

How do I become a pawnbroker?

Persons desiring to become a pawnbroker must complete an application and submit it with a fee to the Division. Applicants must be 18 years of age and are subject to a background check and must obtain insurance covering the items held in pawn. Applications are available from the Division's website (<https://idfpr.illinois.gov/banking.html>).

How do I start a bank or savings banks?

State law requires that a minimum of five organizers submit an application with the Division. Banks accepting deposits must also obtain deposit insurance from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Applicants must submit a detailed application including the bank's proposed policies and procedures, a three- year, pro-forma budget, business plan and detailed biographies of the proposed management and board of directors of the proposed bank. The minimum capital required to charter a bank ranges between \$3 million to \$6 million. However, a greater level of capital may be required based upon the business plan for the proposed bank. The organizers of the bank and its proposed officers must provide detailed information (including personal financial statements) and are subject to criminal background checks and a credit review.

What kinds of discipline can the Division impose on its regulated entities?

The Division can order a regulated entity to cease and desist unlawful, unsafe, or unsound activities and require certain activities to ensure safe business operation. The Division may also take possession and control of certain institutions. The Division can also levy civil monetary penalties (fines), remove officers, directors or employees

engaged in misconduct, or revoke the license or charter of the individual or institution.

How can the public provide input to the Division of Banking?

In addition to writing directly to the Department, the public is represented on the State Banking Board of Illinois. A list of members of the Board is available on the Department's website (idfpr.illinois.gov).

Where can I get information about how to protect my rights as a consumer?

Search "Consumer Tips" in the search bar on the Department's website (idfpr.illinois.gov). The "Consumer Tips" page offers numerous tips on how to protect your rights as a consumer.

Springfield Office

320 West Washington Street, 5th Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62786
217-785-2900

Chicago Office

555 West Monroe Street – Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60661
312-793-7090

General Assistance: 1-888-473-4858

<https://idfpr.illinois.gov/banking.html>

TTY Line: 1-866-325-4949

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State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Financial and
Professional Regulation

Division of Banking



What type of businesses are regulated by the Division of Banking?

The Division of Banking regulates state chartered commercial banks, savings banks, trust companies, foreign bank offices, residential mortgage licensees (mortgage companies and loan originators), student loan servicers, and pawnbrokers.

On March 23, 2021, two historic pieces of legislation designed to promote access to more affordable credit for low- to moderate-income Illinoisans were signed into law. The Illinois Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) requires state-chartered banks, credit unions, and non-bank mortgage licensees to equitably meet the financial service needs of the communities in which they operate and subjects such state institutions to state CRA examinations to ensure compliance. The Predatory Lending Prevention Act (PLPA) establishes a 36% interest rate cap on most consumer lending across the state. For more information, please visit idfpr.illinois.gov.

How does the Division of Banking regulate the institutions it supervises?

Examiners from the Division regularly conduct on-site examinations of the institutions it regulates. Examiners also review the institutions to determine if they are operating in a safe and sound manner. The Division may also determine their compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations. In addition, the Division initiates investigations based on complaints it may receive. The Division also monitors the institutions by reviewing periodic reports submitted by its regulated entities.

How do I know if the business I want to do business with is regulated?

The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation website (idfpr.illinois.gov) allows consumers to check the status of any charter or license issued by the Department.

How is the Division of Banking funded?

The institutions and individuals regulated by the Division pay fees to the Division to cover the cost of their regulation. No General Revenue Funds from the state are utilized to fund the operations of the Division.

How do I file a complaint with the Division if I believe a business regulated by the Division acted unfairly?

Consumers can file a complaint with the Division online, via the Division website (<https://idfpr.illinois.gov/banking.html>), or can write the Division at the following address:

**555 West Monroe Street - Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60661**

Are my deposits safe at an Illinois bank or savings bank?

Each depositor of an Illinois state chartered bank or savings bank is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to at least \$250,000 per insured bank or savings bank. The FDIC provides an Electronic Deposit Insurance Estimator (EDIE) at (<https://www.fdic.gov/edie/index.html>). No depositor has ever lost funds in an insured deposit.

How do I determine if the individual or business I want to do business with has ever been disciplined?

Enforcement actions (discipline) taken against regulated entities can be found on the Division's website at <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/banking.html> under "Enforcement Actions."

I have questions about laws and regulations which govern institutions regulated by the Division of Banking. How do I contact the Division?

The laws and regulations governing our regulated entities can be found on our website. In addition, consumers can contact the Division at:

1-888-473-4858

or

IL.Banks@Illinois.gov

How do I become a Residential Mortgage Licensee or an MLO licensee?

To become a Residential Mortgage Licensee a company would complete an application and submit a fee along with other requirements that can be found here:

<https://idfpr.illinois.gov/banks/resfin/mbb.html>

Individuals desiring to become a licensed mortgage loan originator need to complete an application and submit a fee. They are also subject to a criminal history background check and credit check. The application and list of requirements (including information about the test) are found at:

<http://mortgage.nationwidelicensingsystem.org>