

TC Article Synopsis: Education

EDITORIAL INFORMATION			
FitProjects Link		monday.com Item Link	https://technologyadvice-force.monday.com/boards/5518855178/pulses/7410223968
Author	Brittany Wrenn	Reviewer	Melanie
Word Count		Points or TCS	
Update/New?	Update but new format, teardown		
URL (for updates)			
Outline Deadline			
Audience			
Body Guidance	This is a test of combining the state's BG and how to in one article - Follow the format below - Use scores from rubric - Add pop up for #1 school - Add TOC/featured image		
Dek/Excerpt			
Other Links & Resources	 The Close 2024 School Rubric (find state abbreviation for state-specific info)		Pop-up: Get 5% off now on your real estate education Use code: KAPRE5 Visit Kaplan No, I'll pay full price
Primary Category	Education	Secondary Category	
B2B Product		B2B Audience > Purchase Stage	Select
Tags		B2B Industry (optional)	
SEO INFORMATION- Provided by Brandon Dockery			
Title/H1 (max 70 characters)	How To Become a Real Estate Agent in Illinois 2024: The Complete Guide		
Meta Title (max 60 characters)	How To Become a Real Estate Agent in Illinois 2024: The Complete Guide		
Slug	/illinois-real-estate-school/		
Meta Description (140 - 160 characters)	Want to become a real estate agent in Illinois? Check out our top 5 school choices based on features, pricing, learning formats and more!		
MarketMuse Report (for updates)	N/A		
Required/Suggested Internal Links	Links to include in checkbox format; Best practice is to link to descriptive, relevant text ☐ https://theclose.com/part-time-real-estate-agent/ ☐ https://theclose.com/real-estate-for-retirees/ ☒ https://theclose.com/how-to-get-a-real-estate-license/ ☐ https://theclose.com/how-to-become-real-estate-leasing-agent/		
Primary KW	how to become a real estate agent in illinois (SV 390 / KD 19)	Secondary KW	illinois real estate license (SV 1600 / KD 44)
Tertiary KWs	- illinois real estate school (SV 210 / KD 41) - real estate license illinois cost (SV 210 / KD 30) - illinois real estate exam cost (SV 140 / KD 29)	Article Type	Buyer's Guide

	- cost of real estate license in illinois (SV 110 / KD 22) - getting your real estate license in illinois (SV 70 / KD 26) - how to get your real estate license in illinois (SV 210 / KD 20) - how do you get your real estate license in illinois (SV 390 / KD 25)		
Search Intent	Informational + Commercial		
FAQ to Include	- How long does it take to get a real estate license in Illinois? - How much does it cost to get your real estate license in Illinois? - How much do realtors make in Illinois? - How many times can you take the Illinois real estate exam?		
SERP Research & Analysis	Links to thorough SERP research & analysis - if available		
SEO Notes	- SERP is mostly informational. The TKW's are more focused on commercial intent - An AI Overview is present in the SERP for the PKW - H1 How To Become a Real Estate Agent in Illinois 2024: The Complete Guide - H2 Steps to Getting A Real Estate License in IL - H2 Best Online Real Estate Schools in IL at a Glance - H2 Methodology - H2 FAQ - H3 How long does it take to get a real estate license in Illinois? - H3 How much does it cost to get your real estate license in Illinois? - H3 How much do realtors make in Illinois? - H3 How many times can you take the Illinois real estate exam?		
MONETIZATION/REVENUE INFORMATION- Provided by Norilyn Ang			
ICP Category, Type, & Placement	Select	Revenue Product	Affiliate
Affiliate Links (if applicable)	Affiliate/Generic links for all mentioned providers		
Revenue from Article	Last 3 months revenue - June: \$64.96 - July: \$62.72 - Aug: \$159.18		
Additional Monetization Notes	Last 3 months PV (June - Aug): 223 Consider keeping these partners on the update because we are still earning from them. - Colibri Data (June - Aug) - Clicks: 28 CTR: 12.56% - CE Shop data (June - Aug) - Clicks: 10 CTR: 4.48% - Kaplan data (June - Aug) - Clicks: 8 CTR: 3.59%		
CREATIVE INFORMATION			
Video?	Select	Video Script Link	Link to text: Video Script
Video SEO Notes		Video Affiliate Links	Provided in checkbox format: ☐ Link 1 ☐ Link 2
Graphic Included	Select	Hold for Publishing	Select
ADDITIONAL NOTES			
Additional Pub Notes	Embargo date (if applicable): Schedule for date (if applicable): Site-specific formatting notes (if applicable):		



