

# **Rural Development Product Profile**

### Overlays to USDA are Underlined.

Clients must be specifically approved by Windsor to deliver Rural Housing Mortgages. Contact your Account Manager for Rural Housing approval requirements.

Loan Type	LTV/ <u>CLTV</u>	Min FICO		
Purchase	No Max CLTV	<u>620**</u>		
Rate and Term Refinance	100%*	<u>620</u>		
	usive of financed guaranteed fee Manual/Refer limited to 640			
	Minimum Ioan amount \$50,000			
Loan Amount:	Maximum Loan Amount found at: www.fanniemae.com/singlefamily/loa limits			
	COVID-19			
Please refer to the following for all up	dates related to COVID-19:			
<ul> <li>USDA website located at <u>https://www.rd.usda.gov/coronavirus</u></li> </ul>				
• Windsor announcements locat	ed at <u>https://mortgageties.com</u>			
Appraisals: Windsor is aligning with al				
Exceptions to Interior Appraisals for p				
	to new construction or construction	to perm loans which still require		
a full appraisal.				
• Appraisals are not required for				
Verifications of employment: When a	traditional VVOE cannot be obtained	Windsor will accept one of the		
following:				
<ul> <li>An email meeting the following</li> <li>From the horroworks direct</li> </ul>		de direct LID donortes out		
	supervisor/manager or the employer address, such as name @company.co			
	ormation required on a verbal verification			
	number of the person providing the v			
	PITA) in addition to any other require			
Transcripts: USDA requires tax transcr		=		
calculation. However, Windsor is awar				
obtained. Windsor reminds lenders th				
without tax transcripts when the loan				
response from the vender may be acc				
	Age of Documents			
		to stand double P P		
Credit documents must be no more th	•	e is signed, including credit		
Credit documents must be no more th reports and employment, income and Preliminary Title Policies must be no n	asset documents.			

## Appraisals

- A full appraisal (e.g. form 1004 or equivalent, accompanied by form 1004MC) is required for all submissions.
- The appraisal must be no more than 150 days old at loan closing. Lender may extend the validity period of an appraisal with an appraisal update report that will no greater than 240 days from the effective date of the initial appraisal report at loan closing (150 days for the original appraisal plus 90 days for the Appraisal Update Report). An original appraisal report can be updated one time with an Appraisal Update Report.
- Windsor will purchase loans secured by properties with "unpermitted" structural additions under the following conditions:
  - The quality of the work is described in the appraisal and deemed acceptable ("workmanlike quality") by the appraiser
  - The addition does not result in a change in the number of units comprising the subject property (e.g. a 1 unit converted into a 2 unit)
- If the appraiser gives the unpermitted addition value, the appraiser must be able to demonstrate market acceptance by the use of comparable sales with similar additions and state the following in the appraisal:
  - Non-Permitted additions are typical for the market area and a typical buyer would consider the "unpermitted" additional square footage to be part of the overall square footage of the property.
  - o The appraiser has no reason to believe the addition would not pass inspection for a permit.

## Assignment of Mortgages

All loans must be registered with MERS at time of delivery to Windsor and a MERS transfer of beneficial rights and transfer of servicing rights must be initiated by the Seller, to Plains Commerce Bank (1005210), within 24-hours of purchase.

## **Borrower Eligibility**

- U.S. citizens
- Permanent resident aliens, with proof of lawful residence
- See Property: Maximum Number of Properties Owned for information regarding borrowers who currently own a property.
- Borrowers must have a valid Social Security Number
- Non-permanent residents are allowed as long as they are a qualified alien with proof of lawful residence.
- Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership Program income (commonly known as Section 8 for homeowners) paid via Housing Assistance Payments (HAPs) are an acceptable source of income. However due to operational constraints, transactions involving HAPs paid directly to the Servicer are ineligible for purchase.
- Non-occupant borrowers are ineligible.

## Condominiums

The lender must perform an underwriting review of the condominium project to ensure the unit meets HUD/FHA, VA, Fannie Mae, or Freddie Mac guidelines. The 1008 must be marked with the appropriate warranty and include all documentation utilized to make the condo warranty determination.

	Credit History				
Minimum FICO score of 620**. Will accept one borrower with NO SCORE if second borrower has minimum credit score of 640.					
Purchases:	Manually underwritten loans with FICOs less than 680 require a rent history of 0x30x12, if the applicant pays rent.				
Refinances:	The existing loan must have been current for the 180-day period prior to the conditional commitment request to refinance.				
tradelines to validate the b 12 months of repayment h • Authorized user acc unless the applican previous 12 months • A trade line in a doo • Required for manual	ose income or assets are used for qualification must have at least two eligible porrower's credit score. Eligible tradelines consist of credit accounts with at least history reported on the credit report. counts may not be considered in the credit score and credit reputation analysis t provides documentation that they have made payments on the account for the s prior to application. cumented dispute with 12 months of history is considered an eligible trade line. al and GUS approved loans: The inability to validate credit scores used by GUS will downgrade an "Accept" underwriting recommendation to a "Refer."				
Authorized User Tradeline	es				
<ul> <li>The owner of the tr</li> <li>Evidence the borrow</li> <li>There are two or m accounts, with at le</li> <li>If one of these conditions of downgraded to a "Refer" a</li> </ul>	on the mortgage loan application owns the tradeline in question radeline is the spouse of a borrower wer has been making payments on the account for the last 12 months ore other tradelines listed on the credit report, which are not authorized user east 12 months of payment history listed to validate the credit score. cannot be met an underwriting recommendation of "Accept" must be manually and the file must be manually underwritten. Closed authorized user accounts or manual or GUS loan submissions.				
0-Day Accounts					
12 months. 30-day accoun ratio. If the credit report re be included. Utilize 5% of t	estanding balance is paid in full on every 30-day account each month for the past ts that are paid monthly in full are not included in the applicant's long-term debt eflects any late payments in the last 12 months, a long-term monthly payment wil the outstanding balance as the applicant's monthly debt. Lenders will utilize the the applicant paid the balance on the account monthly for the previous 12				
Disputed Credit Tradeline	S				
recommendation of "Acce required if any of the follow The Tradeline has a zero de The tradeline is marked "p The tradeline has a balance In the event a GUS underw underwritten file to Rural I	aid in full" or "resolved" e owed of less than \$500 and is more than 24 months old riting recommendation is downgraded to a "Refer" the lender must remit a fully Housing. For manually underwritten loan files all disputed tradelines with nents that have been excluded from the debt ratios, must have evidence in the				

## Credit: Liabilities

### Non Purchasing Spouse

• When a borrower resides or the subject property is located in a community property state, a credit report for the NPS must be obtained. The debts of the NPS must be included in the borrower's debt ratio, except for those specifically excluded by state law. The NPS's credit history is not a reason to deny the loan application. Community property states include: Arizona, California, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin. Alaska is an opt in community property state; property is separate unless both parties agree to make it community property through a community property agreement or a community property trust.

### Verification of Rent/Mortgage History

• Not required with a GUS accept. Manual underwriting must follow Rural Housing repayment history requirements.

### Installment and Revolving Credit Accounts

• Installment debts with more than ten months repayment remaining must be included in the debt ratio. Revolving debts with reported loan balances on the credit report must have a monthly payment included in the debt ratios. If a payment is not listed the lender may estimate a monthly payment of 5% of the loan balance.

### Student Loans

### Lender must include the payment as follows:

- Fixed Payment Loans:
  - A permanent amortized, fixed payment may be used in the debt ratio when the lender retains documentation to verify the payment is fixed, the interest rate is fixed, and the repayment term is fixed.
- Non-Fixed Loans:
  - Payments for deferred loans, Income Based Repayment (IBR), Graduated, Adjustable, and other types of repayment agreements which are not fixed cannot be used in the total debt ratio calculation. The higher of one half percent (.50%) of the loan balance or the actual repayment reflected on the credit report must be used as the monthly payment in the underwriter decision. No additional documentation is required.

### Co-Signed Debt

- In order to exclude the payment from total debt, the lender must provide 12 month's payments from the other party or conclusive evidence from the debt holder that there is no possibility that the debt holder will pursue debt collection against the applicant, should the other party default. Individual debt must be included in the DTI.
- Payments that will come due in the next 24 months, including deferred loans and balloon payments.
- Short term obligations must be included in DTI if there is significant impact on repayment. Significant impact is defined as 5% or greater of the gross monthly income of the applicant.
- Long-term obligations with more than ten months repayment remaining on the credit report presented at underwriting, including all installment loans, alimony, child support or separate payments, student loans, and other continuing obligations must be included in the DTI.

## Credit: Derogatory

### Bankruptcy, Short Sale, Foreclosure, Federal Debt, and Judgments

#### Bankruptcy

- Bankruptcy Chapter 7: GUS approval has no minimum seasoning. Follow Rural guidelines for manually underwritten loans.
- When a Chapter 7 bankruptcy absolved the mortgage debt for the borrower any foreclosure or remaining foreclosure pending is an action against the property, not the borrower. The foreclosure action is not considered as adverse credit in the borrower's evaluation. A loan underwritten with the assistance of GUS will not be required to be manually downgraded when the bankruptcy discharge included the mortgage debt.
- Bankruptcy Chapter 13: GUS approval has no minimum seasoning. Follow Rural guidelines for manually underwritten loans.

#### Foreclosure & Short Sale

• 3 years elapsed since completion of Foreclosure, Deed in Lieu, or Short sale/Pre-foreclosure.

- Short Sales Manually underwritten only:
  - Exceptions can be made when the borrower was not delinquent at the time of Short Sale, or if due to divorce, at the time of divorce, and
  - The prior mortgage payment history must reflect all mortgage payments due were made on time for the 12 month period preceding the short sale, or time of divorce, and all installment debt payments for the same period were also made within the month due.

#### Federal Debt

• Federal debts: A borrower is ineligible for a guaranteed loan if they are presently delinquent on a tax or nontax Federal debt.

#### Judgments

- All judgement must be paid in full, or
  - Payment arrangements with the creditor have been made
  - The borrower has made regular and timely payments for the three months prior to loan application.
  - Prepaying schedule payments as a means of meeting minimum requirements is unacceptable
  - Lender will obtain a copy of the payment agreement and validate payments have been made in accordance with the payment agreement
  - The payment agreement will be included in the debt-to-income ratio
  - Exception: If the repayment plan was already established and the applicant has a history of consistent repayment, the payment may be excluded if there are less than 10 months remaining and the lender determines the debt does not have a significant impact on the repayment of the applicant.

## **Disaster Policy**

Windsor will require a post-disaster inspection when the appraisal occurred before the incident end date of the disaster. See Windsor disaster policy located in the Seller's Guide for full details.

## Escrows/Impounds

An impound account for collection of taxes and insurance (or addition escrow item) is required.

## **Escrow Holdbacks**

Repair Escrows, post issuance of the Loan Note Guarantee, are acceptable. Rural Housing may issue a Loan Note Guarantee prior to the completion of repairs provided the following conditions are met:

- The livability of the dwelling is not affected
- A signed contract between the borrower and the contractor is in effect for the proposed work and the funds to be escrowed are not less than the contract
- The funds to be escrowed are not less than the repair cost contract
- The Closing Disclosure reflects the holdback
- The development will be complete within 180 days of closing, unless an extension is granted by USDA for the inclement weather
- The escrow account is established in a federally supervised financial institution
- Certification of completion is required to verify the work was completed and must:
  - o Be completed by the appraiser
  - State that the improvements were completed in accordance with the requirements and conditions in the original appraisal report
  - The individual performing the final inspection of the property must sign the completion report.
  - State that the improvements were completed in accordance with the requirements and conditions in the original appraisal report
  - o Be accompanied by photographs of the completed improvements

### Escrow Completion Without the Assistance of a Contractor

- When the borrower will complete the planned interior/exterior development on an existing dwelling without the services of a contractor, the contract noted in this section is waived when the following three conditions are met:
  - o The estimated cost to complete the work is not greater than 10% of the total loan amount
  - The escrow amount is less than or equal to \$10,000
  - The lender has determined the borrower is capable to complete the work within the 180-day limit

## **Exclusionary List**

CAIVRS and GSA list must be checked and cleared.

## **Financing Concessions**

Financing or sales concessions cannot exceed 6% of the sales price.

## **Flood Insurance**

**Existing Dwellings:** 

• Existing dwellings in a SFHA are not eligible under the SFHGLP unless flood insurance through the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is available. The lender will require the borrower to obtain, and maintain for the term of the mortgage, flood insurance for any property located in a SFHA, listing the lender as a loss payee.

New or Proposed Dwellings:

Rural Housing will not guarantee loans for new or proposed homes in an SFHA unless the lender obtains a
Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) that removes the property from the SFHA or Letter of Map Revision
(LOMR) that removes the property from the SFHA or obtains a FEMA elevation certificate that shows the
lowest habitable floor (including basement) of the dwelling and all related building improvements is built at
or above the 100 year flood plain elevation in compliance with the NFIP

## Funds to Close

- Verification of funds is not required unless the borrower's contribution is greater than 2% of the purchase price. IN those cases the following are the most common sources:
  - Checking/Saving, provide the most recent two months statements. Any large deposits must be sourced.
  - Cash on Hand is not permitted.
  - Gifts are allowed in accordance with Rural Housing guidelines. Gifts must be specifically identified as a gift in GUS in order to omit from reserves.
  - The lesser of the two month average balance or actual balance (as reported on the most recent statement) must be used in GUS to calculate the assets. In lieu of entering assets in GUS, the lender may underwrite to the most conservative approach with no consideration of assets in GUS.

## High Cost / Higher Priced Mortgages (HPML)

- Windsor will not purchase High Cost Loans
- Higher Priced Mortgage Loans (HPML) transactions are eligible for purchase. HPML guidelines require:
  - Establishment of an escrow account for taxes and insurance premiums on any transaction secured by a principal resident.
  - Must meet all applicable state and/or federal compliance requirements.

## Home Ownership Counseling

Lenders are reminded that certain Rural Housing State Offices require Home Ownership Counseling for first time homebuyers. It is the lender's responsibility to ensure the home buyer education is completed in those states and include documentation to satisfy Rural Housing's requirements in the file.

## Income: Annual

- The borrower's adjusted income may not exceed the Rural Housing's limit for the area. Windsor strongly recommends the lenders include the documentation to support the annual income calculation in the file.
- Refer to the USDA Income and Property Eligibility website: <u>https://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov/eligibility/welcomeAction.do?NavKey=home@1</u>
- To validate income documentation and disclosure provided by the borrower's and other adult household members that will reside in the home, Lenders will require each adult member of the household to complete and execute IRS Form 4506-T (or comparable IRS form) for the previous two years at the time of loan application. Validation from IRS does not need to be received by the Lender prior to loan closing and retain them in the permanent loan file.
- Full time students age 18 and up that are not the applicant, co-applicant, or spouse of an applicant are not required to sign the 4506-T or have transcripts provided.

## Income: Repayment

### Salaried

- Pay stubs covering the most recent 4 weeks period with YTD earnings and W2s for the prior two years
   Or WVOE allowed.
- VOE within 10 business days prior to closing required.

Self-Employed

- Two consecutive years of signed Federal Income Tax Returns with all schedules filed with the IRS, or IRS transcripts that include all applicable schedules, along with a recent profit and loss statement (not required to be audited)
- Two consecutive years of signed business Federal Income Tax Returns with all schedules filed with the IRS, or IRS transcripts that include all applicable schedules, if required for the business type.
- Confirmation the business is operational must be obtained within 30 days of the note date/loan closing

### Other Types of Income

• See Rural Housing Guidelines, Chapter 9-Matrix 9-A

### Other Info

- See Tax Transcript Section for requirements.
- Mortgage credit Certificate (MCC): Do not include MCC in repayment income. See Attachment 9-A for how to enter MCC in GUS.
- A 4506-T, signed at application and closing, is required for all transactions.

## Loan Purpose

### Purchase

• Closing costs may be financed when there is equity above the contact price.

### Rate & Term Refinance

- The maximum loan amount cannot exceed the balance of the existing Rural Housing loan being refinanced plus:
  - Accrued Interest
  - Reasonable and customary closing costs
  - o Fund to establish a new tax and insurance escrow am
  - Financed guarantee fee
- Unpaid fees, such as late fees due the servicer are not eligible to be included in the new loan amount
- Borrowers may be reimbursed at closing for any fees paid in advance (for example, appraisal and credit report fee). A nominal amount of "cash-out" to the borrowers may occasionally result due to final escrow and interest calculations. This amount, if any, must be applied to a principal reduction of the new loan.
- The existing loan to be refinanced was closed at least 12 months prior to Rural Housing's receipt of a conditional commitment request for refinance
- The borrower has been current on their existing USDA loan for the 180-day period prior to the conditional commitment request for refinance
- At least one original borrower must remain on the new loan

### Not Permitted

- Cash Out is not allowed
- Streamline refinances are allowed.
- See Rural Streamline-Assist Product Profile for information on Rural Streamline-Assist transactions.
- Combination construction and permanent financing not allowed. Two-closing construction to permanent financing is allowed, and may be structured as a purchase transaction.

## Loan Purpose: Ineligible Transaction

- Intra-family purchases as a means to obtain cash-out for the seller while avoiding cash-out qualifications and pricing are not eligible transactions. These types of transactions may seem to meet Agency guidelines, they are not bonafide purchase transactions and therefore not eligible for purchase by Windsor. Unacceptable transactions of this type may have some or all of the following characteristics:
  - Gift of equity from the seller
  - Large amount of seller credits
  - o Family member remaining in the home and on title after the "purchase"
  - o Seller unable to qualify for a cash-out transaction of their own

## LTV Determination

• Purchase transactions and Refinance Transactions are based on the appraised value.

## Mortgage Products, Eligible Types

- Fixed Rate 30 year term only
- Interest only not allowed
- <u>Rehab and Repair with Purchase is not allowed</u>
- <u>Rural Energy Loans are not allowed</u>
- Single Close Construction to Perm Financing are not allowed

### Occupancy

• Owner Occupied Residences only

## Property, Eligible Types

- Single Family Attached/Detached
- PUDs and condos
- Purchase of dwellings which include an inground swimming pool are acceptable.
- New Construction must meet Rural Housing inspection and Builder Warranty requirements; evidence must be included in the file.
- Leaseholds with a minimum length of lease of 15 years beyond the maturity date of the loan.
- Purchase Transactions must be located in an area designated as acceptable for Rural Housing. Refinances are
  permitted for properties in areas that have been determined to be non-rural since the existing loans was
  made.

## Property, Ineligible Types

- Mobile Home
- Cooperatives
- Condotels
- Hotel Condominiums
- Timeshares
- Geodesic Domes
- Working Farms and Ranches
- 2-4 Units
- <u>Manufactured homes.</u>
- Income producing properties that do not meet Rural Housing's requirements. Examples include, but not limited to grain bins, silos, dairy farms, hog barns, and multiple equestrian stables.
- Unimproved Land and property currently in litigation.

## Property: Maximum Number of Properties Owned

Current homeowners may be eligible for guaranteed home loans under this part is all the following conditions are met:

- The homeowner's current dwelling is not financed by a Rural Development guaranteed or direct Section 502 or 504 loan or active grant
- The homeowner is financially qualified to own more than one house (the borrower is limited to owning one single family housing unit other than the one associated with the loan request
- The homeowner will occupy the home financed with the guaranteed loan as their primary residence throughout the term of the loan
- The current home no longer adequately meets the borrowers' need (See Chapter 8.2 of the Technical Handbook for details regarding what is defined as not meeting needs)
- In all cases, the lender must provide an additional explanation of the burden upon the borrower imposed by the status change both in the near and longer term, and also the reasons beyond the homeowner convenience why the purchase of the property must be completed prior to the sale of the existing property
- Departing Residence: borrowers who wish to purchase a new principal residence and retain or rent a residence must qualify with all mortgage liability payments.

### Ratios

- Housing ratio of 29%
  - Windsor will allow a higher housing ratio with a GUS Accept or Rural Housing Approval. Evidence of Rural Housing Approval must be maintained in the file.
- DTI of 41%
  - Windsor will allow a higher DTI with a GUS Accept or Rural Approval. Evidence of Rural Housing Approval must be maintained in the file.
- \$50 tolerance allowed for monthly payment increases.

## **Recently Listed Properties**

### • No Cash-Out Transaction

- The listing must have expired or been withdrawn prior to the application date.
- Note: if the property was listed in the prior 30 days to the application date, the Early EPO provision will be extended to one year.

Rental Income				
Repayment Income:	Rents received for 24 months or more:	Rents received less than 24 months:		
	Positive net rental income received may be included in the repayment income.	No rental income may be included for repayment purposes.		
	Negative net rental income is treated as a recurring liability in the debt ratios.	Corresponding mortgage liabilities must be included in the debt ratios.		
	Corresponding mortgage liabilities may be omitted from the debt ratios.			
Annual Income:				
Include positive net rental income that will be received in the ensuing 12 months.				
•	Negative net rental income is counted as zero in the annual income calculation.			

### Reserves

• Not required. When reserves are entered into the GUS, the Lender must develop a two-month average. Assets such as 401Ks, IRAs, etc., may be included up to only 60% of the vested value.

### **Rural Housing Documentation**

#### RD 3555-18 Conditional Commitment for Single Family Housing Loan Guarantee

- Must include completed, signed, and dated Lender Certification pages. The lender's signature on the Lender Certification certifies to Rural Housing the loan was closed in accordance with all applicable conditions listed and no adverse changes have occurred since the commitment was issued.
- Loans may not have an outstanding contingent Conditional Commitment. All documentation used to satisfy the Conditional Commitment must be included in the file.

## **Secondary Financing**

• Allowed in accordance to Rural Housing requirements.

## **Tax Transcripts**

- Tax transcripts for all adult household members are required for the most recent two years.
- Transcripts may be provided in lieu of tax returns
- W2/1099 transcripts are not sufficient.
- Lenders must require each adult household member as applicable to complete and sign IRS Form 4506-T for the previous two tax years at the time of loan application. The 4506-T must request full transcripts with all schedules.
- Lenders must obtain and review the transcripts prior to loan closing and retain them in their permanent loan file.
- IRS Transcripts ARE NOT required for full time students age 18 and older as long as the student is not an applicant, co-applicant not the spouse of an applicant
- Guaranteed loans cannot be made to a household that exceeds the applicable adjusted annual income limit. The transcripts provide a qualified control measure to ensure all income and asset earnings reported to the IRS have been disclosed to the lender.

## Utilities

For Purchase Transactions, Rural Housing requires the following inspections:

- Private Well/Water Supply: The local health authority or a state certified laboratory must perform a water quality analysis, which must be no greater than 120 days old at loan closing. The water quality must meet state/local standards.
- Private Septic Systems: The septic system must be free of observable evidence of failure. An FHA roster appraiser, government health authority, licensed septic professional, or qualified home inspector may perform the septic system evaluation. An FHA roster appraiser or qualified home inspector may require an additional inspection due to their observations. Existing dwellings appraised by a HUD roster appraiser, who has indicated the dwelling meets the required HUD handbooks does not require further septic certification.

## UW Method

- All loans must be submitted to Guaranteed Underwriting System (GUS)
- Lenders must manually downgrade an Accept decision to a Refer in the following instances (see Technical Handbook Section 10.7B for full details):
  - Disputed accounts as outlined in Section 10.11
  - Authorized user accounts that do not meet the requirements outlined in Section 10.12
  - Potential derogatory or contradictory information, including any pre0foreclosure sale within 3 years of the request for the conditional commitment.
- The loan must receive either an Accept/Eligible or Refer (manual).
  - <u>To ensure the property location and annual income complies with Rural Housing requirements.</u> Lenders must include the Accept/Eligible in the file.
- Non-traditional credit acceptable in accordance with Rural Housing's guidelines. See Credit: History section for more information.

Seller shall deliver loans that were originated in accordance with the Rural Housing Policies and Procedures Part 7 CFR 3555, unless otherwise noted in the Windsor Seller's Guide. For any situation not addressed in this Product Profile, please refer to Part 7 CFR 3555 or the accompanying handbook.

Windsor does not discriminate in any aspect of a credit transaction on the basis of sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, age, handicap or disability status, income derived from public assistance, military status or the good faith exercise of rights under the Consumer Credit Protection Act.