CHAPTER 224
MISCELLANEOUS BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS PROVISIONS

SUBCHAPTER I
BANKING PROVISIONS

224.02 Banking, defined. The soliciting, receiving, or accepting of money or its equivalent on deposit as a regular business by any person, partnership, association, or corporation, shall be deemed to be doing a banking business, whether such deposit is made subject to check or is evidenced by a certificate of deposit, a passbook, a note, a receipt, or other writing, provided that nothing herein shall apply to or include money left with an agent, pending investment in real estate or securities for or on account of the agent's principal.

History: 991 a. 316; 1993 a. 490; 2005 a. 158.

224.03 Banking, unlawful, without charter; penalty. It shall be unlawful for any person, partnership, association, or corporation to do a banking business without having been regularly organized and chartered as a national bank, a state bank or a trust company. Any person or persons violating any of the provisions of this section, either individually or as an interested party in any partnership, association, or corporation shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction thereof shall be fined not less than $300 nor more than $1,000 or imprisoned in the county jail for not less than 60 days nor more than one year or both.


224.05 Municipality not preferred creditor. If any bank, banking institution or trust company, being indebted to the state of Wisconsin, or indebted to any county, city, town or other municipality therein, for deposits made or indebtedness incurred after April 23, 1899, becomes insolvent or bankrupt, except as provided in s. 34.07, the state, county, city, town or other municipality shall not be a preferred creditor and shall have no preference or priority of claim whatever over any other creditor or creditors thereof; but a just and fair distribution of the property of such bank, banking institution or trust company, and of the proceeds thereof, shall be made among the creditors thereof proportionally, according to the amount of their respective claims. Nothing herein contained shall in any manner affect the provisions of law as they existed on said date providing for the payment of unpaid taxes and assessments, laborer's claims, expenses of assignment and execution of the trust.

History: 1979 c. 110 s. 60 (12); 1985 a. 257.

224.06 Fidelity bonds for bank officers and employees. (1) As a condition precedent to qualification or entry upon the discharge of his or her duties, every person appointed or elected to any position requiring the receipt, payment or custody of money or other personal property owned by a bank or in its custody or control as collateral or otherwise, shall give a bond from an insurer qualified under s. 610.11 to do business in this state, in such adequate sum as the directors shall require and approve. In lieu of individual bonds the division may accept a schedule of blanket bond which covers all of the officers and employees of any bank whose duties include the receipt, payment or custody of money or other personal property for or on behalf of the bank. All such bonds shall be in the form prescribed by the division.

History: 1979 c. 110 s. 60 (12); 1985 a. 257.

224.07 Checks to clear at par. A "junior achievement" bank would be a banking business and violate s. 224.03.

Cross-reference: See definitions in s. 220.01

SUBCHAPTER II
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

224.25 Customer access to appraisals.

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in advance at least 10 days’ written notice by registered mail to the division. If the bond is canceled or terminated at the request of the insured (employer), the surety shall give the written notice to the division within 10 days after the receipt of such request.

(5) For reasons which the division deems valid and sufficient the division may waive as to the cancellation or termination of any such bond the 10–day written notice in advance required by sub. (4) and may give written consent to the termination or cancellation being made effective as of a date agreed upon and requested by the surety and the bank.

(6) The provisions required by sub. (4) to be in every such bond shall not in any way modify, impair or otherwise affect or render invalid a provision therein to the effect that the bond shall terminate as to any person covered thereby upon the discovery by the bank of any dishonest act on the part of such person.

(7) Any violation of the provisions contained in subs. (1) and (2) shall subject the bank to a fine of $100 per day for each consecutive day of such violation and it shall be the duty of the attorney general to recover any such penalties by action for and in behalf of the state.


224.07 Checks to clear at par. Checks drawn on any bank or trust company, organized under the laws of this state, shall be cleared at par by the bank or trust company on which they are drawn. Any bank or trust company, or officer or employee thereof, who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as provided in s. 939.61.


224.075 Financially related services tie–ins. In any transaction conducted by a bank, bank holding company or a subsidiary of either with a customer who is also a customer of any other subsidiary of any of them, the customer shall be given a notice in 12–point boldface type in substantially the following form:

NOTICE OF RELATIONSHIP
This company, ..., (insert name and address of bank, bank holding company or subsidiary), is related to ..., (insert name and address of bank, bank holding company or subsidiary) of which you are also a customer. You may not be compelled to buy any product or service from either of the above companies or any other related company in order to participate in this transaction.

If you feel that you have been compelled to buy any product or service from either of the above companies or any other related company in order to participate in this transaction, you should contact the management of either of the above companies at either of the above addresses or the division of banking at .... (insert address).

History: 1985 a. 325; 1995 a. 27.

224.10 Indian loan funds. (1) ADMINISTRATION IN TRUST AS A LOAN FUND. The loan funds of any Indian tribe which are transferred to the custody of such tribe by the United States, including any outstanding loan accounts, shall be administered as follows:

(a) The funds shall be held in trust by the tribe or a legal entity thereof as an Indian loan fund, for the purpose of making loans to members of the tribe.

(b) Management of an Indian loan fund shall be vested in a board of trustees, which may hire necessary personnel to administer the loan fund. The board of trustees shall consist of 5 members of the tribe and shall be appointed annually by the governing body of the tribe.

(c) The Indian loan fund in custody of the Menominee Indian Tribe and administered by a board of trustees appointed by that tribe shall, at the termination of federal control, be administered, subject to this section, by a board of 5 trustees appointed annually by the stockholders of the corporation described in s. 710.05, 1973 stats., and shall be used for making loans to those who were enrolled tribal members as proclaimed by the secretary of the int
to be submitted to the department for retention in the department’s records.

(b) Subject to par. (c), the department may require any filing to be made electronically in a manner prescribed by the department. Subject to par. (c), if the department requires that a filing be made electronically, the department may require that any fee associated with the filing be paid using a suitable method prescribed by the department.

(c) The department may waive any requirement imposed under par. (b) if all of the following apply:

1. The person affected by the requirement makes a written request to the department, in a manner prescribed by the department, that the requirement be waived and clearly states in the request why the requirement causes the person undue hardship.

2. The department determines, in its discretion, that the requirement, if imposed on the person, would cause the person undue hardship.


224.40 Disclosure of financial records for child support enforcement. (1) Definitions. In this section:

(a) “County child support agency” means a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5).

(b) “Financial institution” has the meaning given in s. 49.853 (1) (c).

(c) “Financial record” has the meaning given in 12 USC 3401.

2 FINANCIAL RECORD MATCHING AGREEMENTS. A financial institution is required to enter into an agreement with the department of workforce development under s. 108.223.

3 LIMITED LIABILITY. A financial institution is not liable for any of the following:

(a) Disclosing a financial record of an individual to the county child support agency attempting to establish, modify or enforce a child support obligation of the individual.

(b) Disclosing information to the department of children and families or a county child support agency pursuant to the financial record matching program under s. 49.853.

(c) Encumbering or surrendering any assets held by the financial institution in response to instructions provided by the department of children and families in accordance with rules promulgated under s. 49.853.

(d) Any other action taken in good faith to comply with s. 49.853 or 49.854.


224.42 Disclosure of financial records for Medical Assistance eligibility. (1) Definitions. In this section:

(a) “Financial institution” has the meaning given in s. 49.45 (4m) (a) 3.

(b) “Financial record” has the meaning given in 12 USC 3401 (2).

2 FINANCIAL RECORD MATCHING AGREEMENTS. A financial institution is required to enter into an agreement with the department of health services under s. 49.45 (4m).

3 LIMITED LIABILITY. A financial institution is not liable for any of the following:

(a) Disclosing a financial record of an individual or other information to the department of health services in accordance with an agreement, and its participation in the program, under s. 49.45 (4m).

(b) Any other action taken in good faith to comply with s. 49.45 (4m).


224.44 Disclosure of financial records for collection of unemployment insurance debt. (1) Definitions. In this section:

(a) “Financial institution” has the meaning given in 12 USC 3401 (1).

(b) “Financial record” has the meaning given in 12 USC 3401 (2).

2 FINANCIAL RECORD MATCHING AGREEMENTS. A financial institution is required to enter into an agreement with the department of workforce development under s. 108.223.

3 LIMITED LIABILITY. A financial institution is not liable for any of the following:

(a) Disclosing a financial record of an individual or other information to the department of workforce development in accordance with an agreement, and its participation in the program, under s. 108.223.

(b) Any other action taken in good faith to comply with s. 108.223.

History: 2013 a. 36.

SUBCHAPTER III

MORTGAGE BANKERS, LOAN ORIGINATORS AND MORTGAGE BROKERS

224.71 Definitions. In this subchapter:

(1bm) “Another state” means any state of the United States other than Wisconsin; the District of Columbia; any territory of the United States; Puerto Rico; Guam; American Samoa; the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; the Virgin Islands; or the Northern Mariana Islands.

(1br) “Bona fide nonprofit organization” means an organization that is described in section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and exempt from federal income tax under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code, that is certified by the federal department of housing and urban development or the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority, and that does all of the following:

(a) Promotes affordable housing or provides home ownership education or similar services.

(b) Conducts its activities in a manner that serves public or charitable purposes.

(c) Receives funding and revenue and charges fees in a manner that does not create an incentive for itself or its employees to act other than in the best interests of its clients.

(d) Compensates its employees in a manner that does not create an incentive for its employees to act other than in the best interests of its clients.

(e) Provides to, or identifies for, the borrower residential mortgage loans with terms favorable to the borrower and comparable to residential mortgage loans and housing assistance provided under government housing assistance programs.

