

Home Inspection Guidelines for Homebuyer Programs

Basis for Guidelines

AHC bases its guidelines on FHA Minimum Property Requirements. AHC will not require repair of those items that an FHA Appraisal considers to be acceptable. For more information on these guidelines, consult HUD Handbook 4150 and HUD Mortgagee Letter 2005-34.

Unacceptable Conditions

- (1) Hazards that affect or threaten the health and safety of the occupants.
- (2) Hazards that jeopardize the soundness and structural or integrity of the home.
- (3) Necessary mechanical systems (heating, plumbing, etc.) that are unsafe or do not have adequate capacity to support the home.

Examples (not meant to be a complete list):

Broken windows, doors, steps
Inadequate or blocked doors
Evidence of septic failure

Non-resolved lead-based paint hazards
Non-resolved mold or asbestos hazards
Flooding

Fire hazards
Toxic chemicals
Radioactive materials
Damage from soil or other ground movements
Ground water
Inadequate surface drainage

Contamination from septic and sewage Soil contamination

Inadequate ventilation Wood-Destroying-Insect infestation
Lack of smoke detectors Non-GFCI outlets
Foundation cracks Inadequate sanitation

Roof < 2 years estimated remaining life Inadequate egress from bedrooms to exterior

Insufficient sewage disposal

Examples of Items Not Requiring Repair

- (1) Items that meet FHA Minimum Property Standards
- (2) Minor property deficiencies

Insufficient water supply

- (3) Poor workmanship
- (4) Cosmetic items

Examples (not meant to be a complete list):

Loose tiles

Non-functioning appliances

Missing handrails (if <3 steps)

Items with 2+ years useful life that function adequately

Cracked window glass not posing a safety hazard

Damaged exit doors that are otherwise operable

Missing screens Lack of all-weather driveway

Minor leaks Defective paint surfaces in homes post-1978

Low (but adequate) water pressure Rotten or worn out countertops

Defective floor finish or covering Damaged plaster/ sheetrock in homes post-1978

Crawl space with trash or debris Trip hazards

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Addressing Unacceptable Deficiencies and Hazards

Existing or potential unacceptable deficiencies and hazards identified on the home inspection report must be inspected and certified by a licensed professional. Any items this subsequent inspection notes as needing repair or improvement must be remedied prior to closing. Both proof of the inspection and proof of repairs will be required.

Questions

AHC welcomes your questions. Feel free to call our Homebuyer Program Administrator at 847/263-7478 if you have questions about these guidelines or about repairs required for an individual property. Please be aware that when disputing a required repair, a copy of the FHA Appraisal may be requested for verification.