

**TERMS UNDER WHICH RENTAL OR LEASE FEES MAY BE SPLIT
WITH NONLICENSED PERSONS**

Compensation (commissions) received by a licensed real estate broker or a salesperson for leasing or renting real property may be split or shared with nonlicensed persons.

However, if the lease or rental agreement includes any provision which requires the licensee to act in the capacity of a real estate licensee, then the compensation may not be split with any nonlicensed person, with the exception of the buyer or seller in the transaction, as provided in section 54-2054. Some examples of lease provisions which require a real estate license are as follows:

1. An option to purchase;
2. A definite purchase agreement at the end of the lease term (a lease/purchase agreement); or
3. A first right of refusal.
4. For any other questionable practice, the Idaho Real Estate Commission should be contacted for clarification.

IDAHO REAL ESTATE LICENSE LAW

54-2054. Compensation, Commissions and Fees – Prohibited Conduct.

Fee-splitting with unlicensed persons prohibited. Unless otherwise allowed by statute or rule, a real estate broker, associate broker or salesperson licensed in the state of Idaho shall not pay any part or share of a commission, fee or compensation received in the licensee's capacity as such in a regulated real estate transaction to any person who is not actively licensed as a real estate broker in Idaho or in another state or jurisdiction. The Idaho broker making the payment to another licensed person is responsible for verifying the active licensed status of the receiving broker. This section shall not prohibit payment of a part or share of a commission, fee or compensation by the broker to a legal business entity, all of whose shareholders, members or other persons having a similar ownership interest are active real estate licensees. An Idaho licensee may pay any part or share of a commission, fee or compensation received, directly to the buyer or seller in the real estate transaction. However, no commission, fee or compensation may be split with

This guideline is not a new law but is an agency interpretation of existing law.

For more information on this guideline, please contact:

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Guideline #9

any party to the transaction in a manner which would directly or indirectly create a double contract, as defined in this chapter or which would otherwise mislead any broker, lender, title company or government agency involved in the transaction regarding the source of funds used to complete the real estate transaction or regarding the financial resources or obligations of the buyer.

Therefore, if the compensation received by the licensee is for an act which requires the licensee to act in the capacity of a real estate licensee, the compensation may not be split with nonlicensed persons, unless that person is the seller or buyer, and is a party to the contract.