HOME EQUITY CONSUMER LOAN APPLICATION

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT PROCEDURES FOR OPENING A NEW ACCOUNT

To help the government fight the funding of terrorism and money laundering activities, Federal law requires all financial institutions to obtain, verify, and record information that identifies each person who opens an account. What this means for you: When you open an account, we will ask for your name, address, date of birth, and other information that will allow us to identify you. We may also ask to see your driver's license or other identifying documents. TO: Name/Address of Lender What type of account are you applying for? (Please check appropriate box): COSIGNER INDIVIDUAL (Own income or assets) INDIVIDUAL (Own income or assets plus income or assets from other sources) JOINT (please initial) you interested in Credit Life/Disability Insurance that is offered by Lender if this loan is roved? (Please check appropriate box)

YES NO approved? (Please check appropriate box) LOAN ORIGINATION COMPANY NAME: LOAN ORIGINATION COMPANY IDENTIFIER: LOAN ORIGINATOR NAME LOAN ORIGINATOR LICENSE NUMBER: LOAN TERMS Loan Amount Loan Type HELOC Closed End Fixed Rate Variable Rate (type): Other Term Purpose **COLLATERAL INFORMATION** roperty Address Year Built Title Holde Title Holder Address Insurance Carrier Insurance Carrier Address Current Mortgage Holder Current Mortgage Holder Address Current Mortgage Holder Phone Monthly Mortgage Payment Home Purchase Price Balance Owing Mortgage Loan Account Number Additional Collateral Description APPLICANT/COSIGNER INFORMATION Name (Last) (First) (MI) (Suffix) Taxpayer ID Number (SSN/TIN) Date of Birth Street Address Driver's License/ID Number State Home Phone Number City State ZIP Code County How Long There No. of Dependents Age of Dependents Previous Address (if less than 2 years at current address) Employer Employer Address Employer Phone Number Position How Long Gross Net Weekly Monthly How Often Paid Average Monthly Overtime Pay \$ Previous Employer Previous Employer Address How Long Nearest Relative Not Living with You Relationship Relative's Address City State ZIP Code Relative's Phone Number Immigration Status U.S. Citizen Perm. Resident of U.S. Other: Marital Status Unmarried (including single, divorced, and widowed) Separated Alimony, Child Support, Separate Maintenance Payments: Yr income from alimony, child support, or separate maintenance payme You are not required to disclose income from alimony, child support, or separate maintenance payments. However, if you are relying on ments as a basis for repayment of this obligation, please complete the information below. Oral Understanding Written Agreement Payment Received Pursuant to: Court Order CO-APPLICANT INFORMATION (First) Taxpayer ID Number (SSN/TIN) Name (Last) Date of Birth (MI) (Suffix) Street Address Driver's License/ID Number State Home Phone Number ZIP Code How Long There Age of Dependents City State County No. of Dependents Previous Address (if less than 2 years at current address) Employer Employer Address Employer Phone Number How Long Position Weekly Monthly Net Gross How Often Paid Average Monthly Overtime Pay \$ Previous Employer Previous Employer Addres How Long Nearest Relative Not Living with You Relationship ZIP Code Relative's Address City State Relative's Phone Number Immigration Status Perm. Resident of U.S. Other U.S. Citizen Separated Married Unmarried (including single, divorced, and widowed) Alimony, Child Support, Separate Maintenance Payments: You are not required to disclose income from alimony, child support, or separate maintenance payments. However, if you are relying on income from alimony, child support, or separate maintenance payments as a basis for repayment of this obligation, please complete the information below. Oral Understanding Court Order Payment Received Pursuant to: Written Agreement Child Support per Month \$ Alimony per Month \$ Separate Maintenance Payment per Month \$ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION • Source • Amount \$ Source Other Income: Co-Applicant If you, a joint applicant, or other party answers "yes" to any of the following questions, please explain in the space provided. Yes □ No Applicant: No Are you a guarantor or co-maker of any leases, contracts, or debts? Yes Joint Applicant/Other Party: No No Yes Applicant: Yes Joint Applicant/Other Party: Are there any suits or judgments pending against you?

