



IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GAVIN M. GEE
Director

TO: All Idaho Mortgage Broker, Mortgage Lender and Mortgage Loan Originator Licensees

FROM: Michael Larsen, Consumer Finance Bureau Chief

DATE: November 24, 2009

RE: Idaho Mortgage Loan Originator Testing Requirements Under the SAFE Mortgage Licensing Act

Mortgage loan originators required to be licensed in Idaho must pass the SAFE mortgage loan originator test. The test is provided in two components: (1) a national component test and, (2) a state (Idaho) component test. Mortgage loan originators must pass each test component with a score of at least 75 percent.

The national component test and the state component test have been available to mortgage loan originators since July 30, 2009. To schedule test dates, testing locations, or to obtain more information from the online mortgage loan originator handbook, go to the testing page of the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System (NMLS) Resource Center website at: <http://mortgage.nationwidelicencingsystem.org/profreq/testing/Pages/default.aspx>.

It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** that mortgage loan originator licensees immediately begin the testing process. If a passing score is not obtained on the first attempt, the loan originator must wait thirty days before retaking the test. If a passing score is not obtained after three retakes, the loan originator must wait six months before retaking the test. These waiting periods are required by law. Idaho loan originator licensees must pass the national and state test components by the following deadlines to avoid interruption in licensure:

- For those who obtained their Idaho loan originator license on or before June 30, 2009, the deadline to pass the national and state test components is December 31, 2010; and
- For those who obtained, or will obtain, their Idaho loan originator license on or after July 1, 2009, the deadline to pass the national and state test components is July 31, 2010.

If you have any questions, please contact the Licensing Section of the Idaho Consumer Finance Bureau at: (208) 332-8002, or via email at: mortgage@finance.idaho.gov.

Questions pertaining to the NMLS online Resource Center or navigation should be directed to the NMLS Call Center at (240) 386-4444.