



**TO: All FHA-Approved Mortgagees
All Other Stakeholders in FHA Transactions**

NEWS AND UPDATES

In this Announcement:

- Timeframe Change for Unconditional Direct Endorsement Authority Test Case Phase Submissions
- Revised Web Pages Provide Updated Information for HUD-Approved Nonprofit Organizations and Government Entities

See below for details.

Timeframe Change for Unconditional Direct Endorsement Authority Test Case Phase Submissions

Today, the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) published [Mortgagee Letter 2016-21](#), *Direct Endorsement Program – Timeframe for Conducting Pre-Endorsement Mortgage Review for Unconditional Direct Endorsement Authority*. Concurrently, FHA today published a notice in the *Federal Register* ([Docket No. FR-5658-N-02](#)) that provides the required response to comments received from a March 2013 notice ([FR-5658-N-01](#)) where FHA announced it was considering this change.

With this Mortgagee Letter, mortgagees approved to enter the Unconditional Direct Endorsement (DE) authority Test Case phase on or after April 1, 2017, will be required to submit **only closed mortgages** for FHA's pre-endorsement review. Currently, FHA allows the submission of test case phase loans pre-closing or post-closing.

FHA is providing a four-month lead time for this change so that mortgagees considering applying for unconditional DE authority have adequate time to prepare. FHA is currently making the necessary modifications to several of its technology systems to accommodate this change and will share additional information about these modifications ahead of the April 1st effective date. System changes will not apply to mortgagees that entered the test case process prior to the April 1, 2017 effective date, as mortgagees will continue the test case process under the current Underwriting Review System (URS) in FHA Connection for the duration of the process.

Mortgagee Letter 2016-21 includes changes to the [Single Family Housing Policy Handbook 4000.1](#) (SF Handbook) in multiple locations within Sections I.A and II.A. These policy updates will be incorporated into a forthcoming update of the SF Handbook.

[Quick Links](#)

- Review Mortgagee Letter 2016-21 and all other Mortgagee Letters at: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/hudclips/letters/mortgagee
- Access today's *Federal Register* notice on the *Federal Register* website at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/12/14/2016-29757/federal-housing-administration-fha-direct-endorsement-program-timeframe-for-conducting>
- View the online and PDF versions of the *Single Family Housing Policy Handbook* 4000.1 at: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/hudclips/handbooks/hsg

Revised Web Pages Provide Updated Information for HUD-Approved Nonprofit Organizations and Government Entities

Today, the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) launched revisions to its Nonprofit Organizations and Government Entities web pages on HUD.gov. These web pages provide information about FHA Nonprofit and Government Entity programs including HUD Homes, Nonprofit Mortgage, and Secondary Financing. Information is also available on how interested Nonprofit Organizations can apply to participate.

Revisions include updated information, improved navigation, and expanded resource boxes for users to quickly access key information. The web pages also contain references to specific sections of FHA's *Single Family Housing Policy Handbook* 4000.1 applicable to Nonprofits and Government Entities. Users can access information by starting on the updated [HUD-Approved Nonprofit Organizations and Government Entities Home Page](#), or any of the following topic-specific pages:

- [New Nonprofit Organization Applicants and Recertifying Applicants](#);
- [Nonprofit Organizations and Governmental Entities Program Guidelines](#);
- [Quality Control and Monitoring of Governmental Entities and Nonprofit Organizations](#); and
- [Nonprofit Data Management System](#)

[Quick Links](#)

- Visit the HUD-Approved Nonprofit Organizations and Government Entities home page at: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/housing/sfh/np

Resources

Contact the FHA Resource Center:

- Visit our online knowledge base to obtain answers to frequently asked questions 24/7 at: www.hud.gov/answers.
- E-mail the FHA Resource Center at: answers@hud.gov. Emails and phone messages will be responded to during normal hours of operation, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM (Eastern), Monday through Friday on all non-Federal holidays.
- Call 1-800-CALLFHA (1-800-225-5342). Persons with hearing or speech impairments may reach this number by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

RESOURCE INFORMATION

FHA INFO Archives:	Visit the FHA INFO Archives to access FHA INFO messages issued from 2012 to the present.
Subscribe/Unsubscribe Instructions:	To subscribe to the Single Family FHA INFO mailing list you can use this link: FHA INFO or send a request by email to: answers@hud.gov

Bulk subscriptions: To sign up your entire office or a large group, send the list of email addresses (in the format below) to: answers@hud.gov

aaa@xyz.com

bbb@xyz.com

ccc@xyz.com

[To Unsubscribe](#) follow the unsubscribe instructions on that page.

Resource Links:

[Archived Webinars](#)

[Career Opportunities](#)

[Contracting Opportunities](#)

[Events & Training](#)

[FHA Forms](#)

[FHA Homeownership Centers](#)

[FHA Mortgagee Letters](#)

[Foreclosure Assistance](#)

[Grant Opportunities](#)

[HUD Homes Property Listings](#)

[HUD.gov](#)

[Making Home Affordable](#)

[Presidentially Declared Disaster Areas](#)

[Visit our Single Family Home Page](#)



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