

## Rural Housing Program Eligibility and Underwriting Criteria

<p><b>Eligible Borrowers:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ US Citizens</li> <li>▪ Permanent Resident Aliens</li> <li>▪ Non-Permanent Resident Aliens</li> <li>▪ Must have valid Social Security number and eligible to work in the US</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ineligible Transactions:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Non-Occupant Co-Borrowers, corporations and Partnerships are not allowed</li> <li>▪ Loans that are in TRUSTS. Cannot close as a trust</li> <li>▪ Loans where borrower owns other homes-exceptions</li> <li>▪ Household income that exceeds maximum allowable</li> <li>▪ Transactions where the interest rate exceeds the Fannie Mae 30 year Actual/Actual 90 remittance rate PLUS 100 basis points rounded up to the next ¼%. These rates can be found on the Fannie Mae Website - Historical Daily Required Yields at: <a href="http://www.efanniemae.com/sf/refmaterials/hrny/index.jsp">http://www.efanniemae.com/sf/refmaterials/hrny/index.jsp</a></li> <li>▪ A borrower that could qualify for a 20% down 30 year fixed conventional loan</li> </ul>
<p><b>Loan Term/Program:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conf 30 Year Fixed Rate Rural Housing only</li> </ul>
<p><b>Occupancy and Eligible Property Type:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Owner occupied, primary residence</li> <li>▪ SFR's</li> <li>▪ PUD's</li> <li>▪ Condos – Attached condos <b>must be on an approved list ** Can run CPM</b></li> <li>▪ Modular</li> <li>▪ Must be located in rural areas, as defined by local RHS office. These generally have populations less than 10,000 (20,000 if located outside MSA).</li> <li>▪ Property must also have all weather access to a street, road or driveway</li> <li>▪ Property must have dependable water and waste disposal</li> <li>▪ Manufactured Homes (new construction)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ineligible Properties:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Properties located in a flood zone if flood insurance is not available.</li> <li>▪ Properties located in a mudslide zone.</li> <li>▪ Properties that are located in an area not designated as rural by RHS.</li> <li>▪ Properties that are active income producing properties</li> </ul>
<p><b>Community Property States:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must include debt from spouse in debt ratio calculation in Community Property States. A tri-merge credit report is required for the spouse not on loan.</li> </ul>

## Rural Housing Program Eligibility and Underwriting Criteria

<p><b>Underwriting:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ GUS - Accept/Accept; Accept/Eligible. Loans receiving Refer are generally, NOT acceptable (see below requirements)</li> <li>▪ To determine income and eligibility limits: <a href="http://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov">http://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov</a></li> <li>▪ To determine if a property is located in an eligible rural area, <a href="http://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov/eligibility/">http://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov/eligibility/</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Credit Score 620-639/Refer:</b></p>	<p>All minimum credit scores of 620 must be met, regardless of GUS approval. <b>Scores from 620-639</b> must meet the following additional requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Borrower must have a 12-month rental history verified by canceled checks, bank statements, or money orders. A written VOR is <b>not</b> acceptable. 0x30.</li> <li>▪ Borrower can own no other property</li> <li>▪ No secondary financing allowed.</li> <li>▪ DTI must meet USDA DTI of max 29/41, <b>no exceptions.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Files over 639 score that receive a refer:</b></p>	<p>Scores over 639 that receive a refer/eligible will be considered on a case by case basis provided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The borrower must have 12-months rental history verified by canceled checks, bank statements, or money orders. A written VOR is <b>not</b> acceptable. 0x30</li> <li>▪ DTI meets USDA DTI of max 29/41 <b>no exceptions</b></li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b> two of the following are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Housing payment shock cannot be greater than 115% OF current rent</li> <li>▪ Borrower has two months PITIA reserves after loan closes</li> <li>▪ Borrower has been on the same job for two or more years</li> <li>▪ Any Derogatory credit on credit report must be greater 12 months</li> <li>▪ Must be a minimum of 4 satisfactory trade lines including nontraditional credit. One must be 12 months of rental history</li> </ul>