(1ce) “Branch office” means an office or place of business, other than the principal office, located in this state or another state, where a mortgage loan originator, mortgage banker, or mortgage broker engages in the mortgage loan business subject to this subchapter.

(1dm) “Depository institution” has the meaning given in 12 USC 1813 (c) (1), but also includes any state or federal credit union.

(1ef) “Division” means the division of banking.

(1f) “Dwelling” has the meaning given in 15 USC 1602 (w).

(1g) “Employee” means an individual whose manner and means of performance of work are subject to the right of control of, or are controlled by, a person, and whose compensation for federal income tax purposes is reported, or required to be reported, on a W−2 form issued by the controlling person.

(1gh) (a) Except as provided in par. (b), “expungement” means to have stricken or obliterated from a record of criminal conviction all references to the defendant’s name and identity.
(b) For a criminal conviction entered in another state, “expungement” has the meaning given under the laws of the state where the criminal conviction is entered.

(1h) “Federal banking agency” means the board of governors of the federal reserve system, the U.S. office of the comptroller of the currency, the national credit union administration, or the federal deposit insurance corporation.

(1m) “Finds,” with respect to a residential mortgage loan, means to assist a residential mortgage loan applicant in locating a lender for the purpose of obtaining a residential mortgage loan and to make arrangements for a residential mortgage loan applicant to obtain a residential mortgage loan, including collecting information on behalf of an applicant and preparing a loan package.

(1r) “Housing finance agency” means any authority that is all of the following:

(a) Chartered by a state to help meet the affordable housing needs of the residents of the state.

(b) Supervised directly or indirectly by the state government.

(c) Subject to audit and review by the state in which it operates.

(2) “Loan processor or underwriter” means an individual who, as an employee, performs clerical or support duties at the direction of and subject to the supervision and instruction of a mortgage loan originator licensed under s. 224.725 or exempt from licensing under s. 224.725 (1m), which clerical or support duties include making an underwriting decision on a residential mortgage loan or closing a residential mortgage loan.

(14) “Residential mortgage loan” means any loan primarily for personal, family, or household use that is secured by a lien or mortgage on a person’s principal residence and the following:

(a) Assists a person in obtaining or applying for a residential mortgage loan.

(b) Holds himself, herself, or itself out as being able to assist a person in obtaining or applying for a residential mortgage loan.

(c) Engages in table funding.

(6) “Mortgage loan originator” means an individual who, for compensation or gain or in the expectation of compensation or gain, does any of the following:

(a) Assists a person in obtaining or applying for a residential mortgage loan.

(b) Holds himself, herself, or itself out as being able to assist a person in obtaining or applying for a residential mortgage loan.

(c) Engages in table funding.

(7) “Nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry” means the licensing and registration system developed and maintained by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors and the American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators for licensed mortgage loan originators and mortgage loan originators exempt from licensing under s. 224.725 (1m) or, if this system is no longer maintained, any system established by the secretary of the federal department of housing and urban development under P.L. 110–289, Title V, section 1509.

(8) “Negotiate,” with respect to a residential mortgage loan, means to discuss, explain, or present the terms and conditions, including rates, fees, and other costs, of a residential mortgage loan with an individual, to a residential mortgage loan applicant, but does not include making an underwriting decision on a residential mortgage loan or closing a residential mortgage loan.

(9) “Net worth” means total tangible assets less total liabilities of a person, or, if the person is an individual, total tangible assets less total liabilities exclusive of the person’s principal residence and its furnishings and personal use vehicles.

(10) “Nontraditional mortgage product” means any mortgage product other than a 30-year fixed rate mortgage.

(11) “Originate,” with respect to a residential mortgage loan, means to make an underwriting decision on the residential mortgage loan and close the loan.

(12) “Principal office,” with respect to a mortgage broker or mortgage broker, means the place of business designated by the mortgage broker or mortgage broker as its principal place of business, as identified in the records of the division.

(13) “Real estate brokerage activity” means any activity that involves offering or providing to the public real estate brokerage services involving residential real property in this state, including all of the following:

(a) Acting as a real estate agent or real estate broker for a buyer, seller, lessor, or lessee of real property.

(b) Bringing together parties interested in the sale, purchase, lease, rental, or exchange of real property.

(c) Negotiating, on behalf of any party, any portion of a contract relating to the sale, purchase, lease, rental, or exchange of real property, other than in connection with providing financing for the transaction. For purposes of this paragraph, providing financing for the transaction does not include use by a licensee under s. 452.03 of forms approved under s. REEB 16.03, Wis. Adm. Code.

(d) Engaging in any activity for which a person engaged in the activity is required to be licensed under s. 452.03.

(e) Offering to engage in any activity, or act in any capacity, described in pars. (a) to (d).

(13c) “Registered entity” means a depository institution that voluntarily registers with the division for the purpose of sponsoring licensed mortgage loan originators that are under the depository institution’s direct supervision and control.

(13g) “Registered mortgage loan originator” means any individual who is all of the following:

(a) An employee of, and acting for, a depository institution, a subsidiary owned and controlled by a depository institution and regulated by a federal banking agency, or an institution regulated by the farm credit administration.

(b) Registered with, and who maintains a unique identifier through, the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry.

(13m) “Regularly engage,” with respect to an individual, means that any of the following applies:

(a) The individual engaged in the business of a mortgage loan originator on more than 5 residential mortgage loans, in this state or another state, in the previous calendar year or expects to engage in the business of a mortgage loan originator on more than 5 residential mortgage loans, in this state or another state, in the current calendar year.

(b) The individual is acting on behalf of a person who is, or is required to be, licensed as a mortgage lender, mortgage broker, or mortgage broker in this state or another state.

(c) The individual is acting on behalf of an associated entity.
mortgage, or equivalent security interest, on a dwelling or resi-
dential real property located in this state.

(15) “Residential real property” means real property on which
a dwelling is constructed or intended to be constructed.

(16) “Services,” with respect to a residential mortgage loan,
means to receive payments on a note from the borrower and dis-
tribute these payments in accordance with the terms of the note or
servicing agreement.

(17) “Table funding” means a transaction in which a person
conducts a residential mortgage loan closing in the person’s
name with funds provided by a 3rd party and the person assigns the resi-
dential mortgage loan to the 3rd party within 24 hours of the resi-
dential mortgage loan closing.

(18) “Unique identifier” means a number or other identifier
assigned by protocols established by the nationwide mortgage
licensing system and registry.

History: 1987 a. 359; 1987 a. 403 s. 182; Stats. 1987 s. 440.71; 1989 a. 45; 1995
a. 27 s. 6590; Stats. 1995 s. 224.71; 1997 a. 27, 145; 2001 a. 16; 2003 a. 33, 260; 2005
a. 22; 2007 a. 211; 2009 a. 2 ss. 565 to 594, 597; 2013 a. 360 ss. 1 to 28, 43.

Cross-reference: See also ch. DFI−Bkg 48, Wis. adm. code.


224.72 Licensing of mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers. (1m) LICENSE REQUIRED. Except as provided in sub.
(1), a person may not conduct business or act as a mortgage
banker or mortgage broker, use the title “mortgage banker,”
or “mortgage broker,” or advertise or otherwise portray himself, her-
self, or itself as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker, unless the
person has been issued a mortgage banker or mortgage broker
license by the division.

(1r) LICENSE EXEMPTIONS. The following persons shall not be
required to be licensed under this section or comply with the other
provisions of this subchapter:

(a) A depository institution.

(b) A subsidiary that is owned and controlled by a depository
institution and regulated by a federal banking agency.

(c) A federal, state, or local government agency or housing
finance agency.

(d) An institution regulated by the farm credit administration.

(e) A bona fide nonprofit organization that does not operate in
a commercial context and that is exempt under this paragraph.
To qualify for an exemption under this paragraph, an organiza-
tion shall certify, on a form prescribed by the division, that it is a bona
fide nonprofit organization and shall provide documentation as
required by the division. To maintain this exemption, the orga-
nization shall file the prescribed certification and accompanying
documentation with the division by December 31 of each year.

(f) A mortgage banker that meets all of the following criteria:
1. The mortgage banker engaged in the business of a mort-
gage banker on 5 or fewer residential mortgage loans during the
previous calendar year.

2. The mortgage banker expects to serve as the prospective
source of financing, or to perform other phases of origination or
servicing, on 5 or fewer residential mortgage loans in the current
calendar year.

3. The mortgage banker does not advertise or otherwise hold
himself, herself, or itself out as a “mortgage banker.”

(g) A person that only performs real estate brokerage activities
and is licensed under s. 452.03, unless the person is compensated
by a lender, mortgage broker, or mortgage loan originator or by
any agent of a lender, mortgage broker, or mortgage loan origi-
nator.

(h) A person solely involved in extensions of credit relating to
time−share plans, as defined in 11 USC 101 (53D).

(2) LICENSE APPLICATION. (am) Applicants for a mortgage
banker or mortgage broker license shall apply to the division, on
forms and in the manner prescribed by the division, and shall pay
the fee specified in rules promulgated under sub. (8). Forms pre-
scribed by the division under this paragraph may contain any con-
tent or requirement that the division, in its discretion, determines
necessary and these forms may be modified or updated as neces-
sary by the division to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.

(c) 1. Except as provided in par. (d), an application shall
include the following:

a. In the case of an individual, the individual’s social security
number.

b. In the case of a person that is not an individual, the person’s
federal employer identification number.

