Certification for Public Sector Real Estate Professionals

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

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FHWA’s Mission

- Distribute $ to the States for Highway Construction and Maintenance. There are 42,788 miles of Interstate Highways in the US.

- Oversee how the money is spent by the States.

- Provide information, training and technology.
**Background:**

In 1970 Congress passed the **Uniform Relocation Assistance And Real Property Acquisition Policies Act (Uniform Act)**

- It covers how federally funded Real Estate Transactions are handled by Federal, State and Local Governments.
- It protects the rights of individuals affected by Highway and Public Works Projects.
FHWA’s Office of Real Estate

- Is in charge of implementing the Uniform Act.
- The FHWA acts as *Lead Agency* to insure other Federal Agencies follow the Act.
Who Does the Work?

Federal, State & Local Agency employees

- Purchase Real Estate for Highways and Public Projects.
- Appraise and negotiate.
- Relocate homeowners, tenants & businesses.

In accordance with the Uniform Act....
Workforce Challenges

- Growing demand for Uniform Act-compliant real estate employees.
  - High retirement rate.
  - Staff shortages.
- Recruitment difficulties.
- Under-trained employees pose a risk.
Existing R.E. Professional and New Recruits Need Training in:

- Engineering
- Real Estate Law
- Communication/ Negotiation Skills
- R. E. Appraising
- Relocation/Uniform Act Law
Current Education/ Certification Opportunities

- Few Colleges or universities offer degrees in Real Estate.
  - Those that do produce “developers”, “investors”, or “financiers”.
- A few trade organizations offer courses and certificates.
- The FHWA and other governmental agencies offer only a limited number of R.E. courses.
Why Is Certification Necessary?

- Federal, State & Local Gov’t Agencies
  - Reduce risk & avoid costly mistakes
  - Qualified candidates for new jobs.
  - Competent workforce.

- Employees
  - Promotional opportunities & pay increases
FHWA’s R.E. Office Training Team is:

- Developing a College Curriculum specifically for Public Sector Realty Professionals.
- Researching the need for a Certification for those people in the industry.
- Providing on-line courses and FHWA sponsored Real Estate related courses.
## Contact Information

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