

default under the applicable guaranty or contractual agreement whether or not the issuer qualified for new issuer approval on the basis of FNMA or FHLMC approval;

(3) Have management with adequate experience, and access to adequate facilities to issue or service mortgage-backed securities, as determined by the Association;

(4) Maintain the applicable minimum net worth discussed in paragraph (c) of this section; and

(5) Meet the requirements, conditions, and limitations prescribed by the Association in this part or the applicable MBS Guides.

(b) *Time of eligibility.* The Association shall not commit to guarantee, or guarantee any issue of mortgage-backed securities unless the mortgage lender requesting such commitment or guaranty qualifies as an eligible issuer both at the time of commitment approval and at the time of the issuance of the guaranty.

(c) *Net worth requirements.* Issuers shall maintain at all times a net worth acceptable to the Association of not less than the applicable minimum amount. The applicable minimum amount shall be published in the MBS Guides.

(d) *Disqualification.* A mortgage lender shall not qualify as an eligible issuer at any time in which:

(1) The lending policies of the issuer permit any discrimination based on race, religion, color, national origin, age, or sex of a borrower; or

(2) The issuer is not in compliance with any rules, regulations, or orders issued under title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Executive Order 11063, Equal Opportunity in Housing, November 20, 1962; Executive Order 11246, Equal Employment Opportunity, issued on September 24, 1965 and amended on October 13, 1967; title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968; title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988; or by the FHA or VA.

(e) *Ethics and standards.* A mortgage lender shall qualify as an eligible issuer only so long as it conducts its business operations in accordance with accepted mortgage banking practices, ethics, and standards, as determined by

the Association, and maintains its books and records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(f) *Change in control.* Issuers shall notify the Association of any change in issuer control. A change in control occurs whenever a new party obtains significant influence over an issuer, as defined by the Association. In a merger where the surviving party is not the approved issuer and in a consolidation, the surviving party must apply formally for approval as a new issuer prior to the merger or consolidation taking place. In other business combinations, such as a stock sale of an existing issuer, which result in a change in control of issuer, the issuer shall demonstrate that it continues to meet all issuer eligibility requirements prior to the business combination being finalized.

(g) *Cross-Default.* Related issuers, as defined by the Association, shall execute a cross-default agreement, in a form prescribed by the Association, that authorizes the default of one or more related issuers in the event of a default by any one of the related issuers. Issuers may be granted an exemption from this section, provided that they submit a legal opinion, acceptable to the Association, which demonstrates that the execution of a cross-default agreement would be prohibited by the issuer's Federal regulator.

(h) *Failure to comply.* In the event that an issuer subsequently fails to comply with any of the requirements prescribed in this part or the applicable MBS Guide, as determined by the Association, the Association may, among other things, withhold further commitments to guarantee securities until such time as the Association is satisfied that the issuer has resumed business operations in compliance with such requirements.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control numbers 2503-0003, 2503-0004, 2503-0006, 2503-0007, and 2503-0026)

§ 320.5 Securities.

(a) *Instruments.* Securities issued pursuant to the provisions of this subpart must be modified pass-through securities, that provide for payment, whether

or not collected, of both specified principal installments and interest on the unpaid principal balance, with all prepayments and other unscheduled recoveries of principal being passed through to the holder. In the case of delinquent mortgages in a pool backing modified pass-through securities, the issuer is required to make advances if necessary to maintain the specified schedule of interest and principal payments to the holders, or at its option, at any time 90 days or more after default of any such mortgage, the issuer may repurchase such mortgage for an amount equal to the unpaid principal balance of the mortgage. The securities, if issued in certificated form, must specify the dates by which payments are to be made to the holders thereof, and must indicate the accounting period for collections on the pool's mortgages relating to each such payment, and the securities, if issued in certificated form, must also specify a date on which the entire principal will have been paid or will be payable.

(b) *Issue amount.* Each issue of guaranteed securities must be in a minimum face amount as specified in the applicable MBS Guide. The total face amount of any issue of securities cannot exceed the aggregate unpaid principal balances of the mortgages in the pool. The Association may provide for issuers to submit packages of mortgages that may be consolidated, with other packages of similar types of mortgages, into multiple issuer pools.

(c) *Face amount of securities.* The face amount of any security cannot be less than \$25,000.

(d) *Transferability.* Securities are transferable, but the share of the proceeds collected on account of the pool of mortgages is payable only to the registered holder of a security according to the policies established by the Association.

