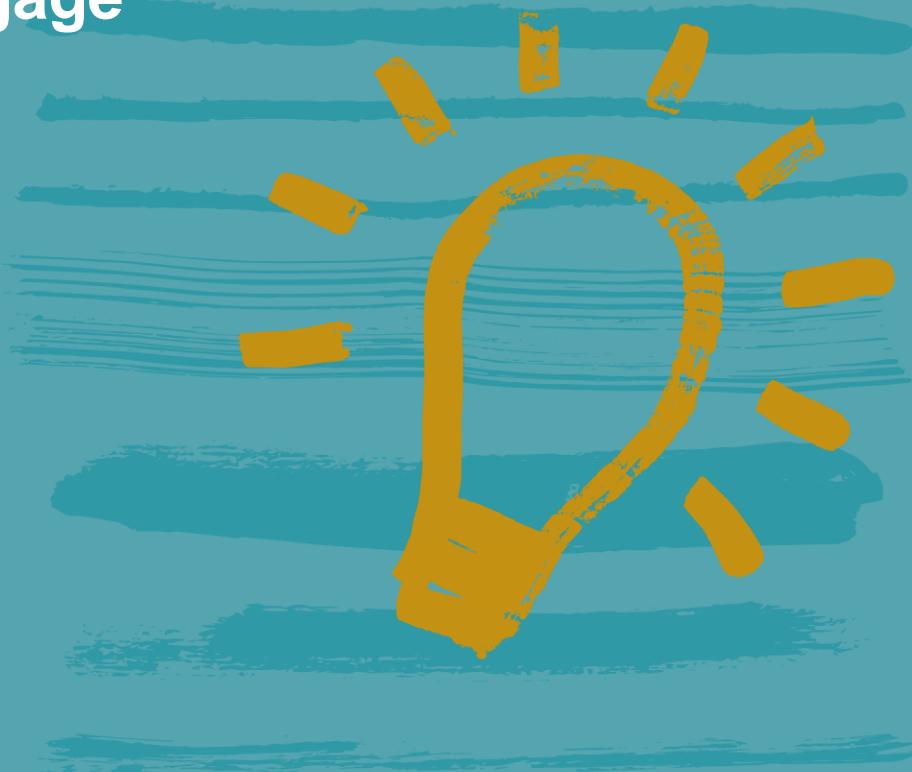


Introduction to Freddie Mac's: CHOICERenovationSM Mortgage

March 2020

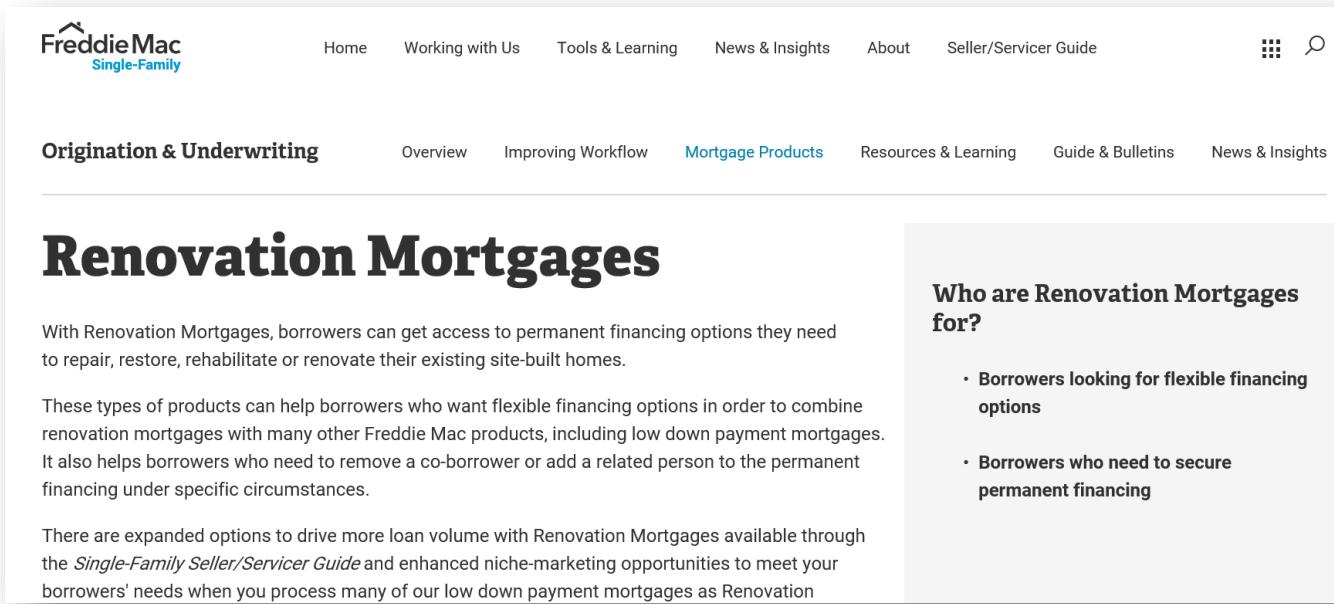


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Renovation Mortgages - Why?

According to Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies, almost 80% of the nation's 137 million homes are now at least 20 years old and 40% are at least 50 years old. Allow homeowners and homebuyers the opportunity to finance their renovations and increase the value of an older home.



The screenshot shows the Freddie Mac Single-Family website. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Working with Us, Tools & Learning, News & Insights, About, Seller/Servicer Guide, and a search function. Below this, a secondary navigation bar for 'Origination & Underwriting' includes links for Overview, Improving Workflow, Mortgage Products (which is highlighted in blue), Resources & Learning, Guide & Bulletins, and News & Insights. The main content area features a large, bold heading 'Renovation Mortgages'. Below this, a paragraph explains that with Renovation Mortgages, borrowers can get access to permanent financing options to repair, restore, rehabilitate, or renovate their existing site-built homes. Another paragraph discusses how these products can be combined with other Freddie Mac products like low down payment mortgages. A sidebar on the right is titled 'Who are Renovation Mortgages for?' and lists two bullet points: 'Borrowers looking for flexible financing options' and 'Borrowers who need to secure permanent financing'.

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/renovation-mortgages>

Borrower Benefits

Save time and money. Allow borrowers to purchase homes and finance the cost of renovations with a single-close mortgage.

Package the benefits. Combine this offering with our low-down payment and higher LTV solutions to make financing renovation projects even more affordable.

