



Buying your new home



Tonight's Topics

- The Mortgage Process
 - What does a lender look for in a borrower?
 - Credit Reports, Scores and Tips
 - How much money will you need?
 - Build a roadmap to assist you in buying your first home.



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3 Key Considerations

- Ability to repay
 - Income, Assets, Debts
- Willingness to repay
 - Credit History
- Value of the property
 - Appraisal



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Ability to Repay

- Depends upon income, debt and type of property.
 - (Single, multi-family, or condominium)
- Housing ratio
 - PITI (principal; Interest; Taxes; Insurance)
 - 28% to 33% of gross income (Can be higher with compensating factors)
- Total debt ratio
 - Total debt (PITI, plus all other debt)
 - 36% to 38% of gross income (Can be higher with compensating factors)



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Willingness to Repay

- Have you made your payments on time?
- Have you disclosed all debts including:
 - Auto loan and lease payments
 - Student loans
 - Credit cards
 - Lines of credit
 - Alimony and /or child support
- Have you made your Loan Officer aware of any past problems?



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Credit Scores

- Lenders use FICO scores
- Scores range between 300 and 850
- 740 and above get the best rates
- Calculated on history, amount owed, length of history, number of new accounts, mix of account types



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Credit Reports

- Credit Report Resources

- TransUnion
 - www.transunion.com
- Experian
 - www.experian.com
- Equifax
 - www.equifax.com
- **Check your credit report for free**
 - www.annualcreditreport.com
- Check your FICO score (This is not free!)
 - www.myfico.com



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Credit Hacks

- Here are steps you can take to protect your financial information:
- Use online resources and mobile apps to track spending, transactions and payments in real time.
- Continuously monitor your bank accounts and credit cards for any suspicious activity or purchases that you do not recognize.
- Access your credit report at www.annualcreditreport.com. You are allowed one free credit report per year from the credit reporting agencies.
- Report any suspicious transactions to the Bank or your credit card company immediately. If you believe that you are a victim of identity theft, contact your local police department.
- Request fraud alerts on your credit report. This will alert you before credit is issued in your name. You can find more information on fraud alerts here: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0275-place-fraud-alert>
- You can also find helpful information on identity theft, preventing scams and protecting your financial information from these agencies:
- **Massachusetts Attorney General's Office:** <http://www.mass.gov/ago/consumer-resources/consumer-information/scams-and-identity-theft/>
- **Federal Trade Commission:** <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0014-identity-theft>



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Property Value

- An independent appraiser will be sent to view the property and determine value
- They are looking at market value – Comparable recent home sales
- They are not home inspectors
- The bank receives a written report



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Cash Requirements

- Down Payment
 - 3-10% for single family homes and condominiums
 - Funds to cover closing costs
 - Reserves, typically 2-3 months of payments **(if required)**
- Acceptable Sources
 - Savings
 - Inheritance & gifts
 - Sale of stocks, bonds or other assets



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Down Payment Assistance

- Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston
 - Housing Our Workforce
 - 10% of the sales price or up to \$25,000 (lesser of the 2) 80-120% of median income
 - <https://www.fhlbboston.com/fhlbank-boston/how-overview#/>
 - Equity Builder Program
 - Up to \$30,806 80% or less of median income.
 - <https://www.fhlbboston.com/fhlbank-boston/ebp-overview#/>
- MHP for the MassDreams program
 - <https://www.mhp.net/one-mortgage/massdreams>
 - List of other Resources
 - <https://www.mhp.net/one-mortgage/homebuyer-resources/get-down-payment-help#>



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Downpayment Assistance Programs in Our CRA Communities

-
- **City of Cambridge**
 - Contact Antonia Finley
 - Location Cambridge, MA
 - Phone 617-349-4643
 - Website <https://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/housing/forhomebuyers/downpaymentassistance>
- **City of Lynn**
 - Contact Neighborhood Services
 - Location Lynn, MA
 - Phone 781-581-8624
 - Website <http://www.lhand.org/neighborhoodServices.aspx>
- **City of Newton**
 - Contact Malcolm Lucas
 - Location Newton, MA
 - Email mlucas@newtonma.gov
 - Phone (617) 796-1149
 - Website <https://www.newtonma.gov/government/planning/housing-community-development/housing/homebuyer-assistance>
- **City of Somerville**
 - Contact Housing Division
 - Location Somerville, MA
 - Phone 617-625-6600x2560
 - Website <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/programs/inclusionary-housing-program>
- **North Suburban Consortium**
 - Contact Maureen Taylor
 - Location Malden, Medford, Arlington, Melrose, Chelsea, Everett, Revere, Winthrop
 - Phone 781-324-5720x5730
 - Website <https://www.cityofmalden.org/867/HOME-Program>

Downpayment Assistance Program Information

Municipal Down Payment Assistance Programs

- <https://www.mymasshome.org/municipal-down-payment-assistance-programs>

First time home buyer grant programs.

