New Construction

Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program

Training Objectives

• Where is the topic located?
  * 7 CFR Part 3555 and HB-1-3555
• Learning Checks
• Resources
Things change!

• Every effort has been made to ensure training references are accurate at the time of publication.

• Always reference the most recent USDA publications available online.

Guaranteed Loan Program Regulation
7 CFR Part 3555

• The regulation is the rule!
• 8 Subparts: A – H
• Appendix 1
7 CFR Part 3555

7 CFR Part 3555
Subpart E: Underwriting the Property

- .201: Site requirements
- **.202: Dwelling requirements**
  - .203: Ownership requirements
  - .204: Security requirements
  - .205: Special requirements for condominiums
  - .206: Special requirements for community land trusts
  - .207: Special requirements for Planned Unit Developments (PUD’s)
  - .208: Special requirements for manufactured homes
  - .209: Rural Energy Plus loans

**7 CFR Part 3555**

3555.202 Dwelling requirements.
   (a) New dwellings.
   (b) Existing dwellings.
   (c) Escrow account for exterior or interior development.
7 CFR Part 3555: 3555.202(a)

(a) New dwellings. New dwellings must be constructed in accordance with certified plans and specifications, and must meet or exceed the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) in effect at the time of construction. The lender must obtain and retain evidence of construction costs, inspection reports, certifications, and builder warranties acceptable to Rural Development.

Guaranteed Loan Program Technical Handbook HB-1-3555

- Provides guidance to support the regulation
- HB is not the rule
- 20 Chapters
SECTION 3: DWELLING REQUIREMENTS

12.8 MODEST HOUSING

12.9 EXISTING AND NEW DWELLINGS

A. Existing Dwellings
B. New Dwellings
C. Repair Escrows
TIPS

• Underwriter = USDA Approved Lender
• USDA = not an underwriter
• Research Rule & HB questions: Table of Contents
• Research Rule & HB questions: Control + F

7 CFR Part 3555

7 CFR PART 3555 / HB-1-3555

LEARNING CHECKS
Question Slide

“Topic”

• Question will be bulleted with scenario, or
• Include a statement/question

TRUE/FALSE or other answer options will be displayed

ANSWER SLIDE

“Topic”

ANSWER: 7 CFR Part 3555 and HB-1-3555 references provided

X. Correct Response

• Additional guidance for clarification may be provided
New construction

• New construction dwelling
• Built to eligible building code (includes thermal standard)
• 3 eligible construction inspections retained
• One year builder’s warranty
• This new construction dwelling is eligible for a guarantee

A. TRUE    B. FALSE
New construction

**ANSWER: 3555.202(a), HB 12.9 B**

A. TRUE

- Retained evidence must meet 3555.202(a) and 12.9 B
- Lender retains evidence in permanent loan file
- USDA may request for audit purposes

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New construction

Spec home:

- Certification of occupancy dated: October 2014
- Purchase agreement dated: December 2015
- This is a new construction dwelling

A. TRUE    B. FALSE
New construction

**ANSWER:** 3555.202(a), HB 12.9 B

**B. FALSE**

- Home has been completed over 12 months
- Spec home is now considered an existing dwelling
- Must meet HUD Handbook minimum property requirements

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New construction

- New construction dwelling
- Builder presents eligible 10 year insured warranty
- Builder is eligible to sign Form RD 1924-25
- Final inspection is obtained
- No further documentation is required

**A. TRUE   B. FALSE**
New construction

ANSWER: 3555.202(a), HB 12.9 B

A. TRUE

- Insured builder’s warranty must meet RD Instruction 1924-A, Exhibit L
- Builder may sign the certification with an eligible insured warranty

New construction

- New construction dwelling
- No evidence of building code
- Only one construction inspection available
- One year builder’s warranty
- This loan is not eligible for guarantee

A. TRUE    B. FALSE
New construction

**ANSWER:** 3555.103(c), HB 12.9 B

B. FALSE

- New construction homes without required evidence are limited to 90% loan to value
- Upfront guarantee fee may be included above 90% LTV

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New construction

Which of the following may not certify plans and specifications for a new dwelling?

A) Licensed architect  
B) Professional engineer  
C) Builder  
D) Licensed Plumber
New construction

**ANSWER: 3555.202(a), HB 12.9 B**

**D. Licensed Plumber**

- Eligible parties to certify to plans and specifications are listed in the HB and on Form RD 1924-25
- Those completing the form may verify with electricians, plumbers, etc. codes they utilized

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New construction

- Appraisal for new construction dwelling
- Appraiser states HUD Handbook 4000.1 minimum property requirements is met
- This certification may be accepted in lieu of inspection requirements in 12.9 B

A. TRUE  B. FALSE
New construction

ANSWER: 3555.202(a), HB 12.9 B

B. FALSE

- HUD Handbook minimum property requirements are for existing dwellings
- New construction dwellings must meet required documentation in HB 12.9 B

New construction

- Modular homes are considered stick built homes
- New modular homes must meet documentation requirements as determined for new construction dwellings

A. TRUE    B. FALSE
New construction

ANSWER: 3555.202(a), HB 12.9 B

A. TRUE

- Modular homes are constructed to the building code of their destination
- Construction inspections and additional new construction dwelling documentation applies
Regulations

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