

Training Newsletter

Blitz On Real Estate Agents

Under a NSW Fair Trading blitz a number of Sydney agents have been fined for compliance related matters. NSW Minister for Fair Trading, Matthew Mason-Cox has stated:-

“A number of real estate agents were caught by NSW Fair Trading officers for unlicensed trading, failure to complete mandatory education to remain accredited and poor record-keeping.

“Officers examined 613 licenses and also exercised their powers to retrieve data and examine property sales records.

“Seventeen individual agents were handed a \$550 fine and four agencies were fined \$1100 each for breaching NSW Fair Trading laws.

[Read more.](#)



Agency Agreements: Warning Needed From 1 March 2015

NSW Fair Trading have reminded agents that from 1 March 2015 there is a requirement for agency agreements to include an official warning highlighting to consumers about commission payable, even if they pull out of a sale. [Read more.](#)

Avoid Rental Scams

The WA Department of Commerce has issued information to tenants on how to avoid rental property scams. In 2014, around 30 accommodation scam victims contacted WA ScamNet and between them total monetary loss was almost \$43,000 – almost \$1,500 per victim.

Scammers target tenants through online classified advertisements featuring properties that don't exist or are owned by someone else.

[Read more.](#)



Want To Become A Resident Letting Agent in QLD?

It is no longer necessary to live on site if you are a resident letting agent as long as the registered office is open from 9-5pm. If you are thinking of becoming a resident letting agent or buying a resident letting agency in QLD you will need to apply for a licence as a:

[resident letting agent](#) or

[real estate agent](#)

It is important that you do not act until your licence is issued by QLD Fair Trading.



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USI – Unique Student Identifier

On completion of any course with The NSW Real Estate Training College, you will now be asked for a USI – Unique Student Identifier. This number will help keep all your training records and results together. Each time you enrol and study with a new training organisation, your USI will be used to store your training records and results. By having a USI you will be able to access your training records and transcripts whenever you need them. For more information [click here](#).

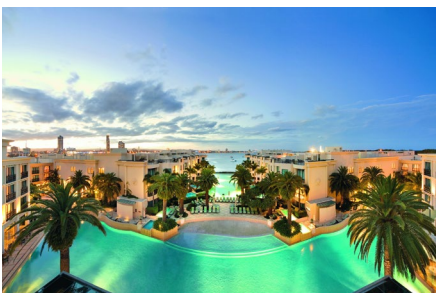
If you don't get a licence, you cannot run the business.

This includes:

- collecting rent
- managing the property
- taking any commission or fees

You can be fined if you act as a licensee or take any reward without a licence.

The NSW Real Estate Training College offers the 6 modules that comprise the QLD Resident Letting Agent Licence for \$495. To find out more [click here](#).



NSW Pool Fencing Deadline Extended

A lack of inspectors has resulted in the

NSW state government having to **extend the deadline** to meet pool fencing requirements until **29 April 2016**. As mentioned in our previous newsletters, laws were due to come into effect this year that would have prevented the sale of homes with pools until their safety fences were compliant and had been inspected. However, concerns that the lack of pool fencing certifiers would stop people from legally selling or renting their homes and damage the real estate industry has led to the deadline being extended. [Read more](#).



The NSW Office of Local Government website suggests that 95% of pools fail at the first inspection. In addition, councils advise that it can take up to 90

days before they can issue a certificate of compliance because of the unavailability of qualified contractors to undertake the repairs or remediation work. So if you are selling or leasing a property make sure you have enough time to organise compliance.



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