

FHA Bond

Program Guidelines



What is Virginia Housing's FHA Bond program?	Virginia Housing's FHA Bond program is a first mortgage insured by FHA offered to first-time homebuyers (unless purchasing in a targeted area). The loan is financed using tax-exempt bond proceeds. The interest rate for the FHA Bond program may vary compared to the FHA program. Requirements of this bond program are listed below.
Loan Term	30 year fixed rate only.
Maximum Lender Compensation	2.50% including SRP plus common and customary ancillary fees.
Loan-to-Value (LTV)	Maximum 96.5% LTV (+ financed UFMIP - follow FHA LTV requirements) based on the lower of the sales price / appraised value. No minimum LTV, except: Follow FHA requirements for maximum CLTV. Exhibit LL required if there is subordinate financing (except Plus Second Mortgage and FHLB).
Mortgage Insurance	UFMIP / Annual MIP per FHA requirements.
SPARC Eligible	Yes in accordance with SPARC guidelines.
FirstHome Dream Eligible	Yes in accordance with FirstHome Dream guidelines.
Plus Second Mortgage Eligible	Yes in accordance with Plus Second Mortgage guidelines.
DPA Grant Eligible	Yes in accordance with DPA Grant guidelines.
CCA Grant Eligible	No.
Community Heroes Grant Eligible	Yes in accordance with Community Heroes Grant guidelines.
First-time Homebuyer	Required unless purchasing in a targeted area (applies to all borrowers). Borrowers are considered a first-time homebuyer if they have not owned and occupied a primary residence in the last 3 years. Acceptable documentation to evidence first-time homebuyer: • The fully executed Programs Disclosure and Borrower Affidavit (Exhibit E) signed by all borrowers; • A completed Uniform Residential Loan Application (URLA); and • The credit report. Note: If unable to confirm from the Exhibit E, the URLA, or the credit report all borrowers are a first-time homebuyer, additional documentation may be required, such as: • Three years' federal tax returns / tax transcripts • Rent verification(s) • Other reports such as a Lender Data Integrity Report (Examples: Drive Report, FraudGuard, Loansafe)



Income Limits	Income Limit Type:	With or without Plus Second Mortgage and/ or Community Heroes Grant	With DPA Grant
		Standard limits	Lower limits
	Who to include:	All household members	All household members
	What income to include:	All household member income	All household member income
Click here to see Virginia Housing's income limits. Notes: - See Origination Guide for more information on how to calculate household income, what income types must be included, and what may be excluded. See below for details on where income must be stated on the Programs Disclosure and Borrower Affidavit. - Higher income limits may apply if the property is located in a targeted area, however these higher income limits do not apply when the loan is originated with a DPA Grant.			
Sales Price / Acquisition Cost Limits	Refer to Virginia Housing Sales Price / Loan Limits. The limit is the highest of the gross loan amount(s), sales price, and acquisition cost. See Origination Guide for more information on how to determine acquisition cost. Virginia Housing Sales Price / Loan Limits apply even when the FHA maximum loan amount limits are higher. - The gross loan amount of the first mortgage (including financed up front mortgage insurance premium, when applicable) and Virginia Housing second mortgage combined, if applicable, cannot exceed the Virginia Housing Sales Price / Loan Limits. - Higher sales price limits may apply if the property is located in a targeted area.		
Maximum Loan Amount	Follow FHA maximum loan amount requirements except: Virginia Housing Sales Price / Loan Limits apply even when the FHA maximum loan amount limits are higher.		
Eligible Purpose	Primary residence purchase (no refinances).		
Residency	Must meet FHA residency requirements.		
Programs Disclosure and Borrower Affidavit (Exhibit E)	Required. Income from all household members must be included on page 4.		
Seller Affidavit (Exhibit F)	Required.		
Originating Lender's Loan Submission Cover Letter (Exhibit O)	Required.		
Recapture	Loan is subject to recapture.		
Homebuyer Education	Required for all first-time homebuyers. Complete Virginia Housing course, HUD Approved Counseling Agency course, Fannie Mae Framework, or Freddie Mac CreditSmart course prior to approval. Fannie Mae's Homeview course is not acceptable. Homebuyer Education Certificate is valid for 2 years.		

