21W-086

Attention: Valued Broker Partners November 24, 2021

Please take a moment to read the important information contained in this bulletin.

Included in this Bulletin: Fannie Mae DU Release Notes December 2021

During the weekend of December 4, 2021, Fannie Mae will implement an update to Desktop Underwriter (DU) Version 11.0. The changes in this release will apply to DU Version 11.0 submitted or resubmitted on or after the weekend of December 4, 2021.

The changes in this release include the following:

- Credit Score Message
- Rent Payment History Updates
- Updates to Align with the Fannie Mae Selling Guide

# **Credit Score Message**

A new "Observation" message will be issued that specifies the representative credit score and the average median credit score for the loan casefile.

Note: For loan casefiles where only one borrower has a credit score, "not applicable" will be shown where the average median credit score would display in the message.

# **Rent Payment History Updates**

### **Potential Recommendation Improvement Message Update**

The message issued by DU when a loan casefile may be able to receive a more favorable recommendation if a 12-month Verification of Asset (VOA) report was obtained will be updated to clarify that the 12-month VOA report must also reflect at least 12 months of transactions.

### **Rent Payment Data Entry Message**

A new message will be issued when a first-time homebuyer states on the loan application they are renting, but no rent amount is provided. The message will remind the lender to enter the

monthly payment amount on the loan application and resubmit the loan casefile to DU. If DU then determines a more favorable recommendation could be received, DU will issue the message stating that the loan casefile may be able to receive a more favorable recommendation if a 12-month VOA report with 12 months of transactions is obtained.

As a reminder, when the borrower is renting, the application should indicate the Housing option of "Rent" and the monthly amount of rent the borrower is paying should then be provided in the field shown below:

Current Address						
Street					Unit #	
City			State	ZIP	Country	
How Long at Current Address?Years	Months	Housing	No primary housing expe	ense Ow	n 🔘 Rent (\$	/ <mark>mont</mark> h)

Note: Please ensure that the rent amount provided for each borrower is the amount that each borrower pays monthly. If a borrower and co-borrower are living together and paying rent, the total amount of the rent should either be provided one borrower, or each borrower's portion should be provided for each specific borrower (the total amount of rent should not be provided as the rent amount for each borrower).

### **Rent Payment Identification on VOA Reports**

Since the rent payment history enhancement was released on September 18, analysis has been performed to assess any potential updates to the logic that identifies the rent payment history on the VOA report. Based on observations in the first month of loan casefile submissions, updates will be made to assist DU in being able to identify a rent payment history on VOA reports.

Note: As continued analysis on this logic is performed, future updates will be made as necessary, and will be communicated in advance of the update being made in DU.

# **Updates to Align with the Selling Guide**

#### **Homeownership Education**

As specified in Selling Guide Announcement SEL-2021-09, we will now permit any qualified third-party provider, independent of the lender, to administer homeownership education. The DU homeownership education messages will be updated to support this change.

## Other Income Documentation Message for Self-Employed Borrowers

DU will issue a new message on loan casefiles for a self-employed borrower when the ownership share is less than 25% and Other Employment income is provided on the loan application. The message will specify that the lender obtain documentation to support the other employment income if not already covered by the documents required to verify borrower's base, bonus, overtime, or commission income; and that if the other employment income is business income, obtain the most recent two years of signed individual federal income tax returns and the most recent two years of IRS Schedule K-1.

#### **Area Median Income Observation Message**

An Observation message will be issued on primary residence transaction specifying the AMI for the area in which the property is located.

## **Limited Cash Out Refinance Message**

When a limited cash out refinance loan casefile receives an "Ineligible" recommendation because it appears the amount of cash taken out of the subject property equity exceeds the limit of 2% of the loan amount or \$2000, a message will be issued specifying the amount of cash DU calculated as being taken out of the subject property (based on the loan application data provided).

## **Miscellaneous Message Text Changes**

To continue to provide clarity and consistency with the Selling Guide, various DU messages will be updated.

If you have any questions, contact your local Account Executive, Production Coordinator, Regional Vice President, or Brian Daily, SVP Wholesale: <a href="mailto:Brian.Daily@mwfinc.com">Brian.Daily@mwfinc.com</a>, 909-255-8332.

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