

USDA SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM (SFHGLP)  Standard and High Balance Matrix <sup>1</sup>				
OCCUPANCY	PROPERTY TYPE	LOAN PURPOSE	MAX LTV/CLTV	MIN CREDIT SCORE
Primary Residence	1-unit SFR/PUD/Condo	Purchase	100%	600
		Rate/Term Refinance	100%	600
		Streamline Refinance	105%	620

PRODUCT OFFERINGS	USDA MATRIX NOTES
30 YR FIXED     30 YR STREAMLINE     Nonstandard terms available	<ul> <li>Minimum loan amount is \$50,000</li> <li>Calculate LTV/CLTV using the base loan amount (excluding upfront guarantee fee)</li> <li>LTV may exceed 100% of appraised value only to include the upfront guarantee fee</li> <li>LTV/CLTV max of 90% or identity of interest and non-arm's length transactions</li> </ul>
radiotalidara toffile available	<ul> <li>New home purchase transactions that do meet the minimum requirements are limited to a 90% LTV, refer to HB-1-3555 SFH Guaranteed Loan Program Handbook Ch.12 for details</li> </ul>

2025 CONFORMING LOAN LIMITS			
UNITS	GENERAL LIMITS	HIGH COST LIMITS	AK, GUAM, HI, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS
1	\$806,550	\$1,209,750	\$1,209,750

### **USDA SFHGLP PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

All loans must be eligible for and guaranteed under the USDA SFHGLP.

Overlays in this matrix apply to USDA SFHGLP guidelines. Refer to the HB-1-3555 SFH Guaranteed Loan Program Handbook for additional guidance. Information in this matrix is subject to change without notice.



TOPICS	GUIDELINES/OVERLAYS
Age of Credit and Loan Documents	<ul> <li>USDA requires all credit docs to be dated within 120 as of loan closing (Note date)</li> <li>Underwriting has discretion to condition for updated credit documents when needed to support approval decision</li> </ul>
Appraisals	Appraisals must conform to the USDA's minimum property requirements. Underwriters must ensure the property is eligible for the Single-Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program (SFHGLP)
	<ul> <li>Appraisal Age: Appraisal must have been completed within 150 days of loan closing. An appraisal older than 150 days prior to closing is eligible for an appraisal update</li> </ul>
	• <b>Appraisal Form:</b> For all transactions other than Streamline Refinance transactions, a full appraisal report must be completed using the appropriate form:
	<ul> <li>One-Unit Single Family Dwelling: Uniform Residential Appraisal Report (FNMA Form 1004/FHLMC Form 70)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Condominium: Uniform Residential Appraisal Report for Individual Condominium Unit (FNMA Form 1073/FHLMC form 465). Property ratings of C5 and C6 are not allowed unless issues that caused the ratings are cured prior to closing</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Private Well and Wastewater System that meets requirements of FHA SF Handbook or meets requirements of local and/or state health authority do not require additional inspections other than water purity tests</li> </ul>
	Streamlined Refinance Transactions: Streamlined Refinance transactions require a valuation product
Assets and Reserves	<ul> <li>Assets must be documented as determined by GUS, as applicable, and in accordance with USDA SFHGLP guidelines</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Internet Statements obtained from financial institution's website must contain the same information found on a standard bank statement</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Gift funds are eligible for funds to close, but not eligible for reserves. Gifts of equity, sweat equity, and rent credits are not eligible sources of funds. Refer to HB-1-3555 and Attachment 9-A for individual asset types and options for documentation and verification.</li> </ul>
Borrower Eligibility	<ul> <li>General Requirements: All borrowers must meet USDA borrower eligibility requirements including:</li> <li>US citizens</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Permanent residents are allowed and must follow HB-1-3555 Ch. 8</li> <li>Non-permanent residents are temporarily ineligible</li> </ul>

