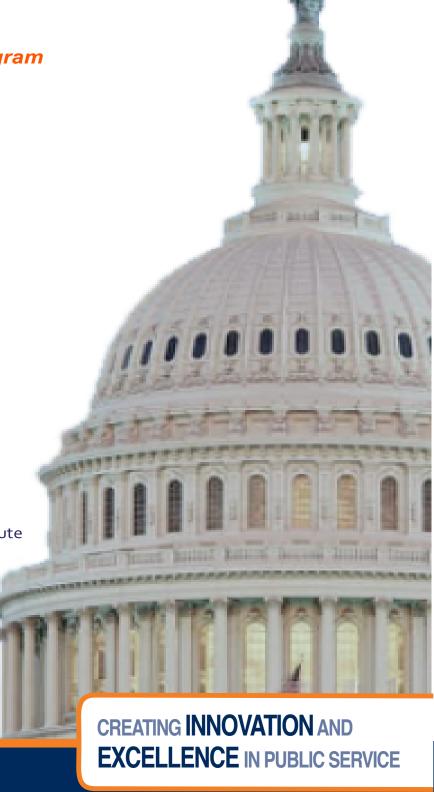
### **JEAC Policy Manual**

Alabama Property Tax
Education and Certification Program

#### **Submitted By:**

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GOVERNMENT & ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

# Alabama Property Tax Education and Certification Program Joint Education Advisory Committee

# Policy Manual

State of Alabama Department of Revenue, Property Tax Division and
Government and Economic Development Institute, Auburn University www.auburn.edu/propertytax

**Effective: August 2002** 

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### JEAC Process for Policies/JEAC Process for Committee Set-up/Candidacy Review Sub-committee

0100-0199

#### **Policy**

Subject Joint Education Advisory Committee Policies Policy Number: 0100

Supersedes Page 1 of 2

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

Policies are established to ensure that participants in the Property Tax Education and Certification training programs are provided with the highest quality training programs possible and that the committee responds to its clients, participants, county employees, etc. issues in a consistent manner.

All JEAC policies are the results of decisions made in JEAC meetings and approved by the Property Tax Division of the Alabama Department of Revenue. The policies are arranged in a manual to provide an efficient method of locating policy information by categorizing the policies under one of the following functional headings:

- JEAC Process for Committee set-up/Candidacy Review Sub-committee
- Eligibility/Application process for candidacy to program (Candidacy Review Sub-Committee)
- Coursework for Certification in all areas and prerequisites (Training Tracks)
- Credit and approved substitutions
- Examinations, Eligibility for examination, and Process for repeating examination
- Awarding of Certification, Lapse of Certification, and Re-certification Process
- Record retention
- Instructor Guidelines and Compensation

Policies are maintained in manuals housed in the Government and Economic Development Institute at Auburn University, and the Property Tax Division of the Alabama Department of Revenue. Manuals will be updated periodically after the JEAC adopts or revises policies by vote.

Policy Number: 0100 Page 2 of 2

These updated/revised policies will be downloaded to the Department of Revenue Web page and the Government and Economic Development Institute Web page for easy access by all.

To standardize the format of all policies and procedures, the following guidelines will be used:

- 1. All policies should be stated as clearly and briefly as possible.
- 2. Policies should include specific instructions or indications, where appropriate.
- 3. Prior policies are not to be restated in a policy, but referred to by name and number.
- 4. Any forms mentioned in a policy will be referred to by name and number if applicable. In the policy note "see attachment:, and attach the form to the policy for reference.
- 5. A consistent header will be used for all JEAC policies.
- 6. If the policy supercedes another, the old policy will be noted in the "supersedes" area of the header.
- 7. Information necessary for all policies includes (but is not limited to):
  - Subject
  - Number and title of policy superceded
  - Policy number
  - Pages of new policy
  - Recommendation (signature of the person or title of the entity who requested the policy be implemented).
  - Effective Date-date when policy and procedure is issued for implementation.
  - Forms to be used. Names of the forms to be used in implementing the policy and procedure.

JEAC, responding to formal or informal requests, discusses at regularly or called meetings, feasibility of implementing said policy. Existing policies may be amended at this time. A formal vote of voting members is taken. Secretary of the JEAC then communicates this information to the Government and Economic Development Institute. The Government and Economic Development Institute drafts the policy with the assistance of the JEAC officers, returns the policy to the secretary for signatures. The approved policy is then forwarded to owners of policy manuals with specific instructions for addition to the manual. It is the recommendation of the JEAC that old policies be maintained in the manual for future reference.

#### Policy

Subject Process of JEAC Set-up Policy Number: 0101

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

The Joint Education Advisory Committee of the Alabama Property Tax Education and Certification Program is a cooperative effort of the State of Alabama Department of Revenue and the Auburn University Government and Economic Development Institute. (November 11, 1980) The committee exists to guide and oversee the Alabama Property Tax Education and Certification Program. The committee is made up of 12 members. Ex-officio members include the Director of the Property Tax Division of the Alabama Department of Revenue, President of the Alabama Association of Tax Administrators and 4 members from the Alabama Association of Tax Administrators, President of the Alabama Association of Assessing Officials (the president of each association appoints the 4 members to 2 year terms, such that 2 openings occur each year for that association), and 1 person, who is a member of both associations and is appointed jointly by the presidents of both organizations to a one year term. The committee is then made up of 12 members.

The Joint Education Advisory Committee shall meet quarterly throughout the fiscal year. (May 30, 1991)

#### **Policy**

Subject Candidacy Review Sub-committee Policy Number: 0102

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

The JEAC will maintain a sub-committee of members called the "Candidacy Review Committee". It will be the responsibility of this sub-committee to review applications for the eligibility to take the certification exams. The voting membership of this committee is made up of the Director of the Property Tax Division of the Alabama Department of Revenue, a representative from Auburn University's Government and Economic Development Institute, and 5 members of the JEAC appointed by the JEAC chairperson. The certification exam applications will be mailed each year to the Elected Officials of each county at the beginning of December by the Government and Economic Development Institute. The applications must be returned to the Center by the middle of January. The Candidacy Review Committee will meet in February prior to the examination to determine the eligibility of the applicants based on their education requirements for their individual training tracks. At this time, the sub-committee will also determine the approval of the applications for the completion of the three-year experience requirement.

# Eligibility/Application process for candidacy to program 0200-0299

#### **Policy**

Subject Eligibility for Certification Policy Number: 0200

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

The Property Tax Education and Certification Program is designed to enhance appraisal, mapping, and management skills so that participants may be certified by the State. Those eligible to achieve certification are the elected and appointed county property tax officials and staff, and the Property Tax Division staff of the Alabama Department of Revenue. The program objectives are:

- To improve knowledge in the fields of appraising, mapping, and management
- To maintain high standards in property tax administration
- To increase professionalism in state and county property tax offices

These objectives will be fulfilled through five curricula leading to the designation of Alabama Certified Appraiser of Real Property, Alabama Certified Appraiser of Personal Property, Alabama Certified Tax Administrator, Alabama Certified Manual Mapper and Alabama Certified Digital Mapper. The Support Staff Development Program provides two levels of recognition for support staff members who have met education and experience requirements.

#### Policy

Subject Eligibility for Application to Program Policy Number: 0201

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

County employees seeking one of the designations are not required to complete a formal application process to enter the educational track of instruction. The candidate must be employed by the County through the duration of each course and at the time of the examination in order to receive the appropriate designation. No designations will be given after an employee has left the employ of the County.

Job title or candidates will not be considered in determining eligibility for candidacy. (May 22, 1997)

#### **Policy**

Subject Requirements to Apply for Certification Policy Number: 0202

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: August 27, 2009 or earlier

Effective Date: August 27, 2009 or earlier

#### Policy:

1. A minimum of three years' experience in the field of designation choice is required while the official job title of candidates for designation will not be considered in determining eligibility for candidacy (May 22, 1997). Effective March 2002 all candidates taking the comprehensive exam who have not previously taken the exam, must meet the three-year experience requirement. Effective March 2003 all candidates must meet the three-year experience requirement in order to take the comprehensive exam. (May 17, 2001) Exam Applications must be signed by the Immediate Supervisor and the Elected Official. (Nov. 14, 2006) Candidates for a designation must be found by the Department of Revenue to have three years of qualifying experience, as of the application closing date, to include the performance of the full range of responsibilities in the discipline for which they are seeking designation.

Further clarification of experience requirements:

- Out-of-State experience will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Out-of-State experience of three years or more will equal to not more than one year of In-State (*August 27, 2009*)
- 2. Successful completion of the minimum hours of approved coursework is required for each individual designation track. "Approved coursework" is defined as classroom attendance with a proctored exam. (*May 17, 2001*)
- 3. Admission approval by the "Candidacy Review Committee" is required.
- 4. Successful completion of a comprehensive examination for the designation track.
- 5. Unsuccessful candidates must wait until the next year's exam. (2008)

#### **Policy**

Subject Exam Application Process Policy Number: 0203

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

#### Policy:

- 1. All designation tracks except Support Staff are required to take a comprehensive certification exam in order to achieve admission into their individual designation.
- 2. All comprehensive certification exams will be held in March of the fiscal year. (May 2, 1990) (February 23, 1993)
- 3. All exam announcements will be mailed in early December to the elected officials of each county by the Government and Economic Development Institute at Auburn University. All applications for admission to candidacy to a designation must be signed by the appropriate official responsible for the administration of that program (eg. Tax Assessor/Collector, Revenue Commissioner, Director Property Tax Division).
- 4. Property Tax Exam Applications must be returned to the Government and Economic Development Institute by the end of January on a date set by the JEAC and the Government and Economic Development Institute.
- 5. In February, the Joint Education Advisory Committee's "Candidacy Review Committee" will review all exam applications and give approval to those qualified applicants. It will also approve all applications for the three-year experience requirement at this time.
- 6. It will be the responsibility of the Department of Revenue to send notification to all applicants as to their status of approval.
- 7. At the time of confirmation of approval to candidacy, the Government and Economic Development Institute will also mail to each candidate a study guide for their individual designation. (May 2, 1990)

#### Policy

Subject Application for Support Staff Levels I & II Policy Number: 0204

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: August 27, 2009 or earlier

Effective Date: August 27, 2009 or earlier

#### Policy:

- 1. Support Staff Level I and II applications will be mailed to the elected officials of each county each fiscal year by the Government and Economic Development Institute. Applications must be returned to the Center on a date set by the JEAC and GEDI. (May 2, 1990)
- 2. If a person qualifies or is eligible for one of the Professional Designations (i.e. appraiser, mapper, tax administrator), that person does not qualify for any of the support staff designations. (August 27, 2009)

#### **Policy**

Subject Requirements for Support Staff Level I Policy Number: 0205

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: August 27, 2009 or earlier

Effective Date: August 27, 2009 or earlier

#### Policy:

- 1. All support staff in the Office of the Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Revenue Commissioner, License Commissioner and the Jefferson County Board of Equalization are eligible to participate.
- 2. Three years experience during which the participant performs the full range of activities applicable to the office in which they are employed.
- 3. Successful completion of a minimum of 80 hours of approved coursework. (June 14, 1990)
- 4. If a person qualifies or is eligible for one of the Professional Designations (i.e. appraiser, mapper, tax administrator), that person does not qualify for the Support Staff Level I designation. (August 27, 2009)

#### Policy

Subject Requirements for Support Staff Level II Policy Number: 0206

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: August 27, 2009 or earlier

Effective Date: August 27, 2009 or earlier

#### Policy:

1. Successful completion of Support Staff Development Level I

- 2. Five years' experience in a support staff position to include a minimum of two years in a supervisory position.
- 3. Successful completion of 60 hours of approved coursework.
- 4. If a person qualifies or is eligible for one of the Professional Designations (i.e. appraiser, mapper, tax administrator), that person does not qualify for the Support Staff Level II designation. (August 27, 2009)

#### Policy

Subject Dual Application for Support Staff Level I & II Policy Number: 0207

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: February 17, 2005 or earlier

Policy:

Support Staff Level I & II designations may be simultaneously applied for, and simultaneous certification awarded, if all requirements for both designations are met. (May 25, 1995)

Total credit hours must be met for both programs. (February, 17, 2005)

## Coursework for Certification in all areas and prerequisites (Training Tracks)

0300-0399

#### Policy

Subject Real Property Appraiser Education Track Policy Number: 0300

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: October 1, 2018

Effective Date: October 1, 2018

Policy:

Three courses are required:

- Appraisal Manual (Residential & Agricultural)
- Appraisal Manual (Commercial) (February 17, 2011)
- Alabama Real Property Appraisal Manual (October 1, 2018)
- Advanced Appraisal Concepts (October 1, 2018)
- IAAO-101/Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal
- IAAO-102/Income Approach to Valuation

A total of 120 course work hours must be completed before sitting for the examination.

#### Policy

Subject Personal Property Appraiser Education Track Policy Number: 0301

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

Four Courses are required:

- Personal Property Appraisal Manual
- Alabama Personal Property Audits
- IAAO-500/Assessment of Personal Property
- IAAO-101/Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal

A total of 120 course work hours must be completed before sitting for the examination.

#### Policy

Subject: License and Tax Administration Education Track Policy Number: 0302

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: May 19, 2005 or earlier

Policy:

Only elected or appointed county License Commissioners, Revenue Commissioners, and Tax Collectors who perform the same duties may apply for this designation. A minimum of three years' experience in the administration of the property tax laws of Alabama are also required for eligibility.

