

# program guide



## Palmetto Home Advantage Program

Effective February 2, 2026

Palmetto Home Advantage helps First Time Homebuyers and Move-up or repeat buyers purchase a home. The program offers Conventional (with reduced MI) or Government financing with forgivable down payment assistance (DPA). Loans must also meet all applicable insurer requirements and those outlined in the Lakeview Loan Servicing program matrices locate at <https://www.lakeviewcorrespondent.com/hfa-matrices>

Loan Purpose/Type	<p>Eligible - Purchase Money Transactions <b>ONLY</b></p> <p>Not Eligible - One-time construction loans</p>
Homebuyer Eligibility	<p>The Palmetto Home Advantage Program is not limited to first-time homebuyers. <b>Move-up and repeat home buyers are eligible.</b></p> <p>Borrower(s) cannot have an ownership interest in more than two financed residential properties, to include the subject property as of the Note Date. Subject property must be an owner-occupied primary residence.</p> <p>Non-occupant borrowers are permitted as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conventional (Fannie and Freddie) for one-unit property with max LTV of 95% and 105% TLTV, follow insurer and Lakeview guidelines</li> <li>• FHA – follow FHA and Lakeview requirements – 203K Limited available (Consult Lakeview Loan Servicing requirements for specifics)</li> <li>• USDA/VA – NOT PERMITTED</li> </ul>
Income and Sales Price Limits	<p>Income and Sales Price limits must meet program and investor requirements.</p> <p><b>State wide Income Limit - \$135,750.00</b> - Use standard credit qualifying income (not total household income)</p> <p><b>Home Price Limits</b> – subject to any maximum specified by insurer, MI and AUS approval</p> <p>Income limits must be equal to the borrower(s) total income listed on the application including commission, bonus and overtime. Limit is not dependent on family size. Use standard credit qualifying income (not total household income). The income used for approval must be consistent on the I003, I008, 92900LT, VA Loan Analysis and AUS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conventional – Fannie Mae</b> - Refer to Mortgage Insurance Requirements for applicable coverage based on AMI (see Mortgage Insurance section below) as determined by “Fannie Mae Area Median Income Lookup Tool” <a href="https://ami-lookup-tool.fanniemae.com/amilookuptool">https://ami-lookup-tool.fanniemae.com/amilookuptool</a></li> <li>• <b>Conventional - Freddie Mac</b> Refer to Mortgage Insurance Requirements for applicable coverage based on AMI (see Mortgage Insurance section below) as determined by “Freddie Mac Home Possible Income and Property Eligibility Tool” <a href="https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/affordable-lending/home-possible-eligibility-map">https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/affordable-lending/home-possible-eligibility-map</a></li> </ul>
Down Payment Assistance (DPA)	<p>Down Payment Assistance (DPA) must be used for down payment and closing cost.</p> <p>Down Payment Assistance is available with a <b>0%, 3% or 4% of the total first mortgage loan amount (including UPMIP, Funding or Guarantee Fee)</b> through a forgivable second mortgage with a <b>10-year term</b> and <b>zero percent-no payment interest rate</b>. This is not a grant.</p>

DPA can now be used to pay Conventional Single Premium MI. No portion of the DPA can be used of offset appraisal gap or cover real estate commission. DPA must be paid in full upon sale, refinance, or if property is no longer the borrower's primary residence prior to maturity. Subordination of the DPA is not permitted.

- DPA must be closed in the lender's name on the required SC Housing note and mortgage and registered in MERS at delivery to Lakeview Loan Servicing.
- The DPA Note is endorsed to South Carolina Housing Finance and Development Authority and is delivered along with the First Mortgage Note to Lakeview Loan Servicing
- Any amounts exceeding credit for POC items and a principal reduction, lender must reduce the loan amount of the first mortgage by the difference prior to closing the loan
- Lenders are responsible for the initial Loan Estimate and Closing Disclosure – only allowable closing cost on the DPA second mortgage are those required to record the mortgage
- Lenders will be responsible for sending the Good-Bye letters (First and Second DPA) in accordance with RESPA

**Interest Rate**

Fixed interest rate ONLY. SC Housing does not offer buydowns (temporary and permanent).

**Term**

30-year term

**Reservation/  
Extensions**

Rate locks will be accepted from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM Monday - Friday; excluding state recognized holidays and days that the US Financial Markets are closed for business. Rates are published daily and are subject to change without notice. Any request for modifications or request for extensions to an existing reservation should be sent via email to [lockdesk@schousing.com](mailto:lockdesk@schousing.com) – Please include borrower name and SC Housing loan number in your request.