Increase home values. Whether borrowers are looking to improve a home they intend to purchase or upgrade their current living conditions, home improvements and repairs can increase the value of their homes.

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

CHOICERenovationSM Mortgage

[Home](#)[Working with Us](#)[Tools & Learning](#)[News & Insights](#)[About](#)[Seller/Servicer Guide](#)

Origination & Underwriting

[Overview](#)[Improving Workflow](#)[Mortgage Products](#)[Resources & Learning](#)[Guide & Bulletins](#)[News & Insights](#)

CHOICERenovationSM Mortgages

CHOICERenovation allows lenders to deliver loans to Freddie Mac where the borrower uses the loan proceeds to pay for the renovations.

This solution addresses a gap in the market for lenders looking for a robust, conventional offering to support renovation financing and provide cost-effective solutions for borrowers.

Offer more flexibility to your borrowers through any of our eligible fixed rate and adjustable rate mortgages, in addition to Home Possible[®], super conforming and HomeOneSM mortgages.

Who are CHOICERenovation Mortgages for?

- **Borrowers looking for convenience and cost savings by financing their home purchase and renovation costs in a single-closing transaction.**
- **Homeowners who need financing to make home improvements or repairs to their existing properties or a home they intend to purchase.**

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

CHOICERenovationSM

Frequently Asked Questions

 Copy Link |  Email |  Print |  |  | 

Freddie Mac introduced a new offering that will allow renovation costs to be included in the mortgage loan amount. It's called **CHOICERenovationSM** and it will provide lenders and borrowers with another flexible choice for mortgage financing and home improvements.

