

VA FULLY AMORTIZING FIXED & JUMBO PROGRAM

PROGRAM SPECIFICATIONS		
Description	A mortgage loan program established by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to help veterans and their families obtain home financing.	
Channels	Broker Correspondent Non-Delegated (UW) Delegated (UW)	
FICO	 Standard and Jumbo - 580 minimum qualifying credit score for all qualifying Borrowers. Reminders: 580-659: A minimum of 2 qualifying credit scores are required for all qualifying borrowers. Use the middle score if 3 credit scores or the lower of the two if 2 credit scores. 660+: A minimum of 1 qualifying credit score is required for all required borrowers. Lowest representative score from all borrowers will be used for qualification purposes. 	
UW Method	Desktop Underwriter (DU) Loan Product Advisor (LPA)	
AUS Recommendation	 Approve/Eligible – DU Refer/Eligible - DU Risk Class Accept – LPA Risk Class Refer - LPA 	
Eligible Terms	10Yr., 15Yr., 20Yr., 25Yr., 30Yr. Fixed ARMs not permitted	
Eligible Transaction Types	 Purchase Type I and II Cash-Out Max LTV 100% for loans not exceeding the conventional conforming national baseline loan limits. LTVs > 90% are limited to 30 Yr fixed rate only Max LTV 90% for loans exceeding the conventional conforming national baseline loan limits. IRRRLs (see VA IRRRL Matrix) Construction-to Permanent (OTC) (See VA OTC Matrix) Renovation (See VA Renovation Matrix) 	
Eligible Property Types	1-2 Unit Primary Residences VA Approved Condominiums PUDs Manufactured Housing Singlewide & Multiwide	
Cash-Out	Type I: A refinance loan in which the loan amount does not exceed the payoff amount of the loan being refinanced. If, refinancing a VA-guaranteed home loan from a fixed-to-fixed rate there must be a .5% reduction in interest rate and; Recoupment of all fees, expenses, and closing costs must be recouped within 36 months Total cost / Savings in P&I payment Type II: A refinance loan in which the loan amount exceeds the payoff amount of the loan being refinanced. All Cash-out refinancing loans must satisfy at least one of the following Net Tangible Benefits: Eliminate monthly mortgage insurance Decrease the loan term Decrease the monthly (P&I) payments Reduce the interest rate Maintain LTV equal to or less than 90% Refinance an interim loan to construct, alter, or repair the home Increase monthly residual income Refinance from an ARM to a fixed-rate loan Comparison of the following information of existing and new loan: Loan amount vs. payoff amount Loan type Interest rate Loan term Payment including MI if applicable	