2. The division may not disclose any information received
under subd. 1. to any person except as follows:

a. The division may disclose information under subd. 1. to the
department of revenue for the sole purpose of requesting certi-
fications under s. 73.0301 and to the department of workforce
development for the sole purpose of requesting certifications
under s. 108.227.

b. The division may disclose information under subd. 1. a. to
the department of children and families in accordance with a
memorandum of understanding under s. 49.857.

(d) 1. If an applicant who is an individual does not have a social
security number, the applicant, as a condition of applying for or
applying to renew a license under this section, shall submit a state-
ment made or subscribed under oath or affirmation to the division
that the applicant does not have a social security number. The
form of the statement shall be prescribed by the department of
children and families.

2. Any license issued or renewed in reliance upon a false
statement submitted by an applicant under subd. 1. is invalid.

(2m) LICENSED OFFICES. (a) Each mortgage banker or mort-
gage broker shall obtain and maintain a license for its principal
office and a separate license for each branch office.

(b) 1. A principal office of a mortgage banker or mortgage
broker shall be located in either this state or another state. Except
as provided in subd. 2., a principal office may not be located in a resi-
dence.

2. A principal office of a mortgage banker or mortgage broker
located in a residence on April 25, 2014, may continue to be
located in that residence after this date but may not thereafter
be relocated to any residence with a different address.

(c) A branch office of a mortgage banker or mortgage broker
shall be located in either this state or another state. A branch office
may be located in a residence.

(4) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS. (a) In addition to the require-
ments of sub. (2), an applicant for a mortgage banker or mortgage
broker license shall do all of the following:

1. File with the division a commercial surety bond which is
in the amount of $300,000 for a mortgage banker or $120,000
for a mortgage broker, is issued by a surety company authorized to do
business in this state, secures the applicant’s faithful performance
of all duties and obligations of a mortgage banker or mortgage
broker, is payable to the division for the benefit of persons to
whom the mortgage banker or mortgage broker provided services
as a mortgage banker or mortgage broker, is issued on a form that
is acceptable to the division and provides that the bond may not be
terminated without at least 60 days’ written notice to the divi-
sion.

4. Submit evidence that establishes, to the division’s satisfac-
tion, a minimum net worth of $250,000 for a mortgage banker or
$100,000 for a mortgage broker. Evidence of net worth shall include the submission of recent financial statements accompa-
nied by a written statement by an independent certified public
accountant attesting that he or she has reviewed the financial state-
ments in accordance with generally accepted accounting prin-
ciples.

(5m) COMPLETION OF LICENSING PROCESS. Except as provided
in sub. (7m), upon the filing of an application for a mortgage
banker or mortgage broker license and the payment of the fee
specified in rules promulgated under sub. (8), the division shall
make an investigation of the applicant including, if the applicant is a partnership, limited liability company, association, or corporation, the members or officers and directors, respectively, of the applicant. If the division finds that the character, general fitness, and financial responsibility of the applicant, including its members or officers and directors if the applicant is a partnership, limited liability company, association, or corporation, warrant the belief that the business will be operated in compliance with this subsection, the division shall issue to the applicant a mortgage banker or mortgage broker license. A mortgage banker or mortgage broker license is not assignable or transferable.

(7) LICENSE RENEWAL. (am) A mortgage broker or mortgage banker may apply to renew a license issued under this section by timely submitting, on forms and in the manner prescribed by the division, a completed renewal application and all required renewal fees. The division may not renew a license issued under this section unless the division finds that the mortgage broker or mortgage banker continues to meet the minimum standards for license issuance under this section.

(bm) The license of a mortgage broker or mortgage banker who fails to satisfy the minimum standards for license renewal shall expire. The division may, by rule, provide for the reinstatement of expired licenses consistent with the standards established by the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry.

(7m) DENIAL OF APPLICATION FOR CERTAIN REASONS. The division may not issue or renew a license under this section if any of the following applies:

(a) The applicant for the issuance or renewal has failed to provide any information required under sub. (2) (c) 1.

(b) The department of revenue has certified under s. 73.0301 that the applicant is liable for delinquent taxes. An applicant whose application for issuance or renewal of a license is denied under this paragraph for delinquent taxes is entitled to a notice under s. 73.0301 (2) (b) 1. b. and hearing under s. 73.0301 (5) (a) but is not entitled to any other notice or hearing under this section.

(bm) The department of workforce development has certified under s. 108.227 that the applicant is liable for delinquent unemployment insurance contributions. An applicant whose application for issuance or renewal of a license is denied under this paragraph for delinquent unemployment insurance contributions is entitled to a notice under s. 108.227 (2) (b) 1. b. and hearing under s. 108.227 (5) (a) but is not entitled to any other notice or hearing under this section.

(c) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply, after appropriate notice, with a subpoena or warrant issued by the department of children and families or a warrant issued by the department of children and families or a warrant issued by the department of children and families.

(d) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to submit all required fees and documents.

(e) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(f) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(g) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(h) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

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(M) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(N) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(O) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(P) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(Q) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(R) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(S) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(T) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(U) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(V) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(W) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(X) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(Y) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(Z) The applicant for the issuance or renewal is an individual who fails to comply with any other requirement under this section.

(2) Upon the filing of an application for registered entity status and the payment of the required fee, the division shall make an investigation of the applicant. If the application is complete, and the division has no concerns regarding the applicant’s character, general fitness, or financial responsibility, the division shall register the applicant as a registered entity.

(3) Each registered entity shall register with the division each branch office where a mortgage loan originator sponsored by the registered entity engages in business as a mortgage loan originator. Applications for branch office registration shall be made on forms and in the manner prescribed by the division and shall be accompanied by the same fee as that established by rule for branch offices of mortgage bankers.

(A) A depository institution’s registered entity status, and the registration of all of its registered branch offices, expires on December 31 of each year.

(B) A registered entity may apply to renew its registered entity status and the registration of all of its registered branch offices, by timely submitting, on forms and in the manner prescribed by the division, a completed renewal application for the registered entity and for each branch office, along with the applicable fee under sub. (1) or (3). The division may not renew registered entity status under this section unless the division finds that the registered entity continues to meet the minimum standards for registration under this section.

(C) If a registered entity fails to satisfy the minimum standards for renewal of its registration, its registration shall expire. If a registered entity fails to satisfy any requirement under sub. (6) for renewing its registration of a branch office, the registration for that branch office shall expire.

(D) A registered entity shall cooperate with, and provide access to records and documents required by, the division to carry out examinations in accordance with s. 224.74 (2) of mortgage loan originators that are sponsored by the registered entity.

History: 2013 a. 360.
(d) An individual who performs real estate brokerage activities only and is licensed under s. 452.03, unless the individual is compensated by a lender, mortgage broker, or another mortgage loan originator or by any agent of a lender, mortgage broker, or another mortgage loan originator.

(e) An individual solely involved in extensions of credit relating to time-share plans, as defined in 11 USC 101 (53D).

(f) An employee of a bona fide nonprofit organization who acts as a mortgage loan originator only in connection with his or her work duties to the bona fide nonprofit organization and only with respect to residential mortgage loans with terms that are favorable to the borrower.

(g) A licensed attorney who undertakes activities described in s. 224.71 (6) if all of the following apply:
   1. These activities are carried out within an attorney–client relationship.
   2. These activities are carried out within an attorney–client relationship.
   3. The attorney carries out the activities in compliance with all applicable laws, rules, and ethics standards.

(2) LICENSE APPLICATIONS. (a) Applicants for a mortgage loan originator license shall apply to the division, on forms and in the manner prescribed by the division, and shall pay the fee specified in rules promulgated under sub. (8). The division shall require mortgage loan originators to be licensed and registered through the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry. Forms prescribed by the division under this paragraph may contain any content or requirement that the division, in its discretion, determines necessary and these forms may be modified or updated as necessary by the division to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.

(b) 1. Except as provided in subd. 2., an application shall include the individual’s social security number. The division may not disclose the individual’s social security number to any person except as follows:
   a. The division may disclose the social security number to the department of revenue for the sole purpose of requesting certifications under s. 73.0301 and to the department of workforce development for the sole purpose of requesting certifications under s. 108.227.
   b. The division may disclose the social security number to the department of children and families in accordance with a memorandum of understanding under s. 49.857.
   2. If an individual does not have a social security number, the individual, as a condition of applying for, or applying to renew, a license under this section, shall submit a statement made or subscribed under oath or affirmation to the division that the individual does not have a social security number. The form of the statement shall be prescribed by the department of children and families. Any license issued or renewed in reliance upon a false statement submitted by an applicant under this subdivision is invalid.

(c) Any applicant for a license under this section shall furnish to the division the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry information concerning the applicant’s identity, including all of the following:
   1. Fingerprints for submission to the federal bureau of investigation and to any governmental agency or entity authorized to receive this information, for purposes of a state, national, and international criminal history background check.
   2. Personal history and experience in a form prescribed by the division.

(d) Any information related to any administrative, civil, or criminal findings by any governmental jurisdiction.

(3) ISSUANCE OF LICENSE. Except as provided in sub. (6), upon the filing of an application for a mortgage loan originator license and the payment of the fee specified in rules promulgated under sub. (8), the division may issue to the applicant a mortgage loan originator license if the division finds that all of the following apply:
   a. The applicant has never had a mortgage loan originator license revoked in any governmental jurisdiction, unless the revocation was subsequently and formally vacated.
   b. The applicant has not been convicted of, or pled guilty or no contest to, a felony in a domestic, foreign, or military court during the 7-year period preceding the date of the application or, for a felony involving an act of fraud, dishonesty, breach of trust, or money laundering, at any time preceding the date of the application.
   c. The division may consider the underlying crime, facts, or circumstances of a pardon or expungement of the conviction, the pardoned or expunged conviction shall not result in an automatic denial or revocation of a mortgage loan originator license. The division may consider the underlying crime, facts, or circumstances of a pardon or expungement of the conviction when determining the eligibility of an applicant for licensure under this paragraph and par. (e).

