

Residential Mortgage Licensing Act
Chapter 45, Article 7
§§ 45-701 to 45-754

45-701

Act, how cited.

Sections 45-701 to 45-754 shall be known and may be cited as the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-702

Terms, defined.

For purposes of the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act:

(1) Borrower means the mortgagor or mortgagors under a real estate mortgage or the trustor or trustors under a trust deed;

(2) Branch office means any location at which the business of a mortgage banker or mortgage loan originator is to be conducted, including (a) any offices physically located in Nebraska, (b) any offices that, while not physically located in this state, intend to transact business with Nebraska residents, and (c) any third-party or home-based locations that mortgage loan originators, agents, and representatives intend to use to transact business with Nebraska residents;

(3) Breach of security of the system means unauthorized acquisition of data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of the information maintained by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry, its affiliates, or its subsidiaries;

(4) Clerical or support duties means tasks which occur subsequent to the receipt of a residential mortgage loan application including (a) the receipt, collection, distribution, and analysis of information common for the processing or underwriting of a residential mortgage loan or (b) communication with a consumer to obtain the information necessary for the processing or underwriting of a residential mortgage loan, to the extent that such communication does not include offering or negotiating loan rates or terms or counseling consumers about residential mortgage loan rates or terms;

(5) Control means the power, directly or indirectly, to direct the management or policies of a mortgage banking business, whether through ownership of securities, by contract, or otherwise. Any person who (a) is a director, a general partner, or an executive officer, including the president, chief executive officer, chief financial officer, chief operating officer, chief legal officer, chief compliance officer, and any individual with similar status and function, (b) directly or indirectly

has the right to vote ten percent or more of a class of voting security or has the power to sell or direct the sale of ten percent or more of a class of voting securities, (c) in the case of a limited liability company, is a managing member, or (d) in the case of a partnership, has the right to receive, upon dissolution, or has contributed, ten percent or more of the capital, is presumed to control that mortgage banking business;

(6) Department means the Department of Banking and Finance;

(7) Depository institution means any person (a) organized or chartered under the laws of this state, any other state, or the United States relating to banks, savings institutions, trust companies, savings and loan associations, credit unions, or industrial banks or similar depository institutions which the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation finds to be operating substantially in the same manner as an industrial bank and (b) engaged in the business of receiving deposits other than funds held in a fiduciary capacity, including, but not limited to, funds held as trustee, executor, administrator, guardian, or agent;

(8) Director means the Director of Banking and Finance;

(9) Dwelling means a residential structure located or intended to be located in this state that contains one to four units, whether or not that structure is attached to real property, including an individual condominium unit, cooperative unit, mobile home, or trailer, if it is used as a residence;

(10) Federal banking agencies means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the National Credit Union Administration, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;

(11) Immediate family member means a spouse, child, sibling, parent, grandparent, or grandchild, including stepparents, stepchildren, stepsiblings, and adoptive relationships;

(12) Installment loan company means any person licensed pursuant to the Nebraska Installment Loan Act;

(13) Licensee means any person licensed under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act as either a mortgage banker or mortgage loan originator;

(14) Loan processor or underwriter means an individual who (a) performs clerical or support duties as an employee at the direction of and subject to the supervision and instruction of a person licensed, or exempt from licensing, under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act or Nebraska Installment Loan Act and (b) does not represent to the public, through advertising or other means of communicating or providing information including the use of business cards, stationery, brochures, signs, rate lists, or other promotional items, that such individual can or will perform any of the activities of a mortgage loan originator;

(15) Mortgage banker or mortgage banking business means any person (a) other than (i) a person exempt under section 45-703, (ii) an individual who is a loan processor or underwriter, or

(iii) an individual who is licensed in this state as a mortgage loan originator and (b) who, for compensation or gain or in the expectation of compensation or gain, directly or indirectly makes, originates, services, negotiates, acquires, sells, arranges for, or offers to make, originate, service, negotiate, acquire, sell, or arrange for a residential mortgage loan;

(16)(a) Mortgage loan originator means an individual who for compensation or gain or in the expectation of compensation or gain (i) takes a residential mortgage loan application or (ii) offers or negotiates terms of a residential mortgage loan.

(b) Mortgage loan originator does not include (i) an individual engaged solely as a loan processor or underwriter except as otherwise provided in section 45-727, (ii) a person or entity that only performs real estate brokerage activities and is licensed or registered in accordance with Nebraska law, unless the person or entity is compensated by a lender, a mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan originator or by any agent of such lender, mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan originator, and (iii) a person solely involved in extensions of credit relating to time-share programs as defined in section 76-1702;

(17) Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry means a licensing system developed and maintained by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors and the American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators for the licensing and registration of mortgage loan originators, mortgage bankers, installment loan companies, and other state-regulated financial services entities and industries;

(18) Nontraditional mortgage product means any residential mortgage loan product other than a thirty-year fixed rate residential mortgage loan;

(19) Offer means every attempt to provide, offer to provide, or solicitation to provide a residential mortgage loan or any form of mortgage banking business. Offer includes, but is not limited to, all general and public advertising, whether made in print, through electronic media, or by the Internet;

(20) Person means an association, joint venture, joint-stock company, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, business corporation, nonprofit corporation, individual, or any group of individuals however organized;

(21) Purchase-money mortgage means a mortgage issued to the borrower by the seller of the property as part of the purchase transaction;

(22) Real estate brokerage activity means any activity that involves offering or providing real estate brokerage services to the public, including (a) acting as a real estate salesperson or real estate broker for a buyer, seller, lessor, or lessee of real property, (b) bringing together parties interested in the sale, purchase, lease, rental, or exchange of real property, (c) negotiating, on behalf of any party, any portion of a contract relating to the sale, purchase, lease, rental, or exchange of real property, other than in connection with providing financing with respect to any such transaction, (d) engaging in any activity for which a person engaged in the activity is required to be registered or licensed as a real estate salesperson or real estate broker under any applicable law, and (e)

offering to engage in any activity or act in any capacity described in subdivision (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this subdivision;

(23) Registered bank holding company means any bank holding company registered with the department pursuant to the Nebraska Bank Holding Company Act of 1995;

(24) Registered mortgage loan originator means any individual who (a) meets the definition of mortgage loan originator and is an employee of (i) a depository institution, (ii) a subsidiary that is (A) wholly owned and controlled by a depository institution and (B) regulated by a federal banking agency, or (iii) an institution regulated by the Farm Credit Administration and (b) is registered with, and maintains a unique identifier through, the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry;

(25) Registrant means a person registered pursuant to section 45-704;

(26) Residential mortgage loan means any loan or extension of credit, including a refinancing of a contract of sale or an assumption or refinancing of a prior loan or extension of credit, which is primarily for personal, family, or household use and is secured by a mortgage, trust deed, or other equivalent consensual security interest on a dwelling or residential real estate upon which is constructed or intended to be constructed a dwelling;

(27) Residential real estate means any real property located in this state upon which is constructed or intended to be constructed a dwelling;

(28) Reverse-mortgage loan means a loan made by a licensee which (a) is secured by residential real estate, (b) is nonrecourse to the borrower except in the event of fraud by the borrower or waste to the residential real estate given as security for the loan, (c) provides cash advances to the borrower based upon the equity in the borrower's owner-occupied principal residence, (d) requires no payment of principal or interest until the entire loan becomes due and payable, and (e) otherwise complies with the terms of section 45-702.01;

(29) Service means accepting payments or maintenance of escrow accounts in the regular course of business in connection with a residential mortgage loan;

(30) State means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, any territory of the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Virgin Islands, or the Northern Mariana Islands; and

(31) Unique identifier means a number or other identifier assigned by protocols established by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-702.01

Reverse-mortgage loans; rules applicable; fees authorized; failure by licensee to make loan advances and cure default; forfeiture.

(1) Reverse-mortgage loans shall be governed by the following rules without regard to the requirements set out elsewhere for other types of mortgage transactions: (a) Payment in whole or in part is permitted without penalty at any time during the period of the loan; (b) an advance and interest on the advance have priority over a lien filed after the closing of a reverse-mortgage loan; (c) an interest rate may be fixed or adjustable and may also provide for interest that is contingent on appreciation in the value of the residential real estate; and (d) the advance shall not be reduced in amount or number based on an adjustment in the interest rate when a reverse-mortgage loan provides for periodic advances to a borrower.

(2) Reverse-mortgage loans may be made or acquired without regard to the following provisions for other types of mortgage transactions: (a) Limitations on the purpose and use of future advances or any other mortgage proceeds; (b) limitations on future advances to a term of years or limitations on the term of credit line advances; (c) limitations on the term during which future advances take priority over intervening advances; (d) requirements that a maximum mortgage amount be stated in the mortgage; (e) limitations on loan-to-value ratios; (f) prohibitions on balloon payments; (g) prohibitions on compounded interest and interest on interest; and (h) requirements that a percentage of the loan proceeds must be advanced prior to loan assignment.

(3) A licensee may, in connection with a reverse-mortgage loan, charge to the borrower (a) a nonrefundable loan origination fee which does not exceed two percent of the appraised value of the owner-occupied principal residence at the time the loan is made, (b) a reasonable fee paid to third parties originating loans on behalf of the licensee, and (c) such other fees as are necessary and required, including fees for inspections, insurance, appraisals, and surveys.

(4) Licensees failing to make loan advances as required in the loan documents and failing to cure the default as required in the loan documents shall forfeit to the borrower an amount equal to the greater of two hundred dollars or one percent of the amount of the loan advance the licensee failed to make.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-703

Act; exemptions.

