

Subject: Prepare for the CE Changes Taking Effect Jan. 1, 2023.



As detailed in previous communication, FINRA, as well as other industry self-regulatory organizations, have adopted important changes to the securities industry continuing education (CE) and registration rules to train registered persons more effectively. Several rule changes will go into effect Jan. 1, 2023.

This email provides a summary of the upcoming rule changes and highlights how firms and industry professionals can prepare. It also provides a list of available resources. Please review the information and forward the email to individuals in your network who should be aware of the upcoming changes.

CE Transformation

Since 2018, FINRA has worked with the Securities Industry/Regulatory Council on Continuing Education (CE Council) and other stakeholders to make enhancements to the CE program. On Sept. 21, 2021, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) approved amendments to FINRA Rules 1210 and 1240 to adopt these enhancements, and their effective dates were announced in Regulatory Notice 21-41.

The upcoming program changes—annual Regulatory Element for each registration category and the extension of Firm Element to all registered persons—will ensure that all registered persons receive timely and relevant training, which will in turn support compliance and investor protection.

Annual Regulatory Element for Each Registration Category

Beginning Jan. 1, 2023, registered persons will be required to complete CE Regulatory Element annually by Dec. 31. Additionally, registered persons will receive content tailored specifically to each representative or principal registration category that they hold. Individuals who fail to complete their Regulatory Element within the prescribed annual deadline of Dec. 31 will be automatically designated as CE inactive by FINRA.

FINRA and the CE Council will publish the Regulatory Element topics on FINRA's website by no later than Oct. 1 of the prior year to provide firms with sufficient time to review the topics as they prepare their Firm Element training for the upcoming year. Review the [2023 Regulatory Element topics](#) now.

Extension of Firm Element to All Registered Persons

FINRA has amended the CE rules to extend the annual Firm Element requirement to all registered persons, including individuals who maintain solely a permissive registration consistent with Rule 1210.02, beginning Jan. 1, 2023. In conjunction with this change, FINRA has also amended the CE rules to expressly allow firms to consider training relating to the anti-money laundering compliance program under Rule 3310(e) and the annual compliance meeting under Rule 3110(a)(7) toward satisfying an individual's annual Firm Element requirement. In addition, FINRA has revised the current minimum Firm Element training criteria to provide that the training must cover topics related to professional responsibility and to the role, activities or responsibilities of the registered person.

FINRA and the CE Council are committed to developing resources and guidance to support firms as they assess their education needs and develop their training requirements. FINRA will provide more information when it becomes available.

How to Prepare For the Upcoming Rule Changes

- Review FINRA's [Regulatory Notice 21-41](#) and FINRA's [CE Transformation resource page](#) to familiarize yourself with the details of the upcoming rule changes.
- Review the [2023 Regulatory Element topics](#) on FINRA's website. If you manage CE compliance for a firm, you can use the information to coordinate other training requirements for 2023, including the Firm Element. If you are

an industry professional, you can use the Regulatory Element topics tool to learn about the registration specific learning topics for 2023.

- [Get on board with FinPro](#). Industry professionals should create and maintain a FinPro (Financial Professional Gateway) account because they will take their Regulatory CE sessions in FinPro. Firms can take advantage of FinPro's tools to support their registration compliance program.

Additional Resources

Use the additional resources listed below to prepare for the upcoming rule changes.

- [CE Transformation: Before and After](#)
- [CE Transformation Webinar](#): Upcoming Changes to Regulatory Element and Firm Element Requirements (Sept. 29, 2022).
- [FINRA Unscripted Episode 115](#): CE Transformation Update: Annual Regulatory Element and the Latest on the MQP (Oct. 4, 2022)
- [CE Council Website](#)
- [CE Transformation Playbook](#)

Questions? Contact Us.

- FINRACE@finra.org

You received this email because you are a key firm contact or subscribed to FINRA's Registration and Testing Information email list.

Please forward this email to other individuals who should be aware of upcoming changes to FINRA's CE program. If you have colleagues who may be interested in similar registration-related updates, please encourage them to [subscribe](#).

Firm Contacts

If you are no longer a firm CE contact, CCO or CRD AA at a broker-dealer, please instruct the organization to update your role designations.

Subscribers

You can [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive FINRA's Registration and Testing Information emails.