

# ORIGINATING AGENTS GUIDE REVISION 147

August 7, 2019

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# **EFFECT OF CHANGE**

**Effective immediately**, the Hardest Hit Funds Down Payment Assistance (HHF-DPA) Program is discontinued. All language referencing the program, including loan document forms, is removed.

## **SECTION 4: OTHER THDA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

#### **4.1 ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

An Eligible Applicant must meet ALL of the following criteria:

- 1. Possess and demonstrate the legal capacity to incur the THDA debt (not be judged incompetent, and be age 18 or older or have minority removed by judicial process);
- 2. Meet credit underwriting standards of the relevant insuring program as evidenced by the approval of a Direct Endorsement underwriter or the insurer program accepted underwriting software, i.e. Loan Prospector, Desktop Underwriter;
- 3. Be, or become, within 60 days after the THDA loan closing, a resident of the State of Tennessee and intend to occupy the property as their principal residence;
- 4. Have gross assets of such amounts as to be considered a person of low or moderate income, as THDA may determine from the documentation contained in the application file (See Section 5.2); and
- 5. Agree to occupy the property as their principal residence and agree not to rent the property during the term of the THDA loan, as sworn to in the Application Affidavit and as precluded by the THDA Rider.
- 6. Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien.

#### **4.2 PROPERTY ELIGIBILITY**

# A. Eligible Property

Eligible property must meet all of the following requirements:

- 1. Be one of the following:
  - (a) A detached or semi-detached house:
  - (b) A row-house, townhouse, condominium or be part of a planned unit development. For a property located in a condominium development, including developments less than 100% complete, the condominium development must have approval by either FHA, VA, USDA/RD, FHLMC or FNMA;
  - (c) A one, two, three, or four-family residence, one unit of which must be occupied by Applicant as his/her principal residence;
  - (d) Any of the above types of residences, existing, new or proposed:
    - (1) built on site, or
    - (2) a modular home permanently attached to a foundation (in compliance with HUD guidelines, or
    - (3) a HUD approved double-wide manufactured home permanently attached to a foundation (in compliance with HUD Manual 4930.3, "Permanent Foundations Guide for Manufactured Housing"), with wheels, axles, towing tongue and running lights removed. If any portion of a

#### 1. Face-to-Face

- A minimum of six hours of classroom education
- A four hour class or workshop, paired with a minimum of one hour of individual counseling
- A minimum of four hours of face-to-face, one-on-one homebuyer counseling

#### 2. Online Education

- A minimum of one hour of individual counseling paired with THDA's approved eHomeAmerica online homeownership education course
  - o The borrower may access the course via THDA's website or by contacting the approved Provider agency directly.
  - The borrower will select an HBEI Provider and pay a fee during the online registration process.
  - O Upon completion of the course, the borrower will be contacted by the HBEI Provider and required to participate in a one hour counseling session. The session provides follow-up counseling on the test questions and additional counseling regarding the customer's budget and responsibilities as a homeowner.

After the Homebuyer Education course is completed, the HBEI Provider will provide the borrower with their THDA Certificate of Completion. The certificate will be in effect for 12 months.

## D. Age of Credit Documents

All credit documents must be current when submitted to THDA for underwriting. For Commitments with a term of six months (permanent financing on new construction), income documents more than 180 days old must be updated and resubmitted for THDA review and approval when construction is complete.

All updates and requests for extension of the Commitment must be submitted with updated documents for THDA approval prior to the Commitment expiration date.

## E. Qualifying Spouse

When an application is made by two people, both are considered co-applicants for THDA eligibility purposes. Both must sign the Application Affidavit and the income of both persons must be included in calculating Household Income as described in Section 3.3. Both persons must execute the Note and the Deed of Trust.

## F. Non-Qualifying Spouse

- 1. Cannot have owned principal residence in the past three years unless present property being purchased is in a targeted area.
- 2. Items required as documentation on the non-qualifying spouse:
  - a. Income verified and a current pay stub.
  - b. Signature on an original Application Affidavit (can be on the same Affidavit as borrower or on a separate Affidavit).
  - c. Copy of the most recent tax year Federal Income Tax Return and W-2's.
  - d. Signature on the Deed of Trust at closing (signing away marital interest).

## G. Co-Signers

THDA will not approve any loan that includes the use of a co-signer.

