

CHAPTER 11
CONTINUING EDUCATION
[Prior to 2/20/02, see 193F—Chapter 6]

193F—11.1(272C,543D) Definitions. For the purpose of these rules, the following definitions shall apply:

“*Approved program*” means a continuing education program, course, or activity that satisfies the standards set forth in these rules and has received advance approval of the board pursuant to these rules.

“*Approved provider*” means a person or an organization that has been approved by the board to conduct continuing education programs pursuant to these rules.

“*Board*” means the Iowa real estate appraiser examining board.

“*Continuing education*” means education which is obtained by a person certified to practice real estate appraising in order to maintain, improve, or expand skills and knowledge obtained prior to initial certification or registration, or to develop new and relevant skills and knowledge, all as a condition of renewal.

“*Credit hour*” means the value assigned by the board to a continuing education program.

“*Guest speaker*” means an individual who teaches an appraisal education program on a one-time-only or very limited basis and who possesses a unique depth of knowledge and experience in the subject matter.

“*Home-study/correspondence program*” means a computer-generated program, such as CD-ROM, or written materials or exercises intended for self-study, which does not include simultaneous interaction with an instructor but does include tests transmitted to the provider for review and grading.

“*Hour*” means 50 minutes of instruction.

“*Live instruction*” means an educational program delivered in a classroom setting or through videoconferencing whereby the instructor and student carry out essential tasks while together.

193F—11.2(272C,543D) Continuing education requirements.

11.2(1) Certified residential, certified general and associate appraisers must demonstrate compliance with the following continuing education requirements as a condition of biennial renewal:

a. A minimum of 28 credit hours in approved continuing education programs must be acquired during the two-year renewal period. Carryover hours from a previous renewal period are not allowed.

b. The purpose of continuing education is to ensure that the appraiser participates in a program that maintains and increases the appraiser’s skill, knowledge and competency in real estate appraising. Credit may be granted for educational offerings that are consistent with the purpose of continuing education. A minimum of 14 of the required 28 credit hours must involve courses that address one or more of the following subject areas: real estate appraisal law and rules, report writing, cost approach, sales approach, income approach, economic principles, legal considerations in appraisal, real estate markets and analysis, highest and best use analysis, appraisal math and statistics, site value, valuation of partial interests or appraisal ethics.

c. Appraisers must successfully complete the seven-hour National USPAP Update Course, or its equivalent, each two-year renewal cycle. Equivalency shall be determined through the AQB Course Approval Program or by an alternate method established by the AQB. USPAP continuing education credit shall be awarded only when the class is instructed by an AQB-certified instructor(s) and when the class is instructed by at least one state-certified residential or state-certified general appraiser. Individuals who are credentialed in more than one jurisdiction shall not have to take more than one seven-hour National USPAP Update Course within a two-calendar-year period for the purposes of meeting AQB criteria.

d. Effective with renewals commencing in June 2008, appraisers must successfully complete a seven-hour course in report writing each two-year renewal cycle.

11.2(2) A maximum of 14 of the required 28 credit hours may be acquired in approved home-study/correspondence programs.

11.2(3) A maximum of 14 of the required 28 credit hours may be claimed by an instructor for teaching one or more approved continuing education programs in an amount equal to the credit hours approved for attendees. Instructors claiming such credit must teach the appraisal course during the renewal cycle in which credit is claimed and may not claim the course more than once in the renewal cycle. The board may request supportive documentation to ascertain course content and to verify the date(s), time, place and hours taught.

11.2(4) An applicant seeking to renew an initial certificate or registration issued less than 185 days prior to renewal is not required to report any continuing education. An applicant seeking to renew an initial certificate or registration issued for 185 days to 365 days prior to renewal must demonstrate completion of at least 14 credit hours, including at least 7 credit hours of report writing and 7 credit hours of the most recent National USPAP Update. An applicant seeking to renew an initial certificate or registration issued 365 days prior to renewal or more must demonstrate completion of at least 28 credit hours, including at least 7 credit hours of report writing and 7 credit hours of the most recent National USPAP Update.

11.2(5) Prior to reactivation of a certified general registration or a certified residential registration, a certified credential holder in inactive or lapsed status must complete all required continuing education hours that would have been required if the certified credential holder was in active status. The required hours must also include the most recent edition of a 7-hour National USPAP Update Course. Waivers may not be granted to credential holders who have failed to meet the continuing education requirements.

11.2(6) During each two-year renewal period, a continuing education program may be taken for credit only once, except USPAP courses.

