

GRI Program Update

BACKGROUND

Since 1960, the Texas Association of REALTORS® (TAR) has offered its members an opportunity to earn the Graduate, REALTOR® Institute (GRI) designation. The GRI program has consisted of 96 hours of education and included the following three courses: GRI-Real Estate Finance, GRI-Real Estate Marketing and GRI-Real Estate Brokerage. Prior to 2017, all three of these courses also satisfied the Texas Real Estate Commission (TREC) Sales Agent Apprentice (SAE) 90-hour credit requirement in place for license holders during their initial license period.

WHAT HAS CHANGED FOR 2017

Updated course requirements have begun taking effect, necessitating changes to the GRI course program. These changes impact the GRI designation program as follows:

- GRI-Real Estate Marketing continues to carry SAE credit.
- The GRI-Real Estate Finance and GRI-Real Estate Brokerage courses are not currently eligible for SAE credit. These courses are currently eligible for CE credit and count toward hours needed by applicants obtaining a broker's license.
- Students who need SAE credit and attend any in-person GRI-Real Estate Finance or GRI-Real Estate Brokerage course through February will receive access to take one online SAE course at no cost.

NEXT STEPS

- TAR has submitted GRI-Real Estate Brokerage to TREC for approval under the updated course requirements. We hope to be able to resume offering SAE credit for this course as early as March.*
- TAR is in the process of creating a new GRI-Real Estate Law course to submit to TREC for approval under the current course requirements. We hope to be able to offer this course for SAE credit in late Spring.*
- TREC's Education Standards Advisory Committee (ESAC) met on January 23, 2017, and approved a recommendation to add a new category to the list of courses that may be taken for SAE credit. If approved by TREC, this new category would provide an opportunity for TAR to re-submit GRI-Real Estate Finance for approval to be offered for SAE credit. The TREC meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2017.