



News

Our mission is to protect the public interest, advocate for Minnesota consumers, ensure a strong, competitive and fair marketplace, strengthen the state's economic future; and serve as a trusted public resource for consumers and businesses.

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MN Dept of Commerce offers licensing examinations online to expand access while still protecting consumers

March 10, 2021 | [Licensing](#)

For Immediate Release, March 10, 2021

The Minnesota Department of Commerce is now offering an online option for licensing candidates to take their pre-license examinations in real estate or insurance. The online examination makes licensure more accessible and helps to add more licensed professionals to provide real estate and insurance services in Minnesota.

“The Department of Commerce is expanding how Minnesotans can take real estate and insurance licensure examinations safely and securely. This new ability to take pre-licensing examinations online benefits those seeking to do business in these fields while continuing to give Minnesota consumers confidence that licensed real estate and insurance professionals have the training and knowledge to serve their needs well,” said Commerce Temporary Commissioner Grace Arnold.

The online examination option will help expand access and capacity for real estate and insurance professionals to serve Minnesotans. Over the past year, pandemic restrictions have limited the number and size of in-person licensing examination sites. At the same time, the Department of Commerce has experienced an exponential increase in the number of people seeking to take the pre-license examination required for licensure in Minnesota as a real estate salesperson, or agent. Salesperson examinations increased by 51 percent, from 1,330 in the first 8-week period of 2020 to 2,014 in the same 8-week period for 2021.

Online testing allows licensing candidates to choose from many more testing times, day or night, from their home or office. The technology offered by Pearson VUE, which administers the Department of Commerce's licensing examinations, allows for online testing monitored by a live proctor through a webcam and microphone to safeguard the integrity of the exam.

Licensing Education and Certification Benefits for Consumers

Prior to taking a pre-license examination in real estate or insurance, the licensing candidate is required to complete pre-exam education courses to learn about regulations and practices to protect consumers. Requirements to take the Department of Commerce's pre-licensing exam online, with a video to explain the process, can be found here: Home.pearsonvue.com/mncommerce/onvue (<https://Home.pearsonvue.com/mncommerce/onvue>).

License Lookup and File a Complaint Services

Minnesotans can check the status of licensing for real estate, insurance, and other licensed professions through the [Department of Commerce License Lookup Directory \(/commerce/consumers/tips-tools/license-lookup.jsp\)](/commerce/consumers/tips-tools/license-lookup.jsp). Consumers who have concerns or questions about licensed real estate, insurance or other licensed practitioners can contact the Department of Commerce Consumer Call Center at 651-539-1600 or [file a complaint online \(/commerce/consumers/file-a-complaint/index.jsp\)](/commerce/consumers/file-a-complaint/index.jsp).

With You Every Day

The Minnesota Department of Commerce mission is to protect all Minnesotans in their everyday financial transactions by investigating and evaluating services, and advocating that they be fair, accessible and affordable. Wherever you are in Minnesota, the Department of Commerce is with you every day. Whether you're filling up on gas, purchasing a home, working to reduce energy consumption or rebuilding after a disaster—we are with you, no matter what. The Minnesota Department of Commerce oversees more than 20 regulated industries, ensuring that Minnesota businesses are strong and Minnesota consumers are protected. Learn more at mn.gov/commerce (<https://mn.gov/commerce>).

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