanctions in determining the severity of a new sanction which may be imposed upon a finding that an appraiser has violated a provision of this chapter or any of the regulations of the Board. The failure of an appraiser to comply with or to obey a final order of the Board may be cause for suspension or revocation of the individual’s permit, license, or certification after opportunity for a hearing.

(C) The Board may fine and publicly or privately reprimand a provider or instructor or deny, revoke, suspend or otherwise withdraw the approval of any provider or instructor upon finding that the provider or instructor:

(1) Fails to meet the criteria for approval referenced by these Regulations or no longer meets the standards established by the Board; or

(2) Provides false or materially inaccurate information to the Board when making application for approval; or

(3) Fails to provide information requested by the Board; or

(4) Falsifies official documents or reports; or

(5) Otherwise violates or fails to satisfy the provisions of the South Carolina Real Estate Appraisers and Appraisal Management Companies Act and the regulations pertaining thereto or any other applicable professional licensing laws and regulations.

(D) Before any sanction is imposed upon a provider or instructor, the provider or instructor shall be entitled to a hearing. The hearing must be at a time and place designated by the Board and in accordance with the provisions of the applicable statutes and the Administrative Procedures Act.

137-600.05. Disciplinary Action for Appraisal Management Companies.

The Board may, upon its own motion, and shall, upon the written complaint of any aggrieved person, investigate the activities of a company registered under this chapter and regulations and may deny, suspend, revoke, or otherwise restrict a registration and/or impose a public or private reprimand, other discipline, and/or fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars for an initial violation and not to exceed twenty thousand dollars for subsequent violations and may require payment of investigative costs.

137-800.01. Payment of Fees.

Fees associated with an initial application (including the examination fee) to become a permitted, registered, licensed, or certified real estate appraiser or registered as an appraisal management company must be paid by check or money order.

137-800.02. Bad Checks.

Checks issued by an applicant or an appraiser which are returned for insufficient funds or not honored for any cause are considered prima facie evidence of untrustworthiness or incompetency in such a manner as to endanger the interest of the public and may subject the applicant, appraiser, or appraisal management company to disciplinary action.

A. If the check is in payment of a fee for which authority to engage in real estate appraisal or as an appraisal management company has been issued, that authority may be immediately cancelled or revoked.

B. Where a check or checks are incorrectly returned by a bank or other depository because of the bank or depository’s error, a statement to that effect from the bank or depository will be required before such appraisal or appraisal management authority will be reissued.

137-800.04. Permit, License, Certification and Registration Renewals.

(A) All appraiser permits, licenses, and certifications expire biennially on June 30, except those appraisers who first become permitted, licensed or certified in the last quarter of the fiscal year (April 1 to June 30) are not required to renew until the following renewal period.

(B) All appraisal management company registrations expire biennially on June 30 (odd years), except those registrations that are received in the last quarter of the renewal year (April 1 to June 30) are not required to renew until the following renewal period.

137-800.05. Expired Permit, License, Certificate, or Registration.

(A) Permits, licenses and certificates expired for more than twelve (12) months will be cancelled. Such cancelled permits, licenses and certificates may be considered for reinstatement upon proper application, payment of the original license or certificate fee, and proof of having obtained continuing education equal to the total number of class hours that would have been required had the permit, license or certificate been continuously renewed including the most recent 7-hour National Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice Update Course. Such applications will be reviewed by the Board to determine whether an examination and/or additional real estate appraisal education will be required.

(B) Registrations of an appraisal management company expired for more than twelve (12) months will be cancelled. Such cancelled registration may be considered for reinstatement upon proper application and payment of the original registration fee and any late fee. Such applications will be reviewed by the Board to determine reinstatement and any further required conditions of reinstatement.

137-800.06. Disclosure of Appraiser Classification and Number.

(A) When signing an appraisal report, an appraiser shall, adjacent to his or her signature, print or type his or her appraiser classification and number assigned by the Board.

(B) When an individual holds himself out as an appraiser either in any advertisement, statement of qualifications, contract or other instrument used by the appraiser, the appraiser shall print or type his or her name, appraiser classification, and number assigned by the Board. If the appraiser signs such document or advertisement, the appraiser shall, adjacent to his or her signature, print or type his or her appraiser classification and number assigned by the Board.

137-900.01. Educational Providers - Approval Required.

(A) Providers seeking approval to offer and conduct appraiser qualifying instruction (prelicensing/precertification) and/or continuing education instruction must make application on a form approved by the Board. Upon approval, the South Carolina Appraisers Board will issue a Certificate of Approval prior to the commencement of any instruction.

(B) Providers teaching courses prior to being approved by the Board will not have their Certificates of Completion recognized by the Board.

