



**Department
of Commerce**

Division of Real Estate
& Professional Licensing

Ted Strickland, Governor 77 South High Street, 20th Floor
Kimberly A. Zurz, Director Columbus, Ohio 43215-6133 U.S.A.

Please visit our website at
www.com.ohio.gov/real

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TTY/TDD: 800 | 750-0750

DATE: August 17, 2010

RFP: 2010-001

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ISSUANCE

**2010 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
OHIO REAL ESTATE
EDUCATION & RESEARCH FUND**

**OHIO REAL ESTATE COMMISSION
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE &
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**

The Education & Research Advisory Committee by the authority of the Ohio Real Estate Commission at the Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing is initiating its 2010 research and education funding program. Interested persons are urged to respond to this request for proposals (RFP). Please be aware that eligibility is limited to Ohio's Institutions of Higher Education and trade organizations in accordance with ORC 4735.06. Please distribute this announcement to any faculty who may wish to participate. Please notify the Division if any recipient of this announcement wishes to be removed from the list for future announcements.

Proposals for projects to be funded by the Commission must be received at the Division of Real Estate 77 S. High St. Columbus, OH 43215 20th FL by 5:00 p.m. on **October 1, 2010**.

Kelly Davids
Superintendent
Division of Real Estate & Professional Licensing

Format for Project Proposals:

All research project proposals must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on **October 1, 2010**, and must include the following:

- A. Application Title Page (*attached*)
- B. Project Narrative which should address the following:
 - 1. Problem and/or issue statement
 - 2. General summary of research project and methods to be utilized
(Should include methodology and scope of work)
 - 3. Final product description (*i.e., printed publication, electronic publication*)
- C. Project Budget (*click [here](#) to access the Excel budget template you must complete*)
- D. Timeline for research project
- E. Resume or statement of credentials for the following:
 - 1. Project Director
 - 2. Research Assistant(s) (if any)
 - 3. Partners/ Subgrantee(s)/ Contractor(s) (if any)
- F. Any supplemental materials that will assist members of the Education and Research Advisory Committee, the Ohio Real Estate Commission and the Division in evaluating the research project proposal.

Submission of Proposal

To be considered, **One (1)** original application and **Seven (7) copies** must be received by the Division by 5:00 pm on **October 1, 2010**. The original and copies should be stapled individually in the upper left hand corner or otherwise bound for distribution to the Committee. Please be aware, copies will be distributed as received and no binding, copying or collating will be done by the division staff.

Review Process Information

Proposals received will be reviewed and discussed at the **November 3, 2010**, Ohio Real Estate Commission meeting. The meeting will take place on the 20th Floor, Riffe Center, 77 S. High St., Columbus, OH 43215. The meeting is open to the public, and applicants may wish to attend should the committee members have clarifying questions. For additional information, please contact Tom Yersavich at (614) 466-3475.

The members of the Ohio Real Estate Commission are:

Gary Froelich
Terry Hankner
Rosetta Hayes-Borders
David Paul
Ann Thompson

2010 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
OHIO REAL ESTATE
EDUCATION & RESEARCH FUND

Topic: Online Pre-licensure Education Course Review Process

The Problem:

Several factors have led to the increasing popularity of online educational offerings. Online programs offer the convenience of “any time, any place” learning opportunities for adult learners who need not leave their full-time jobs and families to spend time in a traditional classroom. In addition, online offerings provide the availability of learning opportunities to all, regardless of location. This opens up new possibilities to those living in rural areas where traditional classrooms are less available.

However, online learning programs also introduce serious issues of concern not found in the traditional classroom setting. Problems surrounding student engagement, student monitoring, effective delivery methods, academic rigor, and academic accreditation are important issues to consider. In addition, launching an online university is relatively easy and inexpensive and some online course providers have adopted a business model focused more on making money rather than the traditional model, which tends to focus more on educational purposes. The number of profit-centered educational providers and “papermills” granting credit in exchange for little work or life experience has grown steadily on recent years. It has become more difficult to differentiate between providers of serious education content and providers that offer coursework and degrees as a commodity for sale without the burden of academic labor. While some online providers offer rigorous coursework, many do not. The result is an uncertainty cast on virtually all online offerings. This uncertainty plays a contributing factor in why the Division of Real Estate will accept only pre-licensure coursework taken in a traditional classroom setting.

