

# The 3 Cs of Underwriting Factors Used in Freddie Mac's Automated Underwriting Assessment

Credit reputation, capacity and collateral are often called the "three Cs" of underwriting. If one of these components is not acceptable or if there is excessive layering of risk across components, the mortgage may not be acceptable for sale to Freddie Mac.

## Credit Reputation

- Credit Score
- Foreclosures, bankruptcies, liens and/or judgments
- Mortgage delinquencies
- Credit delinquencies, repossessions, collections, or charge-offs
- Credit accounts: type, age, limits, usage and status of revolving accounts
- Borrower's request for new credit in last 12 months

## Capacity

- Debt ratios: Qualifying monthly housing expense-to-income ratio or monthly debt payment-to-income ratio
- Salaried versus self-employed borrower
- Cash reserves
- Number of borrowers
- Loan Characteristics:
  - Product: a 15-, 20-, and 30-year fixed rate, an adjustable rate mortgage
  - Purpose of Loan: purchase or refinance (cash-out or no cash-out)

## Collateral

- Borrower's total equity or down payment
- Property type: a 1-unit or 2- to 4- unit detached property, Condominium Unit or Manufactured Home
- Property use: Primary Residence, Second Home or Investment Property
- Refer to the Freddie Mac *Single-Family Seller/Servicer Guide* for more information.

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