#### Four courses are required:

- Introduction to Property Tax Administration
- Property Tax Administration & Laws
- Management & Supervision
- Licensing Administration for Motor Vehicles

Remaining courses may be selected from additional Alabama Property Tax Education Courses.

A total of 120 course work hours must be completed before sitting for the examination.

#### Policy

Subject: Alabama Certified Mapper Education Track Policy Number: 0303

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: May 19, 2005 or earlier

Policy:

Five courses are required:

- Basic Mapping
- Intermediate Mapping
- Advanced Mapping
- Subdivision Layouts and Mapping Right of Ways
- IAAO 600/Principles and Techniques of Cadastral Mapping (February 15, 2001)

A total of 130 course work hours must be completed before sitting for the examination. (*February 15, 2001*)

#### Policy

Subject Tax Administrator Education Track Policy Number: 0304

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: October 1, 2018

Effective Date: October 1, 2018 or earlier

#### Policy:

Only elected or appointed county Tax Assessors, Tax Collectors, Revenue Commissioners or License Commissioners with a minimum of three years experience in the administration of the property tax laws of Alabama may apply for this designation.

#### Four courses are required:

- Introduction to Property Tax Administration (May 20, 2004)
- Property Tax Administration and Laws
- Appraisal Manual (Residential & Agricultural)
- Alabama Real Property Appraisal Manual (October 1, 2018)
- Management and Supervision

Remaining courses may be selected from additional Property Tax Education Courses.

A total of 120 course work hours must be completed before sitting for the examination.

#### Policy

Subject Support Staff Level I Education Track Policy Number: 0305

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: August 30, 2007 or earlier

Policy:

Two courses are required:

- Introduction to Property Tax Administration (May 20, 2004)
   AND
- Introduction to the Licensing Process OR
- Real and Personal Property Calculations
  OR
- AL III: Basic Mapping (August 30, 2007)

Remaining courses may be selected from additional Property Tax Education Courses.

A total of 80 course work hours must be completed prior to certification.

Three years experience in which the participant performs the full range of activities applicable to the office in which they are employed.

#### Policy

Subject Support Staff Level II Education Track Policy Number: 0306
Supersedes Page 1 of 1
Approval Date:
Effective Date: February 17, 2005 or earlier
Policy:
Two courses are required:

• Management and Supervision

• Property Tax Administration and Laws (May 20, 2004)

Remaining courses may be selected from additional Property Tax Education Courses

A total or 60 course work hours must be completed before certification. If AL I was taken toward Support Staff Level I, 60 additional credit hours must be achieved. (February 17, 2005)

Five years experience in a support staff position to include a minimum of two years in a supervisory position.

#### Policy

Subject Splitting of mapper's exam Policy Number: 0307

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

Mappers must pass the complete exam at the time of the examination. They may not receive credit for passing one part, but failing the other, and carry that credit over to the next year. (November 21, 1996)

#### Policy

Subject: Splitting of personal property exam Policy Number: 0307a

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: May 21, 2009

Effective Date: 2009 or earlier

#### Policy:

1. A personal property appraiser must pass the complete exam at the time of the examination. They may not receive credit for passing one or two parts, but failing the third part, and carry that credit over to the next year. (May 21, 2009)

2. Each of the two parts of the personal property exam must be passed with a 70% or higher. (May 21, 2009)

#### Policy

Subject: Splitting of real property exam Policy Number: 0307b

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: May 21, 2009

Effective Date: 2009 or earlier

#### Policy:

1. A real property appraiser must pass the complete exam at the time of the examination. They may not receive credit for passing one part, but failing the other part, and carry that credit over to the next year. (May 21, 2009)

2. Each of the two parts of the real property exam must be passed with a 70% or higher. (May 21, 2009)

#### Policy

Subject	Conversion of Education Tracks	Policy Number: 0308			
Supersedes		Page 1 of 1			
Approval Date	::				
Effective Date: 1999 or earlier					
Policy:					

In order to receive a different education designation, all prerequisites and the passing of that

particular education designation examination are required. (August 20, 1998)

#### Policy

Subject Requirements for more than one designation Policy Number: 0309

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

A person may apply and receive certification in more than one designation. Courses taken for one designation's education requirements may be applied, as appropriate, for the new designation.

#### **Policy**

Subject Real and Personal Property Calculations Course Policy Number: 0310

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: February 16, 2012

Effective Date: On or before February 16, 2012

#### Policy:

The course Real and Personal Property Calculations will revert back to being provided for Support Staff only. However, Certified Tax Administrators are also allowed to take the course toward certification and/or recertification. (*February 16, 2012*)

Those taking this course toward recertification for Real, Personal or Mapper will not receive credit. (February 16, 2012)

#### Policy

Subject Course Attendance Requirements Policy Number: 0311

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

Every participant is expected to be present in class and a participating member of the class. If a participant misses 2 hours or more of a 20-hour course or 3 hours or more of a 30-hour course, that individual shall not sit for the examination and must retake the course.

#### Policy

Subject	Evaluation of courses	Policy Number: 0312
Supersedes		Page 1 of 1
Approval Da	te:	
Effective Da	te: 1999 or earlier	
Policy:		
All courses v	vill be evaluated by the class members compl	eting the course. (January 8, 1986)

#### Policy

Subject Courses upon request Policy Number: 0313

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: November 19, 2016

Effective Date: November 19, 2016 or earlier

#### Policy:

An "On Demand" course may be offered in any county of the State at the request of the appropriate elected official provided that 10 20 or more participants indicate an interest to register, and that instructors and a facility are available.

#### Policy

Subject Cancellation Policy Policy Number: 0314

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

Provided space is available, receipt of the registration form by mail or fax constitutes registration. Written cancellations, received fifteen (15) working days (30 days – IAAO courses) prior to the beginning of the program will be honored with a refund of the registration fee, but will be assessed an administrative fee of \$50. Due to commitments to instructors and meeting facilities, late cancellations or nonattendance will not be refunded. Substitutions for registered participants may be made at any time.

#### Policy

Subject Use of Cell Phones, Pagers and Tobacco Products Policy Number: 0315

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: May 5, 2011

Effective Date: August 16, 2001

#### Policy:

- 1. If it is necessary to carry a cell phone or pager in the classroom, they must be set on a silent or discrete mode.
- 2. The use of tobacco products of any kind are not permitted in the classroom or areas not designated for their use.
- 3. Cell phones are not allowed for use as a calculator during testing. (May 5, 2011)

# Examinations/Eligibility for examination/Repeating Examinations 0400-0499

#### Policy

Subject Unsuccessful completion of examination Policy Number: 0400

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 2008 or earlier

#### Policy:

1. Candidates who have not passed the examination must wait until the next year's exam.

2. A letter will be sent to those who fail indicating concept areas that were missed by 30% or more and a course will be recommended by the Property Tax Division of the Alabama Department of Revenue and the Government and Economic Development Institute to assist the participant in gaining the necessary knowledge, skills in the concept areas missed.

#### Policy

Subject Completion of requirements prior to exam Policy Number: 0401

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 2008 or earlier

Policy:

A letter will be sent to those who fail indicating concept areas that were missed by 30% or more and a course will be recommended by the Property Tax Division of the Alabama Department of Revenue and the Government and Economic Development Institute to assist the participant in gaining the necessary knowledge, skills in the concept areas missed.

#### Policy

Subject Testing Violations Policy Number: 0402

Supersedes Page 1 of 3

Approval Date: May 5, 2011

Effective Date: May 5, 2011

It is the policy of the Property Tax Division and the Motor Vehicle Division of the Alabama Department of Revenue, in cooperation with the Government and Economic Development Institute at Auburn University, to uphold the integrity of the education and certification program and the associated testing processes. Testing processes are designed to evaluate the knowledge and skills of individual employees. Violations are not acceptable and "cheating" in any form will be dealt with according to the following procedures.

The instructors/proctors in the Property Tax Education and Certification program are authorized to promote and ensure qualities of academic honesty and personal integrity when in the performance of their duties.

#### **Definition of Violations and Cheating**

Offenses against these policies and the Alabama Property Tax Education and Certification program include cheating, plagiarism, and all forms of dishonesty. A cheating or testing violation is defined as the deception of others about one's own work or about the work of another. Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to:

- Submitting another's work as one's own or allowing another to submit one's work as though it was their own.
- Copying or sharing information.
- Unauthorized use of technology, notes or textbook during an exam such as pre-loading data and formulas into a calculator or other electronic device.
- Stealing information from the instructor or proctor.
- Falsifying records, forms or other documents.
- Academic dishonesty in a computer assignment.
- Lying about these or other course or testing matters.

Policy Number: 0402 Page 2 of 3

#### **Procedures**

Actions and Consequences:

Participants who are guilty of testing violations such as these can expect to be penalized; any person who knowingly assists another participant in dishonest behavior is equally responsible and is subject to the same consequences.

#### Process of Reporting Dishonest Behavior:

Participants in course exams or certification exams have the responsibility to report testing irregularities when witnessed. If a fellow participant witnesses testing irregularities, that person will notify the instructor/proctor. Written notification may be requested.

In the classroom or during the certification exam the instructor/proctor has the following responsibilities:

#### First Step of Action:

To minimize the opportunities for participants to cheat during an examination, instructors/proctors are authorized to:

- 1. Inform those taking the test of the policy.
- 2. Collect (set aside) all cell phones, textbooks, class notes, etc.
- 3. Move participants several feet apart from each other (if space allows).
- 4. Ask participants to move to another seat during the exam if cheating is suspected.
- 5. Issue a verbal warning to participant(s) addressing the inappropriate behavior or action.

#### Second Step of Action:

When cheating is suspected, instructors/proctors are authorized and expected to inform an offending participant that his/her behavior cannot continue and his/her exam may be considered void by the ADOR and GEDI. The instructor/proctor has the option to retrieve the test and ask the student to leave. Following the assembly of all pertinent information and consideration by the ADOR and GEDI, the student may be required or have the option to retake an exam, individually scheduled, on which he/she was suspected to have cheated.

#### Third Step of Action:

If inappropriate behavior or action persists, the instructor/proctor will notify the student of the instructor/proctor's intent to file a Report of Suspected Testing Violations.

#### Report of Suspected Testing Violations:

Instructors/proctors are required to write and attach an explanation of the specific offenses to the participant's examination before returning it to the Government and Economic Development Institute. The report will contain the instructor's or proctor's name, course name, examination date, location, student's name and a complete report of the suspected testing violations and all actions taken by the instructor/proctor.

Policy Number: 0402 Page 3 of 3

A copy of the report will be issued to the Property Tax and/or Motor Vehicle Division Director of the Alabama Department of Revenue and to the student.

The instructor/proctor shall have the authority to deal with instances of testing irregularities in a variety of ways including (but not limited to) recommending to GEDI and ADOR one or more of the following courses of action:

- 1. Exam may be rescheduled and retaken for full or partial credit.
- 2. Exam may not be retaken and no credit will be given for that particular exam.
- 3. The student may be dropped from the course or the certification exam.
- 4. If dropped from the yearly certification exam, opportunity to retake the exam will be two (2) years from reported violation.

#### Repeated Incidents:

If a second documented report of testing violations is reported and upheld by the Property Tax and/or Motor Vehicle Division Director of the Alabama Department of Revenue, the person will be ineligible for participation in the Property Tax Certification program and the professional designation certification exam (if applicable).

Any person found ineligible due to testing irregularities/violations as defined in this policy has the right to appeal through the appeals process.

#### Appeals Process:

- 1. Notice is issued to the participant of the alleged testing violations with an opportunity for the participant to respond in writing.
- 2. The Property Tax and/or Motor Vehicle Division Director of the Alabama Department of Revenue will review the Report of Suspected Testing Violations and the written response from the participant.
- 3. If the violation of testing irregularity is upheld, the participant may re-appeal to the Commissioner of Revenue who will review the Report of Suspected Testing Violations, the participant's written appeal, and the action by the Director of the Property Tax Division.
- 4. Rulings made by the Commissioner of Revenue are final.

# Certification/Terms/Lapse of certification/ Record retention/Notification

0500-0599

#### Policy

Subject Recertification requirement Policy Number: 0500

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

#### Policy:

- 1. Thirty hours of approved courses must be completed every three years to maintain certification. If a tested course is taken, the examination for that course must be passed in order for any credit to apply. (May 20, 2004) Continuing education course hours for recertification must be obtained by March 31 of the third year. (November 14, 1984)
- 2. Courses taken prior to the award of the individual designation may not be used to meet the recertification requirements.
- 3. Credit toward recertification hours will generally not be given if a course is taken a second time. However, credit may be given if: (a) the course is determined by the JEAC to have undergone substantial revision; or (b) the course is sponsored by an Appraisal Foundation member organization, and the sponsoring organization allows credit towards their certification when courses are taken a second time.
- 4. Of the thirty hours required for recertification, fifteen hours credit is allowed for courses and workshops offered by the JEAC, AAAO, AATA, or other approved associations in which there is no examination, also called *untested credit*. (*January 15, 1985*) The remaining fifteen hours credit must be from courses and workshops approved by the JEAC in which an examination is given. Participants may carry over no more than a total of thirty hours of coursework to the next three-year period. Fifteen of these hours must be tested. (*October 28, 1986*). Hours eligible for rollover may not be extended to future certification periods. (*August 15, 2002*)

#### Policy

Subject Annual Recertification status reports Policy Number: 0501

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

The Government and Economic Development Institute will provide annually to the Property Tax Division of the Alabama Department of Revenue recertification status report for all persons active in the Property Education and Certification program. This report will include the status of the recertification requirements for each participant.

