

## APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANIES

## CHAPTER 2050

## APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANIES

[Prior to 1/22/25, see Banking Division[187] Ch 25]

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 1/1/28

**481—2050.1(17A,543E) Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter, the definitions in Iowa Code chapter 543E shall apply. In addition, unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions shall apply:

“*Nationwide multistate licensing system*” or “*NMLS*” means a mortgage licensing system owned and operated by the State Regulatory Registry, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors.

“*Owner*” means a person who owns or has the power to vote more than 10 percent of the shares of an appraisal management company.

“*Ownership*” means being an owner or otherwise having the power to vote more than 10 percent of the shares of an appraisal management company.

“*Registrant*” means a person who is registered as an appraisal management company in this state.

[ARC 2869C, IAB 12/21/16, effective 1/1/17; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 1/22/25]

**481—2050.2(17A,543E) Application for registration.**

**2050.2(1)** An application for registration to operate an appraisal management company in Iowa shall be submitted to the administrator through the NMLS or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator. All information requested in the application shall be provided on or with the application form, including but not limited to any and all information required by Iowa Code section 543E.8(2). The administrator may consider an application withdrawn if the application does not contain all of the information required and the missing information is not submitted to the administrator within 30 days after the administrator requests the missing information.

**2050.2(2)** Appraiser panel. The application shall include a list of all certified and licensed appraisers who are independent contractors and are currently on the applicant’s appraiser panel and shall also include any additional certified and licensed appraisers who are independent contractors and who in the 12 months immediately preceding submission of the application have performed appraisals, for the applicant or for persons that have ordered appraisals through the applicant, for covered transactions or for secondary mortgage market participants in connection with covered transactions in which the dwelling is located in this state. The application shall include the name, the certification or license number, the date the appraiser joined the panel, and the date the appraiser left the panel, if applicable, for each appraiser included on the applicant’s appraiser panel. The applicant’s appraiser panel shall include all appraisers the applicant has engaged to perform one or more appraisals for or in connection with a covered transaction or for a secondary mortgage market participant in connection with a covered transaction in this state and all appraisers the applicant has accepted for future consideration for such appraisal assignments.

**2050.2(3)** All owners and controlling persons of the applicant must authorize a fingerprint background check, through the NMLS or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator, for the purpose of conducting a national criminal history background check through the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This requirement applies to all owners and controlling persons, regardless of whether the individual has previously applied as an owner or controlling person of an appraisal management company under Iowa Code chapter 543E.

**2050.2(4)** The applicant shall submit an application fee, initial registration fee, and background investigation fee in the amounts provided in subrule 2050.8(5), as well as the fee required for registration on the appraisal management company national registry maintained by the appraisal subcommittee as specified in subrule 2050.8(5). The applicant shall also pay any additional fees required by the NMLS, including but not limited to, the following: system processing fees and background check fees. The applicant will be refunded the initial registration fee and the appraisal management company national registry fee if the application is denied.

**2050.2(5)** If any information material to the application changes after the applicant files the initial application but before the administrator approves or denies the application, the applicant shall provide updated information to the administrator in writing within 10 calendar days of the change. The administrator may deny the application when such a material change in information has occurred and the applicant has failed to provide updated information within the prescribed time frame.

**2050.2(6)** An applicant for registration to operate an appraisal management company in Iowa must file with the administrator a \$25,000 surety bond in compliance with the provisions of Iowa Code section 543E.19.

**2050.2(7)** A registration shall lapse on the next succeeding December 31 after it is issued, but a registration granted on or after November 1 and before December 31 shall not lapse until December 31 of the following year. For example, a registration granted on November 17, 2017, would not expire until December 31, 2018. An applicant whose registration is granted on or after November 1 and before December 31 may be required, as determined by the appraisal subcommittee, to pay the fee for registration on the appraisal management company national registry in full for both calendar years. For example, while a registration granted on November 17, 2017, would not lapse until December 31, 2018, the registrant may be required to pay the national registry fee in full for 2017 and 2018.

