

# FHA SF HANDBOOK EXCERPTS

## FHA Single Family Housing Policy Handbook (HUD Handbook 4000.1)

"A Live Webinar: The Single Family Housing Policy Handbook In-Depth" August 20, 2015 and August 25, 2015

CREDIT (MANUAL U	CREDIT (MANUAL UNDERWRITING)				
CHAPTER 4. BORROWER ELIGIBILITY AND CREDIT ANALYSIS Section C. Borrower Credit Analysis	EXCERPTS FROM PRIOR HANDBOOK 4155.1 MORTGAGE CREDIT ANALYSIS FOR MORTGAGE INSURANCE ON ONE- TO FOUR-UNIT MORTGAGE LOANS (4155.1) http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddo c?id=4155-1_4_secC.pdf	II. ORIGINATION THROUGH POST- CLOSING/ENDORSEMENT A. Title II Insured Housing Programs Forward Mortgages	EXCERPTS FROM NEW FHA SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING POLICY HANDBOOK (HUD HANDBOOK 4000.1) http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc ?id=40001HSGH.pdf		
2. Guidelines for Credit Report Review 4155.1 4.C.2.a Hierarchy of Credit Review (PAGE 167, 4-C-7)	Evaluating credit involves reviewing payment histories in the following order:  • first: previous housing expenses, including utilities, • second: installment debts, • third: revolving accounts.  Generally, a borrower is considered to have an acceptable credit history if he/she does not have late housing or installment debt payments, unless there is major derogatory credit on his/her revolving accounts.	5. Manual Underwriting of the Borrower a. Credit Requirements (Manual)  PAGE 204	(A) General Credit (Manual) The underwriter must examine the Borrower's overall pattern of credit behavior, not just isolated unsatisfactory or slow payments, to determine the Borrower's creditworthiness. The Mortgagee must not consider the credit history of a non-borrowing spouse.  (B) Types of Payment Histories (Manual) The underwriter must evaluate the Borrower's payment histories in the following order: (1) previous housing expenses and related expenses,		
4155.1 4.C.2.b	The borrower's housing obligation payment history		previous housing expenses and related expenses, including utilities; (2) installment debts; and (3)		



Reviewing Previous Rental or Mortgage Payment

(PAGE 168, 4-C-8)

holds significant importance when evaluating credit. The lender must determine the borrower's housing obligation payment history through the

- credit report
- verification of rent received directly from the landlord (for landlords with no identity-ofinterest with the borrower)
- verification of mortgage received directly from the mortgage servicer, or
- review of canceled checks that cover the most recent 12-month period.

**Note**: The lender must verify and document the previous 12 months' housing history even if the borrower states he/she was living rent-free.

**TOTAL Scorecard Accept/Approve Recommendation** 

If the loan receives an Accept/Approve recommendation from the Technology Open To Approved Lenders (TOTAL) Scorecard, the housing/rental history requirement stated above is waived.

**Reference**: For more information on the TOTAL Scorecard recommendations, see the *TOTAL Mortgage Scorecard User Guide*.

revolving accounts.

#### (1) Satisfactory Credit

The underwriter may consider a Borrower to have an acceptable payment history if the Borrower has made all housing and installment debt payments on time for the previous 12 months and has no more than two 30-Day late Mortgage Payments or installment payments in the previous 24 months.

The underwriter may approve the Borrower with an acceptable payment history if the Borrower has no major derogatory credit on revolving accounts in the previous 12 months.

Major derogatory credit on revolving accounts must include any payments made more than 90 Days after the due date, or three or more payments more than 60 Days after the due date.

#### (2) Payment History Requiring Additional Analysis

If a Borrower's credit history does not reflect satisfactory credit as stated above, the Borrower's payment history requires additional analysis.

The Mortgagee must analyze the Borrower's delinquent accounts to determine whether late payments were based on a disregard for financial obligations, an inability to manage debt, or





extenuating circumstances. The Mortgagee must document this analysis in the mortgage file. Any explanation or documentation of delinquent accounts must be consistent with other information in the file.

The underwriter may only approve a Borrower with a credit history not meeting the satisfactory credit history above if the underwriter has documented the delinquency was related to extenuating circumstances.

# (C) Payment History on Housing Obligations (Manual)

The Mortgagee must determine the Borrower's Housing Obligation payment history through:

- the credit report;
- verification of rent received directly from the landlord (for landlords with no Identity of Interest with the Borrower);
- verification of Mortgage received directly from the mortgage servicer; or
- a review of canceled checks that cover the most recent 12-month period.

