

ARTICLE 15. ASSESSOR-APPRAISERS, PROFESSIONAL APPRAISERS, AND TAX REPRESENTATIVES

Rule 1.	Definitions
Rule 2.	Purpose
Rule 3.	Assessor-Appraisers Certification
Rule 4.	Professional Appraisers
Rule 5.	Tax Representatives

Rule 1. Definitions

50 IAC 15-1-1	Applicability
50 IAC 15-1-1.5	"Clarification of the authority of Indiana board of tax review" defined (Repealed)
50 IAC 15-1-2	"Assessor-appraiser" defined
50 IAC 15-1-2.5	"Commissioner" defined
50 IAC 15-1-2.6	"Department" defined
50 IAC 15-1-3	"Board" defined (Repealed)
50 IAC 15-1-3.5	"Gross incompetence" defined
50 IAC 15-1-3.6	"Indiana board" defined
50 IAC 15-1-4	"Professional appraiser" defined
50 IAC 15-1-5	"Tax representative" defined (Repealed)
50 IAC 15-1-6	"Voluntary waiver" defined

50 IAC 15-1-1 Applicability

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)
Affected: [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 1. Unless otherwise stated, the definitions in this rule apply throughout this article. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-1-1; filed Mar 31, 1999, 10:31 a.m.: 22 IR 2482; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-1-1.5 "Clarification of the authority of Indiana board of tax review" defined (Repealed)

Sec. 1.5. (*Repealed by Department of Local Government Finance; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-1-2 "Assessor-appraiser" defined

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)
Affected: [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 2. "Assessor-appraiser" means a person that is certified by the department under [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#). (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-1-2; filed Mar 31, 1999, 10:31 a.m.: 22 IR 2482; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-1-2.5 "Commissioner" defined

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-30-1.1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#)
Affected: [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 2.5. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the department of local government finance. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-1-2.5; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1516; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-1-2.6 "Department" defined

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-30-1.1](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 2.6. "Department" means the department of local government finance established under [IC 6-1.1-30-1.1](#). (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-1-2.6; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1516; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-1-3 "Board" defined (Repealed)

Sec. 3. (*Repealed by Department of Local Government Finance; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1522*)

50 IAC 15-1-3.5 "Gross incompetence" defined

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1](#)

Sec. 3.5. (a) As applied to a certified assessor-appraiser, "gross incompetence" means repeated or pervasive failure to perform an assessment, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Repeated or pervasive failure to recognize and comply with the laws of the state that pertain to the assessment of tangible property, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (A) [IC 6-1.1-3](#) (procedures for personal property assessment).
- (B) [IC 6-1.1-4](#) (procedures for real property assessment).
- (C) [IC 6-1.1-5-14](#) (delivery of real property list).
- (D) [IC 6-1.1-5.5-3](#) (sales disclosure form filing and review process).
- (E) [IC 6-1.1-7](#) (taxation of mobile homes).
- (F) [IC 6-1.1-9](#) (assessment of undervalued or omitted property).
- (G) [IC 6-1.1-11](#) (property tax exemption procedures).
- (H) [IC 6-1.1-15](#) (procedures for review and appeal of assessment and correction of errors).
- (I) [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#) (assessor, appraiser, and tax representative standards of conduct).
- (J) [IC 6-1.1-37-2](#) (assessment violations by public officials or employees).

(2) Repeated or pervasive failure to recognize and comply with the rules of the department that pertain to assessment of tangible property, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (A) 50 IAC 2.4 (real property assessment guidelines).
- (B) 50 IAC 3.3 (assessment of mobile homes).
- (C) 50 IAC 4.2 (assessment of tangible personal property).
- (D) 50 IAC 5.1 (public utility assessment).
- (E) 50 IAC 15-3 (assessor-appraiser certification standards).
- (F) 50 IAC 27 (annual adjustments and equalization standards).
- (G) 50 IAC 29 (golf course assessment procedures).

(3) Repeated or pervasive failure to acquire or maintain the knowledge necessary to complete an assessment competently as required by the department's rules listed in subdivision (2).

(4) Repeated or pervasive failure to conduct an assessment properly in accordance with Indiana statutes listed in subdivision (1).

(b) As applied to a tax representative or professional appraiser, "gross incompetence" means repeated or pervasive carelessness in the conduct of the duties of a tax representative or professional appraiser, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Repeated or pervasive failure to timely file, supply, or receive documents.
- (2) Repeated or pervasive failure to provide correct data or information pertaining to the subject of an appeal.
- (3) Repeated or pervasive failure to appear at hearings or meetings in person, electronically, or telephonically, as appropriate.
- (4) Repeated or pervasive misstatement or misapplication, or both, of any aspect of Indiana property assessment or taxation.
- (5) In the case of a tax representative only, repeated or pervasive failure to timely notify the tax representative's client of all

matters relating to the review of the assessment of the client's property by the property tax assessment board of appeals, the Indiana board, or the department.

