

Genworth Mortgage Insurance Credit Policy Announcement March 31, 2021 - Bulletin 2021-01

This Credit Policy Bulletin addresses Genworth's Underwriting Guideline Updates.

Effective **April 1, 2021**, our Underwriting Guidelines will be updated with changes to further clarify and simplify our guidelines. A few of the updates are highlighted below. All changes are effective for mortgage insurance applications received **on or after April 1, 2021**.

Simply Underwrite® update includes:

- Updating Genworth guidelines to align with Freddie Mac's 2 – 4 unit Home Possible maximum LTV of 85%

Standard Guideline updates include:

- Clarifying the 2 months reserve requirement for primary, 1-unit purchase manually underwritten transactions with loan amounts \leq \$822,375 is an overlay to GSE requirements
- Clarifying that loans closed more than 120 days are ineligible for delegated loan submission, however, may be submitted for a Genworth underwrite

Peak PortfolioSM Guideline updates include:

- Clarifying Minimum Borrower Contribution and Reserve requirements for various scenarios
- Removing the Homebuyer Education requirement associated with Peak Affordable Housing program

Refer to the attached Change Summary and Eligibility Recap documents for additional details.

Reminder: Genworth continues to align with the GSEs' temporary guidance related to COVID-19 and any future extensions unless otherwise communicated.

[Fannie Mae Lender Letter LL-2021-03, Impact of COVID-19 on Originations - Updated March 11, 2021](#)

[Fannie Mae Lender Letter LL-2021-04, Impact of COVID-19 on Appraisals - Updated March 11, 2021](#)

[Freddie Mac Bulletin 2021-10 - Selling Updates Related to COVID-19 – March 11, 2021](#)

Please distribute this information to your organization. For assistance, contact your Genworth Representative or the ActionCenter® at 800 444.5664. As always, we appreciate your business.

YOU-CENTRIC SOLUTIONS THAT MATTER.



**Genworth Mortgage Insurance
Underwriting Guidelines Changes and Clarifications Summary
April 1, 2021**

The following guideline changes and clarifications will be effective for MI Applications received on or after April 1, 2021 unless otherwise specified. The Underwriting Guidelines with complete details will be updated and available on our website, mi.genworth.com on April 1, 2021.

Topic	Old Guideline	New Guidelines
2 – 4 Unit Properties	Simply Underwrite Guidelines: The maximum LTV for 2 – 4 unit properties is 95%	Simply Underwrite Guidelines: Updating Genworth guidelines to align with Freddie Mac's 2 – 4 unit Home Possible maximum LTV of 85%
Reserves	Standard Guidelines: Primary, 1-unit purchase manually underwritten transactions with loan amounts \leq \$822,375 require 2 months reserves.	Standard Guidelines: Clarifying the 2 months reserve requirement for primary, 1-unit purchase manually underwritten transactions with loan amounts \leq \$822,375 is an overlay to GSE requirements
Closed Loans	Simply Underwrite and Standard Guidelines: Not addressed	Simply Underwrite and Standard Guidelines: Clarifying that loans closed more than 120 days are ineligible for delegated loan submission, however, may be submitted for a Genworth underwrite
IRS Form 4506-T	Standard Guidelines: Removing references to IRS Form 4506-T	Standard Guidelines: Changing references to IRS Form 4506-T to IRS Form 4506-C

This summary is intended for reference only and is subject to the complete terms and conditions of Genworth's *Underwriting Guidelines*. In case of differences with this document, the *Underwriting Guidelines* will govern.

Genworth Mortgage Insurance underwriters include: Genworth Mortgage Insurance Corporation and Genworth Mortgage Insurance Corporation of North Carolina

**Genworth Mortgage Insurance
Peak Underwriting Guidelines Changes and Clarifications Summary
April 1, 2021**

The following guideline changes and clarifications will be effective for MI Applications received on or after April 1, 2021 unless otherwise specified. The Underwriting Guidelines with complete details will be updated and available on our website, mi.genworth.com on April 1, 2021.