Understanding the various grant program offered

- <https://www.firsttimehomebuyer.com/grant-programs#>



Closing Costs

- Fees associated with processing and closing your loan
 - Actual closing costs associated with the loan
 - Lender fees, attorney's fees, title insurance, appraisal, credit report and recording fees.
 - Points **(Optional)**
 - “Pre-paid” Items
 - Prepaid Real Estate Taxes
 - Prepaid Homeowner's Insurance (Year 1 cost paid in full)
 - Prepaid interest
 - Escrow Account Reserves



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Escrow Accounts

- Taxes and Homeowner's insurance are often collected as part of the monthly payment.
- Tax escrow, typically will deposit 2-3 months worth of taxes into the account at closing
- Homeowners insurance may be escrowed as well
- PMI and Flood insurance are always escrowed



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What is PMI?

- Private mortgage insurance
 - Allows you to purchase a home with minimal down payment
 - Required with less than 20% down payment
 - Rates change at 5%, 10% and 15% down payment
 - How long will it continue?
 - Must have 20% equity based on original price
 - Automatically will stop at 78% of original price



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Types of Mortgage Loans

- **Fixed Rate**
 - Stable Payments
 - Rate Never Changes
- **Adjustable Rate**
 - Lower Initial Rate
 - Rate is fixed for a set period, then adjusts annually

Portfolio and Secondary Market Programs



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Rate, Points, APR

- Note rate is used to calculate your payment
- Points can be paid to obtain a lower interest rate. A point is 1% of the loan amount. The interest rate is typically reduced by .25% (will vary depending on market conditions). Points are paid at the loan closing.
- Annual Percentage Rate or APR reflects cost of the loan over time. Combines rate, points and costs into a single number for comparison of loan programs



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Key features of the ONE Mortgage



Low interest rate

Participating lenders provide buyers with a discounted interest rate

Down payments as low as 3%

3% down payment for condominiums, single- and two-family properties (1.5% in own funds)

5% down payment for a three-family property. (3% in own funds)

Pay no Private Mortgage Insurance

ONE Mortgage borrowers **never have to pay Private Mortgage Insurance**, saving you hundreds of dollars every month.

Financial assistance

Based on income, ONE Mortgage borrowers may also qualify for an additional monthly savings during their first seven years of ownership. MHP Interest Subsidy reduces monthly mortgage payments in the early years of ownership.

Am I Eligible?

First-time Homebuyer Status



This loan is designed specifically for first-time homebuyers

- Defined as borrowers who have not owned a home in the last three years

Exceptions to the First Time Homebuyer Requirement:

- Single Parent
- Displaced Homemaker



Am I Eligible?

Household Income Limits



Income limits vary by **community & household size**

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ONE+BOSTON INCOME LIMIT
1	\$98,150
2	\$112,150
3	\$126,150
4	\$140,200
5	\$151,400
6	\$162,600
7	\$173,850
8	\$185,050



Am I Eligible?

Household Income Limits



- Income limits vary by **community & household size**
- Income limits are updated annually
- If your total household income falls below our income limits, you may be eligible for the One Mortgage Program.

www.mhp.net/incomelimits

Am I Eligible? Asset Limits



Your household assets must be less than \$75,000

Liquid Assets that are considered:

- Savings & checking
- Stocks & Bonds
- Gifted money including gifts of equity
- Roth IRAs
- Investments
- Land

Excluded Assets

- **Most** Retirement Accounts **Note – We **DO** count Roth IRAs!
- College Savings Plans

Am I Eligible?

Credit Score Requirements



Minimum Credit Score	Property Type
640	Condo, Single-Family
660	Two-, Three-Family

Alternative credit option available for those who lack a documented credit history

PLUS: No “Risk Based” Pricing – You’ll get the same low interest rate whether your credit score is 640 or 850





LE/CD

- **Loan Estimate**

- Initial estimate of costs

- Based on information known at start of process
- Given within 3 business days of application

- **Closing Disclosure**

- Final figures for your closing

- Based on actual information
- Given 3 business days prior to closing
- All documents should be submitted 10 days prior



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Pre Approvals

- Inquiry
 - Outlines approximate amount you can borrow
 - Helps you search in an appropriate price range
 - Based on *unverified* information
- Pre Qualification
 - Based on *verified* financial information: credit report
 - This will enhance your offer to purchase.
 - Issued by a Loan Officer
- Pre Approval
 - Based on *verified* financial information: credit report, income and assets.
 - Issued by an Underwriter – **Strongest Letter Available.**
- Apply Online: <https://ecsb.mymortgage-online.com/>



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Things to Remember

- Consolidate funds to a single account
 - Allows easier tracking of funds
 - Less paperwork for everyone
- Large deposits must be documented
 - Deposits over 50% of monthly income
 - Keep detailed records and photocopies



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Where Do I Start?

- **Work with experienced people.**
 - Real Estate Professional
 - Find someone who are comfortable with.
 - Inspectors
 - Get referrals, license information
 - Attorney
 - Specializes in real estate transactions
 - Lender
 - Get pre-approved with an experienced lender.



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