(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-1-3.5; filed Jul 11, 2016, 3:36 p.m.: [20160810-IR-050150165FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

50 IAC 15-1-3.6 "Indiana board" defined

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-4](#); [IC 6-1.5](#)

Sec. 3.6. "Indiana board" means the Indiana board of tax review. (Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-1-3.6; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

50 IAC 15-1-4 "Professional appraiser" defined

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-4](#)

Sec. 4. "Professional appraiser" means a professional appraiser or professional appraisal firm that contracts with a county under [IC 6-1.1-4](#). (Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-1-4; filed Mar 31, 1999, 10:31 a.m.: 22 IR 2482; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

50 IAC 15-1-5 "Tax representative" defined (Repealed)

Sec. 5. (Repealed by Department of Local Government Finance; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1522)

50 IAC 15-1-6 "Voluntary waiver" defined

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35-7](#)

Sec. 6. For purposes of 50 IAC 15-3-9 and 50 IAC 15-5-9, "voluntary waiver" refers to State Form 56012 (Voluntary Waiver of Assessor-Appraiser Certification and Tax Representative Certification), as prescribed by the department. (Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-1-6; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

Rule 2. Purpose

[50 IAC 15-2-1](#)

Purpose

50 IAC 15-2-1 Purpose

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 1. The purpose of this article is to establish rules regarding the following:

(1) The training and education of assessor-appraisers certified under [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#).

(2) Contracting with professional appraisers and appraisal firms required to be certified under [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#).

(3) Establishing criteria for the revocation of a certification under [IC 6-1.1-35.5-6](#).

(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-2-1; filed Mar 31, 1999, 10:31 a.m.: 22 IR 2482; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

Rule 3. Assessor-Appraisers Certification

[50 IAC 15-3-1](#)

Level One requirements

[50 IAC 15-3-2](#)

Level One continuing education

[50 IAC 15-3-3](#)

Level Two requirements

50 IAC 15-3-4	Level Two continuing education
50 IAC 15-3-5	Miscellaneous provisions
50 IAC 15-3-6	Revocation of certification
50 IAC 15-3-7	Level Three requirements
50 IAC 15-3-8	Level Three continuing education
50 IAC 15-3-9	Voluntary withdrawal of certification
50 IAC 15-3-10	Certification reinstatement
50 IAC 15-3-11	Standards for continuing education courses

50 IAC 15-3-1 Level One requirements

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#)

Sec. 1. In order to be certified as a Level One assessor-appraiser, an individual must:

- (1) complete the Level One pre-examination course work designated by the department;
- (2) pass the Level One examination designated by the department; and
- (3) complete the continuing education requirements specified in section 2 of this rule.

(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-1; filed Mar 31, 1999, 10:31 a.m.: 22 IR 2482; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1516; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

50 IAC 15-3-2 Level One continuing education

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#)

Sec. 2. (a) The continuing education requirements for Level One certification are thirty (30) hours of course work approved by the department.

(b) The continuing education requirements specified in this section must be obtained in twenty-four (24) month cycles, beginning January 1 of the first year following certification, with at least ten (10) hours per year. *(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-2; filed Mar 31, 1999, 10:31 a.m.: 22 IR 2482; filed Dec 18, 2000, 11:01 a.m.: 24 IR 1302; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1516; filed Mar 26, 2007, 2:24 p.m.: [20070425-IR-050060172FRA](#); filed Jul 11, 2016, 3:36 p.m.: [20160810-IR-050150165FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))*

50 IAC 15-3-3 Level Two requirements

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#)

Sec. 3. In order to be certified as a Level Two assessor-appraiser, an individual must:

- (1) complete Level Two preexamination course work designated by the department;
- (2) pass the Level Two examination designated by the department;
- (3) complete the continuing education requirements specified in section 4 of this rule; and
- (4) first attain certification as a Level One assessor-appraiser.

(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-3; filed Mar 31, 1999, 10:31 a.m.: 22 IR 2483; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1517; filed Dec 14, 2009, 2:34 p.m.: [20100113-IR-050090197FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

50 IAC 15-3-4 Level Two continuing education

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#)

Sec. 4. (a) The continuing education requirements for Level Two certification are thirty (30) hours of course work approved

by the department.

(b) The continuing education requirements specified in this section must be obtained in twenty-four (24) month cycles, beginning January 1 of the first year following certification, with at least ten (10) hours per year. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-4; filed Mar 31, 1999, 10:31 a.m.: 22 IR 2483; filed Dec 18, 2000, 11:01 a.m.: 24 IR 1302; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1517; filed Mar 26, 2007, 2:24 p.m.: [20070425-IR-050060172FRA](#); filed Jul 11, 2016, 3:36 p.m.: [20160810-IR-050150165FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-3-5 Miscellaneous provisions

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-4](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 5. (a) Subject to subsection (b), the department shall maintain and publish a list of courses that have been accredited as approved assessor-appraiser continuing education courses.

(b) Courses that are not included on the list described in subsection (a) may be submitted by an assessor-appraiser for inclusion and will, at the discretion of the department, be accredited. A course submitted for inclusion must be substantially related to:

- (1) property assessment;
- (2) property appraisal;
- (3) general real estate principles; or
- (4) property taxation;

as evidenced by a course syllabus or other documentary evidence provided by the assessor-appraiser seeking inclusion. A course submitted for inclusion must have been taken or will be taken during the assessor-appraiser's current continuing education cycle. A course added to the list of courses accredited by the department pursuant to this subsection shall be considered accredited. Only one (1) petition to include a course on the list under subsection (a) is sufficient to include the course on the list maintained and published by the department.

(c) A certified assessor-appraiser that meets the continuing education requirements of section 4 of this rule is not required to meet the continuing education requirements of section 3 of this rule in order to maintain his or her Level One certification.

(d) A certified assessor-appraiser that meets the continuing education requirements of section 8 of this rule is not required to meet the continuing education requirements of section 4 of this rule in order to maintain his or her Level Two certification.