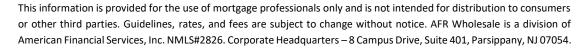


	 LTV Statement of the effect of equity being removed from property The NTB and Comparison (VA-Guaranteed Home Loan Cash-Out Refinance Comparison Certification) and the Home Equity Disclosure (VA Cash-out Refinance Home Equity Disclosure) must be disclosed within 3 days of application and at closing, for all applications on or after February 15, 2019. Seasoning Requirement: The borrower must have made at least six consecutive monthly payments on the loan being refinanced, referred to hereinafter as the Initial Loan, beginning with the payment made on the first payment due date; and The first payment due date of the refinance loan occurs no earlier than 210 days after the first payment due date of the Initial Loan.
Maximum LTV/CLTV	 Fully Amortizing Fixed Purchase: 100%/100% The total loan amount (base plus VA Funding fee) cannot exceed county loan limits LTVs > 90% are limited to 30 Yr fixed rate only Fully Amortizing Fixed Cash-Out Refinance (Type 1 or 2): 100%/100% for loan amounts not exceeding the national baseline Conforming Loan limits as published by the FHFA. 90%/90% if loan amount exceeds the national baseline as published by the FHFA. The LTV and CLTV limits are calculated using total loan amounts and do include VA funding fee. The total loan amount (base loan amount plus VA funding fee). The loan amount may include the funding fee and other allowable fees and charges and discount points. The maximum LTV/CLTVs listed are the maximums permitted by AFR VA policy; however, not all Veterans will be eligible for maximum financing. Additional Guidelines: Properties owned free and clear are not eligible for a refinance transaction (see Chapter 6, section 4 of VA Pamphlet 26-7) The lien(s) being paid off may be: liabilities (revolving, installment, etc.) current or delinquent; derogatory credit (collection accounts, charge offs, taxes, judgments, etc.); and any type of mortgage (VA, FHA, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, USDA, 1st lien, 2nd lien, HELOC, etc.). Loan proceeds beyond the amount needed to pay off the lien(s) may be taken as cash by the borrower for any purpose acceptable to the Underwriter up to the maximum amount of \$100,000. Jumbo Purchase:
Maximum Loan Amount and Down Payment Requirements	 The total maximum loan amount of \$1.5 million includes the VA Funding Fee and may be subject to down payment requirements. Jumbo Refinance: The total maximum loan amount of \$1 million includes the VA Funding Fee. AFR has 2 specific loan amount buckets for VA Fully Amortizing Fixed loans: Standard, includes loan amounts up to the Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac conforming county loan limits
	Jumbo, are loan amounts greater than the Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac conforming county loan limits AFR utilizes the Conventional conforming loan limits table. VA maximum loan amounts can be found here: <u>FHFA LOAN LIMITS FOR 2024</u> Down Payment Requirements for Jumbo Loans and Veterans with full entitlement available <u>Down Payment Requirement Percentage</u> Loan amount > applicable county loan limit ≤ 1.5MM 10% "Maximum loan amount" is defined to include the VA Funding Fee
	 Standard The Standard VA Loan limit across the nation is \$766,550. When the subject property is in a county with a \$766,550 loan limit the loan is considered a Standard Loan and must be registered and closed under the Standard program codes. However, for example, in San Francisco County the loan limit is \$1,149,825. A qualified Veteran can purchase a home up to \$1,149,825 with zero down in this county. Jumbo When a subject property has a loan amount greater than the posted county limits the loan is considered a Jumbo Loan and must be registered and closed under the Jumbo program codes. AFR allows a Veteran (with full entitlement available) to borrower a loan amount that exceeds their County Loan Limit (CLL) when buying a home by contributing a down payment equal to 10% of the amount over the county loan limit. For example, in Los Angeles, where the CLL is \$1,149.825, if a Veteran





bought a home for \$1,289,825, their down payment requirement would be 10% of the amount of the loan that exceeds the CLL. Example of a property in Los Angeles County: Calculation for Max Base Loan Amount when the loan amount is greater than \$1,149.825. (Purchase Price - \$1,249,825) x Downpayment Percentage = Reduction in Ioan Purchase Price - Reduction in Loan Amount = Max Base Loan Amount Below considers a transaction in Los Angeles County CA Purchase County Loan Down Payment Percentage (DPP) Maximum Base Loan Amount Price (PP) Limit (CLL) (PP - CLL) x DPP % = Reduction in Loan (MBLA) (PP - Reduction) = MBLA Amount \$1,249,825 \$1,149,825 \$1,249,825 - \$1,149,825 = \$100,000 x \$1,249,825 - \$10,000 = 10% = \$10,000 \$1,239,825 The Veteran will still be subject to the increased VA Funding Fee, which could affect the down payment amount slightly. Important: There may be a Price Adjustment for loan sizes that are considered Jumbo. Please see the daily rate sheets for details. AFR Overlays for VA Jumbo AFR requires additional overlays for VA Jumbo loans. Applications for a VA Jumbo Loan must have all overlays outlined in this matrix and: AUS Approve Eligible recommendation only; refers are not permitted, 25% guaranty, and Maximum Loan Amount of \$1.5 million (Note: The maximum loan amount of \$1.5 million includes the VA Funding Fee). Maximum DTI Approve/Eligible recommendations: Follow AUS findings (DU/LPA) Refer AUS recommendation or manual underwriting: Follow VA Guidelines (see Chapter 4, Maximum 65% with Approve/eligible AUS Recommendation (DU or LP) and meeting VA requirements over 41% (see Chapter 4, Topic 9) **Assisted Appraisal Processing** AFR permits the use of the AAPP as outlined in Circular 26-19-30 Program AFR does not permit the use of the AAPP for the following programs: VA OTC 0 **VA** Renovation 0 Note: New Construction, Loan Amounts greater than 1 million and complex properties are not permitted. **Geographic Restrictions** Hawaii AFR does not operate in the state of Hawaii and does not permit loans with a subject property in Hawaii for all programs in all channels with the exception of Correspondent Delegated UW transactions. AFR requires the use of AFR's Texas counsel on all Texas transactions with the exception of Correspondent Delegated loans. AFR utilizes this 3rd party for document preparation and require 48 hours for both title review and to generate a closing package. Guidelines http://www.benefits.va.gov/warms/pam26 7.asp See FORMS Section in the Resource Center Forms **Temporary COVID-19 Guidance** Permitted Re-Verification of Employment: (Rescinds July 1, 2023) If unable to re-verify employment due to impacts **Reference VA Circulars** of COVID-19: 26-20-10, Change (Option 1) a third-party service. (No additional fee may be charged to the veteran.) 1, Change 2 and (Option 2) Evidence of direct deposit from a bank statement and paystubs covering at least one full Change 3 Rescinds month of employment within 30 days of the closing date. Reconcile payment amounts between the July 1, 2023 paystubs and direct deposit listed on the bank statement. **26-20-11** Rescinded If option 2 is used, document VA Form 26-6393 Box 47 and supporting documentation. April 1, 2021 If none of the above can be obtained, evidence the borrower has a minimum of 2 months PITI in reserves. **26-20-13** Rescinded April 1, 2021 Self-employment 10-day preclosing verification ensuring the business is currently operating: 26-20-25 Rescinded Note: this policy will remain in effect for AFR until further notice July 1, 2021 Evidence of current work (executed contracts or signed invoices that indicate the business is operating on the day the verification is completed). Evidence of current business receipts within 10 days of the note date (payment for services performed). Documented certification that the business is open and operating (through a phone call or other means);







