

USDA Matrix

Credit

Validate Credit Score Requirements:

GUS Accept Files:

No credit score validation required

GUS Refer, Refer w/Caution and Manually Underwritten files:

One applicant whose income and/or assets will be used to originate the loan must have a validated credit score. This applicant must have two (2) tradelines on the credit report that have been or are currently open for 12 months* based on the date the account is showing as opened on the credit report. A validated score confirms that one applicant has an eligible minimum credit history.

Tradelines eligible to validate the credit score are:

- Loans (secured/unsecured)
- Revolving accounts
- Installment loans
- Credit cards
- Collections in repayment
- Charge-offs in repayment

Tradelines Ineligible to validate a credit score are:

- Public Records (BK, Foreclosure, tax liens, judgments, etc)
- Disputed accounts
- Self-reported accounts

*Tradelines need to have a 12-month repayment history reported on the credit report. If the credit report does not provide the confirmation that 12 months has been paid on the account, the tradeline is not a valid account to use for validation. Account may not be older than 24 months to be used for validation if a closed account.

Authorized User Accounts

May be used as a tradeline to validate credit if:

- The tradeline is owned by another applicant on the mortgage loan application;
- The owner of the tradeline is a spouse of the applicant; or
- The applicant can provide evidence that they have made payments on the account for the most recent previous 12 months prior to loan application

GUS Refer and Manually underwritten files are not eligible for Debt Ratio exceptions if:

- 1. There is not one applicant with a validated score using traditional tradelines on the credit report or;
- 2. The file requires non-traditional credit tradelines

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