Homeownership Program Parameters



NOTE: This table summarizes the program parameters set by IFA. Underwriting for IFA programs is delegated to the lender. When determining eligibility, a lender must apply the most restrictive of the requirements between IFA and the agency guidelines for the loan type (eg. FHA, VA, RD, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac)

	FirstHome/FirstHome Plus/FirstHome w/2 nd *	Homes for lowans/Homes for lowans w/2 nd *
Income Limits	Annual Limits by County and Household Size ¹ See Homeownership Program Income Limits and Purchase Price Limits	\$163,800 Per Year
Purchase Price Limits	\$ 510,000 ¹	\$ 624,000
Eligible Properties	1-unit as principal residence	1-unit as principal residence
Permitted Transaction Type	New purchase only, no refinance; 25- or 30-year term	New purchase only, no refinance; 25- or 30-year term
First-Time Homebuyer Requirement	Required for all borrowers ²	None
Co-Signers	Co-signers not allowed	Co-signers not allowed
Homebuyer Education Requirement	 CONVENTIONAL LOANS: If all borrowers are first-time homebuyers, completion of homebuyer education is required. Refer to IFA homeowner education FAQ. HFA Preferred (Fannie Mae) through Finally Home!® or HomeView[™] acceptable. HFA Advantage (Freddie Mac) through Finally Home!® or CreditSmart® acceptable. If a borrower lacks access to the internet, in person homebuyer education with a HUD certified counselor is allowed. A community second homebuyer education requirement is also acceptable. GOVERNMENT LOANS: refer to agency guidelines. 	 CONVENTIONAL LOANS: If all borrowers are first-time homebuyers, completion of homebuyer education is required. Refer to IFA homeowner education FAQ. HFA Preferred (Fannie Mae) through Finally Home!® or HomeView[™] acceptable. HFA Advantage (Freddie Mac) through Finally Home!® or CreditSmart® acceptable. If a borrower lacks access to the internet, in person homebuyer education with a HUD certified counselor is allowed. A community second homebuyer education requirement is also acceptable. GOVERNMENT LOANS: refer to agency guidelines.
Available Mortgage Products	FHA, VA, and RD HFA Preferred (Fannie Mae = DU) HFA Advantage (Freddie Mac = LPA)	FHA, VA, and RD HFA Preferred (Fannie Mae = DU) HFA Advantage (Freddie Mac = LPA)
Credit Overlays		
Minimum Credit Score	640 mid-point	640 mid-point
> No score	Non-traditional credit allowed in accordance with agency guidelines	Non-traditional credit allowed in accordance with agency guidelines
Maximum Debt-to-Income (DTI)	50% with an approve/eligible (Manual underwriting remains at 45%)	50% with an approve/eligible (Manual underwriting remains at 45%)
Lender Compensation Servicing Release Premium	Up to 1% + \$1,300 See Exhibit A of the Mortgage Origination Agreement.	Up to 1% + \$1,300 See Exhibit A of the Mortgage Origination Agreement.
Reasonable and Customary Costs	See IFA Policy for Settlement & Financing Costs	See IFA Policy for Settlement & Financing Costs
Qualified Mortgage/Ability to Repay	CFPB Exempts HFA; lender to confirm with their internal compliance.	CFPB Exempts HFA; lender to confirm with their internal compliance.
Title Coverage	Iowa Title Guaranty only	Iowa Title Guaranty only

• FirstHome programs may be paired with our "Plus" grant or 2nd Loan. Homes for lowans programs may be paired with 2nd Loan. The "Plus" grant provides homebuyers with a \$2,500 grant to assist with down payment and closing cost: no repayment due. The 2nd loan is up to 5% of the home's purchase price with no maximum and is repayable at time of sale, refinance, or first mortgage is paid in full; no monthly payment required. "Plus" Grant or 2nd Loan may not be used in same transaction.

"Plus" grant or 2nd Loan may be layered with the Military Homeownership Assistance (MHOA) grant when home buyer is eligible for both programs.

¹ Income limits are increased (per Qualified Census Tract) and a purchase price limit of \$624,000 applies if the property to be purchased is located in a federally defined "Targeted Area". More information location of Targeted Area can be found on our Homeownership Program Income and Purchase Price limit form.

² First-Time homebuyer is defined as not having an ownership interest in their primary residence in the past three years or meeting one of the following exemptions: 1) borrower is purchasing a home in a Targeted Area, OR 2) borrower is a military veteran, discharged other than dishonorably, who has not previously financed a home using a tax-exempt mortgage revenue bond program.