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TOPICS	GUIDELINES/OVERLAYS
	<ul> <li>Corporation, Limited Liability Company (LLC), Partnership or other Business Entity are <u>not</u> eligible</li> <li>Loans with co-signers and non-occupant co-borrowers are not permitted (applicants must personally occupy the dwelling as a principal residence)</li> <li>All borrowers must have a valid SSN</li> <li>Maximum of four borrowers per loan</li> </ul>
Compliance, High Cost Loan, Qualified Mortgage (QM)	<ul> <li>Loans exceeding any applicable federal, state, or municipal High-Cost limits (HOEPA) are not eligible</li> <li>Loans must be Qualified Mortgage (QM), Safe Harbor, or Rebuttable Presumption; USDA provides a definition of QM in <u>7 CFR 3555.109</u> Qualified Mortgage</li> <li>Rebuttable Presumption QM USDA loans are eligible if they meet USDA requirements and applicable laws</li> </ul>
Condominiums	<ul> <li>Condominium: Units located in a project approved or accepted by HUD/FHA, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, or VA are eligible for guarantee</li> <li>Project must be reviewed to ensure compliance with HUD/FHA, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, or VA and certify documentation to support project approval or acceptable has been reviewed</li> <li>Site Condominium: Project approval may not be required if they meet these criteria:</li> <li>Single family totally detached dwelling encumbered by a declaration of condominium covenant or condominium form of ownership</li> <li>The unit has no shared garage or any other attached buildings (i.e. archways, breezeways)</li> <li>The condominium unit consists of the entire structure, site and air space and is not considered to be common areas or limited common areas</li> <li>Planned Unit Development (PUD): Loans may be guaranteed for PUD single family dwellings the same as for single family dwellings not in a PUD (Refer to HB-1-3555, CH. 12 for Ineligible Condominium Project Characteristics)</li> </ul>
Credit Eligibility	<ul> <li>Delinquent non-tax federal debt and delinquent court-ordered child support will render an applicant ineligible</li> <li>CAIVRS response for all applicants must be "A" for applicants to be eligible for a guaranteed loan</li> </ul>



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Credit Requirements	RMCR credit report or traditional tri-merge is required for each borrower. Non-Traditional Merged Credit Report (NTMCR are not acceptable.
	GUS Accept loans do not require Credit Score Validation
	A minimum of two eligible tradelines are required to validate the credit score; eligible tradelines include credit accounts (installment, revolving, etc.) with at least 12 months of repayment history reported on the credit report
	USDA will not accept a credit score less than 600 under any circumstance
	<ul> <li>Manual underwriting is not permitted on USDA loans</li> </ul>
	Non-traditional Credit: Non-traditional credit is not allowed
	Adverse Credit:
	• If the applicant has a repayment plan with the creditor for a charged off debt, include the payment in the Asset and Liabilities GUS application page or on the loan application
	• Non-medical collections totaling more than \$2,000 must be paid in full—OR—have a satisfactory payment arrangement documented in the file—OR—use 5% of the balance to qualify. Charge-offs and medical collections are not to be included in the total.
	• Consumer Credit Counseling Plan: Payments must be included in the debt-to-income ratio (DTI); written permission from the counseling agency and recommendation for approval must be documented
	• Federal Debt and Judgements: Borrowers who are delinquent on federal debts, or if SFHGLP suffered any loss related to a previous loan (under most circumstances) may not be eligible for a guaranteed loan
	• Major Adverse Credit – No major credit events allowed within last 36 months. Seasoning is measured from date of title transfer/discharge/dismissal to closing date.
	• Non-Federal Judgements: Open and unpaid non-federal judgments are ineligible. <i>Exception:</i> Non-federal judgments must be 1) paid in full, or 2) there must be a current three-month history of regular payments
Debt-to-Income Ratio (DTI)	Ratios are Determined by GUS findings Accept/Eligible
	Manual underwriting is not allowed
Deed Restrictions (Resale Deed Restrictions)	Mortgage loans subject to resale deed restrictions, other than an acceptable Age Deed Restriction on a one-unit property for borrower's principal residence are <u>not</u> eligible