Requested Research:

The Ohio Division of Real Estate is seeking a two part investigation and analysis of online education as it relates to Ohio’s real estate pre-licensure requirements. The first part will be an investigation of Ohio real estate broker attitudes towards the possible acceptance of online pre-licensure education. In addition, the division is seeking the creation of a report that could serve as a “blueprint” for the process of establishing a real estate pre-licensure distance education approval protocol for Ohio. The study must include an analysis of other pre-licensure distance education approval processes, and should focus on the creation of a best practices blueprint that addresses and solves potential problems inherent with online education. The study should include detailed processes for provider and course approval. The report should also detail provider and course approval standards and criteria. The “blueprint” should address systems to validate course content appropriateness as well as appropriate delivery methods and protocols to ensure issues regarding student engagement, security and technical support. Finally, the process should take into account current approval practices and current resources available to the division. The criteria above are to be considered minimum and additional aspects may also be considered. Please be aware that lowest and best proposal will be funded. In addition, projects may be recommended for partial funding.

Research project proposals are to be sent to:

Ohio Division of Real Estate & Professional Licensing
Attn: Tom Yersavich
77 South High Street, 20th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6133



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E & R GRANT APPLICATION

TITLE PAGE

This form is interactive. You may, before printing, type your responses directly onto the form. Otherwise, this form must be typewritten or printed legibly in black ink.

Definitions:

- Grantee – The Ohio institution of higher education receiving grant funds directly from the Ohio Real Estate Commission. List the primary fiduciary agent who will be responsible for receiving and disbursing the grant allocation.
- Implementing Agency – a unit of the Ohio institution of higher education designated by the grantee to undertake the day-to-day operation of the project.
- Project Director – The individual designated by the grantee to undertake the day-to-day operation of the project.
- Subgrantee – An individual and/or organization receiving grant funds from the grantee.

RFP TITLE		RFP NUMBER		FOCUS OF PROJECT Research Education	
PROJECT TITLE		PROJECT PERIOD TO		DOLLAR AMOUNT REQUESTED	
GRANTEE					
GRANTEE (the Ohio institution of higher education)			BRANCH		TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
PRIMARY FIDUCIARY AGENT TITLE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	PHONE NUMBER ()	FAX NUMBER ()	
ADDRESS			EMAIL ADDRESS		
CITY		COUNTY		STATE	ZIP CODE + 4
IMPLEMENTING AGENCY					
DEPARTMENT		ADDRESS			PHONE NUMBER ()
CITY		COUNTY		STATE	ZIP CODE + 4
PROJECT DIRECTOR					
PREFIX	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	LAST NAME	SUFFIX	
TITLE	DEPARTMENT		PHONE NUMBER ()	FAX NUMBER ()	
ADDRESS			EMAIL ADDRESS		
CITY		COUNTY		STATE	ZIP CODE + 4
SUBGRANTEE (if any)					
SUBGRANTEE (individual or organization receiving grant funds from the Grantee)				TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	
PRIMARY FIDUCIARY AGENT TITLE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	PHONE NUMBER ()	FAX NUMBER ()	
ADDRESS			EMAIL ADDRESS		
CITY		COUNTY		STATE	ZIP CODE + 4
APPLICATION PREPARED BY (full name)		TITLE		PHONE NUMBER ()	
BUDGET PAGES PREPARED BY (full name)		TITLE		PHONE NUMBER ()	
QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORTS WILL BE PREPARED BY (full name)		TITLE		PHONE NUMBER ()	
QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORTS WILL BE PREPARED BY (full name)		TITLE		PHONE NUMBER ()	