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5 Best Online Real Estate Schools in Illinois & IL License Guide

If you've been wondering how to become a real estate agent in Illinois (IL) but feel stuck trying to decide where to take your coursework, don't worry, we've done all the heavy lifting for you. I

compiled various course options, classroom types, and career resources so you don't have to. Take a look at the top picks for Illinois real estate schools and get ready to kick-start your new career!

- **Kaplan:** Best for interactive learning
- **The CE Shop:** Best for career resources
- **Real Estate Institute:** Best for mobile learning
- **Colibri Real Estate:** Best for course offerings
- **Inland School of Real Estate:** Best for live instruction

Want to learn more about the Illinois licensing process before jumping into school details? [Click here to jump to the "How to Get a Real Estate License in Illinois" section below.](#)

The Close's Top Picks of Online Real Estate Schools in Illinois

Our Top Picks	Prelicensing Starting Price	Promo Code	Read More Below
Kaplan: Best for interactive learning	\$429	KAPRE5	Kaplan↓
The CE Shop: Best for career resources	\$359	TheClose35	The CE Shop↓
Real Estate Institute: Best for mobile learning	\$599	No promo code	Real Estate Institute↓
Colibri Real Estate: Best for course offerings	\$356	TheClose25	Colibri Real Estate↓
Inland School of Real Estate: Best for live instruction	\$577	No promo code	Inland School of Real Estate↓

Best for Interactive Learning: Kaplan

		The Close Score - Overall: 4.5 out of 5	
Pros ✓ Exam prep included in all packages ✓ Interactive study groups ✓ Commitment to pass		Course Features: 3.6 out of 5 Value: 3.5 out of 5 Learning Format & Accessibility: 4 out of 5 Expert Score: 5 out of 5 Help & Support: 4 out of 5 Reputation: 2 out of 5	
Cons ✗ Not a great mobile experience ✗ Only accessible for six months ✗ Full package gets expensive			

My Expert Opinion on Kaplan

Kaplan really has it all when it comes to real estate education. It's known for interactive learning, which offers direct access to instructors and other students through live webinars. Students can take advantage of study groups, career mentorship, and community forms to help boost their careers. I personally took my prelicensing class through Kaplan years ago and found the information easy to digest. The quizzes throughout the coursework really helped me prepare for the exam.

Kaplan has a “commitment to pass,” which offers students continued support at no cost if you do not pass your exam on the first try. You will receive a personalized study plan and have access to exam prep tools and instructors for up to 18 months as long as you continue your studies.

 **Room for improvement:** Kaplan offers a lot of training and resources for the price students pay. However, it does not currently offer a broker-in-charge course. Adding this feature could increase enrollments and retention for those that want to upgrade their license after some time.

Kaplan Cost

Kaplan offers various tiers of course packages with self-paced and live online options. All packages include an interactive study group and exam proctoring. However, students can enjoy add-on benefits such as live coaching and real estate math courses in some of the more expensive packages.

Type of Education	Price Range	Standout Features
Prelicensing	\$489-\$889	• Exam prep • Live online learning hub • Career Mentor Connect
Post-licensing	\$119-\$299	• Live online or self-paced formats • Online coaching • Exam proctoring included
Continuing education	\$29-\$69	• Available in live online, self-paced, or hybrid formats • Wide variety of course options
Exam prep	\$99-\$199	• Live online learning hub • Drill and practice QBank • Online Student Community

Enroll in Kaplan Now
Save 25% when you use promo code “KAPRE5”

Need to see more before deciding if this is the best school for you? Check out this informational video from Kaplan below:

INSERT WALKTHROUGH VIDEO

Best for Career Resources: The CE Shop

	The Close Score - Overall: 4.4 out of 5
Pros ✓ Pass guarantee ✓ Post-licensing course included in Premium Package ✓ Lots of bonus resources Cons ✗ No networking or study group opportunities ✗ No live class option ✗ Limited online support options	Course Features: 1.9 out of 5 Value: 4.6 out of 5 Learning Format & Accessibility: 2.5 out of 5 Expert Score: 5 out of 5 Help & Support: 4.5 out of 5 Reputation: 2.2 out of 5

My Expert Opinion on The CE Shop

Don't let the name fool you - The CE Shop offers much more than just continuing education courses. It's your one-stop shop for getting your license, upgrading, and renewal, making sure all your bases are covered. If you're looking for a more flexible schedule, this could be a great option, as the courses are available online, and you can learn at your own pace. Plus, it includes exam prep in all packages, so you feel confident and ready to ace your test.

 **Room for improvement:** No options for networking with peers or study groups make it hard for students who may need more direct engagement to learn. Since each license course, including an Illinois real estate license, comes with information specific to the state, students would benefit from connecting with other students there.

The CE Shop Cost

The CE Shop courses and website are chock-full of bonus resources. Students can choose from multiple course package options based on their learning needs and budget.

Type of Education	Price Range	Standout Features
Prelicensing	\$359-\$779	• Career resources • Digital flashcards and study schedule • Pass guarantee
Post-licensing	\$115-\$369	• Self-paced online course format • Professional development program

Continuing education	\$19-\$189	• Individual and packaged courses • Available for both broker and managing broker • NAR Ethics course
Managing Broker prelicensing	\$275-\$335	• Math handbook • Money back guarantee • Unlimited practice exams
Exam prep	\$75-\$135	• Interactive dashboard • Practice exams • Individual lessons per topic

Enroll in The CE Shop Now
Save 35% when you use promo code "TheClose35"

Need to see more before making a decision? Check out this video to see what The CE Shop offers:

INSERT WALK THROUGH VIDEO

Best for Mobile Learning: Real Estate Institute by Aceable

		The Close Score - Overall: 3.3 out of 5
Pros ✔ Mobile-friendly ✔ One-on-one instructor assistance ✔ Exam prep included in all packages at no extra cost		Course Features: 1.5 out of 5 Value: 2.1 out of 5 Learning Format & Accessibility: 3.5 out of 5 Expert Score: 3.4 out of 5 Help & Support: 2.5 out of 5 Reputation: 2.2 out of 5
Cons ✘ Only available in three states ✘ No exam prep in basic package ✘ No career assistance or networking opportunities		

My Expert Opinion on Real Estate Institute by Aceable

Real Estate Institute has teamed up with AceableAgent to provide convenient real estate courses. Its mobile-friendly learning platform allows students to access their coursework at any time. Although the Real Estate Institute only operates in Illinois, Florida, and North Carolina, its course offerings meet the specific requirements of each state. Exam preparation is included in the coursework, and if a student fails the licensing exam on the first attempt, they can retake the class for free.

Real Estate Institute puts an emphasis on instructor support and makes sure students have access to instructors by encouraging them to call the school and speak to an Illinois-state licensed instructor as needed.

💡 **Room for improvement:** Real Estate Institute offers exam prep in two prelicensing classes, but it would help students be fully prepared if it was offered in the standard package as well.

Real Estate Institute by Aceable Cost

Real Estate Institute offers a variety of classroom types and packages. Students have access to all of the necessary coursework to get their license, upgrade, or stay active.

Type of Education	Price Range	Standout Features
Prelicensing	\$599-\$699	• Self-paced and live classroom or webinar courses • Weekly live instructor Q&A • Exam prep included in Directed and Fast Track packages
Post-licensing	\$299	• Self-paced online course • Interactive content • Meets IDFPR Sexual Harassment Prevention training requirement.
Continuing education	\$95-\$169	• Include Code of Ethics • Money back guarantee • No final exam
Managing Broker prelicensing	\$349-\$399	• ExamSmart videos • 600-plus practice questions • Instructor support
Exam prep	\$49-\$59	• Question categories directly correspond to testing service categories • Unlimited practice exams