Have you been declared bankrupt in the last 10 years?

Joint Applicant/Other Party:

Yes

Applicant:

No

Yes

CURRENT ASSETS												
Please attach additional sheet(s) if more space is required for the Curre				ent Assets section. OWNER NAME(S)				Taua			T	
	DESCRIPTION OF AS	SSETS		 	OWNER	R NAME(S)		SUBJECT	TO LIEN: YES/NO)	VALUE	
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Total Assets fi	rom Addendum											
TOTAL ASSE												
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	are all of the loans or deb			uding charge accou	unts, installm	ent contracts, credit		mortgages,	alimony, child	support, and sep	arate maintenance	
	-				•	the Outstanding Debt						
APPLICANT	column (Applicant Code) to i			ACCOUNT	tne Applicant	ORIGINAL	or Joint Appli	CURREN	- 	MONTHLY	Check box if to be	
CODE	NAME OF CREDIT	řOR		NUMBER		AMOUNT		BALANC		PAYMENTS	paid from proceeds	
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imprisonment any other pers	entional or negligent misreg or both under the provision son who may suffer any loss du Applicant or Cosigner	ons of Title 18, L	Jnited State	es Code, Section 1	1001, et seq. this application	, and liability for mor	netary damage r.					
3	11					71						
				C	REDITOR	USE ONLY						
Interest:	Fixed Simple	Variable Simp	ole	If Variable Interes	st Rate:	Floor Rate		%	Ceiling Rate		%	
	Interest Adjustments				Index							
Payments:	Monthly	Quarterly		ther, describe		-			First Paymen	t Duo:		
-									T ilist i ayınıen			
Billing:	Coupon Book	Billing Stateme	∌nt	Payroll Deduc	tion	Charge Account No	D.				DDA SAV	
Insurance:	Single Life Credit	Joint Life	Credit	Disability								
	APPLICANT	Г	CO	-APPLICANT		TOTAL						
Base Income	\$	\$			\$			All Monthl	y Payments	\$		
Other Income	\$	\$			\$			Total Obli	gations ÷ Inco	me	%	
Loan Approv	al (Indicate Conditions of L											
This application	on was taken by:	Face-to-Face In	terview	Mail	Tele	ephone In	ternet					
Date Applicati	on Received	Received	d By							Amount Request	ed	
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Date Applicati	ion Completed	Approved	d By							Amount Approve	d	
Rescindable? Yes	RESPA App	pplicable? Fund	ding Date							Initial Advance		
	ason(s) for Adverse Action Co	oncerning Credit			1 Heas ! !	Type of Cradit D	noos		Hackley M	wifu Cradit D. '	000	
No Cre		ices Provided				e Type of Credit Refere	11053		<u> </u>	erify Credit Referen erify Employment	ues	
Insufficient Number of Credit References Provided Poor Credit Performance With Us Unable to Verify Employment Temporary or Irregular Employment Unable to Verify Income												
Limited Credit Experience I emporary or Irregular Employment Unable to Verify Income Collection Action or Judgment Insufficient Length of Employment Unable to Verify Residence												
	hment or Attachment				1	come for Amount of Cr	edit Requested		<u></u>	e of Collateral Not	Sufficient	
Forecle	osure or Repossession				Excessive O	oligations in Relation to	Income		Unacceptabl	e Appraisal		
Delinquent Credit Obligations (past or present with others)					Temporary Residence			Unacceptabl	Unacceptable Leasehold Estate			
Bankruptcy					Insufficient L	ength of Residence				Grant Credit to Any s and Conditions Y		
	er of Recent Inquiries on Credit	Bureau Report							on the Term	o and Conditions Y	ou rrequest.	
	- Specify:											
Customer Ide Applicant/Co	entification Program (CIP) Resigner:	cord Information	(Describ	e Additional Data (Collected Purs	uant to Institution's C	IP)					
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Applica	ant/Cosigner Information Collec	cted and Verified in	Accordance	With CIP	(initial)							
Co-Applicant	· ·											
C	plicant Information Collected a	nd Varified in Ac	rdonoo M/:+-	CIP (initio	0							

HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT EARLY DISCLOSURE

Home Equity Line of Credit Agreement



In this disclosure the words "you" and "your" mean the recipient of this disclosure, and the words "we," "us" and "our" mean GNBank, N.A., the Lender listed above. "e" means an estimate.

IMPORTANT TERMS OF OUR HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT

RETENTION OF INFORMATION. This disclosure contains important information about our home equity line of credit, Home Equity Line of Credit ("Account"). You should read it carefully and keep a copy for your records.

AVAILABILITY OF TERMS. All of the terms described below are subject to change. If these terms change (other than the Annual Percentage Rate) and you decide, as a result, not to enter into an Agreement with us, you are entitled to a refund of any fees you paid to us or anyone else in connection with your application.

SECURITY INTEREST. We will take a security interest in your home (collateral). You could lose your home if you do not meet the obligations in your Agreement with us.

POSSIBLE ACTIONS. We can terminate your Account and require you to pay us the entire outstanding balance in one payment if: you engage in fraud or material misrepresentation in connection with the Account; or you do not meet the repayment terms; and/or your action or inaction adversely affects the collateral or our rights in the collateral.

We can refuse to make additional extensions of credit or reduce your credit limit if: the value of the dwelling securing the Account declines significantly below its appraised value for purposes of the Account; or we reasonably believe you will not be able to meet the repayment requirements due to a material change in your financial circumstances; or you are in default of a material obligation in the Agreement; or government action prevents us from imposing the Annual Percentage Rate provided for or impairs our security interest such that the value of the interest is less than 120 percent of the credit line; or a regulatory agency has notified us that continued advances would constitute an unsafe and unsound practice; and/or the maximum Annual Percentage Rate is reached. The initial Agreement permits us to make certain changes to the terms of the Agreement at specified times or upon the occurrence of specified events.

MINIMUM PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS. You can obtain advances of credit for 84 months (the "Draw Period"). During the Draw Period, payments will be due monthly. Your minimum periodic payment will be equal to the greater of 2.000% of the outstanding balance of your Account as of the closing date of each billing statement or \$25.00, unless your unpaid balance is less than the latter amount, in which case your minimum payment will be that amount.

BALLOON PAYMENT. After the Draw Period ends, you will no longer be able to obtain credit advances. Paying only your minimum payment may repay less than the outstanding balance at the end of the Draw Period. You will be required to pay the entire unpaid balance that you owe and any outstanding fees or charges at the end of the Draw Period in a single balloon payment.

MINIMUM-PAYMENT EXAMPLE. If you made only the minimum monthly payments and took no other credit advances, it would take 7 years to pay off a credit advance of \$10,000.00 at an ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE of 9.500%. During the Draw Period, you would make 84 monthly payments varying between \$201.58 and \$72.52. This would be followed by one final payment of \$3,581.67.

FEES AND CHARGES. To open and maintain your Account, you must carry insurance on the property securing your Account.

You must also pay certain fees to third parties. These fees generally total between \$257.18 and \$909.38. The following are the third party fees you must pay:

Appraisal \$550.00 e

If you tell us you have decided not to enter into the Account within three business days of receiving this Disclosure and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau brochure "What You Should Know About Home Equity Lines of Credit" in person, or within six business days after the day we mail them to you, as the case might be, any fees or charges you might have already paid will be refunded.

TAX DEDUCTIBILITY. You should consult a tax advisor regarding the deductibility of interest and charges for the Account.

