



United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Development

TO: State Directors
Rural Development

APR 04 2011

ATTN: Program Directors
Single Family Housing

FROM: Chad Parker
Acting Deputy Administrator
Single Family Housing

SUBJECT: On-Line Homeownership Education

On March 24, 2010, an unnumbered letter was published regarding eHome America being nationally approved as an online homeownership education provider for the Section 502 Direct Loan Program. It has been determined that the online course offered by eHome America continues to meet the Agency's needs as a provider for on-line homeowner education.

Since this course includes an online assistance feature and a personal counseling session, it also meets the intent of the Handbook preference for classroom or one-on-one training. As such, it may be included on the State's list of approved local homeowner education providers.

Customers who are interested in taking this particular course should be referred to the local non-profit agency for the area if one exists in the local area. If there is not a local organization serving the area where the customer resides, the customer may take the course online directly through eHome America. To find participating organizations affiliated with eHome America's course, visit eHome America's website at www.eHomeAmerica.org.

Although the Agency has approved eHome America as an online homeownership education provider, we are not an affiliate of eHome America or the course itself. As such, we are not in a position to provide technical assistance to customers regarding course instruction and/or procedures. **Field Office staff should not refer customers to the National Office for instructions on how to utilize the course.** Applicants should be referred to either the eHome America website or their technical support line at 1-800-299-0267.

EXPIRATION DATE:
March 31, 2012

FILING INSTRUCTIONS
Housing Programs

1400 Independence Ave. S.W. · Washington DC 20250-0700
Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

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1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (Voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

It is important to note that the agency does not have a preference regarding classroom training and or the eHome online course. This unnumbered letter should not be construed as a requirement to take any one particular course over the other. Both methods will be accepted.

Field and State Office staff should continue to familiarize themselves with the eHome course. To help assist field staff, a Frequently Asked Questions document, along with other eHome America information has been posted to SharePoint at the following path:

Single Family Housing > Single Family Housing Information > Direct Program Information > National Office Approved On-line Homeownership Education Providers

Field and State office staff that have questions regarding online homeownership education, should contact the National Office Single Family Housing staff by sending an email to: SFHDIRECTPROGRAM@WDC.USDA.GOV .

Sent by Electronic Mail on 4/04/11 at 10:15 a.m. by Single Family Housing Direct Loan Division.