Topic	Old Guideline	New Guidelines
Peak Program Eligibility	Clarification	Peak is not available in all states. Peak is currently unavailable for Lenders Domiciled in AK, HI, ME, NH and WA.
Non-warrantable Condos	Clarification	Adding reference to non-warrantable condominium eligibility on a case-by-case basis
Homebuyer Education Requirement	Homebuyer education is required for first time homebuyer	Homebuyer education is no longer required
Minimum Borrower Contribution & Reserves	Clarification	Clarifying Minimum Borrower Contribution and Reserve requirements for various scenarios
Closed Loans	Not Addressed	Loans closed more than 120 days are ineligible for delegated loan submission, however, may be submitted for a Genworth underwrite.

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Genworth Mortgage Insurance underwriters include: Genworth Mortgage Insurance Corporation and Genworth Mortgage Insurance Corporation of North Carolina

Simply Underwrite[®] Eligibility Recap

Simply Underwrite applies to eligible loans with a Desktop Underwriter[®] recommendation or Loan Product Advisor[®] risk classification. Contact your sales representative or the ActionCenter[®] at 800.444.5664 with any questions.

Effective April 1, 2021

Primary Residence – Purchase, Rate/Term Refinance and Construction-to-Permanent ¹				
Property Type	Max LTV/CLTV	Max Loan Amount	Min Credit Score	Max DTI ²
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives, Manufactured Housing ³	97%	Agency Base Conforming	620	Per DU & Loan Product Advisor
	95%	FHFA High Cost		
2 units	85%	FHFA High Cost		
3 units	85%	Agency Base Conforming		
4 units	85%	Agency Base Conforming		
Second Home – Purchase, Rate/Term Refinance and Construction-to-Permanent ¹				
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives, Manufactured Housing	90%	FHFA High Cost	620	Per DU & Loan Product Advisor
Investment Property – Purchase and Rate/Term Refinance				
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums	85%/NA	FHFA High Cost	620	Per DU & Loan Product Advisor

¹ Construction-to-Permanent is ineligible with property types other than single family (detached) or Manufactured Housing.

² Genworth utilizes the DTI excluding the mortgage insurance for pricing purposes, the total DTI including mortgage insurance is used for guideline eligibility.

³ Manufactured Housing is eligible to a maximum LTV of 97% for MH Advantage loans.

Eligibility	In addition to Approve/Eligible and Accept/Eligible loans, the following GSE AUS recommendations or risk classifications may be eligible for Simply Underwrite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve/Ineligible for HomePath[®] Property • See Simply Underwrite sections 4.1 and 6.1 in the <i>Underwriting Guidelines</i> for complete details • HomeReady[®] and Home Possible[®] are eligible for Simply Underwrite. For more information, see section 4.2 in our <i>Underwriting Guidelines</i>.
Exclusions from Simply Underwrite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fannie Mae High LTV Refinance Option and Freddie Mac Enhanced Relief Refinance MortgageSM • Lender-negotiated guideline variances, waivers or programs unless approved by Genworth. However, GSE published Renovation Mortgage Programs and cooperative share mortgages are eligible for Simply Underwrite.
Other Underwriting Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genworth does not insure the following: Properties located in Guam, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands • Follow Sections 4.1 and 6.1 Simply Underwrite requirements in our <i>Underwriting Guidelines</i> • Appraisal waivers are eligible when offered by DU or LPA for rate/term refinance transactions receiving a DU Approve/Eligible or LPA Accept/Eligible recommendation and loans meeting Fannie Mae's Rural High-Needs appraisal waiver requirements
Note	References to FHFA (Federal Housing Finance Agency) pertain to HERA High-Cost Areas Loan Limits which can be found at FHFA Loan Limits .

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Standard Guidelines

Eligibility Recap

Standard Guidelines apply to loans that are not eligible for **Simply Underwrite**. Contact your sales representative or the ActionCenter® at 800.444.5664 with any questions.