## **5.2 ASSETS**

## A. Substantial Liquid Assets

If an Applicant has non-recurring deposits in excess of \$300 the Applicant must explain the source and circumstances of such deposits. THDA will make a case-by-case determination of the acceptable level of liquid assets and/or recurring income based on the information and documentation provided in the application file.

#### B. Sale of Assets

Funds to close the THDA loan that are obtained from the sale of an asset must be documented. Include a copy of the bill of sale.

If the source of funds to close are from the sale of commercial property, manufactured home (chattel) or non-owner occupant residential real estate, documentation must be provided to establish whether income is being received, or will be received, or to show that the property was sold and not retained for rental income. If there is financing income or rental income, it must be included in Household Income (See Section 3.3).

#### C. Gift Letter

A gift letter must be properly documented and verified in accordance with program insurer guidelines.

## **5.3 VERIFICATIONS**

#### A. Employment Verifications

Full documentation is required for THDA. All current full-time and part-time employment or self-employment covering a period of at least the last two years must be verified in writing. Telephone verification is acceptable on previous employment. For current employment not verified with a standard VOE form, answers to all questions contained on the standard VOE must be provided by the employer on employer letterhead. Verifications must indicate bonuses, next pay increase, overtime and scheduled number of work hours if paid by the hour. In addition, a copy of each Applicant's most recent pay stub is required (no more than 30 days old). This income verification and documentation is also required for a non-qualifying spouse and any other occupant of the property 18 years of age or older.

## **B.** Sole-Proprietorship Verifications

Year-to-date P&L, Plus 1040's with Schedule C for a minimum of two tax years,  $\underline{\text{and}}$  24 months in business.

## **C.** Partnership Verifications

Year-to-date P&L, Plus 1065's with Schedule K-1 and Schedule E, part II; Partnership returns with all schedules. Minimum two tax returns and 24 months in business.

## **D.** Limited Partnership Verifications

1065, Schedule K-1 and Schedule E, part II; Partnership Return with schedules. Minimum two tax returns and 24 months in business.

## **E.** Subchapter S Corporation Verifications

1120/1120S, Schedule K-1, Schedule E, part II, W-2 for Applicant. Minimum two tax returns <u>and</u> 24 months in business.

# F. Corporation Verifications

Provide if Applicant owns or controls 25% or more of the stock. Corporation Return, Form 1120 and Schedule L (if applicable); W-2 for Applicant. Minimum two tax returns and 24 months in business.

#### **G.** Deposit Verifications

Verification of Deposit (VOD) and Borrower's most recent statement for each account or alternative documentation, Borrower's bank statements for the previous two months for each account. When non-traditional credit is used (no credit score), two months PITI in reserves is required. When manually underwritten with a score of 640 or higher, one month PITI in reserves is required.

#### H. Veteran Status

Veterans applying for the exemption to the three year requirement must provide a copy of VA Form DD-214 or VA Form DD-4 (Enlistment/Re-enlistment Document).

## I. FHA 203(h) Proof of Permanent Residence

The victim/borrower's previous permanent rental residence must have been in the disaster area and must have been destroyed or damaged to such an extent that reconstruction or replacement is necessary. The victim/borrower must provide conclusive proof of permanent residence with one of the following:

- Valid driver's license
- Voter registration card
- Utility bills

## J. FHA 203(h) Proof of Destruction of Residence

The victim/borrower's previous permanent rental residence must have been in the disaster area and must have been destroyed or damaged to such an extent that reconstruction or replacement is necessary. The victim/borrower must provide proof of destruction with one of the following:

- An insurance report
- An inspection report by an independent fee inspector or government agency (FEMA)
- Conclusive photographic evidence showing the destruction or damage

## S. Sales Contract

Include a copy of the purchase agreement (fully executed by seller and Applicant) in the application file. Any changes to the purchase agreement must be initialed by seller and Applicant.

## T. FHA Conditional Commitment

Enclose the HUD Form 92800.5B (FHA Conditional Commitment) and the Appraisal Analysis Sheet, both signed by the DE Underwriter.

# U. Appraisal

Enclose an original Uniform Residential Appraisal Report (FMNA 1004) in the application file. The Uniform Residential Appraisal Report must reflect inspections of both the interior and exterior of the dwelling. If the original Appraisal must be submitted to the loan insurer or guarantor, a legible copy must be enclosed.