TOPICS	GUIDELINES/OVERLAYS
Disaster Policy	Refer to the Disaster Area Policy for requirements
Down Payment Assistance	<ul> <li>Down Payment assistance products may not be combined with USDA products. Examples include but are not limited to Homebuyer Assistance Program (HAP), Housing Authority Subsidy, a Mortgage Credit Certificate (MCC).</li> </ul>
Electronic Signatures (eSignatures)	<ul> <li>The following mortgage loan documents may not contain eSignatures:         <ul> <li>Note and Rider(s) to the Note</li> <li>Notice of Right to Cancel</li> <li>Power of Attorney</li> <li>Security Instrument and Rider(s) to the Security Instrument</li> <li>COVID -19 Temporary Attestation</li> </ul> </li> <li>Electronic Signatures must meet USDA requirements and applicable laws, including compliance with the ESIGN Act Policy on Use of Electronic Signatures; the E-Sign Act, Compliance and Technology</li> </ul>
Escrow Holdback	Not Allowed
Escrow/Impounds	Escrow/Impound Account: An escrow/impound account is required for all USDA guaranteed loans for payment of taxes and insurance premiums (unless otherwise prohibited by applicable law); USDA requires escrow accounts for collection of the monthly portion of the Guaranteed Annual Fee
	• Established Data Tolerances: Lender is <u>not</u> required to update the Underwriting Analysis of a loan that has received a Conditional Commitment for Loan Note Guarantee when monthly tax and insurance payments increase but do not exceed the established thresholds (cumulative total of \$50); the threshold policy should not be construed to allow lender manipulation of escrow variables to obtain approvals)
Flood Insurance	Existing and New Construction in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA): If not served by a public sewer system with on-site septic or sewage treatment systems must have a drinking water supply that is protected from cross-contamination from the on-site septic/sewage treatment during flooding
Geographic Restrictions	Loans originated in the US Territories are ineligible
Homeownership Counseling	Certain USDA Rural Development state offices require Homeownership Counseling for first-time homebuyers; proof of borrower's homebuyer education completion is required (if applicable)



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Identity of Interest	<ul> <li>Maximum 90% LTV/CLTV (before Guarantee Fee) for Identity of Interest and Non-Arm's Length transactions</li> </ul>
Income	The following types of income are unacceptable:
	<ul> <li>Income that is not in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Any income generated from the cannabis or hemp industry</li> </ul>
	Adjusted Annual Income: Calculated by subtracting eligible deductions from the annual income figure.
	<ul> <li>Household Eligibility for the USDA Guaranteed Loan is determined using the Adjusted Annual Income</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Certification household Adjusted Annual Income threshold (limit) is not exceeded per the state and county where the dwelling is located is required.</li> </ul>
	• Annual Income: Calculated for the ensuing 12 months, based on income verification, documentation, and household composition
	<ul> <li>Annual Income includes all eligible income sources from all adult household members, not just parties on the Note</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Annual Income for the household is used to calculate the Adjusted Annual Income:</li> </ul>
	• 12-month calculation is based on income verifications, documentation, household composition, and (if applicable) verified changes of income amounts or sources in the ensuing 12 months.
	<ul> <li>Income sources that will not be received for the entire ensuing 12 months are included in annual income unless excluded under 3555.152(b)(5)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Significant variance (increase or decrease of 20% or greater) in income from the previous 12 months must be analyzed and documented to determine "stable and dependable" income</li> </ul>
Ineligible Programs	Construction to Perm loans
	Construction and/or Land Loans or Land Sale Contracts
	Energy Efficient Mortgages (EEMs) and Rural Energy Plus
	Farm Residence Loans
	Loans for Tribal (Native Americans Trust) Lands
	Temporary Buydowns



