

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee
Government Issue Paper
Next Generation Facilitation Subcommittee
Broker Modernization Working Group**

September 2024



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

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**Office of Trade/Trade Policy and Programs
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Action Required: Informational

Background:

- The Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) Broker Modernization Working Group's engagement is critical to CBP's modernization efforts across the broker industry, including critical broker regulatory and exam changes.
- The Final Rule on Continuing Education for Licensed Customs Brokers, which published June 23, 2023, amends regulations to require continuing education for individually licensed customs brokers and provides the framework for administering this requirement.
- In November 2023, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) kicked off consultation focus sessions with the Broker Modernization Working Group on CBP's effort to re-envision the Customs Broker License Exam (CBLE), with the intent of providing consistent and reliable exam content across administrations and ensuring an efficient exam process from exam creation through delivery.

Issue:

- CBP is engaging with the Broker Modernization Working Group on a host of broker modernization efforts, including Broker Continuing Education and the re-envisioning of the CBLE.

Current Status:

Broker Continuing Education

- CBP has selected the following five accreditors who are partnering with CBP to accredit activities that qualify as continuing education from private sector education providers:
 - [E-Merchants Trade Council/Global Trade Professionals Alliance/Practera](#)
 - [International Compliance Professionals Association \(ICPA\)](#)
 - [National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America, Inc. \(NCBFAA\) Educational Institute](#)
 - [Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A.](#)
 - [TruTrade Solutions](#)
- CBP is working with accreditors to finalize the continuing education program's implementation, including developing accreditor standard operating procedures, policies, communications plans, and a program compliance date.
- CBP and U.S. partner government agencies are coordinating the implementation of broker continuing education for Government-offered education opportunities, mostly at no cost to customs brokers.

Re-envisioning the Customs Broker License Exam (CBLE)

- As a result of the effort put forth by the Broker Modernization Working Group (BMWG) and CBP to reimagine the future state of the CBLE, the BMWG submitted high-level recommendations to modernize CBLE's administration and to improve the experience of a

CBLE examinee. At the June 26, 2024 public meeting, the COAC voted unanimously to adopt these recommendations.

- CBP is working to implement these recommendations to modernize CBLE exam development, exam administration, and the post-exam experience.

October 2024 CBLE

- The registration period for the October 23, 2024 exam opened on August 12, 2024 and will close on September 11, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.
- On August 5, 2024, CBP issued Cargo Systems Messaging Service (CSMS) #61667781, announcing the October 23, 2024 examination and the registration period.

Next Steps:

Broker Continuing Education

- In the coming months, CBP will issue a Federal Register Notice to announce:
 - The accreditors, their contact information, and websites.
 - The date individual brokers may begin earning broker continuing education credits for the 2024-2027 Triennial Status Period.
 - The number of credit hours an individual broker will need before the 2027 Triennial Status Report.

Re-envisioning the CBLE

- CBP will continue to work on short- and long-term actions to implement the consensus-based recommendations to modernize the CBLE that accurately tests examinees on the requisite knowledge for conducting customs business in the modern operating environment.

Submitted by: Shari McCann, Trade Policy and Programs, Office of Trade

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