VERIFICATION: As soon as practical after October 1 of each year, the Department of Revenue will accept requests for payment of the award from all persons qualified to hold a Department of Revenue designation.

#### Policy

Subject Certification Employment Requirement Policy Number: 0502

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

An individual must be an active employee of the State of Alabama or an Alabama county in the property tax field in order to be certified or recertified in a designation. (*January 15, 1985*)

ADOR Administrative Rule #810-4-4-.01

#### (2) ELIGIBILITY:

Persons not continuously employed on a cumulative full-time basis by a county in this state or by the state in the ad valorem tax field for any period of time prior to the six-month period ending on October 1 are not considered to have held the designation for the six-month period.

#### **Policy**

Subject Certification revocation Policy Number: 0503

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: August 16, 2018

Effective Date: August 16, 2018 or earlier

#### Policy:

After a lapse of certification due to lack of sufficient continuing education hours, a certification is suspended on March 31 (of the third year of the person's certification period, and will remain suspended) until the continuing education hours are brought up-to-date. (*November 21, 1996*)

- 1. After a lapse of certification due to lack of sufficient continuing education hours, a certification is suspended on March 31 (of the third year of the person's certification period) and will remain suspended until the continuing education hours are brought upto-date during the next three-year reporting period. (*November 21, 1996*)
- 2. After three (3) years of suspension of certification, the person must successfully repeat all the requirements for certification, including successful completion of all required course work and the comprehensive exam. (August 16, 2018)

# Policy

Subject	ReCertification Notification	Policy Number: 0504
Supersedes		Page 1 of 1
Approval Date	e:	
Effective Date	: 1999 or earlier	
Policy:		

The Government and Economic Development Institute will notify individuals annually of their status in the recertification process.

#### Policy

Subject Courses toward recertification Policy Number: 0505

Supersedes Page 1 of 2

Approval Date:

Effective Date: February 17, 2005 or earlier

#### Policy:

- 1. Any Property Tax Education and Certification course that was not required or taken toward the original certification may be used towards recertification.
- 2. A course may be retaken for recertification after five years.
- 3. Recertification credit will be awarded for participants retaking a course which has substantially changed. (November 17, 1994)
- 4. Education events sponsored by programs other than the Property Tax Education and Certification Program will be considered for approval on a case-by-case basis with recommendations for approval made by the Joint Education Advisory Committee.
- 5. IAAO courses will be automatically counted for credit when taken outside the State.
- 6. Conferences and seminar workshops which are held outside of the Property Tax Education Program will be approved for untested credit on a case-by-case basis.
- 7. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide documentation and request approval of any credit hours taken outside of the Property Tax Education Program.
- 8. Continuing Education Credits No more than 15 tested credit hours may be given for recertification if taken outside of the Alabama Property Tax Education and Certification Program maintaining that approval must be met through the Joint Education Advisory Committee. (May 17, 2001)
- 9. All distance learning courses (video & audio teleconferencing, internet, etc.) must have approval from the JEAC before credit will be given. (May 17, 2001)
  - a. The JEAC may only accept distance learning courses for credit that are: (i) approved for credit by the Appraisal Foundation; or (ii) Accepted by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) and, as determined by the JEAC are directly related to the technical professional requirement of the position of the applicant. Full documentation including, curriculum content, instructional methodology, and testing processes must be provided at the time of request for approval from the JEAC.
  - b. Behavioral skill distance learning courses will not be accepted for credit, unless approved by the Appraisal Foundation.

Policy Number: 0505 Page 2 of 2

- c. No tested hours may be given for a distance learning course, and no more than 15 untested credit hours towards recertification will be granted for distance learning courses in a single recertification period. Distance learning course credits will not rollover to succeeding recertification periods.
- d. The JEAC reserves the right to develop and apply a formula for determining credit hour equivalencies for distance learning coursework. (*November 20, 2004*)
- 10. Request for approval of any course outside of the Property Tax Education Program, must be submitted within six (6) months of completion of the course and will only apply to the certification period in which it was taken. (May 20, 2004)

#### **Policy**

Subject	Computer Vendor Courses	Policy Number: 0506
Supersedes		Page 1 of 1
Approval Date	<del>:</del> :	
Effective Date	: 1999 or earlier	
Policy:		

It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide documentation and request approval of any

credit hours taken outside of the Property Tax Education Program.

1999)

Computer vendor training will count toward untested hours in the recertification program when the training is in a structured setting outside the county or state office premises. (*November 18*,

#### Policy

Subject State to state credit transfers Policy Number: 0507

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

**Policy** 

Due to specific nature of information in courses offered by states outside Alabama, credit is generally not transferable. Upon request an exception will be considered and voted on by the JEAC on an individual basis.

#### **Policy**

Subject	USPAP course credit	Policy Number: 0508
Supersedes		Page 1 of 1
Approval Date	<b>:</b> :	
Effective Date	: 1999 or earlier	
Policy:		

Any *Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice* course conducted by a foundation member has standing approval of continuing education credit with the JEAC.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide documentation and request approval of any credit hours taken outside of the Property Tax Education Program.

#### Policy

Subject Support Staff Continuing Education Program Policy Number: 0509

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: August 25, 2016 or before

Effective Date: August 25, 2016 or before

#### Policy:

The Support Staff participants in Levels I & II will receive a certificate at the Summer AAAO Conference for his/her completion of 60 continuing education hours. The 60 hours may be tested or untested hours. If a tested course is taken however, the examination for that course must be passed in order for credit to apply. (August 17, 2000)

- 1. Courses taken before the program was established on August 17, 2000 can count toward continuing education if the person had already completed Level I or Level II by the establishment date. (*February 19, 2004*)
- 2. A person can work on their continuing education after completing Level I if that person will not meet the experience requirement of Level II. (February 19, 2004)
- 3. A person who achieves Level I status may have the choice of working on their continuing education or Level II or both simultaneously. (*February 19, 2004*)
- 4. Remaining courses for Support Staff CE may be selected from additional property tax education courses. (August 25, 2016)

# Instructor Guidelines/Compensation 0600-0699

#### Policy

Subject County and State Instructors Policy Number: 0600

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 2008 or earlier

#### Policy:

- 1. The Government and Economic Development Institute will periodically hold "Instructor Preparation" courses for prospective instructors.
- 2. The Government and Economic Development Institute will keep instructors informed of any and all policies they need to follow.
- 3. In order to attend the "Instructor Preparation" course, a potential county instructor must be recommended (nominated) in writing by the appropriate senior management. Appropriate senior management is as the situation exists, either (a.) the tax assessor/tax collector/revenue commissioner/license commissioner/probate judge who is in the supervisory chain of command of a potential instructor, (b.) in the event that a tax assessor/tax collector/revenue commissioner/license commissioner/probate judge is not in the supervisory chain of command of a potential instructor, the county clerk/administrator/manager who is in the supervisory chain of command of a potential instructor, or (c.) the Jefferson County BOE Chair for employees of that office. (May 15, 2008)
- 4. A potential state instructor must have the approval (recommendation) of the Director of the ALDOR Property Tax Division in order to attend the "Instructor Preparation" course. (*May* 15, 2008)

The "Instructor Preparation Approval Form" found at Policy #0704 can be used to provide the nomination/recommendation.

#### Policy

Subject State employees credit for Instructing Policy Number: 0601

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

#### **Policy**

- 1. State employees instructing, but not developing or revising a course, may receive credit hours equal to the hours instructed. (*November 19, 1998*)
- 2. State employees who develop or substantially revise a course may receive the maximum tested credit hours for the course. (*November 19, 1998*)

#### Policy

Subject County employees credit for instructing Policy Number: 0602

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: February 15, 2001 or earlier

#### Policy:

- 1. County employees (and elected officials) who develop or substantially revise a course may receive the maximum tested credit hours for the course. (*November 19, 1998*)
- 2. County employees who teach but do not create or substantially revise a course will receive untested hours for the portion of the course at which they were present and available for instructional guidance. (August 19, 1999)
- 3. Tested credit will be available for a county employee who taught a course and declined remuneration. (February 15, 2001)

# Policy

Subject Credit available for development/instruction Policy Number: 0603

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

An instructor may receive credit for development/instruction of a course only one time during the recertification cycle. (August 19, 1999)

#### Policy

Subject Instructor selection and advancement Policy Number: 0604

Supersedes Page 1 of 2

Approval Date: May 2014

Effective Date: May 2014 or earlier

Policy:

The integrity of the Property Tax Education and Certification Program depends in large part upon the quality of instruction provided by the instructor cadre. Development, maintenance, and expansion of the instructor cadre is of vital importance. Thus, a system that encourages, recognizes, and rewards quality instruction and professionalism has been established.

#### I. Instructor Levels

There are three levels: *Instructor Trainee*, *Instructor*, and *Senior Instructor* 

#### A. Instructor Trainee

Individuals must complete the Instructor Preparation Course (Train the Trainer) offered by the Government and Economic Development Institute, receive positive evaluations and be selected by the Center to become a *Trainee*.

The Trainee will assist in course instruction under the supervision of an Instructor or Senior Instructor. Assignments will include limited teaching responsibilities and assisting students with problems and exercises. Teaching responsibility will increase as competence increases.

Trainees will be evaluated by the lead instructor for the course. Comments and evaluations will be discussed with the Center's staff and shared with the Trainee.

Trainees will be eligible for promotion to *Instructor* upon teaching 100 hours and completing the Instructor Development Course (Advanced Trainer), and receiving acceptable evaluations as well as development evaluation, developing courses, engaging

Policy Number: 0604 Page 2 of 2

in further professional development, or some combination thereof.

#### B. Instructor

An *Instructor* will teach courses independently or in conjunction with another Instructor or Senior Instructor. Instructors will engage in course development and revision, and the development and evaluation of Trainees.

Instructors will be eligible for promotion to *Senior Instructor* upon teaching 140 hours and receiving acceptable evaluations as well as professional development evaluation, developing courses, engaging in further professional development, or some combination thereof.

#### C. Senior Instructor

A Senior Instructor will teach courses independently or in conjunction with other instructors, engage in course development and revision, and develop and evaluate Trainees.

All levels of instructor must attend the Instructor Roundtable Discussions periodically or at least once every five years.

#### Compensation:

Instructor Trainee \$100 per day plus expenses Instructor \$150 per day plus expenses Senior Instructor \$200 per day plus expenses

#### Policy

Subject Code of Conduct for Instructors Policy Number: 0605

Supersedes Page 1 of 3

Approval Date: August 29, 2013 or earlier

Effective Date: August 29, 2013 or earlier

#### Policy:

The Alabama Department of Revenue and the Government and Economic Development Institute (GEDI) at Auburn University expect from its instructors the highest possible standards of personal integrity, professional competence, sound judgment, and discretion.

- I. During a teaching assignment, instructors must conduct themselves with integrity. They should maintain an appropriate professional relationship with students, both inside and outside the classroom.
  - A. Instructors are expected to maintain an open, courteous, and respectful attitude in their dealings with students.
  - B. It is the policy of the Alabama Department of Revenue and GEDI to promote a positive learning environment for all students. Harassment and/or discriminatory behavior directed toward a person because of his or her race, ethnicity, sex or physical disability is expressly prohibited. Instructors are obligated to refrain from such behavior and are required to discourage such behavior from occurring in the classroom by others.
  - C. Instructors shall refrain from any overt statements or pointed humor that disparages the rightful dignity of any individual or group.
  - D. Instructors shall refrain from making sexual advances toward students and refrain from accepting sexual advances from students.
  - E. While in the classroom, only material appropriate to the teaching of the course should be discussed.
  - F. Instructors wishing to set up special sessions for review should do so only in a public classroom or public meeting room.
  - G. Instructors who monitor exams should offer no help to the students relative to interpreting questions on the exam.

Policy Number: 0605

II. Instructors are expected to conduct themselves in an ethical, professional, and honest manner at all times.

- A. Instructors are to refrain from using their position to directly sell, promote, or otherwise encourage participants to purchase or use the speaker's products or services.
- B. Instructors must fairly represent their credentials, qualifications, experience, and ability.
- C. Instructors must comply with all copyright laws and the laws and regulations governing their position; they must give full credit to the source of any materials quoted or cited in writings or presentations.
- D. Instructors are to teach approved course content and materials. Course material containing statutory or constitutional law, departmental rules and/or regulations, and formal guidelines and procedures must be presented accurately according to the specific context of the subject matter.
- III. Instructors must be committed to providing quality instruction and to their own professional development.
  - A. Each instructor should strive to provide students with the highest quality education, training, and development.
  - B. Instructors should keep informed of pertinent knowledge and competence in their field; they should strive to increase their knowledge and improve their professional and instructional skills.

#### IV. Dress Code:

- A. Male Instructors:
  - i. Appropriate Attire
    - Suits, sports jackets, dress slacks, khakis, Dockers, Duck Heads or similar slacks, dress shirts and ties
    - Shirts tucked in the pants
    - Pants with a belt or suspenders
    - Appropriate dress shoes or dress boots with socks
    - Button-up, open-collar shirt (without a tie) tucked in the pants
    - Polo style or golf shirts
    - A jacket or dress sweater/shirt may also be worn
    - Appropriate undergarments must be worn underneath shirts
  - ii. Inappropriate Attire Includes
    - Jeans/denim (any color)
    - Athletic/jogging/sweat pants or shirts (including wind suits)
    - Shorts
    - Tank Tops and see-through clothing
    - Athletic/tennis shoes or canvas shoes
    - Flip flops (regardless of name brand or design), house shoes, etc.

