CHAPTER 4. DECREASE IN INTEREST RATE:
MULTIFAMILY MORTGAGE AND
LOAN INSURANCE PROGRAMS

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- 4-1. GENERAL. This chapter includes instructions applicable to all multifamily mortgage and loan insurance programs shown in Appendix 4 and is to be utilized whenever the maximum FHA interest rate for these programs is decreased. At any given time, a single maximum FHA interest rate is applicable to all such multifamily programs, with the exception of supplemental loans insured under Section 232(i) which are used to finance the purchase and installation of fire safety equipment for nursing homes and intermediate care facilities. The maximum interest rate on these loans may not exceed the rate applicable to the other multifamily programs by more than 1/4 percent. It is the basic policy of FHA to encourage mortgagees to reduce the interest rate in all cases that have not been closed prior to the effective date of the decrease in maximum interest rate. Upon request by mortgagees, outstanding site appraisal and market analysis (SAMA) or feasibility letters and commitments issued at a time when a higher interest rate was in effect will be reprocessed at the new lower rate.
 - 4-2. REQUESTS FOR SAMA OR FEASIBILITY LETTERS. Requests for such letters in process or received on or after the date of the new maximum rate will be processed at the new lower rate.
 - 4-3. APPLICATIONS FOR CONDITIONAL OR FIRM COMMITMENTS. Applications for conditional or firm commitments received on or after the effective date of the new lower maximum rate will be processed at such rate, with the exception of applications submitted pursuant to unexpired SAMA or feasibility letters or outstanding conditional commitments issued prior to the effective date of the new rate. In these instances, applications involving insurance under any section (other than Section 236) will be processed at the higher rate previously agreed upon by the parties, unless the mortgagee requests processing at the new lower rate. If insurance under Section 236 is involved and the permanent mortgage is to be purchased by GNMA, the commitment will be issued at the new lower rate. If the permanent mortgage is not to be purchased by GNMA and the mortgagee does not request a reduction in interest to the new lower rate, the commitment will be issued at the higher rate previously agreed upon by the parties.

- 4-4. OUTSTANDING SAMA OR FEASIBILITY LETTERS AND COMMITMENTS. Multifamily cases in which a conditional or firm commitment is outstanding, or in which an unexpired SAMA or feasibility letter has been issued prior to the effective date of the new maximum rate, will be processed at the higher rate previously agreed upon by the parties or at a lower rate if requested by the mortgagee. In all Section 236 cases, the originating mortgagee is strongly urged to arrange with the permanent mortgagee for a reduction in the interest to the new lower rate, which may take effect upon final endorsement.
- 4-5. REQUESTS FOR INCREASES IN MORTGAGE AMOUNT. All requests for reconsideration involving an increased mortgage amount in process or received on or after the effective date of the new maximum rate will show the new lower rate.
- 4-6. EXTENSIONS OF COMMITMENT TERMS OR REOPENING OF EXPIRED COMMITMENTS. Applications for extensions of commitment terms may be approved at the maximum interest rate specified in the original commitments. Applications for the reopening of expired commitments will be processed at the new lower rate.
- 4-7. FACTORS FOR COMPUTING ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS UNDER SECTION 235(j)(1) AND INTEREST REDUCTION PAYMENTS UNDER SECTION 236. Appendix 1 contains the factors, per \$1,000, needed to compute the difference between the amount of principal, interest and mortgage insurance premium on a mortgage at the specified new interest rate, and the amount of principal and interest on a mortgage at 1 percent, for the first amortization year, which is used to calculate the monthly assistance payment or interest reduction payment.
- 4-8. COMPUTATION OF MARKET RENTS FOR SECTION 236. The computation of market and basic rents as described in HUD Handbook 4510.1 is unchanged. The market rent factor for a 40-year mortgage applicable to each of the various possible FHA maximum interest rates is shown in Appendix 2.

- 4-9. OBLIGATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORITY SECTIONS 235(j)(1) and 236. A decrease in the annual per thousand dollar factor used in obligating contract authority under Sections 235(j)(1) and 236 is made necessary by the decrease in the maximum interest rate. This annual factor is based on a 40-year insured mortgage. All future requests for obligation of contract authority for Section 235(j)(1) and for Section 236 shall be based on the new per thousand dollar factor rounded up to the next higher dollar. The factor applicable to each of the various possible FHA maximum interest rates is shown in Appendix 3.
- 4-10. AMORTIZATION FACTORS, DEBT SERVICE AND INITIAL CURTAIL RATES. For all multifamily programs in which the use of the Level Annuity Monthly Payment (LAMP) method of amortization is authorized, monthly principal and interest factors, debt service rate factors, and initial curtail rate factors for each of the various possible FHA maximum interest rates and terms are shown in Appendix 1. Factors are not necessary for MIP billings. An initial MIP amount equivalent to one-half of 1 percent of the outstanding principal balance of the mortgage will be paid at initial endorsement (or at initial/final endorsement for insurance upon completion cases) and annually thereafter. The premium account will be adjusted after final insurance endorsement in accordance with the scheduled disbursements of mortgage proceeds.

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