(e) The applicant has demonstrated financial responsibility, character, and general fitness such as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of this subchapter. For purposes of this paragraph, an individual has shown that he or she is not financially responsible if he or she has shown a disregard in the management of his or her own financial condition. In making a finding related to an applicant’s financial responsibility for purposes of this paragraph, the division may consider whether the applicant has current outstanding judgments other than those resulting from medical expenses, has current outstanding tax liens or other government liens and filings, or has, within the past 3 years, any pattern of seriously delinquent accounts.

(f) The applicant has satisfied the education requirements under s. 224.755 (1).

(g) The applicant has passed a written test that meets the requirements under s. 224.755 (4).

(h) The applicant has met the surety bond requirement under sub. (4).

(4) SURETY BOND. (a) Each mortgage loan originator shall be covered by a surety bond in accordance with this section. A surety bond of a mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity meeting the requirements of par. (b) and s. 224.72 (4) (a) 2. or 224.722 (1) may satisfy the requirement under this paragraph for a mortgage loan originator who is sponsored by the mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity.

(b) The penal sum of the surety bond shall provide coverage for each mortgage loan originator in an amount that reflects the dollar amount of residential mortgage loans originated by the mortgage loan originator, as determined by the division.

(c) The surety bond shall be in a form prescribed, and satisfy all requirements established, by rule of the division.

(d) When an action is commenced on a mortgage loan originator’s surety bond, the division may require the filing of a new surety bond. If an action results in recovery on a mortgage loan originator’s surety bond, the mortgage loan originator shall immediately file a new surety bond.

(5) LICENSE RENEWAL. (a) A mortgage loan originator may apply to renew a license issued under this section by timely submitting, on forms and in the manner prescribed by the division, a completed renewal application and all required renewal fees. The division may not renew a license issued under this section unless the division finds that all of the following apply:
The mortgage loan originator continues to meet the minimum standards for license issuance under sub. (3).

2. The mortgage loan originator has satisfied the annual continuing education requirements under s. 224.755 (2).

(b) The license of a mortgage loan originator who fails to satisfy the minimum standards for license renewal shall expire. The division may, by rule, provide for the reinstatement of expired licenses consistent with the standards established by the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry.

(6) DENIAL OF APPLICATION FOR CERTAIN REASONS. The division may not issue or renew a license under this section if any of the following applies:

(a) The applicant for the issuance or renewal has failed to provide the information required under sub. (2) (b).

(b) The department of revenue has certified under s. 73.0301 that the applicant is liable for delinquent taxes. An applicant whose application for issuance or renewal is not issued or renewed under this paragraph for delinquent taxes is entitled to a notice under s. 73.0301 (2) (b) 1. b. and hearing under s. 73.0301 (5) (a) but is not entitled to any other notice or hearing under this section.

(bm) The department of workforce development has certified under s. 108.227 that the applicant is liable for delinquent unemployment insurance contributions. An applicant whose application for issuance or renewal of a license is denied under this paragraph for delinquent unemployment insurance contributions is entitled to a notice under s. 108.227 (2) (b) 1. b. and hearing under s. 108.227 (5) (a) but is not entitled to any other notice or hearing under this section.

(c) The applicant for the issuance or renewal has failed to comply, after appropriate notice, with a subpoena or warrant issued by the department of children and families or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) and related to paternity or child support proceedings or who is delinquent in making court−ordered payments of child or family support, maintenance, birth expenses, medical expenses or other expenses related to the support of a child or former spouse, as provided in a memorandum of understanding entered into under s. 49.857. An applicant whose license is not issued or renewed under this paragraph for delinquent payments is entitled to a notice and hearing under s. 49.857 but is not entitled to any other notice or hearing under this section.

(8) LICENSE PERIOD; FEES. The division shall promulgate rules establishing the license period and the license fees for mortgage loan originators. The fees shall be no less than $250 annually. The rules may not require a license fee for an individual who is eligible for the veterans fee waiver program under s. 45.44.

History: 2009 a. 2 ss. 607, 621, 634; 2009 a. 386; 2011 a. 209; 2013 a. 36; 2013 a. 366 ss. 39 to 71, 271 to 41, 44. Cross−reference: See also chs. DFI−Bkg 40 and 41, Wis. adm. code.

224.728 Nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry and cooperative arrangements. (1) PARTICIPATION. (a) The division shall participate in the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry. The division may establish relationships or contracts with the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry or other entities designated by the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry to collect and maintain records and process transaction fees or other fees related to licensees under this subchapter. With respect to any form, fee, or other information related to the initial issuance or renewal of a mortgage loan originator license under this subchapter, the division may require that any applicant submit such form, fee, or other information directly to the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry and may authorize the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry to perform any function under this subchapter related to the licensing of mortgage loan originators in this state.

(b) The division may provide to the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry any information relating to an applicant for initial issuance or renewal of a mortgage loan originator license that the division and the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry determine to be relevant to the application or to any mortgage loan originator responsibility administered or conducted through the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry.

(c) The division may rely on the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry to establish any dates relating to application or reporting deadlines for mortgage loan originators, to establish requirements for amending or surrendering mortgage loan originator licenses, or to establish any other requirements applicable to mortgage loan originators licensed under this subchapter with respect to the extent the requirements are a condition of the state’s participation in the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry.

(2) CHANNELING INFORMATION. To reduce the points of contact the division may have to maintain, and to facilitate compliance with the requirements under s. 224.725 (2) (c), the division may use the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry as a channeling agent for requesting and distributing information to and from any source so directed by the division, including the federal bureau of investigation, any state or federal department of justice, or any other governmental agency.

(3) CHALLENGE PROCESS. The division shall establish a process whereby mortgage loan originators may challenge information maintained by the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry on behalf of the division.

(4) CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. (a) If any information or material is considered confidential or privileged under federal or state law before it is provided or disclosed to the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry, it shall continue to be confidential or privileged after it is provided or disclosed to, and while maintained by, the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry, except to the extent federal or state law expressly provides otherwise and except as provided in par. (c). Confidential or privileged information or material under this paragraph is not subject to any of the following:

1. Disclosure under any federal or state law governing the disclosure to the public of information held by an officer or an agency of federal or state government.

2. Subpoena or discovery, or admission into evidence, in any private civil action or administrative proceeding, unless the person to whom the information or material pertains waives any right or protection of confidentiality or privilege in the information or material.

(b) Confidential or privileged information or material under par. (a) may be shared with any state or federal regulatory agency having supervisory authority over mortgage lending without losing any right or protection of confidentiality or privilege under federal or state law.

(c) This subsection does not prohibit the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry from providing public access to information or material relating to the employment history of, and publicly adjudicated disciplinary and enforcement actions against, mortgage loan originators.

(5) COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. The division may enter into cooperative, coordinating, or information−sharing arrangements or agreements with other governmental agencies or with associations representing other governmental agencies, including the Conference of State Bank Supervisors and the American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators.

History: 2009 a. 2.

224.73 Relationship between mortgage loan originator and a mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity; branch offices. (1) RESPONSIBILITY FOR MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR. A mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity is responsible for, and shall supervise the acts of, a mortgage loan originator or any other person who otherwise acts on behalf of the mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity.

(2) RESTRICTION ON MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR. (a) If the division suspends or revokes a mortgage banker’s mortgage broker’s license or a registered entity’s registration, a mortgage

Wisconsin Statutes Archive.
loan originator may not act on behalf of that mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity during the period of suspension or revocation.

(b) A mortgage loan originator may act on behalf of only the mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity with which that mortgage loan originator’s license is associated in the records of the division. A mortgage loan originator’s license may only be associated with one mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity at a time.

(3) Transfer by mortgage loan originator. (a) A licensed mortgage loan originator may apply, on forms and in the manner prescribed by the division, to transfer association to another licensed mortgage banker or mortgage broker or a registered entity. This division shall promulgate rules establishing a fee for a transfer application under this subsection.

(b) A mortgage loan originator may not act on behalf of a mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity until the mortgage loan originator’s license association has been transferred to that mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity in the records of the division.

(5) Mortgage loan originators and branch offices. (a) A mortgage loan originator shall be assigned to and work out of a licensed or registered office or branch office of the sponsoring mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity. This office shall either be the mortgage loan originator’s residence or be within 100 miles of the mortgage loan originator’s residence.

(b) At each branch office of a mortgage banker or registered entity at which residential mortgage loans are originated for the mortgage banker or registered entity or for another person, and at each branch office of a mortgage broker, there shall be at least one licensed mortgage loan originator assigned to and working out of the office. If an individual is identified as a branch manager for the office, either in the records of the division or in the records of the mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or registered entity, the individual shall be licensed as a mortgage loan originator.


Cross-reference: See also ch. DFI-Bkg 40, Wis. adm. code.

224.74 Division’s review of the operations of a mortgage loan originator, mortgage broker, mortgage banker, or registered entity. (1) Call reports; Audits. (a) Mortgage call report. Each mortgage banker, mortgage broker, and mortgage loan originator licensed under this subchapter, and each registered entity, shall submit to the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry reports of condition, which shall be in such form and contain such information as the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry may require.

