

Halsey Beshears, Secretary

Ron DeSantis, Governor

## **The Florida Real Estate Commission's Order Establishing Hardship Exemption and Extending Deadline for End of Course Examination**

*Effective May 26, 2020*

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

- **What does this Order do?**

The Order extends the time an applicant or a licensee has to complete the end-of-course examination for pre-licensing and post-licensing courses to December 31, 2020.

- **Why was this Order established?**

The Florida Real Estate Commission (FREC) recognized that many real estate schools were closed and unable to give end-of-examination tests due to the disruption of COVID-19. The Commission sought to ensure that students did not have to repeat real estate classes unnecessarily and experience additional hardships.

- **Who does this Order apply to?**

This Order applies to Florida Real Estate sales associate and broker applicants who must complete the pre-licensing education to sit for the state examination and licensed individuals who are required to complete the post licensing education in order to renew their licenses.

- **When does this Order take effect?**

The Order went into effect as of May 26, 2020. This Order will end on December 31, 2020.

- **How does this affect pre-licensing students?**

Once students complete the 60-hour class, they now have until December 31, 2020, to take the 3-hour end-of-course examination.

Students who failed the initial end of course exam and whose one-year opportunity for the 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt lapsed on or after May 26, 2020, will have until December 31, 2020, to re-take the exam.

- **What if I fail the second attempt?**

If you do not pass the second attempt, you must retake the class. This is not affected by the Order.

- **How does this affect post-licensing students?**

Once licensees obtain their initial real estate license, they are required to take a 45-hour post-licensing course (60 hour course for brokers) before their first renewal cycle. If the licensee's renewal cycle is within the year 2020, the licensees have until December 31, 2020, to take the end-of-course examination.

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## ***FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (Continued)***

- **My initial license is set to expire September 30, 2020. Do I now have until December 31, 2020 to renew my license?**

This Order only addresses educational examinations deadlines and does not address license renewal deadlines. Please call the Department or visit our website if you need any information regarding the renewal expiration date.

- **Does this extend the time I have to take the state examination?**

No. The extension is strictly limited to end of course examinations. An applicant has two years from the date of approval to sit for the state licensing examination after which date the exam authorization will automatically expire. The certificate of course completion issued from your school is valid for two years. You must have a valid course completion certificate to sit for the examination. Expired course certificates will not be accepted at the exam site.

- **Does this apply to online class and in-person classes?**

Yes. This Order addresses pre-licensing and post-licensure courses with an end-of-course examination.