(e) An assessor-appraiser holding a valid certification on January 1, 1999, shall be deemed certified under this rule. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-5; filed Mar 31, 1999, 10:31 a.m.: 22 IR 2483; filed Dec 18, 2000, 11:01 a.m.: 24 IR 1302; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1517; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-3-6 Revocation of certification

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-4](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 6. (a) The department may revoke the Level One, Level Two, or Level Three assessor-appraiser certification of an individual for:

- (1) conduct proscribed by [IC 6-1.1-35.5-6\(b\)](#);
- (2) gross incompetence in the performance of an assessment; or
- (3) noncompliance with:
 - (A) the continuing education provisions of this article;
 - (B) the provisions of the contract entered under [IC 6-1.1-4](#); or
 - (C) assessing laws under [IC 6-1.1](#) and rules of the department.

(b) The revocation procedure shall be initiated by the department's issuance of a notice to the respondent. The notice shall:

- (1) be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested;
- (2) contain a clear and concise statement detailing the alleged misconduct;
- (3) state the time and place for a hearing not less than ninety (90) days from the date of mailing the notice; and
- (4) inform the respondent:

(A) of the information contained in subsections (d) and (g); and

(B) that the failure to attend the hearing without good cause may constitute grounds for default entered in favor of the department, as well as the sanction imposed.

(c) The department shall appoint a hearing officer for purposes of these proceedings. The hearing officer may by prior written notice:

- (1) conduct any prehearing proceedings:
 - (A) requested by either party; or
 - (B) that the hearing officer determines may aid in the ultimate resolution of the proceedings; and
- (2) allow informal discovery subject to any terms and conditions the hearing officer deems to be appropriate.

(d) The revocation hearing shall be conducted on the record and as follows:

- (1) The respondent:
 - (A) may be represented by counsel; and
 - (B) shall have the right to:
 - (i) present witnesses and evidence on the respondent's own behalf; and
 - (ii) cross-examine the department's witnesses or evidence.

(2) The burden of proof shall be on the department to prove the violation or violations alleged by a preponderance of the evidence.

(3) No continuance shall be granted except upon a showing of good cause.

(e) The hearing officer may consider any of the following in recommending to the commissioner whether respondent's Level One, Level Two, or Level Three assessor-appraiser certification should be revoked:

- (1) The seriousness of the violation that gave rise to the proceedings.
- (2) Whether the violation is likely to recur.
- (3) The respondent's character, including remorse, if any.
- (4) Whether the respondent's continued status as a Level One, Level Two, or Level Three assessor-appraiser would pose an undue risk to the public.
- (5) Any other factor the hearing officer determines to be appropriate under the circumstances.

(f) The hearing officer shall submit a written recommendation for final action to the commissioner. The recommendation shall contain the reasons for the hearing officer's determination of the sanction, if any, to be imposed. The commissioner is not bound by the hearing officer's recommendation.

(g) If the commissioner determines that a violation of section 2(a) of this rule has occurred, the commissioner may take any of the following remedies with respect to the respondent:

- (1) Decline to issue any sanction.
- (2) Issue a written reprimand admonishing the respondent for the violation.
- (3) Suspend the respondent's Level One, Level Two, or Level Three assessor-appraiser certification for a period of up to one (1) year, at the conclusion of which the respondent shall be automatically reinstated, provided that the respondent meets all the educational requirements for a Level One, Level Two, or Level Three assessor-appraiser certification, as applicable to the proceedings.
- (4) Revoke the respondent's certification.

(h) The commissioner may take any of the remedies provided in subsection (g)(1) through (g)(3) if the respondent demonstrates through an affidavit signed under the penalties of perjury that the respondent was unable to satisfy one (1) or more of the conditions required to maintain the respondent's certification due to a natural disaster, accident, or other unanticipated emergency. The commissioner may request supporting documentation to supplement the affidavit.

(i) The commissioner's determination as to which of the actions under subsection (g) to take regarding the respondent's certification shall be based on the following factors:

- (1) The severity of the violation.
- (2) The nature of the natural disaster, accident, or other unanticipated emergency the respondent claims prevented the respondent from satisfying the condition or conditions required to maintain the respondent's certification.
- (3) The respondent's previous compliance with or violation of the conditions required to maintain the respondent's certification.

(j) The determination of the commissioner constitutes a final appealable order of the department. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-6; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1518; filed Dec 14, 2009, 2:34 p.m.: [20100113-IR-](#)*

[050090197FRA](#); filed Jul 11, 2016, 3:36 p.m.: [20160810-IR-050150165FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

50 IAC 15-3-7 Level Three requirements

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-4.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-4](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-6](#)

Sec. 7. (a) In order to be certified as a Level Three assessor-appraiser, an individual must do the following:

(1) Attain certification as a Level Two assessor-appraiser under 50 IAC 15-3-3.

(2) Successfully complete the following core curriculum:

(A) International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) Course 101, Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal, or an equivalent course approved by the department.

(B) IAAO Course 102, Income Approach to Value, or an equivalent course approved by the department.

(C) IAAO Course 300, Fundamentals of Mass Appraisal, or an equivalent course approved by the department.

(D) IAAO Course 400, Assessment Administration, or an equivalent course approved by the department.

(E) IAAO Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) Workshop 151: Uniform Standards of Appraisal Practice, or an equivalent course approved by the department.

(3) Complete the continuing education requirements specified in section 8 of this rule.

(b) "Course sponsor" means a nationally recognized assessing organization, appraisal organization, postsecondary educational institution, or other education delivery organization approved by the department under this section to offer courses approved by the department for Level Three assessor-appraiser certification.