(b) Audit requirement for mortgage bankers. Each year, no later than 6 months following the end of its most recently completed fiscal year, each mortgage banker shall submit a copy of an audit of the mortgage banker’s operations during that fiscal year. An audit under this paragraph shall be conducted by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. The financial statements in the audit report shall be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(bm) Reviewed financial statements for mortgage brokers. Each year, no later than 6 months following the end of its most recently completed fiscal year, each mortgage broker shall submit a copy of the mortgage broker’s reviewed financial statements for the mortgage broker’s operations during that fiscal year. The reviewed financial statements shall include a balance sheet, an income statement, and a written statement by an independent certified public accountant attesting that he or she has conducted his or her review in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and professional standards of the American Institute of CPAs.

(c) Audits requested by the division. The division may request that a mortgage banker or mortgage broker obtain an audit of the mortgage banker’s or mortgage broker’s operations if the division has reason to believe that the mortgage banker or mortgage broker may not have sufficient financial resources to meet its obligations to its clients or investors or to other persons directly affected by the activities conducted by the mortgage banker or mortgage broker under the license issued by the division. If the division requests an audit under this paragraph, the mortgage banker or mortgage broker shall have the audit completed no later than 90 days after the date of the division’s request. The mortgage banker or mortgage broker shall submit the audit report to the division no later than 5 days after the date on which the audit is completed. An audit under this paragraph shall be conducted by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. The financial statements in the audit report shall be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(2) Examination and investigation. (ag) The division may at any time, on its own motion or upon complaint, conduct inquiries, investigations, and examinations of licensees under this subchapter, or of persons required to be licensed under or otherwise subject to the provisions of this subchapter, including doing any of the following:

1. Examining, accessing, receiving, or using any books, accounts, records, files, documents, or other information relating to the condition or affairs of a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker.

2. Interviewing or examining under oath any mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker, any of the members, officers, directors, agents, employees, contractors, or customers of the mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker, or any other person whose testimony the division deems to be relevant. The division may direct, subpoena, or order the attendance of a person to provide testimony under this subdivision and may direct, subpoena, or order the person to produce books, accounts, records, files, and any other document the division deems relevant to the inquiry, investigation, or examination.

3. Direct or order any licensee under this subchapter to make or compile reports or other information, in a format directed by the division, that the division considers necessary to carry out any investigation or examination under this subchapter, including any accounting compilation or other loan transaction data, list, or information.

4. Examine, access, receive, and use any other records, documents, or other information that the division deems relevant to the inquiry, investigation, or examination, regardless of the location, possession, control, or custody of the records, documents, or information, including any of the following:

a. Criminal, civil, and administrative history information, including conviction information and nonconviction information to the extent permitted by law.

b. Personal history and experience information, including credit reports obtained from a consumer reporting agency, as defined in s. 100.54 (1) (c).

(ar) In making any investigation or examination authorized under this subchapter, the division may control access to any documents and records of the licensee or of any other person under investigation or examination. The division may take possession of the documents and records or place a person in exclusive charge of the documents and records in the place where they are usually kept. During the period of control, no person may remove or attempt to remove any of the documents and records except with the consent of the division or by court order. Unless the division has reasonable grounds to believe the documents and records have been or are at risk of being altered or destroyed for purposes of concealing a violation of this subchapter, the licensee or owner or
custodian of the documents and records shall have access to the
documents and records as necessary to conduct its ordinary busi-
ness affairs.

(b) The division shall prepare a report for each investigation
or examination conducted under this subsection. These reports,
and correspondence regarding these reports, are confidential,
except that the division may release these reports and correspon-
dence in connection with a disciplinary proceeding conducted
by the division, a liquidation proceeding, or a criminal investigation
or proceeding. In addition, any information from these reports or
correspondence may be provided to the nationwide mortgage
licensing system and registry and is not confidential to the extent
specified in s. 224.728 (4) (b) and (c).

(c) The division may require a mortgage banker, mortgage
loan originator, or mortgage broker who is investigated or exam-
ined under this subsection to pay to the division a reasonable fee
for the costs of conducting the investigation or examination. A
mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker
shall pay these costs to the division within 30 days after the divi-
sion demands payment of these costs.

(3) ADDITIONAL DIVISION AUTHORITY. To carry out the pur-
poses of this section, the division may do any of the following:

(a) Retain attorneys, accountants, and other professionals and
specialists as examiners, auditors, or investigators to conduct or
assist in the conduct of investigations or examinations.

(b) Enter into agreements or relationships with other govern-
ment officials or regulatory associations to improve efficiencies
and reduce regulatory burden by sharing resources, standardized
or uniform methods or procedures, and documents, records, or
information obtained under this section.

(c) Use, hire, contract, or employ public or privately available
analytical systems, methods, or software to examine or investigate
any licensee or other person subject to investigation or examina-
tion.

(d) Accept and rely on investigation or examination reports
made by other governmental officials, in this state or elsewhere.

(e) Accept audit reports made by an independent certified pub-
lic accountant for the licensee or another person relevant to the
investigation or examination and incorporate any such audit
report into any report of the division.

1995 s. 27 s. 6595; Stats. 1995 s. 224.74; 1997 a. 145; 2009 a. 2; 2013 a. 360; 2015
a. 195 s. 83.

224.75 Record-keeping requirements for licensees. (1) REQUIRED RECORDS; LOAN APPLICATION OR SERVICING DOCU-
MENTS. (a) Fee record system. A mortgage banker or mortgage
broker shall establish and maintain a record system which shows
all fees which a mortgage banker or mortgage broker charged a
residential mortgage loan applicant or a mortgagee in connection
with a residential mortgage loan. The record shall show the appli-
cation or disposition of those fees.

(b) Loan application record system. A mortgage banker or
mortgage broker shall establish and maintain a record system con-
taining all of the following information for each residential mort-
gage loan application:
1. The application date.
2. The name of the applicant.
3. The address of the property to be mortgaged.
4. The disposition of the application and the reason for the
particular disposition.
5. The type of loan.
6. The name of the mortgage loan originator.
7. The loan amount.

(c) Loan application documents. A mortgage banker or mort-
gage broker shall maintain for each residential mortgage loan
application all of the following documents, if used by the mort-
gage banker or mortgage broker in connection with the residential
mortgage loan application file:
1. The completed loan application.
2. The loan commitment.
3. The disclosure statement required by 15 USC 1601 to
1693r and regulations adopted under that law.
4. The loan closing statement.
5. A copy of the mortgage note or bond.
6. A copy of the letter rejecting the application.
7. The appraisal report.
8. The credit report.
9. Any other documents, records or forms shown to or signed
by a loan applicant.

(d) Loan servicing records and documents. A mortgage
banker shall maintain for each residential mortgage loan serviced
by the mortgage banker a copy of or a record of all of the follow-
ing:
1. All correspondence relating to the loan.
2. All payments received from the borrower.
3. All charges assessed to the borrower’s account.
4. All payments made by the mortgage banker on behalf of the
borrower.
5. The unpaid balance on the borrower’s account.

(2) PERIOD OF RECORD RETENTION. A mortgage banker or
mortgage broker shall keep for at least 36 months, in an office of
the mortgage banker or mortgage broker licensed under this sub-
chapter but one that is not located in a residence unless the resi-
dence is authorized as a principal office under s. 224.72 (2m) (b)
2., all books and records that, in the opinion of the division, will
enable the division to determine whether the mortgage banker or
mortgage broker is in compliance with the provisions of this sub-
chapter. These books and records include copies of all deposit
receipts, canceled checks, trust account records, the records which
a mortgage banker or mortgage broker maintains under sub. (1) (c)
or (d), and other relevant documents or correspondence received
or prepared by the mortgage banker or mortgage broker in connec-
tion with a residential mortgage loan or residential mortgage loan
application. The retention period begins on the date the residential
mortgage loan is closed or, if the loan is not closed, the date of loan
application. If the residential mortgage loan is serviced by a mort-
gage banker, the retention period commences on the date that the
loan is paid in full.

(3) CONTENTS OF CREDIT AND APPRAISAL REPORTS. (a) Credit
report. If a mortgage banker or mortgage broker charges a resi-
dential mortgage loan applicant a separate fee for a credit report,
the credit report shall consist, at a minimum, of a written statement
indicating the name of the credit reporting agency which investi-
gated the credit history of the applicant.

(b) Appraisal report. If a mortgage banker or mortgage broker
charges a residential mortgage loan applicant a separate fee for an
appraisal report, the appraisal report shall consist, at a minimum,
of a written statement indicating the appraiser’s opinion of the
value of the property appraised for residential mortgage loan pur-
poses, the basis for that opinion and the name of the person who
conducted the appraisal. If requested by a residential mortgage
loan applicant, a mortgage banker or mortgage broker shall pro-
vide the loan applicant with a copy of any written appraisal report
held by the mortgage banker or mortgage broker, if the loan appli-
cant paid a fee for the report.

(4) RESPONSIBILITY FOR FORMS. A mortgage banker or mort-
gage broker is responsible for the preparation and correctness of
all entries on forms, documents and records which are under the
mortgage banker’s or mortgage broker’s control and which are not
dependent on information provided by the residential mortgage
loan applicant or a 3rd party.
(5) ACCOUNTING PRACTICES. A mortgage banker or mortgage broker shall maintain its books and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(6) FURNISHING BOOKS AND RECORDS. Upon request by the division, any licensee under this subchapter, and any other person whom the division has authority to investigate and examine under s. 224.74 (2), shall make any books and records requested by the division available for inspection and copying by the division. If any records are kept at a licensed office not located within this state, the mortgage banker or mortgage broker shall, upon request of the division, promptly deliver such documents to any location within this state specified by the division.