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**481—2050.3(17A,543E) Grounds for denial of a registration.** The administrator may deny an application for registration to operate an appraisal management company, or issue a registration subject to restriction, for any of the reasons that follow.

**2050.3(1)** This state or another state or jurisdiction has canceled, revoked, denied, suspended, or refused to renew the applicant's registration to operate an appraisal management company or has denied, suspended, or refused to renew a similar registration under this state's or the other state's or jurisdiction's law. An agreement made between a person and this state or another state or jurisdiction not to operate as an appraisal management company may be considered a denial of that person's registration to operate an appraisal management company in this state or the other state or jurisdiction.

**2050.3(2)** An owner or controlling person of the applicant has been barred, removed, or prohibited from owning or serving as the controlling person of an appraisal management company, or from serving in any capacity in a financial institution by any state or federal regulatory agency, including but not limited to the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**2050.3(3)** An owner or controlling person of the applicant is or was the owner or controlling person of another appraisal management company in another state or jurisdiction, if such other state or jurisdiction has canceled, revoked, denied, suspended, or refused to renew the registration or application for registration of such other appraisal management company under this state's or the other state's or jurisdiction's law. An agreement made between a person and this state or another state or jurisdiction not to operate as the owner or controlling person of an appraisal management company may be considered a denial of that person's application to serve as the owner or controlling person of an appraisal management company in this state or the other state or jurisdiction.

**2050.3(4)** An owner or controlling person of the applicant has been convicted of forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, theft, extortion, conspiracy to defraud, tax evasion, or another similar offense, in a court of competent jurisdiction in this state or in any other state, territory, or district of the United States or in any foreign jurisdiction. For the purposes of this subrule, "convicted of" includes a guilty plea, deferred judgment, deferred sentence, or other similar finding of guilt by a court of competent jurisdiction.

**2050.3(5)** The applicant, or an owner or controlling person of the applicant, has made a false submission of material fact on an application for registration or has been otherwise implicated in the submission of a false application.

**2050.3(6)** An owner or controlling person of the applicant has demonstrated a lack of moral character in a manner that the administrator reasonably believes will impair the ability of the owner or controlling

person to operate an appraisal management company in full compliance with the public interest and state policies described in Iowa Code chapter 543E.

**2050.3(7)** For any reason listed in Iowa Code section 543E.17(1).

**2050.3(8)** The applicant has failed to include all of the information required in the application or has failed to pay any fee required under Iowa Code chapter 543E or this chapter.

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#### **481—2050.4(17A,543E) Renewal of registration.**

**2050.4(1)** To remain registered to operate an appraisal management company in Iowa, a registrant must renew a registration before the date the registration lapses. A registrant who holds a lapsed registration shall not directly or indirectly engage in or attempt to engage in business as an appraisal management company or advertise or hold itself out as engaging in or conducting business as an appraisal management company in Iowa until the administrator has reinstated the lapsed registration or has approved a new registration.

**2050.4(2)** An application to renew a registration shall be submitted to the administrator, through the NMLS or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator, no earlier than November 1 and no later than December 1 of the year for which the registration is valid. For example, for a registration that will lapse on December 31, 2017, an application for renewal shall be submitted by December 1, 2017. All requested information, including any material change to information contained in the original application, shall be provided to the administrator as directed by the NMLS or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator. Applications for renewal of a registration must be accompanied by a fee as specified in subrule 2050.8(5). The administrator may also assess late fees as specified in subrule 2050.8(5) for applications submitted after December 1.

**2050.4(3)** The administrator shall grant an application to renew a registration if:

a. The administrator receives the application and the appropriate renewal fee by December 1, or the administrator receives the application after December 1 but before January 1 and it is accompanied by the appropriate renewal fee and the appropriate late fee;

b. The application is fully completed and includes all necessary information; and

c. The application does not reveal grounds that would be sufficient to deny initial registration, or issue a registration subject to restriction, pursuant to rule 481—2050.4(17A,543E).