Effective April 1, 2021

Primary Residence – Purchase, Rate/Term Refinance and Construction-to-Permanent ²				
Property Type	Max LTV/CLTV	Max Loan Amount ¹	Min Credit Score	Max DTI ³
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives	97%	\$822,375	620	50%
Manufactured Housing	95%	\$548,250	620	50%
2 units	95%	\$702,000	620	50%
3 units	95%	\$848,500	700	45%
4 units	95%	\$1,054,500	700	45%
Primary Residence – Cash-Out Refinance				
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives	90%/NA	\$548,250	700	45%
	85%/NA	\$548,250	620	50%
	85%/NA	\$822,375	720	45%
Second Home – Purchase, Rate/Term Refinance and Construction-to-Permanent ²				
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives	90%	\$548,250	620	50%
	90%	\$822,375	700	45%
Manufactured Housing	90%	\$548,250	620	50%
Second Home – Cash-Out Refinance				
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives	85%/NA	\$822,375	740	45%
Investment Property – Purchase and Rate/Term Refinance				
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums	85%/NA	\$822,375	700	45%
Other Underwriting Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loans may be underwritten using delegated underwriting authority, as allowed, or submitted for Genworth underwriting Maximum cash-out amount: \$250,000 			
Note	References to FHFA (Federal Housing Finance Agency) pertain to HERA High-Cost Areas Loan Limits which can be found at FHFA Loan Limits .			

¹ Maximum loan amounts in AK & HI are \$822,375 for 1 unit, \$1,054,500 for 2-4 units.

² Construction-to-Permanent is ineligible with property types other than Single family (detached) or Manufactured Housing.

³ Genworth utilizes the DTI excluding the mortgage insurance for pricing purposes, the total DTI including mortgage insurance is used for guideline eligibility.

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Simply Underwrite[®] Eligibility Recap for Credit Unions

Simply Underwrite applies to eligible loans with a Desktop Underwriter[®] recommendation or Loan Product Advisor[®] risk classification. Contact your sales representative or the ActionCenter[®] at 800.444.5664 with any questions.

Effective April 1, 2021

Primary Residence – Purchase, Rate/Term Refinance and Construction-to-Permanent ¹				
Property Type	Max LTV/CLTV	Max Loan Amount	Min Credit Score	Max DTI ²
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives, Manufactured Housing ³	97%	Agency Base Conforming	620	Per DU & Loan Product Advisor
	95%	FHFA High Cost		
2 units	85%	FHFA High Cost		
3 units	85%	Agency Base Conforming		
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Eligibility	In addition to Approve/Eligible and Accept/Eligible loans, the following GSE AUS recommendations or risk classifications may be eligible for Simply Underwrite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve/Ineligible for HomePath[®] Property • See Simply Underwrite sections 4.1 and 6.1 in the <i>Underwriting Guidelines</i> for complete details • HomeReady[®] and Home Possible[®] are eligible for Simply Underwrite. For more information, see section 4.2 in our <i>Underwriting Guidelines</i>.
Exclusions from Simply Underwrite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fannie Mae High LTV Refinance Option and Freddie Mac Enhanced Relief Refinance MortgageSM • Lender-negotiated guideline variances, waivers or programs unless approved by Genworth. However, GSE published Renovation Mortgage Programs and cooperative share mortgages are eligible for Simply Underwrite.
Other Underwriting Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genworth does not insure the following: Properties located in Guam, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands • Follow Sections 4.1 and 6.1 Simply Underwrite requirements in our <i>Underwriting Guidelines</i> • Appraisal waivers are eligible when offered by DU or LPA for rate/term refinance transactions receiving a DU Approve/Eligible or LPA Accept/Eligible recommendation and loans meeting Fannie Mae's Rural High-Needs appraisal waiver requirements
Note	References to FHFA (Federal Housing Finance Agency) pertain to HERA High-Cost Areas Loan Limits which can be found at FHFA Loan Limits .

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Standard Guidelines Eligibility Recap for Credit Unions

Standard Guidelines apply to loans that are not eligible for **Simply Underwrite**. Contact your sales representative or the ActionCenter® at 800 444.5664 with any questions.