If the negotiated sales price for the property was modified after the Appraisal was provided, enclose a letter from the appraiser that indicates any changes in the appraiser's conclusions.

## V. Flood Notification

If the property lies within a Special Flood Hazard Zone, the Originating Agent must make proper and timely disclosure to the Applicant in compliance with federal regulations. Provide a life of loan Flood Hazard certification with the initial underwriting submission package or closed loan documents.

#### W. Loan Estimate

The initial Loan Estimate (LE) must be included in the Underwriting Submission Package and any subsequent changes in the LE, if necessary, must be included in the Closed Loan Submission Package. The LE must be provided for all second mortgage loans. Recording fees are the only allowable fees for second mortgage loans.

#### X. Title Commitment

Title commitment must be provided to determine if borrowers have any tax liens. Title searches must include public record information.

## 6.3 DOCUMENTING NEW CONSTRUCTION FOR CUSTOM BUILT HOMES

**NOTE:** This section does not apply to the purchase of a new or proposed residence located on a lot that is not owned by the Applicant prior to the date of the loan closing.

# A. Documentation Required

- 1. Copy of Warranty Deed to lot.
- 2. Copy of construction contract.
- 3. Contractor's detailed cost estimate, if applicable.
- 4. Contractor's final itemized bill, if applicable.
- 5. Final inspection with photos, when complete.

## B. Manufactured Housing

For manufactured housing, additional or substituted documentation must include a contract for the manufactured home and documentation for the cost of foundation, utilities, landscaping, driveways and all other necessary improvements.

## **B.** Qualifying Spouse

Applications involving married applicants require that both spouses meet the first-time homebuyer eligibility, except in Targeted Areas or if eligible for a veteran's exemption.

A non-qualifying spouse must sign the Deed of Trust.

#### C. Rescission

THDA cannot fund or purchase a loan that is closed with a Three-day Right of Rescission.

#### D. Net Funds "To Borrower"

A borrower cannot receive any funds from the closing that exceed amounts that they paid in advance from their personal funds for earnest money, appraisal fees, credit report fees, and homebuyer education counseling. If a grant from an entity other than THDA is included in the transaction, coordinate this subject with the grant provider. Borrowers using Great Choice Plus assistance cannot receive any funds at closing from the assistance provided.

There are circumstances that arise at the closing table that cause excessive cash back to the borrower. In these situations, THDA will allow a principal reduction to cure the issue.

# E. Original Certificate of Title or Original Manufactured Certificate (MCO) of Origin (Manufactured Home)

If the seller of the subject property has a mortgage on the property and the lien holder is in possession of the original title or MCO and will not release it until their loan is paid off, the <u>original</u> Certificate of Title with any lien noted thereon having been marked released, or Manufactured Certificate of Origin ("MCO"), in the name of the seller of the subject property or having been endorsed to the seller MUST be provided to THDA with the closing documents. If the Manufactured Home consists of more than one (1) unit, you will need to provide the title or "MCO" for each unit. THDA will not purchase the loan until we receive the original certificate of Title or original MCO.

## F. Affidavit of Affixation (Manufactured Home)

An Affidavit of Affixation is required on all manufactured home loans and must be recorded as a separate document. It cannot be recorded with or attached to the Deed of Trust. THDA's Affidavit of Affixation (Form HO-0453) is to be used unless the Settlement Agent uses an Affidavit of Affixation that meets the statutory requirement of TCA Section 55-3-138.

## G. Warranty Deed

A copy of the Warranty Deed (certified copy of recorded Warranty Deed if Manufactured Home) to the subject residence must be provided to THDA in the Closed Loan Submission package.

## 7.6 CLOSING COSTS

# **Closing Costs and Fees a THDA Borrower May Pay**

1. The borrower may pay any and all reasonable and customary fees and costs normally charged in the market place. If THDA, in its sole discretion, determines that the borrower has been charged a fee that is exorbitant or not customarily charged in the market place, the Originating Agent will be required to refund these fees to the borrower.

## I. Warranty Deed

Enclose a copy (before recording) of the fully executed Warranty Deed(s) that convey(s) the property to the Borrower. A copy of the recorded Warranty Deed(s) is/are required if a Manufactured Home.

## J. Closing Disclosure

The Closed Loan Submission Package must include the Closing Disclosure (CD). The CD must be included for Great Choice Plus second mortgage loans.

