

**261F.8 Penalties.**

1. If after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing the attorney general determines that a covered institution or lending institution has violated a provision of this chapter, the covered institution or lending institution may be liable for a civil penalty of up to five thousand dollars per violation. In taking action against a covered institution or lending institution, consideration shall be given to the nature and severity of a violation of this chapter.

2. If after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing the attorney general determines that a covered institution employee has violated a provision of this chapter, the covered institution employee may be liable for a civil penalty of up to two thousand five hundred dollars per violation. In taking action against a covered institution employee, consideration shall be given to the nature and severity of a violation of this chapter.

3. If after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing the attorney general determines that a lending institution has violated a provision of this chapter, such lending institution shall not be placed or remain on any covered institution's preferred lender list unless notice of such violation is provided to all potential borrowers of the covered institution. However, consideration shall be given to the nature and severity of a violation of this chapter in determining whether and for how long to ban a lender from a preferred lender list.

4. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the attorney general from reaching a settlement agreement with a covered institution, covered institution employee, or lending institution in order to effectuate the purposes of this section. Provided, however, if such settlement agreement is reached with a covered institution or lending institution, the attorney general shall provide notice of such action to the borrowers in a form and manner prescribed by the attorney general.

5. The attorney general shall deposit the funds generated pursuant to this section into the student lending education fund, created in section 261F.10.

6. Each individual incident of a violation of this chapter shall be considered a separate violation for the purpose of imposing civil penalties.

2008 Acts, ch 1132, §10