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#### **481—2050.5(17A,543E) Reinstatement of lapsed registration.**

**2050.5(1)** The registration of an appraisal management company that has lapsed for failure to satisfy the minimum standards for renewal may be reinstated if the registrant meets the following requirements:

a. The application for reinstatement is submitted between January 1 and February 28 of the year immediately following the year the registration lapsed.

b. All minimum requirements for renewal of registration for the year in which the registration lapsed are satisfied prior to submission of the application for reinstatement. The registrant seeking to reinstate a registration must submit all information required to renew a registration pursuant to rule 481—2050.4(17A,543E).

c. The registrant pays a reinstatement fee as specified in subrule 2050.8(5), in addition to the renewal fee, and any late charges.

**2050.5(2)** An appraisal management company whose registration has lapsed and who fails to meet the requirements for reinstatement specified in this rule must apply for a new registration and meet the requirements in effect at that time for a new registration.

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#### **481—2050.6(17A,543E) Changes in the registrant's name, location, or ownership.**

**2050.6(1)** A registrant wishing to change the principal location of an appraisal management company shall notify the administrator through the NMLS, or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator, within 15 days of making the change. The notice shall include proof that the registrant has either obtained a new bond

or amended the existing mandatory bond to reflect the new location. The registrant shall submit a fee as specified in subrule 2050.8(5) in association with the change.

**2050.6(2)** Registrants must notify the administrator no later than 15 days following a change in name and must submit to the administrator a fee as specified in subrule 2050.8(5).

**2050.6(3)** The prior written approval of the administrator is required whenever a change in ownership of a registrant is proposed. When a change in ownership of a registrant is proposed, the party that will assume ownership of the registrant shall give notice to the administrator through the NMLS, or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator, at least 30 days before the proposed change will take effect. The party that will assume ownership of the registrant shall furnish the administrator through the NMLS, or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator, with the same information required of initial applicants for registration, along with a fee as specified in subrule 2050.8(5). The administrator shall approve or deny the request in accordance with the provisions of rule 481—2050.3(17A,543E).

**2050.6(4)** The prior written approval of the administrator is required whenever a change of the designated controlling person of a registrant is proposed. When change of the designated controlling person of a registrant is proposed, the party that will become the designated controlling person of the registrant shall give notice to the administrator through the NMLS, or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator, at least 30 days before the proposed change will take effect. The party that will become the designated controlling person of the registrant shall furnish the administrator through the NMLS, or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator, with the same information required of initial applicants for designation as a controlling person, along with the appropriate fee. The administrator shall approve or deny the request in accordance with the provisions of rule 481—2050.3(17A,543E).

**2050.6(5)** Failure to notify the administrator within the prescribed time as required by this rule may subject the registrant to disciplinary action. However, in the event the death, incapacity, or unexpected resignation of a designated controlling person, or a similar circumstance, makes it impossible for a registrant to provide 30 days' advance notice, no disciplinary action shall be taken if the party that will become the designated controlling person of the registrant provides the notice described in subrule 2050.6(4) promptly and no later than 10 days after learning that a new controlling person must be designated.

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**481—2050.7(17A,543E) Notice of significant events.** A registrant shall notify the administrator immediately and in writing within 15 calendar days of the occurrence of any of the following events.

**2050.7(1)** The registrant or any of the registrant's officers, directors, owners, or affiliates file for bankruptcy protection or commence reorganization proceedings.

**2050.7(2)** A prosecuting authority files criminal charges against the registrant or any of a registrant's officers, directors, owners, or affiliates.

**2050.7(3)** Another state or jurisdiction institutes registration denial, cease and desist, suspension or revocation procedures, or other regulatory action against the registrant or any of the registrant's officers, directors, owners, or affiliates.

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**481—2050.8(17A,543E) Fees.**

**2050.8(1)** *Examination or investigation fees.* A registrant shall pay an investigation or examination fee as determined by the administrator based on the actual cost of the operation of the finance bureau of the banking division, as described in Iowa Code section 543E.10(1).

**2050.8(2)** *Examination or investigation late fees.* A registrant shall pay the administrator the total charge for an examination or investigation within 30 days after the administrator has requested payment. If a registrant fails to pay an examination or investigation fee by the due date, the administrator may assess an additional penalty as identified in subrule 2050.8(5) for each day the fee is overdue.