Effective April 1, 2021

Primary Residence – Purchase, Rate/Term Refinance and Construction-to-Permanent ²				
Property Type	Max LTV/ CLTV	Max Loan Amount ¹	Min Credit Score	Max DTI ³
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives	97%	\$822,375	620	50%
Manufactured Housing	95%	\$548,250	620	50%
2 units	95%	\$702,000	620	50%
3 units	95%	\$848,500	700	45%
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Primary Residence – Cash-Out Refinance				
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives	90%/NA	\$548,250	700	45%
	85%/NA	\$548,250	620	50%
	85%/NA	\$822,375	720	45%
Second Home – Purchase, Rate/Term Refinance and Construction-to-Permanent ²				
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives	90%	\$548,250	620	50%
	90%	\$822,375	700	45%
Manufactured Housing	90%	\$548,250	620	50%
Second Home – Cash-Out Refinance				
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives	85%/NA	\$822,375	740	45%
Investment Property – Purchase and Rate/Term Refinance				
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums	85%/NA	\$822,375	700	45%

¹ Maximum loan amounts in AK & HI are \$822,375 for 1 unit, \$1,054,500 for 2-4 units.

² Construction-to-Permanent is ineligible with property types other than Single family (detached) or Manufactured Housing.

³ Genworth utilizes the DTI excluding the mortgage insurance for pricing purposes, the total DTI including mortgage insurance is used for guideline eligibility.

Other Underwriting Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loans may be underwritten using delegated underwriting authority, as allowed, or submitted for Genworth underwriting Maximum cash-out amount: \$250,000
Note	References to FHFA (Federal Housing Finance Agency) pertain to HERA High-Cost Areas Loan Limits which can be found at FHFA Loan Limits .

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Simply UnderwriteSM Eligibility Recap for Housing Finance Agencies

Simply Underwrite applies to eligible loans with a **Desktop Underwriter[®]** recommendation or **Loan Product Advisor[®]** risk classification. Contact your sales representative or the ActionCenter[®] at 800.444.5664 with any questions.

Effective April 1, 2021

Primary Residence – Purchase, Rate/Term Refinance and Construction-to-Permanent ¹				
Property Type	Max LTV/CLTV	Max Loan Amount	Min Credit Score	Max DTI ²
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives, Manufactured Housing ³	97% / 105%	Agency Base Conforming	620	Per DU & Loan Product Advisor
	95% / 105%	FHFA High Cost		
2 units	85% / 105%	FHFA High Cost		
3 units	85% / 105%	Agency Base Conforming		
4 units		Agency Base Conforming		

¹ Construction-to-Permanent is ineligible with property types other than Single family (detached) or Manufactured Housing.

² Genworth utilizes the DTI excluding the mortgage insurance for pricing purposes, the total DTI including mortgage insurance is used for guideline eligibility.

³ Manufactured Housing is eligible to a maximum LTV of 97% for MH Advantage loans.

Eligibility	In addition to Approve/Eligible and Accept/Eligible loans, the following GSE AUS recommendations or risk classifications are eligible for Simply Underwrite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve/Ineligible for HomePath[®] Property See Simply Underwrite sections 4.1 and 6.1 of the <i>Underwriting Guidelines</i> for complete details
Desktop Underwriter: HFA Preferred[™] or HomeReady[®]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loan must be processed in DU[®] as either HFA Preferred[™] or HomeReady[®], according to Fannie Mae's directions Follow Fannie Mae's published program guidelines for HFA Preferred or HomeReady through DU and <i>Exclusions from Simply Underwrite for HFAs</i> found in this chart.
Loan Product Advisor: Home Possible[®], or HFA Advantage[®]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loan must be processed in Loan Product Advisor with the applicable Home Possible[®], or HFA Advantage[®] offering identifiers Follow Freddie Mac's published Home Possible or HFA Advantage program guidelines and <i>Exclusions from Simply Underwrite for HFAs</i> found in this chart.
Eligibility Exclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fannie Mae High LTV Refinance Option and Freddie Mac Enhanced Relief Refinance MortgageSM Lender-negotiated guideline variances, waivers or programs unless approved by Genworth. However, GSE published Renovation Mortgage Programs and cooperative share mortgages are eligible for Simply Underwrite.
Other Underwriting Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genworth does not insure the following: Properties located in Guam, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands Follow sections 4.1 and 6.1 Simply Underwrite in our <i>Underwriting Guidelines</i> for complete details Appraisal waivers are eligible when offered by DU or LPA for rate/term refinance transactions receiving a DU Approve/Eligible or LPA Accept/Eligible recommendation and loans meeting Fannie Mae's Rural High-Needs appraisal waiver requirements
Note	References to FHFA (Federal Housing Finance Agency) pertain to HERA High-Cost Areas Loan Limits which can be found at FHFA Loan Limits .