**Rate Lock Periods**

- 60 days – New and Existing Construction - Do not lock the interest rate at the time of application, wait until ready to deliver to SC Housing for Review
- **Rate Lock Expiration – Loans must be closed and be funded by the master servicer “Lakeview Loan Servicing” by lock expiration**
- Loans aged more than 45 days after the note date and receipt of the credit and closing file in fundable condition will not be purchased by Lakeview Locks may be extended and must be requested prior to the rate lock expiration. Extension requests after the rate lock expiration is subject to relock at worse case pricing
- Extensions are available – up to 30 days total

7 day	.125%
15 day	.250%
30 day	.375%

- Loans may be reserved Monday – Friday between 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM
- Interest rates are subject to change without notice and are posted in Lender Online
- If a rate lock is withdrawn or canceled, the lender cannot initiate a new lock for the same property until 60 days after the withdrawal/cancellation date
- Each rate lock applies to a specific borrower and property.
  - If the property is not purchased and the borrower places a contract on a different property, a new rate lock can be requested subject to current market rates

**Homebuyer  
Education**

SC Housing requires at least one borrower to complete an online or classroom-based homebuyer education course that meets National Industry Standards for Homeownership and Counseling, or be provided by a HUD-approved counseling agency (Government and Conventional). Framework Home View and Credit Smart, issued by Fannie Mae and/or Freddie Mac meet this requirement for both Conventional and Government loans. Homebuyer education certificates are valid for twelve (12) months.

**Minimum Borrower  
Financial  
Contribution**

NONE – other than AUS or insurer required down payment or reserves

<p><b>Property</b></p>	<p>Single family, one unit; two-unit permitted on Fannie, Freddie and FHA ONLY; PUDs, attached, detached; condominiums; true off frame modular homes (not eligible for USDA); Manufactured Housing (Fannie, Freddie, FHA and USDA ONLY) Full Appraisal meeting all insurer and AUS requirements and evidence of UCDP upload must be provided - Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) not permitted; Property Inspection Waiver (PIW allowed- Conventional only, subject to AUS and insurer requirements)</p> <p>Condominiums must be fee simple and meet all applicable insurer and AUS requirements. If required, approval must be provided from insurers automated Project Management system.</p> <p><b>Repair and Final Inspections</b> – All inspections required must meet applicable insurer requirements.</p> <p><b>CL-100/Soil Treatment required if referenced in the sales contract or appraisal.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any damage or recommended repairs noted in report must be addressed with evidence of completion, prior to purchase</li> </ul>
------------------------	--

<p><b>Manufactured Housing</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Manufactured Housing is <u>ONLY</u> available as Fannie, Freddie, and FHA</b></p> <p>Loans are subject to the requirements below. Please consult any additional requirements established by HUD/FHA and Lakeview Loan Servicing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum FICO of <b>660</b> and maximum DTI Ratio not to exceed <b>45%</b></li> <li><b>New construction or existing units constructed in 1994 or later</b></li> <li>Must be or have been directly transported from the manufacturer or dealership to the site</li> <li>Designed as a one-family dwelling</li> <li>Doublewide or greater, single wide units are <b>NOT ELIGIBLE</b></li> <li>Finished floor area of not less than 400 square feet</li> <li>HUD Certification Label affixed or have obtained a letter of label verification issued on behalf of HUD, evidencing the house was constructed on or after June 15, 1976 in compliance with the Federal Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards</li> <li>Designated to be used as a dwelling with a permanent foundation built in accordance with the Permanent Foundation Guide for Manufactured Housing (PFGMH)</li> <li>Must be built and remain on permanent chassis</li> <li>Have the towing hitch and running gear removed</li> </ul> <p><b>Required Documentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HUD Certification Label</li> <li>PFGMH (Permanent Foundations Guide for Manufactured Housing) Certification</li> </ul> <p><b><u>NOW AVAILABLE - USDA</u></b> Manufactured Housing Loans are subject to the requirements below. Please consult any additional requirements established by USDA and Lakeview Loan Servicing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum 640 FICO</li> <li>Max DTI 45%</li> <li>Doublewide or greater manufactured homes only</li> <li>Leaseholds and Community Land Trusts not eligible</li> <li>Unit must not have had ANY alterations or additions since construction in the factory</li> <li>Follow USDA 7 CFR 3550.73 for full program guidelines</li> <li>GUS approve/eligible</li> </ul>
------------------------------------	--