(1) Except as provided in section 45-704, the following shall be exempt from the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act:

(a) Any depository institution or wholly owned subsidiary thereof;

(b) Any registered bank holding company;

(c) Any insurance company that is subject to regulation by the Department of Insurance and is either (i) organized or chartered under the laws of Nebraska or (ii) organized or chartered under the laws of any other state if such insurance company has a place of business in Nebraska;

(d) Any person licensed to practice law in this state in connection with activities that are (i) considered the practice of law by the Supreme Court, (ii) carried out within an attorney-client relationship, and (iii) accomplished by the attorney in compliance with all applicable laws, rules, ethics, and standards;

(e) Any person licensed in this state as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson pursuant to section 81-885.02 who is engaging in real estate brokerage activities unless such person is compensated by a lender, a mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan originator or by any agent of such lender, mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan originator;

(f) Any registered mortgage loan originator when acting for an entity described in subdivision (24)(a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of section 45-702;

(g) Any sales finance company licensed pursuant to the Nebraska Installment Sales Act if such sales finance company does not engage in mortgage banking business in any capacity other than as a purchaser or servicer of an installment contract, as defined in section 45-335, which is secured by a mobile home or trailer;

(h) Any trust company chartered pursuant to the Nebraska Trust Company Act;

(i) Any wholly owned subsidiary of an organization listed in subdivisions (b) and (c) of this subsection if the listed organization maintains a place of business in Nebraska;

(j) Any individual who offers or negotiates terms of a residential mortgage loan with or on behalf of an immediate family member of the individual;

(k) Any individual who does not repetitively and habitually engage in the business of a mortgage banker, a mortgage loan originator, or a loan processor or underwriter, either inside or outside of this state, who (i) makes a residential mortgage loan with his or her own funds for his or her own investment, (ii) makes a purchase-money mortgage, or (iii) finances the sale of a dwelling or residential real estate owned by such individual without the intent to resell the residential mortgage loan;

(l) Any employee or independent agent of a mortgage banker licensed or registered pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act or exempt from the act if such employee or independent agent does not conduct the activities of a mortgage loan originator or loan processor or underwriter;

(m) The United States of America; the State of Nebraska; any other state, district, territory, commonwealth, or possession of the United States of America; any city, county, or other political subdivision; and any agency or division of any of the foregoing;

(n) The Nebraska Investment Finance Authority;

(o) Any individual who is an employee of an entity described in subdivision (m) or (n) of this subsection and who acts as a mortgage loan originator or loan processor or underwriter only pursuant to his or her official duties as an employee of such entity;

(p) A bona fide nonprofit organization which has received a certificate of exemption pursuant to section 45-703.01; and

(q) Any employee of a bona fide nonprofit organization which has received a certificate of exemption pursuant to section 45-703.01 if such employee acts as a mortgage loan originator or mortgage loan processor or underwriter (i) only with respect to his or her work duties for the nonprofit organization and (ii) only with respect to residential mortgage loans with terms that are favorable to the borrower.

(2) It shall not be necessary to negate any of the exemptions provided in this section in any complaint, information, indictment, or other writ or proceedings brought under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act, and the burden of establishing the right to any exemption shall be upon the person claiming the benefit of such exemption.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-703.01

Nonprofit organization; certificate of exemption; qualification; application; denial; notice; appeal; department; powers; revocation of certificate; grounds.

(1) A nonprofit organization may apply to the director for a certificate of exemption on a form as prescribed by the department. The director shall grant such certificate if the director finds that the nonprofit organization is a bona fide nonprofit organization. In order for a nonprofit organization to qualify as a bona fide nonprofit organization, the director shall find that it meets the following:

(a) Has the status of a tax exempt organization under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

(b) Promotes affordable housing or provides homeownership education or similar services;

(c) Conducts its activities in a manner that serves public or charitable purposes rather than commercial purposes;

(d) Receives funding and revenue and charges fees in a manner that does not incentivize it or its employees to act other than in the best interests of its clients;

(e) Compensates its employees in a manner that does not incentivize employees to act other than in the best interests of its clients; and

(f) Provides or identifies for the borrower residential mortgage loans with terms favorable to the borrower and comparable to mortgage loans and housing assistance provided under government assistance programs.

(2) For residential mortgage loans to have terms that are favorable to the borrower, the director shall determine that terms are consistent with loan origination in a public or charitable context rather than in a commercial context.

(3) If the director determines that the application for a certificate of exemption should be denied, the director shall notify the applicant in writing of the denial and of the reasons for the denial. A decision of the director denying an application for a certificate of exemption pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act may be appealed. The appeal shall be in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the department.

(4) The department has the authority to examine the books and activities of an organization it determines is a bona fide nonprofit organization. The director may, following a hearing under the Administrative Procedure Act, revoke the certificate of exemption granted to a bona fide nonprofit organization if he or she determines that such nonprofit organization fails to meet the requirements of subsection (1) of this section.

(5) In making its determinations and examinations under subsections (1), (2), and (4) of this section, the department may rely on its receipt and review of:

(a) Reports filed with federal, state, or local housing agencies and authorities; or

(b) Reports and attestations required by the department.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-704

Registration required; registration statement; fee; procedure; bond; registrant; duties; renewal.

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act, no person exempt from licensing under section 45-703 who employs or enters into an independent agent agreement with an individual who is required to obtain a mortgage loan originator license in this state pursuant to section 45-727 shall act as a mortgage banker until such person has registered with the department.

(2) Any person required to register pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall submit to the department a registration statement on a form prescribed by the department. The form shall contain

such information as the department may prescribe as necessary or appropriate, including, but not limited to, (a) all addresses at which business is to be conducted, (b) the names and titles of each director and principal officer of the business, and (c) a description of the activities of the applicant in such detail as the department may require.

(3) The registration statement required in subsection (2) of this section shall be accompanied by a registration fee of two hundred dollars.

(4) The department shall acknowledge the registration by issuing to the registrant a receipt or other form of acknowledgment.

(5) A registrant shall maintain a surety bond as required by section 45-724, submit mortgage reports of condition as required by section 45-726, and comply with the requirements of section 45-735 pertaining to the employment of mortgage loan originators.

(6) A registration under this section shall not be assignable.

(7) After original registration, all registrations shall remain in full force and effect until the next succeeding December 31. Thereafter, a registration under this section may be renewed on an annual basis for a renewal fee of one hundred dollars.

(8)(a) If a registrant fails to maintain a surety bond as required by section 45-724, the department may issue a notice of cancellation of the registration.

(b) If a registrant fails to renew his, her, or its registration as required by this section and does not voluntarily surrender the registration by delivering to the director written notice of the surrender, the department may issue a notice of expiration of the registration.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-705

License or registration required; application; fees; background investigation; registered agent.

(1) No person shall act as a mortgage banker or use the title mortgage banker in this state unless he, she, or it is licensed as a mortgage banker, is registered with the department as provided in section 45-704, is licensed under the Nebraska Installment Loan Act, or is otherwise exempt from the act pursuant to section 45-703.

(2) Applicants for a license as a mortgage banker shall submit to the department an application on a form prescribed by the department. The application shall include, but not be limited to, (a) the applicant's corporate name and no more than one trade name or doing business as designation which the applicant intends to use in this state, if applicable, (b) the applicant's main office address, (c) all branch office addresses at which business is to be conducted, (d) the names and titles of each director and principal officer of the applicant, (e) the names of all shareholders, partners, or

members of the applicant, (f) a description of the activities of the applicant in such detail as the department may require, (g) if the applicant is an individual, his or her social security number, and (h) fingerprints of any principal officer, director, partner, member, or sole proprietor for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any other governmental agency or entity authorized to receive such information for a state, national, and international criminal history record information check.

(3) The application for a license as a mortgage banker shall include or be accompanied by, in a manner as prescribed by the director, (a) the name and street address in this state of a registered agent appointed by the licensee for receipt of service of process and (b) the written consent of the registered agent to the appointment. A post office box number may be provided in addition to the street address.

(4) The application for a license as a mortgage banker shall be accompanied by an application fee of four hundred dollars and, if applicable, a seventy-five-dollar fee for each branch office listed in the application and any processing fee allowed under subsection (2) of section 45-748.

(5) The application for a license as a mortgage banker shall include or be accompanied by, in a manner as prescribed by the director, a background investigation of each applicant by means of fingerprints and a check of his or her criminal history record information maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry. If the applicant is a partnership, association, corporation, or other form of business organization, the director shall require a criminal history record information check on each member, director, or principal officer of each applicant or any individual acting in the capacity of the manager of an office location. Fingerprints of any principal officer, director, partner, member, or sole proprietor shall be submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any other governmental agency or entity authorized to receive such information for a state, national, and international criminal history record information check. The applicant shall be responsible for the direct costs associated with criminal history record information checks performed. The information obtained thereby may be used by the director to determine the applicant's eligibility for licensing under this section. Except as authorized pursuant to subsection (2) of section 45-748, receipt of criminal history record information by a private person or entity is prohibited.

(6) In order to reduce the points of contact which the Federal Bureau of Investigation may have to maintain for purposes of subsection (5) of this section, the director may use the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry as a channeling agent for requesting information from and distributing information to the United States Department of Justice or any other governmental agency.

(7) A license as a mortgage banker granted under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act shall not be assignable.

(8) An application is deemed filed when accepted as substantially complete by the director.

45-706

License; issuance; denial; abandonment; appeal; renewal; fees; inactive status; renewal; reactivation of license; notice of cancellation.

(1) Upon the filing of an application for a license as a mortgage banker, if the director finds that the character and general fitness of the applicant, the members thereof if the applicant is a partnership, limited liability company, association, or other organization, and the officers, directors, and principal employees if the applicant is a corporation are such that the business will be operated honestly, soundly, and efficiently in the public interest consistent with the purposes of the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act, the director shall issue a license as a mortgage banker to the applicant. The director shall approve or deny an application for a license within ninety days after (a) acceptance of the application, (b) delivery of the bond required under section 45-724, and (c) payment of the required fee.

(2) If the director determines that the mortgage banker license application should be denied, the director shall notify the applicant in writing of the denial and of the reasons for the denial. The director shall not deny an application for a mortgage banker license because of the failure to submit information required under the act or rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act without first giving the applicant an opportunity to correct the deficiency by supplying the missing information. A decision of the director denying a mortgage banker license application pursuant to the act may be appealed. The appeal shall be in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the department under the act. The director may deny an application for a mortgage banker license application if (a) he or she determines that the applicant does not meet the conditions of subsection (1) of this section or (b) an officer, director, shareholder owning five percent or more of the voting shares of the applicant, partner, or member was convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or was found guilty after a plea of nolo contendere to (i) a misdemeanor under any state or federal law which involves dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the mortgage banking business, depository institution business, or installment loan company business or (ii) any felony under state or federal law.