(c) To be approved by the department as an approved course sponsor, a potential course sponsor must demonstrate that it will provide the following:

(1) Faculty consisting of instructors certified as Level Three assessor-appraisers or who can provide documentation of comparable professional certification or designation.

(2) One (1) or more of the courses listed in subsection (a)(2)(A) through (a)(2)(E).

(d) In order to demonstrate that it meets the requirements of subsection (c), a potential course sponsor must submit the following to the department on an application prescribed by the department:

(1) The name and contact information of the potential course sponsor.

(2) A brief description and schedule of all planned courses for which the course sponsor is seeking approval.

(3) Written policies on the following:

(A) Attendance.

(B) Cancellations.

(C) Refunds.

(D) Inclement weather.

(E) Insufficient enrollment.

(F) Failure of an instructor to preside over class sessions.

(G) Timely grading of final examination and notification of results.

(4) A brief description of the potential course sponsor's capability to develop and deliver consistent, quality education and the commitment to continuous improvement and excellence in education.

(5) Documentation showing that the potential course sponsor has or will have faculty consisting of individuals certified as Level Three assessor-appraisers or who can provide documentation of comparable professional certification or designation.

The department will make a determination on the application and will inform the sponsor in writing of the approval or disapproval of course sponsorship and the reason or reasons therefor.

(e) The department may approve a course that is the equivalent of an IAAO course listed in subsection (a)(2)(A) through (a)(2)(E). A course may be determined by the department to be such an equivalent upon a showing that the course contains the following:

(1) Instruction on one (1) of the following subjects:

(A) Fundamentals of real property appraisal.

(B) Income approach to value.

- (C) Fundamentals of mass appraisal.
- (D) Assessment administration.
- (E) USPAP.
- (2) Substantially similar topic coverage as a course listed in subsection (a)(2)(A) through (a)(2)(E).
- (3) Substantially similar learning objectives as a course listed in subsection (a)(2)(A) through (a)(2)(E) that:
 - (A) conform to the learning objectives achieved by the IAAO in the courses enumerated in subsection (a)(2)(A) through (a)(2)(E);
 - (B) clearly state the specific knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire by completing the course;
 - (C) are consistent with the course description;
 - (D) are consistent with the instructional materials; and
 - (E) are reasonably achievable within the number of classroom hours allotted for the course.
- (4) Substantially similar student and instructor materials as a course listed in subsection (a)(2)(A) through (a)(2)(E) that:
 - (A) cover the subject matter in sufficient depth to achieve the learning objectives of the course;
 - (B) provide appropriately balanced coverage of the subject matter in view of the stated course learning objectives; and
 - (C) reflect current knowledge and practice.
- (5) Substantially similar testing given at the end of the course that is closed book, proctored, and evaluates the students on the cumulative material covered in the course.
- (f) To obtain approval for a course under subsection (e), the course sponsor shall provide to the department the following at least one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the first scheduled class session:
 - (1) An application on a form prescribed by the department. The application shall contain the following information:
 - (A) The course title.
 - (B) The name and contact information of the course sponsor.
 - (C) The date or dates upon which the course shall begin and end.
 - (D) Number of credit hours offered, including hours for taking the final examination.
 - (E) The manner of course presentation.
 - (F) A statement that this course is equivalent to one (1) of the courses enumerated in subsection (a)(2)(A) through (a)(2)(E).
 - (2) The following supporting documentation:
 - (A) A sample of the final examination and answer key.
 - (B) A course outline that accounts for the general flow and recommended time spent on topics contained within the course.
 - (C) A course description clearly describing the content and specific learning objectives of the course.
 - (D) A document certifying satisfactory completion that shall be issued to each student upon taking and passing the final examination of the course.

The department will make a determination on the application and will inform the course sponsor in writing of the approval or disapproval of the course and the reasons therefor.

(g) The department may withdraw approval of a course sponsor upon a finding by the department that an approved course is no longer an equivalent course. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-7; filed Dec 14, 2009, 2:34 p.m.: [20100113-IR-050090197FRA](#); filed Jul 11, 2016, 3:36 p.m.: [20160810-IR-050150165FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-3-8 Level Three continuing education

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-4.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-4](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#)

Sec. 8. (a) The continuing education requirements for Level Three certification are thirty (30) hours of course work approved by the department per education cycle with at least ten (10) hours of course work each year.

(b) The continuing education requirements specified in this section must be obtained in twenty-four (24) month cycles, beginning January 1 of the first year following certification. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-8; filed Dec 14, 2009, 2:34 p.m.: [20100113-IR-050090197FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-3-9 Voluntary withdrawal of certification

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 9. (a) This section does not apply to an assessor-appraiser who has received a notice under section 6(b) of this rule.

(b) An assessor-appraiser who wishes to withdraw his or her certification as an assessor-appraiser must complete and submit to the department a voluntary waiver by U.S. mail, facsimile, or e-mail. A copy of the voluntary waiver is sufficient for submission. However, the voluntary waiver must be signed. The assessor-appraiser's signature on the voluntary waiver indicates that the assessor-appraiser wholly exonerates and holds harmless the department, including its employees, agents, and hearing officers, with respect to the voluntary waiver.

(c) Upon receipt of the voluntary waiver, the department will review the voluntary waiver and verify that the assessor-appraiser qualifies to withdraw his or her assessor-appraiser certification. An assessor-appraiser shall be deemed qualified to withdraw his or her certification if the assessor-appraiser meets the qualifications under subsection (b).