137-900.02. Exemption from Regulation.

Courses offered as part of a degree program by an accredited college or university or a technical, community, or junior college may be deemed approved by the Board if they are equivalent in hours and subject matter to those specified by the Board. These providers are exempt from regulation by the Board, and original transcripts or other proof of course completion with a passing grade may be recognized and accepted as a prerequisite for examination or for meeting the requirements for continuing education.

137-900.03. Providers of Courses.

(A) Courses offered by an accredited college or university or a technical, community, or junior college but which are not part of a degree program, may be approved if they comply with the regulations of the Board with regard to curriculum, instructors, classroom facilities, hours of attendance, texts, examinations and Certificates of Completion as well as comply with the policies and procedures of the appropriate department of the institution.

(B) Courses offered by other providers may be approved if they comply with the regulations of the Board with regard to curriculum, instructors, classroom facilities, hours of attendance, texts, examinations. Certificates of Completion and if the policies and procedures of the provider are also approved by the Board.

137-900.04. Application for Provider Approval.

(A) Providers of courses must furnish to the Board a completed application and all supporting documentation as required by the Board at least sixty (60) days prior to offering course. Applicable fees must accompany the application.

(B) Other information not submitted with the application, but which is information deemed important to the consideration thereof, may be required by the Board.

(C) If the application is disapproved, reason(s) for disapproval will be detailed and the provider may be given thirty (30) days to cure any deficiencies found. If deficiencies are cured, the application will be approved.

137-900.05. Curriculum and Attendance.

(A) Topics for qualifying courses referenced in the South Carolina Real Estate Appraisers and Appraisal Management Companies Act must be broad in scope and must cover various principles, concepts, standards, practices and/or methods that are applicable to the performance of a wide range of appraisal assignments that will commonly be encountered by licenses or certified appraisers in connection with appraisals in federally-related transactions. The courses must be at least fifteen (15) hours and must include an examination pertinent to that educational offering. Prelicense appraisal courses must be in modules which require a specified number of education hours at each credential level as established by the Appraiser Qualifications Board (AQB) of The Appraisal Foundation.

(B) The seventy-five (75) hours required for qualifying as a real estate apprentice appraiser must emphasize appraisal of one-to four-unit residential properties and must include content on the following course modules:

1. Basic Appraisal Principles (30 hours);

2. Basic Appraisal Procedures (30 hours);

3. National USPAP Course or its equivalent as determined by the AQB (15 hours).

(C) The one hundred fifty (150) hours required for a state licensed real estate appraiser must include content from the Basic Appraisal Principles (30 hours), Basic Appraisal Procedures (30 hours) and the National USPAP Course or its equivalent as determined by the AQB (15 hours) in addition to the following course modules:

1. Residential Market Analysis And Highest And Best Use (15 hours);

2. Residential Appraiser Site Valuation And Cost Approach (15 hours);

3. Residential Sales Comparison And Income Approaches (30 hours);

4. Residential Report Writing And Case Studies (15 hours).

(D) The two hundred (200) hours required for a state certified residential real estate appraiser must include content from the Basic Appraisal Principles (30 hours), Basic Appraisal Procedures (30 hours), National USPAP Course or its equivalent as determined by the AQB (15 hours), Residential Market Analysis And Highest And Best Use (15 hours), Residential Appraiser Site Valuation And Cost Approach (15 hours), Residential Sales Comparison And Income Approaches (30 hours), and Residential Report Writing And Case Studies (15 hours) in addition to the following course modules:

1. Statistics, Modeling And Finance (15 hours);

2. Advanced Residential Applications And Case Studies (15 hours);

3. Appraisal Subject Matter Electives (20 hours and may include hours over the minimum in other modules).

(E) The three hundred (300) hours required for a state certified general real estate appraiser must include content from the Basic Appraisal Principles (30 hours), Basic Appraisal Procedures (30 hours), National USPAP Course or its equivalent as determined by the AQB (15 hours), Statistics, Modeling And Finance (15 hours) in addition to the following course modules:

1. General Appraiser Market Analysis And Highest And Best Use (30 hours);

2. General Appraiser Sales Comparison Approach (30 hours);

3. General Appraiser Site Valuation And Cost Approach (30 hours);

4. General Appraiser Income Approach (60 hours);

5. General Appraiser Report Writing And Case Studies (30 hours);

6. Appraisal Subject Matter Electives (30 hours and may include hours over the minimum in other modules).

(F) Topics for continuing education courses must contribute to the goal of maintaining or increasing the knowledge, skill and competence of real estate appraisers with regard to the performance of real estate appraisals in a manner that best serves the public interest and must be a minimum of two (2) class hours in length.