(3) If an applicant for a mortgage banker license does not complete the license application and fails to respond to a notice or notices from the department to correct the deficiency or deficiencies for a period of one hundred twenty days or more after the date the department sends the initial notice to correct the deficiency, the department may deem the application as abandoned and may issue a notice of abandonment of the application to the applicant in lieu of proceedings to deny the application.

(4)(a) All initial licenses shall remain in full force and effect until the next succeeding December 31. Mortgage banker licenses may be renewed annually by submitting to the director a request for renewal and any supplemental material as required by the director. The mortgage banker licensee shall certify that the information contained in the license application, as subsequently amended, that is on file with the department and the information contained in any supplemental material previously provided to the department remains true and correct.

(b) For the annual renewal of a license to conduct a mortgage banking business under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act, the fee shall be two hundred dollars plus seventy-five dollars for each branch office, if applicable, and any processing fee allowed under subsection (2) of section 45-748.

(5)(a) The department may place a mortgage banker licensee that is a sole proprietorship on inactive status for a period of up to twelve months upon receipt of a request from the licensee for inactive status. The request shall include notice that the licensee has temporarily suspended business, is not acting as a mortgage banker in this state, and has no pending customer complaints. The department shall notify the licensee within ten business days as to whether the request has been granted and, if granted, of the date of expiration of the inactive status.

(b) If a mortgage banker license becomes inactive under this section, the license shall remain inactive until the license expires, is canceled, is surrendered, is suspended, is revoked, or is reactivated pursuant to subdivision (d) of this subsection.

(c) An inactive mortgage banker licensee may renew such inactive license if the licensee remains otherwise eligible for renewal pursuant to subdivision (4)(a) of this section, except for being covered by a surety bond pursuant to section 45-724. Such renewal shall not reactivate the license.

(d) The department has the authority to reactivate an inactive mortgage banker license following the department's receipt of a request from the inactive licensee that the licensee intends to resume business as a mortgage banker in this state if the inactive mortgage banker licensee meets the conditions for licensing at the time reactivation is requested, including, but not limited to, coverage by a surety bond pursuant to section 45-724.

(e) The department shall issue a notice of cancellation of an inactive mortgage banker license following the expiration of the period of inactive status set by the department pursuant to subdivision (a) of this subsection if the inactive mortgage banker licensee fails to request reactivation of the license prior to the date of expiration.

(6) The director may require a mortgage banker licensee to maintain a minimum net worth, proven by an audit conducted by a certified public accountant, if the director determines that the financial condition of the licensee warrants such a requirement or that the requirement is in the public interest.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-707

Transferred to section 45-742.

~ Reissue 2021

45-708

Transferred to section 45-747.

~ Reissue 2021

45-709

Transferred to section 45-724.

~ Reissue 2021

45-710

Transferred to section 45-741.

~ Reissue 2021

45-711

Transferred to section 45-737.

~ Reissue 2021

45-712

Transferred to section 45-738.

~ Reissue 2021

45-713

Transferred to section 45-739.

~ Reissue 2021

45-714

Transferred to section 45-740.

~ Reissue 2021

45-715

Transferred to section 45-750.

~ Reissue 2021

45-716

Transferred to section 45-751.

~ Reissue 2021

45-717

Transferred to section 45-744.

~ Reissue 2021

45-717.01

Transferred to section 45-743.

~ Reissue 2021

45-717.02

Transferred to section 45-746.

~ Reissue 2021

45-718

Transferred to section 45-745.

~ Reissue 2021

45-719

Transferred to section 45-752.

~ Reissue 2021

45-720

Transferred to section 45-753.

~ Reissue 2021

45-721

Transferred to section 45-754.

~ Reissue 2021

45-722

Transferred to section 45-725.

~ Reissue 2021

45-723

Transferred to section 45-748.

~ Reissue 2021

45-724

Surety bond; requirements.

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, an applicant for a mortgage banker license or registration shall file with the department a surety bond in the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, furnished by a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Nebraska. The surety bond also shall cover all mortgage loan originators who are employees or independent agents of the applicant. The bond shall be for the use of the State of Nebraska and any Nebraska resident who may have claims or causes of action against the applicant or against an individual who is a mortgage loan originator employed by, or in an independent agent relationship with, the applicant. Submission of a rider to an existing bond indicating that the required coverage is outstanding and evidencing the beneficiaries required in this subsection shall satisfy the requirements of this section. The bond or a substitute bond shall remain in effect during all periods of licensing or registration.

(2) Upon filing of the mortgage report of condition required by section 45-726, a mortgage banker licensee or registrant shall maintain or increase its surety bond to reflect the total dollar amount of the closed residential mortgage loans originated or serviced in this state in the preceding

calendar year in accordance with the following table. A licensee or registrant may decrease its surety bond in accordance with the following table if the surety bond required is less than the amount of the surety bond on file with the department.

Dollar Amount of Closed	
Residential Mortgage Loans	Surety Bond Required
\$0.00 to \$5,000,000.00	\$100,000.00
\$5,000,000.01 to \$10,000,000.00	\$125,000.00
\$10,000,000.01 to \$25,000,000.00	\$150,000.00
Over \$25,000,000.00	\$200,000.00

(3) Should the department determine that a mortgage banker licensee or registrant does not maintain a surety bond in the amount required by subsection (2) of this section, the department shall give written notification to the mortgage banker licensee or registrant requiring him, her, or it to increase the surety bond within thirty days to the amount required by subsection (2) of this section.

(4) At any time the director may require the filing of a new or supplemental bond in the form as provided in subsection (1) of this section if he or she determines that the bond filed under subsection (1) or (2) of this section is exhausted or is inadequate for any reason, including the financial condition of the licensee, the registrant, or the applicant for a license or registration. The new or supplemental bond shall not exceed one million dollars.

Last Amended:

~ Reissue 2021; Laws 2025, LB251, §29

Effective Date: March 12, 2025

45-725

Acquisition of control of mortgage banking business; procedure; fee; disapproval; hearing.

(1) No person acting personally or as an agent shall acquire control of any mortgage banking business required to be licensed under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act without first giving thirty days' notice to the department on a form prescribed by the department of such proposed acquisition and paying a filing fee of two hundred dollars.

(2) The director, upon receipt of such notice, shall act upon it within thirty days and, unless he or she disapproves the proposed acquisition within that period of time, the acquisition shall become effective on the thirty-first day after receipt without the director's approval, except that the director may extend the thirty-day period an additional thirty days if, in his or her judgment, any material information submitted is substantially inaccurate or the acquiring party has not furnished all the information required by the department.

(3) An acquisition may be made prior to the expiration of the disapproval period if the director issues written notice of his or her intent not to disapprove the action.

(4)(a) The director may disapprove any proposed acquisition if:

(i) The financial condition of any acquiring person is such as might jeopardize the financial stability of the acquired mortgage banking business;

(ii) The character and general fitness of any acquiring person or of any of the proposed management personnel indicate that the acquired mortgage banking business would not be operated honestly, soundly, or efficiently in the public interest; or

(iii) Any acquiring person neglects, fails, or refuses to furnish all information required by the department.

(b) The director shall notify the acquiring party in writing of disapproval of the acquisition. The notice shall provide a statement of the basis for the disapproval.

(c) Within fifteen business days after receipt of written notice of disapproval, the acquiring party may request a hearing on the proposed acquisition in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the department under the act. At the conclusion of such hearing, the director shall, by order, approve or disapprove the proposed acquisition on the basis of the record made at the hearing.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-726

Reports

Each licensed mortgage banker, registrant, and installment loan company shall submit to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry mortgage reports of condition, which shall be in such form and shall contain such information as the department may require.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-727

Mortgage loan originator; license required; loan processor or underwriter; license required; temporary authority to act as mortgage loan originator; conditions.

(1) An individual, unless specifically exempted from the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act under section 45-703 or, on or after November 24, 2019, unless having temporary authority under subsections (4) or (5) of this section, shall not engage in, or offer to engage in, the business of a mortgage loan originator with respect to any residential real estate or dwelling located or intended

to be located in this state without first obtaining and maintaining annually a license under the act. Each licensed mortgage loan originator shall obtain and maintain a valid unique identifier issued by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry.

(2) An independent agent shall not engage in the activities as a loan processor or underwriter unless such independent agent loan processor or underwriter obtains and maintains a license under subsection (1) of this section. Each independent agent loan processor or underwriter licensed as a mortgage loan originator shall obtain and maintain a valid unique identifier issued by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry.

(3) For the purposes of implementing an orderly and efficient licensing process, the director may adopt and promulgate licensing rules or regulations and interim procedures for licensing and acceptance of applications. For previously registered or licensed individuals, the director may establish expedited review and licensing procedures.

(4) Beginning November 24, 2019, upon becoming employed by a mortgage banker licensed in this state, an individual who is a registered mortgage loan originator shall be deemed to have temporary authority to act as a mortgage loan originator in this state for one hundred twenty days after submitting a mortgage loan originator application unless:

- (a) The individual withdraws his or her mortgage loan originator application;
- (b) The director denies the mortgage loan originator application;
- (c) The director grants the individual a mortgage loan originator license;
- (d) The application remains incomplete more than one hundred twenty days after the application was submitted;
- (e) The individual has had an application for a mortgage loan originator license denied, revoked, or suspended at any time in any governmental jurisdiction;
- (f) The individual has been subject to, or served with, a cease and desist order in any governmental jurisdiction;
- (g) The individual has been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony that precludes licensure under the act; or
- (h) The individual was not a registered mortgage loan originator for at least one year prior to application under the act.