## Rural Housing Program Eligibility and Underwriting Criteria

<b>General Credit:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Credit Score:</b> No minimum credit score; however, must receive Accept recommendation</li> <li>▪ <b>**Trade Lines:</b> At least ONE borrower must show a minimum of two (2) traditional historical trade lines that have existed for a minimum of 12 months to validate the credit regardless of whether the AUS shows Accept.</li> <li>▪ <b>Tax Liens or Delinquent Federal Debt:</b> No outstanding tax liens or delinquent government debt allowed</li> <li>▪ <b>Bankruptcy or Foreclosure:</b> None allowed in the last 36 months. Chapter 13 allowed if one year paid out on time under repayment and approval through Trustee</li> <li>▪ <b>Mortgage/Rent:</b> NO mortgage and/or Rent late payments in the last 12 months</li> <li>▪ <b>Judgments:</b> Must be paid in full. Exceptions if on payment arrangement and can evidence at least 3 payments made (not pre-paid) prior to the application date</li> <li>▪ <b>Short Sales:</b> Must be 3 years from short sale date to be eligible if applicant was in default at time of short sale. If applicant was current at time of short sale and had made on time mortgage payments for the 12 months preceding the short sale date as well as all installment debt on time during same period, then eligible without the 3-year waiting period.</li> </ul>
<b>CAIVRS and SAM:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All borrowers must be screened for CAIVRS</li> <li>▪ <u>All participants to the loan</u> must be screened in SAM. The screening MUST have been within 30 days of closing. Participants include borrowers, sellers, loan officer, processor, etc. Evidence must be retained in file.</li> </ul>
<b>Collection Accounts:</b>	<p>If collective balance less than \$2000 (excluding medical), does not necessary need to be paid but may require a letter of explanation. Subject to Underwriter If collective balance is &gt;=\$2000, then must be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Paid in full prior to closing; or</li> <li>2) Evidence of payment arrangement and included in debt ratio; or</li> <li>3) 5% of the outstanding balance will be used in debt ratio</li> </ol> <p>**Please note that paying down a collection to get below \$2000 is not acceptable</p>

## Rural Housing Program Eligibility and Underwriting Criteria

<b>Co-Signed Debts:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Debts which have been co-signed by the applicant for another party will be considered in the total debt ratio unless the applicant provides evidence another party has made the payment in the previous 12 months PRIOR to the loan application.</li> <li>▪ If Co-Signed Debts show late payments in the previous 12 months, the debt will be included in debt ratio regardless of who has made the payments</li> <li>▪ Joint accounts are NOT considered as co-signed and any account jointly held will be included in debt ratios</li> </ul>
<b>Disputed Accounts:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must be removed from credit and new credit pulled to evidence no accounts in dispute unless:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The disputed trade line has a zero-dollar balance; or</li> <li>2) The disputed trade line is marked as "paid in full" or "resolved"; or</li> <li>3) The disputed trade line has a balance of less than \$500 and is more than 24 months old</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<b>Authorized User Accounts:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In order to be eligible, any authorized user account must:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) be owned by another applicant on the mortgage loan application; or</li> <li>2) be owned by the spouse to the person on the mortgage loan application or;</li> <li>3) show that the applicant has made payments on the account for the previous 12 months.</li> </ol> <p>If the above cannot be documented, the applicant must be removed off account and authorized user account must be removed from the credit report, otherwise the loan will not eligible for purchase.</p> </li> </ul>
<b>Maximum Debt Ratio:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Per AUS with an Accept Recommendation. Standard ratios 29/41%</li> </ul>

## Rural Housing Program Eligibility and Underwriting Criteria

<b>Monthly Debts:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Installment Debt:</b> Must include installment debts with more than 10 monthly payments remaining.</li> <li>▪ <b>Revolving Debt:</b> with an outstanding balance must always be included in debt ratio.</li> <li>▪ <b>Student Loans:</b> Must include Student Loans regardless of whether they are deferred. We will include the greater of 1% of the outstanding balance or the verified fixed payment as reflected on credit report. Exceptions to above may apply to above. Please refer to the RD guidebook for additional information on exceptions.</li> <li>▪ <b>Debt not on Credit Report:</b> If credit report does not show payment history, third party verification is required. Example: alimony, child support or separate maintenance fee, obtain pages from applicable agreement to evidence the required monthly payment and duration of debt and must verify most recent 12-month payment history.</li> <li>▪ <b>Previous Mortgage:</b> If a previous mortgage liability has been disposed of through a sale, trade or transfer WITHOUT RELEASE OF LIABILITY, it will be included in total debt ratio unless evidence can be obtained that another party has made the payments for a minimum of 12 months PRIOR TO APPLICATION DATE. These are typically found in divorce situations where one person is awarded the home via court order. ** Do NOT have to include Union Dues, 401k loans or child care expense when calculating debt ratios.</li> </ul>
<b>Appraisal/ Inspections:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One full appraisal completed by a FHA roster appraiser is required (1004/1073). Both the sales comparison and cost approach must be developed to determine value.</li> <li>▪ Appraisal are good for 120 days</li> <li>▪ Economic Remaining life as indicated on appraisal must meet or exceed the term of the loan</li> <li>▪ Private Roads and Shared Drives: Must have permanently recorded easements that are binding to successors and title</li> <li>▪ Must meet HUD minimum setback distances for well and septic</li> <li>▪ Inspections:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Septic: <u>Only</u> if the appraiser requests additional inspection</li> <li>2) Well Water: Always test water county/state health Department or lab. <b>Must test Lead, Nitrates and Coliform</b></li> <li>3) Termite: <b>Only</b> if appraiser requests inspection</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

