



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM
DFS-01-2007
ISSUED
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Department of Financial Services
Alex Sink, CFO

FLOOD INSURANCE TRAINING FOR INSURANCE AGENTS

The purpose of this Memorandum is to advise Florida licensed insurance agents and continuing education providers of training requirements for selling flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program ("NFIP").

ALL FLORIDA LICENSED INSURANCE AGENTS WHO CURRENTLY SELL OR MAY SELL FLOOD INSURANCE THROUGH THE NFIP MUST COMPLETE A ONE-TIME TRAINING COURSE ABOUT THE NFIP.

These requirements were adopted by the United States Congress in Section 207 of the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which administers the NFIP, in cooperation with state insurance regulators, has developed flood insurance training requirements which are designed to ensure that insurance agents selling flood insurance through the NFIP are properly trained and educated about the program.

FEMA's flood insurance training program has been approved by the Florida Department of Financial Services for three hours of continuing education credit. These three hours are not required in addition to the normal number of credit hours required for each agent. The course is available through several approved continuing education providers. It is also available as an online course at http://training.nfipstat.com/portal2/site_map.asp. From this page, first click "register." After registering, login, and then proceed to the "Basic Agent Training" course.

Continuing education providers interested in offering a flood course that meets the requirements of FEMA's flood insurance training program can visit the website <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/fira2004.shtm>, Federal Register Notice - Flood Insurance Training and Education Requirements for Insurance Agents, to find the approved course curriculum. Interested providers must follow the Department's course filing process when filing these courses for Florida approval.

The failure to comply with these flood insurance training requirements may jeopardize an insurance agent's authority to write flood insurance through the NFIP.

Insurance agents can obtain more information about the NFIP by visiting its website at <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/qanda.shtm>. Questions from insurance agents regarding this Memorandum should be addressed to the Bureau of Licensing at 850-413-3137.