

# COMMUNITY EQUITY EDGE & EQUITY EDGE ELITE GUIDELINES

**EFFECTIVE 04.28.2025** 

# I COMMUNITY EQUITY EDGE PROGRAM

## I.I GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

## I.I.I COMMUNITY EQUITY EDGE PROGRAM

The Community Equity Edge Program provides a secondary financing option in the form of a standalone, closed end second lien. Section 15 outlines requirements specific to the Community Equity Edge Program. See Sections 1-13 of these guidelines for requirements not specifically addressed in this section.

#### 1.1.2 DOCUMENTATION

Documentation types include:

- Full Documentation: W-2s or tax returns
- Alternative Income Documentation: Personal Bank Statements, Business Bank Statements

See the Community Expanded Prime, DSCR, Equity Edge & Elite Guidelines located in the Non-QM products in PARC for complete program guidelines.

See the applicable Community Equity Edge Matrix for complete program requirements.

#### 1.1.3 PRODUCTS

See the applicable CW Lend Community Equity Edge Matrix for available products.

## 1.1.4 LOAN AMOUNTS AND LOAN-TO-VALUES

See the applicable CW Lend Community Equity Edge Matrix for maximum loan amounts and CLTVs.

#### 1.1.5 STATE RESTRICTIONS

See the applicable CW Lend Community Equity Edge Matrix for state restrictions.

## 1.1.6 AGE OF DOCUMENTATION

Unless otherwise noted, all loan documentation must be dated within 120 days of closing.

## I.I.7 LOAN AGE

The period between the note date and the purchaser's funding date cannot exceed 60 days.

## 1.1.8 PREPAYMENT PENALTIES, POINTS, AND FEES

Prepayment penalties are not permitted on Community Equity Edge or Community Equity Edge Elite transactions. Total points, fees, and APR may not exceed current state and federal high-cost thresholds.

## 1.1.9 EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to published guidelines are considered on a case-by-case basis. Loans with exception requests should exhibit strong compensating factors.

## 1.2 TRANSACTIONS

#### 1.2.1 OCCUPANCY

The Community Equity Edge Program allows for rate/term and cash-out refinances of primary residences, second homes, and investment properties. A signed Business Purpose & Occupancy Affidavit is required on all investment property transactions.

## 1.2.2 BENEFIT TO BORROWER

In keeping with the commitment of responsible lending, all primary residence and second home refinance transactions must have a measurable benefit to the borrower.

When determining the benefit on a refinance transaction, one or more of the following must exist to support the benefit to the borrower:

- Balloon payoff
- Title transfer
- Property retention
- Rate reduction

- P&I reduction
- Debt reduction
- Uncontrolled cash-out

State-specific and/or federal benefit to borrower compliance requirements must be adhered to. Sellers are to complete the CW Lend Benefit for Borrower Worksheet to ensure compliance with the CW Lend benefit to borrower policy. Files must contain documentation supporting the acceptable benefit.

Additional restrictions apply if the new loan refinances an existing loan considered to be a special mortgage.

A special mortgage is originated, subsidized, or guaranteed by or through a state, tribal, or local government, or nonprofit organization that either bears a below-market interest rate at the time the loan was originated or has nonstandard payment terms beneficial to the borrower, such as payments that vary with income, are limited to a percentage of income, or where no payments are required under specified conditions.

If the borrower will lose one or more of the benefits of the special mortgage, then both of the following apply:

- Seller must check that the loan complies with all applicable state and local laws as well as laws associated with the subject special loan program for compliance; and
- Seller must take special care to ensure a net tangible benefit to the borrower

## 1.2.3 GENERAL REFINANCE REQUIREMENTS

## 1.2.3.1 DETERMINING LOAN-TO-VALUE

The Community Equity Edge Program requires 6 months ownership seasoning. The appraised value may be used to determine loan-to-value as established by the required appraisal product in <a href="15.9.2 Appraisal">15.9.2 Appraisal</a> Report Requirements. Purchase settlement date to note date is used to calculate the 6 months.

## 1.2.3.2 PROPERTIES LISTED FOR SALE

To be eligible for the Community Equity Edge Program, the subject property must be taken off the market ≥ 6 months from application date.

## 1.2.4 RATE/TERM REFINANCE

A rate/term refinance is the refinancing of an existing mortgage for the purpose of changing the interest and/or term of a mortgage without advancing new money on the loan.

The mortgage amount for a rate/term refinance is limited to the sum of the following:

- Existing second mortgage payoff
- Closing costs and prepaid items (interest, taxes, insurance) on the new mortgage
- The amount of any subordinate mortgage liens used in their entirety to acquire the subject property (regardless of seasoning)
- The amount of a home equity line of credit in first or subordinate lien position that was used in its entirety to acquire the subject property (regardless of seasoning)
- Any subordinate financing that was not used to purchase the subject property provided:
  - For closed end seconds, the loan is at least one year seasoned as determined by the time between the note date of the subordinate lien and the application date of the new mortgage
  - For HELOCs and other open-ended lines of credit, the loan is at least one year seasoned and there have been less than \$2,000 in total draws over the past 12 months

On rate/term transactions, the borrower may only receive cash back in an amount that is the lesser of 2% of the new mortgage balance or \$2,000.

## 1.2.5 CASH-OUT REFINANCE

A cash-out refinance is a refinance that does not meet the rate/term refinance definition. Cash-out would include a refinance where the borrower receives cash from the transaction or when an open-ended subordinate lien (that does not meet the rate/term seasoning requirements) is refinanced into the new transaction.

The mortgage amount for a cash-out refinance transaction may include any of the following:

- Existing second mortgage payoff
- Closing costs and prepaid items (interest, taxes, insurance) on the new mortgage
- The amount of any subordinate mortgage liens being paid off that do not meet seasoning and draw history requirements as described in 15.2.4 Rate/Term Refinance
- The amount of any non-mortgage related debt paid off through closing
- Additional cash in hand reflected on the settlement statement

A signed Business Purpose & Occupancy Affidavit is required on all investment property cash-out transactions. Net proceeds may only be utilized for business purposes as prescribed on the affidavit.

## 1.2.6 TEXAS HOME EQUITY LOANS

Texas Home Equity loans are allowed under the Community Equity Edge Program on primary residences only. All borrowers on the loan must be in title and occupy the subject property as their primary residence.

Cash-out transactions on investment properties in Texas are not subject to 50(a)(6) requirements and are permitted under Community Equity Edge. Evidence must be obtained to show a Texas homestead exemption has been granted on the borrower's primary residence. Cash-out transactions on investment properties in Texas follow standard CW Lend Community Equity Edge guidelines.

All Texas Home Equity loans must comply with the more restrictive of the CW Lend Correspondent Purchase Eligibility Guidelines or <u>3.6 Texas Home Equity Loans</u>.

## 1.3 BORROWERS

A borrower is a credit applicant who will have ownership interest in the subject property, sign the security instrument, and sign the mortgage/deed of trust and note.

## 1.3.1 CUSTOMER IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM (CIP)

The USA Patriot Act requires banks and financial institutions to verify the name, date of birth, address and identification number of all borrowers. Social security numbers can be validated with a copy of the social security card, an executed SSA-89 form, or through fraud report verification. Sellers are to follow the published CIP procedures for each borrower to ensure the true identity of all borrowers has been documented.

## 1.3.2 FRAUD REPORT AND BACKGROUND CHECK

All loans must include a third-party fraud detection report for all borrowers. Report findings must cover standard areas of quality control including, but not limited to: borrower validation, social security number verification, criminal records, and property information (subject property and other real estate owned). All high-level alerts on the report must be addressed by the seller.

If the seller cannot electronically access the fraud report to clear high-level alerts within the fraud provider's system, an Underwriter's Certification from the seller is acceptable. The Certification must address each individual high alert and explain what actions were taken to satisfy the issues. It must be signed and dated by a member of the seller's underwriting staff or operations management personnel.

In addition to the fraud and background check requirements, CW Lend will upload, as a matter of file documentation, any unsuccessful fraud report return if the background check is not available. The fraud check should also include occupancy status to assist in the validation and endorsement of the Business Purpose & Occupancy Affidavit.

## 1.3.3 U.S. CITIZENS

U.S. citizens are eligible for financing under Community Equity Edge.

## 1.3.4 PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIENS

A permanent resident alien is a non-U.S. citizen authorized to live and work in the U.S. on a permanent basis. Permanent resident aliens are eligible for financing.

Acceptable evidence of lawful permanent residency must be documented and meet one of the following criteria:

- I-151 Permanent Resident Card (Green Card) that does not have an expiration date
- I-551 Permanent Resident Card (Green Card) issued for 10 years that has not expired
- I-551 Conditional Permanent Resident Card (Green Card) issued for 2 years that has an expiration date, as long as it is accompanied by a copy of USCIS Form I-751 requesting removal of the conditions
- Un-expired Foreign Passport with an un-expired stamp reading as follows: "Processed for I-551
  Temporary Evidence of Lawful Admission for Permanent Residence. Valid until mm-dd-yy.
  Employment Authorized."

## 1.3.5 NON-PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIENS

A Non-Permanent Resident Alien is a non-U.S. citizen authorized to live and work in the U.S. on a temporary basis. Non-Permanent Resident Alien borrowers are eligible for the Community Equity Edge Program.

#### 1.3.5.1 VERIFICATION OF RESIDENCY STATUS

The following visa classifications are allowed as Non-Permanent Resident Aliens:

• E-1, E-2, E-3

G-I through G-5

H-IB & C, H-2 through H-4

• L-IB, L-2

NATO I through 6

O-I

• R-I

• TN-I & 2 (NAFTA)

Copies of the borrower's passport and unexpired visa must be obtained. Acceptable alternative documentation to verify visa classification is an I-797 Form (Notice of Action) with valid extension dates and an I-94 Form (Arrival/Departure Record). Borrowers unable to provide evidence of lawful residency status in the U.S. are not eligible for financing.

A valid employment authorization document (EAD) must be obtained if the visa is not sponsored by the borrower's current employer. If the visa will expire within 6 months of loan application, it is acceptable to obtain a letter from the employer documenting the borrower's continued employment and continued visa renewal sponsorship (employer on the loan application must be the same as on the unexpired visa).

If a non-U.S. citizen is borrowing with a U.S. citizen, it does not eliminate visa or other residency requirements. Individuals in possession of spouse or family member visas are to qualify as co-borrowers only. A valid EAD must be provided to use income for qualification.

Borrowers who are residents of countries which participate in the State Department's Visa Waiver Program (VWP) will not be required to provide a valid visa. Participating countries can be verified through the U.S. Department of State website at <a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html</a>.

Citizens of Venezuela are ineligible for CW Lend programs.

## 1.3.5.2 CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

A U.S. credit report is required for each borrower on the loan using a valid Social Security number. A 12-month housing history is also required. See 15.4 Credit Analysis for complete credit requirements.

#### 1.3.5.3 **ASSETS**

All funds required for down payment and closing costs on Non-Permanent Resident Alien transactions must be seasoned for 30 days.

## 1.3.6 VESTING AND OWNERSHIP

Ownership must be fee simple. Acceptable forms of vesting are:

- Individuals
- Joint tenants
- Tenants in Common
- Inter Vivos Revocable Trust

Leasehold estates and land contract/contract for deed transactions are not permitted under Community Equity Edge.

#### 1.3.6.1 INTER VIVOS REVOCABLE TRUST VESTING

See 4.13.1.1 Inter Vivos Revocable Trust Vesting for complete requirements.

## 1.3.7 NON-OCCUPANT CO-BORROWERS

Non-occupant co-borrowers are not allowed.

## 1.3.8 MULTIPLE FINANCED PROPERTIES AND CW LEND EXPOSURE

There is no limit on the number of other properties borrowers may currently have financed.

CW Lend exposure may not exceed \$10M aggregate with a maximum of 10 loans for each individual borrower. Exceptions to this policy will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

## 1.3.9 INELIGIBLE BORROWERS

The following borrowers are not eligible:

- Non-occupant co-borrowers
- Co-signer(s)
- Foreign Nationals
- ITIN Borrowers
- Borrowers with diplomatic immunity or otherwise excluded from U.S. jurisdiction
- Residents of any country not permitted to transact business with US companies are ineligible (as determined by any U.S. government authority)
- LLCs, partnerships, or corporations (primary and second home transactions). Trusts (certain trusts may qualify for ownership vesting only)
- Land Trusts
- Borrowers less than 18 years old

## 1.4 CREDIT ANALYSIS

## 1.4.1 CREDIT REPORT

A credit report is required for every borrower. The credit report should provide merged credit information from the 3 major national credit repositories. A valid Social Security number (SSN) is required for all borrowers on the loan.

Either a three-bureau merged report, or a Residential Mortgage Credit Report (RMCR), is required. The credit report should include verification of all credit references provided on the loan application and must certify the results of public record searches for each city where the individual has resided in the last 2 years.

## 1.4.1.1 AGE OF CREDIT REPORT/CREDIT DOCUMENTATION

All credit documentation, including the credit report, may not be more than 120 days old at the time of closing.

## I.4.I.2 FRAUD ALERTS

The three national credit repositories have developed automated messaging to help identify possible fraudulent activity on a credit report. Examples of fraud alerts include:

- Initial 90-day Fraud Alert
- Extended Fraud Alert
- Active-Duty Alert
- HAWK Alert

All Fraud Alerts must be properly addressed and resolved prior to submitting the loan to underwriting. The actions must be reasonable and compliant with applicable laws. An underwriting decision cannot be made without full resolution of the alert.

## 1.4.1.3 CREDIT REPORT SECURITY FREEZE

The credit report used to evaluate a loan may not reflect a security freeze and must be resolved prior to an underwriting decision. If a borrower unfreezes his or her credit after the date the original credit report was ordered, a new three-bureau merged report must be obtained to reflect current and updated information from all repositories.

## 1.4.1.4 INQUIRIES

A signed letter of explanation from the borrower or creditor is required for all inquiries within the most recent 90 days to determine whether additional credit was granted as a result of the borrower's request.

#### 1.4.1.5 GAP CREDIT REPORT

A gap credit report from at least one of three major national credit repositories (Transunion, Equifax, or Experian) is required within 10 business days of closing. In cases where a gap report is not received prior to closing, the report may be obtained within 30 days of closing.

Evidence of an active Debt Monitoring Service is acceptable in lieu of a gap credit report. The Debt Monitoring Service must be in effect within 10 days of closing. If written evidence cannot be provided, a processor cert or lender attestation stating no new debts are present is allowed.

## 1.4.2 CREDIT SCORE REQUIREMENTS

The primary wage-earner score is used as the Representative Credit Score for each loan. Each borrower must have a valid score from at least 2 of the following 3 agencies: Experian (FICO), TransUnion (Empirica), and Equifax (Beacon). Only scores from these agencies are acceptable. Additional borrowers on the loan must have at least one valid score of 620 or greater.

To determine the Representative Credit Score for the primary wage-earner, select the middle score when 3 agency scores are provided and the lower score when only 2 agency scores are provided.

When qualifying income amount is equal for all borrowers on the loan, the highest Representative Credit Score of all borrowers will be used.

## 1.4.3 TRADELINE REQUIREMENTS

COMMUNITY EQUITY EDGE MINIMUM TRADELINES			
	OCCUPANCY	TRADELINE HISTORY	MINIMUM STANDARDS
STANDARD TRADELINES	All occupancy types	3 tradelines reporting for 12+ months with activity in last 12 months or 2 tradelines reporting for 24+ months with activity in last 12 months or ***I tradeline with 36+ months with activity in the last 12 months	**0X60 for most recent I2 months
*LIMITED TRADELINES	Primary only	Does not meet minimum tradeline requirements	N/A

\*Limited Tradelines allowed on primary residence transactions only with max CLTV of 75%.

\*\*Applies only to tradelines being used to meet minimum number of trades.

\*\*\*Tradeline must be a mortgage account or installment account.

All borrowers must meet the minimum tradeline requirements under the Community Equity Edge Program. See the appropriate Community Equity Edge Matrix for complete tradeline requirements.

To qualify as a valid tradeline, the following requirements apply:

- The credit line must be reflected on the borrower's credit report.
- The account must have activity in the past 12 months and may be open or closed.
- Tradelines used to qualify may not exceed 0x60 in the most recent 12 months.
- An acceptable 12- or 24-month housing history not reporting on credit may also be used as a tradeline.

Credit lines on which the borrower is not obligated to make payments are not acceptable for establishing a minimum history. Examples of unacceptable tradelines include loans in a deferment period, collection or charged-off accounts, accounts discharged through bankruptcy, and authorized user accounts. Student loans can be counted as tradelines as long as they are in repayment and are not deferred.

## 1.4.4 MORTGAGE AND RENTAL PAYMENT VERIFICATION

Mortgage and rental payments not reflected on the original credit report must be documented via an institutional Verification of Rent or Verification of Mortgage (VOR/VOM). A combined total of all late mortgage and rental payments in the past 12 months must be used to determine the housing history.

If the borrower is making payments to an individual or interested party, 12 months of cancelled checks or bank statements must be obtained. A VOR/VOM is not required but may be requested for clarification.

All mortgages and rental payments should be current at time of closing. If the credit report or VOR/VOM reflects a past-due status, updated documentation is required to verify account is current.

See the applicable Community Equity Edge for max allowable housing payment lates.

#### 1.4.5 ROLLING LATE PAYMENTS

Rolling late payments are not considered a single event. Each occurrence of a contractual delinquency is considered individually for loan eligibility.

## 1.4.6 PAST DUE ACCOUNTS

Past due consumer debts can be no more than 30 days past due at time of closing.

## 1.4.7 DELINQUENT CREDIT BELONGING TO EX-SPOUSE

Delinquent credit belonging to an ex-spouse can be excluded from the credit evaluation when all of the following apply:

- Borrower provides a copy of the divorce decree or separation agreement which shows the derogatory accounts belong solely to the ex-spouse
- Late payments occurred after the date of the divorce or separation
- Evidence of title transfer prior to any delinquent debt must be provided if debt is a mortgage, and evidence of buyout as part of court proceedings

Collection accounts assigned to an ex-spouse may be excluded from aggregate collection totals with a divorce decree or separation agreement assigning the account solely to the ex-spouse.

## 1.4.8 LAWSUIT/PENDING LITIGATION

If the application, title, or credit documents reveal that the borrower is presently involved in a lawsuit or pending litigation, the loan is ineligible.

## 1.4.9 CONSUMER CREDIT COUNSELING SERVICE (CCCS)

Consumer Credit Counseling must be completed for a minimum of 48 months from closing date. See the applicable Community Equity Edge Matrix for complete program requirements.

#### 1.4.10 COLLECTIONS AND CHARGE-OFFS

The following accounts may remain open:

- Collections and charge-offs < 24 months old with a maximum cumulative balance of \$2,000</li>
- Collections and charge-offs ≥ 24 months old with a maximum of \$2,500 per occurrence
- Collections and charge-offs that have passed beyond the statute of limitations for that state (supporting documentation required)
- All medical collections

Collection and charge-off balances exceeding the amounts listed above must be paid in full.

## 1.4.11 JUDGMENTS AND TAX LIENS

All judgments or liens affecting title must be paid as title must insure our lien position without exception. Court-ordered judgments may remain open when one of the following options is met:

- The amount is the lessor of \$5,000 per occurrence or 2% of the loan amount
- The borrower is currently in a repayment agreement with the creditor (if the borrower is currently in a repayment plan, the following requirements apply):
  - A minimum of 3 months has elapsed on the plan and evidence of timely payments for the most recent 3 months is provided; and
  - The maximum payment required under the plan is included in the debt-to-income ratio.
- Judgments or lien has passed beyond the statute of limitations for that state (supporting documentation required)

## 1.4.12 HOUSING EVENTS

A Housing Event is any one of the following events listed below:

- Foreclosure
- Deed-in-Lieu
- Short Sale
- Modification
- Ix120 mortgage history

Housing Events must be seasoned for a minimum of 48 months from loan closing, and 84 months under Community Equity Edge Elite. See the Community Equity Edge Matrix and/or Community Equity Edge Elite Matrix for complete housing event requirements.

Seasoning of a foreclosure, deed-in-lieu, or short sale is measured from the date of completed sale or final property transfer. The Housing Event must be completed prior to loan closing with no outstanding deficiency balance remaining.

For a 120-day mortgage late, seasoning is from the date the mortgage was brought current. Seasoning for a modification is from the date the modification was executed.

If the property was surrendered in a Chapter 7 bankruptcy, the bankruptcy discharge date is used for seasoning. Bankruptcy papers may be required to show the property was surrendered. The foreclosure action is not required to be fully complete.

A mortgage modification resulting in any of the attributes listed below is subject to Housing Event seasoning guidelines:

- Forgiveness of a portion of principal and/or interest on either the first or second mortgage
- Application of a principal curtailment by or on behalf of the investor to simulate principal forgiveness
- Conversion of any portion of the original mortgage debt to a "soft" subordinate mortgage
- Conversion of any portion of the original mortgage debt from secured to unsecured

## 1.4.13 BANKRUPTCY

All bankruptcies must be discharged or dismissed for a minimum of 48 months from closing date under Community Equity Edge, and 84 months under Community Equity Edge Elite. See the applicable Community Equity Edge Matrix for complete bankruptcy requirements.

## 1.5 LIABILITIES

See <u>6 Liabilities</u> for complete guidelines addressing liabilities.

## 1.5.1 SENIOR LIENS

CW Lend will not permit loans in first lien position to contain any risk features that could impact the borrower's ability to repay. Terms of the subject property first lien must be obtained.

The following documentation is required:

- Copy of Note and Deed of Trust/Mortgage
- Copy of the final CD from the first lien may be required

## 1.5.2 INELIGIBLE SENIOR LIENS

Ineligible Senior Lien terms include, but are not limited to:

- Loans in active forbearance or deferment
- Negative amortization
- Balloon, if the balloon payment becomes due during the amortization period of the new 2nd lien
- Reverse mortgages
- Private mortgages opened within the past 12 months
- Tax and judgment liens

## 1.6 EMPLOYMENT/INCOME ANALYSIS

Employment and Income maybe be documented with Full Documentation or Alternative Income Documentation. See the applicable Community Equity Edge Matrix for complete income documentation requirements.

See <u>8 Employment/Income Analysis</u> for any employment or income requirements not specifically addressed in this section.

Note: Asset Utilization is not allowed for determining income under the Community Equity Edge Program.

## 1.6.1 EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Employment must be stable with at least a 2-year history in the same job or jobs in the same field. Income from self-employment is considered stable if the borrower has been self-employed for 2 or more years.

#### 1.6.2 SOURCES OF INCOME

For all income sources, borrowers are qualified based on calculated stable monthly income over the most recent I-year period. Income may be obtained from a variety of sources such as salary, bonus, commission, self-employment, etc., and should be reasonably expected to continue for the next 3 years.

## 1.7 RATIOS AND QUALIFYING

## 1.7.1 RATIOS

The maximum DTI allowed for the Community Equity Edge Program is 50%.

## 1.7.2 RESIDUAL INCOME

Residual income is required for all primary and second home transactions using the following calculation:

Residual Income = Gross Monthly Income - Total Monthly Obligations

Residual Income of \$1,500 is required for the Community Equity Edge. An additional \$150 per dependent must also be included for all programs. The initial 1003 should reflect the number of dependents for all borrowers on the transaction.

## 1.7.3 ADJUSTABLE-RATE QUALIFYING FOR OTHER LIENS

For all subject property liens that are determined to be ARM loans, the greater of the note rate or the fully indexed rate is used to determine the qualifying PITIA. The fully indexed rate is calculated by adding the margin to the index.

## 1.8 ASSET ANALYSIS

Verification of assets is required for all transactions to evidence sufficient funds to close and reserves. See <u>10</u> <u>Asset Analysis</u> for any asset requirements not specifically addressed in this section.

#### 1.8.1 RESERVES

See the appropriate Community Equity Edge Matrix for complete reserve requirements.

## 1.8.2 VERIFICATION OF ASSETS

Assets to be used for down payment, closing costs, debt payoff, and reserves must be seasoned for 30 days from closing date or sourced.

Assets must be verified with one of the following:

- Account statements for the most recent month or quarter indicating opening and closing balances and reflecting a consecutive 30 days of asset verification.
  - Account statements must provide borrower or guarantor as account holder, the account number, statement date and time period covered, and the current balance in U.S. dollars.
  - If account summary page provides the required information, additional pages are not required.
- Written Verification of Deposit (VOD), completed by the financial institution:
  - Must include the current and average balances for the most recent month.
  - Large disparities between the current balance and the opening balances will require additional verification or supporting documentation.
- Statements provided by third-party asset verification companies are permitted and may be used in lieu of bank statements (e.g., AccountChek, Finicity, Plaid). Statements from a third-party verification company may not be used for bank statement income calculations.

<u>Note</u>: Large and/or unusual deposits may require additional documentation including letter of explanation, third party documentation, etc.

## **I.9 PROPERTY**

See II Property for any property guidelines not specifically addressed in this section.

## 1.9.1 ELIGIBLE PROPERTY TYPES

PROPERTY ELIGIBILITY			
PROPERTY TYPE	ELIGIBLE		
Single-Family Residence	Yes		
Planned Unit Development (PUD)	Yes		
Townhomes	Yes		
2-4 Unit Multi-Family Properties	†Yes		
Site Condominium	**Yes		
*Condominium (low-rise and high-rise)	**Yes		
*Non-Warrantable Condominiums	Yes		
Age Restricted Communities	No		
Agricultural or Commercial Zoned	No		
Assisted Living/Continuing Care Facilities	No		
Boarding Houses	No		
Condotels or Condo Hotels	No		
Co-operative Units	No		
Farms or Hobby Farms	No		
Land Contracts/Contract for Deed	No		
Land Trusts	No		
Leasehold Property	No		
Log Homes	No		
Manufactured Homes	No		
Mixed-Use Properties	No		
Modular Homes	No		
Properties Subject to Rent Control Regulations	No		
Rural Properties	No		
Unique Properties (Earth Homes, Berm Homes, Dome Homes, etc.)	No		
*See appropriate Community Equity Edge Matrix for program requirements and LTV/CLTV restrictions.			

## 1.9.2 APPRAISAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS

For loan amounts  $\leq$  \$400,000, one of the following appraisal options is required:

- AVM from approved provider with acceptable forecast standard deviation (FSD) score and confidence rating:
  - Approved providers include: ClearCapital, Collateral Analytics, CoreLogic, HouseCanary, Homegenuis, Quantarium, and Veros.
  - Acceptable confidence ratings are  $\geq$  90% and acceptable FSD scores are  $\leq$  0.10.
  - o AVMs must include property condition report or comparable report.
  - Note: If the AVM does not provide the required FSD score or confidence rating, AVM is considered ineligible, and an Exterior-Only or Full Interior Appraisal is required.
- iQuant Ext Appraisal Report
- Exterior-Only Inspection Residential Appraisal Report (FNMA Form 2055 or 1075)
- Full Interior Appraisal (FNMA Form 1004, 1073, or 1025)

A Full Interior Appraisal is required for:

- Loan amounts > \$400,000
- Higher-Price Mortgage (HPML) loans

## 1.9.3 AGE OF APPRAISAL AND APPRAISAL UPDATES

Appraisals are valid for 120 days and are not eligible for appraisal updates.

## 1.9.4 RURAL PROPERTIES AND ACREAGE

Rural properties are not permitted under the Community Equity Edge Program. Maximum acreage allowed is 2 acres. Acreage and land value must be typical and common for the subject's market.

Residential properties in areas that are zoned as either agricultural or commercial are not eligible.

Utilize the following tool to determine if a property is rural: <a href="https://www.consumerfinance.gov/rural-or-underserved-tool/">https://www.consumerfinance.gov/rural-or-underserved-tool/</a>.

## 1.9.5 SOLAR PANELS

The presence of solar panels which will include a UCC filing associated with the property and/or which create an easement on title will make the subject property ineligible for financing. See <a href="II.8.27 Solar Panels">II.8.27 Solar Panels</a> for complete requirements.

## 1.9.6 ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT

ADU are permitted but rental income may not be considered for qualification purposes. See also <a href="II.8.1">II.8.1</a> <a href="Accessory Dwelling Units">Accessory Dwelling Units</a> for complete requirements.

## 1.10 PROPERTY INSURANCE

## 1.10.1 HAZARD INSURANCE

Documentation of adequate hazard insurance coverage is required. When determining the acceptable coverage amount, the unpaid principal balance of <u>all</u> existing liens against the subject property should be used. See <u>12.1 Hazard Insurance</u> for complete requirements.

## 1.10.2 FLOOD INSURANCE

Sufficient flood insurance must be obtained if property is determined to be in a flood zone. Documentation of adequate flood insurance coverage is required. When determining the acceptable coverage amount, the unpaid principal balance of <u>all</u> existing liens against the subject property should be used. See also <u>12.3 Flood</u> <u>Insurance</u>.

If existing first mortgage does not contain an escrow account for flood, see 15.10.4 Escrow Accounts.

## 1.10.3 TITLE INSURANCE

For loan amounts ≤ \$400,000, an Owner and Encumbrance Property Report is required.

For loan amounts > \$400,000, a full ALTA Residential Limited Coverage Junior Policy or full ALTA Title Policy with expanded coverage insuring the second lien is required.

See 13 Title Insurance for complete requirements.

## 1.10.4 ESCROW ACCOUNTS

Under the Community Equity Edge Program, an escrow account must be established for flood insurance if the existing first mortgage does not contain escrows for flood insurance. Escrows for hazard insurance and taxes are not required.

## 2 FORMS

The most up-to-date versions of all CW Lend forms, matrices, rate sheets, and guidelines can be accessed through the CW Lend PARC.

The following forms can be found via the CW Lend PARC:

- CW Lend Benefit to Borrower Form
- CW Lend Condominium Project Questionnaire Form
- CW Lend Self-Employed Business Narrative Form (or equivalent)
- Business Purpose & Occupancy Affidavit