Business website demonstrating activity supporting current business operations (timely appointments for estimates or service can be scheduled).

Income Disruption (Rescinded April 1, 2021): If the applicant was impacted by COVID-19 (i.e., furlough, income curtailment, etc.) it should not be considered a break in employment or income (in assessing risk) provided they have returned to work in the same capacity and income levels. In addition to standard verification documentation, obtain furlough letters where applicable. (If the applicant has not returned to work, the income may not be used.)

Rental income used for qualifying purposes requires proof of 3 months receipt per property.

- Examples of acceptable documentation include, bank statements evidencing deposits.
- In cases where a gap in rental income is documented, AFR will require a letter of explanation from the borrower.

Borrower(s) purchasing a two-unit primary residence

- Unit not occupied by the borrower is currently rented:
 - Obtain a copy of the current lease and proof of the most recent 3 months receipt of payment from the current renter to the seller. Documentation options include:
 - Bank statements showing the receipt, or
 - Redacted portion of the statement showing deposits received, or
 - Electronic receipts (such as PayPal, Venmo, Zelle, Mozido or similar), and
 - Seller must attest in writing that the tenant is current.
- Unit that is not occupied by the borrower is currently vacant:
 - Singed lease agreement and proof of security deposit
 - Follow all other guidelines VA Pamphlet 26-7

General (Rescinded April 1, 2021): For non-IRRRL transactions, either a desktop appraisal or an exterior only inspection appraisal (2055) may be used in lieu of the interior and exterior inspection appraisal in limited circumstances.

• Extensive VA restrictions and requirements apply. See Circular 26-20-11 & 26-20-13 for guidelines

Desktop Appraisals (Rescinded April 1, 2021), the appraiser will be required to attach a copy of the Scope of Work (SOW) Exhibit A, certifications, and assumptions in all reports.

Map Reference Field (Rescinded April 1, 2021): For a desktop appraisal or an appraisal with an exterior-only inspection that is completed on a form for an interior and exterior inspection, the appraisal report must include, in the "Map Reference" Field, "desktop" or "exterior."

Reconsideration of Value (ROV) (Rescinded April 1, 2021) for purchase transactions are restricted to no greater than 7 percent from the appraiser's opinion of value or \$10,000 whichever is greater.

• ROV for cash-out refinance transactions are suspended.

Completion Certifications (Rescinded April 1, 2021):

- AFR will permit self-certifying repairs of existing properties that do not meet Minimum Property Requirements (MPR), with the exception of certifications that involve lead-based paint as outlined in Circular 26-20-13.
- VA Renovation transaction will require a final inspection to be completed by a VA fee appraiser.

