



THE LAW SPOT

Keeping your license current

The Florida Real Estate Commission (FREC) requires applicants for real estate license or license renewal earn three hours of core law course work. The three hours must include a review of relevant law, a legislative or law update, a discussion on the law of agency, and a discussion of the Federal and other Florida laws that control, shape and affect Florida's real estate industry.

In 2012, several changes were made to the Florida Statutes and Commission Rules that regulate the sale of real estate in Florida and those professionals who engage in real estate sales. Under chapter 475.04, F.S., the Commission is required to foster the education of brokers, broker associates, sales associates and instructors concerning the ethical, legal, and business principles that govern their conduct.

The courses that you may take as a real estate broker or sales associate must all be approved by the Commission, who may also conduct, offer, sponsor, and prescribe real estate educational courses for all persons licensed or permitted by the Department as brokers, broker associates, sales associates, or instructors.

Section 475.04 implements a rule found at F.A.C. 61J2-3.015, which was amended in 2012. The rule requires the satisfactory completion of courses and states that applicants for initial licensure as a broker or sales associate must provide a course completion report of the individual's scheduled examination as proof that courses were satisfactorily completed.

Each licensee and instructor permit holder must retain the course completion report as proof of successful completion of continuing education or post-license education requirements for at least 2 years following the end of the renewal period for which the education is claimed.

Failing to provide evidence of compliance with continuing education or post-license education requirements or the furnishing of false or misleading information regarding compliance with the requirements is grounds for disciplinary action against the licensee or instructor.