

**Instructions:** Prior To Appraisal

1. The Consultant or Plan Reviewer meets with the borrower (and contractor, if there is one) at the site to determine if cost estimates are acceptable. The cost of labor and materials (including overhead and profit, where necessary) must be shown. Borrowers doing their own work must include labor and material, in case they are unable to complete the work due to some unforeseen circumstance, and they must later subcontract out the work. Upon completion of the review, and if the cost estimates are acceptable, the Consultant or Plan Reviewer must sign the certification and return all exhibits to the lender.

2. Lender sends exhibits and a copy of the Draw Request form to the appraiser. The appraisal cannot be performed unless the Consultant or Plan Reviewer has signed the certification on the Draw Request form. Appraisers are instructed not to add additional work items to the list of construction items without the Consultant or Plan Reviewer assuring that the cost estimate for additional items are acceptable and included on the Draw Request form.

**Instructions:** During Construction:

1. If any construction work items were completed prior to closing the loan, an inspection of the work can occur one day after closing.

2. Borrower/contractor completes column 2 "Previous Draw Totals" with percent of completion on any of the construction items. On the first draw inspection, this column will be left blank. On subsequent draws, show the accepted amounts shown in columns 3 and 4 (from the previous draw).

3. Borrower/contractor completes column 3 "Request for This Draw" with the **actual cost of rehabilitation**, which includes materials, labor, overhead and profit. Materials cannot be paid for until they have been acceptably installed. For the investor/builder using the Escrow Commitment Procedure, the cost savings will be added to the escrow amount that is held by the lender for release when an acceptable owner-occupant assumes the loan.

The inspector will complete column 4 for each line item that is necessary to be adjusted. If no adjustments are required, column 4 will remain blank. In no case can the inspector approve a release of funds in excess of the amount requested by the borrower in column 3.

The DE Underwriter or the lender's authorized agent may reduce the amount of funds accepted (or revised) by the inspector by completing (or correcting) the amount shown in column 4. Where a correction has been made by the inspector or the lender, the revised total amount will be shown in line 36, column 4. When the DE Underwriter or the lender's authorized agent is satisfied with the Draw Request, the bottom of the form approving the release of funds will be completed.

**After the final draw inspection**, cost savings can be adjusted to pay for cost overruns in other construction items or additional improvements to the property that are approved by the Direct Endorsement (DE) Lender. An additional administration cost can be allowed under certain circumstances. Any remaining cost savings must be applied to the mortgage principal and will create greater equity in the property.

**Example 1:** If column 1 for Drywall is estimated for completion at \$1,500, and the work is 50% complete, but a signed contract is for \$1,200, then the Request for This Draw in column 3 cannot exceed \$600.

**Example 2:** If column 1 for Drywall is estimated for completion at \$1,500, and the work is 50% complete, but a signed contract is for \$1,800, then the Request for This Draw in column 3 cannot exceed \$750. At the end of rehabilitation, cost overruns can be adjusted for, provided there were savings in other construction items that were approved prior to closing.

4. The borrower and contractor must sign the certification on the Draw Request form. If a dispute exists, the lender must try to mediate the dispute to assure there are no mechanics or materialmens liens placed on the property. The lender may make checks out in both the borrower and contractors name to ensure proper distribution of escrowed funds and to assure no mechanics or materialmens liens. The borrower or contractor may initiate legal proceedings if an equitable agreement cannot be reached.

5. Under no circumstances can any construction item be paid for without the work being acceptably installed (e.g., materials on site cannot be included in the draw request). Upon completion, the inspector signs the Draw Request form, and the Rehabilitation Inspection Report and returns this form to the DE Lender, if applicable. The cost of the inspection should also be completed.

6. The DE who controls the Rehabilitation Escrow Account must provide an accounting of the escrow account to the borrower and HUD, showing the status of all monies in the escrow account. After the acceptable receipt of all necessary documentation, the escrow release (less 10% holdback) should occur within 48 hours. The accounting system must comply with Handbook 4240.4.