What is the current renovation offering from Freddie Mac?

Why is Freddie Mac introducing CHOICERenovation?

During the development of our Duty to Serve plan, we determined that a vital part of providing housing options for borrowers is related to the need for a new renovation offering to help address the large number of older homes and shifting demographics in today's market. Our new CHOICERenovation offering will allow borrowers to include renovation costs in the mortgage financing to assist in addressing the aging housing supply, the need for affordable housing and the increasing demand for aging-in-place housing solutions. CHOICERenovation will also address a gap in the market for lenders looking for a robust, conventional offering to support renovation financing and provide cost-effective solutions for borrowers.

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/affordable-lending/duty-to-serve/manufactured-housing/choicehome/choicerenovation-sm-frequently-asked-questions>

Transaction Type

- Purchase
- No cash-out refinance (NCOR)

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

Eligible Mortgage Products

- Fixed rate and adjustable rate mortgages
- Freddie Mac Home Possible® mortgages
- Freddie Mac HomeOneSM mortgages
- Super conforming mortgages

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

Property Type / Eligible Properties

- 1-4-unit primary residence
- Manufactured homes
- 1-unit second homes
- 1-unit investment property
- Units located in planned unit developments (PUDs), condominiums, cooperatives (if permitted under the Seller's Purchase Documents) or leasehold estates are acceptable

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

Eligibility Underwriting

- Mortgages delivered under the CHOICERenovation offering must be submitted to Loan Product Advisor® and receive a Loan Product Advisor “Accept” risk classification.
- Manual underwriting will not be accepted.

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

LTV Requirements

The following includes maximum LTV ratios. Please note, the maximum LTV ratios depend on the specific product or offering; there may be additional possible LTV ratios, i.e. condominiums when the project reviews are streamlined; these numbers are subject to change. TLTV to 105% with eligible Affordable Seconds (only with Home Possible and HomeOne).

- 1-unit Primary Residence - 95% FRM/ARM / FTHB if > 95% (applies to HomeOne). (Can go up to 97% for Home Possible or HomeOne only)
- 2-unit Primary Residence - 85% FRM/ARM
- 3- and 4-unit Primary Residences - 80% FRM/ARM
- Second Homes - 90% FRM/ARM
- 1-unit Investment Property - 85% FRM / 7/1 and 10/1 ARM
- Manufactured Homes - 95% FRM/ARM

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

Allowable Renovation Costs

For Refinances, the maximum permitted renovation costs are up to 75% of the “as-completed” appraised value of the improvements.

For Purchases, the maximum permitted renovation costs are up to 75% of the lesser of

- 1.) the sum of purchase price and renovation costs or
- 2.) the “as-completed” appraised value of the improvements.

If the mortgaged premises is a manufactured home, the maximum permitted renovation costs are the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of the “as-completed” appraised value of the improvements.

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

Borrower As Contractor

The Borrower may act as the general contractor for the renovations if the Borrower is a licensed contractor. The Borrower may perform some or all of the work to complete the renovations as long as he/she is licensed and qualified to do so. In connection with Borrowers who act as the general contractor and/or perform renovation work, the following requirements apply:

- The Borrower must submit to the Seller a plan detailing the work items the Borrower will perform, and
- CHOICERenovation Mortgage proceeds may be used to reimburse the Borrower for the cost of materials but may not be used to reimburse the Borrower for labor costs

Freddie Mac Selling Guide

Guide Home > Selling > Series 4000 : Mortgage Eligibility > Topic 4600 : Special Freddie Mac Mortgage Products > Chapter 4607 : Freddie Mac CHOICERenovationSM Mortgages

Chapter 4607

Freddie Mac CHOICERenovationSM Mortgages

4607.1 Purchase of CHOICERenovationSM Mortgages

4607.2 Eligible and ineligible Mortgages

4607.3 Property eligibility

4607.4 General eligibility requirements

4607.5 Underwriting CHOICERenovationSM Mortgages

4607.6 Eligible renovations

4607.7 Advancing the costs of materials

4607.8 Maximum financed renovation cost for CHOICERenovationSM Mortgages

<https://guide.freddiemac.com/app/guide/chapter/4607>

Tools and Resources



CHOICERenovationSM MORTGAGES



Our latest solution for financing home improvements designed for borrowers looking for convenience and cost savings by financing both their home purchase and renovation costs in a single loan.