Water System Acceptability (Rescinded April 1, 2021):

- AFR will permit waiving of the Well water testing for VA to VA refinance transaction as outlined in the update to Circular 26-20-13 Change 1 dated May 8, 2020.
- AFR will continue to follow VA Pamphlet 26-7, Chapter 12, section 16 Individual Water Supply guidance for all other VA Transactions.

Termite Inspections: AFR continues to require a termite inspection for subject properties located in "very heavy" or "moderate to heavy" areas as determined by the Termite Infestation Probability Map.

Impact of CARES Act Forbearance on VA Purchase and Refinance Transactions – rescinds July 1, 2021: Note: This temporary policy expires on July 1, 2021.

Purchase and Cash-Out Refinance Loans: (Refer to <u>Circular 26-20-25</u> for complete requirements)

- Continue to follow VA's underwriting standards generally and should not use a CARES Act forbearance as a reason to deny a Veteran a VA-guaranteed loan.
- Borrowers must provide reasons for the loan deficiency and information to establish that the cause of the delinquency has been corrected.
- Although deferred payments may not be considered for credit risk purposes, the monthly obligation must be considered if the debt remains active after closing the new loan.

IRRRLs:





- Borrower in forbearance with no missed payments:
 - VA's prior approval and lender underwriting are not required (exempt from income verification) if the loan being refinanced is not more than 30 days past due, regardless of whether the Veteran requested a CARES Act forbearance and the delinquency status at the time of such request.
- Borrower in forbearance with missed payments:
 - Waiver of Prior Approval VA's prior approval is not required, regardless of delinquency status, if-
 - Seller has VA approved automatic authority.
 - The borrower has invoked a CARES Act forbearance related to the loan being refinanced.
 - The borrower has provided information to establish that the borrower is no longer experiencing a financial hardship caused by COVID-19, and
 - The borrower qualifies for the IRRRL under VA's underwriting and credit standards (not exempt from income verification).
- Maximum Loan Amount (subject to maximum LTV/CLTV 105%) in context of a CARES Act forbearance, IRRRLs may include the following:
 - Any past due installment payments, including those a borrower deferred under the CARES Act forbearance, plus
 - o Allowable later charges, consistent with the note, the CARES act, and all applicable laws, plus
 - Allowable closing costs and discount points, and
 - o The VA funding fee.
- Loan Seasoning, Fee Recoupment, Discount Points and Net Tangible Benefit Standards:
 - All IRRRLs must meet loan season, fee recoupment, discount point and net tangible benefit requirements.
 - Period of forbearance cannot count toward seasoning. A loan being refinanced is seasoned if both the following conditions are met as of the date the borrower closes the refinance loan:
 - The borrower has made at least six consecutive monthly payments on the loan being refinanced.
 - For Example, in a case where a borrower made 5 consecutive payments before invoking a CARES Act forbearance, such borrower would need to make 6 additional consecutive payments, post forbearance, in order to meet the seasoning requirement.
 - The date of closing for the refinance loan is 210 or more days after the first payment due date of the loan being refinanced.

Stacking Order - Additional required documentation by VA to obtain guaranty.

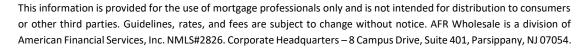
OVERLAYS

Credit

- AFR requires a 580 minimum qualifying credit score required for all qualifying borrowers.
 - 580-659: A minimum of 2 qualifying credit scores are required for all qualifying borrowers. Use the middle score if 3 credit scores or the lower of the two if 2 credit scores. Lowest representative score from all borrowers will be used for qualification purposes.
 - o 660+: A minimum of 1 qualifying credit score is required for all required borrowers.
- Non-traditional credit not permitted; with the exception of CDE loans with an AUS Approve Eligible Recommendation.
- Significant Derogatory Credit (Bankruptcy, Foreclosure) waiting periods less than 2 yrs. from the resolution of the event to application must be approved by the credit committee.
- AFR does not permit a transaction with an identity of interest when the current loan is in foreclosure.
- New secondary financing not permitted
- AFR Policy on Federal Tax Liens:
 - AFR requires the borrower to provide proof they are in an approved repayment plan and must have made at least 1 payment for the debt to remain open.
 - o All payments must be made on time. (0x30 Max).
 - $\circ \qquad \text{Monthly payment must be included in the debt-to-income ratios.}$
 - Tax liens may remain unpaid provided the lien holder subordinates the tax lien.
- Refinancing of a Reverse Mortgage (HECM) is not permitted unless:
 - The forward mortgage transaction is paying off a current Reverse Mortgage (HECM) when the applicant was not a party to the HECM and has either inherited the property or is purchasing the property from the estate (i.e., HECM parties are deceased).

