

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE & PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**

DATE: April 12, 2022

TIME: 8:30 AM

LOCATION: 77 South High Street, 22nd Floor; Columbus, Ohio 43026

A public hearing will be held by the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Real Estate & Professional Licensing on **April 12, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.** The purpose of this public hearing is to solicit comment on Chapter 1301:13 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The hearing will be held at 77 South High Street, 22nd Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

The rules are available by contacting the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Real Estate & Professional Licensing, 77 S. High Street, 20th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215 by calling (614)466-5384. The rules are also available at the following website: www.registerofohio.state.oh.us.

At the public hearing, any person affected by the proposed actions may appear and be heard in person, by the person's attorney, or both, may present the person's position, arguments, or contentions, orally or in writing, offer and examine witnesses, and present evidence tending to show that the proposed rule or amendments, if adopted or effectuated, will be unreasonable or unlawful.

To participate via written testimony in lieu of appearance: Any person who wishes to present his or her position, arguments or contentions in writing may do so by mailing his or her written comments to the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Real Estate & Professional Licensing, 77 S. High Street, 20th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215. Written comments may also be submitted to Laura.Monick@com.state.oh.us or at the hearing. All written comments must be received by the Department no later than **5:00 p.m.** on **April 12, 2022**. Written comments submitted after this date may be considered as time and circumstances permit.

The Ohio Department of Commerce is an equal opportunity service provider.

RULES

Every five years, agencies are required to review their rules.

1301:13-7-01 – Division staff recommends that this rule be amended.

Criteria for eligibility

The rule provides the eligibility requirements for the cemetery grant program. The changes proposed would change the amount eligible applicants may apply for during a grant cycle from \$1,000 to \$2,500 and removes the requirement of proof of one-to-one matching funds if an applicant requested more than \$1,000. This will allow cemeteries with limited matching funds to apply for more funds and is based on information from the first three grant cycles.

1301:13-7-04 – Division staff recommends that this rule be amended.

Grant restrictions and requirements

The rule provides the restrictions and requirements for when a cemetery receives a grant, including how funds may be expended and a final report. The change proposed would allow grantees to begin their projects once the Division receives the original, signed grant agreement instead of waiting for the issuance of grant funds. This will provide grantees a minimum of 2 additional weeks to begin their project.

1301:13-7-05 – Division staff recommends that this rule be amended.

Cemetery grant advisory committee

The rule provides that the Ohio Cemetery Dispute Resolution Commission may appoint a seven voting member grant advisory committee to assist in the administration of the cemetery grant fund. The amendment proposed would change the appointment of a chair and vice chair from a shall to may, remove the term limits and changes the advertising requirement to the Division instead of the committee.

1301:13-7-06 – Division staff recommends that this rule be amended.

Distribution of grant funds

The rule provides for the process of granting an award and distributing the funds. The change proposed would extend the time for awardees to return a signed grant award agreement.