VARIABLE RATE FEATURE. The Account has a variable rate feature. The Annual Percentage Rate (corresponding to the periodic rate) and the minimum payment can change as a result. This Annual Percentage Rate does not include costs other than interest. The Annual Percentage Rate is based on the value of an index. The index is the Wall Street Journal published Prime Rate ("Index") (if published in a range, the highest number in the range will be used) and is published in the Wall Street Journal. To determine the Annual Percentage Rate that will apply to your Account, we add a margin to the value of the index. Ask us for the current index value, margin and Annual Percentage Rate. After you open an Account, rate information will be provided on periodic statements that we furnish to you.

RATE CHANGES. The Annual Percentage Rate can change annually. The maximum ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE that can apply is 18.000%. Apart from this rate cap, there is no limit on the amount by which the rate can change in any one-year period, except that under no circumstances will the rate ever be less than 4.500% per annum.

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MAXIMUM-RATE AND PAYMENT EXAMPLE. If the ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE equaled the 18.000% maximum and you had an outstanding balance of \$10,000.00, your minimum payment would be \$203.00. The maximum Annual Percentage Rate could be reached the first time your Annual Percentage Rate changes, unless your initial rate is equal to the maximum, in which case it would be reached immediately.

HISTORICAL EXAMPLE. The following table shows how the Annual Percentage Rate and the minimum payments for a single \$10,000.00 credit advance would have changed based on changes in the index over the past 15 years. The index values are from the rate in effect as of the first business day of January of each year. While only one payment amount per year is shown, payments would have varied during each year of the Draw Period. The table assumes that no additional credit advances were taken, that only the minimum payments were made, and that the rate remained constant during each year. It does not necessarily indicate how the index or your payments will change in the future.

g cuest y curt	Traces not necessarily in			
Year	Index	Margin*	ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE	Minimum Periodic Payment
2011	3.250%	2.000%	5.250%	\$200.88
2012	3.250%	2.000%	5.250%	\$166.11
2013	3.250%	2.000%	5.250%	\$137.36
2014	3.250%	2.000%	5.250%	\$113.58
2015	3.250%	2.000%	5.250%	\$93.92
2016	3.500%	2.000%	5.500%	\$77.68
2017	3.750%	2.000%	5.750%	\$64.41 1/ -
2018	4.500%	2.000%	6.500%	\$0.00
2019	5.500%	2.000%	7.500%	\$0.00
2020	4.750%	2.000%	6.750%	\$0.00
2021	3.250%	2.000%	5.250%	\$0.00
2022	3.250%	2.000%	5.250%	\$0.00
2023	7.500%	2.000%	9.500%	\$0.00
2024	8.500%	2.000%	10.500%	\$0.00
2025	7.500%	2.000%	9.500%	\$0.00

^{*} This is a margin we have used recently.

LATE PAYMENT. If the Minimum Monthly Payment is more than 10 days late, Lender will impose a late charge of the unpaid amount of payment or \$25.00. In addition, Lender may, but is not required to, make an Advance on your behalf to pay the Minimum Monthly Payment past due and all late charges.

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^{1/} Draw period ends on the 84th month.

APPRAISAL NOTICE

Dear Applicant:	
We may order an appraisal to determine the property's value and charge you for this appraisance will promptly give you a copy of any appraisal, even if your loan does not close.	al
ou can pay for an additional appraisal for your own use at your own cost.	
By signing below, you acknowledge receipt of this Appraisal Notice.	
Applicant:	
Date:	
Applicant:	
Date:	



Email Information Disclosure

Borrower's name
Co-Borrower's name
Please provide an email addresses to which we can send your loan documents.
Borrower's email
Co Borrower's email
GNB will email you an Electronic Consent Agreement to the email address listed above. It is your responsibility to reply to this email in order to receive your documents electronically. If you do not reply all documents will be mailed through the US Postal Service and your loan closing could be delayed.
For Internal Use Only
Date ECA emailed
Date approval received (borrower)
Date approval received (co horrower)

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

Home Equity Lines of Credit (HELOC)

Borrowing from the value of your home





An official publication of the U.S. government

How to use the booklet

When you and your lender discuss home equity lines of credit, often referred to as HELOCs, you receive a copy of this booklet. It helps you explore and understand your options when borrowing against the equity in your home.