(d) Upon verification that the assessor-appraiser qualifies for a voluntary waiver, the department will acknowledge, in writing, that the assessor-appraiser has withdrawn his or her certification as an assessor-appraiser and his or her name will be removed from the list of certified assessor-appraisers posted on the department's website.

(e) A voluntary waiver under subsection (b) is deemed to be a request to withdraw from all levels of assessor-appraiser certification that the assessor-appraiser has attained as of the date of the voluntary waiver. Submission of the voluntary waiver or a refusal of the department to acknowledge the voluntary waiver because of the assessor-appraiser's ineligibility to voluntarily withdraw certification does not, by itself, constitute grounds for initiating a proceeding under section 6 of this rule. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-9; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-3-10 Certification reinstatement

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 10. (a) The previous holder of an assessor-appraiser certification may request that the department reinstate a certification up to three (3) years after the certification lapsed upon meeting the following requirements:

- (1) Submission of the completed reinstatement application.
- (2) Submission of documentation verifying that the applicant has met the applicable requirements under:
 - (A) section 1 of this rule;
 - (B) section 3 of this rule; or
 - (C) section 7 of this rule.

(b) The previous holder of an assessor-appraiser certification may request that the department reinstate a certification that has lapsed or been expired for more than three (3) years upon meeting the following requirements:

- (1) Submission of the completed reinstatement application.
- (2) Submission of documentation verifying that the applicant has met the applicable requirements under:
 - (A) section 1 of this rule;
 - (B) section 3 of this rule; or
 - (C) section 7 of this rule.

(3) Submission of documentation verifying that the applicant has completed thirty (30) hours of continuing education and met the requirements under section 11 of this rule.

(c) The department may, in its discretion, approve or disapprove applications for certification reinstatement. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-10; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-3-11 Standards for continuing education courses

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 11. (a) A continuing education course offered under this rule must meet the following standards:

(1) Be substantially related to:

- (A) property assessment;
- (B) property appraisal;
- (C) general real estate principles; or
- (D) property taxation.

(2) If applicable, course materials must provide an accurate statement of Indiana law, including case law and rules of the department pertaining to property taxation. This does not prohibit commentary, interpretation, or the expression of an opinion regarding Indiana law in the course materials.

(3) If applicable, course materials must provide an accurate statement of generally recognized appraisal principles. This does not prohibit commentary, interpretation, or the expression of an opinion regarding the generally recognized appraisal principles in the course materials.

(b) Continuing education courses offered under this rule are not required to be approved by the department in advance of the course being offered. However, a vendor, course sponsor, or course instructor may submit course materials to the department for review.

(c) Course materials submitted to the department under subsection (b) will be reviewed for accuracy of content to the extent the materials discuss Indiana law, including case law or the rules promulgated by the department. Return of the course materials and any response or comments provided by the department are not to be considered as an endorsement or disapproval of the course materials or any viewpoint expressed in the course materials.

(d) Course materials, to the extent feasible, must include:

(1) a statement that the department does not endorse:

- (A) the substantive content of the course materials;
- (B) the presentation of the course materials; or
- (C) any particular viewpoint expressed in the course materials or in the presentation of the course materials; or

(2) a substantially similar statement.

(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-3-11; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

Rule 4. Professional Appraisers

[50 IAC 15-4-1](#)

Certification requirements

[50 IAC 15-4-2](#)

Revocation of certification

50 IAC 15-4-1 Certification requirements

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-4-19.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#)

Sec. 1. (a) To be designated as a professional appraiser, an individual must:

(1) be a certified Level Three assessor-appraiser under [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#);

(2) enter a contract that contains all applicable standard contract provisions developed by the department under [IC 6-1.1-4-19.5](#);

(3) specify in the contract entered under [IC 6-1.1-4-19.5](#) that the contract is void if the individual's appraiser certification, issued under [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#), is revoked; and

(4) specify in the contract entered under [IC 6-1.1-4-19.5](#) the precise contractual duties that:

(A) the professional appraiser will personally:

- (i) fulfill; and
- (ii) review, direct, administer, supervise, or oversee;

(B) will be conducted by an administrative assistant or any person other than the professional appraiser; and

(C) will remain the responsibility of the township or county.

(b) Professional appraisers that are firms must:

(1) employ a certified Level Three assessor-appraiser under [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#);

(2) enter a contract that contains all applicable standard contract provisions developed by the department under [IC 6-1.1-4-19.5](#), including, specifically, provisions for sanctions;

- (3) specify in the contract entered under [IC 6-1.1-4-19.5](#) that the contract is void if the firm's appraiser certification, issued under [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#), is revoked; and
- (4) specify in the contract entered under [IC 6-1.1-4](#) the:
 - (A) precise contractual duties a certified Level Three assessor-appraiser will personally fulfill;
 - (B) precise contractual duties that a certified Level Three assessor-appraiser will personally review;
 - (C) precise contractual duties that will be conducted by administrative personnel or any person other than a certified Level Three assessor-appraiser; and
 - (D) precise contractual duties that will remain the responsibility of the township or county.

