

Your Real Estate License Prep Checklist

A state-by-state roadmap to get licensed — without missing a step.

Getting your real estate license involves more moving pieces than most people expect — and requirements vary by state. Use this checklist to keep track of every step, from your first eligibility check to picking the right brokerage after you pass.

1 BEFORE YOU APPLY

- ☐ Confirm your state's minimum age and residency requirements.
- ☐ Check whether your state requires a high school diploma or GED.
- ☐ Look up your state's background check / fingerprinting process.

2 PRE-LICENSE EDUCATION

- ☐ Find your state's required pre-license course hours (this varies widely by state — confirm the exact number with your state real estate commission).
- ☐ Choose a state-accredited pre-license course provider.
- ☐ Set a realistic weekly study schedule — don't wait until the week before the exam.

3 THE STATE EXAM

- ☐ Register for your licensing exam through your state's official testing provider.
- ☐ Take timed practice exams to build speed and confidence.
- ☐ Review your state's exam content outline so you know exactly what's tested.

4 AFTER YOU PASS

- ☐ Submit your license application to your state real estate commission.
- ☐ Get Errors & Omissions (E&O) insurance if your state requires it.
- ☐ Join your local MLS and Realtor association.

5 CHOOSING YOUR BROKERAGE

- ☐ Compare commission splits, desk fees, and the support each brokerage offers.
- ☐ Ask about training and mentorship available to new agents.
- ☐ Pick a brokerage that fits how you actually want to build your business.

Note: exact hours, fees, and steps vary by state. This checklist covers the steps that apply almost everywhere — always confirm specifics with your state's real estate commission.

Want the guided, done-for-you version of this roadmap?

RARE Learning X's **Real Estate Licensing & Foundations** program (Tier 1) walks you through every item on this checklist step by step — exam prep blueprint, state licensing roadmap, study schedule, mock exams, and how to choose your first brokerage. Everything above, done for you.

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