

Maine

Summary

License is recommended for in-state active and passive debt buyers.

License is required for out-of-state debt buyers collecting on debts acquired from Maine creditors or incurred between Maine creditors and Maine debtors.

Resources

Licensing Information:

http://www.maine.gov/pfr/consumercredit/licensing/debt_collector/licensing.htm

Statute: <http://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/32/title32sec11001.html>

Rules: <http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/02/chaps02.htm#030>

Statutory Provisions

§11002. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings:

...

2. Conducting business in this State. "Conducting business in this State" means the collection or attempted collection of a debt due another by a debt collector located in this State; the face-to-face solicitation of creditors in this State as clients and the collection or attempted collection of their debts by a debt collector, wherever located; or the collection or attempted collection of debts incurred between a consumer in this State and creditor in this State by a debt collector, wherever located.

3. Consumer. "Consumer" means any natural person obligated or allegedly obligated to pay any debt.

4. Creditor. "Creditor" means any person who offers or extends credit creating a debt or to whom a debt is owed, but that term does not include any person to the extent that he receives an assignment or transfer of a debt in default solely for the purpose of facilitating collection of that debt for another.

5. Debt. "Debt" means any obligation or alleged obligation of a consumer to pay money arising out of a transaction in which the money, property, insurance or services that are the subject of the transaction are primarily for personal, family or household purposes, whether or not the obligation has been reduced to judgment. "Debt" includes any obligation or alleged obligation for payment of child support owed to, or owed by, a resident of this State and any obligation or alleged obligation relating to a check returned because of insufficient funds if a consumer is subject to an enforcement program operated by a private entity.

6. Debt collector. "Debt collector" means any person conducting business in this State, the principal purpose of which is the collection of any debts, or who regularly collects or attempts to collect, directly or indirectly, debts owed or due or asserted to be owed or due another. . .

§11031. Licenses

1. Licenses required. Except as provided in this subchapter, no person may conduct the business of a debt collector in this State without a valid license issued by the superintendent.