Policy Number: 0605 Page 3 of 3

- Hats, caps or head scarves worn in the work area
- Sports team jerseys
- iii. Instructors may wear jeans on test day
- B. Female Instructors:
  - i. Appropriate Attire
    - Suits, dresses, skirts (no more than 2 inches above the knee)
    - Coordinating dress slacks and blouses or pantsuits
    - Blouses and tops must completely cover the midriff
    - Sleeveless apparel that covers the width of the shoulder
    - Appropriate dress shoes, dress mules or dress sandals
    - Slacks (including twill pants, khakis, Dockers, etc.) worn with a coordinating top, jacket or dress sweater
    - Cropped pants, mid-calf length or longer
    - Polo style or golf shirts
    - Appropriate undergarments must be worn underneath blouses, dresses, etc.
  - ii. Inappropriate Attire Includes
    - Jeans/denim (any color)
    - Denim skirts/jackets
    - Athletic/jogging/sweat pants or shirts (including wind suits)
    - Tight-fitting apparel
    - Leggings
    - Skirts or dresses more than two inches above the knee
    - Shorts, city shorts, capri pants or skorts
    - Strapless tops or spaghetti straps (unless covered by a jacket or sweater
    - Athletic/tennis shoes
    - Flip flops (regardless of name brand or design), house shoes, etc.
    - Hats, caps or head scarves worn in the work area
    - Two-piece T-shirt outfits
    - Cropped tops
    - Any garment that reveals cleavage should not be worn
  - iii. Instructors may wear jeans on test day
- V. New Course Development and/or Course Material Changes
  - A. If an instructor wants to make changes to current course content, the new content including exam questions will need to be submitted for review by the Department of Revenue prior to being incorporated into the course.
  - B. If an instructor is interested in developing a new course for the Property Tax program, an outline, course description and objectives of course must be submitted to the Department of Revenue prior to development, publication and presentation.

(August 29, 2013)

#### Policy

Subject Course Materials Regulations Policy Number: 0606

Supersedes Page 1 of 1

Approval Date: February 22, 2017or earlier

Effective Date: February 22, 2017 or earlier

#### Policy:

The Government and Economic Development Institute will contact potential property tax instructors in a timely manner at least three months in advance if class is scheduled prior to three months in advance.

The GEDI will, at time of confirmation, ask instructors to provide all changes to the materials by two months in advance of the class.

The GEDI will then email or mail the notebooks to the instructors at least one month in advance.

# Forms/Examples

0700-0799

#### Policy

Subject Request for approval of recertification hours Policy Number: 0700

Supersedes Page 1 of 2

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

The "Individual Request for Approval of ReCertification Hours" form (attached) is to be filled out whenever an individual is attempting to receive approval for any courses, conferences, or workshops taken outside of the Property Tax Education and Certification program. The Government and Economic Development Institute will submit each individual's request to the JEAC for approval, and then notify the participant of the status of the request to the JEAC.

Policy Number: 0700

# INDIVIDUAL REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RECERTIFICATION HOURS

Name	SSN
Address	
Telephone	Fax
<u>Certification</u>	Request for:
<ul><li>□ AC Appraiser-R</li><li>□ AC Appraiser-P</li></ul>	eal  Tested *(Only for Appraisal Foundation
☐ Tax Administrat	☐ Untested or
☐ Manual Mapper  Number of Requested H	lours
Course Title	
<b>Continuing Education</b>	ffering Course  including curriculum content, program, syllabus, and/or IAAC Form, must accompany certification request. For Distance Learning content, instructional methodology, and testing processes must be  Government and Economic Development Institute
IEAC Approved	213 Extension Hall Auburn University, AL 36849 Tel# (334) 844-4782 Fax# (334) 844-1919  IEAC Approval Data
JEAC Approved Comments:	JEAC Approval Date

#### Policy

Subject Conference and Workshop Sign in Forms Policy Number: 0701

Supersedes Page 1 of 2

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 1999 or earlier

Policy:

The *Property Tax Continuing Education Conference or Workshop Sign in Form* (attached) needs to be signed whenever a participant attends an Association's conference or district workshop to receive untested hours for attendance. Support Staff personnel may also sign in for their continuing education program.

Policy Number: 0701

# **Property Tax Continuing Education Conference Sign-In**

Workshop:	kshop:		
Date:	Location:	Credit:	
Conference:		Instructor:	

Last Four Digits of S.S. #	Name (Please Print)	County	ACAR/ACAP/ACMM ACTA/Sup Staff

#### Policy

Subject Examination Application Forms Policy Number: 0702

Supersedes Page 1 of 17

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 2017 or earlier

Policy:

Each Property Tax Education designation with the exception of Support Staff I and II, an examination application form must be completed in full and returned to the Government and Economic Development Institute in order for an individual applicant to apply to take the examination.

Attached is a sample application form for each of the following designations:

AC Appraiser-Personal AC Appraiser-Real Tax Administrator AC Mapper

NOTE: While the IAAO is now offering some of their classes in an online format, the IAAO 101, 102, 500 and 600 classes must be taken in a classroom setting for certification. The IAAO online classes will not be accepted for certification. (*November 16, 2017*)

Policy Number: 0702 Page 2 of 17

## **Alabama Certified Appraiser Examination (Personal Property)**

The following information will aid the candidate for the Alabama Certified Appraiser designation in applying for candidacy and in preparing to take the ACA comprehensive examination.

#### **Design of Examination:**

The examination is comprehensive. It is designed to test for knowledge and understanding of both general and Alabama appraisal principles, procedures, and application of appraisal skills required of a professional personal property appraiser. The examination is in two parts. Part I consists of 50 questions on General and State Appraisal Theory and Principles. Part II consists of 40 problems based on general appraisal applications and State of Alabama applications.

#### **Length of Examination:**

The examination is designed as a 4-6 hour exam. Six hours is the maximum time allowed to take the examination.

#### **Basic Knowledge:**

Personal Property Appraisal Manual; Alabama Personal Property Audits; IAAO-500/Assessment of Personal Property; and IAAO-101/Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal are the common body of knowledge shared by each candidate. The examination has been developed around these courses.

#### **Dates and Location of Examination:**

The ACA Examination will be given yearly at Auburn University.

### **Examination and Certification Fee:**

A non-refundable fee should be submitted by the applicant at the time of applying for Admission to Candidacy. The fee includes the cost of the examination and processing cost. Please make check payable to: *AUBURN UNIVERSITY*.

#### Other (Deadline):

If the applicant is registered for a course to be held **after** the application deadline, the determined deadline still applies. On the application indicate the course and the date it is being held. These applications will be processed contingent on successful completion of the course. **Mail all applications to:** 

Property Tax Certified Examinations
Government and Economic Development Institute
213 Extension Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849-5225

Policy Number: 0702 Page 3 of 17

## **Steps for Obtaining ACA (Personal Property) Designation**

- I. Application for Admission to Candidacy
  - A. Successful completion of a minimum of 120 hours of approved coursework. The following courses (120 hours) are mandatory--Alabama IX/Alabama Personal Property Appraisal Manual; Alabama Personal Property Audits; IAAO-500/Assessment of Personal Property; and IAAO-101/Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal. (Society of Real Estate Appraiser and the American Institute courses accepted by the International Association of Assessing Officers as an equivalent course for IAAO-101 may be substituted, provided the candidate challenges and passes the IAAO examination.)
  - B. Completion of Application for Admission to Candidacy
  - C. Signature of Immediate Supervisor and Elected Official
- II. Completion of Appraisal Experience Questionnaire
  - A. Applicant may not apply to take the examination prior to completion of the minimum of three years' experience. However, the certification designation cannot be awarded until the experience requirement has been met. If you have less than 3 years' experience as of application closing date, you and the elected official must sign the Appraisal Experience Questionnaire; however, do not complete the questionnaire.
  - B. A minimum of three years' experience in Alabama appraisal procedures. Candidate's experience must include a minimum of 12 months' field related appraisal of personal property, while the remainder may be appraisal and valuation activities carried out in the office. Experience in other states may be submitted and will be considered on an individual basis. The required years of experience must be met by application closing date.
  - C. Complete the Appraisal Experience Questionnaire by indicating the number of months' experience in performing the applicable listed tasks. In the appropriate space indicate whether you have assisted or been solely responsible for the task. In the appropriate space indicate the number of appraisals and audits performed.
  - D. Signature of Immediate Supervisor and Elected Official
- III. Review by Committee
- IV. Notification of the Applicant
- V. Administration of the Examination
- VI. Notification of Examination Results

GEDI will notify the Department of Revenue of examination results. The Department will then notify the candidate of the results. The designation will be conferred upon the successful candidate by the Department of Revenue.

Policy Number: 0702 Page 4 of 17

# **Alabama Certified Appraiser Examination Application (Personal Property)**

Name	Title			
Last Four of SS #	County			
Address				
Street City/	State	Zip		-
Phone (Office)	FAX			_
Email				-
REQUIRED COURSES		COURSE LOCATION	COURSE DATE	GRADE
IAAO-101/Fundamentals of Real Prop	erty Appraisal	LOCATION	DATE	
IAAO-500/Assessment of Personal Pro	perty			
Personal Property Appraisal Manual				
Personal Property Audits				
ELECTIVE COURSES	$\overline{}$			GRADE
* Applicant, supervisor (if not el Experience Questionnaire.	lected official) ar	nd elected offici	al must sign	n Appraisa
I have taken the ACA (Personal Property	y) Exam in the past.	YES NO (Circ	ele One)	
If YES,(Year)				
Candidates who have not passed the examin		-		
A letter will be sent to those who fail indicate be recommended by the Property Tax Division Economic Development Institute to assist the concept areas missed.	ion of the Alabama De	epartment of Revenue	e and the Gover	nment and
FOR GEDI USE ONLY				
Date Received	Applicati	ion Number		
Course Hours Verified	Experienc	ce Verified		
ADMISSION TO CANDIDACYAPPRO	OVED			

Policy Number: 0702 Page 5 of 17

## (COMPLETE A FORM FOR EACH JOB – COPY AS NECESSARY)

Appraisal Experience Questionnaire (please type or print)

Title		Beginning Date	Ending Date
Employer		Department	
Employer's Address			
Immediate Supervisor	Title		Phone #

#### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Describe in detail (in your own words) what you actually do in connection with this job.



After reviewing this experience questionnaire, I verify that the above information is accurate, and truly reflects the appraisal duties and responsibilities performed by the applicant.

Applicant's Signature	Date	
Applicant's Signature	Date	
Elected Official's Signature	Date	
Immediate Supervisor's Signature	Date	
(Required when Elected Official is Not the Immediate Supervisor)		

Policy Number: 0702 Page 6 of 17

## **Alabama Certified Appraiser Examination Description (Real Property)**

The following information will aid the candidate for the Alabama Certified Appraiser designation in applying for candidacy and in preparing to take the ACA comprehensive examination.

#### **Design of Examination:**

The ACA exam is a comprehensive examination designed to test for knowledge and understanding of general appraisal principles and the application of appraisal skills required by a professional appraiser. The exam is in two parts. Part I consists of 50 multiple choice questions relative to appraisal theory and terminology. Part II consists of 40 problems relating to the application of appraisal skills.

#### **Length of Examination:**

The examination is designed as a 4 to 6-hour exam. Six hours is the maximum time allowed to take the examination.

## **Basic Knowledge:**

IAAO-101/Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal; IAAO-102/Income Approach to Valuation; Alabama Real Property Appraisal; and Advanced Appraisal Concepts are the common body of knowledge shared by each candidate. The examination has been developed around these courses.

#### **Dates and Location of Examination:**

The ACA Examination will be given yearly at Auburn University.

#### **Examination and Certification Fee:**

A non-refundable fee should be submitted by the applicant at the time of applying for Admission to Candidacy. The fee includes the cost of the examination and processing cost. Please make check payable to *AUBURN UNIVERSITY*.

#### Other (Deadline):

If the applicant is registered for a course to be held **after** the application deadline, the determined deadline still applies. On the application indicate the course and the date it is being held. These applications will be processed contingent on successful completion of the course. **Mail all applications to:** 

Property Tax Certified Examinations
Government and Economic Development Institute
213 Extension Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849-5225

Policy Number: 0702 Page 7 of 17

## **Steps for Obtaining ACA (Real Property) Designation**

#### I. Application for Admission to Candidacy

- A. Successful completion of a minimum of 120 hours of approved coursework. Of the 120 hours to be completed, three courses or 90 hours are mandatory--IAAO-101/Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal; IAAO-102/Income Approach to Valuation; Alabama Real Property Appraisal Manual and Advanced Appraisal Concepts. (Society of Real Estate Appraisers and the American Institute courses accepted by the International Association of Assessing Officers as equivalent courses for IAAO-101 or IAAO-102 may be substituted for these courses provided the candidate challenges and passes the appropriate IAAO exam.)
- B. Completion of Application for Admission to Candidacy
- C. Signature of Immediate Supervisor and Elected Official

#### II. Completion of Appraisal Experience Questionnaire

- A. Applicant may *not* apply to take the examination *prior* to completion of the minimum of three years' experience.
- B. Minimum of three years' experience in Alabama appraisal procedures. (A candidate will be allowed no more than six months' experience in measuring and listing toward this requirement.) Experience in other states may be submitted and will be considered on an individual basis. Out-of-State experience of three years or more will equal to not more than one year of In-State. The required years of experience must be met by application closing date.
- C. Complete the Appraisal Experience Questionnaire by indicating the number of months experience in performing the applicable listed tasks. In the appropriate space indicate whether you have assisted or been solely responsible for the task. A questionnaire should be completed for each position held.
- D. Signature of Immediate Supervisor and Elected Official
- III. Review by Committee
- IV. Notification of the Applicant
- V. Administration of the Examination
- VI. Notification of Examination Results

GEDI will notify the Department of Revenue of examination results. The Department will then notify the candidate of the results. The designation will be conferred upon the successful candidate by the Department of Revenue.