(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-4-1; filed Mar 31, 1999, 10:31 a.m.: 22 IR 2483; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1518; filed Dec 14, 2009, 2:34 p.m.: [20100113-IR-050090197FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

50 IAC 15-4-2 Revocation of certification

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#)
Affected: [IC 6-1.1-31.7-4](#)

Sec. 2. (a) In addition to the grounds listed in [IC 6-1.1-31.7-4](#), the following are grounds on which the department may revoke a certification issued to a firm or appraiser under section 1 of this rule:

- (1) Knowingly misrepresenting any information or acting in a fraudulent manner.
- (2) Knowingly holding oneself out as representing an entity in a property assessment appeal without authorization from the entity.
- (3) Knowingly submitting false or erroneous information in a property assessment appeal.
- (4) Acting with gross incompetence.
- (5) Knowingly violating any rule applicable to certification or practice before the department or the property tax assessment board of appeals.

With respect to the ground described in [IC 6-1.1-31.7-4\(a\)\(1\)](#), the department may revoke a certification if the appraiser applicant provided false information knowingly.

(b) If the commissioner determines that a violation of subsection (a) has occurred, the commissioner may take any of the following remedies with respect to the firm or appraiser:

- (1) Decline to issue any sanction.
- (2) Issue a written reprimand admonishing the firm or appraiser for the violation.
- (3) Suspend the firm's or appraiser's certification for a period of up to one (1) year, at the conclusion of which the certification shall be automatically reinstated, provided that the firm or appraiser meets the department's minimum requirements for certification.
- (4) Revoke the firm's or appraiser's certification.

(c) In determining which of the remedies provided in subsection (b) to take, the commissioner may request documents, statements, or information from the firm, appraiser, or any other entity.

(d) The commissioner's determination as to which of the actions under subsection (b) to take regarding the firm's or appraiser's certification shall be based on the following factors:

- (1) The seriousness of the violation.
- (2) Whether the violation is likely to recur.
- (3) The firm's or appraiser's character, including remorse, if any.
- (4) Whether the firm's or appraiser's continued certification would pose an undue risk to the public.

(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-4-2; filed Jul 11, 2016, 3:36 p.m.: [20160810-IR-050150165FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

Rule 5. Tax Representatives

50 IAC 15-5-1	Definitions
50 IAC 15-5-2	Practice requirements
50 IAC 15-5-3	Recertification

50 IAC 15-5-4	Course work (Repealed)
50 IAC 15-5-5	Communication as a tax representative
50 IAC 15-5-6	Prohibitions; obligations
50 IAC 15-5-7	Contingent fees
50 IAC 15-5-8	Certification revocation
50 IAC 15-5-9	Certification reinstatement
50 IAC 15-5-10	Voluntary withdrawal of certification

50 IAC 15-5-1 Definitions

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-2-4](#); [IC 6-1.1-15](#); [IC 6-1.1-28](#); [IC 6-1.5](#)

Sec. 1. The following definitions apply throughout this rule:

(1) "Practice before the property tax assessment board of appeals or the department" means the participation in all matters connected with a presentation to the property tax assessment board of appeals, the department, or any of their officers or employees relating to a client's rights, privileges, or liabilities under Indiana's property tax laws or rules. Such presentations include the following:

- (A) Preparing and filing necessary documents, except personal property returns.
- (B) Corresponding and communicating with the property tax assessment board of appeals or the department.
- (C) Representing a client at hearings, on-site inspections, and meetings.

(2) "Property tax assessment board of appeals" means the county property tax assessment board of appeals established under [IC 6-1.1-28](#).

(3) "Tax representative" means a person who represents another person at a proceeding before the property tax assessment board of appeals or the department. The term does not include:

- (A) the owner of the property (or person liable for the taxes under [IC 6-1.1-2-4](#)) that is the subject of the appeal;
- (B) a permanent full-time employee of the owner of the property (or person liable for the taxes under [IC 6-1.1-2-4](#)) who is the subject of the appeal;
- (C) representatives of local units of government appearing on behalf of the unit;
- (D) a certified public accountant, when the certified public accountant is representing a client in a matter that relates only to personal property taxation; or
- (E) an attorney who is a member in good standing of the Indiana bar or any person who is a member in good standing of any other state bar.

(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-5-1; filed Dec 5, 2000, 2:32 p.m.: 24 IR 947; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1519; filed Jul 11, 2016, 3:36 p.m.: [20160810-IR-050150165FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

50 IAC 15-5-2 Practice requirements

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-15](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#)

Sec. 2. (a) In order to practice before the property tax assessment board of appeals or the department, a tax representative must:

- (1) be properly certified in writing by the department; and
- (2) have a copy of a properly executed power of attorney from the taxpayer.

The power of attorney shall be on the form prescribed by the department and need not be refiled if the form is later revised.

(b) Property tax representatives may not be certified to practice before the property tax assessment board of appeals or the department for:

- (1) matters relating to real and personal property exemptions claimed on Form 136;
- (2) claims that assessments or taxes are illegal as a matter of law;
- (3) claims regarding the constitutionality of an assessment; or

(4) other representation that involves the practice of law.

(c) Individuals who apply for certification or recertification as a tax representative must furnish evidence to the department that they:

(1) are at least eighteen (18) years of age;

(2) hold a high school diploma or equivalent credential;

(3) are a certified Level Three assessor-appraiser;

(4) have completed the educational course requirements of all rules adopted by the department related to procedures for practice before the property tax assessment board of appeals or the department; and

(5) have fully complied with all rules adopted by the department regarding:

(A) professional conduct and ethical considerations; and

(B) client solicitation.

