
Most Commonly Asked Questions About Getting A Real Estate Salesperson's License

Q. Do I need prior experience in real estate to apply for a salesperson's license?

A. No.

Q. What qualifications must I meet in order to obtain a salesperson's license from the State of California?

A. You must be 18 years old, and successfully complete three License Qualifying courses: Real Estate Principles, Real Estate Practice, and a third real estate course of your choice, and pass the qualifying exam of the BRE.

Q. What does "BRE" stand for?

A. Bureau of Real Estate.

Q. Does the BRE have a website?

A. Yes: <http://www.bre.ca.gov> is the address. It has information for license applicants as well as consumers.

Q. How do I prove I passed the License Qualifying Courses?

A. An approved school will issue you a certificate of completion when you have successfully passed each course. You submit these certificates to the Bureau of Real Estate along with your application for the State exam.

Q. How long is the BRE exam?

A. 3 hours 15 minutes (in one session).

Q. How many questions are on the exam?

A. 150.

Q. What is the minimum passing score?

A. 70% (i.e., 105 of 150 questions).

Q. What type of questions are on the exam?

A. All questions are multiple choice with 4 choices.

Q. What is the BRE fee to take the exam?

A. \$60.

Q. Is there a re-examination fee if I must take the exam again?

A. Yes, it's the same as the original exam fee: \$60.

Q. May I re-schedule an exam?

A. Yes. The first re-scheduling costs \$15. Subsequent requests cost \$30.

Q. Can I check about my exam date by phone?

A. If you haven't received a notice by mail within three weeks, you may phone the BRE Examination section at 916-227-0900. You can also check your exam date on the BRE's website: www.bre.ca.gov.

Q. Can I learn my actual score?

A. Only if you fail. You will also be notified of the percentage of questions answered correctly in different subject areas.

Q. If I fail the State exam, do I have to take the License Qualifying courses again?

A. No, but you must take the State exam again.

Q. Once I get my license, may I work on my own as a salesperson?

A. No. A salesperson must always work under the control and supervision of a broker.

Q. Once I get my license, do I have to be employed by a broker?

A. No. You do not have to be employed by a broker to keep your license, but if you wish to WORK as a real estate salesperson you must be so employed by a broker.

Q. Is an Exam Preparation course required by the BRE before taking the exam?

A. No, but we think it's indispensable. The State exam questions cover more information than three License Qualifying courses.