The Mortgagee must verify and document the previous 12 months' housing history. For Borrowers who indicate they are living rent-free, the Mortgagee must obtain verification from the property owner where they are residing that the





	Borrower has been living rent-free and the amount of time the Borrower has been living rent free.
	A Mortgage that has been modified must utilize the payment history in accordance with the modification agreement for the time period of modification in determining late housing payments.



LIABILITIES/PROJECT	ED OBLIGATIONS		
CHAPTER 4. BORROWER ELIGIBILITY AND CREDIT ANALYSIS Section C. Borrower Credit Analysis	EXCERPTS FROM PRIOR HANDBOOK 4155.1 MORTGAGE CREDIT ANALYSIS FOR MORTGAGE INSURANCE ON ONE- TO FOUR-UNIT MORTGAGE LOANS (4155.1) http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddo c?id=4155-1_4_secC.pdf	II. ORIGINATION THROUGH POST- CLOSING/ENDORSEMENT A. Title II Insured Housing Programs Forward Mortgages	EXCERPTS FROM NEW FHA SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING POLICY HANDBOOK (HUD HANDBOOK 4000.1) http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc ?id=40001HSGH.pdf
6. Borrower Liabilities: Projected Obligations and Obligations Not Considered Debt Introduction 4.C.6.a Projected Obligations (PAGE 183, 4-C-23)	<ul> <li>This topic contains information on borrower</li> <li>projected obligations, and</li> <li>obligations not considered debt.</li> </ul> Debt payments such as a student loan or balloon note scheduled to begin or come due within 12 months of the mortgage loan closing must be included by the lender as anticipated monthly obligations during the underwriting analysis. Debt payments do not have to be classified as projected obligations if the borrower provides written evidence that the debt will be deferred to a period outside the 12-month timeframe.	4. Underwriting the Borrower Using the TOTAL Mortgage Scorecard (TOTAL) b. Credit Requirements (TOTAL) iv. Evaluating Liabilities and Debts (TOTAL)  PAGE 142	(G) Deferred Obligations (TOTAL) (1) Definition  Deferred Obligations refer to liabilities that have been incurred but where payment is deferred or has not yet commenced, including accounts in forbearance.  (2) Standard  The Mortgagee must include deferred obligations in the Borrower's liabilities.  (3) Required Documentation  The Mortgagee must obtain written documentation of the deferral of the liability from the creditor and evidence of the outstanding balance and terms of the deferred liability. The Mortgagee must obtain evidence of the anticipated monthly payment obligation, if available.



			(4) Calculation of Monthly Obligation
			The Mortgagee must use the actual monthly payment to be paid on a deferred liability, whenever available.
			If the actual monthly payment is not available for installment debt, the Mortgagee must utilize the terms of the debt or 5 percent of the outstanding balance to establish the monthly payment.
			For a student loan, if the actual monthly payment is zero or is not available, the Mortgagee must utilize 2 percent of the outstanding balance to establish the monthly payment.
		5. Manual Underwriting of the Borrower	PREVIOUSLY REFERENCED
4. Borrower	This topic contains information on the borrower's	4. Underwriting the	(H) Installment Loans (TOTAL)
Liabilities:	recurring obligations,	Borrower Using the	(1) Definition
Recurring	including	TOTAL Mortgage	
Obligations	<ul> <li>types of recurring obligations</li> </ul>	Scorecard (TOTAL)	Installment Loans refer to loans, not secured by real
	<ul> <li>recurring obligations in debt-to-income ratio</li> </ul>	b. Credit Requirements	estate, that require the periodic payment of P&I. A
Introduction	calculation	(TOTAL)	loan secured by an interest in a timeshare must be
	<ul> <li>revolving account minimum monthly</li> </ul>	iv. Evaluating Liabilities	considered an Installment Loan.
	payment, and	and Debts (TOTAL)	(2) Standard
	<ul> <li>alimony payments in qualifying ratio calculations.</li> </ul>	PAGE 144	The Mortgagee must include the monthly payment shown on the credit report, loan agreement or



4.C.4.a Types of Recurring Obligations

(PAGE 178, 4-C-18)

4.C.4.b
Recurring
Obligations in
Debt to Income
Ratio
Calculation

(PAGE 179, 4-C-19)

Recurring obligations include

- all installment loans
- revolving charge accounts
- real estate loans
- alimony
- child support, and
- other continuing obligations.