11.2(7) Successful completion of a continuing education program requires 90 percent attendance. Continuing education credits shall not be granted to attendees who are present for less than 90 percent of the scheduled class meeting.

11.2(8) An applicant may claim continuing education credits earned in a state that has a continuing education requirement for renewal of a real estate appraisal certificate if the program is approved by the appraisal certification board of that state or the Appraiser Qualifications Board for continuing education purposes. All other programs must be approved upon application to the board pursuant to rules 11.4(272C,543D), 11.5(272C,543D) and 11.6(272C,543D).

11.2(9) A person certified or registered to practice real estate appraising in Iowa shall be deemed to have complied with Iowa's continuing education requirements for periods in which the person is a resident of another state or district having continuing education requirements for real estate appraising and meets all requirements of that state or district. Waivers may not be granted to credential holders who have failed to meet the continuing education requirements. Deferrals may not be granted to credential holders, except in the case of persons returning from active military duty. Credential holders returning from active military duty may be placed in active status for a period of up to 90 days pending completion of all continuing education requirements. To qualify, the credential holder must submit a request in writing and provide a copy of the military orders.

[ARC 7774B, IAB 5/20/09, effective 6/24/09]

193F—11.3(272C,543D) Hardship and disability provisions. Rescinded IAB 5/20/09, effective 6/24/09.

193F—11.4(272C,543D) Minimum program qualifications.

11.4(1) Continuing education programs, as a condition of board approval, must provide a formal program of learning that contributes to the growth in the professional knowledge and professional competence of real estate appraisers.

11.4(2) Continuing education programs dealing with the following subject areas will generally be acceptable:

- a. Ad valorem taxation;
- b. Agriculture production and economics;
- c. Agronomy/soil;

- d.* Arbitrations;
- e.* Business courses related to the practice of real estate appraisal;
- f.* Construction estimating;
- g.* Cost approach;
- h.* Ethics and standards of professional practice;
- i.* Income approach;
- j.* Land use planning, zoning and taxation;
- k.* Litigation;
- l.* Management, leasing, brokerage time sharing;
- m.* Property development;
- n.* Real estate appraisal law and rules;
- o.* Real estate appraisal (valuations/evaluations);
- p.* Real estate law;
- q.* Real estate financing and investment;
- r.* Real estate appraisal-related computer applications;
- s.* Real estate securities and syndication;
- t.* Real property exchange;
- u.* Production economics;
- v.* Sales approach;
- w.* USPAP.

11.4(3) The following programs will not be acceptable:

- a.* Sales promotion or other meetings held in conjunction with the appraiser's general business;
- b.* Time devoted to breakfast, lunch or dinner;
- c.* A program certified by the use of a challenge examination. The required number of hours must be completed to receive credit hours;
- d.* Meetings that are a normal part of the in-house staff or employee training;
- e.* Home-study/correspondence programs which are not tested and successfully completed;
- f.* Programs that do not provide at least three credit hours.

11.4(4) Continuing education credit will be granted only for whole hours, with a minimum of 50 minutes constituting one hour. For example, 100 minutes of continuous instruction would count as two credit hours; however, more than 50 minutes but less than 100 minutes of continuous instruction would only count as one hour.

11.4(5) Continuing education credit may be approved for university or college courses in qualifying topics according to the following formula: Each semester hour of credit shall equal 15 credit hours and each quarter hour of credit shall equal 10 credit hours.

193F—11.5(272C,543D) Standards for provider and program approval. Providers and programs must satisfy the following minimum standards in order to be preapproved in accordance with the procedures established in rule 11.4(272C,543D) and in order to maintain approved status.

11.5(1) The program must be taught or developed by individuals who have the education, training and experience to be considered experts in the subject matter of the program and competent in the use of teaching methods appropriate to the program.

11.5(2) Live instruction programs must be taught by instructors who have successfully completed an instructor development workshop within 24 months preceding board approval of the program.

11.5(3) In determining whether an instructor is qualified to teach a particular program, the board will consider whether the instructor has an ability to teach and an in-depth knowledge of the subject matter.

11.5(4) An instructor may demonstrate the ability to teach by meeting one or more of the following criteria:

- a.* Hold a bachelor's degree or higher in education from an accredited college (attach a copy of transcripts);
- b.* Hold a current teaching credential or certificate in any real estate or real estate-related fields (attach copy);

c. Hold a certificate of completion in the area of instruction from an instructor institute, workshop or school that is sponsored by a member of the Appraisal Foundation (detail specific teaching experiences);

d. Hold a full-time current appointment to the faculty of an accredited college;

e. Other, as the board may determine.

