

## Press Releases

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September 29, 2010

### OTS 10-045 - Agencies Issue Final Community Reinvestment Act Rule to Implement Provision of Higher Education Opportunity Act

**Joint Release**

**Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System  
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency  
Office of Thrift Supervision**

For Immediate Release  
September 29, 2010

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**Washington, D.C.** — The federal banking and thrift regulatory agencies today announced a final Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) rule to implement a provision of the Higher Education Opportunity Act.

The provision requires the agencies to consider low-cost higher education loans to low-income borrowers as a positive factor when assessing a financial institution's record of meeting community credit needs under the CRA.

The rule also incorporates a CRA statutory provision that allows the agencies to consider a financial institution's capital investment, loan participation, and other ventures with minority-owned financial institutions, women-owned institutions and low-income credit unions as factors in assessing the institution's CRA record. This provision was published on March 11, 2010, in the Interagency Questions and Answers Regarding Community Reinvestment.

The attached final rule, issued jointly by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and Office of Thrift Supervision, will be published shortly in the Federal Register. More information on CRA regulations and examination procedures is available on the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) website at: <http://www.ffiec.gov/cra>.

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Attachment

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## Related Files

- **10-045A JOINT RELEASE HEOA-CRA - Final Rule** - <http://www.occ.gov/static/news-issuances/ots/press-releases/ots-pr-2010-45a.pdf>