When computing the debt-to-income (DTI) ratio, the lender must include the following recurring obligations:

- monthly housing expense, and
- additional recurring charges extending ten months or more, such as
- payments on installment accounts
- child support or separate maintenance payments
- revolving accounts, and
- alimony.

Debts lasting *less* than ten months *must* be included if the amount of the debt will affect the borrower's ability to pay the mortgage during the months immediately after loan closing, especially if the borrower will have limited or no cash assets after loan closing.

**Note:** Monthly payments on revolving or open-ended accounts, regardless of their balances, are counted as liabilities for qualifying purposes even if the accounts appear likely to be paid off within ten months or less.

payment statement to calculate the Borrower's debts.

If the credit report does not include a monthly payment for the loan, the Mortgagee must use the amount of the monthly payment shown in the loan agreement or payment statement and enter it into TOTAL Mortgage Scorecard.

#### (3) Required Documentation

If the monthly payment shown on the credit report is utilized to calculate the monthly debts, no further documentation is required.

If the credit report does not include a monthly payment for the loan, or the payment reported on the credit report is greater than the payment on the loan agreement or payment statement, the Mortgagee must obtain a copy of the loan agreement or payment statement documenting the amount of the monthly payment.





<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>			
CHAPTER 1. UNDERWRITING REVIEW Section B. Documentation Requirements	EXCERPTS FROM PRIOR HANDBOOK 4155.1 MORTGAGE CREDIT ANALYSIS FOR MORTGAGE INSURANCE ON ONE- TO FOUR-UNIT MORTGAGE LOANS (4155.1) http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/hudd oc?id=4155-1_1_secB.pdf	II. ORIGINATION THROUGH POST- CLOSING/ENDORSEMENT A. Title II Insured Housing Programs Forward Mortgages	EXCERPTS FROM NEW FHA SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING POLICY HANDBOOK (HUD HANDBOOK 4000.1) http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc ?id=40001HSGH.pdf
2. Required Documents for Mortgage Credit Analysis, Continued  4155.1 1.B.2.f TOTAL Scorecard Accept/Approve and Refer Feedback Certificate for Employment Verification  (PAGE 38, 1-B-17)	Total Recommendation Borrower Not Employed with Same Employer AND Has Employment Gap: If the borrower was not employed with the same employer for the previous two years, and has an employment gap of 30 days or greater, he/she must provide a written explanation for the employment gap.  References: For information on the TOTAL Scorecard, see  HUD 4155.1 6.A.1, and  the TOTAL Mortgage Scorecard User Guide.	4. Underwriting the Borrower Using the TOTAL Mortgage Scorecard (TOTAL) c. Income Requirements (TOTAL) xi. Additional Required Analysis of Stability of Employment Income (TOTAL)  PAGE 156  5. Manual Underwriting of the Borrower	(B) Addressing Gaps in Employment For Borrowers with gaps in employment of six months or more (an extended absence), the Mortgagee may consider the Borrower's current income as Effective Income if it can verify and document that:  • the Borrower has been employed in the current job for at least six months at the time of case number assignment; and • a two year work history prior to the absence from employment using standard or alternative employment verification.  PREVIOUSLY REFERENCED





RENTAL INCOME CAL	CULATION/DOCUMENTATION		
CHAPTER 4. BORROWER ELIGIBILITY AND CREDIT ANALYSIS Section E. Non- Employment Related Borrower Income Overview	EXCERPTS FROM PRIOR HANDBOOK 4155.1 MORTGAGE CREDIT ANALYSIS FOR MORTGAGE INSURANCE ON ONE- TO FOUR-UNIT MORTGAGE LOANS (4155.1) <a href="http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=4155-1">http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=4155-1</a> 4 secE.pdf	II. ORIGINATION THROUGH POST- CLOSING/ENDORSEMENT A. Title II Insured Housing Programs Forward Mortgages	EXCERPTS FROM NEW FHA SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING POLICY HANDBOOK (HUD HANDBOOK 4000.1) http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc ?id=40001HSGH.pdf
4. Rental Income Introduction  (PAGES 216-220 4-E-10-14)	This topic contains information on analyzing rental income, including	4. Underwriting the Borrower Using the TOTAL Mortgage Scorecard (TOTAL) c. Income Requirements (TOTAL) xii. Other Sources of Effective Income (TOTAL)  PAGE 164	(I) Rental Income (TOTAL) (1) Definition  Rental Income refers to income received or to be received from the subject Property or other real estate holdings. (2) Rental Income Received from the Subject Property (TOTAL) (a) Standard  The Mortgagee may consider Rental Income from existing and prospective tenants if documented in accordance with the following requirements. Rental Income from the subject Property may be considered Effective Income when the Property is a two- to four-unit dwelling, or an acceptable one- to four-unit Investment Property.
4.E.4.a Analyzing the Stability of Rental	Rent received for properties owned by the borrower is acceptable income for qualifying as long as the lender can document the		(b) Required Documentation  Documentation varies depending upon the length of