(5) Beginning November 24, 2019, an individual who is a licensed mortgage loan originator in another state employed by a mortgage banker licensed in this state shall be deemed to have temporary authority to act as a mortgage loan originator in this state for one hundred twenty days after submitting a mortgage loan originator application unless:

- (a) The individual withdraws his or her mortgage loan originator application;
 - (b) The director denies the mortgage loan originator application;
 - (c) The director grants the individual a mortgage loan originator license;
 - (d) The application remains incomplete more than one hundred twenty days after the application was submitted;
 - (e) The individual has had an application for a mortgage loan originator license denied, revoked, or suspended at any time in any governmental jurisdiction;
 - (f) The individual has been subject to, or served with, a cease and desist order in any governmental jurisdiction;
 - (g) The individual has been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony that precludes licensure under the act; or
 - (h) The individual has not been a licensed mortgage loan originator in another state for at least thirty days prior to application under the act.
- (6) Beginning November 24, 2019, any person employing an individual who is deemed to have temporary authority to act as a mortgage loan originator in this state, and any individual who is deemed to have temporary authority to act as a mortgage loan originator in this state, shall be subject to the requirements of the act to the same extent as if that individual was a licensed mortgage loan originator under the act.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-728

License; application; form; fee; use of nationwide registry.

- (1) An applicant for a license shall apply on a form prescribed by the director.
- (2) The application for a license as a mortgage loan originator shall be accompanied by an application fee of one hundred fifty dollars, plus the cost of the criminal history background check required by subsection (3) of this section and any processing fee allowed under subsection (2) of section 45-748.
- (3) In connection with an application for licensing as a mortgage loan originator, the applicant shall, at a minimum, furnish to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry information concerning the applicant's identity, including the following:

(a) Fingerprints for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any other governmental agency or entity authorized to receive such information for a state, national, and international criminal history background check; and

(b) Personal history and experience in a format prescribed by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry, including the submission of authorization for the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry and the director to obtain the following:

(i) An independent credit report obtained from a consumer reporting agency described in 15 U.S.C. 1681a(p), as such section existed on January 1, 2010; and

(ii) Information related to any administrative, civil, or criminal findings by any governmental jurisdiction.

(4) For the purposes of this section and in order to reduce the points of contact which the Federal Bureau of Investigation may have to maintain for purposes of subdivisions (3)(a) and (3)(b)(ii) of this section, the director may use the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry as a channeling agent for requesting information from and distributing information to the United States Department of Justice or any other governmental agency.

(5) For the purposes of this section and in order to reduce the points of contact which the director may have to maintain for purposes of subdivisions (3)(b)(i) and (3)(b)(ii) of this section, the director may use the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry as a channeling agent for requesting and distributing information to and from any source so directed by the director.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-729

Issuance of mortgage loan originator license; director; findings required; denial; notice; appeal; application deemed abandoned; when; effect.

(1) The director shall not issue a mortgage loan originator license unless the director makes at a minimum the following findings:

(a) The applicant has never had a mortgage loan originator license revoked in any governmental jurisdiction, except that a subsequent formal vacation of such revocation shall not be deemed a revocation;

(b) The applicant has not been convicted of, or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere or its equivalent to, in a domestic, foreign, or military court:

(i) A misdemeanor under any state or federal law which involves dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the business of a mortgage banker, depository institution, or installment loan company unless such individual has received a pardon for such conviction or such conviction

has been expunged, except that the director may consider the underlying crime, facts, and circumstances of a pardoned or expunged conviction in determining the applicant's eligibility for a license pursuant to subdivision (c) of this subsection; or

(ii) Any felony under state or federal law unless such individual has received a pardon for such conviction or such conviction has been expunged, except that the director may consider the underlying crime, facts, and circumstances of a pardoned or expunged conviction in determining the applicant's eligibility for a license pursuant to subdivision (c) of this subsection;

(c) The applicant has demonstrated financial responsibility, character, and general fitness such as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act. For purposes of this subsection, an individual has shown that he or she is not financially responsible when he or she has shown a disregard in the management of his or her own financial condition. The director may consider the following factors in making a determination as to financial responsibility:

(i) The applicant's current outstanding judgments except judgments solely as a result of medical expenses;

(ii) The applicant's current outstanding tax liens or other government liens and filings;

(iii) The applicant's foreclosures within the past three years; and

(iv) A pattern of seriously delinquent accounts within the past three years by the applicant;

(d) The applicant has completed the prelicensing education requirements described in section 45-730;

(e) The applicant has passed a written test that meets the test requirement described in section 45-731; and

(f) The applicant is covered by a surety bond as required pursuant to section 45-724 or a supplemental surety bond as required pursuant to section 45-1007.

(2)(a) If the director determines that a mortgage loan originator license application should be denied, the director shall notify the applicant in writing of the denial and of the reasons for the denial.

(b) The director shall not deny an application for a mortgage loan originator license because of the failure to submit information required under the act or rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act without first giving the applicant an opportunity to correct the deficiency by supplying the missing information.

(c) If an applicant for a mortgage loan originator license does not complete his or her license application and fails to respond to a notice or notices from the department to correct the deficiency or deficiencies for a period of one hundred twenty days or more after the date the department sends the initial notice after initial filing of the application, the department may deem the application as abandoned and may issue a notice of abandonment of the application to the applicant in lieu of proceedings to deny the application.

(d) A decision of the director denying a mortgage loan originator license application pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act may be appealed. The appeal shall be in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the department.

(3) A mortgage loan originator license shall not be assignable.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-730

Prelicensing education requirements; course review and approval; relicensure requirements.

(1) In order to meet the prelicensing education requirements referred to in subdivision (1)(d) of section 45-729, an individual shall complete at least twenty hours of education approved in accordance with subsection (2) of this section, which shall include at least the following:

(a) Three hours of instruction in federal law and regulations regarding mortgage origination;

(b) Three hours of instruction in ethics, which shall include instruction on fraud, consumer protection, and fair lending issues; and

(c) Two hours of instruction related to lending standards for the nontraditional mortgage product marketplace.

(2) For purposes of subsection (1) of this section, prelicensing education courses shall be reviewed and approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry based upon reasonable standards. Review and approval of a prelicensing education course shall include review and approval of the course provider.

(3) Nothing in this section shall preclude any prelicensing education course, as approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry, that is provided by the employer of the applicant or an entity which is affiliated with the applicant by an agency contract or any subsidiary or affiliate of such employer or entity.

(4) Prelicensing education may be offered either in a classroom, online, or by any other means approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry.

(5) The prelicensing education requirements approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry in subsection (1) of this section for any state shall be accepted as credit towards completion of prelicensing education requirements in this state.

(6) An individual who previously held a mortgage loan originator license applying to be licensed again shall prove that he or she has either (a) completed all of the continuing education requirements for the year in which the license was last held or (b) made up any deficiency in continuing education as provided by subsection (8) of section 45-733.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-731

Written test requirement; subject areas.

(1) In order to meet the written test requirement referred to in subdivision (1)(e) of section 45-729, an individual shall pass, in accordance with the standards established under this section, a qualified written test developed by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry and administered by a test provider approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry based upon reasonable standards.

(2) A written test shall not be treated as a qualified written test for purposes of subsection (1) of this section unless the test adequately measures the applicant's knowledge and comprehension in appropriate subject areas, including the following:

(a) Ethics;

(b) Federal laws and regulations pertaining to mortgage origination;

(c) State laws and regulations pertaining to mortgage origination; and

(d) Federal and state laws and regulations, including instruction on fraud, consumer protection, the nontraditional mortgage marketplace, and fair lending issues.

(3) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a test provider approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry from providing a test at the location of the employer of the applicant, the location of any subsidiary or affiliate of the employer of the applicant, or the location of any entity with which the applicant holds an exclusive arrangement to conduct the business of a mortgage loan originator.

(4)(a) An individual shall not be considered to have passed a qualified written test unless the individual achieves a test score of not less than seventy-five percent correct answers to questions.

(b) An individual may take a test three consecutive times with each consecutive taking occurring at least thirty days after the preceding test.

(c) After failing three consecutive tests, an individual shall wait at least six months before taking the test again.

(d) A licensed mortgage loan originator who fails to maintain a valid license for a period of five years or longer shall retake the test, not taking into account any time during which such individual is a registered mortgage loan originator.

Last amended

~ Reissue 2021

45-732

License; term; renewal; minimum standards for renewal; fee; denial; appeal.

(1) All initial mortgage loan originator licenses shall remain in full force and effect until the next succeeding December 31. Mortgage loan originator licenses may be renewed annually by submitting to the director a request for renewal and any supplemental material as required by the director. The mortgage loan originator licensee shall certify that the information contained in the license application, as subsequently amended, that is on file with the department, and the information contained in any supplemental material previously provided to the department, remains true and correct.

(2) The minimum standards for license renewal for mortgage loan originators shall include the following:

(a) The mortgage loan originator continues to meet the minimum standards for license issuance under subdivisions (1)(a) through (f) of section 45-729;

(b) The mortgage loan originator has satisfied the annual continuing education requirements described in section 45-733; and

(c) The mortgage loan originator has paid all required fees for renewal of the license.

(3) For the annual renewal of a mortgage loan originator license, the fee shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars, plus the cost of the criminal history background check required by the director and any processing fee allowed under subsection (2) of section 45-748.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (4) of section 45-734 and subsection (4) of section 45-742, should the director conclude that a mortgage loan originator does not meet the minimum standards for license renewal, the director shall deny the renewal application. A decision of the director denying a renewal of a mortgage loan originator license pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act may be appealed. The appeal shall be in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the department under the act.

45-733

Licensed mortgage loan originator; continuing education; continuing education courses; review and approval; credit as instructor; relicensure requirements.

(1) A licensed mortgage loan originator shall complete annually at least eight hours of education approved in accordance with subsection (2) of this section, which shall include at least:

- (a) Three hours of instruction in federal laws and regulations regarding mortgage origination;
- (b) Two hours of instruction in ethics, which shall include instruction on fraud, consumer protection, and fair lending issues; and
- (c) Two hours of instruction related to lending standards for the nontraditional mortgage product marketplace.

(2) For purposes of subsection (1) of this section, continuing education courses shall be reviewed and approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry based upon reasonable standards. Review and approval of a continuing education course shall include review and approval of the course provider.

(3) Nothing in this section shall preclude any education course, as approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry, that is provided by the employer of the mortgage loan originator, an entity which is affiliated with the mortgage loan originator by an agency contract, or any subsidiary or affiliate of such employer or entity.

(4) Continuing education may be offered either in a classroom, online, or by any other means approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry.