<p><b>AUS/Underwriting</b></p>	<p>Credit underwriting authority is delegated to the participating lender. Loans must be underwritten and approved by lender prior to submission to SC Housing in compliance with applicable AUS Guidelines and receive an acceptable recommendation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Conventional (Fannie Mae) “HFA Preferred”</b> DU receive Approve/Eligible and Lender must select HFA Preferred on the Additional Data Element Screen under Community Lending Section- AUS must reflect SFC 118, 127 and 782. <b>LPA findings are not permitted for delivery under this program</b></li> <li><b>Conventional (Freddie Mac) “HFA Advantage”</b> LPA receive Accept risk class recommendation. Lender must select HFA Advantage in the Offering Identifier field of LPA. <b>DU Findings are not permitted for delivery under this program</b></li> <li><b>FHA/VA</b> – DU (Approve Eligible) and LPA (Accept)</li> <li><b>USDA</b> – GUS (Accept/Eligible)</li> </ul>
--------------------------------	--

**Manual Underwriting**

Manual underwriting is permitted on FHA products ONLY. Lenders must follow Lakeview Loan Servicing specific requirements,

Manual Downgrade permitted with a min. **660 credit score** and only in cases that approve/eligible or accept AUS recommendations are received and overall insurability and eligibility of loan are not affected.

**Credit/DTI Requirements**

- All borrowers must have at least one credit score. Follow applicable insurer requirements for determining the middle credit score for each borrower. SC Housing will adhere to
  - All borrowers must have a minimum credit score of **640** (min. 660 for Manufactured Housing)
  - FHA Manual Downgrade loans are permitted with a minimum credit score of **660** for all borrowers
- Follow insurer and AUS requirements for repayment of collection accounts
- Follow insurer timing requirements for previous bankruptcy and foreclosure.
  - For USDA loans, if a borrower is in Chapter 12 or 13 BK, the applicant must obtain approval from bankruptcy court/trustee to enter into a mortgage transaction, if not loan is ineligible
- Any outstanding judgement/lien or outstanding tax liability must be satisfied in full prior to or at closing. If satisfied at closing – a payoff statement must be provided and evidence of payment reflected on the closing disclosure
- SC Housing will allow an established tax payment plan meeting applicable insurer requirements; provided that the outstanding balance for all years owed does not exceed \$5,000 and a minimum of 3 consecutive months payments have been made
- **Maximum Debt to Income (DTI)** is the lesser of **50%** or the AUS approval, except;
  - FHA Manufactured Housing is limited to a max **45% DTI regardless of AUS Approval**
  - FHA Manual Downgrade limited to the lesser of **43% DTI** or the AUS approval

**Unless otherwise stated below - follow applicable insurer requirements.**

**LTV/CLTV**

LTV/CLTV	Conventional Fannie and Freddie*	FHA	USDA	VA
One Unit	97% / 105%	96.5% / 105%	100% / 105% - USDA will guarantee up to 100% Appr. Value + G-Fee	100% + VA Funding Fee NO MAX CLTV
Two Unit	95% / 105%*			

**Asset/Employment**

**Assets** - SC Housing will follow insurer and AUS requirements for asset and gift verification. Gifts must meet all documentation and transfer requirements of the insurer. Gifts are permitted when provided by a relative, domestic partner, or fiancé/fiancée only and may be used to pay debt off for qualifying purposes.

**Employment** - Lender must follow AUS and insurer requirements for verification of both current and previous employment. Any letters of explanation regarding gaps of employment exceeding 30 days must be explained by borrower. All sources of income must be legal and in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulation

- Lender must obtain a verbal verification of employment (VVOE) prior to closing within the time frames established by insurer or any time after closing but prior to funding by SC Housing.
- A 4506-T/4506-C form is required to be signed at closing for all transactions

**Tax Returns/Transcripts**

- Tax transcripts are required in the following circumstances:
  - When the tax returns are used to qualify a borrower. The number of years provided must be based on the AUS findings. Income verified via tax returns includes but is not limited to the examples listed below:
    - Self-employment income
    - Rental income
    - Other income sources (i.e. Dividend Interest, Capital Gains, Alimony, etc.)
  - When a written VOE form 1005 is used as standalone income verification
  - Employment by a family member
  - When amended tax returns have been filed, transcripts are required and must support the

amended income

- W2/1099 transcripts will not be required when all income for that borrower is derived from W-2 wage earner and/or 1099 fixed income

**Mortgage Insurance Requirements**

**Conventional** - Private mortgage insurance (PMI) required on all loans over 80% LTV. Refer to Lakeview Program Matrices for acceptable MI Companies. MI can be Borrower Paid – Monthly, Financed, Split or Single Premium – **LENDER PAID MI is not eligible**

LTV	BELOW 80% AMI	ABOVE 80% AMI
95.01 – 97%	18%	35%
90.01 – 95%	16%	30%
85.01 – 90%	12%	25%
80.01 – 85%	6%	12%

**Government** (FHA, USDA, VA) - Follow AUS and insurer requirements

**Interested Party Contributions**

Follow insurer requirements

**Eligibility/ Compliance File Submission**

Loan files must be submitted to SC Housing via Lender Online <https://www.lol.schousing.com> with documents in the order of the checklist. Files not delivered in order or missing documents may be returned for re-submission.