#### Income

stability of the rental income through a(n)

- current lease
- agreement to lease, or
- rental history over the previous 24 months that is free of unexplained gaps greater than three months (such gaps could be explained by student, seasonal or military renters, or property rehabilitation).

A separate schedule of real estate is not required for rental properties as long as all properties are documented on the Uniform Residential Loan Application (URLA).

**Note**: The underwriting analysis may *not* consider rental income from any property being vacated by the borrower, except under the circumstances described in HUD 4155.1 4.E.4.h.

## 4.E.4.b Rental Income From Borrower Occupied Property

The rent for multiple unit property where the borrower resides in one or more units and charges rent to tenants of other units may be used for qualifying purposes.

Projected rent for the tenant-occupied units may

- only be considered gross income, after deducting the Homeownership Center's (HOC) vacancy and maintenance factor, and
- *not* be used as a direct offset to the mortgage payment.

time the Borrower has owned the Property.

#### (i) Limited or No History of Rental Income

Where the Borrower does not have a history of Rental Income from the subject since the previous tax filing:

#### **Two- to Four-Units**

The Mortgagee must verify and document the proposed Rental Income by obtaining an appraisal showing fair market rent (use Fannie Mae Form 1025/Freddie Mac Form 72, Small Residential Income Property Appraisal Report) and, if available, the prospective leases.

#### **One Unit**

The Mortgagee must verify and document the proposed Rental Income by obtaining a Fannie Mae Form 1004/Freddie Mac Form 70, *Uniform Residential Appraisal Report*; Fannie Mae Form 1007/Freddie Mac Form 1000, *Single Family Comparable Rent Schedule*; and Fannie Mae Form 216/Freddie Mac Form 998, *Operating Income Statement*, showing fair market rent and, if available, the prospective lease.

## (ii) History of Rental Income

Where the Borrower has a history of Rental Income from the subject since the previous tax filing, the



**Reference**: For information about the HOCs' vacancy and maintenance factors, see the HOC Reference Guide at

www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/ref/hsgrcont.cf.

Analysis of the following required documentation is necessary to verify all borrower rental income:

- IRS Form 1040 Schedule E, as described in HUD 4155.1 4.D.5.b, and
- current leases/rental agreements, as described in HUD 4155.1 4.E.4.f.

4.E.4.d
Documentation
Required to Verify
Rental Income

Mortgagee must verify and document the existing Rental Income by obtaining the Borrower's most recent tax returns, including Schedule E, from the previous two years.

For Properties with less than two years of Rental Income history, the Mortgagee must document the date of acquisition by providing the deed, Settlement Statement or similar legal document.

#### (c) Calculation of Effective Income

The Mortgagee must add the net subject property Rental Income to the Borrower's gross income. The Mortgagee may not reduce the Borrower's total Mortgage Payment by the net subject property Rental Income.

#### (i) Limited or No History of Rental Income

To calculate the Effective Income from the subject Property where the Borrower does not have a history of Rental Income from the subject Property since the previous tax filing, the Mortgagee must use the lesser of:

- the monthly operating income reported on Freddie Mac Form 998; or
- 75 percent of the lesser of:
  - fair market rent reported by the Appraiser; or
  - the rent reflected in the lease or other rental agreement.



(ii) History of Rental Income The Mortgagee must calculate the Rental Income by averaging the amount shown on Schedule E. Depreciation, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance and any HOA dues shown on Schedule E may be added back to the net income or loss. If the Property has been owned for less than two years, the Mortgagee must annualize the Rental Income for the length of time the Property has been owned. (3) Rental Income from Other Real Estate Holdings (TOTAL) (a) Standard Rental Income from other real estate holdings may be considered Effective Income if the documentation requirements listed below are met. If Rental Income is being derived from the Property being vacated by the Borrower, the Borrower must be relocating to an area more than 100 miles from the Borrower's current Principal Residence. The Mortgagee must obtain a lease agreement of at least one year's duration after the Mortgage is closed and evidence of the payment of the security deposit or first month's rent.