Cross-reference: See also ch. DFI-Bkg 42, Wis. adm. code.

224.755 Education and testing requirements for mortgage loan originators. (1) EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE PRIOR TO LICENSE ISSUANCE. Subject to sub. (3) (a) and (c), an applicant for a license under s. 224.725 (1), prior to the division’s issuance of the license, shall complete at least 20 hours of education, including a minimum of all of the following:

(a) Three hours of federal law and regulations.

(b) Three hours of ethics, including instruction on fraud, consumer protection, and fair lending issues.

(c) Two hours of training related to lending standards for the nontraditional mortgage product marketplace.

(2) CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS. Subject to subs. (3) (a), (c), (d), and (f), an applicant for renewal of a license under s. 224.725 (5), prior to the division’s renewal of the license, shall annually complete at least 8 hours of education, including a minimum of all of the following:

(a) Three hours of federal law and regulations.

(b) Two hours of ethics, including instruction on fraud, consumer protection, and fair lending issues.

(c) Two hours of training related to lending standards for the nontraditional mortgage product marketplace.

(3) EDUCATION APPROVAL. (a) No education course may count toward the requirement under sub. (1) or (2) unless the course has been reviewed and approved by the statewide mortgage licensing system and registry based upon reasonable standards, including review and approval of the course provider.

(b) An education course meeting the standards under par. (a) may count toward the requirements under subs. (1) and (2) even if the course is any of the following:

1. Provided by the applicant’s or licensee’s employer, by an entity affiliated with the applicant or licensee by an agency contract, or by any subsidiary or affiliate of such an employer or affiliated entity.

2. Offered through the Internet or another online or electronic medium.

3. Taken in another state.

(c) Subject to any rule promulgated under s. 224.72 (7) (bm) or 224.725 (5) (b), if an individual was previously registered as a loan originator under s. 224.72, 2007 stats., or previously licensed as a mortgage loan originator under s. 224.725, the division may not issue or renew a mortgage loan originator license for the individual under s. 224.725 unless the individual satisfies the requirements under sub. (1) or (2) or demonstrates to the division’s satisfaction that the individual has completed all education requirements applicable to the individual in the last year in which the individual’s license or registration was valid.

(d) Except as provided in any rule promulgated under s. 224.72 (7) (bm), a licensed mortgage loan originator may receive credit for a continuing education course only in the year in which the course is taken and may not take the same approved course in the same or successive years to meet the requirements under sub. (2).

(e) A licensed mortgage loan originator who is an approved instructor of an approved continuing education course may receive credit for the licensed mortgage loan originator’s own annual continuing education requirement at the rate of 2 hours of credit for every one hour taught.

(f) The division may, by rule, allow an applicant for renewal of a license under s. 224.725 (5) to make up any deficiency in meeting the requirements specified in sub. (2).

(4) TESTING REQUIREMENTS. (a) An applicant for a license under s. 224.725 (1), prior to the division’s issuance of the license, shall pass a written test meeting the standards under par. (b). An individual shall answer at least 75 percent of the test questions correctly to achieve a passing test score.

(b) 1. No test may satisfy the requirement under par. (a) unless the test is developed by the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry and administered by a test provider approved by the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry based upon reasonable standards.

2. A test does not meet the standard under subd. 1. unless the test adequately measures the applicant’s knowledge and comprehension in appropriate subject areas, including all of the following:

a. Ethics.

b. Federal and state law, regulations, and rules pertaining to mortgage origination.

c. Federal and state law, regulations, and rules relating to residential mortgage transactions, including instruction on fraud, consumer protection, the nontraditional mortgage product marketplace, and fair lending issues.

(c) A written test meeting the standards under par. (b) may satisfy the requirement under par. (a) even if the test is provided at the location of the applicant’s employer, any subsidiary or affiliate of the applicant’s employer, or any entity with which the applicant holds an exclusive arrangement to conduct the business of a mortgage loan originator.

(d) An individual may take a test 3 consecutive times, with each retest occurring at least 30 days after the preceding test. If the individual fails 3 consecutive tests, the individual may not retake a test again for at least 6 months.

(e) If an individual previously licensed as a mortgage loan originator fails to maintain a valid license for a period of 5 years or longer, not taking into account any time during which the individual is a registered loan originator, the individual shall retake the test under par. (a).

(5) COMPLIANCE RECORDS. A mortgage loan originator shall keep records documenting compliance with this section for at least 4 years.


224.76 Mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, and mortgage broker trust accounts. A mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker shall deposit in one or more trust accounts all funds other than nonrefundable fees which it receives on behalf of any person, pending disbursement of the funds in accordance with instructions from the person on whose behalf the funds are deposited. A mortgage banker or mortgage broker shall maintain trust accounts in a depository institution. The mortgage banker or mortgage broker shall notify the division of the location of its trust accounts.


Cross-reference: See also ch. DFI-Bkg 42, Wis. adm. code.

224.77 Prohibited acts and practices, and discipline, of mortgage bankers, mortgage loan originators, mortgage brokers, and registered entities. (1) PROHIBITED ACTS AND PRACTICES. No mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, mortgage broker, or, with respect to pars. (f), (g), (j), (g), (d), and (g), registered entity, and no member, officer, director, prin-
(k) Violate any provision of this subchapter, ch. 138, or any federal or state statute, rule, or regulation that relates to practice as a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker.

(L) Engage in conduct that violates a standard of professional behavior which, through professional experience, has become established for mortgage bankers, mortgage loan originators, or mortgage brokers.

(m) Engage in conduct, whether of the same or a different character than specified elsewhere in this section, that constitutes improper, fraudulent, or dishonest dealing.

(o) In the course of practice as a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker, except in relation to housing designed to meet the needs of elderly individuals, treat a person unequally solely because of sex, race, color, handicap, sexual orientation, as defined in s. 111.32 (13m), religion, national origin, age, or ancestry, the person’s lawful source of income, or the sex, marital status, or status as a victim of domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking, as defined in s. 106.50 (1m) (u), of the person maintaining a household.

(p) Intentionally encourage or discourage any person from purchasing or renting real estate on the basis of race.

(q) Because of the age or location of the property or the race of the residential mortgage loan applicant, rather than because of the credit worthiness of the applicant and the condition of the property securing the loan:

1. Refuse to negotiate, to offer, or to attempt to negotiate a residential mortgage loan or commitment for a residential mortgage loan, or refuse to find a residential mortgage loan.

2. Find a residential mortgage loan or negotiate a residential mortgage loan on terms less favorable than are usually offered.

(s) Violate, or fail to comply with, any lawful order of the division.

(sm) As a mortgage loan originator, fail to identify his or her name and sign the mortgage loan application for a loan originated by him or her.

(sn) As a mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or mortgage loan originator, fail to clearly place his, her, or its unique identifier on all residential mortgage loan application forms, solicitations, and advertisements, including business cards, Internet sites, email signature blocks, and on all other documents specified by rule of the division.

(sq) As a mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or mortgage loan originator, use any solicitation or advertisement to which any of the following applies:

1. The solicitation or advertisement misrepresents that the provider is, or is affiliated with, any governmental entity or other organization.

2. The solicitation or advertisement misrepresents that the product is or relates to a government benefit, or is endorsed, sponsored by, or affiliated with any government or government-related program, including through the use of formats, symbols, or logos that resemble those of such entity, organization, or program.

3. The solicitation or advertisement does not clearly and conspicuously identify the name of the mortgage broker or mortgage banker or, if a mortgage loan originator is sponsored by a registered entity, the registered entity.

(t) Impede an investigation or examination of the division or deny the division access to any books, records, or other information which the division is authorized to obtain under s. 224.74 (2), 224.75 (6), or any other provision of this subchapter.

(tm) Make a material misstatement, or knowingly omit a material fact, or knowingly mutilate, destroy, or secrete any books, records, or other information requested by the division, in connection with any investigation or examination conducted by the division or another governmental agency.
(u) Solicit or enter into a contract with a borrower that provides in substance that the mortgage banker, mortgage broker, or mortgage loan originator may earn a fee or commission through “best efforts” to obtain a residential mortgage loan even though no residential mortgage loan is actually obtained for the borrower.

(um) Solicit, advertise, or enter into a contract for specific interest rates, points, or other financing terms unless the terms are actually available at the time of soliciting, advertising, or contracting.

(v) Assist, aid, or abet any person in unlawfully conducting business under this subchapter without a valid license.

(w) Fail to make disclosures required under this subchapter or required under any other applicable state or federal law, rule, or regulation.

(x) Withhold any payment or make any payment, threat, or promise, directly or indirectly, to any person for the purpose of influencing the independent judgment of the person in connection with a residential mortgage loan, or withhold any payment or make any payment, threat, or promise, directly or indirectly, to any appraiser of a property for the purpose of influencing the independent judgment of the appraiser with respect to the value of the property.

(y) Cause or require a borrower to obtain property insurance coverage in an amount exceeding the replacement cost of improvements on the property, as determined by the property insurer.

(1m) ADMINISTRATIVE FORFEITURE AND HEARING RIGHTS. (a) The division may assess against any person who violates this subchapter a forfeiture of not more than $25,000 for each violation and may further order restitution to any person suffering loss as a result of the violation.