11.5(5) An instructor may demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the program's subject matter by meeting one or more of the following criteria:

a. Hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college with a major in a field of study directly related to the subject matter of the course the instructor proposes to teach, such as business, economics, accounting, real estate or finance (attach copy of transcript);

b. Hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college and have five years of appraisal experience related to the subject matter of the course the instructor proposes to teach (attach copy of transcript and document how the instructor's experience is related to the subject matter the instructor proposes to teach);

c. Hold a generally recognized professional real property appraisal designation or be a sponsor member of the Appraisal Foundation;

d. Other, as the board may determine.

11.5(6) As of January 1, 2004, only AQB-certified USPAP instructors, listed on the Web site of the Appraisal Foundation may teach the national USPAP courses including the 15-hour tested prelicense course and the 7-hour continuing education course.

11.5(7) Course content and materials must be accurate, consistent with currently accepted standards relating to the program's subject matter and updated no later than 30 days after the effective date of a change in standards, laws or rules.

11.5(8) Programs must have an appropriate means of written evaluation by participants. Evaluations shall include the relevance of the materials, effectiveness of presentation, content, facilities, and such additional features as are appropriate to the nature of the program.

11.5(9) No part of any course shall be used to solicit memberships in organizations, recruit appraisers for affiliation with any organization or advertise the merits of any organization or sell any product or service.

11.5(10) Providers must clearly inform prospective participants of the number of credit hours preapproved by the board for each program and all applicable policies concerning registration, payment, refunds, attendance requirements and examination grading.

11.5(11) Procedures must be in place to monitor whether the person receiving credit hours is the person who attended or completed the program.

11.5(12) Providers must be accessible to students during normal business hours to answer questions and provide assistance as necessary.

11.5(13) Providers must comply with or demonstrate exemption from the provisions of Iowa Code sections 714.14 to 714.25.

11.5(14) Providers must designate a coordinator in charge of each program who will act as the board's contact on all compliance issues.

11.5(15) Programs shall not offer more than eight credit hours in a single day.

11.5(16) Providers shall not provide any information to the board, the public or prospective students which is misleading in nature. For example, providers may not refer to themselves as a "college" or "university" unless qualified as such under Iowa law.

11.5(17) Providers must establish and maintain for a period of five years complete and detailed records on the programs successfully attended by each Iowa participant.

11.5(18) Providers must issue an individual certificate of attendance to each participant upon successful completion of the program. The certificate must be no larger than 8½" × 11" and must include the provider name and number, program name and number, name of attendee, date program was completed, number of approved credit hours, and the signature of the coordinator or other person authorized by the board.

11.5(19) Program providers and instructors are solely responsible for the accuracy of all program materials, instruction and examinations. Board approval of a provider or program is not an assurance or warranty of accuracy and shall not be explicitly or implicitly marketed or advertised as such.

193F—11.6(272C,543D) Acceptable distance education courses. Distance education is an education process based on the geographical separation of student and instructor. A distance education course is acceptable to meet class hour requirements if:

11.6(1) The course provides interaction. Interaction is a reciprocal environment in which the student has verbal or written communication with the instructor; and

11.6(2) Content approval is obtained from the AQB, a state licensing jurisdiction, or an accredited college, community college, or university that offers distance education programs and is approved or accredited by the Commission on Colleges, a regional or national accreditation association, or by an accrediting agency that is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education. Nonacademic credit college courses provided by a college shall be approved by the AQB or the state licensing jurisdiction; and

11.6(3) Course delivery mechanism approval is obtained from one of the following sources:

- a. AQB-approved organizations providing approval of course design and delivery; or
- b. A college that qualifies for content approval pursuant to subrule 11.6(2) that awards academic credit for the distance education course; or
- c. A qualifying college for content approval with a distance education delivery program that approves the course design and delivery that incorporate interactivity.

193F—11.7(272C,543D) Applications for approval of providers and programs. Applications for approval of providers and programs must be submitted on forms prescribed by the board. Board approval is effective for 24 months, including the month of approval.

11.7(1) Approval must be obtained for each program separately.

11.7(2) A nonrefundable fee of \$50 must be submitted for each program except for programs that have been approved by the Appraiser Qualifications Board.

11.7(3) All required forms and attachments must be submitted for approval at least 30 days prior to the first offering of each program. The board will approve or deny each program, in whole or part, within 15 days of the date the board receives the fee and fully completed application.