# (b) Required Documentation (i) Limited or No History of Rental Income

Where the Borrower does not have a history of Rental Income for the Property since previous tax filing, including Property being vacated by the Borrower, the Mortgagee must obtain an appraisal evidencing market rent and that the Borrower has at least 25 percent equity in the Property. The appraisal is not required to be completed by an FHA Roster Appraiser.

#### **Two- to Four-Units**

The Mortgagee must verify and document the proposed Rental Income by obtaining an appraisal showing fair market rent (use Fannie Mae Form 1025/Freddie Mac Form 72, *Small Residential Income Property Appraisal Report*) and, if available, the prospective leases.

#### One Unit

The Mortgagee must verify and document the proposed Rental Income by obtaining a Fannie Mae Form 1004/Freddie Mac Form 70, *Uniform Residential Appraisal Report*, Fannie Mae Form 1007/Freddie Mac Form 1000, *Single Family Comparable Rent Schedule*, and Fannie Mae Form 216/Freddie Mac Form 998, *Operating Income Statement*, showing fair market rent and, if available, the prospective lease.



	(ii) History of Rental Income
	The Mortgagee must obtain the Borrower's last two years' tax returns with Schedule E.
	(c) Calculation of Effective Net Rental Income (i) Limited or No History of Rental Income To calculate the effective net Rental Income from other real estate holdings where the Borrower does not have a history of Rental Income since the previous tax filing, the Mortgagee must deduct the Principal, Interest, Taxes, and Insurance (PITI) from the lesser of:  • the monthly operating income reported on Freddie Mac Form 998; or
	<ul> <li>75 percent of the lesser of:         <ul> <li>fair market rent reported by the Appraiser; or</li> <li>the rent reflected in the lease or other rental agreement.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	(ii) History of Net Rental Income
	The Mortgagee must calculate the net Rental Income by averaging the amount shown on the Schedule E provided the Borrower continues to own all Properties included on the Schedule E.  Depreciation shown on Schedule E may be added back to the net income or loss.  If the Property has been owned for less than two
	years, the Mortgagee must annualize the Rental



4.E.4.c Income from Roommates in a Single Family Property Income from roommates in a single family property occupied as the borrower's primary residence is *not* acceptable for qualifying. Rental income from boarders, however, *is* acceptable, if the boarders are related by blood, marriage or law.

The rental income may be considered effective if shown on the borrower's tax return. If not on the tax return, rental income paid by the boarder

- may be considered as a compensating factor, and
- must be adequately documented by the lender.

Income for the length of time the Property has been owned.

For Properties with less than two years of Rental Income history, the Mortgagee must document the date of acquisition by providing the deed, Settlement Statement or similar legal document. Positive net Rental Income must be added to the Borrower's Effective Income. Negative net Rental Income must be included as a debt/liability.

- (4) Boarders of the Subject Property (TOTAL)
- (a) Definition

Boarder refers to an individual renting space inside the Borrower's Dwelling Unit.

#### (b) Standard

Rental Income from Boarders is only acceptable if the Borrower has a two-year history of receiving income from Boarders that is shown on the tax return and the Borrower is currently receiving Boarder income.

## (c) Required Documentation

The Mortgagee must obtain two years of the Borrower's tax returns evidencing income from Boarders and the current lease.

For purchase transactions, the Mortgagee must obtain a copy of the executed written agreement



	documenting their intent to continue boarding with the Borrower.
	(d) Calculation of Effective Income The Mortgagee must calculate the Effective Income by using the lesser of the two year average or the current lease.