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Standard Guidelines

Eligibility Recap for Housing Finance Agencies

Standard Guidelines apply to eligible loans that are not eligible for HFA Simply Underwrite. Contact your sales representative or the ActionCenter® at 800 444.5664 with any questions.

Effective April 1, 2021

Primary Residence – Purchase, Rate/Term Refinance and Construction-to-Permanent ²				
Property Type	Max LTV/CLTV	Max Loan Amount ¹	Min Credit Score	Max DTI ³
Single family (detached & attached), Condominiums, Cooperatives	97% / 105%	\$822,375	620	50%
Manufactured Housing	95% / 105%	\$548,250	620	50%
2 units	95% / 105%	\$702,000	620	50%
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¹ Maximum loan amounts in AK & HI are \$822,375 for 1 unit, \$1,054,500 for 2-4 units.

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³ Genworth utilizes the DTI excluding the mortgage insurance for pricing purposes, the total DTI including mortgage insurance is used for guideline eligibility.

HFA Preferred or HomeReady	Follow Fannie Mae's published program guidelines for manually underwritten HFA Preferred or HomeReady loans
Home Possible or HFA Advantage Mortgages	Follow Freddie Mac's published Home Possible or HFA Advantage program guidelines for manual underwriting

For loans other than HomeReady, HFA Preferred or Home Possible or HFA Advantage that are eligible through an HFA program, follow the LTV/Loan Limit/Score eligibility grid above and the remaining guidelines below.

Documentation	Full documentation for credit, income, employment and assets
Minimum Borrower Contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 unit & DTI ≤ 45%: 1% minimum borrower contribution 1 unit & DTI > 45%: 3% minimum borrower contribution <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Borrower's minimum contribution can be met by acceptable sources per GSE guidelines, including personal gifts, gifts of equity, donations from entities, funds from employer assistance programs and Community Seconds®/Affordable Seconds®. Sweat Equity is permitted for one-unit properties with a minimum 5% down payment. The borrower must contribute at least 3% of their own funds (2% sweat equity). The maximum LTV is 95% for HomeReady and Home Possible loans. (Genworth overlay for Home Possible loans). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 - 4 units: Minimum 3% borrower contribution
Subordinate Financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subordinate financing must meet Fannie Mae's Community Second or Freddie Mac's Affordable Seconds guidelines
Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase, 1-unit: 2 months 2 - 4 units: 6 months
Loan Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fixed rate/fixed payment Fully amortizing ARMs, with initial adjustments ≥ 1 yr Temporary buydowns Ineligible: Balloons
Valid Credit Score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum of three (3) tradelines / credit references, open or closed, that have been evaluated at least 12 months <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credit references may be a combination of tradelines, traditional or nontraditional credit At least one borrower on the loan must have a valid credit score. See section 7.5 of Underwriting Guidelines.
Nontraditional Credit	Maximum 95%/105% LTV/CLTV. Max 41% DTI. 1 unit. Nontraditional credit must be underwritten by Genworth.
Standard Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applies to loans that are not eligible for Simply Underwrite, including manually underwritten loans without a GSE automated underwriting system recommendation/risk classification May be underwritten as delegated, as allowed, or submitted for Genworth underwriting Must meet the underwriting criteria found within our Underwriting Guidelines

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