**2050.8(3)** *Late fees for failing to respond.* In the process of administering this chapter, the administrator may require a person to provide responses to formal orders, examinations, or complaint inquiries. If a person fails to respond within 30 days of the request, the administrator may assess a fee as specified in subrule 2050.8(5).

**2050.8(4) NMLS system processing fees.** In addition to the fees set forth in this chapter, the applicant or registrant shall pay any fee assessed by the NMLS attributed to the registrant's record in the NMLS system including but not limited to the initial set-up fee, an annual processing fee, and any fees associated with changing or updating the registrant's record.

**2050.8(5) Fees.**

Application for registration fee	\$250
Registration fee (initial) (not applicable to preregistration)	\$750
Registration fee (annual renewal)	\$750
Background investigation fee	\$51
Appraisal management company national registry fee (not applicable to preregistration)	As determined by the appraisal subcommittee
NMLS fees	As determined by the NMLS
Fee for late submission of application for renewal	\$50
Fee to reinstate a lapsed registration	\$250
Reissuance or replacement of a lost, destroyed, or stolen registration	\$25
Fee for change of principal location	\$25
Fee for change of name	\$25
Fee for change of ownership	\$150
Fee for change of controlling person	\$150
Fee for late payment of examination or investigation fees	5 percent of amount due per day beyond 30 days past due
Fee for late response to examination request	\$10 per day beyond 30 days past due
Conversion fee for preregistered persons (applicable only when converting a preregistration to a registration)	\$150
Dishonored check fee	\$30
Examination or investigation fee	\$100 per hour
Mailing list fee	\$30
Fee for letter of good standing	\$25

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**481—2050.9(17A,543E) Registrant records.**

**2050.9(1) General record requirements.** The following requirements apply to all records a registrant is required to keep pursuant to Iowa Code section 543E.13 and this chapter:

- a. The registrant may keep records as a hard copy or in an electronic equivalent.
- b. The registrant shall maintain all books and records in good order and shall produce books and records for the administrator upon request. Failure to produce such books and records within 30 days of the administrator's request may be grounds for disciplinary action against the registrant.
- c. The obligation to maintain required records continues even after the registrant ceases business operations in Iowa and turns in or surrenders its registration. The owners and directors of the registrant are responsible for ensuring that this requirement is met for the period required under Iowa Code section 543E.13 and this chapter.
- d. The registrant shall keep all required records for at least five years from the date the record was created, unless a longer retention period is required by statute.

**2050.9(2) Required records.** A registrant operating an appraisal management company shall keep, and be able to retrieve or access from its principal place of business, an appraisal request and assignment log, a true and complete copy of each appraisal performed, a payment log, applications for registration, a dispute resolution policy, and certain corporate records.

a. *Appraisal request and assignment log.* A registrant shall maintain a log of all appraisal services requested, including those requests for service that the registrant does not fulfill. A record of the appraiser assigned to each request for appraisal services accepted by the registrant shall also be kept. The record shall include a description of the assignment, the certification or registration number of the assigned appraiser, the certification possessed by the assigned appraiser, and the expiration date of the appraiser's certification.

b. *Appraisal files.* For each appraisal service assigned by a registrant to an appraiser, the registrant shall keep a record of the award or engagement letter giving the appraisal assignment to the appraiser; the

assigned appraiser's acceptance of the assignment; all material communications between the registrant, the assigned appraiser, and the service requestor regarding a consumer credit transaction secured by the principal dwelling of an Iowa consumer, or the securitization thereof; and the appraisal report created by the assigned appraiser.

*c. Payment log.* A record shall be kept of all payments made by a registrant in association with the provision of appraisal services and shall include the date the payment was made, the amount paid, the appraisal services for which payment was made, and the date on which the appraiser provided the results of the completed appraisal service to the registrant.

