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## New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS DIVISION

Real Estate Appraisers Board

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## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS BOARD DISTANCE LEARINING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's declaration of a state of emergency, the New Mexico Real Estate Appraisers Board (Board) has received inquiries from many licensees as to continuing education requirements and the permissibility of distance learning. More specifically, the Appraiser Qualifications Board (AQB) and the Appraisal Subcommittee (ASC) have recently taken action on virtual continuing education offerings, and appraisers in New Mexico have asked how this has affects their continuing education requirements. The following notice is intended to clarify this issue and resolve any lingering ambiguity.

The guidance provided by the ASC reads as follows:

During this Health Emergency, the Appraiser Qualifications Board (AQB) of The Appraisal Foundation has recommended continuing education (CE) offerings, including new offerings, that are approved to be presented in a traditional classroom setting may be converted to synchronous delivery and offered through December 31, 2020, without the delivery mechanism approval set forth in Section III.D.3 "Generic Education Criteria" of the Real Property Appraiser Qualification Criteria (Criteria), subject to the following:

- 1. The educational offering under consideration is approved for traditional classroom presentation;
- 2. The platform utilized for distance education is live and interactive;
- 3. The instructor verifies photo identification of the students; and
- 4. The instructor maintains an attendance roster, which includes verifying 100% classroom attendance by, for example, taking attendance at various established times during the course.

The AQB has extended this relief to Trainee/Supervisory courses.

To clarify, this guidance from the AQB and the ASC is consistent with the Board's rules, and the Board will accordingly follow this guidance through the pendency of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following the leadership and direction of Governor Lujan Grisham, the New Mexico Real Estate Appraisers Board will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and do everything within its power and statutory authority to assist the State, the public, and licensees. The Board may also issue further guidance to licensees as may be appropriate.