(G) Learning objectives and detailed lesson plans reflecting the course content with time allotments must be furnished to the Board at the time of application for approval, along with copies of all quizzes and examinations for qualifying courses. Examinations and the criteria for such examinations and final grade determination may be developed by each provider based on its individual concepts. The Board may, however, direct alterations in examinations procedures, criteria for passing, and administration whenever deemed necessary.

(H) Providers must identify to the Board the texts to be used in any approved course of instruction. The Board may direct that the school withdraw texts and may require additional instructional materials.

(I) For qualifying courses, providers must establish uniform testing and grading procedures for their quizzes and examinations and must use approved instructors for administering and monitoring all such tests. No proprietor, instructor or any other individual may arbitrarily alter a student's grade or offer to students any re-examination of the same test previously administered. Retake examinations must contain at least eighty percent (80%) new material.

(J) Class meetings must be limited to a maximum of eight (8) hours in any given day. Students must be allowed one ten (10) minute break each hour and must be allowed at least one thirty minute break for classes that exceed four (4) hours. Providers must require strict attendance of all classroom hours required by law and must maintain records indicating all student absences.

(K) Providers may offer students failing to meet the minimum-hour requirement make-up sessions as follows:

1. a make-up session offered by the provider consisting of the content covered in the session or hours missed; or

2. a video tape of the class session missed, supervised by the instructor, if not more than twenty percent (20%) of the classroom hours are missed; or

3. attendance of the same class session offered by the provider at a future date.

(L) Each provider must prepare and submit to the Board reports verifying completion of a course for each licensee who satisfactorily completes the course. Such reports shall be transmitted electronically fourteen (14) calendar days following the course. The verified Course Completion Report shall list: the course identification number assigned by the Board, provider’s name, instructor’s name, title, location and dates of course; full legal name, address, phone number, permit/license/certificate number, if applicable, of each student, along with the number of hours in attendance and final grade, if applicable. The Course Completion Report must be verified by an authorized official of the provider.

(M) A Certificate of Completion prescribed by the Board shall be awarded to each course graduate, signed and dated by the authorized official of the provider, and must contain the course identification number assigned by the Board, provider's name and address, title, location, dates and number of hours of the course, full legal name, and license number, if applicable, of the student.

137-900.06. Provider, Instructor and Course Renewals.

All provider, course, and instructor approvals expire biennially on August 31 of even-numbered years. If issued in odd-numbered years, they shall be renewed the following year and then biennially thereafter. Renewal forms will be mailed to all approved providers and instructors, and completed forms must be received in the Board's office not later than August 15 to insure renewal by August 31. Renewal fees must accompany the form and a late fee will be charged if received after August 31.

137-900.07. Enrollment Agreement Policies and Procedures.

(A) An enrollment agreement must be signed by the provider and student prior to the commencement of classes. A copy of the enrollment agreement containing all policies and procedures must be furnished to the student.

(B) The enrollment agreement must contain, at a minimum the following:

1. The name and address of provider and student;

2. Name of course;

3. Tuition and methods of payment, along with terms of any refund policy. If the provider has no policy for refunding fees, it must so state in writing;

4. Provider's policy for cancellation of scheduled courses;

5. The grade required for passing, methods for testing and final grade determination, if applicable;

6. Total hours of attendance required;

7. Scheduled meeting time, dates and location of course; for absences and for re-taking a failed examination, if applicable; and

8. Statement of non-discrimination in admittance requirements.

137-900.08. Other Operating Procedures.

(A) Teaching methods.

Courses must be taught by Board-approved instructors and presented using traditional classroom teaching methods. Correspondence courses will not be approved. Nothing in this section, however, shall prohibit the use of video equipment as a teaching supplement.

(B) Distance Education Courses may be acceptable for qualifying and continuing education provided that the following has been met:

1. The course is presented to an organized group in an instructional setting with a person qualified and available to answer questions, provide information, and monitor student attendance;

2. Asynchronous and synchronous courses have received approval of the International Distance Education Certification Center (IDECC) for the course design and delivery mechanism and the South Carolina Real Estate Appraisers Board for course content;

3. For qualifying and continuing education, the student must successfully complete the course mechanisms required for accreditation which demonstrates mastery and fluency of the content. Incremental student assessments must be present throughout asynchronous continuing education courses in order to be acceptable.

(C) Facilities and equipment.

1. All facilities must meet the appropriate building, health and fire codes, must be maintained in a safe and sanitary condition at all times and are subject to inspection and approval by a representative of the Board.

2. Classrooms must be of sufficient size to accommodate comfortably all students enrolled in a course, shall have adequate light, heat, cooling and ventilation, and shall be free of distractions which would disrupt class sessions.