*d. Dispute resolution policy.* A registrant shall maintain a copy of a dispute resolution policy for appraisers who request a review of a decision made by the registrant. The dispute resolution policy shall provide for a written response to the appraiser's request for review, a written statement of the outcome of the dispute resolution process, and a copy of all relevant documents to the appraiser upon request. The dispute resolution policy shall provide for external review of the decision in question or internal review of the decision in question by an officer or employee of a registrant who holds a higher position than the individual who made the decision in question.

*e. Corporate records.* A registrant shall maintain lists of all owners, directors, officers, and employees, as well as the minutes from meetings of the registrant's board of directors if the registrant's corporate structure includes a board of directors.

**2050.9(3) General business records.** In addition to the required records, a registrant must keep the following general business records for at least five years from the date the record was created:

*a.* All checkbooks, check registers, bank statements, deposit slips, withdrawal slips, and canceled checks (or copies thereof) relating to the registrant's operation of an appraisal management company.

*b.* Complete records (including invoices and supporting documentation) for all expenses and fees paid in connection with each appraisal, including a record of the date and amount of all such payments actually made in connection with each appraisal.

*c.* Copies of all federal tax withholding forms, reports of income for federal taxation, and evidence of payments to all employees, independent contractors, and others compensated by a registrant in connection with the operation of an appraisal management company.

*d.* All correspondence and other records relating to the maintenance of any surety bond required by Iowa Code chapter 543E.

*e.* Copies of all reports of audits, examinations, inspections, reviews, investigations, or other similar functions performed by any third party, including but not limited to the administrator or any other regulatory or supervisory authority.

**2050.9(4) Disposal of records.** If a registrant or former registrant disposes of records at the end of the retention period, the registrant or former registrant shall dispose of the records in a reasonable manner that safeguards any identification information, as defined in Iowa Code section 715A.8(1)"a." The owners and directors of registrants and former registrants are responsible for ensuring that this requirement is met.

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#### **481—2050.10(17A,543E) Examinations, investigations, and complaints.**

**2050.10(1)** The administrator may, at any time and as often as the administrator deems necessary, examine a registrant's books, accounts, records, and files and investigate a registrant to assess potential violations of applicable appraisal-related laws, regulations, rules, or orders.

**2050.10(2)** The administrator may investigate complaints about, or alleged violations committed by, any registrant.

**2050.10(3)** The following shall constitute a complaint or alleged violation:

*a.* A written complaint received from a consumer, member of the public, employee, business affiliate, or other governmental agency.

*b.* Notice to the administrator from any source that the registrant, or any owner or controlling person thereof, has been the subject of disciplinary proceedings in another jurisdiction.

*c.* Notice to the administrator from any source that any owner or controlling person of the registrant has been convicted of forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, extortion, conspiracy

to defraud, or other similar offense, in a court of competent jurisdiction in this state or in any other state, territory, or district of the United States, or in any foreign jurisdiction.

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**481—2050.11(17A,543E) Disciplinary action.**

**2050.11(1)** The administrator has authority pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 543E and 17A to impose discipline for violations of Iowa Code chapter 543E and this chapter.

**2050.11(2)** Grounds for discipline. The administrator may impose any of the disciplinary sanctions set out in Iowa Code section 543E.17(1) when the administrator finds any of the following:

a. The registrant, or an owner or controlling person thereof, has violated a provision of Iowa Code chapter 543E or this chapter.

b. The registrant, or an owner or controlling person thereof, fails to fully cooperate with an examination or investigation, including failing to respond to an inquiry from the administrator within 30 calendar days of the date the administrator mails a written communication directed to the registrant's last-known address on file with the administrator.

c. The registrant, or an owner or controlling person thereof, has engaged in any conduct that subverts or attempts to subvert an examination or investigation by the administrator.

d. The registrant continues to operate an appraisal management company without an active and current registration.

e. The registrant fails to timely notify the administrator of the occurrence of any of the significant events set forth in rule 481—2050.7(17A,543E).

f. The registrant fails to notify the administrator of a change in ownership, controlling person, name, or principal place of business.

g. Another state or jurisdiction has denied, suspended, revoked, or refused to renew the registrant's registration or authorization to operate an appraisal management company under the other state's or jurisdiction's law.

h. The registrant fails to create and maintain complete and accurate records as required by state or federal law, regulation, or rule.

i. The registrant, or an owner or controlling person thereof, has violated an order of the administrator.

j. The registrant has abandoned its place of business for 60 or more days.

k. The registrant fails to pay any fee required by Iowa Code chapter 543E or this chapter or to maintain a bond required by Iowa Code chapter 543E.

l. A fact or condition exists which, had it existed at the time of the original application for registration, would have warranted the administrator to refuse to issue the original registration.

