

CHAPTER 56

REGULATED LOANS

56.02 Application fee.

56.131 Maximum rates and charges.

56.02 APPLICATION FEE.

Application for license shall be in writing, under oath, and in the form prescribed by the commissioner, and contain the name and the address, both of the residence and place of business, of the applicant and, if the applicant is a copartnership or association, of every member thereof, and if a corporation, of each officer and director thereof; also the county and municipality, with street and number, if any, where the business is to be conducted, and such further information as the commissioner may require. The applicant at the time of making application, shall pay to the commissioner the sum of \$500 as a fee for investigating the application, and the additional sum of \$250 as an annual license fee for a period terminating on the last day of the current calendar year. In addition to the annual license fee, every licensee hereunder shall pay to the commissioner the actual costs of each examination, as provided for in section 56.10. All moneys collected by the commissioner under this chapter shall be turned over to the state treasurer and credited by the treasurer to the general fund of the state.

Every applicant shall also prove, in form satisfactory to the commissioner, that the applicant has available for the operation of the business at the location specified in the application, liquid assets of at least \$50,000.

History: 1999 c 151 s 32

56.131 MAXIMUM RATES AND CHARGES.

Subdivision 1. **Interest rates and charges.** (a) On any loan in a principal amount not exceeding \$100,000 or 15 percent of a Minnesota corporate licensee's capital stock and surplus as defined in section 53.015, if greater, a licensee may contract for and receive interest, finance charges, and other charges as provided in section 47.59.

(b) Loans may be interest-bearing or precomputed.

(c) Notwithstanding section 47.59 to the contrary, to compute time on interest-bearing and precomputed loans, including, but not limited to the calculation of interest, a day is considered 1/30 of a month when calculation is made for a fraction of a calendar month. A year is 12 calendar months. A calendar month is that period from a given date in one month to the same numbered date in the following month, and if there is no same numbered date, to the last day of the following month. When a period of time includes a whole month and a fraction of a month, the fraction of a month is considered to follow the whole month.

In the alternative, for interest-bearing loans, a licensee may charge interest at the rate of 1/365 of the agreed annual rate for each actual day elapsed.

(d) With respect to interest-bearing loans and notwithstanding section 47.59:

(1) Interest must be computed on unpaid principal balances outstanding from time to time, for the time outstanding. Each payment must be applied first to the accumulated interest and the remainder of the payment applied to the unpaid principal balance; provided however, that if the amount of the payment is insufficient to pay the accumulated interest, the unpaid interest continues to accumulate to be paid from the proceeds of subsequent payments and is not added to the principal balance.

(2) Interest must not be payable in advance or compounded. However, if part or all of the consideration for a new loan contract is the unpaid principal balance of a prior loan, then the principal amount payable under the new loan contract may include any unpaid interest which has accrued. The unpaid principal balance of a precomputed loan is the balance due after refund or credit of unearned interest as provided in paragraph (e), clause (3). The resulting loan contract is deemed a new and separate loan transaction for all purposes.

(e) With respect to precomputed loans and notwithstanding section 47.59 to the contrary:

(1) Loans must be repayable in substantially equal and consecutive monthly installments of principal and interest combined, except that the first installment period may be

more or less than one month by not more than 15 days, and the first installment payment amount may be larger than the remaining payments by the amount of interest charged for the extra days and must be reduced by the amount of interest for the number of days less than one month to the first installment payment; and monthly installment payment dates may be omitted to accommodate borrowers with seasonal income.

(2) Payments may be applied to the combined total of principal and precomputed interest until the loan is fully paid. Payments must be applied in the order in which they become due.

(3) If the maturity of the loan is accelerated for any reason and judgment is entered, the licensee shall credit the borrower with the same refund as if prepayment in full had been made on the date the judgment is entered.

(4) Following the final installment as originally scheduled or deferred, the licensee, for any loan contract which has not previously been converted to interest-bearing under paragraph (g), may charge interest on any balance remaining unpaid, including unpaid default or deferment charges, at the single annual percentage rate permitted by this subdivision until fully paid.

(5) With respect to a loan secured by an interest in real estate, and having a maturity of more than 60 months, the original schedule of installment payments must fully amortize the principal and interest on the loan. The original schedule of installment payments for any other loan secured by an interest in real estate must provide for payment amounts that are sufficient to pay all interest scheduled to be due on the loan.

(f) A licensee may contract for and collect a delinquency charge as provided for in section 47.59, subdivision 6, paragraph (a), clause (4).

(g) A licensee may grant extensions, deferments, or conversions to interest-bearing as provided in section 47.59, subdivision 5.

[For text of subds 2 to 6, see M.S.1998]

History: 1999 c 151 s 33