Housing History:

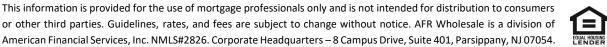
 AFR will allow a 1x30 on a Type 1 and Type II cash out refinance transaction if the late payment was over 3 months prior to the application date on Approve/Eligible or Accept/Eligible automated underwriting results. (Type 1 and Type II Cash out Refinance Transactions with a Refer, or Manual Downgrade will require a 0x30 for 12 months housing history.)







	 DU/LPA must be an Approve/Eligible or Accept/Eligible. If the automated underwriting results do not recognize the mortgage history, including, but not limited to situations where the mortgage is not reporting on credit or if the underwriter manually downgrades the file, mortgage late payments within the previous 12 months are not allowed. Regardless of the automated underwriting decision, an
	 application with a recent mortgage late payment is still subject to the Underwriter's review and approval. As a reminder, if, in AFR's judgement, the applicant does not have the ability or willingness to repay the loan, we may deny the file even if the application meets the written guidelines.
	Reminder: Purchase and IRRRL transactions require a 0x30 for 12 months.
Property	AFR does not permit the use of a plat mat in lieu of a survey if a survey is required
	 AFR has a maximum of 2% Deductible of the policy coverage for HOI. AFR requires a disaster report completed by a licensed appraiser on all properties on all transactions in a Presidentially Declared Disaster Area with individual assistance. If the loan is closed, AFR may require this report up to 60 days after the date of the disaster declaration. If the loan has not already closed and funded, AFR will not close or fund until the inspection report is completed to AFR's satisfaction. In all cases, the inspection must be dated after the affected incident period. The disaster report must comply with applicable agency guidelines. On a case-by-case basis AFR may allow a loan to close and fund if the incident period was declared more than 14 days prior to the scheduled closing date. Originators are responsible for determining potential impact to a property located in an area where a disaster is occurring or has occurred. This is regardless of whether a property was included in the area covered by the declaration. If an originator has reason to believe that a property might have been damaged in a disaster the originator must work with AFR to ensure that the property is free from damage. Please note, that due to the nature of natural disasters AFR may amend this policy and add additional restrictions at any time without notice. A manufactured housing unit that has been moved from a previous foundation must meet VA minimum
	property requirements and all HUD manufactured home construction and safety standards on the new installation. • The following property types are not permitted:
	 3 Units 4 Units Co-Ops Manufactured Housing Units built prior to June 15, 1976 Manufactured Housing in a Condominium Project Manufactured Housing that has been traded Mixed- Use Under Construction Off Grid Properties with commercial influence are subject to additional review. Any property where marijuana is grown or processed inside the home or on the property, regardless of the quantity or state law is unacceptable AFR will not permit properties with more than 100 acres If the utilities are off at the time of the inspection, the Appraiser must ask to have them turned on and complete all requirements under Mechanical Components. However, if it is not feasible to have the utilities turned on, then a pressure test and electrical test is required and must be completed by an
Refinance Seasoning Requirements	 appropriately licensed professional. The note date of the refinance loan must be on, or after, the later of: The date on which the borrower has made at least six-monthly payments on the loan being
	refinanced; and
	The date that is 210 days after the first payment due date of the loan being refinanced.
Assets	 All loans that have a purchase money grant/silent (or soft) second must get an approval from the AFR Title Review prior to underwriting approval/AFR purchase Trade Equity not permitted
	Sweat Equity not permitted
	 Private Savings Clubs or Pooled Savings Accounts are not permitted
	Cash on hand is not permitted
Income	Employer Assistance Plans not permitted
	Employer Differential Payments not permitted
	AFR requires a minimum of 2 years for the length of self-employment to use as income. AFR december a graph value to a graph of the length of self-employment to use as income.
	AFR does not permit voluntary agreements for child support, maintenance, and alimony. AFR requires 3 years require of OT and Repuses to be used as qualifying incomes anything less than 3.
	AFR requires 2 years receipt of OT and Bonuses to be used as qualifying income; anything less than 2 years will not be eligible for income.
	 Marijuana income is unacceptable income regardless of state law. AFR does not permit amended tax returns if they are dated 90 days of application date. All amended tax returns must be more than 90 days of the application date and acknowledged (stamped and signed by the IRS or with the transcripts)







