

ESSENT ANNOUNCEMENT

September 15, 2021

RE: Essent Aligns with Fannie Mae Desktop Underwriter® v11.0 Updates for Approve Eligible Loans

Essent aligns with the recently announced updates to Fannie Mae's Desktop Underwriter (DU®) v11.0 scheduled for implementation the weekend of September 18, 2021, that include a change to credit score eligibility and the inclusion of positive rent payment history to the DU risk assessment.

Links to the Fannie Mae DU v11.0 Release Notes and related Selling Guide Announcement are provided below for complete details:

- [Desktop Underwriter/Desktop Originator Release Notes - DU v11.0 Sept. Update](#)
- [Selling Guide Announcement \(SEL-2021-08\)](#)

Loans receiving a DU Approve/Eligible recommendation that meet the Fannie Mae average median credit score eligibility requirement and with an Essent representative credit score <620 are eligible for Clear2Close® subject to the following:

- Construction-to-Permanent >95% LTV & Investment Properties: Minimum 720 representative credit score will still be required.
- Effective for MI applications received on or after September 20, 2021. Any applicable updates will be reflected in the next published version of our Underwriting Guidelines.

Manually underwritten loans are unaffected by the DU v11.0 updates and will continue to require a minimum representative credit score as outlined in the applicable guideline summary.

While Essent aligns with Fannie Mae's use of an average median credit score for eligibility within DU, MI pricing will continue to be based on the representative credit score as outlined within **Section 3.3.1** of the [Essent Underwriting Guideline Manual](#), which may be <620. Premium rates for DU Approve/Eligible loans with a representative credit score <620 will be available effective September 20, 2021.

If you have any questions regarding these updates, please contact your [Essent account manager](#).

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EGI-Announcement.107 (09/21)