(5) A licensed mortgage loan originator:

- (a) Shall only receive credit for a continuing education course in the year in which the course is taken except as provided in subsection (8) of this section; and
- (b) Shall not take the same approved course in the same or consecutive years to meet the annual requirements for continuing education.

(6) A licensed mortgage loan originator who is an instructor of an approved continuing education course may receive credit for the licensed mortgage loan originator's own annual continuing education requirement at the rate of two hours credit for every one hour taught.

(7) An individual having successfully completed the education requirements approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry in subdivisions (1)(a), (b), and (c) of this section for any state shall be accepted as credit towards completion of continuing education requirements in this state.

(8) A licensed mortgage loan originator who subsequently becomes unlicensed shall complete the continuing education requirements for the last year in which the license was held prior to issuance of a new license or renewal license. Such individual may make up any deficiency in continuing education as established by rule, regulation, or order of the director if such individual meets the requirements of subdivision (2)(a) of section 45-732 and has paid the new application fee as provided by subsection (2) of section 45-728 or the reinstatement fee as provided by subdivision (4)(b) of section 45-742.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-734

Mortgage loan originator license; inactive status; duration; renewal; reactivation.

(1) A mortgage loan originator whose license is placed on inactive status under this section shall not act as a mortgage loan originator in this state until such time as the license is reactivated.

(2) The department shall place a mortgage loan originator license on inactive status upon the occurrence of one of the following:

(a) Upon receipt of a notice from either the licensed mortgage banker, registrant, installment loan company, or mortgage loan originator that the mortgage loan originator's relationship as an employee or independent agent of a licensed mortgage banker or installment loan company has been terminated;

(b) Upon the cancellation of the employing licensed mortgage banker's license pursuant to section 45-742 or upon the cancellation of the employing installment loan company's license pursuant to subdivision (3)(b) of section 45-1033 for failure to maintain the required surety bond;

(c) Upon the voluntary surrender of the employing licensed mortgage banker's license pursuant to section 45-742 or upon the voluntary surrender of the employing installment loan company's license pursuant to section 45-1032;

(d) Upon the expiration of the employing licensed mortgage banker's license pursuant to section 45-742 or upon the expiration of the employing installment loan company's license pursuant to subdivision (3)(a) of section 45-1033 if such mortgage loan originator has renewed his or her license pursuant to section 45-732;

(e) Upon the revocation or suspension of the employing licensed mortgage banker's license pursuant to section 45-742 or upon the revocation or suspension of the employing installment loan company's license pursuant to subsection (1) of section 45-1033; or

(f) Upon the cancellation, surrender, or expiration of the employing registrant's registration with the department.

(3) If a mortgage loan originator license becomes inactive under this section, the license shall remain inactive until the license expires, the licenseholder surrenders the license, the license is revoked or suspended pursuant to section 45-742, or the license is reactivated.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, a mortgage loan originator who holds an inactive mortgage loan originator license may renew such inactive license if he or she remains otherwise eligible for renewal pursuant to section 45-732 except for being covered by a surety bond pursuant to subdivision (1)(f) of section 45-729. Such renewal shall not reactivate the license.

(5) A mortgage loan originator who holds an inactive mortgage loan originator license that has been renewed one time may not renew such inactive license for a second annual licensing period unless (a) the inactive license was reactivated after such inactive license was renewed or (b) the mortgage loan originator demonstrates good cause to the director to allow renewal of the inactive license for an additional annual licensing period.

(6) The department has the authority to reactivate a mortgage loan originator license upon receipt of a notice pursuant to section 45-735 that the mortgage loan originator licensee has been hired as a mortgage loan originator by a licensed mortgage banker, registrant, or installment loan company and if such mortgage loan originator meets the conditions for licensing at the time the reactivation notice is received, including, but not limited to, coverage by a surety bond pursuant to subdivision (1)(f) of section 45-729.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-735

Mortgage loan originator; employee or independent agent; restriction on activities; written agency contract; notification to department; fee; notice of termination.

(1) A mortgage loan originator shall be an employee or independent agent of a single licensed mortgage banker, registrant, or installment loan company that shall directly supervise, control, and maintain responsibility for the acts and omissions of the mortgage loan originator.

(2)(a) A mortgage loan originator shall not engage in mortgage loan origination activities at any location that is not a main office location of a licensed mortgage banker, registrant, or installment loan company or a branch office of a licensed mortgage banker or registrant. The licensed mortgage banker, registrant, or installment loan company shall designate the location or locations at which each mortgage loan originator is originating residential mortgage loans.

(b) The department may adopt and promulgate rules, regulations, and orders to authorize and regulate the use of remote work arrangements conducted outside of a main office location or branch office by employees or agents, including mortgage loan originators, of licensed mortgage bankers, registrants, or installment loan companies.

(3) Any licensed mortgage banker, registrant, or installment loan company who engages an independent agent as a mortgage loan originator shall maintain a written agency contract with such mortgage loan originator. Such written agency contract shall provide that the mortgage loan originator is originating loans exclusively for the licensed mortgage banker, registrant, or installment loan company.

(4) A licensed mortgage banker, registrant, or installment loan company that has hired a licensed mortgage loan originator as an employee or entered into an independent agent agreement with such licensed mortgage loan originator shall provide notification to the department as soon as reasonably possible after entering into such relationship, along with a fee of fifty dollars. The employing entity shall not allow the mortgage loan originator to conduct such activity in this state prior to such notification to the department and confirmation that the department has received notice of the termination of the mortgage loan originator's prior employment.

(5) A licensed mortgage banker, registrant, or installment loan company shall notify the department no later than ten days after the termination, whether voluntary or involuntary, of a mortgage loan originator unless the mortgage loan originator has previously notified the department of the termination.

Last amended:

~ Cum. Supp. 2024

45-736

Unique identifier; use.

The unique identifier of any licensee shall be clearly shown on all residential mortgage loan application forms, solicitations, or advertisements, including business cards or websites, and any other documents as established by rule, regulation, or order of the director.

Last amended:

~ Cum. Supp. 2024

45-737

Mortgage banker; licensee; duties.

A licensee licensed as a mortgage banker shall:

(1) Disburse required funds paid by the borrower and held in escrow for the payment of insurance payments no later than the date upon which the premium is due under the insurance policy;

(2) Disburse funds paid by the borrower and held in escrow for the payment of real estate taxes prior to the time such real estate taxes become delinquent;

(3) Pay any penalty incurred by the borrower because of the failure of the licensee to make the payments required in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section unless the licensee establishes that the failure to timely make the payments was due solely to the fact that the borrower was sent a written notice of the amount due more than fifteen calendar days before the due date to the borrower's last-known address and failed to timely remit the amount due to the licensee;

(4) At least annually perform a complete escrow analysis. If there is a change in the amount of the periodic payments, the licensee shall mail written notice of such change to the borrower at least twenty calendar days before the effective date of the change in payment. The following information shall be provided to the borrower, without charge, in one or more reports, at least annually:

(a) The name and address of the licensee;

(b) The name and address of the borrower;

(c) A summary of the escrow account activity during the year which includes all of the following:

(i) The balance of the escrow account at the beginning of the year;

(ii) The aggregate amount of deposits to the escrow account during the year; and

(iii) The aggregate amount of withdrawals from the escrow account for each of the following categories:

(A) Payments applied to loan principal;

(B) Payments applied to interest;

(C) Payments applied to real estate taxes;

(D) Payments for real property insurance premiums; and

(E) All other withdrawals; and

(d) A summary of loan principal for the year as follows:

(i) The amount of principal outstanding at the beginning of the year;

(ii) The aggregate amount of payments applied to principal during the year; and

(iii) The amount of principal outstanding at the end of the year;

(5) Establish and maintain a toll-free telephone number or accept collect telephone calls to respond to inquiries from borrowers, if the licensee services residential mortgage loans. If a licensee ceases to service residential mortgage loans, it shall continue to maintain a toll-free telephone number or accept collect telephone calls to respond to inquiries from borrowers for a period of twelve months after the date the licensee ceased to service residential mortgage loans. A telephonic messaging service which does not permit the borrower an option of personal contact with an employee, agent, or contractor of the licensee shall not satisfy the conditions of this section. Each day such licensee fails to comply with this subdivision shall constitute a separate violation of the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act;

(6) Answer in writing, within seven business days after receipt, any written request for payoff information received from a borrower or a borrower's designated representative. This service shall be provided without charge to the borrower, except that when such information is provided upon request within sixty days after the fulfillment of a previous request, a processing fee of up to ten dollars may be charged;

(7) Record or cause to be recorded a release of mortgage pursuant to the provisions of section 76-2803 or, in the case of a trust deed, record or cause to be recorded a reconveyance pursuant to the provisions of section 76-2803;

(8) Maintain a copy of all documents and records relating to each residential mortgage loan and application for a residential mortgage loan, including, but not limited to, loan applications, federal Truth in Lending Act statements, good faith estimates, appraisals, notes, rights of rescission, and mortgages or trust deeds for a period of five years after the date the residential mortgage loan is funded or the loan application is denied or withdrawn;

(9) Notify the director in writing or through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry within three business days after the occurrence of any of the following:

(a) The filing of a voluntary petition in bankruptcy by the licensee or notice of a filing of an involuntary petition in bankruptcy against the licensee;

(b) The licensee has lost the ability to fund a loan or loans after it had made a loan commitment or commitments and approved a loan application or applications;

(c) Any other state or jurisdiction institutes license denial, cease and desist, suspension, or revocation procedures against the licensee;

(d) The attorney general of any state, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, or the Federal Trade Commission initiates an action to enforce consumer protection laws against the licensee or any of the licensee's officers, directors, shareholders, partners, members, employees, or agents;

(e) The Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Housing Administration, or Government National Mortgage Association suspends or terminates the licensee's status as an approved seller or seller and servicer;

(f) The filing of a criminal indictment or information against the licensee or any of its officers, directors, shareholders, partners, members, employees, or agents;

(g) The licensee or any of the licensee's officers, directors, shareholders, partners, members, employees, or agents was convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or was found guilty after a plea of nolo contendere to (i) a misdemeanor under state or federal law which involves dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the mortgage banking business, depository institution business, or installment loan company business or (ii) any felony under state or federal law; or

(h)(i) Except as provided in subdivisions (9)(h)(ii) and (iii) of this section, a licensee shall notify the director in writing or through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry within three business days from the time that the licensee becomes aware of any breach of security of the system of computerized data owned or licensed by the licensee, which contains personal information about a Nebraska resident, or the unauthorized access to or use of such information about a Nebraska resident as a result of the breach.