Freddie Mac's CHOICERenovationSM offering allows lenders and borrowers to save time and money by financing home improvements using one loan and one closing. With CHOICERenovation, lenders can expand their business by meeting a greater variety of client needs and offering a mortgage financing solution that helps address the aging housing supply, the increasing demand for cost-effective financing, aging-in-place housing solutions, and supports the need for affordable housing.

| BORROWER PROFILE | KEY FEATURES | BORROWER BENEFITS |
|---|---|---|
| <p>CHOICERenovation is designed to meet the needs of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Borrowers looking for convenience and cost savings by financing their home purchase and renovation costs in a single loan.Homeowners looking for a no cash out refinance option to make home improvements or repairs to their existing property.First time homebuyers, homeowners looking to age in place and multigenerational families in need of living space customization. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Purchase and no cash out refinancing.Maximum 95% LTV/TLTV/HTLV/FTHB if >95% HomeOneSM only. 97% Home Possible[®] only.Eligible for appraised value representations and warranty relief through Loan Collateral Advisor[®].Housing resilience and energy efficiency items are eligible renovation costs.Term of Business (TOB) path available for eligible sellers to deliver loans before renovations are complete.Ability to draw 50% of the material costs at closing. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Save time and money. Allow borrowers to purchase homes and finance the cost of renovations with a single close mortgage.Package the benefits. Combine this offering with our low down payment and higher LTV solutions to make financing renovation projects even more affordable.Increase home values. Whether borrowers are looking to improve a home they intend to purchase or upgrade their current living conditions, home improvements and repairs can increase the value of their homes. |

cont.

FreddieMac.com

Publication Number | 090

June 2019

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<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

Tools and Resources



CHOICERenovationSM Mortgages Offering

The renovation market has grown more than 50 percent since 2009. The U.S. market for home improvement and repairs is now over \$400 billion annually, according to the Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies (JCHS). Given the increasing age of existing housing stock, there is a need to provide an affordable way for borrowers to finance older properties in need of repairs.

CHOICERenovationSM is our new home improvement offering that allows renovation costs to be included in the mortgage loan amount. It is available across the broad market and all underserved, high-needs markets, including the following Duty to Serve markets: affordable housing preservation, rural housing and manufactured housing.

While CHOICERenovation is valuable in supporting Duty to Serve and other affordable-related lending, there is no requirement that it be used in conjunction with those offerings. There are also no borrower income limitations. For complete details, refer to the *Freddie Mac Single-Family Seller/Servicer Guide* (Guide), Chapter [4607](#).

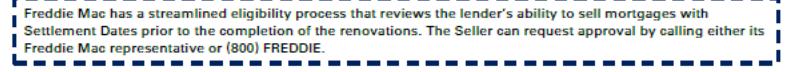
Two delivery options

Mortgages with Settlement Dates after completion of renovations:

 →  The renovations and the final inspection **must** have been completed prior to the loan being delivered to Freddie Mac. The loans will be delivered without recourse and Seller must deliver IFI code J25.

Mortgages with Settlement Dates prior to completion of the renovations:

 →  Approved Sellers can deliver the loans to Freddie Mac prior to completion of the renovations. These loans must be delivered with recourse and Seller must deliver IFI code J24.

 Freddie Mac has a streamlined eligibility process that reviews the lender's ability to sell mortgages with Settlement Dates prior to the completion of the renovations. The Seller can request approval by calling either its Freddie Mac representative or (800) FREDDIE.