# Alabama Certified Appraiser (Real Property) Examination Application

Name	Title				
Last Four of SS #	County _				
Address					
Street City/Sta			Zi		
Phone (Office)	FAX				
Email					
REQUIRED COURSES		COUR LOCAT		COURSE DATE	GRADE
IAAO-101/Fundamentals of Real Property Appr	aisal				
IAAO-102/Income Approach to Valuation					
Alabama Real Property Appraisal Manual					
Advanced Appraisal Concepts					
ELECTIVE COURSES					GRADE
	\ \ \ \				
* Applicant, supervisor (if not the elect Experience Questionnaire.	ted offiial	) and el	ected (	official must	sign Apprais
I have taken the ACA (Real Property) Exam in	the past.	YES NO	O (Ci	rcle One)	
If YES,(Year)					
Candidates who have not passed the examination n	nust wait un	il the next	t year's	exam.	
A letter will be sent to those who fail indicating cope recommended by the Property Tax Division of the Economic Development Institute to assist the participance areas missed.	the Alabama	Departme	ent of Re	venue and the C	Sovernment and
FOR GEDI USE ONLY					
Date Received		Applica			
Course Hours Verified		Experie	ence V	erified	
ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY APPRO	VED				

APPLICANT'S NAME	
------------------	--

## (COMPLETE A FORM FOR EACH JOB – COPY AS NECESSARY)

Appraisal Experience Questionnaire (please type or print)

Title	Beginning Date	Ending Date
Employer	Department	
Employer's Address	•	
Immediate Title Supervisor		Phone #

#### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Describe in detail (in your own words) what you actually do in connection with this job.



After reviewing this experience questionnaire, I verify that the information above is accurate, and truly reflects the appraisal duties and responsibilities performed by the applicant.

Applicant's Signature	Date	
Elected Official's Signature	Date	
Immediate Supervisor's Signature (Required when Elected Official is Not Immediate Supervisor)	Date	

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JEAC Manual Revised: August 2018

Policy Number: 0702 Page 10 of 17

## **Alabama Certified Tax Administrator Examination Description**

The following information will aid the candidate for the Alabama Certified Tax Administrator designation in applying for candidacy and in preparing to take the ACTA examination.

### **Design of Examination:**

The ACTA Examination is a comprehensive examination designed to test for knowledge and understanding of the legal duties and responsibilities of assessing and collecting officials, the Alabama property appraisal process and techniques, and management theory and practice.

#### **Length of Examination:**

The examination is designed as a 3 to 4-hour examination. Four hours is the maximum time allowed to take the examination.

#### **Basic Knowledge:**

Introduction to Property Tax Administration; Alabama Property Tax Administration and Laws; Alabama Course Alabama Real Property Appraisal Manual; and Management and Supervision are the common body of knowledge shared by each candidate. The examination has been developed around these courses.

#### Dates and Location of Examination:

The ACTA Examination will be given yearly at Auburn University.

#### **Examination and Certification Fees:**

A non-refundable fee should be submitted by the applicant at the time of applying for Admission to Candidacy. The fee includes the cost of the examination and processing cost. Please make check payable to *AUBURN UNIVERSITY*.

#### Other (Deadline):

If the applicant is registered for a course to be held **after** the application deadline, the determined deadline still applies. On the application indicate the course and the date it is being held. These applications will be processed contingent on successful completion of the course.

#### Mail all applications to:

Property Tax Certified Examinations
Government and Economic Development Institute
213 Extension Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849-5225

Policy Number: 0702 Page 11 of 17

## **Steps for Obtaining ACTA Designation**

- I. Application for Admission to Candidacy
  - A. Successful completion of a minimum of 120 hours of approved coursework. Of the 120 hours to be completed, four courses or 100 hours are mandatory: Alabama Introduction to Property Tax Administration; Alabama Property Tax Administration and Laws; Alabama Real Property Appraisal; and Alabama Management and Supervision.
  - B. Completion of Application for Admission to Candidacy
- II. Completion of Tax Administration Experience Form
  - A. Applicant may not apply to take the examination prior to completion of the minimum of three years' experience. However, the certification designation cannot be awarded until the experience requirement has been met. If you have less than 3 years' experience as of application closing date, you and the elected official must sign the Appraisal Experience Questionnaire; however, do not complete the questionnaire.
  - B. Must be an elected or appointed Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, License Commissioner or Revenue Commissioner, with three years' experience in the administration of the ad valorem tax laws of Alabama. *The required years of experience must be met by application closing date.*
- III. Review by Committee
- IV. Notification of the Applicant
- V. Administration of the Examination
- VI. Notification of Examination Results

GEDI will notify the Department of Revenue of examination results. The Department will then notify the candidate of the results. The designation will be conferred upon the successful candidate by the Department of Revenue.

# Alabama Certified Tax Administrator Examination Application

Name	Title		
Social Security #			
Address			
Street City/S Phone (Office)			Zip
REQUIRED COURSES	COURSE LOCATION	COURSE DATE	GRADE
Introduction to Property Tax Administration			
Alabama Property Tax Administration and Laws			
Alabama Real Property Appraisal Manual (Residential Manual is Grandfathered)			
Management and Supervision			
ELECTIVE COURSES			GRADE
Applicant and elected official must sign Apexperience requirement is not being met.	praisal Experience	Questionnal	re even 1
I have taken the ACTA Exam in the past. YES	NO (Circle One)		
If YES, (Year)			
If this is a RETAKE of the certification examinated completed in order to make you eligible to re-apple		which course(	s) you have
Course	Passe	d □Yes	□No
Course	Passe	d □Yes	$\Box Nc$
Verification documentation must be included transcript or certification provided by GEDI or IA	* *	-	_
FOR GEDI USE ONLY			
Date Received	Application Number		
Course Hours Verified	Experience Verified		
ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY APPROVED			

Policy Number: 0702 Page 13 of 17

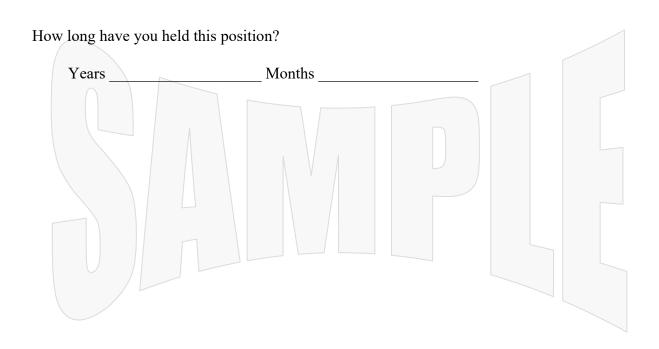
## **Tax Administration Experience Form**

An applicant for Admission to Candidacy for the Alabama Certified Tax Administrator designation must be an elected or appointed Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, License Commissioner or Revenue Commissioner with three years' experience in the administration of the ad valorem tax laws of Alabama.

Please check the office or position upon which the application for candidacy is based.

☐ Tax Assessor ☐ Tax Collector

☐ Revenue Commissioner ☐ License Commissioner



Policy Number: 0702 Page 14 of 17

## **Alabama Certified Mapper Examination Description**

The following information will aid the candidate for the Alabama Certified Mapper designation in applying for candidacy and in preparing to take the ACM comprehensive examination.

#### **Design of Examination**

The ACM Examination is a comprehensive examination designed to test for knowledge and understanding of mapping principles and the application of mapping skills required of a professional mapper. The examination is in two parts. Part I consists of 100 multiple choice and true/false questions dealing with all aspects of mapping, especially material specific to Alabama. Part II consists of a major case problem relating to the application of mapping.

#### **Format of Examination:**

The examination is designed as a 7-hour examination. Two hours is the time allowed for Part I. Five (5) hours are allowed for Part II of the exam.

## **Basic Knowledge:**

Basic Mapping, Intermediate Mapping, Advanced Mapping, Subdivision Layouts & Mapping Right of Ways and IAAO 600/Cadastral Mapping. The examination has been developed around these areas.

#### **Dates and Location of Examination:**

Part I and Part II of the examination will be given yearly in Auburn.

#### **Examination and Certification Fee:**

A non-refundable fee should be submitted by the applicant at the time of applying for Admission to Candidacy. The fee includes the cost of the examination and processing cost. Please make check payable to *AUBURN UNIVERSITY*.

#### Other (Deadline):

If the applicant is registered for a course to be held **after** the application deadline, the determined deadline still applies. On the application, indicate the course and the date it is being held. These applications will be processed contingent on successful completion of the course.

#### Mail all applications to:

Property Tax Certified Examinations
Government and Economic Development Institute
213 Extension Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849-5225

Policy Number: 0702 Page 15 of 17

## **Steps for Obtaining ACM Designation**

- I. Application for Admission to Candidacy
  - A. Successful completion of a minimum of 130 hours of approved coursework. The 130 hours consists of Basic Mapping, Intermediate Mapping, Advanced Mapping, Subdivision Layouts & Mapping Right of Ways and IAAO 600/Cadastral Mapping.
  - B. Completion of Application for Admission to Candidacy
  - C. Signature of Immediate Supervisor and Elected Official
- II. Completion of Mapping Experience Form
  - A. Applicant may *not* apply to take the examination *prior* to completion of the minimum of three years' experience.
  - B. A minimum of three years applied experience in Alabama mapping procedures is required. Experience in other states may be submitted and will be considered on an individual basis. The required years of experience must be met by application closing date.
  - C. Signature of Immediate Supervisor and Elected Official
- III. Review by Committee
- IV. Notification of the Applicant
- V. Administration of the Examination
- VI. Notification of Examination Results

GEDI will notify the Department of Revenue of examination results. The Department will then notify the candidate of the results. The designation will be conferred upon the successful candidate by the Department of Revenue.

# **Alabama Certified Mapper Examination Application**

Name	Title		
Social Security #	County		
Address			
Street City		Z	ip
Phone (Office)	FAX		
REQUIRED COURSE*	COURSE LOCATION	COURSE DATE	GRADE
Basic Mapping			
Intermediate Mapping			
Advanced Mapping			
Subdivision Layout & Mapping Right of Ways			
IAAO 600/Cadastral Mapping			
* Applicant, supervisor (when appropriate) as Questionnaire.	nd elected officia	l must sign	Experience
I have taken the ACM Exam in the past. YES NO	O (Circle One)		
If YES, (Year)			
If this is a RETAKE of the certification examinat completed in order to make you eligible to re-apply	_	which course	e(s) you have
Course	Passed	$\Box Yes$	$\square No$
Course	Passed	$\square Yes$	$\square No$
Verification documentation must be included w transcript or certification provided by GEDI or IAA	* *	1	
FOR GEDI USE ONLY			
	plication Number _		
Date Received Ap Course Hours Verified Ex	perience Verified _		
ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY APPROVED			

# **Mapping Experience**

An applicant for Admission to Candidacy for the Alabama Certified Mapper designation must have a minimum of three years applied experience in Alabama mapping procedures. On separate forms provide the information requested in fulfillment of this requirement.

## (COMPLETE A FORM FOR EACH JOB – COPY AS NECESSARY)

Title	Beginning Date	Ending Date
Employer	Department	1
Employer's Address		
Immediate Supervisor	Title	Phone #
outies and Responsibilities (plea	se type or print)	
After reviewing this experience for the duties and responsibilities of the	rm, I verify that the information is accousing applicant.	curate and truly reflec
applicant's Signature		Dat
lected Official's Signature		Dat
mmediate Supervisor's Signature Required when Immediate Supervisor is		Dat

## State of Alabama Department of Revenue and Auburn University Government and Economic Development Institute Joint Education Advisory Committee of the Alabama Property Tax Education and Certification Program

## Policy

Subject Support Staff Application Forms Policy Number: 0703

Supersedes Page 1 of 7

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 2007 or earlier

Policy:

If a person is interested in applying for the Support Staff Level I or Level II designation or for the Continuing Education in Support Staff, they must fill out the application form (attached) and return to the Government and Economic Development Institute.

Policy Number: 0703 Page 2 of 7

## **Property Tax Support Staff Certificate Requirements**

# **Support Staff Development - Level I Certificate of Completion**

#### **Requirements:**

- 1. Submit the completed application postmarked before date required. Applications submitted after date required will be returned to the applicant.
- 2. All support staff in the Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Revenue Commissioner, License Commissioner and the Jefferson County Board of Equalization are eligible to participate.
- 3. Three years experience in which the participant performs the full range of activities applicable to the office in which they are employed.
- 4. Successful completion of a minimum of 80 hours of approved coursework.
- 5. If a person qualifies or is eligible for one of the Professional Designations (i.e. Appraiser, Mapper, Tax Administrator), that person does not qualify for the Support Staff Level I designation.
- 6. Completion of two courses:
  - Introduction to Property Tax Administration AND, either
  - Introduction to the Licensing Process, **OR**
  - Real and Personal Property Calculations, **OR**
  - Basic Mapping

## Support Staff Development - Level II Certificate in Basic Supervisory Management

#### **Requirements:**

- 1. Submit the completed application postmarked before required date. Applications submitted after required date will be returned to applicant.
- 2. Successful completion of Support Staff Development Level I.
- 3. Five years experience in a support staff position to include a minimum of two years in a supervisory position.
- 4. Successful completion or 60 hours of approved coursework.
- 5. If a person qualifies or is eligible for one of the Professional Designations (i.e. Appraiser, Mapper, Tax Administrator), that person does not qualify for the Support Staff Level II designation.
- 6. Completion of two courses:
  - *Management and Supervision*
  - Property Tax Administration and Laws (A total of 40 additional credit hours if Property Tax Administration & Laws was taken toward Support Staff Level One)

# Level I Property Tax Support Staff Certificate Program Application

Name			_
Social Security #		Date	_
Address(W)Stre			
Stree Phone(W)	eet/PO Box Fa	City ax	Zip
County	Tit	tle	
AND, either  Real and Persona Calculations OR  Introduction to the Basic Mapping  Electives (40 Hours)  1. 2. 3. 4. Application Processing	Date  g Fee:  to Auburn Univer  Property Tax Supp	Location  tration  to OR  Location  Location  sity and return with coort Staff Certificate Economic Development	Pass/Fail Pass/Fail  Pass/Fail  Institute
FOR GEDI USE ONL Date Received		Application	n Number
Course Hours Verified	l	Experienc	e Verified

## **Level I – Property Tax Support Staff Certificate Application**

## **EXPERIENCE**

Three years of experience in the Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Revenue Commissioner, License Commissioner, or Jefferson County Board of Equalization offices is required. This must be applied experience in which the applicant performs the full range of activities applicable to the office in which they are employed.