(b) A person may contest an assessment of forfeiture, or a restitution order, under par. (a) by sending, within 10 days after receipt of notice of the assessment or order under par. (a), a written request for hearing under s. 227.44 to the division of hearings and appeals created under s. 15.103 (1). The administrator of the division of hearings and appeals may designate a hearing examiner to preside over the case and recommend a decision to the administrator under s. 227.46. The decision of the administrator of the division of hearings and appeals shall be the final administrative decision. The division of hearings and appeals shall commence the hearing within 30 days after receipt of the request for hearing and shall issue a final decision within 15 days after the close of the hearing. Proceedings before the division of hearings and appeals are governed by ch. 227. In any petition for judicial review of a decision by the division of hearings and appeals, the party, other than the petitioner, who was in the proceeding before the division of hearings and appeals shall be the named respondent.

(c) 1. All forfeitures shall be paid to the division of banking within 10 days after receipt of notice of assessment or, if the forfeiture is contested under par. (b), within 10 days after receipt of the final decision after exhaustion of administrative review. The division of banking shall remit all forfeitures paid to the secretary of administration for deposit in the school fund.

2. All amounts ordered as restitution shall be paid to the person suffering loss within 10 days after receipt of notice of the order or, if the restitution order is contested under par. (b), within 10 days after receipt of the final decision after exhaustion of administrative review.

(d) The attorney general may bring an action in the name of the state to collect any forfeiture imposed, or amount ordered as restitution, under this subsection if the forfeiture or restitution amount has not been paid following the exhaustion of all administrative and judicial reviews. The only issue to be contested in any such action shall be whether the forfeiture or restitution amount has been paid.

(2m) DIVISION ACTION ON LICENSE. (a) 1. In addition to any other authority provided to the division under this subchapter, if the division finds that a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker has violated any provision of this subchapter or any rule promulgated by the division under this subchapter, or a registered entity has violated any applicable provision of this subchapter, the division may do any of the following:

   a. Deny any application for initial issuance or renewal of a license or registration.

   b. Revoke, suspend, limit, or condition any license of the mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker or registration of the registered entity.

   c. Reprimand the mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker.

   2. The division may take any action specified in subd. 1. against a mortgage banker or mortgage broker based upon any act or omission described in subd. 1. of a director, officer, trustee, partner, or member of the mortgage banker or mortgage broker or a person who has a financial interest in or is in any way connected with the operation of the mortgage banker’s or mortgage broker’s business.

(b) In addition to any other authority provided to the division under this subchapter, if the division finds that an applicant for initial issuance or renewal of a license under this subchapter made any material misstatement in the application or withheld material information, or that the applicant no longer satisfies the requirements under s. 227.72 or 227.725 for issuance or renewal of the license, the division may deny the application or, if the license has already been issued, suspend or revoke the license.

(c) The division shall restrict or suspend the license of a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker if the licensee is an individual who fails to comply, after appropriate notice, with a subpoena or warrant issued by the department of children and families or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) and related to paternity or child support proceedings or who is delinquent in making court-ordered payments of child or family support, maintenance, birth expenses, medical expenses, or other expenses related to the support of a child or former spouse, as provided in a memorandum of understanding entered into under s. 49.857. An individual whose license is restricted or suspended under this subsection is entitled to a notice and hearing only as provided in a memorandum of understanding entered into under s. 49.857 and is not entitled to any other notice or hearing under this section.

(d) The division shall revoke the license of a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker if the department of revenue certifies under s. 73.0301 that the licensee is liable for delinquent taxes. A licensee whose license is revoked under this subsection for delinquent taxes is entitled to a notice under s. 73.0301 (2) (b) 1. b. and a hearing under s. 73.0301 (5) after the hearing, the division finds that a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker to cease and desist from engaging in a particular
activity, from conducting business, or from otherwise violating any provision of this subchapter or any rule promulgated under this subchapter.

2. Direct a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker to refund or remit to a residential mortgage loan applicant or borrower amounts that the mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker got from actions that constitute a violation of any provision of this subchapter or of any rule promulgated under this subchapter.

3. Direct a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker to cease business under a license issued under this subchapter if the division determines that the license was erroneously issued or the licensee is currently in violation of any provision of this subchapter or of any rule promulgated under this subchapter.

4. Direct a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker to undertake any affirmative action, consistent with the provisions of this subchapter, that the division deems necessary.

(c) Judicial review. Orders of the division are subject to review as provided in ch. 227.

(3m) Hearing rights for license denial, revocation, or suspension. A person whose license has been denied, revoked, suspended, limited, or conditioned under this section may request a hearing under s. 227.44 within 30 days after the date of denial, revocation, suspension, limitation, or conditioning of the license. The division may appoint a hearing examiner under s. 227.46 to conduct the hearing.

(4) Period of disciplinary action; license ineligibility. (a) Period. Except as provided in par. (b), the division shall determine in each case the period that a revocation, suspension, limitation, or condition of a license is effective.

(b) Ineligibility. 1. Except as provided in subd. 2., if the division denies or revokes a license under sub. (2m) (a), the person is not eligible for a license until the expiration of a period determined in each case by the division.

2. If the division revokes a license under sub. (1) (p) or (q), the person is not eligible for a license until 5 years after the effective date of the revocation.

(5) Penalties for certain discriminatory conduct. (a) Mandatory revocation or suspension. Notwithstanding subs. (2m) (a) and (4), if the division finds that a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker has violated sub. (1) (p) or (q), the division shall:

1. For the first offense, suspend the license of the mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker for not less than 90 days.

2. For the 2nd offense, revoke the license of the mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker.

(b) Other penalties. The penalty under par. (a) may be imposed in addition to any penalty imposed under s. 66.1011, 106.50 or 224.80.

(8) Voluntary surrender. A mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker may voluntarily surrender a license to the division, but the division may refuse to accept the surrender if the division has an open investigation or examination or received allegations of unprofessional conduct against the mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker. The division may negotiate stipulations in consideration for accepting the surrender of the license.

(9) Reporting violations. The division shall report regularly violations of this subchapter or of rules promulgated under this subchapter, as well as enforcement actions and other relevant information, to the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry. Except as provided in s. 224.728 (4) (b) and (c), these reports shall be confidential.


Cross-reference: See also ch. DFI−Bkg 43, Wis. adm. code.

Failure to comply with an administrative rule requiring agreements by loan solicitors to be in writing did not cause an otherwise valid agreement to be unenforceable under this section. Felland v. Sauey, 2001 WI App 257, 248 Wis. 2d 963, 637 N.W.2d 403, 702−2002. The elements of various claims under this section are discussed. SI Properties Suites v. Specialty Finance Group, LLC, 864 F. Supp. 2d 776 (2012).

224.79 Mortgage brokerage agreements and disclosures; mortgage broker agency relationship and duties. (1) Form and content of mortgage brokerage agreements. Every contract between a mortgage broker and an individual under which the mortgage broker agrees to provide brokerage services to the individual relating to a residential mortgage loan shall be in writing, in the form prescribed by rule of the division, and shall contain all information required by rule of the division. The division shall promulgate rules to administer this subsection and shall design these rules to facilitate the comparison of similar charges and total charges assessed by different mortgage brokers.

(2) Disclosure statement. Before entering into a contract with an individual to provide brokerage services relating to a residential mortgage loan, a mortgage broker shall give the individual a copy of a disclosure statement, explain the content of the statement, and ensure that the individual initials or signs the statement, acknowledging that the individual has read and understands the statement. The disclosure statement shall contain a brief explanation of the relationship between the individual and the mortgage broker under the proposed contract, and any additional information required by rule of the division. The division shall promulgate rules to administer this subsection and, by rule, shall specify the form and content of the disclosure statement required under this subsection.

(3) Mortgage broker agency relationship and duties. (a) In this subsection, “borrower” means the residential mortgage loan applicant or investor on whose behalf a mortgage broker provides, or contracts to provide, mortgage brokerage services.

(b) A mortgage broker, at all times when acting in the capacity of a mortgage broker, has an agency relationship with the borrower.

(c) A mortgage broker owes all of the following duties to the borrower:

1. The mortgage broker shall act in the borrower’s best interest and in the utmost good faith toward the borrower, and may not compromise the borrower’s rights or interests in favor of another’s rights or interests, including those of the mortgage broker.

2. The mortgage broker may not accept, give, or charge any undisclosed compensation or realize any undisclosed remuneration, through direct or indirect means, that inures to the benefit of the mortgage broker on an expenditure made for the borrower.

3. The mortgage broker shall carry out all lawful instructions given by the borrower.

4. The mortgage broker shall disclose to the borrower all material facts of which the mortgage broker has knowledge that might reasonably affect the borrower’s rights or interests or ability to receive the borrower’s intended benefit from the residential mortgage loan, but not facts that are reasonably susceptible to the knowledge of the borrower.

4m. The mortgage broker shall present loan options in an objective and unbiased manner and disclose the advantages and disadvantages of each loan option.

5. The mortgage broker shall use reasonable care in performing the mortgage broker’s duties.

6. The mortgage broker shall account to the borrower for all money and property received by the mortgage broker as the borrower’s agent.

(d) Nothing in this subsection prohibits a mortgage broker from contracting or collecting a fee for services provided, if the
services were disclosed to the borrower before they were provided.

(e) Nothing in this subsection requires a mortgage broker to obtain a residential mortgage loan containing terms or conditions not available to the mortgage broker in the mortgage broker’s usual course of business or to obtain a residential mortgage loan for the borrower from a mortgage lender with whom the mortgage broker does not have a business relationship.