(ii) If a licensee would be required under Nebraska law to provide notification to a Nebraska resident regarding such incident, then the licensee shall provide a copy of such notification to the department prior to or simultaneously with the licensee's notification to the Nebraska resident.

(iii) Notice required by subdivision (9)(h) of this section may be delayed if a law enforcement agency determines that the notice will impede a criminal investigation. Notice shall be made in good faith, without unreasonable delay, and as soon as possible after the law enforcement agency determines that notification will no longer impede the investigation.

(iv) For purposes of subdivision (9)(h) of this section, the terms breach of the security of the system and personal information have the same meaning as in section 87-802; and

(10) Notify the director in writing or through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry within thirty days after the occurrence of a material development other than as described in subdivision (9) of this section, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(a) Business reorganization;

(b) A change of name, trade name, doing business as designation, or main office address;

(c) The establishment of a branch office. Notice of such establishment shall be on a form prescribed by the department and accompanied by a fee of seventy-five dollars for each branch office;

(d) The relocation or closing of a branch office; or

(e) The entry of an order against the licensee or any of the licensee's officers, directors, shareholders, partners, members, employees, or agents, including orders to which the licensee or other parties consented, by any other state or federal regulator.

Last amended:

~ Cum. Supp. 2024

45-737.01

Mortgage loan originator; licensee; duties.

(1) A licensee licensed as a mortgage loan originator shall notify the director in writing or through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry within three business days after the occurrence of any of the following:

(a) The filing of a voluntary petition in bankruptcy by such licensee or notice of a filing of an involuntary petition in bankruptcy against such licensee;

(b) The filing of a criminal indictment or information against such licensee regarding (i) a misdemeanor under state or federal law which involves dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the mortgage banking business, depository institution business, or installment loan company business or (ii) any felony under state or federal law;

(c) Such licensee was convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or was found guilty after a plea of nolo contendere to (i) a misdemeanor under state or federal law which involves dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the mortgage banking business, depository institution business, or installment loan company business or (ii) any felony under state or federal law;

(d) Any other state or jurisdiction institutes license denial, cease and desist, suspension, or revocation procedures against such licensee;

(e) The attorney general of any state, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, or the Federal Trade Commission initiates an action to enforce consumer protection laws against such licensee; or

(f) The Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Housing Administration, or Government National Mortgage Association suspends or terminates such licensee's status as an approved loan originator.

(2) A licensee licensed as a mortgage loan originator shall update through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry his or her employment history on file with the department no later than ten business days after the submission of the required notice of the creation or termination of an employment relationship pursuant to section 45-735.

(3) A licensee licensed as a mortgage loan originator shall notify the director in writing or through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry within thirty days after the occurrence of a material development other than as described in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- (a) A change in such licensee's name;
- (b) A change in such licensee's residential address;
- (c) A change in such licensee's employment address;
- (d) The filing of a tax or other governmental lien against such licensee;
- (e) The entry of a monetary judgment against such licensee; or

(f) The entry of an order against such licensee, including orders to which such licensee consented, by any other state or federal regulator.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-738

Licensee; failure to deliver abstract of title.

If a licensee in connection with a residential mortgage loan has possession of an abstract of title and fails to deliver the abstract to the borrower within twenty business days of the borrower's request made by certified mail, return receipt requested, in connection with a proposed sale of the real property, the borrower may authorize the preparation of a new abstract of title to the real property and the person failing to deliver the original abstract shall pay the borrower the reasonable costs of the preparation of the new abstract of title. If a borrower brings an action against the person failing to deliver an abstract of title to recover the payment made, the borrower shall also be entitled to recover reasonable attorney's fees and court costs incurred in the action.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-739

Transfer of servicing rights; duties.

Not less than fifteen days prior to the effective date of the transfer of servicing rights involving any residential mortgage loan, the licensee transferring the servicing rights shall send a written notice of transfer to each borrower which shall include:

- (1) The effective date of the transfer;

(2) The name, address, and telephone number of the transferee and the name of a referral person or department of the transferee;

(3) Instructions concerning payments made before the effective date of the transfer; and

(4) Instructions concerning payments made after the effective date of the transfer.

The provisions of this section shall not apply when the licensee transferring the servicing rights has provided the borrower with a written notice of transfer at the time of closing on the residential mortgage loan.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-740

Prohibited acts; violation; penalty; civil liability.

(1) A licensee, an officer, an employee, or an agent of the licensee shall not:

(a) Assess a late charge if all payments due are received before the date upon which late charges are authorized in the underlying mortgage or trust deed or other loan documents;

(b) Delay closing of a residential mortgage loan for the purpose of increasing interest, costs, fees, or charges payable by the borrower;

(c) Misrepresent or conceal material facts or make false promises intended to influence, persuade, or induce an applicant for a residential mortgage loan or a borrower to take a residential mortgage loan or cause or contribute to such a misrepresentation by any person acting on a licensee's or any other lender's behalf;

(d) Misrepresent to, or conceal from, an applicant for a residential mortgage loan or a borrower material facts, terms, or conditions of a residential mortgage loan to which the licensee is a party;

(e) Fail to make disclosures as required by the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act and any other applicable state or federal law including regulations thereunder;

(f) Engage in any transaction, practice, or business conduct that is not in good faith or that operates a fraud upon any person in connection with the making of any residential mortgage loan;

(g) Receive compensation for acting as a mortgage banker or mortgage loan originator if the licensee has otherwise acted as a real estate broker or agent in connection with the sale of the real estate which secures the residential mortgage loan unless the licensee has provided written disclosure to the person from whom compensation is collected that the licensee is receiving compensation both for acting as a mortgage banker or mortgage loan originator and for acting as a real estate broker or agent;

(h) Advertise, display, distribute, broadcast, televise, or cause or permit to be advertised, displayed, distributed, broadcasted, or televised, in any manner, including by the Internet, any false, misleading, or deceptive statement or representation with regard to rates, terms, or conditions for a residential mortgage loan or any false, misleading, or deceptive statement regarding the qualifications of the licensee or of any officer, employee, or agent thereof;

(i) Record a lien on real property if money is not available for the immediate disbursement to the borrower unless, before that recording, the licensee (i) informs the borrower in writing of the reason for the delay and of a definite date by which disbursement shall be made and (ii) obtains the borrower's written permission for the delay unless the delay is required by any other state or federal law;

(j) Fail to account for or deliver to any person personal property obtained in connection with the mortgage banking business, including, but not limited to, money, funds, deposits, checks, drafts, mortgages, trust deeds, or other documents or things of value which the licensee was not entitled to retain;

(k) Fail to disburse, without just cause, any funds in accordance with any agreement connected with the mortgage banking business;

(l) Collect fees and charges on funds other than new funds if the licensee makes a residential mortgage loan to refinance an existing residential mortgage loan to a current borrower of the licensee within twelve months after the previous residential mortgage loan made by the licensee;

(m) Assess any fees against the borrower other than those which are reasonable and necessary, including actual charges incurred in connection with the making, closing, disbursing, servicing, extending, transferring, or renewing of a loan, including, but not limited to, (i) prepayment charges, (ii) delinquency charges, (iii) premiums for hazard, private mortgage, disability, life, or title insurance, (iv) fees for escrow services, appraisal services, abstracting services, title services, surveys, inspections, credit reports, notary services, and recording of documents, (v) origination fees, (vi) interest on interest after default, and (vii) costs and charges incurred for determining qualification for the loan proceeds and disbursement of the loan proceeds;

(n) Allow the borrower to finance, directly or indirectly, (i) any credit life, credit accident, credit health, credit personal property, or credit loss-of-income insurance or debt suspension coverage or debt cancellation coverage, whether or not such coverage is insurance under applicable law, that provides for cancellation of all or part of a borrower's liability in the event of loss of life, health, personal property, or income or in the case of accident written in connection with a residential mortgage loan or (ii) any life, accident, health, or loss-of-income insurance without regard to the identity of the ultimate beneficiary of such insurance. For purposes of this section, any premiums or charges calculated and paid on a periodic basis that are not added to the principal of the loan shall not be considered financed directly or indirectly by the creditor;

(o) Falsify any documentation relating to a residential mortgage loan or a residential mortgage loan application;

(p) Recommend or encourage default on an existing loan or other debt prior to and in connection with the closing or planned closing of a residential mortgage loan that refinances all or any portion of such existing loan or debt;

(q) Borrow money from, personally loan money to, or guarantee any loan made to any customer or applicant for a residential mortgage loan;

(r) Obtain a signature on a document required to be notarized in connection with a residential mortgage loan or a residential mortgage loan application unless the qualified notary public performing the notarization is physically present at the time the signature is obtained; or

(s) Make any payment, threat, or promise, directly or indirectly, to any person for the purposes of influencing the independent judgment of the person in connection with a residential mortgage loan or make any payment, threat, or promise, directly or indirectly, to any appraiser of a property for the purposes of influencing the independent judgment of the appraiser with respect to the value of the property.

(2) Any person who violates any provision of subsection (1) of this section is guilty of a Class III misdemeanor.

(3) Any person who violates any provision of subsection (1) of this section is liable to the applicant for a residential mortgage loan or to the borrower for the fees, costs, and charges incurred in connection with obtaining or attempting to obtain the residential mortgage loan, damages resulting from such violation, interest on the damage from the date of the violation, and court costs, including reasonable attorney's fees.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-741

Director; examine documents and records; investigate violations or complaints; director; powers; costs; confidentiality.

(1) The director may examine documents and records maintained by a licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act. The director may investigate complaints about a licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the act. The director may investigate reports of alleged violations of the act, any federal law governing residential mortgage loans, or any rule, regulation, or order of the director under the act. For purposes of investigating violations or complaints arising under the act or for the purposes of examination, the director may review, investigate, or examine any licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the act as often as necessary in order to carry out the purposes of the act.