EMPLOYMENT DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES			
Job Title	_ Date of Employment		
Describe the duties and responsibilities of this	job. (Use additional paper if necessary.)		
2. Job Title  Describe the duties and responsibilities of this	Date of Employment job. (Use additional paper if necessary.)		
VERIFICATION As the elected official I fully support this ap accurate description of duties and responsible meets the minimum experience required.			
Official's Signature	Date		
Supervisor's Signature (When Appropriate)	Date		

# Level II - Property Tax Support Staff Certification Program Application

Name			
Social Security #		Date	
Address (W)	РО Вох		
	PO Box		Zip
County	Title		
Date Level I Certification	te Received		
EXPERIENCE Position/Title 1.		Date of Employment	
<ol> <li>3.</li> </ol>			
<ul> <li>COURSEWORK Required</li> <li>Management and AND</li> <li>Property Tax Adn</li> </ul>	<u>Date</u> Supervision  ninistration and Laws	Location	Pass/Fail
Electives (20 Hours)  1. 2. 3.	<u>Date</u>	Location	Pass/Fail
4. (A total of 40 addition	al credit hours if AL I was t	aken toward Support Sta	ff Level One)
Application Processir Make Checks payable FOR GEDI USE ONL	e to <i>Auburn University</i> and Property Tax Support Stat Government and Econom 213 Extension Hall Auburn University, AL 36	ff Certificate ic Development Institute	ted application to:
		Application Number	
Course Hours Verifie	d	Experience Verified	

Policy Number: 0703 Page 6 of 7

## **Level II – Property Tax Support Staff Certificate Application**

#### **NECESSARY EXPERIENCE**

Five years of experience in the Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Revenue Commissioner, License Commissioner, or Jefferson County Board of Equalization offices is required. This must be applied experience in which the applicant performs the full range of activities applicable to the office in which they are employed. The five years of experience must include two years of experience in a supervisory position in the Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, Revenue Commissioner, License Commissioner, or Jefferson County Board of Equalization offices.

#### **EMPLOYMENT DUTIES AND SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Job Title	Date of Employment			
Number of employees supervised Supervisory Position and Experier job. (Use additional paper if neces	nce – Describe the duties and responsibilities of this			
2. Job Title	Date of Employment			
Number of employees supervised Supervisory Position and Experier job. (Use additional paper if neces	nce – Describe the duties and responsibilities of this			
3. Job Title	Date of Employment			
Number of employees supervised: Supervisory Position and Experience – Describe the duties and responsibilities of this job. (Use additional paper if necessary.)				
<b>VERIFICATION</b> As the elected official, I fully support this application and verify that the above is an accurate description of duties and responsibilities performed, and that the applicant meets the minimum experience required.				
Officials Signature	Date			
Supervisor's Signature (When Ap	propriate) Date			

Policy Number: 0703 Page 7 of 7

# Property Tax Support Staff Certification Program Continuing Education

#### Requirements:

Support Staff participants in Levels I & II will receive a certificate at the Summer AAAO Conference for his/her completion of 60 continuing education hours. The 60 hours may be tested or untested hours. If a tested course is taken however, the examination for that course must be passed in order for credit to apply.

- 1. A person can work on their continuing education after completing Level I if that person will not meet the experience requirement of Level II.
- 2. A person who achieves Level I status may have the choice of working on their continuing education or Level II or both simultaneously.

# Joint Education Advisory Committee of the Alabama Property Tax Education and Certification Program

## Policy

Subject Instructor Preparation Approval Form Policy Number: 0704

Supersedes Page 1 of 2

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 2008 or earlier

Policy:

A potential county instructor must be recommended (nominated) in writing by the appropriate senior management as established in Policy # 0600. The following form, *Instructor Preparation Approval Form*, may be used.

Policy Number: 0704 Page 2 of 2

## Instructor Preparation Approval Form

In order to attend the "Instructor Preparation" course a potential county instructor must be recommended (nominated) in writing by the appropriate senior management. Appropriate senior management is as the situation exists, either (a.) the tax assessor/tax collector/revenue commissioner/license commissioner/probate judge who is in the supervisory chain of command of a potential instructor, (b.) in the event that a tax assessor/tax collector/revenue commissioner/license commissioner/probate judge is not in the supervisory chain of command of a potential instructor, the county clerk/administrator/manager who is in the supervisory chain of command of a potential instructor, or (c.) the Jefferson County BOE Chair for employees of that office.

I		
title		
do hereby recommend		to attend the
Instructor Preparation course.		
Signed:	Date:	

## APPENDIX A: COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Abatements: An In Depth Look (20 hours) This is an advanced abatements course designed to assist those persons involved in the assessing of abatements. Students should have a general knowledge of the abatement assessing process. The courses will provide in-depth discussion of the Code of Alabama 1975 Sections 40-9B, 9C, 9D, 9E, 9F and 9G. These sections establish the laws of the Tax Incentive Reform Act of 1992, the Brownfield Development Tax Abatement Act, the Alabama Economic Incentive Enhancement Act of 2007, State Property Tax in Tax Increment Districts, the Rehabilitation of Historic Structures, and the Alabama Reinvestment and Abatements Act. The course will also include discussion on obsolescence and depreciation and will provide reinforcement of knowledge and skills through several case studies. Prerequisite Course: Exemptions and Abatements.

Advanced Appraisal Concepts (30 hours) This course will provide a discussion of the concepts of improvement depreciation and the analysis of income data to determine property value. The course will cover all relevant value concepts necessary to understand accrued depreciation, physical deterioration, functional and economic obsolescence, determining whether items of depreciation are curable or not, income capitalization methods and techniques, analysis of income and expense data, selection of capitalization rates, and application of the approach. Prerequisite: Alabama Real Property Appraisal Manual

Alabama Property Tax Administration and Laws (30 hours) Focuses on the process, procedures, and responsibilities for administration of Alabama's property tax system. It is based upon the Code of Alabama. Emphasis is placed on documentation, valuation, and assessment of real and personal property and the process of collecting property taxes. The responsibilities and deadlines for the assessor, collector and revenue commissioner are emphasized. Prerequisite: Introduction to Property Tax Administration or three years' experience in property tax office.

Alabama Real Property Appraisal Manual (30 hours) This course combines the residential and the commercial classes and focuses on the Alabama Real Property Appraisal Manual processes for measuring and listing residential and commercial improvements. Participants will determine property values by combing land valuation with improvement values derived using the Alabama Property Record Card.

**Basic Mapping** (20 hours) Focuses on the need for developing accurate maps and how to maintain them. Mapping office management, map legends, aerial photography and the process of map development and maintenance are covered. Attention is given to the property ownership card, proper inking and necessary equipment. Contact with the public and common problems are also discussed.

Introduction to Property Tax Administration (20 hours) This course includes a discussion on the Alabama Constitution, legislation, litigation and attorney general opinions and their impact on the administration of the property tax system. Participants will learn to read the Code of Alabama and locate sections pertinent to property tax administration. There will be an overview

of the entire appraisal process as well as the time line, personnel and terms involved in administering the Property Tax Process.

Management and Supervision (20 hours) Designed to develop and enhance the supervisory skills necessary to manage public organizations in today's environment. Participants will be introduced to functions of management, the role and responsibilities of supervisors, leadership and motivation, dealing with employee complaints and grievances, evaluating personnel, and the management of time. The course will benefit both the new and experienced supervisor.

Intermediate Mapping (30 hours) Designed to prepare those seeking the ACM designation to take Advanced Mapping. The course will introduce participants to working from more complete vesting instruments, laying out both simple and complex descriptions on work maps, and to inking specifications and techniques. Prerequisite: Basic Mapping.

Advanced Mapping (30 hours) Designed to enhance the knowledge and skills to which participants have been introduced in Basic Mapping and in Intermediate Mapping. The course focuses upon documentation used in mapping, complex plotting, inking and lettering problems, and data processing used in mapping. Prerequisites: Basic Mapping and Intermediate Mapping.

**Personal Property Appraisal Manual** (30 hours) Based upon the Alabama Personal Property Appraisal Manual. It is designed to introduce tax administrators, appraisers, and staff members to the process and procedures for valuing and assessing personal property in Alabama. Participants who successfully complete the course will be able to distinguish between real and personal property and address questions about exemptions. Attention will also be given to adjustments and preparation for Board of Equalization Hearings.

Understanding the Tax Collection Function (20 hours) Designed specifically for Tax Collectors and Revenue Commissioners. It focuses upon the legal and financial responsibilities of the Tax Collector as provided in the Code of Alabama. Emphasis will be placed upon the collection process, financial records and reports, and the receipt, control and disbursement of tax monies.

Subdivision & Right of Ways Layouts (20 hours) Focuses upon identifying the boundaries of subdivisions as they relate to adjoining properties, the construction of streets/or railways, drawing in details of curves using both center line and property line curves. Course includes discussion of the acquisition of property through deed or condemnations for the purpose of new or extended United States, state or county right-of-ways. Emphasis is placed on mapping right-of-ways to State of Alabama specifications and procedures. The participants will participate in numerous exercises and ultimately produce a pencil drawing ready for final ink drafting onto mylar. Prerequisite: Basic Mapping and Intermediate Mapping.

Alabama Personal Property Audits (30 hours) Focuses upon the process and procedures for auditing business personal property returns and accounts. It is based upon the Alabama Personal Property Audit Procedures Manual. Participants will learn accounting terminology and

procedures and how to effectively conduct various types of audits. *Prerequisite: Personal Property Appraisal Manual.* 

Base Manuscripts and Section Layouts (30 hours) This course will provide participants with knowledge on the history of mapping. Mappers in the state will gain further knowledge of the purposes for aerial photography and learn questions that need to be asked in order to achieve the right type of photography and how to recognize poor photography. Mappers will perform the skill of drawing a base manuscript based on knowledge that is learned concerning how a base manuscript is created, how it is used and what is the purpose of the base manuscript. Prerequisites: Basic Mapping and Intermediate Mapping.

**Developing a County Index (10 hours)** Intended to illustrate basic concepts and procedures for the development of a county index. Emphasis will be on data sources, data collection and data analysis. The importance of proofing and certification of the index using "What If" testing is integral to the course. Developing a County Index will be presented in a workshop format.

**Development of Land Schedules and Values (10 hours)** Is designed to facilitate uniform practices in the development of land schedules. Basic concepts and procedures including sources of data and data collection, data analysis, determination of land schedules and values, and proofing and verification of the schedules are emphasized in this course.

Introduction to the Licensing Administration (20 hours) Focuses primarily on understanding the factors involved in the issuance of vehicle tags and the proper collection of title application fees, sales tax, transfer fees and penalties. This course also covers the procedures and responsibilities for administering Alabama's privilege license laws and regulations, business licenses, boating licenses, hunting and fishing licenses, and driver's licenses.

Licensing Administration for Motor Vehicles (30 hours) This course will cover administering policy in the county licensing office as well as administering property taxes for motor vehicles, and the licensing process for motor vehicles.

Fundamentals of Bankruptcy Law (20 hours) This course considers all forms of relief under the Bankruptcy Code: liquidation cases, business reorganization cases and debt adjustment cases. Among the subjects to be discussed are: the Bankruptcy court system, administrative procedures (including the automatic stay), property of the estate and various avoidance powers, claims and distribution of the estate, discharge and other aspects of the fresh start initiative for the debtor. This course discusses the procedures for each type of litigation, the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules as they apply to the Property Tax Office.

Property Tax Exemptions and Abatements (20 hours) Concerned with one of the major areas of Property Tax Administration--exemptions. The focus is on both Alabama constitutional and statutory based exemptions. Special attention is given to the process and procedures for more effective and efficient administration of these exemptions by the Tax Assessor, Revenue Commissioner, and Tax Collector.

**Real and Personal Property Calculations** (20 hours) This course is designed to increase understanding of property tax personnel about how real and personal property is valued according to the Alabama Real and Personal Property Appraisal Manuals. This course is for support staff and elected officials only.

Roles and Functions of County Boards of Equalization (10 hours) This course will use the Board of Equalization training manuals and will provide participants with valuable information to prepare for Board hearings, assist during hearings and provide timely and accurate responses after hearings.