(f) The duties imposed under par. (c) may not be waived.

(g) Every contract under sub. (1), and every disclosure statement under sub. (2), shall identify the agency relationship described in par. (b) and the mortgage broker’s duties imposed under par. (c).


Cross-reference: See also ch. DFF-Bkg 44, Wis. adm. code.

224.80 Penalties and private cause of action. (1) Penalties. A person who violates any provision of this subchapter or any rule promulgated under this subchapter may be fined not more than $25,000 or imprisoned for not more than 9 months or both.

The district attorney of the county where the violation occurs shall enforce the penalty under this subsection on behalf of the state.

(2) Private cause of action. A person who is aggrieved by an act which is committed by a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker in violation of any provision of this subchapter or of any rule promulgated under this subchapter may recover all of the following in a private action:

(a) An amount equal to the greater of the following:

1. Twice the amount of the loan origination connected with the transaction, except that the liability under this subdivision may not be less than $100 nor greater than $25,000 for each violation.

2. The actual damages, including any incidental and consequential damages, which the person sustained because of the violation.

(b) The aggregate amount of costs and expenses which the court determined were reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the action, together with reasonable attorney fees, notwithstanding s. 814.04 (1).


224.81 Limitation on actions for commissions and other compensation. A person who is engaged in the business or acting in the capacity of a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker in this state may not bring or maintain an action in this state to collect a commission, money, or other compensation.

224.82 Compensation presumed. In a prosecution arising from a violation of this subchapter, proof that a person acted as a mortgage banker, mortgage loan originator, or mortgage broker is sufficient, unless rebutted, to establish that compensation was received by, or promised to, that person.

History: 1987 a. 359; 1987 a. 403 s. 182; Stats. 1987 s. 440.82; 1995 a. 27 s. 6604; Stats. 1995 s. 224.82; 1997 a. 145; 2009 a. 2.

SUBCHAPTER IV
NONDEPOSITORY SMALL BUSINESS LENDERS

224.90 Definitions. In this subchapter:

(1) “Division” means the division of banking.

(2) “In control” means any of the following:

(a) Owning 10 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock of a nondepository lender.

(b) Possessing, directly or indirectly, alone or in concert with others, the power to control or vote 10 percent or more of the outstanding voting stock of a nondepository lender or to elect or control the election of a majority of the board of directors of a nondepository lender.

(3) “Licensee” means a lender licensed under this subchapter.

(4) “Nondepository lender” means a commercial small business lender that participates in the loan guarantee program of the U.S. small business administration described in 13 CFR 120.2 (a) and that provides financial assistance to small businesses that qualify for financial assistance pursuant to 15 USC 636 (a). “Nondepository lender” does not include a bank, credit union, savings and loan association or savings bank.

224.92 License required. No person may engage in business as a nondepository lender in this state without a license issued under this subchapter.

History: 1999 a. 9.

224.923 License application. An application for a license under this subchapter shall be made to the division in writing on a form to be prescribed by the division. An application for a license under this subchapter shall state the full name and business address of the applicant and each officer, director and person in control of the applicant. The application also shall contain the applicant’s federal employer identification number. In addition, the application shall contain the applicant’s business plan, 3 years of detailed financial projections and other relevant information, all as prescribed by the division.

History: 1999 a. 9.

224.927 Disclosure of certain application information. The division may not disclose an applicant’s federal employer identification number received under s. 224.923, except as follows:

(1) The division may disclose the information to the department of revenue for the sole purpose of requesting certifications under s. 73.0301 and to the department of workforce development for the sole purpose of requesting certifications under s. 108.227.

(2) The division may disclose the information to the department of children and families in accordance with a memorandum of understanding under s. 49.857.

History: 1999 a. 9; 2007 a. 20; 2013 a. 36.

224.93 License approval. After a review of information regarding the directors, officers and controlling persons of the applicant for a license, a review of the applicant’s business plan, including at least three years of detailed financial projections and other information considered relevant by the division, the division may approve an application for a license if the division determines that all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The applicant has at least $500,000 in capital and the amount of capital is adequate for the applicant to transact business as a nondepository lender.

(2) Each director, officer and person in control of the applicant is of good character and sound financial standing; the directors and officers of the applicant are competent to perform their functions with respect to the applicant and the directors and officers of the applicant are collectively adequate to manage the business of the applicant as a nondepository lender.

(3) The business plan of the applicant will be honestly and efficiently conducted in accordance with the intent and purpose of this subchapter.

(4) The proposed activity of the applicant possesses a reasonable prospect for success.
224.935 Expiration of license. (1) Generally. Except as provided under sub. (2), a license issued under this subchapter expires on the June 30 following the date on which the license was issued.

(2) Change in control of licensee. A change in the identity or number of individuals that are in control of a licensee terminates the licensee’s license under this subchapter, unless the licensee applies to the division for and receives a renewal of the license no later than 15 days after the change in control.

History: 1999 a. 9.

224.94 Renewal of license. Except as provided under s. 224.935 (2), a licensee shall renew its license by submitting to the division a renewal application and the renewal fee as prescribed by the division not less than 60 days before the date on which the license expires. A renewal application is subject to the same criteria as the criteria for approval of an original license.

History: 1999 a. 9.

224.95 Denial of or disciplinary action relating to license. (1) Mandatory denial. The division shall deny an application for issuance or renewal of a license under this subchapter if any of the following applies:

(a) The applicant has failed to provide its federal employer identification number under s. 224.923.

(b) The department of revenue has certified under s. 73.0301 that the applicant is liable for delinquent taxes. An applicant whose application for issuance or renewal of a license is denied under this paragraph is entitled to a notice under s. 73.0301 (2) (b) 1. b. and a hearing under s. 73.0301 (5) (a) but is not entitled to a notice or hearing under sub. (4).

(bm) The department of workforce development has certified under s. 108.227 that the applicant is liable for delinquent unemployment insurance contributions. An applicant whose application for issuance or renewal of a license is denied under this paragraph is entitled to a notice under s. 108.227 (2) (b) 1. b. and a hearing under s. 108.227 (5) (a) but is not entitled to a notice or hearing under sub. (4).

(c) The applicant is an individual who has failed to comply, after appropriate notice, with a subpoena or warrant issued by the department of children and families or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) and related to paternity or child support proceedings or who is delinquent in making court-ordered payments of child or family support, maintenance, birth expenses, medical expenses or other expenses related to the support of a child or former spouse, as provided in a memorandum of understanding entered into under s. 49.857. An applicant whose application for issuance or renewal of a license is denied under this paragraph is entitled to a notice and a hearing under s. 49.857 but is not entitled to a notice or hearing under sub. (4).

(2) Discretionary denial or disciplinary action. The division may deny an application for issuance or renewal of a license under this subchapter or may revoke, suspend or limit a license issued under this subchapter if the division finds that the applicant or nondepositary lender did any of the following:

(a) Made a material misstatement in an application for issuance or renewal of a license issued under this subchapter or in information provided to the division.

(b) Demonstrated a lack of competency to act as a nondepositary lender.

(c) Violated any provision of this subchapter or any rule of the division.

(3) Disciplinary orders. The division may issue general or special orders necessary to prevent or correct actions by a nondepositary lender that constitute cause under this section for revoking, suspending or limiting a license.

(4) Appeal of denial or disciplinary action. A person whose application for issuance or renewal of a license under this subchapter has been denied or whose license has been revoked, suspended or limited under this section may request a hearing under s. 227.42 within 30 days after the date of denial, revocation, suspension or limitation. Failure of a person to request a hearing within the time provided under this subsection is a waiver of the person’s right to a hearing on the denial, revocation, suspension or limitation.

History: 1999 a. 9; 2007 a. 20; 2013 a. 36.

224.96 Required loan loss reserve. Each licensee shall provide for a loan loss reserve sufficient to cover projected loan losses that are not guaranteed by the U.S. government or any agency of the U.S. government.

History: 1999 a. 9.

224.97 Division review of nondepositary lender operations. The division may, at any reasonable time, examine the books of account, records, condition and affairs of every nondepositary lender licensed under this subchapter. The division shall examine the books of account, records, condition and affairs of every nondepositary lender licensed under this subchapter at least once during every 12 month period. The division shall prepare a report of each examination conducted under this section. As part of an examination under this section or as part of the preparation of an examination report, the division may examine under oath any person in control, officer, director, agent, employee or customer of the nondepositary lender. The division may require a nondepositary lender that is examined under this section to pay the division a reasonable fee for the costs of conducting the examination.

History: 1999 a. 9.

224.98 Powers of licensee. A licensee may do any of the following:

(1) Participate in the loan guaranty program under 15 USC 636 (a).

(2) Participate in any other government program for which the licensee is eligible and which has as its function the provision or facilitation of financing or management assistance to business firms.

History: 1999 a. 9.

224.985 Required records and reports. (1) Record keeping. A licensee shall keep books, accounts, and other records in such a form and manner as required by rule of the division. These records shall be kept at a location and shall be preserved for a length of time as prescribed by rule of the division.

(2) Annual report. Not more than 90 days after the close of a licensee’s fiscal year or upon request of the division, every licensee shall file with the division a report containing all of the following:

(a) Financial statements, including the balance sheet, the statement of income or loss, the statement of changes in capital accounts and the statement of changes in financial position of the licensee. The licensee shall ensure that the financial statements have been audited by an independent certified public accountant and prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(b) Other relevant information requested by the division.

History: 1999 a. 9, 185.

224.99 Rule making. The division may promulgate rules for the efficient administration of this subchapter.

History: 1999 a. 9.