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Ineligible Properties	<ul> <li>Assisted Living Facilities with medical services or other types of assisted care facilities</li> <li>Barndominiums</li> <li>Bed and Breakfast Homes</li> <li>Boarding Houses</li> <li>Condotels</li> <li>Container Homes</li> <li>Co-op</li> <li>Exotic or Non-traditional structure, such as dome or log home</li> <li>Hawaii Property in Lava Zone 1 or 2</li> <li>Houseboat</li> <li>Manufactured Home, Mobile Home, and On-frame Modular Home</li> <li>Native American Indian Trust, Tribal Land Loan</li> <li>Vacant land or land development properties</li> <li>Working Farm or Ranch</li> </ul>
Loan Purpose – Refinance (General Requirements)	<ul> <li>Interest Rate: Interest Rate of the new loan must be fixed and may not exceed the interest rate of the loan being refinanced.</li> <li>Unpaid Fees, past due interest, and late fees/penalties due to the servicer cannot be included in the new loan amount.</li> <li>Refinance Types:         <ul> <li>Eligible Refinance Types:</li> <li>Non-Streamline Refinance</li> <li>Streamline Refinance</li> <li>Ineligible Refinance Transactions:                 <ul> <li>Refinance of certain Construction financing types, including site without dwelling refinance</li> <li>Refinance of Existing Section 502 Direct Loan (including Section 502 Leveraged Loan)</li> <li>Streamline Assist Refinance Transaction</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Seasoning: The existing USDA loan being refinanced must have closed 180 days prior to the request for Conditional Commitment and may not have a delinquency greater than 30 days within the 180-day period</li> <li>For Refinance Transactions in Texas, also see Loan Purpose – Refinance (Texas)</li> </ul>



TOPICS	GUIDELINES/OVERLAYS
Loan Purpose – Refinance (Streamline)	<ul> <li>Streamline Refinance: USDA and GNMA seasoning requirements apply for Streamlined Refinance transactions and must meet the refinance requirements:</li> <li>Loan Amount: Maximum loan amount may include the principal and interest of the existing loan, reasonable and customary closing costs, and the Upfront Guarantee Fee</li> <li>Seasoning: In addition to USDA seasoning requirements, GNMA seasoning requirements must be met:         <ul> <li>The borrower has made at least 6 consecutive monthly payments on the loan being refinanced (cannot prepay). Referred to hereinafter as the initial loan, beginning with the payment made on the first payment due date AND</li> <li>The first payment due date of the refinance occurs no earlier than 210 days after the first payment due date</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Loan Purpose – Refinance (Texas)	<ul> <li>Texas Refinance restrictions apply:         <ul> <li>Texas (a)(6) Cash-out: Not eligible</li> <li>Texas (f)(2): Not eligible for USDA Streamline Refinance transactions</li> <li>Texas SJR allows refinance of a home equity loan (a)(6) as a Rate and Term Refinance Transaction (f)(2) provided certain conditions are met</li> </ul> </li> <li>Non-Streamlined Rate and Term USDA Refinance, Texas (f)(2) are eligible, subject to meeting requirements of the Texas Constitution, including:         <ul> <li>Refinance Loan is closed at least one yar after the (a)(6) Home Equity Loan was closed.</li> <li>Funds: No additional funds are advanced other than funds to refinance the existing debt, actual closing costs, and required reserves (Rate and Term)</li> <li>LTV/CLTV/HLCTV: Transaction cannot exceed 80% LTV/CLTV/HCLTV of the fair market value of the subject property</li> <li>Disclosure Notice: A 12-day notice [(f)(2) Disclosure] informing the borrower of their rights associated with an equity or non-equity home loan is required; the Disclosure must be delivered or placed in the mail no later than 3 business days after an owner submits an application specifically for an (f)(2) loan, and at least 12 days prior to loan closing</li> <li>Borrower Affidavit: The loan file must contain a separate affidavit signed by the owner acknowledging that requirements of Texas Section 50(f)(2) have been met</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Power of Attorney (POA)	A POA may not be eSigned and must be specific to the transaction

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TOPICS	GUIDELINES/OVERLAYS
Purchase Contract Assigned	Transactions with purchase contracts that have been assigned are not eligible
Subordinate Financing/Junior Lien	<ul> <li>All Jr. Liens must be paid off through transaction</li> <li>New subordinate financing is not eligible</li> </ul>
Tax Transcripts / 4506-C	IRS Transcripts are required for all applicable household members
Trusts	<ul> <li>Only an Inter Vivos Revocable Living Trust acceptable; other trust types are <u>not</u> eligible</li> <li>Documents for loans where title is taken in a trust <u>cannot</u> be signed with a Power of Attorney</li> </ul>