Business Use of Home	No more than 15% of the financed dwelling may be used primarily in a trade or business. The borrowers must fully execute the Business Use of Home Certification if the borrower has disclosed that a part of the current residence is being used primarily for a trade or business or if there is any other evidence in the file, such as: • The employment business address is the same as the borrower's current residence address and/or the borrower has marked yes for mixed-use property on the URLA, or • Federal tax returns are provided and show the "business in home" deduction was taken (Typically this shows on Schedule C, line 30). The Business Use of Home Certification certifies that not more than 15% of the total living area of the subject property will be used primarily in a trade or business. If greater than 15% will be used in the subject dwelling then the borrower is not eligible.
Maximum Net Worth	Cannot exceed 50% of sales price (See Origination Guide for more information).
Automated Underwriting System (AUS) / Manual Underwrites	• Desktop Underwriter Approve Eligible or Loan Product Advisor Accept. • DU or LPA decision of Refer may be manually underwritten as long as the loan meets the more restrictive of Virginia Housing requirements and FHA manual underwrite requirements. • Manual Underwrite is acceptable, including borrowers with no credit score. • Must meet FHA Non-Traditional credit requirements and all other FHA manual underwrite requirements. • For manually underwritten loans, lender assumes full responsibility for compliance with FHA requirements.
Minimum Credit Score	620 (no exceptions) for all borrowers.* If originated with the Plus Second Mortgage: • 620-679 required for 3.5% LTV on second, • 680 required for greater than 3.5% up to 5% LTV on second for all borrowers. • If at least one borrower does not have a credit score then the maximum LTV for the Plus Second Mortgage is 3.5%. *If a borrower does not have sufficient credit to obtain a credit score then the loan must be manually underwritten as indicated above.
Maximum DTI	50% with AUS Approval. Manually underwritten loans must meet more restrictive ratio requirements of Virginia housing and FHA.
Non-Occupant Co-Borrowers	Not allowed.
Ineligible Qualifying Income	• Boarder Income • Accessory Unit Income
Foreclosures / Deed in Lieu / Short Sales	Follow FHA waiting period requirements.
Collections / Judgments	Follow FHA requirements.
Minimum Borrower Contribution	Follow FHA requirements.
Reserves / Acceptable Funds to Close	Follow FHA requirements for reserves and funds to close (including a gift). Exhibit LL required if there is subordinate financing (except Plus Second Mortgage and FHLB).
Interested Party Contributions	Follow FHA requirements.

Property	• Single family (1 unit) detached, attached, FHA approved condominium (Originating Lender to certify condo approval and provide documentation), manufactured home. • Manufactured Homes must meet FHA and see Origination Guide for additional requirements. • Property must be located in Virginia. Acreage: • The maximum lot size is 2 acres. • Exceptions are considered > 2 up to 5 acres. The Lender's underwriter must review and render a decision on the acreage exception. See the Origination Guide for additional requirements and criteria.
UCDP / Collateral Underwriter	Not required; however lenders are required to meet all FHA appraisal requirements, including submission to FHA's EAD portal.
Unfinished Area	The cost to complete unfinished areas that are suitable to finish in the property must be included in the acquisition cost on the Exhibit E and Exhibit F (Examples: Unfinished basement, lower level of a tri-level, etc.). See the Origination Guide for more information.
Post-Closing Repairs	Escrows for post-closing repairs considered case by case as an exception. The Originating Lender's underwriter must review and render a decision on the exception. See the Origination Guide for additional requirements and criteria. No structural or major mechanical repairs allowed.
General Guidelines	Unless otherwise noted follow FHA requirements.

FHA Bond

Procedures



Lock-In	Loans locked on Virginia Housing's LOS – Mortgage Cadence – Select FHA30F_BOND . Different pricing available for this product than Virginia Housing's FHA product. Follow steps outlined in the Mortgage Cadence User Guide available on Virginia Housing's website for registering and locking loans.
LLPAs	No additional Loan Level Pricing Adjustments (LLPAs).
Origination	Loan originated in accordance with program guidelines and FHA guidelines.
Lender Delegated Underwriting Availability	Delegated underwriting is available to all approved Virginia Housing delegated lenders. Lender's underwriter assumes full responsibility for compliance with FHA underwriting requirements. Lenders can contact their Business Development Officer for questions / concerns about delegation.
Underwriting	Loans underwritten in accordance with program guidelines and FHA guidelines. Lender's underwriter assumes full responsibility for compliance with FHA underwriting requirements. Non-Delegated lenders must submit to Virginia Housing prior to closing – must use the Underwriting Submission Checklist . Follow steps outlined in the Mortgage Cadence User Guide for submitting a Non-Delegated loan to Virginia Housing Underwriting or submitting for Delegated Approval.
Special Documentation	The FHA Bond program requires a FHA Tax-Exempt Financing Rider to be executed at closing.
Closing	Loans closed in accordance with standard FHA guidelines. Loan must be closed in the name of the lender, registered in MERS with MERS compliant documents.
UCD	Not required.
Documents	Final AUS, URLA, and Transmittal (92900-LT) must match (standard FHA tolerances allowed).
Funding	Originating lender will fund the first mortgage at closing.
Delivery	Loans submitted to Virginia Housing within 10 calendar days of closing. Follow steps outlined in the Mortgage Cadence User Guide for submitting a closed loan package. Documents must be uploaded using the Loan Stacking Form .
Pre-Purchase Review	Loans reviewed by Virginia Housing prior to purchase. If errors noted, Virginia Housing will contact lender – this may require rerun of AUS.
Post-Closing	Standard post-closing documents must be submitted to Virginia Housing.
Important: Refer to the Origination Guide for more information about Virginia Housing eligibility requirements.	

The information contained herein (including but not limited to any description of Virginia Housing and its lending programs and products, eligibility criteria, interest rates, fees and all other loan terms) is subject to change without notice.