(2) For purposes of any investigation, examination, or proceeding, including, but not limited to, initial licensing, license renewal, license suspension, license conditioning, or license revocation, the director shall have the authority to access, receive, and use any books, accounts, records, files, documents, information, or evidence, including, but not limited to:

(a) Criminal, civil, and administrative history information;

(b) Personal history and experience information, including independent credit reports obtained from a consumer reporting agency described in 15 U.S.C. 1681a(p), as such section existed on January 1, 2010; and

(c) Any other documents, information, or evidence the director deems relevant to the inquiry or investigation regardless of the location, possession, control, or custody of such documents, information, or evidence.

(3) Each licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act shall make available to the director upon request the books, accounts, records, files, or documents relating to the operations of such licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the act. The director shall have access to such books, accounts, records, files, and documents and may interview the officers, principals, mortgage loan originators, employees, independent contractors, agents, and customers of the licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the act, concerning the business of the licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the act.

(4) Each licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the act shall make or compile reports or prepare other information as instructed by the director in order to carry out the purposes of this section, including, but not limited to:

(a) Accounting compilations;

(b) Information lists and data concerning loan transactions on a form prescribed by the director;
or

(c) Such other information deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(5) The director may send a notice of investigation or inquiry request for information to a licensee or registrant. Upon receipt by a licensee or registrant of the director's notice of investigation or inquiry request for information, the licensee or registrant shall respond within twenty-one calendar days. Each day beyond that time a licensee or registrant fails to respond as required by this subsection shall constitute a separate violation of the act. This subsection shall not be construed to require the director to send a notice of investigation to a licensee, a registrant, or any person.

(6) For the purpose of any investigation, examination, or proceeding under the act, the director or any officer designated by him or her may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses and compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, agreements, or other documents or records which the director deems relevant or material to the inquiry. If any person refuses to comply with a subpoena issued under this section or to testify with respect to any matter relevant to the proceeding, the district court of Lancaster County may, on application of the director, issue an order requiring the person to comply

with the subpoena and to testify. Failure to obey an order of the court to comply with the subpoena may be punished by the court as civil contempt.

(7) In conducting an examination or investigation under this section, the director may rely on reports made by the licensee or registrant which have been prepared within the preceding twelve months for the following federal agencies or federally related entities:

- (a) The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development;
- (b) The Federal Housing Administration;
- (c) The Federal National Mortgage Association;
- (d) The Government National Mortgage Association;
- (e) The Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation;
- (f) The United States Department of Veterans Affairs; or
- (g) The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

(8) In order to carry out the purposes of this section, the director may:

(a) Enter into agreements or relationships with other government officials or regulatory associations in order to improve efficiencies and reduce the regulatory burden by sharing resources, standardized or uniform methods or procedures, and documents, records, information, or evidence obtained under this section;

(b) Use, hire, contract, or employ publicly or privately available analytical systems, methods, or software to examine or investigate the licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the act;

(c) Accept and rely on examination or investigation reports made by other government officials, within or without this state; or

(d) Accept audit reports made by an independent certified public accountant for the licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the act in the course of that part of the examination covering the same general subject matter as the audit and incorporate the audit report in the report of the examination, report of investigation, or other writing of the director.

(9) If the director receives a complaint or other information concerning noncompliance with the act by an exempt person, the director shall inform the agency having supervisory authority over the exempt person of the complaint.

(10) No licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to investigation or examination under this section shall knowingly withhold, abstract, remove, mutilate, destroy, or secrete any books, records, computer records, or other information.

(11) The total charge for an examination or investigation shall be paid by the licensee or registrant as set forth in sections 8-605 and 8-606.

(12) Examination reports shall not be deemed public records and may be withheld from the public pursuant to section 84-712.05.

(13) Complaint files shall be deemed public records.

(14) The authority of this section shall remain in effect, whether such a licensee, registrant, individual, or person subject to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act acts or claims to act under any licensing or registration law of this state or claims to act without such authority.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-742

License; suspension or revocation; administrative fine; procedure; surrender; cancellation; expiration; effect; reinstatement.

(1) The director may, following a hearing under the Administrative Procedure Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act, suspend or revoke any license issued under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act. The director may also impose an administrative fine for each separate violation of the act if the director finds:

(a) The licensee has materially violated or demonstrated a continuing pattern of violating the act, rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act, any order, including a cease and desist order, issued under the act, or any other state or federal law applicable to the conduct of its business;

(b) A fact or condition exists which, if it had existed at the time of the original application for the license, would have warranted the director to deny the application;

(c) The licensee has violated a voluntary consent or compliance agreement which had been entered into with the director;

(d) The licensee has made or caused to be made, in any document filed with the director or in any proceeding under the act, any statement which was, at the time and in light of the circumstances under which it was made, false or misleading in any material respect or suppressed or withheld from the director any information which, if submitted by the licensee, would have resulted in denial of the license application;

(e) The licensee has refused to permit an examination by the director of the licensee's books and affairs pursuant to subsection (1) or (2) of section 45-741 or has refused or failed to comply with subsection (5) of section 45-741 after written notice of the violation by the director. Each day the licensee continues in violation of this subdivision after such written notice constitutes a separate violation;

(f) The licensee has failed to maintain records as required by subdivision (8) of section 45-737 or as otherwise required following written notice of the violation by the director. Each day the licensee continues in violation of this subdivision after such written notice constitutes a separate violation;

(g) The licensee knowingly has employed any individual or knowingly has maintained a contractual relationship with any individual acting as an agent, if such individual has been convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or was found guilty after a plea of nolo contendere to (i) a misdemeanor under any state or federal law which involves dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the mortgage banking business, depository institution business, or installment loan company business or (ii) any felony under state or federal law;

(h) The licensee knowingly has employed any individual or knowingly has maintained a contractual relationship with any individual acting as an agent, if such individual (i) has had a mortgage loan originator license revoked in any state, unless such revocation was subsequently vacated, (ii) has a mortgage loan originator license which has been suspended by the director, or (iii) while previously associated in any other capacity with another licensee, was the subject of a complaint under the act and the complaint was not resolved at the time the individual became employed by, or began acting as an agent for, the licensee and the licensee with reasonable diligence could have discovered the existence of such complaint;

(i) The licensee knowingly has employed any individual or knowingly has maintained a contractual relationship with any individual acting as an agent if such individual is conducting activities requiring a mortgage loan originator license in this state without first obtaining such license;

(j) The licensee has violated the written restrictions or conditions under which the license was issued;

(k) The licensee, or if the licensee is a business entity, one of the officers, directors, shareholders, partners, and members, was convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or was found guilty after a plea of nolo contendere to (i) a misdemeanor under any state or federal law which involves dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the mortgage banking business, depository institution business, or installment loan company business or (ii) any felony under state or federal law;

(l) The licensee has had a similar license revoked in any other jurisdiction; or

(m) The licensee has failed to reasonably supervise any officer, employee, or agent to assure his or her compliance with the act or with any state or federal law applicable to the mortgage banking business.

(2) Except as provided in this section and section 45-742.01, a license shall not be revoked or suspended except after notice and a hearing in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the department.

(3) A licensee may voluntarily surrender a license by delivering to the director written notice of the surrender, but a surrender shall not affect civil or criminal liability for acts committed before the surrender or liability for any fines which may be levied against the licensee or any of its officers, directors, shareholders, partners, or members pursuant to section 45-743 for acts committed before the surrender. The director's approval of such license surrender shall not be required unless the director has commenced an examination or investigation pursuant to section 45-741 or has commenced a proceeding to revoke or suspend the licensee's license or impose an administrative fine pursuant to this section.

(4)(a) If a licensee fails to (i) renew its license as required by sections 45-706 and 45-732 and does not voluntarily surrender the license pursuant to this section or (ii) pay the required fee for renewal of the license, the department may issue a notice of expiration of the license to the licensee in lieu of revocation proceedings.

(b) The director may adopt by rule, regulation, or order procedures for the reinstatement of licenses for which a notice of expiration was issued in accordance with subdivision (a) of this subsection. Such procedures shall be consistent with standards established by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry. The fee for reinstatement shall be the same fee as the fee for the initial license application.

(c) If a licensee fails to maintain a surety bond as required by section 45-724, the department may issue a notice of cancellation of the license in lieu of revocation proceedings.

(5) Revocation, suspension, surrender, cancellation, or expiration of a license shall not impair or affect the obligation of a preexisting lawful contract between the licensee and any person, including a borrower.

(6) Revocation, suspension, cancellation, or expiration of a license shall not affect civil or criminal liability for acts committed before the revocation, suspension, cancellation, or expiration or liability for any fines which may be levied against the licensee or any of its officers, directors, shareholders, partners, or members pursuant to section 45-743 for acts committed before the revocation, suspension, cancellation, or expiration.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-742.01

Mortgage banker or mortgage loan originator license; emergency orders authorized; grounds; notice; emergency hearing; judicial review; director; additional proceedings.

(1) The director may enter an emergency order suspending, limiting, or restricting the license of any mortgage banker or mortgage loan originator without notice or hearing if it appears upon grounds satisfactory to the director that:

(a) The licensee has failed to file the report of condition as required by section 45-726;

(b) The licensee has failed to increase its surety bond to the amount required by subsection (2) of section 45-724;

(c) The licensee has failed to provide any report required by the director as a condition of issuing such person a mortgage banker or mortgage loan originator license;

(d) The licensee is in such financial condition that it cannot continue in business safely with its customers;

(e) The licensee has been indicted, charged with, or found guilty of any act involving fraud, deception, theft, or breach of trust;

(f) The licensee has had its license suspended or revoked in any state based upon any act involving fraud, deception, theft, or breach of trust; or

(g) The licensee has refused to permit an examination by the director of the licensee's books and affairs pursuant to subsection (1) or (2) of section 45-741 or has refused or failed to comply with subsection (5) of section 45-741.