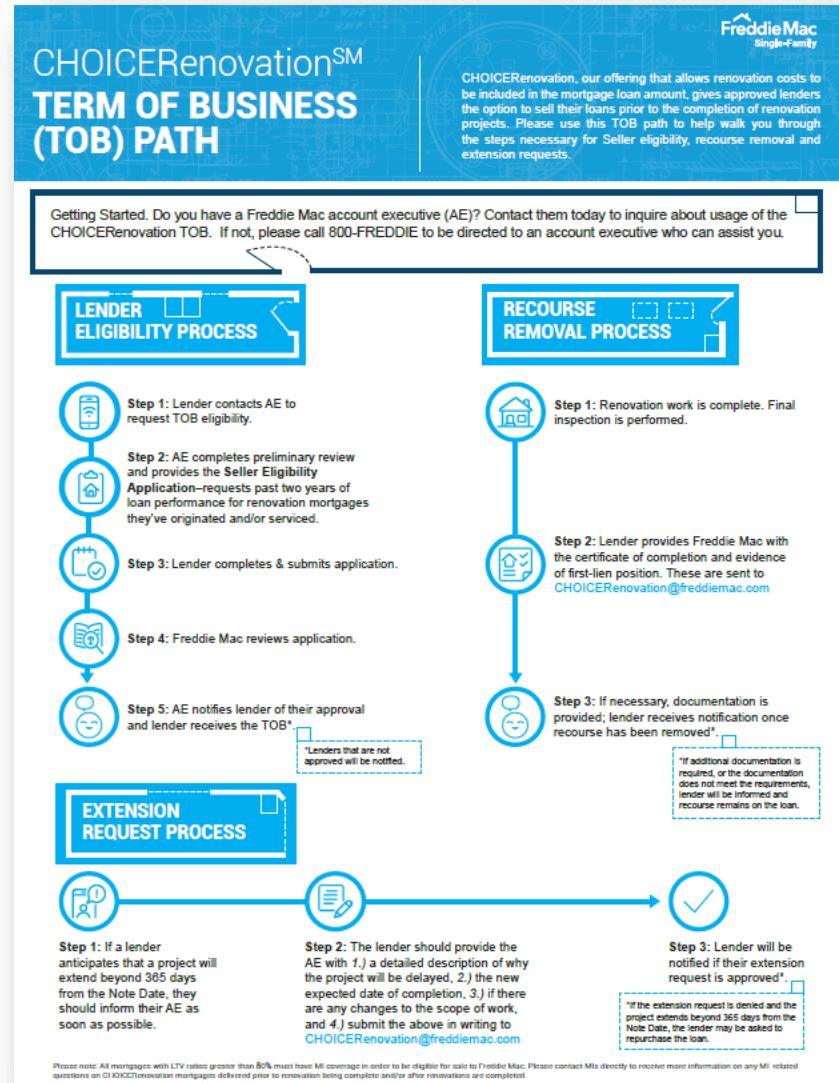
Eligible Mortgages

 CHOICERenovation Mortgages must be first-lien mortgages and may be many different mortgage products or offerings within the Guide, including Home Possible[®] and HomeOneSM mortgages. See Section [4607.2\(b\)](#) for the list of mortgage characteristics that are ineligible with CHOICERenovation.

December 2019 [Freddie Mac Learning](#)

