

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

September 2023



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

Pub# 3360-0923

**Office of Trade/Trade Policy and Programs
Rapid Response Subcommittee
Broker Modernization Working Group
September 2023**

Action Required: Informational

Background:

- The Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) Broker Modernization Working Group is focused on modernization efforts across the brokerage industry (including the broker exam), updated broker regulations published on October 18, 2022, and the continuing education regulations for individual licensed customs brokers published on June 23, 2023.
- The COAC Broker Modernization Working Group’s feedback and input is critical to the success of these regulatory and exam changes.

Issue:

- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the trade community are continuing to engage on the implementation of the 19 C.F.R. § 111 broker modernization regulations.
- CBP is engaging with the trade community to inform them on the regulatory requirements outlined in the Final Rule on Continuing Education and to ensure the trade is apprised of the process to implement the Final Rule.

Current Status:

Modernization of the Broker Regulations, 19 C.F.R. § 111

- CBP has been working with the broker community for the past year to implement the new regulations published on October 18, 2022. CBP is striving to do so in a way that not only allows for, but encourages, compliance.
- Many resources are available on the Broker Modernized Regulation webpage on CBP.gov, including the *Customs Broker Guidance for the Trade Community* document, four recorded webinars, 58 frequently asked questions, and other resources such as job aids, fact sheets, a comparison chart of old and new regulations, and a sample national permit application.

Continuing Education

- The Continuing Education for Licensed Customs Brokers Final Rule was published in the Federal Register on June 23, 2023, and amends regulations requiring continuing education for individual customs broker license holders (individual brokers) as well as the framework for administering this requirement.
 - CBP's framework will enhance professionalism and competency within the customs broker community by requiring individual brokers to remain knowledgeable about recent developments in customs and related laws as well as international trade and supply chain issues.
 - CBP has determined that this framework will contribute to increased trade compliance and better protection of the revenue of the United States.

- CBP and U.S. partner government agencies (PGAs) will offer a variety of continuing education credits at no cost to customs brokers.
- Training and educational opportunities offered by a third-party outside of CBP or PGAs will require approval by a CBP-selected accreditor.
 - Information on the accreditation process and details on courses offered by CBP and PGAs are forthcoming.
- CBP hosted a public webinar for the trade on August 3, 2023, which provided an overview of the new regulations for customs brokers. The webinar presented an implementation overview as well as next steps for brokers to take to meet the upcoming program requirements.

Customs Broker License Exam (CBLE)

- The registration period for the October 25, 2023 CBLE runs from August 14, 2023 through September 12, 2023.
- CBP will be offering both in-person and remote-proctored seats to exam candidates.
- CBP and the Broker Modernization Work Group continue their ongoing engagement focusing on improving the CBLE experience for exam candidates and on exam administration overall.

Next Steps:

Modernization of Broker Regulations, 19 CFR § 111

- CBP aims to publish the next version of *Customs Broker Guidance for the Trade Community* in Fall 2023.

Continuing Education

- CBP will set up an accreditation process for qualifying education.
- CBP will issue a Request for Information for parties interested in becoming continuing education accreditors.
- CBP will hold future public webinars as the implementation process proceeds.

Submitted by: Shari McCann, Director, Commercial Operations, Revenue & Entry Division,
Trade Policy & Programs, Office of Trade

Date: August 14, 2023