

(13) Unique identifier**(A) In general**

The term “unique identifier” means a number or other identifier that—

- (i) permanently identifies a loan originator;
- (ii) is assigned by protocols established by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry and the Bureau to facilitate electronic tracking of loan originators and uniform identification of, and public access to, the employment history of and the publicly adjudicated disciplinary and enforcement actions against loan originators; and
- (iii) shall not be used for purposes other than those set forth under this chapter.

(B) Responsibility of States

To the greatest extent possible and to accomplish the purpose of this chapter, States shall use unique identifiers in lieu of social security numbers.

(Pub. L. 110–289, div. A, title V, §1503, July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2811; Pub. L. 111–203, title X, §1100(2)–(4), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2106.)

Editorial Notes**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

Section 1602(v) of title 15, referred to in par. (9), was redesignated section 1602(w) of title 15 by Pub. L. 111–203, title X, §1100A(1)(A), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2107.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111–203, §1100(4)(A), redesignated pars. (2) to (12) as (3) to (13), respectively.

Par. (1). Pub. L. 111–203, §1100(4)(B), added par. (1) and struck out former par. (1). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The term ‘Federal banking agencies’ means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, the National Credit Union Administration, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.”

Par. (2). Pub. L. 111–203, §1100(4)(B), added par. (2). Former par. (2) redesignated (3).

Par. (5). Pub. L. 111–203, §1100(3), substituted “Director” for “Secretary”.

Par. (10). Pub. L. 111–203, §1100(4)(C), added par. (10) and struck out former par. (10). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.”

Par. (11)(C). Pub. L. 111–203, §1100(3), substituted “Director” for “Secretary”.

Par. (12)(A)(ii). Pub. L. 111–203, §1100(2), substituted “Bureau” for “Federal banking agencies”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 111–203 effective on the designated transfer date, see section 1100H of Pub. L. 111–203, set out as a note under section 552a of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

Executive Documents**TERMINATION OF TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS**

For termination of Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, see note set out preceding section 1681 of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

§ 5103. License or registration required**(a) In general**

Subject to the existence of a licensing or registration regime, as the case may be, an individual may not engage in the business of a loan originator without first—

- (1) obtaining, and maintaining annually—
 - (A) a registration as a registered loan originator; or
 - (B) a license and registration as a State-licensed loan originator; and
- (2) obtaining a unique identifier.

(b) Loan processors and underwriters**(1) Supervised loan processors and underwriters**

A loan processor or underwriter who does not represent to the public, through advertising or other means of communicating or providing information (including the use of business cards, stationery, brochures, signs, rate lists, or other promotional items), that such individual can or will perform any of the activities of a loan originator shall not be required to be a State-licensed loan originator.

(2) Independent contractors

An independent contractor may not engage in residential mortgage loan origination activities as a loan processor or underwriter unless such independent contractor is a State-licensed loan originator.

(Pub. L. 110–289, div. A, title V, §1504, July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2814.)

§ 5104. State license and registration application and issuance**(a) Background checks**

In connection with an application to any State for licensing and registration as a State-licensed loan originator, the applicant shall, at a minimum, furnish to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry information concerning the applicant’s identity, including—

- (1) fingerprints for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and any governmental agency or entity authorized to receive such information for a State and national criminal history background check; and
- (2) personal history and experience, including authorization for the System to obtain—
 - (A) an independent credit report obtained from a consumer reporting agency described in section 1681a(p) of title 15; and
 - (B) information related to any administrative, civil or criminal findings by any governmental jurisdiction.

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- (B) information related to any administrative, civil or criminal findings by any governmental jurisdiction.

(b) Issuance of license

The minimum standards for licensing and registration as a State-licensed loan originator shall include the following:

- (1) The applicant has never had a loan originator license revoked in any governmental jurisdiction.
- (2) The applicant has not been convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, a felony in a domestic, foreign, or military court—
 - (A) during the 7-year period preceding the date of the application for licensing and registration; or