(e) *Issue date.* Securities with issue dates of October 1, 1998, or before, have been issued in certificated form. Except for serial note securities and securities backed by multifamily mortgage pools, securities with issue dates of November 1, 1998, or thereafter, will be issued initially in uncertificated, book-entry form. Following initial issuance, certificated securities will be issued in

exchange for uncertificated securities at the request of the registered holder and upon payment of any required fee. Serial notes and securities backed by multifamily mortgage pools will continue to be issued in certificated form until the applicable MBS Guide provides otherwise.

(f) *Delivery.* Delivery of uncertificated securities occurs when the book-entry depository's nominee is registered as the registered owner of the securities on Ginnie Mae's central registry.

(g) *Registered Ownership.* Ownership of mortgage-backed securities issued pursuant to this subpart registered in the name of a Depository shall be conclusively established by registration in the name of the Depository as owner on the Association's central registry and it shall be unnecessary for a Depository to maintain custody of any physical certificates evidencing such ownership.

(h) *Payments on Mortgage-Backed Securities.* Issuers must remit all payments due to holders of mortgage-backed securities such that holders will receive their installments as follows:

(1) *Payment to a Depository.* (i) For all securities registered in the name of a Depository or the designated nominee for a Depository, issuers are required to make payments in immediately available funds by ACH transaction, Fedwire, or by such other method as directed and/or authorized by the Association pursuant to the MBS Guide, including requiring that issuers maintain funds accounts in institutions that are accessible by debit ACH transactions originated by such Depository or its designee.

(ii) Payment must be made by the hour specified in the MBS Guide on the calendar day of the month specified in the MBS Guide for payment on such mortgage-backed securities (the "applicable Payment Date"), with adjustments to such time as may be specified in the MBS Guide for Payments Dates that do not fall on business days.

(2) *Payments to other holders.* An issuer of mortgage-backed securities that are not registered in the name of a Depository or its nominee may make payments to a security holder by ACH

transaction or Fedwire, provided that it obtains the prior written approval of the holder of such mortgage-backed securities. If an issuer begins to make such payments by electronic transfer, it must continue to do so while the securities are registered in the name of that security holder. If an issuer makes payments on mortgage-backed securities by check, the check must be received by the security holder not later than the applicable Payment Date each month.

(i) *Guaranty.* The Association's guaranty described in §320.13 is a guaranty that payment will be made to the registered owner of securities as reflected in the Association's central registry. The Association makes no other guaranty, including any guaranty that a Depository will appropriately credit payments to beneficial owners of such mortgage-backed securities. The Association's guarantee of securities payable to a Depository or its nominee becomes effective when the Depository or its nominee is registered as the registered owner of the securities on the Association's central registry.

(j) *Definition of Depository.* As used in this section, Depository means a clearing corporation within the meaning of Article 8 of the Uniform Commercial Code, including any Federal Reserve Bank, that maintains systems by which ownership and transfer of interests in mortgage-backed securities are made through the books of such clearing corporation.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2503-0009)

[60 FR 42015, Aug. 14, 1995, as amended at 63 FR 51251, Sept. 24, 1998; 64 FR 34106, June 24, 1999; 66 FR 44265, Aug. 22, 2001]

§320.7 Mortgages.

Each issue of guaranteed securities must be backed by a separate pool of mortgages which meet the requirements of the applicable MBS Guide.

§320.9 Pool administration.

The Association will only guarantee securities if the issuer executes a guaranty agreement or contractual agreement in the form prescribed by the Association. Pool administration require-

ments are set forth in such agreements or the applicable MBS Guide.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control numbers 2503-0003, 2503-0004, 2503-0006, 2503-0007, and 2503-0026)

§320.10 Financial reporting.

Issuers shall submit to the Association audited annual financial statements within 90 days of their fiscal year end. All financial statements with a fiscal year end date on or after [one year after the effective date of this rule] shall include a classified balance sheet and a statement of operations and cash flows, prepared in accordance with the standards for financial audits of the U.S. General Accounting Office's *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. The balance sheet shall show the division of total assets into current, noncurrent and fixed assets and the division of total liabilities into current and long-term liabilities.

§320.11 Insurance coverage.

The issuer shall maintain, for the benefit of the Association, insurance, errors and omissions, fidelity bond and other coverage as required by the Association and set forth in the appropriate MBS Guide.

§320.12 Integrity.

(a) *Background.* Issuers shall disclose the background of all individuals serving on their Board of Directors and all individuals acting as authorized signatories. The disclosures shall include any prior convictions, fines or other adverse actions against these individuals by a Federal, state or local agency, or a government-related entity where the action is related to the responsibilities that are commensurate with those of the financial services industry. The term government-related entity includes, but is not limited to, FHA, VA, FmHA, FNMA, FHLMC, Office of Thrift Supervision, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and National Credit Union Administration.

(b) *Change in status.* Issuers shall disclose material changes in their status with other government-related entities