**2050.11(3)** A registrant may surrender a registration by delivering to the administrator a written notice of surrender.

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**481—2050.12(17A,543E) Appraisal management company national registry maintained by the appraisal subcommittee.** The administrator shall transmit to the appraisal subcommittee information and fees as necessary for inclusion on the appraisal management company national registry.

**2050.12(1)** *Registered appraisal management companies.* The administrator shall transmit to the appraisal subcommittee all information regarding registered appraisal management companies required for inclusion on the appraisal management company national registry, including but not limited to a roster of appraisal management companies registered in this state and records relating to any disciplinary action taken against a registrant.

**2050.12(2)** *Federally regulated appraisal management companies.* The administrator shall collect from a federally regulated appraisal management company all fees required for registration on the appraisal management company national registry maintained by the appraisal subcommittee. A federally regulated appraisal management company shall also pay all fees associated with the administration of this rule, including but not limited to fees required by the NMLS. The administrator shall collect from a federally regulated appraisal management company the following information necessary for the fulfillment of this

obligation: the name, address, and telephone number of the company; the national registry identification number and tax identification number of the company; the start date of the company's registration on the appraisal management company national registry; the name of and contact information for a contact person for the company; and any other information as required by the administrator.

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**481—2050.13(17A,543E) Preregistration.**

**2050.13(1)** A person who is not required to register as an appraisal management company because its appraiser panel does not meet or exceed the size requirements specified in Iowa Code section 543E.3(2) may apply to the administrator for preregistration as an appraisal management company. If the administrator approves the application, the applicant will receive a preliminary notice indicating that the administrator intends to approve the applicant for registration as an appraisal management company, based on the information submitted, as soon as the appraiser panel that the applicant oversees meets or exceeds the statutory size requirements. The administrator's preliminary intent to approve registration will remain subject to change in the event that the administrator receives additional information indicating that registration should be denied.

**2050.13(2)** An applicant seeking preregistration as an appraisal management company must follow the application procedures prescribed in rule 481—2050.2(17A,543E), including providing all required information. The applicant shall indicate that the applicant is applying for preregistration as an appraisal management company. The applicant shall submit the application fee required by rule 481—2050.2(17A,543E), but an applicant under this provision need not submit the initial registration fee or the fee required by the appraisal management company national registry. The administrator shall approve or deny the application for preregistration based on the criteria enumerated in rule 481—2050.3(17A,543E). Even if the administrator approves the application for preregistration, the applicant will not be registered on the appraisal management company national registry.

**2050.13(3)** A person who has received preregistration as an appraisal management company must apply for registration as an appraisal management company at least 30 days before the appraisal panel that the preregistered person oversees meets or exceeds the size requirements specified in Iowa Code section 543E.3(2). The applicant shall submit a conversion application to the administrator, through the NMLS or as otherwise prescribed by the administrator, specifying the new size of the applicant's appraiser panel as required by subrule 2050.2(2), updating all required information as necessary, and including any other information as prescribed by the administrator. The applicant shall also submit a conversion fee, the initial registration fee, and the fee required by the appraisal management company national registry as specified in subrule 2050.8(5).

**2050.13(4)** The administrator shall approve the application for registration unless additional information submitted by the applicant, or otherwise received by the administrator, indicates that the applicant is ineligible for registration based on the criteria enumerated in rule 481—2050.3(17A,543E). After the administrator approves registration, the applicant will be registered on the appraisal management company national registry and must comply with the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 543E and this chapter.

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These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 17A and 543E.

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