Tax Sales and Redemptions (20 hours) Focuses on procedures used by tax collectors to satisfy tax liability or relieve tax collectors from liability when property tax is not collectable. The course includes such sample topics as: jeopardy collections, taxpayer left county, sale of tax liens, partial payments, government acquisitions of property, bankruptcies, personal demand, docketing, posting of notice of sale, sale of property, and redemptions. It is recommended that participants have completed *Property Tax Administration and Laws* and have a broad knowledge of the property tax process.

Valuation of Usual and Unusual Personal Property (10 hours) focuses upon business personal property which, because of its uniqueness, presents special problems in discovery and determining fair and reasonable market value. Specific content varies, depending upon the topics identified by the participants and the Department of Revenue. It is dynamic, interactive, and problem/solution oriented.

IAAO Course 101 – Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal (30 hours) designed to provide the students with an understanding and working knowledge of the procedures and techniques required to estimate the market value of vacant and improved properties. This course concentrates on the skills necessary for estimating the market value of properties using two approaches to value: the cost approach and the sales comparison approach. Text: Property Assessment Valuation

IAAO Course 102 –Income Approach to Valuation (30 hours) designed to provide the students with an understanding and working knowledge of the procedures and techniques required to estimate the market value of vacant or improved properties by the income approach. The material covers real estate finance and investment, capitalization methods and techniques, analysis of income and expenses to estimate operating income, selection of capitalization rates, and application of the approach. Recommended: Course 101, Text: Property Assessment Valuation

IAAO Course 112 – Income Approach to Valuation II (30 hours) A continuation of introductory course 102, this course emphasizes advanced concepts in the income approach to value. Application of the compound interest tables in appraisal practice is taught. Comparison of the various capitalization methods and techniques is covered by lecture and problem solving. This course presents in detail the contemporary capitalization methods of mortgage equity and discounted cash flow analysis. Recommended: Course 101 and course 102, Text: Property Appraisal & Assessment Administration

IAAO Course 201 – Appraisal of Land (30 hours) Covers the theory and techniques of appraising land. Topics include classifying land; estimating highest and best use; discovering significant trends and factors and their effects on value; data collection; and selection of correct physical units of land measurement for appraisal. The five land appraisal methods (sales comparison, allocation, anticipated use, capitalization of ground rent, and land residual capitalization) are studied in depth. Recommended: Course 101 and course 102, Text: Property Assessment Valuation

IAAO Course 300 – Fundamentals of Mass Appraisal (30 hours) Provides an introduction to mass appraisal and is a prerequisite for the 300 series of courses offered by the IAAO. Topics covered include single-property appraisal versus mass appraisal, components of a mass appraisal system, data requirements and analysis, introduction to statistics, use of assessment ratio studies in mass appraisal, modeling of the three approaches to value, and selection of a mass appraisal system. Recommended: Course 101 and course 102, Text: Mass Appraisal of Real Property

IAAO Course 310 – Applications of Mass Appraisal Fundamentals (30 hours) Builds on the theories and concepts taught in Course 300. It utilizes case studies for the demonstration of key concepts in a real-world setting. The course will provide the student with practical application of the tools and techniques presented in Course 300. Recommended: Course 300, Text: Mass Appraisal of Real Property

IAAO Course 311 – Residential Modeling Concepts (30 hours) Presents a detailed study of the mass appraisal process as applied to residential property. Topics covered include a comparison of single-property appraisal and mass appraisal, the major steps in the mass appraisal process, data requirements, market analysis, application of the approaches to value, use of sales ratio studies, and valuation review techniques. Recommended: Course 300, Text: Mass Appraisal of Real Property

IAAO Course 312 – Commercial/Industrial Modeling Concepts (30 hours) Presents a detailed study of the mass appraisal process as applied to income-producing property. Topics include income property data, market analysis, sales comparison approach, cost approach, gross and net income analysis, capitalization rate development, model specification and calibration, and value review and maintenance. Recommended: Course 300, Text: Mass Appraisal of Real Property

IAAO Course 320 – Multiple Regression Analysis (30 hours) an introductory offering designed to provide participants with intensive training in the application of Multiple Regression Analysis (MRA). The course is built in a Windows environment and uses the statistical software SPSS for demonstrations. Course 320 starts by introducing participants to the basic functions necessary to analyze a database. Learn how to develop frequency distributions, cross-tabulations, averages, etc. Participants will learn how to use various graphs to display the results of their analysis, learn how to develop an additive multiple regression model using stepwise regression. Along with developing the model, participants will learn what regression statistics mean and how to interpret them. Later they will test the results of the model once it has been developed. They will also be taught how to use the MRA to calibrate a cost model market. Text: Mass Appraisal Of Real Property (MARP)

IAAO Course 400 – Assessment Administration Covers administrative concepts and procedures that can produce greater efficiency in the modern assessment office. Students explore the key subsystems of an organization and how to operate them more effectively. Also included is the manager's role within an assessment organization: the processes of planning, directing, coordinating, organizing, budgeting, and evaluating toward the better utilization of human and physical resources. Topics include information systems, reappraisal, setting goals and objectives, maintenance, appeals, data processing, public relations, personnel, budgeting, report reviews, ratio studies, evaluations and standards of practice. Recommended: Course 101, and Standards of Practice and Professional Ethics Workshop (151); Text: Property Appraisal & Assessment Administration

IAAO Course 402 – Property Tax Policy (30 hours) offers students strategies for assisting in the effective formulation and implementation of tax policies and presents background enabling students to understand the context under which property tax policy is established. Students will be given analytical tools with which they can explain the effects of proposed property tax changes. They will be provided with a sound theoretical basis to guide decision-making and to assist in creating workable solutions for their jurisdictions. The course is designed for assessment administrators and students of taxation, as well as professional policy advisors who guide and make decision in the area of tax policy on a regular basis.

IAAO Course 500 – Assessment of Personal Property (30 hours) Provides a comprehensive program of study for those who assess personal property for ad valorem tax purposes. After a review of property tax administration and the nature of value, the following aspects of personal property assessment are covered: categories of personal property, discovery, the valuation process, valuation guidelines and quality control, depreciation methods, and special problems. Text: Property Assessment Valuation

IAAO Course 600 – Principles and Techniques of Cadastral Mapping (30 hours) Serves as an introduction to property ownership mapping with an emphasis on the preparation and use of assessment maps. Topics covered include ownership data gathering, map sources, mapping equipment, base maps, conveyances, acreage calculation, mapping administration, and parcel identification systems. A comprehensive set of case problems covering the metes and bounds survey system and the rectangular survey system is included in the course material. Recommended: Course 101, Text: Property Assessment Valuation

*IAAO Course 601 – Advanced Mapping Methods & Applications (30 hours)* Provides a comprehensive program of study, applying the knowledge, skills, and abilities taught in course 600 on a more advanced level. A comprehensive set of case problems is utilized to enhance your learning experience.

IAAO Workshop 150 – Mathematics for Assessors (15 hours) This two-day workshop is designed to provide the student who plans on attending IAAO programs with an understanding of the mathematical concepts and techniques applied in the appraisal and assessment administration disciplines. It is designed for both the beginning student who has limited knowledge of mathematics and those students who wish to refresh their mathematical skills. Topics covered include a review of the basic mathematical functions, negative numbers, decimals, percentages, exponents, roots, mathematical notation, algebra, statistics, and graphs. IAAO recertification credit: 2 days

IAAO Workshop 151 – Uniform Standards of Practice and Professional Ethics (15 hours) covers materials from The Appraisal Foundation, <u>Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice</u> which includes: Definitions, Preamble, Ethics Rule, Competency Rule, Departure Rule, Jurisdictional Exception Rule, Supplemental Standards Rule, and Standards 1 through 10. Supplementary materials include The Appraisal Foundation Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP). This workshop includes an exam. IAAO recertification credit: 2 days

IAAO Workshop 155 – Depreciation Analysis (15 hours) Provides a comprehensive, advanced treatment of the techniques of estimating depreciation of residential property. Through a series of market-oriented case studies and demonstration problems, types of depreciation and generally recognized methods for measuring depreciation are covered, with emphasis on the observed condition method. Depreciation measurements are applied to a single subject property, providing experience in analyzing the advantages and limitations of each method. Recommended: Course 101. IAAO recertification credit: 2 days

- *IAAO Workshop 162 Marshall & Swift Cost Approach Residential (14 hours)* Day one provides an understanding of how to utilize the Marshall & Swift Residential Cost Manual. Day two gives an overview of segregated-cost and how to use segregated-cost, along with various example problems. **IAAO recertification credit: 2 days**
- *IAAO Workshop 163 Marshall & Swift Cost Approach Commercial (14 hours)* Designed to teach participants how to use the Marshall & Swift Commercial Valuation Guide. Participants will spend time working several case study problems to assist them in learning how to apply this service. **IAAO recertification credit: 2 days**
- IAAO Workshop 171 IAAO Standards of Professional Practice & Ethics (7 hours) IAAO's "Code of Ethics, Canons and Standards of Professional Conduct." This workshop is designed to provide performance standards for real property, mass, business and personal property appraisal and consulting. Case studies and exercises illustrate the material. This workshop includes an exam. IAAO recertification credit: 1 days
- IAAO Workshop 191 Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice Update (National) (7 hours) This workshop is the National 7-hour USPAP Update offered for continuing education for licensure and certification through The Appraisal Foundation. The workshop provides a general overview of USPAP guidelines, advisory opinions, statements, and other appraisal practices. The course is updated yearly to address changes to USPAP and common misunderstandings. IAAO recertification credit: 1 days
- IAAO Workshop 251 (7 hours) & 252 (15 hours) Valuing Property Affected by Environmental Contamination Designed for the appraiser who needs to understand how to deal with valuation of contaminated properties. The course is based on the IAAO "Standard on the Valuation of Property Affected by Environmental Contamination." The workshop addresses all of the issues presented in the standard, including: definitions and terminology, types of contaminating substances, effects of technology, factors affecting value, application of the three approaches to value, government regulations, and recent court decisions. Case problems are included to demonstrate principles discussed. Recommended: Course 101 and course 102.

IAAO recertification credit: Workshop 251: 1 day Workshop 252: 2 days

IAAO Workshop 257 – Fundamentals of Industrial Valuation (15 hours) This course is a lecture-type class designed to teach the basics of appraising industry for ad valorem purposes. It is intended to be taught with the IAAO textbook of the same name. Although the course teaches fundamentals for industrial valuation, it does not teach general appraisal fundamentals, and is recommended only for students who have a basic knowledge of appraisal theory. Although it includes specific appraisal instruction, the course is also meant to teach an overview of industrial appraising, which should be valuable to appraisal supervisors and assessors, as well as appraisers. IAAO recertification credit: 2 days. Recommended: Course 101 and course 102, Required Text: Fundamentals of Industrial Valuation

**IAAO** Workshop 350 – Introduction to computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (21.5 hours) This workshop is an intense study of the market approach to valuing residential property using computer assisted mass appraisal. It uses elements of course 300, 310, and 311 in an effort to provide the novice with sufficient depth of knowledge in a single approach to value to immediately begin using that knowledge in real world applications. **IAAO** recertification credit: 3 days.

IAAO Workshop 354 – Multiple Regression Analysis for Real Property Valuation (11 hours) Provides an understanding of the mechanics and application of multiple regression analysis (MRA) in property valuation, as well as instruction in gathering and qualifying data for MRA application. The workshop shows how to develop and use MRA equations as appraisal tools and how to evaluate, using measures of goodness-of-fit and variable importance, the results of an MRA-based practical drill and demonstration problems, and how to follow step-by-step explanations of the MRA process. Although the workshop is open to anyone wishing to acquire a greater understanding of MRA as an appraisal tool, it is particularly valuable for those whose offices are considering using MRA valuation techniques or whose assessments are reviewed by a supervisory agency using MRA. An understanding of both the sales comparison approach and fundamental appraisal statistics is assumed. Recommended: Course 101 IAAO recertification credit: 1½ days

IAAO Workshop 403 – Property Tax Policy Alternatives and Modules (18 hours) customized from Course 402 Tax Policy and includes topics from modules 1, 5 & 7. This workshop will provide an understanding of public and private sector roles, how state and local governments raise revenue, tax abatements and California type control and the roles of property tax assessors in policy. Additional topics discussed include the features of a model assessment system and property tax system, budget and rate driven systems (state & local roles, advantages and disadvantages of current market value as a base for property tax and exemptions & controls on property tax). Issues relating to other taxes and contrasting their use strengths and weaknesses with those of property tax and major legal issues in property tax will be discussed as well. The workshop is designed for assessment administrators and students of taxation, as well as professional policy advisors who guide and make decision in the area of tax policy on a regular basis. IAAO recertification credit: 2 1/5 days.