COMBINED LOAN-TO-	-VALUE (CLTV) –STREAMLINE REFINANCE		
CHAPTER 3.	EXCERPTS FROM PRIOR HANDBOOK 4155.1	II. ORIGINATION	EXCERPTS FROM NEW FHA SINGLE FAMILY
MAXIMUM	MORTGAGE CREDIT ANALYSIS FOR MORTGAGE	THROUGH POST-	HOUSING POLICY HANDBOOK (HUD HANDBOOK
MORTGAGE	INSURANCE ON ONE- TO FOUR-UNIT MORTGAGE	CLOSING/ENDORSEMENT	4000.1)
AMOUNTS ON	LOANS (4155.1)	A. Title II Insured Housing	http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc
REFINANCE	http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/hudd	Programs Forward	?id=40001HSGH.pdf
TRANSACTIONS	oc?id=4155-1_3_secC.pdf	Mortgages	
Section C.			
Maximum			
Mortgage Amounts			
on Streamline			
Refinances			
4155.1 3.C.2.f	A subordinate lien, including a Home Equity Line of	8. Programs and Products	(k) Maximum CLTV Ratio and Subordinate Financing
Policy on	Credit (HELOC), regardless of when taken, may	d. Refinances	Existing Subordinate financing, in place at the time
Subordinate	remain outstanding, but the entire lien must be	vi. No Cash-Out	of case number assignment, must be resubordinated
Financing on	subordinated at refinance.	Refinances	to the Streamline Refinance. New Subordinate
Streamline		(C) Streamline Refinances	financing is permitted only where the proceeds of
Refinances	If subordinate financing remains in place, the	(4) General Information	the subordinate financing are used to:
Without an	maximum combined loan-to-value (CLTV) is	Applicable to All	<ul> <li>reduce the principal amount of the</li> </ul>
Appraisal	125%	Streamline Refinances	existing FHA-insured Mortgage, or
(PAGE 119, 3-C-3)	<ul> <li>CLTV is based on the original appraised value of the property, and</li> <li>maximum CLTV is calculated by taking the original FHA base loan amount (the original FHA principal balance excluding financed UFMIP),</li> </ul>	PAGE 371	<ul> <li>finance the origination fees, other closing costs, or discount points associated with the refinance</li> </ul>
	adding all other financed liens still outstanding, and dividing by the appraised value.  This calculation may not exceed 125%.  Note: The lender must use the maximum accessible credit limit of the existing subordinate lien to calculate the CLTV ratio.		There is no maximum CLTV.  Mortgagees must contact the National Servicing Center for processing of any HUD held lien subordination.



STREAMLINE REFINAL	NCE EXEMPTIONS		
CHAPTER 6. SPECIAL UNDERWRITING Section C. Streamline Refinances	EXCERPTS FROM PRIOR HANDBOOK 4155.1 MORTGAGE CREDIT ANALYSIS FOR MORTGAGE INSURANCE ON ONE- TO FOUR-UNIT MORTGAGE LOANS (4155.1) http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/hudd oc?id=4155-1_6_secC.pdf	II. ORIGINATION THROUGH POST- CLOSING/ENDORSEMENT A. Title II Insured Housing Programs Forward Mortgages	EXCERPTS FROM NEW FHA SINGLE FAMILY HOUSING POLICY HANDBOOK (HUD HANDBOOK 4000.1) http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc ?id=40001HSGH.pdf
4155.1 6.C.1.c Appraisals on Streamline Refinances  (PAGE 344, 6-C-3)  6.C.1.d Ignoring or Setting Aside an Appraisal on a Streamline Refinance (PAGE 344, 6-C-3)	FHA does not require an appraisal on a streamline refinance. These transactions can be made with or without an appraisal.  FHA does not require repairs to be completed on streamline refinances with appraisals, with the exception of lead-based paint repairs. However, the lender may require completion of repairs as a condition of the loan.  References: For information on streamline refinances  • with an appraisal (non-credit qualifying), see HUD 4155.1 3.C.3, and  • without an appraisal, see HUD 4155.1 3.C.2.  If an appraisal has been performed on a property, and the appraised value is such that the borrower would be better advised to proceed as if no appraisal had been made, then the appraisal may be ignored and not used, and lender must notate this decision on the	8. Programs and Products d. Refinances vi. No Cash-Out Refinances (C) Streamline Refinances  PAGE 365	(1) Streamline Refinance Exemptions (a) Non-Credit Qualifying Exemptions Unless otherwise stated in this section, the following sections of Origination through Post-Closing/ Endorsement do not apply to non-credit qualifying Streamline Refinances:



6.C.1.e Reviewing CAIVRS, LDP and GSA Exclusion Lists on Streamline

(PAGE 344, 6-C-3)

Refinances

4155.1 6.C.1.f Credit Report and Credit Score Requirements for Streamline Refinances (page 345, 6-C-4) HUD-92900-LT, FHA Loan Underwriting and Transmittal Summary.

The Credit Alert Interactive Voice Response System (CAIVRS) does not need to be checked for streamline refinances, but the lender must review, for all borrowers, the

- HUD Limited Denial of Participation (LDP) List, and
- General Services Administration (GSA) List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Non-procurement Programs.

**References**: For more information on HUD's LDP List, GSA exclusion lists, and using CAIVRS to check borrower eligibility for Federally-related credit, see

- HUD 4155.1 4.A.6, and
- HUD 4155.1 4.A.7

Except for credit qualifying streamline refinances, FHA does *not* require a credit report. The lender, however, may require this as part of its credit policy.