You can find more information from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) about home loans at **cfpb.gov/mortgages**. You'll also find other mortgage-related CFPB resources, facts, and tools to help you take control of your borrowing options.

About the CFPB

The CFPB is a 21st century agency that implements and enforces federal consumer financial law and ensures that markets for consumer financial products are fair, transparent, and competitive.

This pamphlet, titled What you should know about home equity lines of credit, was created to comply with federal law pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1637a(e) and 12 CFR 1026.40(e).

How can this booklet help you?

This booklet can help you decide whether home equity line of credit is the right choice for you, and help you shop for the best available option.

A home equity line of credit (HELOC) is a loan that allows you to borrow, spend, and repay as you go, using your home as collateral.

Typically, you can borrow up to a specified percentage of your equity. Equity is the value of your home minus the amount you owe on your mortgage.

Consider a HELOC if you are confident you can keep up with the loan payments. If you fall behind or can't repay the loan on schedule, you could lose your home.

After you finish this booklet:

- You'll understand the effect of borrowing against your home
- You'll think through your borrowing and financing options, besides a HELOC
- You'll see how to shop for your best HELOC offer
- You'll see what to do if the economy or your situation changes

Compare a HELOC to other money sources

Before you decide to take out a HELOC, it might make sense to consider other options that might be available to you, like the ones below. TIP

Renting your home out to other people may be prohibited under the terms of your line of credit.

MONEY SOURCE	HOW MUCH CAN YOU BORROW	VARIABLE OR FIXED RATE	IS YOUR HOME AT RISK?	TYPICAL ADVANTAGES	TYPICAL DISADVANTAGES
HELOC You borrow against the equity in your home	Generally a percentage of the appraised value of your home, minus the amount you owe on your mortgage	Variable. typically	Yes	Continue repaying and borrowing for several years without additional approvals or paperwork	Repayment amount varies; repayment is often required when you sell your home
SECOND MORTGAGE OR HOME EQUITY LOAN You borrow against the equity in your home	Generally a percentage of the appraised value of your home, minus the amount you owe on your mortgage	Fixed	Yes	Equal payments that pay off the entire loan	If you need more money, you need to apply for a new loan; repayment is often required when you sell your home
CASH-OUT REFINANCE You replace your existing mortgage with a bigger mortgage and take the difference in cash	Generally a percentage of the appraised value of your home; the amount of your existing loan plus the amount you want to cash out	Variable or fixed	Yes	Continue to make just one mortgage payment	Closing costs are generally higher; it may take longer to pay off your mortgage; interest rate may be higher than your current mortgage
PERSONAL LINE OF CREDIT You borrow based on your credit, without using your home as collateral	Up to your credit limit, as determined by the lender	Variable, typically	No	Continue repaying and borrowing for several years without additional approvals or paperwork	Solid credit is required; you may need to pay the entire amount due once a year; higher interest rate than a loan that uses your home as collateral