Enroll in Real Estate Institute

Best for Comprehensive Course Offerings: Colibri Real Estate

		The Close Score - Overall: 4.2 out of 5	
Pros ✓ Various course packages ✓ Live Q&A with instructors ✓ Pass or Don't Pay Guarantee		Course Features: 2.6 out of 5 Value: 3.5 out of 5 Learning Format & Accessibility: 3.5 out of 5	
Cons ✗ Text heavy courses ✗ Not much test prep in basic packages		Expert Score: 4.1 out of 5 Help & Support: 3 out of 5 Reputation: 2.1 out of 5	

My Expert Opinion on Colibri Real Estate

Colibri Real Estate is great for students looking for a variety of courses with different tools and support features. Whether they want to learn at their own pace or prefer the guidance of an instructor, students have the option to take advantage of interactive learning to enhance their understanding of the material. Since Colibri offers the 'pass or don't pay' feature, students can receive a refund if they don't pass the exam on their first try.

One standout feature from this school is the “readiness indicator,” which gives students feedback about how “ready” they are to take and pass the exam. It tracks your progress with vocabulary, practice tests, and simulated exams.

💡 **Room for improvement:** Colibri offers extensive exam prep; however, it comes at a higher cost than most other schools. It would be beneficial to include exam prep in licensing packages or at a lower cost. This may help students feel more inclined to enroll and get the resources they need to pass the exam.

Colibri Real Estate Cost

Colibri Real Estate has various package options in multiple states, so you can pick one that fits your budget perfectly.

Type of Education	Price Range	Standout Features
Prelicensing	\$356-\$670	• Instructor support • Interactive study tools • Live Q&A sessions
Post-licensing	\$99-\$279	• Career success tools • State-required education hours provided

		One-year professional development membership
Continuing education	\$29-\$129	- Online, self-paced - NAR ethics course
Managing Broker prelicensing	\$199	- Real estate math e-book - Real estate practice e-book - One-year professional development membership
Exam prep	\$115-\$499	- Exam crammer webinar - Simulated exams - Instructor Q&A

Enroll in Colibri Real Estate
Save 35% when you use promo code "TheClose30"

Not convinced yet? Check out our walkthrough video for Colibri Real Estate below:

INSERT WALK THROUGH VIDEO

Best for Live Instruction: Inland School of Real Estate

		The Close Score - Overall: 4.1 out of 5
Pros ✓ Live instructor assistance ✓ 24/7 Online Course Access ✓ In-person, live online, and self-paced class options		Course Features: 3.6 out of 5 Value: 1 out of 5 Learning Format & Accessibility: 4.5 out of 5 Expert Score: 4.3 out of 5 Help & Support: 2.5 out of 5 Reputation: 2.2 out of 5
Cons ✗ Not continuing education offerings ✗ No formal networking opportunities		

My Expert Opinion on Inland Real Estate School

Inland is a great option for students looking for a local school that has been operating for over 20 years, specifically in Illinois real estate education. The school offers live instruction or self-study courses. Where the exam prep is limited to only 12 questions, Inland offers additional

exam prep add-ons and 30 days of free online coaching support to prep students. A helpful three-month extension to complete the course is offered if students need the extra time. Another feature worth mentioning is that Inland honors US Veterans by offering \$100 off classes.

 **Room for improvement:** Inland's course offerings are limited. It should consider adding CE to its catalog. If it cannot add CE, the school should provide resources to students on where to access those courses.

Inland Real Estate School Cost

Inland Real Estate School focuses on three course options including prelicensing, managing broker, and exam prep. Its pricing is straightforward and among the more affordable options when considering the cost of a real estate license in Illinois.

Type of Education	Price Range	Standout Features
Prelicensing	\$527-\$577	• 90-day free coaching • Exam prep • 3-month free extension to complete course
Managing Broker prelicensing	\$349	• Instructor assistance • 24/7 access • Progress tracking
Exam prep	\$59-\$129	• ExamSmart or CompuCram • One-on-one tutoring • Guide to passing the PSI

Enroll in Inland Real Estate School

How to Get Your Real Estate License in Illinois

Now that you're well-versed in school options, how do you [get your real estate license](#) in Illinois? Let's go over the step-by-step process to put your hard-earned work to use and obtain your license.