Programs	AFR permits CEMA transactions on NY properties
	 No prior CEMA's allowed.
	 AFR requires an approved closing attorney in NY to conduct all NY settlements. You or the
	borrower may choose from the list below:
	 Richard H. Lovell, Esq (Closing all transactions, including CEMA)
	 Jared Kaplan, Esq (Closing all transactions, including CEMA)
	AFR does not participate in the following Programs:
	 Texas Equity Section 50(a)(6) Program
	 Energy Efficient Mortgages (EEMs)
	 Adjustable-Rate Mortgages (ARMS)
	 Graduated Payment Mortgages (GPM)
	 Growing Equity Mortgages (GEMs)
	 Loans Involving Temporary Interest Rate Buydowns
	■ Farm Residence Loans
	 Native American Direct Loan (NADL)
	 Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) Grant
	 Special Housing Adaptation (SHA) Grant
	 Supplemental Loans
Ownership Types	The following are ineligible for submitting/delivery to AFR:
	Life Estate
	Blind Trusts
	Irrevocable Trusts
	1031 Exchanges
	LLCs, Corporations and Partnerships
	Community Land Trusts
Compliance	AFR's Net Tangible Benefit Policy/Recoupment Policy
	See AFR Resource Center for AFR Policy/State Requirements/Forms
	 When a state has a more restrictive recoupment policy, this policy must be met
	AFR does not close and/or purchase any New York loan that is a subprime home loan. All NY Loans must
	be tested the time the commitment is prepared.
	If the APR at the time of commitment cannot be determined AFR will not proceed with or
	purchase a loan with a client code of TF, C or CDE.
	Any loan that is classified as a Rebuttable Presumption must have all HPML provisions applied <u>and</u> must
	meet VA residual income guideline requirements
	Any loan that is classified as a Higher-Priced Mortgage Loan (HPML) must have all HPML provisions
	applied.
	 File remains subject to all Qualified Mortgage ("QM") and Ability-to-Repay ("ATR") underwriting
	guidelines, including Points and Fees thresholds through consummation. AFR will not originate, close,
	fund, or purchase any loan that is not legally deemed as a QM. AFR will also require all VA loans to follow
	specific ATR/QM provisions specified by VA.
	All loans must provide evidence of the borrower's compliance of QM/ATR with a compliance report. Note: Delegated Correspondents must provide a compliance report suidencing compliance.
	Note: Delegated Correspondents must provide a compliance report evidencing compliance.
	All loans must provide evidence of the borrower's ability to repay with a fully completed/executed Ability A Page Mark to the Page Page Page Page Ability A Page Page Page Page Page Page Page Page
	to Repay Worksheet. Note: Delegated Correspondents must provide a fully completed/executed Ability
	to Repay Worksheet showing evidence the borrower meets the ability to repay requirements.
	AFR will not originate loans as a high cost or predatory mortgage loan
	AFR will comply in all respects with CFPB's Rule on TILA-RESPA Integrated Disclosures. AFR will not
	originate, close, fund, or purchase any loan that does not adhere to the Rule.
Miscellaneous	AFR requires a 25% guaranty on all VA loans
	 AFR will not permit joint loans made to a veteran and one or more nonveterans (non-spouse)
	or the veteran and one or more veterans (not spouse) who will not be using their entitlement.
	Escrow waivers are not permitted
	Temporary Interest Rate Buydowns not permitted
	Prepayment penalties are not permitted
	 Maximum Cash Out: For Approve/Eligible AUS recommendations, follow findings; for Refer AUS
	recommendations or manual underwrites \$100,000
	AFR requires all Correspondent Delegated (CDE) transactions to be purchased within 90 days of the Note
	date.
Disclaimer	All overlays herein are subject to change by AFR without notice. Where AFR is silent, the UW must follow all
	guidelines outlined in the Lender's Handbook - VA Pamphlet 26-7.
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