Compare a HELOC to other money sources

MONEY SOURCE	HOW MUCH CAN YOU BORROW	VARIABLE OR FIXED RATE	IS YOUR HOME AT RISK?	TYPICAL ADVANTAGES	TYPICAL DISADVANTAGES	
RETIREMENT PLAN LOAN You borrow from your retirement savings in a 401(k) or similar plan through your current employer	Generally, up to 50% of your vested balance or \$50,000, whichever is l ess	Fixed	No	Repay through paycheck deductions; paperwork required but no credit check and no impact on your credit score	If you leave or lose your job, repay the whole amount at that time or pay taxes and penalties; spouse may need to consent	
HOME EQUITY CONVERSION MORTGAGE (HECM) You must be age 62 or older, and you borrow against the equity in your home	Depends on your age, the interest rate on your loan, and the value of your home	Fixed or variable	Yes	You don't make monthly loan payments— instead, you typically repay the loan when you move out, or your survivors repay it after you die	The amount you owe grows over time; you might not have any value left in your home if you want to leave it to your heirs	
CREDIT CARD You borrow money from the credit card company and repay as you go	Up to the amount of your credit limit, as determined by the credit card company	Fixed or variable	No	No minimum purchase; consumer protections in the case of fraud or lost or stolen card	Higher interest rate than a loan that uses your home as collateral	
FRIENDS AND FAMILY You borrow money from someone you are close to	Agreed on by the borrower and lender	Variable, fixed or other	No	Reduced waiting time, fees, and paperwork compared to a formal loan	Forgiven loans and unreported or forgiven interest can complicate taxes, especially for large loans; can jeopardize important personal relationships if something goes wrong	

How HELOCs work

PREPARE FOR UP-FRONT COSTS

Some lenders waive some or all of the up-front costs for a HELOC. Others may charge fees. For example, you might get charged:

- A fee for a property appraisal, which is a formal estimate of the value of your home
- An application fee, which might not be refunded if you are turned down
- Closing costs, including fees for attorneys, title search, mortgage preparation and filing, property and title insurance, and taxes

PULL MONEY FROM YOUR LINE OF CREDIT

Once approved for a HELOC, you can generally spend up to your credit limit whenever you want. When your line of credit is open for spending, you are in the you are in the borrowing period, also called the draw period. Typically, you use special checks or a credit card to draw on your line. Some plans require you to borrow a minimum amount each time (for example, \$300) or keep a minimum amount outstanding. Some plans require you to take an initial amount when the credit line is set up.

MAKE REPAYMENTS DURING THE "DRAW PERIOD"

Some plans set a minimum monthly payment that includes a portion of the **principal** (the amount you borrow) plus accrued interest. The portion of your payment that goes toward principal typically does not repay the principal by the end of the term. Other plans may allow payment of the interest only, during the draw period, which means that you pay nothing toward the principal.

If your plan has a variable interest rate, your monthly payments may change even if you don't draw more money.

ENTER THE "REPAYMENT PERIOD"

Whatever your payment arrangements during the draw period—whether you pay some, a little, or none of the principal amount of the loan—when the draw period ends you enter a repayment period. Your lender may set a schedule so that you repay the full amount, often over ten or 15 years.

Or, you may have to pay the entire balance owed, all at once, which might be a large amount called a balloon payment. You must be prepared to make this balloon payment by refinancing it with the lender, getting a loan from another lender, or some other means. If you are unable to pay the balloon payment in full, you could lose your home.

RENEW OR CLOSE OUT THE LINE OF CREDIT

At the end of the repayment period, your lender might encourage you to leave the line of credit open. This way you don't have to go through the cost and expense of a new loan, if you expect to borrow again. Be sure you understand if annual maintenance fees or other fees apply, even if you are not actively using the credit line.

TIP

If you sell your home, you are generally required to pay off your HELOC in full immediately. If you are likely to sell your home in the near future, consider whether or not to pay the up-front costs of setting up a line of credit.

features, so you can feel confident you're making the best choice for your situation.		OFFER A	OFFER B
Initiating the HELOC			
Credit limit	\$		
First transaction	\$		
Minimum transaction	\$		
Minimum balance			
Fixed annual percentage rate	%		
Variable annual percentage rate	%		
» Index used and current value			
» Amount of margin			
» Frequency of rate adjustments			
» Amount/length of discount rate (if any)			
» Interest rate cap and floor			

