



ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HOUSING-
FEDERAL HOUSING COMMISSIONER

Date: June 29, 2020

Mortgagee Letter 2020-20

To: All FHA-approved Mortgagees
All Direct Endorsement Underwriters
All Eligible Submission Sources for Condominium Project Approvals
All FHA Roster Appraisers
All FHA-Approved 203(k) Consultants
All HUD-Approved Housing Counselors
All Governmental Entity Participants
All Real Estate Brokers
All Closing Agents

Subject Re-Extension of the Effective Date of Mortgagee Letter 2020-05, Re-verification of Employment and Exterior-Only and Desktop-Only Appraisal Scope of Work Options for FHA Single Family Programs Impacted By COVID-19

Purpose This Mortgagee Letter announces a re-extension of the effective date of Mortgagee Letter 2020-05, published on March 27, 2020. This second extension will allow industry partners additional opportunity to utilize flexible guidance related to re-verification of employment and appraisal protocol for FHA Single Family Programs affected by COVID-19.

Effective Date The re-extension of Appraisal guidance in Mortgagee Letter 2020-05 is effective immediately for appraisal inspections completed on or before August 31, 2020. The extension of re-verification of employment guidance in Mortgagee Letter 2020-05 is effective immediately for cases closed on or before August 31, 2020.

Policy updates in this ML are temporary and will not be incorporated into the HUD Single-Family Housing Policy Handbook 4000.1.

Public Feedback HUD welcomes feedback from interested parties for a period of 30 calendar days from the date of issuance. To provide feedback on this policy document, please send feedback to the FHA Resource Center at answers@hud.gov. HUD will consider the feedback in determining the need for future updates.

Continued on next page

Mortgagee Letter 2020-20

Affected Programs These changes apply to FHA Single Family Title II Forward and Reverse Mortgage Programs.

Background On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a National Emergency concerning the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak and initiated actions to stem the threat to public health and the American economy. On March 27, 2020, HUD published Mortgagee Letter 2020-05, through which the Secretary of HUD authorized flexibilities to the re-verification of employment and Acceptable Appraisal Reporting Forms and Protocols (Appraisal Protocols) by allowing exceptions for Exterior-Only and Desktop Appraisal inspections in certain transactions.

Due to the continuing national emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, HUD is issuing this ML to extend the modifications issued in ML 2020-05.

Paperwork Reduction Act The information collection requirements contained in this document are approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520) and assigned OMB control number 2502-0538 and 2502-0059. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, HUD may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Questions For additional information on this ML, please visit www.hud.gov/answers or call FHA's Resource Center at 1-800-CALLFHA (1-800-225-5342). Persons with hearing or speech impairments may reach this number via TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

Signature

Len Wolfson
Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing -
Federal Housing Commissioner