

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee
Government Issue Paper
Rapid Response Subcommittee
Broker Modernization Working Group**

December 2023



**U.S. Customs and
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**Office of Trade/Trade Policy and Programs
Rapid Response Subcommittee
Broker Modernization Working Group
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Action Required: Informational

Background:

- The Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) Broker Modernization Working Group is focused on modernization efforts across the brokerage industry (including the broker exam), updated broker regulations published October 18, 2022, and the continuing education regulations for individual licensed customs brokers published June 23, 2023.
- The COAC Broker Modernization Working Group’s feedback and input is critical to the success of these regulatory and exam changes.
- The Continuing Education for Licensed Customs Brokers Final Rule, published June 23, 2023, amends regulations requiring continuing education for individual customs broker license holders (individual brokers) and the framework for administering this requirement.
 - This updated regulation is intended to ensure that individual brokers remain knowledgeable about recent developments in customs and related laws as well as international trade and supply chain issues.

Issue:

- CBP is engaging with the trade community to inform members about regulatory requirements outlined in the Final Rule on Continuing Education and to ensure they are apprised of the process to implement the Final Rule
- CBP and the Broker Modernization Work Group focus their partnership on improving the Customs Broker License Exam (CBLE) experience for exam candidates and overall exam administration.

Current Status:

Continuing Education

- From October 30 to November 4, 2023, CBP held “Industry Days” with members of the broker community to gather information to help CBP develop criteria for selecting education accreditors, who will review and approve education activities on CBP’s behalf.
 - Based on the information gathered, CBP will draft a Request for Proposals (RFP) for potential accreditors to apply to CBP to conduct those activities.
 - CBP intends to select more than one accreditor.
 - CBP is aiming to issue this RFP in early 2024.
- A fact sheet and other resources on continuing education are available on CBP.gov. CBP frequently updates the website content to include and respond to “Questions of the Week” inquiries CBP receives in the Continuing Education mailbox.

Customs Broker License Exam

- The number of exam candidates in the October 25, 2023 CBLE totaled 1,141 – 932 candidates who took the exam onsite at test centers and 209 candidates who took it remotely.

- The October 2023 exam had minimal technical disruptions and the exam system performed well overall. CBP successfully addressed the bulk of the technical issues in a timely manner to allow exam candidates to complete the exam.

Next Steps:

CBP will:

- Issue the RFP for parties interested in becoming continuing education accreditors.
- Set up an accreditation process for industry-provided qualifying education.
- Hold public webinars as the implementation process proceeds.

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