IAAO Workshop 452 – Fundamentals of Assessment Ratio Studies (18.5 hours) Provides a very basic introduction to the development and uses of assessment-sales ratio studies. The workshop covers the topics of sales analysis, sampling, and the development of assessment ratio studies. The workshop may be expanded an additional half-day to include material on managerial and technical issues, which include staffing, timing of studies use of study results, statistical testing, and assessment regressively and progressively. Recommended: Course 101 IAAO recertification credit: 2½ days

IAAO Workshop 552 – Basic Personal Property Auditing (18.5 hours) Provides a foundation for understanding basic financial records. Specifically to be discussed are those records relating to fixed assets. The balance sheet, depreciation schedule, and income statement will be described and discussed in much detail. Emphasis will be placed on the pertinent data relevant to the personal property appraiser. Graduates of the workshop will be able to use basic financial records and conduct "audits" of smaller businesses. Recommended: Course 500. IAAO recertification credit: 2½ days

IAAO Workshop 553 – Advanced Personal Property Auditing (18.5 hours) Expands the understanding of financial records provided in the Basic Personal Property Auditing Workshop and presents advanced discussions of accounting and auditing theory as it relates to fixed assets. Capitalization techniques will also be discussed. A case study including sample financial records will be used to "discover" fixed assets that may otherwise be hidden from the appraiser. Recommended: Course 500 and Workshop 552. IAAO recertification credit: 2½ days

IAAO Workshop 650 (15 hours) Cadastral Mapping introduces assessment mapping and related information. It covers the functions and types of assessment maps, mapping techniques, methods of conveying property rights, base maps, land description systems, work maps, parcel identification, mapping system maintenance, and the use of computers in mapping. Practical exercises illustrate the mapping procedures described in the text. IAAO recertification credit: 2 days

IAAO Workshop 651 – Geographic Information Systems for Assessors (15 hours) Designed for appraisal practitioners with little or no knowledge of GIS who would like to learn. The emphasis is on the day-to-day operations of GIS. Some attention will also be given to developing a GIS system and database. The first day deals with the basic fixtures and functions of GIS. The second day covers specific aspects of valuation and assessment administration, including highest and best use analysis, neighborhood analysis, quality control, and valuation defense. The workshop includes software demonstrations and was developed jointly by IAAO and the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA). IAAO recertification credit: 2 days

**IAAO** Workshop 850 – CAE Case Study Review This 2 1/5 day workshop provides a comprehensive review and case study for the valuation of commercial property. Anyone preparing for a comprehensive exam such as for a professional designation, state certification or wanting a detailed overview, would be a candidate for this workshop. Participants are considered to have had at least the basic appraisal course and have experience in the appraisal of commercial property. This is not an introductory workshop.

IAAO Workshop 851 – RES Case Study Review This 2 1/5 day workshop provides a comprehensive review and case study for the valuation of residential property. Anyone preparing for a comprehensive exam such as for a professional designation, state certification or wanting a detailed overview, would be a candidate for this workshop. Participants are considered to have had at least the basic appraisal course and have experience in the appraisal of residential property. This is not an introductory workshop.

Instructor Training Workshop (ITW) An intensive interactive workshop designed to prepare participants to become IAAO instructors. During this three-day workshop, students will learn about IAAO education delivery, adult education, effective communication, and IAAO curriculum. Each student will be expected to understand the general subject matter and specific course material, spend at least 40 hours in advance preparation, prepare short practice presentations, and prepare on final ten-minute presentation. Students will demonstrate (and be reviewed on) their teaching style, classroom presence, familiarity and comprehension of the course material, organization of subject matter, and clarity and accuracy of their classroom presentation.

## **Appendix B: ADOR Administrative Rule #810-4-4-.01**

## 810-4-4-.01 Payment to Certain Certified Appraisers, Mappers, or Tax Administrators

- (1) <u>PURPOSE</u> This Regulation is issued pursuant to authority contained in § 40-1-46, <u>Code of Alabama 1975</u> relating to payment by the Department of Revenue of yearly amounts to certain persons obtaining and retaining one of the Department of Revenue's designations as a certified appraiser, certified mapper, or certified tax administrator.
- ELIGIBILITY Employees of Alabama county governments in the ad valorem tax field holding the Department of Revenue's designation of Alabama Certified Appraiser, Alabama Certified Mapper, or Alabama Certified Tax Administrator shall be eligible to receive payment of a yearly professional achievement award from the Department of Revenue. Persons holding more than one designation shall be entitled to only one payment. Holders of a designation must have held that designation for six-months prior to October 1 of the calendar year in which the award is to be paid to be eligible to receive the award. Persons not continuously employed on a cumulative full-time basis by a county in this state or by the state in the ad valorem tax field for any period of time prior to the six-month period ending on October 1 are not considered to have held the designation for the six-month period. Holders of a designation must be in the employment of a county in the state in the ad valorem tax field on the payment date in order to receive the payment. For purposes of this Regulation, a person is employed or employment is deemed to exist for any person who is actively performing duties for compensation for an Alabama county (or the state for eligibility purposes for the six months prior to October 1) in the ad valorem tax field on not less than a cumulative full-time basis, or for any person who is on full-time compensated leave with the intent of returning to perform duties for compensation for an Alabama county (or the state for eligibility purposes for the six months prior to October 1) in the ad valorem tax field on not less than a cumulative full-time basis at the end of the approved leave. The list of persons qualified to hold a designation shall be provided to the Department of Revenue by the Program Administrator as soon after March 31 of each year as is practical.
- (a) <u>Qualifications</u> To be eligible to receive the designation of Alabama Certified Appraiser, Alabama Certified Mapper, or Alabama Certified Tax Administrator, individuals who are employed to, and actually do, perform appraisal or mapping functions in the ad valorem tax field in Alabama county or state government or who are elected or appointed tax assessors, tax collectors, revenue commissioners, or license commissioners responsible for the assessing and collecting of ad valorem taxes at the county level who have achieved the requisite experience for the requisite time period must make application to take, and successfully complete, a comprehensive examination in one chosen discipline.
- 1. <u>Application</u> Announcement of the application process will be made by the Program Administrator during the first quarter of the fiscal year by mailing of application packages to elected officials in each county and supervisory staff of the Department of Revenue. Failure of a potential candidate for any reason to receive the Announcement shall not be deemed sufficient cause for the allowance of an exception to any provision of this Regulation.

Applications, in a form approved by the Department of Revenue considering the recommendation of the Joint Education Advisory Committee for the Program, must be submitted in their entirety so as to be **received** by the Program Administrator as of the application closing date as stated in the Announcement. No applications, addendums, or supplements to applications will be accepted after the application closing date. Candidates will, however, be allowed or possibly required to provide information after the application closing date which is designed to clarify an ambiguity existing in the original application which will aid in the review of the application. The Program Administrator shall be allowed a reasonable non-refundable fee for the processing of applications.

- (i) Application Review Each application shall be reviewed to determine if all qualifications are met. The Joint Education Advisory Committee (or any subcommittee appointed from within who acts pursuant to authority of the Committee) shall review and make recommendations to the Department of Revenue regarding each applicant's qualifications. The Program Administrator may undertake an independent review of an applicant's experience and may provide such information as is gathered to the Committee and Department. The finding of the Department that the experience qualifications are met shall be made taking into consideration the recommendation of the Joint Education Advisory Committee and the Program Administrator. The Department will notify each applicant of their status as candidates as soon after completion of the review and fact finding process as is practical.
- Appeal of Decision Any person aggrieved over the decision of the Department (ii) concerning their application for a designation shall submit in writing within ten days of the date contained on the notice of adverse decision to the Director of the Ad Valorem Tax Division, or the Director's designee, a written statement setting forth fully the reason for the disagreement with the decision. Recipients of an adverse decision shall be notified in the decision of this appeal deadline. The Director shall thereafter review the facts surrounding the original decision and either reverse or uphold the original decision based upon all factors as they are found, or the Director may submit the appeal back to the Joint Education Advisory Committee (or any subcommittee appointed from within who acts pursuant to authority of the Committee) for further review and recommendation. The final decision of the Department shall be made within twenty days of the receipt of the appeal. The appellant shall be notified of the Department's final decision as soon after the final decision is reached as is practical. No appeal shall be considered due to a failure to timely submit an entire application by the application submission date or from the failure to timely submit an appeal to an adverse decision as provided in this subparagraph.
- 2. <u>Education</u> To be admitted to the comprehensive examination candidates must have taken certain required and/or elective courses as promulgated by the Department of Revenue, considering the recommendation of the Program Administrator and the Joint Education Advisory Committee for the Professional Education & Training Program, and published by the Program Administrator. All such courses must be successfully completed prior to the taking of the comprehensive examination. The unavailability of any course or courses otherwise offered through the program which are required for a potential candidate to successfully take in order to become eligible for a designation shall not be deemed a sufficient cause for the allowance of an

exception to the provisions of this Regulation. The Program Administrator shall verify all educational requirements.

- 3. Experience Candidates for a designation must be found by the Department of Revenue to have three years of qualifying experience, as of the application closing date, to include the performance of the full range of responsibilities in the discipline for which they are seeking a designation. While not every task capable of being performed must actually be performed or be performed for the entire three years, candidates must successfully demonstrate that their cumulative experience provides a sufficient basis for the finding that professional judgment has been exercised to a degree which rises far above the level of mere technical proficiency which can be performed by someone not possessing the knowledge, skills, and abilities attendant to the particular discipline which can be obtained only through meaningful participation in those tasks.
- (b) Examination The examination will be administered and scored by the Program Administrator using criteria recognized in the educational community as appropriate for adult learning. Candidates must take the examination on the date specified by the Program Administrator at the location specified by the Program Administrator. The Program Administrator shall provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities who are eligible and qualified to participate. Successful examination results can be carried forward for three years. After an unsuccessful taking of the comprehensive examination, the Program Administrator will provide participants with an analysis of their examination to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses. Unsuccessful examination takers must wait for one year and complete additional course work as required by the Program Administrator prior to reexamination. Provided the official examination date is on or before March 31, a successful examinee who otherwise meets all requirements set out in this Regulation, notwithstanding that the examination is scored at a later date or that certain portions of the examination are scheduled after March 31 by the Program Administrator, is considered to have meet the six months prior to October 1 requirement of Paragraph (2).
- (3) <u>VERIFICATION</u> As soon after October 1 of each year as is practical, the Department of Revenue will accept requests for payment of the award from all persons qualified to hold a Department of Revenue designation.
- (a) <u>Designation Holder</u> A form, to be proscribed by the Department of Revenue, will be submitted to the Department by each person qualified to hold a designation as soon after October 1 of each year as is practical but in no case after October 31 of that year unless for good cause as determined by the Department. Contained on the form will be the applicant's name, current mailing address, social security number, ethnic origin, signature affirming that they are the holder in good standing of a designation, which designation they are a holder of, and their place of employment, further affirming that they have been employed on a cumulative full-time continuously for six months prior to October 1.
- (b) <u>Employer</u> After the submission of forms from persons qualified to hold a designation, the Department will provide each person's listed employer with the names of those

persons requesting payment of the award. The employer will be required to verify to the Department the current employment status of that individual in the ad valorem tax field. The employer will further be required to notify the Department of any person who is, or prior to payment of the award becomes, no longer employed on a cumulative full-time basis in the ad valorem tax function of their office as provided in section (2).

- (4) <u>PAYROLL</u> The Department of Revenue will process all proper requests for payment of the award upon return of the employer's verification of qualifying employment.
- (a) Funding of Payment The total of the fund amount available to pay the award shall be the amount appropriated to the Department of Revenue by the Legislature pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975 § 40-7-70.
- Amount of Payment The gross payment amount to each recipient shall be the amount of the award as provided in Code of Alabama 1975 § 40-1-46 unless the total of the fund amount available to pay the awards is insufficient to pay the awards and any payroll taxes payable by the Department of Revenue with respect to the awards. In instances where the fund is insufficient to pay the amount specified plus payroll taxes payable by the Department, the amount payable directly to and on behalf of each recipient shall be equal to the total of the fund amount available at the inception of the payroll divided by the number of eligible recipients. The gross amount payable directly to each recipient shall be equal to the amount payable to and on behalf of each recipient less payroll taxes payable by the Department of Revenue with respect to the gross amount to be paid directly to that recipient. Each recipient is responsible for any and all income, FICA, or tax of any other kind levied on recipients of income of this nature by any governmental entity, which tax shall be withheld at the appropriate rate as specified by the governmental entity. The Department of Revenue will not refuse to recognize garnishment or other valid court orders regarding disbursement of funds to persons other than the eligible recipient. The Department of Revenue may refuse to recognize requests from recipients for voluntary payroll reductions of any type.
- (c) <u>Method of Payment</u> The payment shall be made by warrants payable at the state treasury or other method as required by the State Comptroller.
- (d) <u>Time of Payment</u> Subject to any disbursement diversion noted in paragraph (b) above, warrants shall be mailed to all qualified holders of a Department of Revenue designation at the address as shown on their request in the first quarter of the fiscal year or as soon as is practical after their production and delivery to the Department.
- (e) <u>Forfeiture of Payment</u> Any person otherwise qualifying for payment of the award at the time of the request for payment who becomes ineligible for payment between the making of the request and the mailing of the award due to discontinuance of employment with a county in this state shall forfeit any right to receive the payment. Any such forfeited payment shall revert to the fund as described in Subparagraph (4)(a) of this Regulation and shall not be redistributed to other eligible participants during the current period.

- (5) <u>WAGE AND TAX DOCUMENTATION</u> The Department of Revenue shall furnish to each recipient of the award a Form W-2, or other appropriate statement of wage payment and tax withholding, by mail upon their production and receipt by the Department at the address as shown on the recipients request for payment of the award.
- (6) <u>CONTINUED RETENTION OF DESIGNATION</u> Holders of a Department of Revenue designation must participate in at least thirty hours of continuing education programs, to be approved by the Department, every three years after initial certification. Of the thirty hours, fifteen must be tested with the designation holder successfully completing the examination. Thirty hours credit may be carried over to subsequent recertification periods. Education events sponsored by the Department's Professional Education & Training Program are prima facie qualified for continuing education credit. Education events sponsored by programs other than the Department's program will be considered for approval on a case-by-case basis by the Department with recommendations for approval made by the Program Administrator or Joint Education Advisory Committee given considerable deference.

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Authority: Sections 40-2A-7(a)(5) and 40-1-46, Code of Alabama 1975

History: