



# HomeReady® mortgage Built for today's home buyers.

Meet the diverse needs of today's buyers and grow your business with the HomeReady mortgage, our premier affordable lending product. Designed for creditworthy low- to moderate-income borrowers, HomeReady offers expanded eligibility for financing homes in low-income communities.

#### **Features**

- Financing up to 97% loan-to-value (LTV) for purchase of one-unit principal residence (DU is required for LTV ratios >95%); up to 95% LTV for limited cash-out refi (LCOR) and up to 97% LTV for LCOR transactions in DU when the mortgage being refinanced is owned or guaranteed by Fannie Mae
- Borrower is not required to be a first-time buyer
- Cancellable mortgage insurance (restrictions apply); lower MI coverage (25% for LTVs >90% to 97%) compared with standard requirements
- Gifts, grants, Community Seconds<sup>®</sup>, and cash-on-hand permitted as a source of funds for down payment and closing costs
- Supports HomeStyle® Energy, manufactured housing, and HomeStyle Renovation (approved lenders)
- Innovative underwriting flexibilities expand access to credit responsibly. Flexibilities include:
  - Rental unit and boarder income
  - Non-occupant borrowers, such as a parent

#### **Lender Benefits**

- Certainty. Underwrite with confidence DU automatically identifies potential HomeReadyeligible loans and provides a credit risk assessment.
- Affordability. Get pricing that's better than or equal to Fannie Mae's standard loan pricing.
  Take advantage of risk-based pricing waivers for LTV ratios >80% with a credit score >= 680.
- Simplicity. Combine standard and HomeReady loans into MBS pools and whole loan commitments.
- Sustainability. Expand access to credit responsibly with homeownership education and housing counseling options for borrowers.

## Lenders say...

"The 97% financing option and low mortgage insurance coverage are just two of the benefits as compared to traditional conventional loan programs." –Mat Ishbia, President/CEO, United Shore

"It's a no-brainer for borrowers with greater than 80% LTV and 680 or higher credit score." – Derek Travis, loan officer, America First

#### **Borrower Benefits**

- Low down payment. As low as 3% down payment for home purchase and refinance transactions.
- Flexible sources of funds. Can be used for the down payment and closing costs with no minimum contribution required from the borrower's own funds (1-unit).
- Affordable and cancellable monthly MI. Reduced MI coverage requirement above 90% LTV; cancellable MI per Servicing Guide policy.
- Homeownership education. The online <u>Framework®</u> course prepares borrowers for sustainable homeownership; other education and housing counseling options are available.



# Simple borrower income eligibility

HomeReady is available when purchasing or refinancing any single-family home, as long as the borrower meets the income limits of the property location. (Income eligibility limits may help lenders meet applicable Community Reinvestment Act goals.) The <a href="Income Eligibility Lookup tool">Income Eligibility Lookup tool</a> provides lenders and other housing professionals with a quick and easy way to look up HomeReady income eligibility by address or FIPS code.

Borrower Income Eligibility Limit	Area
No income limit	Properties in low-income census tracts
100% of area median income	All other properties

# Homeownership education requirement

Knowledge is power. That's why the HomeReady® mortgage homeownership education requirement is designed to help borrowers gain essential knowledge to prepare for sustainable homeownership and lenders gain informed borrowers prepared to successfully navigate the loan process.

### The Framework® course makes it simple to meet the requirement

At least one borrower on each HomeReady purchase transaction must complete the <u>Framework® online education</u> <u>program</u> (see exceptions below). The Framework course, available in English and Spanish, meets or exceeds industry standards and consistently receives high marks from learners.

**Exceptions** | For HomeReady loans that involve a Community Seconds® or down payment assistance program, buyers may instead complete the homeownership education course or counseling required by the Community Seconds® or down payment assistance program as long as it is provided by a HUD-approved agency and completed prior to closing.

In addition, the presence of a disability, lack of Internet access, and other issues may indicate that a consumer is better served through other education modes (for example, in-person classroom education or via a telephone conference call). In such cases, lenders should direct buyers to Framework's toll-free customer service line (855-659-2267), which can refer consumers to a HUD-approved counseling agency.

Finally, buyers who have **already** completed housing counseling prior to entering a sales contract are not required to complete the Framework course. See below for more details on counseling requirements.

### Benefits of housing counseling

We believe housing counseling from a HUD-approved nonprofit housing counseling agency can help to expand the pool of mortgage-eligible buyers.

In addition to helping borrowers prepare for sustainable homeownership and fulfilling the HomeReady homeownership education requirement, housing counseling can provide a benefit to lenders, too. Exclusively for HomeReady purchase transactions on which buyers have received customized assistance from HUD-approved nonprofit counseling agencies before entering into a sales contract, lenders will receive a **\$500 loan-level price** adjustment credit for HomeReady loans delivered with Special Feature Code 184.

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