

Sec.

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SUBCHAPTER I—COAL LAND ENTRIES IN  
GENERAL**§ 71. Entry of unappropriated or unreserved Federal coal lands; eligibility; application; acreage limitation; price per acre**

Every person above the age of twenty-one years, who is a citizen of the United States, or who has declared his intention to become such, or any association of persons severally qualified as above, shall, upon application to the register of the proper land office, have the right to enter, by legal subdivisions, any quantity of vacant coal lands of the United States not otherwise appropriated or reserved by competent authority, not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres to such individual person, or three hundred and twenty acres to such association, upon payment to the register of not less than \$10 per acre for such lands, where the same shall be situated more than fifteen miles from any completed railroad, and not less than \$20 per acre for such lands as shall be within fifteen miles of such road.

(R.S. § 2347; Mar. 3, 1925, ch. 462, 43 Stat. 1145.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

R.S. § 2347 derived from act Mar. 3, 1873, ch. 279, § 1, 17 Stat. 607.

## AMENDMENTS

1925—Act Mar. 3, 1925, affected words which now read “upon payment to the register of not less than.” Such words originally read “upon payment to the receiver of not less than.” Such act consolidated the offices of receiver and register.

**Executive Documents**

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Office of register of district land office abolished and all functions of register transferred to Secretary of the Interior, or to officers and agencies of Department of the Interior as Secretary may designate, by Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1946, § 403, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7876, 60 Stat. 1100, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

See also note set out under section 1 of this title.

## INDIAN LANDS EXCEPTED

Commenting on this section and sections 72 to 76 of this title the Department of the Interior says:

“While there may be some Indian lands still subject to coal entry by virtue of the provisions of law opening such lands to entry, the coal land laws generally were superseded by the leasing Act of Feb. 25, 1920, 41 Stat. 437 [section 181 et seq. of this title], and it is at least questionable whether the coal land laws should be carried into the Code.”

**§ 72. Preference right of coal mine entry; acreage limitation**

Any person or association of persons severally qualified, as provided in section 71 of this title, who have opened and improved, or shall open and improve, any coal mine or mines upon the public lands, and shall be in actual possession of the same, shall be entitled to a preference right of entry, under section 71 of this title, of the mines so opened and improved: *Provided*, That when any association of not less than four persons, severally qualified as provided in section 71 of this title, shall have expended not less than \$5,000 in working and improving any such mine or mines, such association may enter not exceeding six hundred and forty acres, including such mining improvements.

(R.S. § 2348.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

R.S. § 2348 derived from act Mar. 3, 1873, ch. 279, § 2, 17 Stat. 607.

**Executive Documents**

## INDIAN LANDS EXCEPTED

See note set out under section 71 of this title.

**§ 73. Presentation of claims**

All claims under section 72 of this title must be presented to the register of the proper land district within sixty days after the date of actual possession and the commencement of improvements on the land, by the filing of a declaratory statement therefor; but when the township plat is not on file at the date of such improvement, filing must be made within sixty days from the receipt of such plat at the district office.

(R.S. § 2349.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

R.S. § 2349 derived from act Mar. 3, 1873, ch. 279, § 3, 17 Stat. 607.

**Executive Documents**

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

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See also note set out under section 1 of this title.

## INDIAN LANDS EXCEPTED

See note set out under section 71 of this title.

**§ 74. Number of coal land entries; other entries upon noncompliance with conditions**

Sections 71 to 73 of this title shall be held to authorize only one entry by the same person or association of persons; and no association of persons any member of which shall have taken the