

## **Part 742 Regulatory Flexibility Program**

Note: According to CUNA's Compliance Department, this rule generally just applies to federal credit unions. However, qualifying state-chartered credit unions will be able to automatically obtain or to apply for relief from the limits on nonmember shares (if low income) and receipt of public unit funds. A state-chartered credit union in a state where the regulator has an identical or similar rule must follow the state rules.

### **§ 742.1 What is NCUA's Regulatory Flexibility Program?**

NCUA's Regulatory Flexibility Program (RegFlex) exempts credit unions with a current net worth of nine percent (or if a credit union is subject to a risk-based net worth requirement under § 702.103 of this chapter, it must be 200 basis points over its risk based net worth level or nine percent, whichever is higher) and a CAMEL rating of 1 or 2, for two consecutive examinations, from all or part of identified NCUA regulations. The Regulatory Flexibility Program also grants eligible credit unions additional powers.

### **§ 742.2 How do I become eligible for the Regulatory Flexibility Program?**

Eligibility is automatic as soon as the credit union meets the net worth and CAMEL criteria. If a credit union is a CAMEL 3 (or CAMEL 1 or 2 for less than two consecutive cycles) with a net worth in excess of 9 percent or if the credit union is a CAMEL 1 or 2 with a net worth under 9 percent (or if a credit union is subject to a risk-based net worth requirement under § 702.103 of this chapter, and it does not exceed 200 basis points over its risk based net worth level), it can apply to the regional director for a RegFlex designation, in whole or in part.

### **§ 742.3 Will NCUA notify me when I am eligible for the Regulatory Flexibility Program?**

Yes. Once this rule is effective, NCUA will notify all RegFlex eligible credit unions. Subsequent notifications of eligibility will occur after an application for a RegFlex designation or as part of the examination process.

### **§ 742.4 From what NCUA Regulations will I be exempt?**

RegFlex credit unions are exempt from the provisions of the following NCUA Regulations: § 701.25, § 701.32(b) and (c), § 701.36(a), (b) and (c), § 703.40(c)(6), § 703.90(c), and § 703.110(d) of this chapter.

### **§ 742.5 What additional authority will I be granted?**

Notwithstanding the general limitations in § 701.23 of this chapter, RegFlex credit unions are eligible to purchase any auto loan, credit card loan, member business loan, student loan or mortgage loan from any federally insured credit union as long as the loans are loans that the purchasing credit union is empowered to grant. RegFlex credit unions are authorized to keep these loans in their portfolio. If a RegFlex credit union is purchasing the eligible obligations of a liquidating credit union, the loans purchased cannot exceed 5% of the unimpaired capital and surplus of the purchasing credit union.

**§ 742.6 How can I lose my RegFlex eligibility?**

Eligibility may be lost in two ways. First, the credit union no longer meets the RegFlex criteria set forth in § 742.1. When this event occurs, the credit union must cease using the additional authority granted by this rule. Second, the regional director for substantive and documented safety and soundness reasons may revoke a credit union's RegFlex authority in whole or in part. The regional director must give a credit union written notice stating the reasons for this action. The revocation is effective as soon as the regional director's determination has been received by the credit union.

**§ 742.7 What is the appeal process?**

A credit union has 60 days from the date of the regional director's determination to revoke a credit union's RegFlex authority (in whole or in part) to appeal the action to NCUA's Supervisory Review Committee. The regional director's determination will remain in effect unless the Supervisory Review Committee issues a different determination. If the credit union is dissatisfied with the decision of the Supervisory Review Committee, the credit union has 60 days from the issuance of this decision to appeal to the NCUA Board.

**§ 742.8 If I lose my RegFlex authority, will my past actions be grandfathered?**

Any action by the credit union under the RegFlex authority will be grandfathered. Any actions subsequent to losing the RegFlex authority must meet NCUA's regulatory requirements. This does not diminish NCUA's authority to require a credit union to divest its investments or assets for substantive safety and soundness reasons.