



ACQUIRED EXPERIENCE – APPLICATION FOR A CUSTOMS BROKER'S LICENCE

In assessing an application for a broker's licence, for a natural person, the Chief Executive Officer of Customs (the CEO) must have regard to the applicant's integrity and that they are qualified to be a customs broker.

Section 183CC (2) of the *Customs Act 1901* states,

"...an applicant shall be taken to be qualified to be a customs broker if, and only if:

- (a) ...the applicant has completed the course of study, and
- (b) the applicant has acquired experience that, in the opinion of the CEO, fits the applicant to be a customs broker".

The course of study approved by the CEO is listed in Australian Customs Notice (ACN) 2008/49. An applicant for a customs broker's licence who has not completed the course of study may seek an exemption from the CEO as per ACN 2004/20.

Acquired experience may be demonstrated in two forms:

- the successful completion of the National Examination, or
- many years of experience in the industry with a broad range of experience. The relevant industry experience would be demonstrated via evidence of employment history that shows the broad range of customs broking activities undertaken by the applicant.

All applications for a broker's licence are referred to the National Customs Brokers Licensing Advisory Committee (NCBLAC). When the applicant demonstrates their acquired experience through employment history, NCBLAC will convene an inquiry to test that experience.

At the inquiry the applicant is asked a range of questions that would be similar to those asked in the National Examination, the questions are based on a broad range of topics including the day-to-day activities and responsibilities of being a customs broker.

NCBLAC makes a report to the CEO on the findings of the inquiry, outlining the accuracy of the applicant's responses and the degree of knowledge and acquired industry experience demonstrated. It is the CEO's decision to grant or not grant a broker's licence.

For further information contact Broker Licensing via:

email brokers.licensing@customs.gov.au, or telephone (02) 6275 5784, or fax (02) 6275 6601.