If a credit score is available, the lender must enter it into FHA Connection (FHAC). If more than one credit score is available, the lender must enter *all* available credit scores into FHAC.

- Delinquent Federal Tax Debt
- Property Eligibility and Acceptability Criteria
- National Housing Act's Statutory Limits
- Nationwide Mortgage Limits
- LTV Limitations Based on Borrower's Credit Score
- Underwriting the Property
- Underwriting the Borrower Using the TOTAL Mortgage Scorecard
- Credit Requirements (Manual)
- Income Requirements (Manual)
- Asset Requirements (Manual)
- Underwriting of Credit and Debt (Manual)
- Underwriting of Income (Manual)
- Underwriting of Assets (Manual)
- Calculating Qualifying Ratios (Manual)
- Approvable Ratio Requirements (Manual)
- Documenting Acceptable Compensating Factors (Manual)

#### (b) Credit Qualifying Exemptions

The following sections of Origination through Post-Closing/ Endorsement do not apply to credit qualifying Streamline Refinances:

- Ordering Appraisal
- Transferring Existing Appraisal





Effective with case numbers assigned on or after April 18, 2011, FHA no longer requires lenders to certify employment and income on streamline refinance transactions. As a result, lenders will not have sufficient data to score streamline refinances through the Technology Open to Approved Lenders (TOTAL) Scorecard. The TOTAL Scorecard was never intended to be used for streamlines and the results are not considered valid.

6.C.1.g Use of TOTAL Scorecard on Streamline Refinances (page 345, 6-C-4) A lender who inadvertently uses TOTAL must not enter "ZFHA" as the underwriter in FHA Connection (FHAC) but must instead use its Direct Endorsement (DE) underwriter designation, and the DE underwriter must sign and use his/her Computerized Home Underwriting Management System (CHUMS) identification number on

- page 3 of the HUD 92900-A, HUD/VA
   Addendum to Uniform Residential Loan
   Application, and
- page 1 of the HUD-92900-LT, FHA Loan Underwriting and Transmittal Summary.

- Ordering Second Appraisal
- Ordering an Update to an Appraisal
- Borrower Ineligibility Due to Delinquent Federal Non-Tax Debt
- Delinquent Federal Tax Debt
- Property Eligibility and Acceptability Criteria
- National Housing Act's Statutory Limits
- Nationwide Mortgage Limits
- LTV Limitations Based on Borrower's Credit Score
- Underwriting the Property
- Underwriting the Borrower Using the TOTAL Mortgage Scorecard



#### STREAMLINE REFINANCE NET TANGIBLE BENEFIT

4155.1 6.C.5.a Definition of Net Tangible Benefit of Streamline Refinance

(PAGE 357, 6-C-16)

The lender must determine that there is a net tangible benefit to the borrower as a result of the streamline refinance transaction, with or without an appraisal.

Net tangible benefit is defined as

- a 5% reduction to the principal and interest (P&I) of the mortgage payment
- plus the annual mortgage insurance premium (MIP), or
- refinancing from an Adjustable Rate
   Mortgage (ARM) to a fixed rate mortgage.

#### Notes:

- A reduction in the term of the mortgage is *not* a net tangible benefit.
- When refinancing to a hybrid ARM, lenders must treat the new hybrid ARM as a fixed rate mortgage.

**References**: For more information on the net tangible benefit of

- reduction in mortgage payment, see HUD 4155.1 6.C.5.b
- ARM to fixed rate refinances, see HUD 4155.1 6.C.5.c, and
- fixed rate to ARM refinances, see HUD 4155.1 6.C.5.d.

8. Programs and Products

- d. Refinances
- vi. No Cash-Out Refinances
- (C) Streamline Refinances
- (4) General Information Applicable to All Streamline Refinances

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(c) Net Tangible Benefit of Streamline Refinances (i) Definitions

A Net Tangible Benefit is a reduced Combined Rate, a reduced term, and/or a change from an ARM to a fixed rate Mortgage that results in a financial benefit to the Borrower.

Combined Rate refers to the interest rate on the Mortgage plus the Mortgage Insurance Premium (MIP) rate.

#### (ii) Standard

The Mortgagee must determine that there is a net tangible benefit to the Borrower meeting the standards in the chart below for all Streamline Refinance transactions.