11.7(4) Application forms will request information including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Program description;
- b. Program purpose;
- c. Difficulty level;
- d. Learning objectives for each major topic that specify the level of knowledge or competency the student should demonstrate upon completing the program;
- e. Description of the instructional methods utilized to accomplish the learning objective;
- f. Identifying information for all guest speakers or instructors and such documentation as is necessary to verify compliance with the instructor qualifications described in subrule 11.5(5);
- g. Copies of all instructor and student program materials;
- h. Copies of all examinations and a description of all grading procedures;
- i. A description of the diagnostic assessment method(s) used when examinations are not given;
- j. Copies of prospective brochures or narrative descriptions of the program as will be advertised to prospective students;
- k. Such information as needed to verify compliance with board rules;
- l. The name, address, telephone number, fax number and E-mail address for the program's coordinator;
- m. Such other information as the board deems reasonably needed for informed decision making.

11.7(5) The board shall assign each provider and program a number. This number shall be placed on all correspondence with the board, all subsequent applications by the same provider, and all certificates of attendance issued to participants.

193F—11.8(272C,543D) Waiver of application fees. Application fees may be waived for approved programs sponsored by a federal, state, or local governmental agency when the program is offered at no cost or at a nominal cost to participants. A request for waiver of application fees should be made by the provider or certificate holder at the time the application is filed with the board.

193F—11.9(272C,543D) Continuing education committee. Upon majority vote of the board, the board chairperson may appoint, on an annual basis, a continuing education committee to approve or deny, in whole or part, applications for provider and program approval and hardship and disability waivers pursuant to rule 11.3(272C,543D), and credits claimed by appraisers on certification renewal forms. The committee shall be comprised of three members of the board, at least two of whom are appraisers. Alternatively, the board chairperson may delegate to the executive secretary authority to approve or deny course applications subject to the applicant's right to a hearing as provided for in rule 11.12(272C,543D).

193F—11.10(272C,543D) Appraiser request for preapproval of continuing education programs. An appraiser seeking credit for attendance and participation in a program which is to be conducted by a provider not accredited or otherwise approved by the board shall apply for approval to the board at least 15 days in advance of the commencement of the activity. The board shall approve or deny the application in writing. Application for prior approval of a continuing education activity shall include the following fee and information:

1. Application fee of \$25;
2. School, firm, organization or person conducting the program;
3. Location of the program;
4. Title and hour-by-hour outline of the program, course or activity;
5. Credit hours requested for approval;
6. Date of program; and
7. Principal instructor(s).

193F—11.11(272C,543D) Appraiser request for postapproval of continuing education program. An appraiser seeking credit for attendance and participation in a program that was not conducted by an approved provider or approved by the licensing authority in another state or otherwise approved by the board shall submit to the board a request for credit for the program. Within 15 days after receipt of the request, the board shall advise the requester in writing whether the program is approved and the number of hours allowed. Appraisers not complying with the requirement of this rule may be denied credit for the program. Application for postapproval of a continuing education program shall include the following fee and information:

1. Application fee of \$25;
2. School, firm, organization or person conducting the program;
3. Location of the program;
4. Title of program and description of program;
5. Credit hours requested for approval;
6. Dates of program;
7. Principal instructor(s); and
8. Verification of attendance.

193F—11.12(272C,543D) Review of provider or program. The board on its own motion or upon receipt of a complaint or negative evaluation may monitor or review any approved program or provider and, upon evidence of significant variation in the program presented from the program approved, a violation of board rules, or material misstatement or omission in the application form, may withdraw approval of the provider or program and disallow all or any part of the approved hours granted to the provider. The provider, as a condition of approval, agrees to allow the board or its authorized representatives to monitor ongoing compliance with board rules through means including, but not limited to, unannounced attendance at programs.

193F—11.13(272C,543D) Hearings. In the event of denial, in whole or in part, of any application for approval of a continuing education program or provider, or credit for a continuing education program, or withdrawal of approval of a continuing education program or provider, the provider or appraiser shall have the right, within 20 days after the sending of the notification of the denial or withdrawal by ordinary mail, to request, in writing, a hearing which shall be held within 60 days after receipt of the written request for hearing. The hearing shall be conducted by the board, a panel of the board, or a qualified administrative law judge designated by the board. If the hearing is conducted by a panel of the board or an administrative law judge, a transcript of the hearing shall be presented to the board with the proposed decision. The decision of the board, or the decision of the panel of the board or an administrative law judge after adoption or amendment by the board, shall be final.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 543D.5, 543D.9 and 543D.16 and chapter 272C.

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