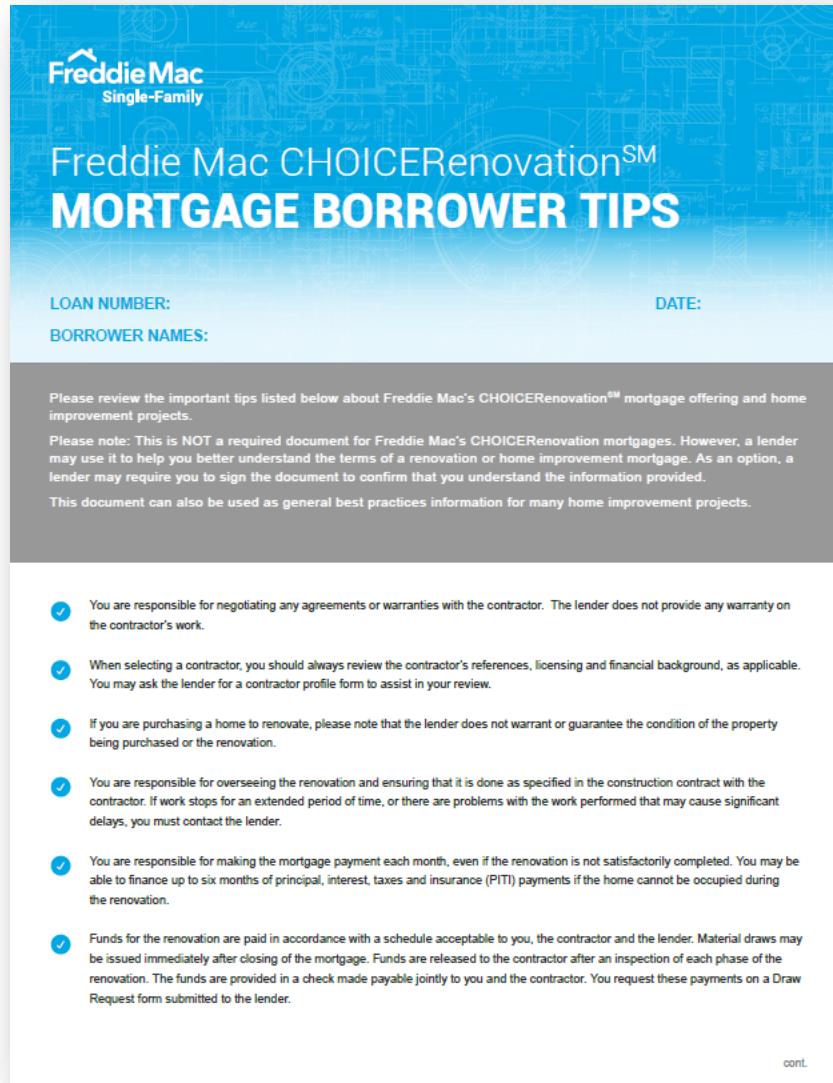
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Tools and Resources



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Tools and Resources



The image shows the cover of a document titled "Freddie Mac CHOICERenovationSM MORTGAGE BORROWER TIPS". The cover features the Freddie Mac logo and a background of architectural blueprints. It includes fields for "LOAN NUMBER:" and "DATE:" and a section for "BORROWER NAMES:". Below the title, there is a note about the tips being general best practices for many home improvement projects. The main content area lists seven tips, each preceded by a blue circular icon with a white checkmark. The tips are:

- You are responsible for negotiating any agreements or warranties with the contractor. The lender does not provide any warranty on the contractor's work.
- When selecting a contractor, you should always review the contractor's references, licensing and financial background, as applicable. You may ask the lender for a contractor profile form to assist in your review.
- If you are purchasing a home to renovate, please note that the lender does not warrant or guarantee the condition of the property being purchased or the renovation.
- You are responsible for overseeing the renovation and ensuring that it is done as specified in the construction contract with the contractor. If work stops for an extended period of time, or there are problems with the work performed that may cause significant delays, you must contact the lender.
- You are responsible for making the mortgage payment each month, even if the renovation is not satisfactorily completed. You may be able to finance up to six months of principal, interest, taxes and insurance (PITI) payments if the home cannot be occupied during the renovation.
- Funds for the renovation are paid in accordance with a schedule acceptable to you, the contractor and the lender. Material draws may be issued immediately after closing of the mortgage. Funds are released to the contractor after an inspection of each phase of the renovation. The funds are provided in a check made payable jointly to you and the contractor. You request these payments on a Draw Request form submitted to the lender.

cont.

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

Tools and Resources

charming...
vintage gem...
hidden potential...

