

BECOME YOUR OWN TEACHER, YOU WILL BE A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT

I have been in this industry for almost 7 years. I knew that in order to further my career that obtaining this license was important. I never took it seriously until the third time attempting to pass. I guess I was just naive in thinking that “I do this for a living so how could I not just rely on that to pass this exam.” In addition, I was not ready to look at any book after obtaining my MBA, certainly not the CFR! So, the first time I was definitely not dedicated and *almost* passed. The second time, I was ready to work but was lost on how to organize my time/information and keep to a strict study curriculum. I actually did worse on the second attempt! Needless to say I was frustrated, angry, and feed-up. I knew that I could do this but I just needed guidance on how to get above a 75%. Reading the CFR word for word was not cutting it. It was like that professor you had in school that put 80 power point slides on the screen and read it word-for-word. You do not retain anything and clearly you could not stay interested. In fact, you are wasting your time and better off teaching yourself! But how??

Well, then I realized that I have always been use to the classroom and having structure. I needed this in order to pass. Unfortunately, there was nothing like that in my area and the closest to it was a weeklong intensive that summarized what you should already know by that time the exam was here. I knew I had to set myself up like I was taking an on-line course. This made me a little nervous. I never had an online course and I wondered if I could stay on track without someone forcing me too. I also needed the tools to spin the material in a way that kept me interested. LTS was recommended to me so, without hesitation, I bought the books. I created my own 4 month long study plan. This would allow me to go through the material twice. At first, I dedicated Tues-Wed-Thurs nights and Sat/Sunday mornings at the library. I had to take myself out of the house...too many distractions. Of course, this study curriculum picked up in intensity at the end. Monday was added in and studying all day Saturday or Sunday. I would fall short here and there BUT I always made it up the next day or on the weekend. This was my class and I had to stay disciplined and dedicated. I did not want to do this again, EVER! This was a pass/fail grade with only one shot!

I also took an actual exam every Sunday after I went through the LTS material once starting with 2005. This allowed me to understand the structure of the exam, how they asked questions, making sure I was staying within the time frame, and why I was getting questions wrong. Of course the HTS changed, and some questions were well, questionable. But, I also needed a comfort level with the material AND how to take the exam. Not to mention I did all the chapter questions and previous exam questions in the LTS. The second time I went through the material I would reference the CFR and highlight and review. But, I did not read every regulation word-for-word. I tabbed everything that included important points made in the CFR for ease of reference. I had to know where to go quickly if I was unsure.

Bottom line, LTS gives you the tools that will keep you interested. You have to think like a teacher and apply the dedication required to pass as the student. Do not assume anything, especially that having the workbooks is all you need to pass...it is only hard work, dedication, and understand the material/exam that get you there. LTS provides the material but you need to know how to apply it based on your needs as a student.

Good luck to everyone that is about to take this journey! Special thanks to LTS!!!