## Rural Housing Program Eligibility and Underwriting Criteria

<b>General Income/ Employment:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must document a full 2-year employment/Income History If Self Employed, require Current P &amp; L and Balance Sheet through latest quarter, along with 2 years of tax returns (personal and business all schedules)</li> <li>▪ Tax Transcripts required for all borrowers</li> </ul>
<b>Borrower Income Limits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The applicant(s) annual adjusted HOUSEHOLD income meets the adjusted income limits in accordance with size of household, county and State in which the applicant(s) will reside. Includes earnings of all adult household members</li> <li>▪ To determine income eligibility limits: <a href="http://eligibility.sc.gov.uscla.gov">http://eligibility.sc.gov.uscla.gov</a></li> </ul>
<b>Assets:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If assets are needed for either cash to close or reserves, an AVERAGE of the most recent 2 months liquid accounts will be used to determine available amount- NOT THE MOST CURRENT BALANCE</li> <li>▪ 401k: Can use 60% of the vested balance. Any funds borrowed against cannot be used for reserves. Terms of withdrawal.</li> </ul>
<b>Reserves:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gifts CANNOT be used for cash reserves</li> </ul>
<b>Gifts:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allowed from non-household members only</li> <li>▪ A verifiable gift letter stating that no repayment is required</li> <li>▪ Must documents that the transfer of funds from donor to borrower(s)</li> <li>▪ Gifts should not contribute to cash reserves or be used as compensating factor. Can only be used for cash needed to close or to pay of installment debt if needed.</li> </ul>
<b>Maximum LTV:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Purchase: 100% LTV of the Appraised value up to <b>101.01</b> LTV is allowed when the guarantee fee is financed. (all recurring and nonrecurring closing costs may be included)</li> <li>▪ Refi: 100% LTV of the Appraised Value up to 101.01 LTV is allowed when the guarantee fee is financed. (may include all recurring and nonrecurring closing costs)</li> </ul>
<b>LTV Limits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ N/A</li> </ul>
<b>Secondary Financing:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Secondary financing may be used if it is approved by RHS and is offered by city or county agencies.</li> </ul>

## Rural Housing Program Eligibility and Underwriting Criteria

<b>Minimum Loan Amount:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>						
<b>Maximum Loan Amount:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Guaranteed: (conforming loan limit)</li> </ul>						
<b>Guarantee Fee:</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Transaction Type</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Guarantee Fee Not Financed</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Guarantee Fee Financed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Purchase and Rate/Term Refinance Transactions</td> <td>           Multiply the loan amount by 1.0% and round to the nearest cent.   <b>Example:</b>  <math>\\$100,000 \times .1\% = \\$1,000</math> </td> <td>           The fee is calculated as follows:            1. Multiply base loan amount by 1.0% and round to the nearest cent.   <b>Example:</b>  <math>\\$100,000 \times 1.01\% = \\$1010.00</math> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Transaction Type	Guarantee Fee Not Financed	Guarantee Fee Financed	Purchase and Rate/Term Refinance Transactions	Multiply the loan amount by 1.0% and round to the nearest cent.  <b>Example:</b> $\$100,000 \times .1\% = \$1,000$	The fee is calculated as follows: 1. Multiply base loan amount by 1.0% and round to the nearest cent.  <b>Example:</b> $\$100,000 \times 1.01\% = \$1010.00$
Transaction Type	Guarantee Fee Not Financed	Guarantee Fee Financed					
Purchase and Rate/Term Refinance Transactions	Multiply the loan amount by 1.0% and round to the nearest cent.  <b>Example:</b> $\$100,000 \times .1\% = \$1,000$	The fee is calculated as follows: 1. Multiply base loan amount by 1.0% and round to the nearest cent.  <b>Example:</b> $\$100,000 \times 1.01\% = \$1010.00$					
<b>Other Restrictions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Energy efficient mortgages not allowed</li> <li>▪ Refinances can only be used when refinancing current rural housing development loans must be run through GUS. No manual underwriting.</li> <li>▪ Prepayment penalty not allowed</li> <li>▪ Assumability not allowed</li> <li>▪ Construction modification not allowed</li> <li>▪ <u>Escrow holdbacks are allowed with restrictions:</u></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>***WEATHER RELATED ONLY***</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A signed contract and bid schedule is in effect for the proposed exterior development work. <b>Must</b> provide 2 Bids.</li> <li>2. The contract for development work must provide for completion within 120 days</li> <li>3. For chipping and peeling paint; *If home is built prior to 1978 contractor must be certified to handle lead-based paint.</li> <li>4. The escrow account must be funded in an amount sufficient to assure the completion of the remaining work. This figure should be 150% of the cost of completion buy may be higher if the lender determines a higher amount is needed.</li> </ol>						