Great Choice Loan Allowable Fees

## I. Great Choice Loan:

A loan originator may designate an origination point on page 2 of the CD. THDA allows up to 2% origination points for all Great Choice loans.

Please note that THDA allows the Originating Agent to charge normal and customary fees, including without limitations, appropriate application fee. If the Originating Agent elects to charge an Application Fee, it must be included on the CD.

#### II. Great Choice Plus Loan:

THDA only allows customary recording fees. THDA does not allow Lender title policy on the Great Choice Plus loan. THDA Great Choice Plus loans are exempt from state stamp taxes.

## K. Hazard Insurance

THDA must receive a copy of the hazard insurance policy declarations page, or a copy of the Certificate of Insurance, signed by an authorized agent of the insurance company. The original policy or Certificate of Insurance must be sent to the THDA Servicer.

## L. Termite Inspection/Treatment Certificate (when applicable)

See Section 7.4.C.

## M. Flood Insurance (when applicable)

See Section 7.4.E.

#### N. Commitment Conditions

Enclose any documents to satisfy, at closing, conditions specified in the Commitment, if not otherwise satisfied with documents listed above.

## SECTION 9: THDA FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS

As a result of Tax Code requirements, THDA must require certain forms. Application files or closed loan packages that do not contain fully executed THDA forms, as required, will not be accepted by THDA. These forms must be included in THDA application files and in THDA closed loan packages as indicated in this Guide. THDA forms are in addition to the typical forms utilized in the mortgage industry. These forms are to be considered part of this Guide.

THDA forms may not be altered.

THDA forms may not be distributed to a lender who is not an Originating Agent or to any other unauthorized individual or entity.

Detailed instructions for completion of each THDA form follows in the order that they are typically encountered in the lending process:

Application Affidavit HO-0450 (03/11)

Veteran Exemption Application Affidavit HO-0460 (02/07)

Notice to Applicants Federal Recapture Requirements HO-0448 (07/17)

Seller Affidavit HO-0451 (09/99)

Buyer Profile HO-0439 (02/15)

Underwriting Submission Checklist HO-0549 (11/17)

Affidavit of Affixation HO-0453 (12/06)

Legally Enforceable Obligation Letter HO-0476

Closed Loan Submission Checklist HO-0541 (07/19)

THDA Rider HO-0440 (08/03)

Request for Loan Purchase with Acknowledgement and Certification HO-0444 (02/18)

Disclosure of Loan Terms for Great Choice Plus Second Mortgage Loan HO-0574 (02/17)

## APPLICATION AFFIDAVIT HO-0450 (03/11)

## **VETERAN EXEMPTION APPLICATION AFFIDAVIT HO-0460 (02/07) (If Applicable)**

The Application Affidavit or Veteran Exemption Application Affidavit (if applicable Application Affidavit must be executed by each applicant and non-qualifying spouse. The household income figure to be provided in item #4 is the maximum allowable income for the size of the applicant's household and location of property. The acquisition cost figure for Great Choice is to be provided in item #5 is the maximum THDA acquisition cost for the county in which the property is located. The original Application Affidavit or Veteran Exemption Application Affidavit is required by THDA. All changes or whiteouts must be initialed by the Applicant(s).

Each Application Affidavit or Veteran Exemption Application Affidavit, must be executed and notarized within the State of Tennessee; however, in rare circumstances, an Application Affidavit or Veteran Exemption Application Affidavit may be executed and notarized outside the State of Tennessee, such as when a person is a member of the armed forces, is stationed outside the state and is unable to be present while the application is being processed.

Provide all information indicated. Check the appropriate box indicating whether the loan file is complete in all respects or not. Sign and date where indicated, print name and title, and provide telephone number. Omitted information may cause the loan file to be returned to the Originating Agent.

# DISCLOSURE OF LOAN TERMS FOR GREAT CHOICE PLUS SECOND MORTGAGE LOAN HO-0574 (03/03/17)

This disclosure is required to be presented to the Borrower by the Originating Agent before settlement. This disclosure meets the exemption requirements under Secretary of HUD's special notice "Exemptions from Coverage Under Sections 4 and 5 of RESPA for Certain Subordinate Loans Provided by Assistance Programs for Low to Moderate Income People" dated October, 2010. This disclosure is required if a LE/CD is not provided on the subordinate second mortgage loan.