If any of these terms are used to describe your current home or the home you're hoping to purchase, it's now easier than ever to finance your home renovations.



Save time and money.

Our new renovation offering provides the opportunity to purchase or refinance a home and include the future renovation costs with one simple, single-close mortgage. Learn more about the benefits of our renovation offering today.

INSERT
LOGO
HERE

Enter contact information, and other necessary information here.

We're proud to offer CHOICERenovation™.

<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/origination-underwriting/mortgage-products/choicerenovation>

Appraisal Requirements

The Seller must obtain an appraisal report based on an interior and exterior inspection. The appraisal report must include an “as completed” value of the subject property subject to completion of the proposed renovations.

The Seller must provide the appraiser with the cost estimates, plans and specifications for the renovations.

- *If, after the appraiser provides the “as completed” value, changes are made to the original plans and specifications in accordance with [Section 4607.10\(a\)\(ii\)](#), the Seller must notify the appraiser of the changes and provide change documentation to the appraiser. The appraiser must provide a revised appraisal to reflect the changes and account for the impact on the “as completed” value.*
- *Upon completion of the renovations, the appraiser must perform a final inspection of the property in accordance with [Section 5601.11](#) and complete a certification of completion. The completion report must document that all renovations were completed in accordance with the plans and specifications and must include photographs of the completed renovations.*

Mortgage Insurance

If Mortgage Insurance is required it must be in place before closing

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Training Tools and Information

The screenshot shows the Genworth Mortgage Insurance website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for MI & RATES, UNDERWRITING & GUIDES, LOS & CONNECTIONS, GENWORTH TOOLKIT, TRAINING (which is highlighted with a red box and has two red arrows pointing to it), and OUR MI. To the right of the navigation is a search bar and a 'LOG IN TO:' section with links for ORDER MI, MANAGE MI, and VIEW ACCOUNT. The main content area features a yellow background with the text 'YOU-CENTRIC SOLUTIONS THAT MATTER' and a list of five 'Let's' statements: 'Let's add value.', 'Let's underwrite.', 'Let's be you-cen.', 'Let's quote quick.', and 'Let's wow now.' Below this is a large image of a woman wearing a red crown, with the text 'Genworth Mortgage Insurance' to its right. A callout box is overlaid on the page, containing links to 'Course Catalog', 'Live Webinar Calendar', 'Self-Employed Borrower Calculators', 'Our Trainers', 'That MI Guy', and 'Training FAQs'. At the bottom of the page, there are three boxes for 'Underwriting', 'Rate Express', and 'LOS', each with a call-to-action button. The Genworth logo is at the bottom left, and the website address 'mi.genworth.com' is at the bottom center.

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Genworth offers a comprehensive suite of training opportunities to boost your know-how, benefit your bottom line and ultimately best serve your borrower. With more than 70 courses in our catalog, our team is here to help you stay up-to-date on the mortgage industry and regulatory environment. Classes are all offered at no cost to you. **Check out our new Featured Series below!**

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- August Training
- Rate Express: Reimagined



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Valuable income calculation tools and reference guides for calculating self-employed borrower income.



Schedule Analysis Method (SAM) Calculator (2017-2018)



Fannie Mae Form 1084 Calculator (2017-2018)



Freddie Mac Form 91 Calculator (2017-2018)



Freddie Mac Form 92 Calculator (2017-2018)



Rental Income Calculator (2017-2018)

[More Tools](#)

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Let's help first-time homebuyers prepare for buying a home. Your no-fee resource!



Master Policy Agreement

Partner with us. A master policy agreement is the first step to submitting MI loans to Genworth.

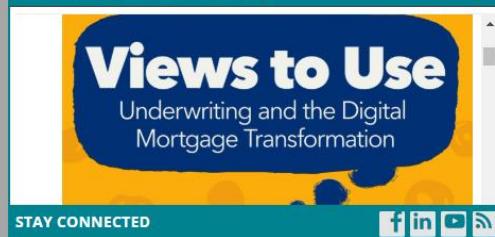
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