## Rural Housing Program Eligibility and Underwriting Criteria

<b>MI Requirements:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Monthly MI factor of .35</li> <li>▪ Calculated on Final Loan Amount</li> <li>▪ Declining Balance Method</li> <li>▪ Life of Loan</li> </ul>
<b>Interested Party Contributions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 6% allowed toward recurring and non-recurring closing costs</li> </ul>
<b>Refinance Requirements:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The interest rate on the new mortgage must be at least 100 basis points less than the current rate on the existing loan</li> <li>▪ The security must include the same property as the original loan. The security property must be owner-occupied as the borrowers primary residence</li> <li>▪ Any existing secondary financing must be subordinate to the first lien</li> <li>▪ Cash out is not allowed</li> <li>▪ Maximum loan amount cannot exceed the balance of the loan being refinanced, plus the guarantee fee and reasonable and customary closing costs (including funds necessary to establish a new tax and insurance escrow account). Subordinate financing, such as home equity lines of credit and down payment assistance "silent" seconds, cannot be included in the new loan amount. Unpaid fees, such as late fees due the servicer, cannot be included in new loan amount.</li> <li>▪ Must have 12 months seasoning on current loan being paid off to refinance</li> <li>▪ No mortgage late payments in the last 12 months</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Required Forms:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Debt Ratio Waiver Request/Payment Shock (to allow ratios over 29/41) - Underwriter</li> <li>▪ Adverse Credit History Waiver Request - Underwriter</li> <li>▪ A signed and dated IRS form 4506-T completed at application and closing and is required for all borrowers. (Both 4506-T form must be provided in the loan file delivered for purchase and must include authorization for transcripts for the most recent two years)</li> <li>▪ Income Eligibility Calculation Worksheet (correspondent lending form) - Originator</li> <li>▪ Request for Single Family Housing Loan Guarantee (Form 3555-21) - Originator</li> <li>▪ Conditional Commitment for Single Family Housing Loan Guarantee (Form 3555-18) with completed Lender Certification - Post Closing</li> <li>▪ Guaranteed Loan Closing Report (Form 3555-19) - Post Closing</li> <li>▪ Original Loan Note Guarantee (Form 3555-17) - Post Closing</li> <li>▪ Lender Record Change (Form 3555-11) - Post Closing</li> <li>▪ Certification of Completion, if applicable</li> <li>▪ Stacking Sheet - Post Closing</li> </ul>



## Rural Housing Program Eligibility and Underwriting Criteria

<p><b>Additional Closing Requirements:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Guarantee fee to be taken directly from RD approval. (Any stips for approval must be met)</li> <li>▪ <u>NO MONEY back</u> at closing EXCEPT EMD and borrower paid fees such as appraisal and credit that can be documented as paid with borrower funds</li> <li>▪ Fees paid with credit card or borrowed funds and/or tax proration credits CANNOT result in cash back to applicant(s)</li> <li>▪ 4% late charge</li> <li>▪ Non Assumable</li> </ul>
<p><b>Servicing Lender Information:</b></p>	<p>The following is required on the Lender Record Change Form:</p> <p><b>Lender Tax ID#:</b> 38-2434249  <b>Address:</b> 2170 E. Big Beaver Road, Suite A  Troy, MI 48083</p>
<p><b>Rural Housing Program Contact:</b></p>	<p>The Rural Development office locator website is:  <a href="http://office.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state+us/agency=rd">http://office.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state+us/agency=rd</a></p>