The following documentation is required by SC Housing prior to closing for determination of program compliance and eligibility. Upon review of acceptable documentation, a Certificate of Eligibility will be issued:

- Request for Eligibility Determination Form “PA-001”
- Notice to Borrower Form “PA-002” (For Loans with DPA Only)
- 1008 – Uniform Underwriting and Transmittal Summary (Conventional and USDA Loans)
- 92900LT – FHA Loan Underwriting Transmittal Summary (FHA Loans)
- VA Loan Analysis (VA Loans)
- 1003 – Uniform Residential Loan Application
- AUS Findings
- MI Certificate
- Homebuyer Education Certification

# program guide

## Palmetto Home Advantage Program

### lender allowable fees and charges

#### • **First Mortgage**

- Origination fee allowed (paid to lender)
- Discount Points may not be charged.
- Reasonable and customary fees provided fees do not exceed the amounts charged for non-SC Housing loans. Fees may be charged lump-sum or individually. Fees must be directly related to actual services rendered for providing the loan, whether or not those fees are paid to a third party or collected by the Participating Lender for providing those services.
- **Fees deducted at the time of purchase - This fee may be charged to the borrower if permitted by the applicable insurer.**
- Tax service fee \$85. Funding Fee of \$500
- Extension and late delivery fees, if applicable - May be paid by borrower, lender, builder, seller, realtors, as appropriate

#### • **Second Mortgage**

- Only mortgage recording fees up to \$35 may be charged for recording of the DPA
- No title insurance required

- **High Cost/HOEPA** – Loans that fall under the provisions of High Cost and/or Home Ownership Equity Protection Act (HOEPA) are not eligible
- **High Priced Mortgage Loan (HPML)** loans are acceptable in accordance with insurer guidelines

accrued interim interest and premiums paid to lender

- 100% of the amortized balance of the first mortgage on the day of purchase
- Accrued interim interest up to the day of purchase
- Servicing release premium (1.5% UPB first mortgage loan)

### cash back to borrower at closing

Cash back to the borrower(s) at closing cannot exceed the documented amount that the borrower has prepaid (including Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) cost for appraisal, credit report, inspections, etc.) Any amounts exceeding credit for POC items and a principal reduction, lender must reduce the loan amount of the first mortgage by the difference prior to closing the loan. No portion of the SC Housing DPA second mortgage may be given as cash back to the borrower.

### property insurance coverage and deductible

All property insurance coverage and deductible limits must comply with investor/insurer and Lakeview Loan Servicing's requirements

### delivery requirements

**Closed Loan File** - Seller must deliver the entire loan file (credit and closing package) to Lakeview Loan Servicing within 2 days of Lock Expiration Date. Consult Lakeview Loan Servicing delivery requirements for details. Loans aged more than 45 days from the note date will not be purchased by Lakeview Loan Servicing. Closed Loan File must be delivered electronically to the Seller Portal located at [www.lakeviewcorrespondent.com](http://www.lakeviewcorrespondent.com) in accordance with delivery requirements and applicable checklist. (PLEASE INCLUDE COPIES OF THE DPA SECOND LIEN NOTE AND MORTGAGE IN YOUR SUBMISSION)

- First Mortgage Note endorsed in Blank
- Second DPA Note is endorsed to South Carolina State Housing Finance and Development Authority and is DELIVERED TO LAKEVIEW along with the first mortgage note.
- The DPA Mortgage must be transferred in MERS to SC Housing – ORG ID - 1008745

**Final Documentation** - Final Documents for first and second (DPA) including recorded mortgage and original title policy should be delivered to Lakeview Loan Servicing's final document vendor.

Indecomm Global Services  
FD-BV-9902  
1427 Energy Park Drive  
St. Paul, MN 55108  
[Bayview.Viewpoint@indecimm.net](mailto:Bayview.Viewpoint@indecimm.net)

### sc housing contact information

Lender Help Desk 803.896.2211 | [mortgage.production@schousing.com](mailto:mortgage.production@schousing.com)

Lock Desk | [lockdesk@schousing.com](mailto:lockdesk@schousing.com)

Underwriting Questions/File Submission and Status Updates | [under.writing@schousing.com](mailto:under.writing@schousing.com)

### SC Housing ID's

FHA – 4723009993

VA – 679535

USDA – 591585639

MERS - 1008745

SC Housing EIN 59-1585639