

CBOE Regulatory Circular RG15-153

C2 Regulatory Circular RG15-041

Date: October 30, 2015

To: CBOE & C2 Trading Permit Holders

From: Regulatory Services Division

RE: Changes to Regulatory Element of Continuing Education Program

On October 8, 2015, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("CBOE" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") for immediate effectiveness amendments to CBOE Rule 9.3A Continuing Education for Registered Persons to facilitate the Web-based delivery method for meeting the requirements of the Regulatory Element of the Exchange's continuing education ("CE") program.¹ The amendments filed by CBOE will harmonize the CBOE CE requirements with those of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") which were approved by the SEC on July 31, 2015 and became effective on October 1, 2015.² The new Web-based delivery method, which will be called CE Online and administered through the FINRA CE Online System, will provide registered persons with the flexibility to complete the Regulatory Element at a location of their choosing, including their private residence, at any time during their 120-day window for completion of the Regulatory Element.

The CE Online program will be rolled out in two phases. FINRA will launch the first phase of CE Online, which will include the S106, S201 and S901 Regulatory Element programs on October 1, 2015. FINRA will launch the second phase of CE Online, which will include the S101 Regulatory Element Program in a more personalized format. The CBOE also removed the requirement for Series 56 registered persons to participate in the S501 Regulatory Element program. The S501 Regulatory Element Program is being phased out along with the Series 56 Proprietary Trader qualification examination which is being replaced by the Series 57 Securities Trader qualification examination.³ Effective January 4, 2016, the Regulatory Element for individuals who are registered as Series 57 Securities Traders will be the S101 General Program which will contain more personalized content.

In addition, test center delivery is being phased out by no later than six months after January 4, 2016. Registered persons will continue to have the option of completing the Regulatory Element in a test center until the phase out of the test center delivery method, but they will be required to use the FINRA CE Online System after that date.

Also, in-firm delivery of the Regulatory Element will be phased out on a rolling basis as each Regulatory Element program becomes available via CE Online. Firms will not be able to establish new in-firm delivery programs after October 1, 2015. Firms that currently offer in-firm delivery programs will not be able to use that delivery method for the S106, S201 and S901 Regulatory Element programs after

¹ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 76107 (October 8, 2015), 80 FR 62139 (October 15, 2015) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to Delivery of the Regulatory Element of the Exchange's Continuing Education Program) (SR-CBOE-2015-084).

² See FINRA Regulatory Notice 15-28.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 76247 (October 23, 2015), 80 FR 66605 (October 29, 2015) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating To Qualification and Registration of Trading Permit Holders and Associated Persons) (SR-CBOE-2015-094).



EXECUTE SUCCESSSM

October 1, 2015. However, such firms may continue to use their in-firm delivery system for the S101 Regulatory Element program until January 4, 2016.

Additional Information:

Further questions concerning this Regulatory Circular can be directed to the Regulatory Interpretations and Guidance line at (312) 786-8141 or RegInterps@cboe.com.