»	Draw period	

» Repayment period

Initial fees

»	Appraisal fee	\$	
»	Application fee	\$	

8 HOME EQUITY LINES OF CREDIT

GET THREE HELOC ESTIMATES 9

OFFER C

	GET THREE HELOC ESTIMATES Shopping around lets you compare costs and features, so you can feel confident you're making the best choice for your situation.	OFFER A	OFFER B	OFFER C	
»	Up-front charges, including points	\$			
»	Early termination fee	\$			
»	Closing costs				
Duri	ng the draw period				
»	Interest and principal payments	\$			
»	Interest-only payments?	\$			
»	Fully amortizing payments	\$			
»	Annual fee (if applicable)	\$			
»	Transaction fee (if applicable)	\$			
»	Inactivity fee	\$			
»	Prepayment and other penalty fees	\$			
Duri	ng the repayment period				
»	Penalty for overpayments?				
»	Fully amortizing payment amount?				
»	Balloon repayment of full balance owed?				
»	Renewal available?				
»	Refinancing of balance by lender?				
»	Conversion to fixed-term loan?				

10 HOME EQUITY LINES OF CREDIT

My best HELOC offer is:

How variable interest rates work

Home equity lines of credit typically involve variable rather than fixed interest rates.

A variable interest rate generally has two parts: the index and the margin.

An **index** is a measure of interest rates generally that reflects trends in the overall economy Different lenders use different indexes in their loans. Common indexes include the U.S. prime rate and the Constant Maturity Treasury (CMT) rate. Talk with your lender to find out more about the index they use.

The margin is an extra percentage that the lender adds to the index.

Lenders sometimes offer a temporarily discounted interest rate for home equity lines—an introductory or teaser rate that is unusually low for a short period, such as six months.

Rights and responsibilities

Lenders are required to disclose the terms and costs of their home equity lines of credit. They need to tell you:

- Annual percentage rate (APR)
- Information about variable rates
- Payment terms
- Requirements on transactions, such as minimum draw amounts and number of draws allowed per year

- Annual fees
- Miscellaneous charges

You usually get these disclosures when you receive a loan application, and you get additional disclosures before the line of credit is opened. In general, the lender cannot charge a nonrefundable fee as part of your application until three days after you have received the disclosures.

If the lender changes the terms before the loan is made, you can decide not to go forward with it, and the lender must return all fees. There is one exception: the variable interest rate might change, and in that case if you decide not to go ahead with the loan, your fees are not refunded.

Lenders must give you a list of HUD-approved housing counselors in your area. You can talk to counselor about how HELOCs work and get free or low-cost help with budgeting and money management.

Right to cancel (also called right to rescind)

If you change your mind for any reason, under federal law, you can cancel the credit line in the first three days. Notify the lender in writing within the first three days after the account was opened. The lender must then cancel the loan and return the fees you paid, including application and appraisal fees.

TIP

Some HELOCs let you convert some of your balance to a fixed interest rate. The fixed interest rate is typically higher than the variable rate, but it means more predictable payments.

If something changes during the course of the loan

HELOCs generally permit the lender to freeze or reduce your credit line if the value of your home falls or if they see a change for the worse in your financial situation. If this happens, you can:

- Talk with your lender. Find out the reason for the freeze or reduction. You might need to check your credit reports for errors that might have caused a downgrade in your credit. Or, you might need to talk with your lender about a new appraisal on your home and make sure the lender agrees to accept a new appraisal as valid.
- Shop for another line of credit. If another lender offers you a line of credit, you may be able to use that to pay off your original line of credit. Application fees and other fees may apply for the new loan.



WELL DONE!

For most people, a home is their most valuable asset. A HELOC can help you make the most of this asset, when you understand the ins and outs and know what to expect.

14 HOME EQUITY LINES OF CREDIT HOW HELOCS WORK 15

In this booklet:

? ASK YOURSELF

Have I considered other sources of money and loans, besides a HELOC?

Have I shopped around for HELOC features and fees?

Am I comfortable with the worst-case scenario, where I could lose my home?



CFPB website cfpb.gov

Answers to common questions cfpb.gov/askcfpb

Tools and resources for home buyers cfpb.gov/owning-a-home

Talk to a HUD-approved housing counselor cfpb.gov/find-a-housing-counselor

Submit a complaint cfpb.gov/complaint