To

		10	
From	Fixed Rate	One-Year	Hybrid ARM
	New	ARM	New
	Combined	New	Combined
	Rate	Combined	Rate
		Rate	
Fixed	At least 0.5	At least 2	At least 2
Rate	percentage	percentag	percentage
	points	e points	points below
	below the	below the	the prior
	prior	prior	Combined
	Combined	Combined	Rate.
	Rate.	Rate.	



4155.1 6.C.5.b
Net Tangible
Benefit of
Reduction in
Mortgage
Payment from
Streamline
Refinance

To qualify as a net tangible benefit, the new mortgage payment (P&I plus MIP) must be *at least* 5% lower than the mortgage payment of the loan being refinanced.

**Note**: This requirement applies when refinancing from

- fixed rate to fixed rate
- ARM to ARM
- Graduated Payment Mortgage (GPM) to ARM
- GPM to fixed rate
- 203(k) to 203(b), and
- 235 to 203(b).

**References**: For additional information on

- ARM to ARM refinancing, see HUD 4155.1 6.C.4.d
- fixed rate to ARM refinancing, see HUD 4155.1 6.C.5.d
- GPM to ARM refinancing, see HUD 4155.1 6.C.4.h
- GPM to fixed rate refinancing, see HUD 4155.1 6.C.4.g
- 203(k) to 203(b) refinancing, see HUD 4155.1 6.C.4.i, and
- 235 to 203(b) refinancing, see HUD 4155.1 6.C.4.j.

4155.1 6.C.5.c

The table below provides the net tangible benefit

	То		
From	Fixed Rate New Combined Rate	One-Year ARM New Combined	Hybrid ARM New Combined Rate
Any ARM With Less Than 15 Month s to Next Payme nt Chang e Date	No more than 2 percentage points above the prior Combined Rate.	At least 1 percentag e point below the prior Combined Rate.	At least 1 percentage point below the prior Combined Rate.
Any ARM With Greate r Than or Equal to 15 Month s to Next Payme	No more than 2 percentage points above the prior Combined Rate.	At least 2 percentag e points below the prior Combined Rate.	At least 1 percentage point below the prior Combined Rate.



Net Tangible Benefit of ARM Refinance requirements for various types of ARM refinances.

Type of ARM	Requirement to Establish Net
Refinance	Tangible Benefit
One-Year ARM	New interest rate must be no
to Fixed	greater than two percentage
Rate Refinance	points above the current
	interest rate of the existing
	ARM.
One-Year ARM	Reduction of at least 5% of P&I
to One-	and MIP.
Year ARM	
Refinance	
One-Year ARM	New interest rate must be at
to Hybrid	least two percentage points
ARM Refinance	below the current interest rate
	of the ARM.
Hybrid ARM	Reduction of at least 5% of P&I
(during Fixed	and MIP.
Period) to Fixed	
Rate	
Refinance	
Hybrid ARM	New interest rate must be at
(during Fixed	least two percentage points
Period) to One-	below the current interest rate
Year ARM	of the ARM.
Hybrid ARM	Reduction of <i>at least</i> 5% of P&I
(during Fixed	and MIP.
Period) to	
Hybrid ARM	
Hybrid ARM	New interest rate must be no

nt		
Chang		
e Date		

#### **Reduction in Term**

The net tangible benefit test is met if:

- the mortgage term is reduced;
- the new interest rate does not exceed the current interest rate; **and**
- the combined principal, interest and MIP payment of the new Mortgage does not exceed the combined principal, interest and MIP of the refinanced Mortgage by more than \$50.



_		
	(during	greater than two percentage
	Adjustable	points above the current
	Period) to Fixed	interest rate of the existing
	Rate	ARM.
	Hybrid ARM	Reduction of at least 5% of P&I
	(during	and MIP.
	Adjustable	
	Period) to One-	
	Year ARM	
	Hybrid ARM	New interest rate must be at
	(during	least two percentage points
	Adjustable	below the current interest
	Period) to	rate of the ARM .
	Hybrid	
	ARM	
	•	

4155.1 6.C.5.d Net Tangible Benefit of Fixed Rate Refinance The table below provides the net tangible benefit requirements for various types of ARM refinances.

Type of ARM Refinance	Requirement to Establish Net Tangible Benefit
Fixed Rate to	Reduction of at least 5% of P&I
Fixed Rate	and MIP.
Fixed Rate to	New interest rate must be at least
One-Year	two percentage points below the
ARM	current interest rate of the fixed
	rate mortgage.
Fixed Rate to	Reduction of at least 5% of P&I
Hybrid ARM	and MIP.