3. Classrooms must contain a chalkboard or other audio-visual aid and desks or worktables sufficient to accommodate all students enrolled in a course.

(D) Advertising.

1. “Advertising” includes any form of public notice, however disseminated. This definition includes all publications and promotional items and efforts which could normally be expected to be seen or heard by prospective students. Examples include but are not limited to: catalogs, flyers, signs, mailing pieces, radio, television, audio-visual, newspaper or any other form of public notice designed to aid in the provider's recruiting and promotional activities. Advertising also includes oral communications.

2. Each provider must maintain high standards in the conduct of its operations, solicitation of its students and in its advertising and promotional material. The use of any unfair or deceptive practice or the making or causing to be made of any false, misleading or deceptive statement in any advertising or promotional material which has the tendency or capacity to mislead or deceive students, prospective students, or the public shall be cause for disciplinary action.

3. The name of the provider must be disclosed in each advertising offering.

4. A provider may not advertise or imply that it is “recommended” or “endorsed” by the South Carolina Real Estate Appraisers Board.

(E) Audit and record keeping.

1. Providers must keep copies of all enrollment agreements, advertising, rosters and attendance records. Such records must be kept for five (5) years and be made available to a representative of the Board upon request.

2. Providers must permit periodic inspections and auditing by a representative of the Board for the purpose of evaluating facilities, course content, instructor performance of any other relevant aspect of the administration and conduct of such course.

(F) Changes.

Proposed changes to name, course content and/or length, texts, instructors, operating policies and procedures must be submitted to and approved by the Board prior to implementation.

(G) Complaints.

Providers must post in a conspicuous place a notice which states the following: "Any complaint concerning a Board-approved real estate appraiser course or instructor should be directed to the South Carolina Real Estate Appraisers Board at (the Board's current address)."

137-900.09. Instructors.

(A) Approved courses held in this state must be taught by Board-approved instructors. Instructors teaching courses which are part of a degree program offered by an accredited college, university, technical college, community college or junior college may be deemed approved by the Board.

(B) Applicants for instructor approval must submit an application form along with supporting documentation as proof of knowledge of subject matter and the ability to teach effectively.

1. As proof of knowledge of the subject matter to be taught, one or more of the following will be considered:

(a) For License and Certified Residential Level Courses, an active state certified residential or certified general appraiser certificate issued by the Board or other authority acceptable to the Board, and at least three (3) years of appraisal experience; or

(b) For Certified General Level Courses, an active state certified general appraiser certificate issued by the Board or other authority acceptable to the Board, and at least three (3) years of nonresidential appraisal experience; or

(c) A college degree in an academic area directly related to the course; or

(d) Previous employment by a state or federal agency performing appraisal work for at least five (5) years immediately preceding application; or

(e) Past experience and/or education acceptable to the Board in a subject area directly related to the course.

2. For continuing education courses acceptable proof of knowledge would also include:

(a) Three (3) years of experience within the past five (5) years directly related to subject matter to be taught; or

(b) Three (3) years of experience within the past five (5) years teaching the subject matter to be taught.

3. As proof of the ability to teach effectively, one or more of the following will be considered:

(a) A current teaching certificate issued by any state department of education (or an equivalent agency);

(b) A four-year undergraduate degree in education; or

(c) Previous experience teaching in schools, seminars or in an equivalent setting for three (3) years within the past five (5) years; or

(d) Serving as a trainee or assistant instructor under the direct supervision of a Board approved instructor for at least sixty (60) hours; or

(e) Past experience acceptable to the Board in the area of education.

(C) Instructors of the 15-hour National USPAP Course and the 7-hour USPAP Update Course must be AQB Certified USPAP Instructors who are also certified appraisers.

(D) Instructors may be approved by the Board to teach one or more specific subjects or courses as outlined in the South Carolina Real Estate Appraisers and Appraisal Management Companies Act.

(E) An instructor may teach approved courses at locations throughout the State of South Carolina but must notify the Board in advance and record his name on the provider's roster.

(F) A fee must accompany the application for each instructor approval.

(G) Other information not submitted with the application, but which is deemed important to the consideration thereof, may be required by the Board.

(H) If the application is disapproved, reason(s) for disapproval will be detailed and the instructor will be given an opportunity to cure any deficiencies found within thirty (30) days. If deficiencies are cured, the application will be approved.

(I) Each instructor must prominently display in the classroom where an approved course is being offered, a copy of Certificate of Approval.

**Fiscal Impact Statement:**

There will be no cost incurred by the State or any of its political subdivisions for these regulations.

**Statement of Rationale:**

The updated regulations will make necessary updates to comply with Federal requirements, delete sections already appearing in statute, add information pertinent to appraisal management companies,

remove fees, clarify existing language, and make editorial changes.