(d) A person who fulfills the requirements of subsection (c) shall be granted a written certification that shall be effective upon issuance by the department. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-5-2; filed Dec 5, 2000, 2:32 p.m.: 24 IR 947; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1520; filed Dec 14, 2009, 2:34 p.m.: [20100113-IR-050090197FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-5-3 Recertification

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-15](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5](#); [IC 6-1.1-37.5](#)

Sec. 3. Tax representative certifications expire on the same date as the tax representative's certification as a Level Three assessor-appraiser under 50 IAC 15-3-7. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-5-3; filed Dec 5, 2000, 2:32 p.m.: 24 IR 948; filed Dec 14, 2009, 2:34 p.m.: [20100113-IR-050090197FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-5-4 Course work (Repealed)

Sec. 4. (*Repealed by Department of Local Government Finance; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-5-5 Communication as a tax representative

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-15](#); [IC 6-1.1-2-4](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-37.5](#)

Sec. 5. (a) A certified property tax representative shall not use or participate in the use of any false, fraudulent, unduly influencing, coercive, unfair, misleading, or deceptive statement or claims with respect to any matter relating to the practice before the property tax assessment board of appeals or the department.

(b) A property tax representative shall advise the client or prospective client in writing, using a typeface of not less than 12-point, either on the power of attorney or in some other form that may be reasonably interpreted by the taxpayer (the property owner, or person liable for the taxes under [IC 6-1.1-2-4](#)) to set forth the rights of the taxpayer with regard to his or her appeal, the following:

"I understand that by authorizing _____ to serve as my certified property tax representative, I am aware of and accept the possibility that the property value may increase as a result of filing an administrative appeal with the property tax assessment board of appeals and that I may be compelled to appear at a hearing before the property tax assessment board of appeals or the department of local government finance. I further understand that the certified property tax representative is not an attorney and may not present arguments of a legal nature on my behalf."

(c) The disclosure shall be signed by the taxpayer. The certified property tax representative shall provide the taxpayer with a copy of the disclosure and shall be required to provide a copy of the disclosure to the property tax assessment board of appeals. Failure to provide a signed copy of disclosure upon request may be grounds for an action for revocation of the tax representative's certification under section 8 of this rule. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-5-5; filed Dec 5, 2000, 2:32 p.m.: 24 IR 948; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1520; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-5-6 Prohibitions; obligations

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-2-4](#); [IC 6-1.1-15](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-37.5](#)

Sec. 6. A certified tax representative shall:

- (1) not knowingly use or participate in the use of any false, fraudulent, unduly influencing, coercive, unfair, misleading, or deceptive statements or claims with respect to any matter relating to the practice before the property tax assessment board of appeals or the department;
- (2) not knowingly misrepresent any information or act in a fraudulent manner;
- (3) not prepare documents or provide evidence in a property assessment appeal unless the representative is authorized by the property owner (or person liable for the taxes under [IC 6-1.1-2-4](#)) to do so and any required authorization form has been filed;
- (4) not knowingly submit false or erroneous information in a property assessment appeal;
- (5) not perform his or her duties in a grossly incompetent manner;
- (6) not knowingly violate any rule applicable to certification or practice before the department or the property tax assessment board of appeals;
- (7) use the appraisal standards and methods required by rules adopted by the department, Indiana board, or property tax assessment board of appeals when the representative submits appraisal information in a property assessment appeal; and
- (8) notify the property owner (or person liable for the taxes under [IC 6-1.1-2-4](#)) of all matters relating to the review of the assessment of taxpayers' property before the property tax assessment board of appeals or the department, including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) The tax representative's filing of all necessary documents, correspondence, and communications with the property tax assessment board of appeal or department.

(B) The dates and substance of all hearings, on-site inspections, and meetings.

(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-5-6; filed Dec 5, 2000, 2:32 p.m.: 24 IR 948; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1521; filed Jul 11, 2016, 3:36 p.m.: [20160810-IR-050150165FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

50 IAC 15-5-7 Contingent fees

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1](#)

Sec. 7. (a) In the event a tax representative or the entity with which the tax representative is affiliated charges a contingent fee for any matter relating to practice before the property tax assessment board of appeals, the Indiana board or the department, the tax representative must disclose, upon request, the existence of a contingent fee arrangement to the property tax assessment board of appeals, Indiana board, or department.

(b) As used in this section, "contingent fee" includes a fee charged by the tax representative or the entity with which the tax representative is affiliated that is based on:

- (1) a percentage of the refund obtained;
- (2) a percentage of the taxes saved; or
- (3) a percentage of the reduction in property value.

(c) Failure to disclose the existence of a contingent fee arrangement may result in the presumption that a contingent fee arrangement exists, revocation of certification, or other discipline as provided in this article. *(Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-5-7; filed Dec 5, 2000, 2:32 p.m.: 24 IR 949; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1521)*

50 IAC 15-5-8 Certification revocation

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-15](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7-7](#)

Sec. 8. (a) With respect to the grounds by which the department may revoke the certification under [IC 6-1.1-35.7-7](#):

- (1) a violation of the standards of ethics or rules of solicitation adopted by the department, as provided in [IC 6-1.1-35.7-7\(5\)](#),

refers to a violation of section 2(a) or 6 of this rule, or both; and

(2) "material deception" means a falsehood, made by word or act, with the intent to mislead or misrepresent.

(b) The revocation procedure shall be initiated by the department's issuance of a notice to the respondent. The notice shall:

(1) be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested;

(2) contain a clear and concise statement detailing the alleged misconduct;

(3) state the time and place for a hearing that is not less than ninety (90) days from the date of mailing the notice; and

(4) inform the respondent:

(A) of the information contained in subsections (d) and (g); and

(B) that the failure to attend the hearing without good cause may constitute grounds for default entered in favor of the property tax assessment board of appeals, the Indiana board, or the department, as well as the sanction imposed.