(2) An emergency order issued under this section becomes effective when signed by the director. Upon entry of an emergency order, the director shall promptly notify the affected person that such order has been entered, the reasons for such order, and the right to request an emergency hearing.

(3) A party aggrieved by an emergency order issued by the director under this section may request an emergency hearing. The request for hearing shall be filed with the director within ten business days after the date of the emergency order.

(4) Upon receipt of a written request for emergency hearing, the director shall conduct an emergency hearing within ten business days after the date of receipt of the request for hearing unless the parties agree to a later date or a hearing officer sets a later date for good cause shown.

(5) A person aggrieved by an emergency order of the director may obtain judicial review of the order in the manner prescribed in the Administrative Procedure Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the department.

(6) The director may obtain an order from the district court of Lancaster County for the enforcement of the emergency order.

(7) The director may vacate or modify an emergency order if he or she finds that the conditions which caused its entry have changed or that it is otherwise in the public interest to do so.

(8) If an emergency hearing has not been requested pursuant to subsection (3) of this section and the emergency order remains in effect sixty days after issuance, the director shall initiate proceedings pursuant to section 45-742 unless the license was surrendered or expired during the sixty-day time period after issuance of the emergency order.

(9) An emergency order issued under this section shall remain in effect until it is vacated, modified, or superseded by an order of the director, superseded by a voluntary consent or compliance agreement between the director and the licensee, or until it is terminated by a court order.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-743

Violations; administrative fine; costs; lien.

(1) The director may, following a hearing under the Administrative Procedure Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act, impose an administrative fine against any officer, director, shareholder, partner, or member of a licensee, if the director finds the licensee or any such person participated in or had knowledge of any act prohibited by sections 45-737, 45-740, and 45-742 or otherwise violated the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act. Such administrative fine shall be in addition to or separate from any fine imposed against a licensee pursuant to section 45-742.

(2) If the director finds, after notice and hearing in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act, that any person has knowingly committed any act prohibited by section 45-742 or otherwise violated the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act, the director may order such person to pay (a) an administrative fine of not more than five thousand dollars for each separate violation and (b) the costs of investigation.

(3) If a person fails to pay an administrative fine and the costs of investigation ordered pursuant to this section, a lien in the amount of such fine and costs may be imposed upon all assets and property of such person in this state and may be recovered in a civil action by the director. The lien shall attach to the real property of such person when notice of the lien is filed and indexed against the real property in the office of the register of deeds in the county where the real property is located. The lien shall attach to any other property of such person when notice of the lien is filed against the property in the manner prescribed by law. Failure of the person to pay such fine and costs shall constitute a separate violation of the act.

Last amended:
~ Reissue 2021

45-744

Cease and desist orders; department; powers; judicial review; violation; penalty.

(1) The department may order any person to cease and desist whenever the department determines that the person has violated any provision of the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act. Upon entry of a cease and desist order, the director shall promptly notify the affected person that such order has been entered, of the reasons for such order, and that upon receipt, within fifteen business days after the date of the order, of written request from the affected person a hearing will be scheduled within thirty business days after the date of receipt of the written request unless the parties consent to a later date or the hearing officer sets a later date for good cause. If a hearing is not requested and none is ordered by the director, the order shall remain in effect until it is modified or vacated.

(2) The director may vacate or modify a cease and desist order if he or she finds that the conditions which caused its entry have changed or that it is otherwise in the public interest to do so.

(3) A person aggrieved by a cease and desist order of the director may obtain judicial review of the order in the manner prescribed in the Administrative Procedure Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act. The director may obtain an order from the district court of Lancaster County for the enforcement of the cease and desist order.

(4) A person who violates a cease and desist order of the director may, after notice and hearing and upon further order of the director, be subject to a penalty of not more than five thousand dollars for each act in violation of the cease and desist order.

Last amended:
~ Reissue 2021

45-745

Appeals.

In addition to any other remedy a licensee may have, any licensee or any person considering himself or herself aggrieved by any action of the department under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act may appeal the action, and the appeal shall be in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the act.

Last amended:
~ Reissue 2021

45-746

Enforcement of act; director; powers; construction of act; failure to comply with act; effect.

(1) The director may request the Attorney General to enforce the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act. A civil enforcement action by the Attorney General may be filed in the district court of Lancaster County. A civil enforcement action by the Attorney General may seek temporary and permanent injunctive relief, restitution for a borrower aggrieved by a violation of the act, and costs for the investigation and prosecution of the enforcement action.

(2) Except when expressly authorized, there shall be no private cause of action for any violation of the act.

(3) Nothing in the act shall limit any statutory or common-law right of any person to bring any action in any court for any act involved in the mortgage banking business or the right of the state to punish any person for any violation of law.

(4) Failure to comply with the act shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any residential mortgage loan. A person acquiring a residential mortgage loan or an interest in a residential mortgage loan is not required to ascertain the extent of compliance with the act.

Last amended:
~ Reissue 2021

45-747

Prohibited acts; penalty.

(1) Any person required to be licensed or registered under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act who, without first obtaining a license or registration under the act or while such license is on inactive status or expired or has been suspended, revoked, or canceled by the director, engages in the business of or occupation of, advertises or holds himself or herself out as, claims to be, or temporarily acts as a mortgage banker or mortgage loan originator in this state is guilty of a Class II misdemeanor.

(2) Any individual who has been convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or been found guilty after a plea of nolo contendere to (a) a misdemeanor under any state or federal law which involves dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the mortgage banking business, depository institution business, or installment loan company business or (b) any felony under state or federal law, and is employed by or maintains a contractual relationship as an agent of, any person required to be licensed or registered under the act, is guilty of a Class I misdemeanor.

Last amended:
~ Reissue 2021

License and registration under Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry; department; powers and duties; director; duties.

(1) The department shall require mortgage bankers, registrants, and mortgage loan originators to be licensed and registered through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry. In order to carry out this requirement, the department is authorized to participate in the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry. For this purpose, the department may establish, by adopting and promulgating rules and regulations or by order, requirements, as necessary. The requirements may include, but not be limited to:

(a) Background checks of mortgage bankers, registrants, and mortgage loan originators, including, but not limited to:

(i) Criminal history through fingerprint or other data bases;

(ii) Civil or administrative records;

(iii) Credit history; or

(iv) Any other information as deemed necessary by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry;

(b) The payment of fees to apply for or renew a license through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry;

(c) Compliance with the prelicensure education and testing and continuing education requirements as provided in the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act;

(d) The setting or resetting, as necessary, of renewal processing or reporting dates; and

(e) Amending or surrendering a license or any other such activities as the director deems necessary for participation in the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry.

(2) In order to fulfill the purposes of the act, the department is authorized to establish relationships or contracts with the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry or other entities designated by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry to collect and maintain records and process transaction fees or other fees related to licensees or other persons subject to the act. The department may allow such system to collect licensing fees on behalf of the department and allow such system to collect a processing fee for the services of the system directly from each licensee or applicant for a license.

(3) The director is required to regularly report violations of the act, as well as enforcement actions and other relevant information, to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry subject to the provisions contained in section 45-749.

(4) The director shall establish a process whereby mortgage bankers, registrants, and mortgage loan originators may challenge information entered into the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry by the director.

(5) The department shall ensure that the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry adopts a privacy, data security, and security breach notification policy. The director shall make available upon written request a copy of the contract between the department and the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry pertaining to the breach of security of the system provisions.

(6) The department shall upon written request provide the most recently available audited financial report of the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-749

Information sharing; privilege and confidentiality; limitations; applicability of section; director; powers.

(1) In order to promote more effective regulation and reduce the regulatory burden through supervisory information sharing:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the requirements under any federal or state law regarding the privacy or confidentiality of any information or material provided to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry, and any privilege arising under federal or state law, including the rules of any federal or state court, with respect to such information or material, shall continue to apply to such information or material after the information or material has been disclosed to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry. Such information and material may be shared with all federal and state regulatory officials with mortgage industry oversight authority without the loss of privilege or the loss of confidentiality protections provided by federal or state law;

(b) Information or material that is subject to a privilege or confidentiality under subdivision (1)(a) of this section shall not be subject to:

(i) Disclosure under any federal or state law governing the disclosure to the public of information held by an officer or an agency of the federal government or the respective state; or

(ii) Subpoena or discovery, or admission into evidence, in any private civil action or administrative process, unless with respect to any privilege held by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry with respect to such information or material, the person to whom such information or material pertains waives, in whole or in part, in the discretion of such person, that privilege;

(c) Any state statute relating to the disclosure of confidential supervisory information or any information or material described in subdivision (1)(a) of this section that is inconsistent with such subdivision shall be superseded by the requirements of this section; and

(d) This section shall not apply with respect to the information or material relating to the employment history of, and publicly adjudicated disciplinary and enforcement actions against, applicants and licensees that is included in the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry for access by the public.

(2) For these purposes, the director is authorized to enter into agreements or sharing arrangements with other governmental agencies, the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, the American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators, or other associations representing governmental agencies as established by adopting and promulgating rules and regulations or by order of the director.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-750

Department; duties; rules and regulations.

(1) The department shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act.

(2) The department may adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary in the administration of the act and not inconsistent with the act. The department shall make a good faith effort to provide a copy of the notice of hearing as required by section 84-907 in a timely manner to all licensees. Such notice may be sent electronically to licensees.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-751

Money collected; disposition.

(1) All fees, charges, and costs collected by the department pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Financial Institution Assessment Cash Fund.

(2) The department shall remit fines collected under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act to the State Treasurer for distribution in accordance with Article VII, section 5, of the Constitution of Nebraska.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-752***Act; liberal construction.***

The Residential Mortgage Licensing Act shall be construed liberally so as to effectuate its purposes.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-753***Personal jurisdiction; when.***

Application for a license as a mortgage banker, for registration as a mortgage banker, or for a license as a mortgage loan originator pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act shall constitute sufficient contact with this state for the exercise of personal jurisdiction in any action arising under the act.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021

45-754***Loans subject to act.***

Any residential mortgage loan made with respect to real property located in this state shall be subject to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act and all other applicable laws of this state, notwithstanding the place of execution, either nominal or real, of such residential mortgage loan.

Last amended:

~ Reissue 2021