Step 1: Meet Requirements	• You must be at least 18 years old. • You must be a US citizen or lawfully admitted resident. • You must possess a high school diploma or GED. • Have no pending criminal indictments against you. • Have no criminal convictions for violent or home invasion-related offenses.
Step 2: Complete Prelicensing Courses	• Take 75 hours of prelicensing classes. • Pass course exam. • Check out our list of approved schools by clicking here.

Step 4: Take the Real Estate Exam	• There are 140 multiple-choice questions, and you have 3.5 hours to complete the exam. • The cost is \$58 per attempt. • List of approved proctor locations. • You need at least a 75% passing score. • You have one year to apply for your license after passing the exam.
Step 4: Apply for Your License	• You need your passing score document. • Submit your prelicense transcript. • Fill out the IDFPR application. • Pay the \$150 application fee. • Include your managing broker sponsor card when you have it.
Step 5: Get Fingerprints & Background Check	• Fingerprints must be taken within 60 days of application. • Schedule appointment for fingerprinting background check. • The cost of the fingerprinting background check runs between \$15 and \$67, depending what vendor you use.
Step 6: Pick a Sponsoring Brokerage	• Find a brokerage that fits your business needs. • How to Choose a Real Estate Company or Broker to Work For.
Step 7: Start Your Real Estate Career	• The Ultimate Checklist for New Real Estate Agents: Your Path to Success • How to Get Clients in Real Estate: Our Top 11 Tips

How We Selected the Best Online Real Estate Schools in Illinois

Regarding [our methodology at The Close](#), our team of licensed real estate professionals, writers, and editors created a weighted rubric that evaluates each school. Our experts have done hours of research to analyze dozens of real estate schools to determine the best for our readers. The features we explored are essential for students to become successful agents and brokers in the real estate industry.

Our detailed criteria included the following:

- **Course Features (25%)**
 - This comprises items that assist agents and brokers in completing their education, like pass and refund guarantees, career and instructor support, coaching, training, interactive study groups, and course extensions.
- **Value (20%)**
 - Pricing and availability of coursework are important factors to assess. This accounts for real estate school offerings in prelicensing, post-licensing, continuing education, broker prelicensing, and exam prep.
- **Learning Format & Accessibility (20%)**
 - Real estate professionals must consider the best format for their learning, which includes self-paced, on-demand video, live stream, and in-person classes. Also, accessibility via multiple devices, like computers, tablets, and mobile devices, determines the convenience for users.
- **Expert Score (15%)**
 - The Close closely reviews each course for standout features, details, ease of

use, and the value for money spent from a real estate expert's perspective.

- **Help & Support (10%)**
 - If students need additional support, knowing the customer service options through phone, email, live chat, and ticket system is necessary.
- **Reputation (10%)**
 - This examines the reputation of each real estate school through the lens of current and past students, reviewing the customer reviews and popularity of each provider.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How long does it take to get a real estate license in Illinois?

The length of time it takes to get an Illinois real estate license varies depending on which class you sign up for. If you take a scheduled virtual or in-person course, it may be a set number of weeks. However, many self-paced courses don't have a timeframe. That said, self-paced courses may have a limit of six months from the time of purchase.

How much does it cost to get your real estate license in Illinois?

Once you have completed your coursework and passed the course exam, you can sign up to take the licensing exam. The Illinois real estate exam costs \$58 per attempt.

How much do realtors make in Illinois?

On average, real estate agents in Illinois make about [\\$76,016 per year](#). However, one of the best parts about having a real estate license is that there is no cap on your income. Create a business plan, put processes in place, and give it time.

How many times can you take the Illinois real estate exam?

You have four chances to pass the exam before you are required to retake the course. This is why it's important to consider exam prep and additional support when studying for your exam. If you are finding it difficult to pass the exam, use the resources available through your school or by studying with peers.

Your Take

You can now say you officially know how to become a real estate agent in Illinois. You have your school options, understand crucial study resources, and know the cost of a real estate license in Illinois. It's time to hit the ground running and pursue your new career. These resources will also apply if you're leveling up your license!

What features stand out to you the most when considering where to take your coursework?