(c) The department shall appoint a hearing officer for purposes of these proceedings. The hearing officer may, with prior written notice to the parties:

(1) conduct any prehearing proceedings:

(A) requested by either party; or

(B) that the hearing officer determines may aid in the ultimate resolution of the proceedings; and

(2) allow informal discovery subject to any terms and conditions the hearing officer deems to be appropriate.

(d) The revocation hearing shall be conducted on the record subject to the following:

(1) The respondent:

(A) may be represented by counsel; and

(B) shall have the right to:

(i) present witnesses and evidence on the respondent's own behalf; and

(ii) cross-examine the department's witnesses or evidence.

(2) The burden of proof shall be on the department to prove the violation or violations alleged by a preponderance of the evidence.

(3) No continuance shall be granted except upon a showing of good cause.

(e) The hearing officer may consider any of the following in recommending to the commissioner whether the respondent's tax representative certification should be revoked:

(1) The seriousness of the violation that gave rise to the proceedings.

(2) Whether the violation is likely to recur.

(3) The respondent's character, including remorse, if any.

(4) Whether the respondent's continued status as a tax representative would pose an undue risk to the public.

(5) Any other factor the hearing officer determines to be appropriate under the circumstances.

(f) The hearing officer shall submit a recommendation for final action to the commissioner. The recommendation shall contain the reasons for the hearing officer's determination of the sanction, if any, to be imposed. The commissioner is not bound by the recommendation.

(g) If the commissioner determines that a violation of section 2(a) or 6 of this rule, or both, has occurred, the commissioner may take any of the following remedies with respect to the respondent:

(1) Decline to issue any sanction.

(2) Issue a written reprimand admonishing the respondent for the violation.

(3) Suspend the respondent's Level One, Level Two, or Level Three assessor-appraiser certification for a period of up to one (1) year, at the conclusion of which the respondent shall be automatically reinstated, provided that respondent meets all educational requirements for a tax representative certification.

(4) Revoke the certification of the respondent.

(h) The commissioner's determination as to which of the actions under subsection (g) to take regarding the respondent shall be based on any of the following factors:

(1) The seriousness of the violation that gave rise to the proceedings.

(2) Whether the violation is likely to recur.

(3) The respondent's character, including remorse, if any, and the respondent's previous compliance with or violation of the rules governing the conduct of a tax representative.

(i) The determination of the commissioner constitutes a final appealable order of the department. (*Department of Local*

Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-5-8; filed Dec 5, 2000, 2:32 p.m.: 24 IR 949; filed Dec 13, 2002, 3:20 p.m.: 26 IR 1521; filed Dec 14, 2009, 2:34 p.m.: [20100113-IR-050090197FRA](#); filed Jul 11, 2016, 3:36 p.m.: [20160810-IR-050150165FRA](#); filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#))

50 IAC 15-5-9 Certification reinstatement

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-31.7-3](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-31.7](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 9. (a) The previous holder of a tax representative certification may request that the department reinstate a certification up to three (3) years after the certification lapsed upon meeting the following requirements:

(1) Submission of the completed reinstatement application.

(2) Submission of documentation verifying that the applicant has met the requirements under section 2 of this rule.

(b) The previous holder of a tax representative certification may request that the department reinstate a certification that has lapsed or been expired for more than three (3) years upon meeting the following requirements:

(1) Submission of the completed reinstatement application.

(2) Submission of documentation verifying that the applicant has met the requirements under section 2 of this rule.

(3) Submission of documentation verifying that the applicant has completed thirty (30) hours of continuing education and met the requirements under 50 IAC 15-3-10.

(c) The department may, in its discretion, approve or disapprove applications for certification reinstatement. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-5-9; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

50 IAC 15-5-10 Voluntary withdrawal of certification

Authority: [IC 6-1.1-31-1](#); [IC 6-1.1-35.5-8.5](#)

Affected: [IC 6-1.1-35.7](#)

Sec. 10. (a) This section does not apply to a tax representative who received a notice under section 8(b) of this rule.

(b) A tax representative who wishes to withdraw his or her certification as a tax representative must complete and submit to the department a voluntary waiver by U.S. mail, facsimile, or e-mail. A copy of the voluntary waiver is sufficient for submission. However, the voluntary waiver must be signed. The tax representative's signature on the voluntary waiver indicates that the tax representative wholly exonerates and holds harmless the department, including its employees, agents, and hearing officers, with respect to the voluntary waiver.

(c) Upon receipt of the voluntary waiver, the department will review the voluntary waiver and verify that the tax representative qualifies to withdraw his or her tax representative certification. A tax representative shall be deemed qualified to withdraw his or her certification if the tax representative meets the qualifications under subsection (b).

(d) Upon verification that the tax representative qualifies for a voluntary waiver, the department will acknowledge, in writing, that the tax representative has withdrawn his or her certification as a tax representative and his or her name will be removed from the list of tax representatives posted on the department's website.

(e) Submission of the voluntary waiver or a refusal of the department to acknowledge the voluntary waiver because of the tax representative's ineligibility to voluntarily withdraw certification does not, by itself, constitute grounds for initiating a proceeding under section 8 of this rule. (*Department of Local Government Finance; 50 IAC 15-5-10; filed Nov 2, 2020, 9:34 a.m.: [20201202-IR-050190636FRA](#)*)

*