







## Who are the players in the Credit World

- The Data Furnisher
- The Consumer
- The Credit Bureaus
   (Consumer Reporting Agencies)
- The User

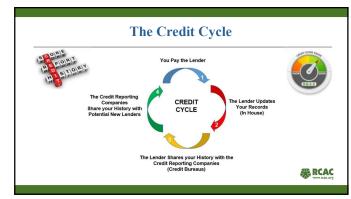


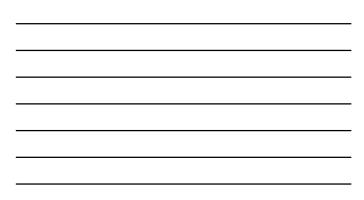
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## **FICO® Score Facts**

- The Fair Isaac Corporation, better known as FICO®, has MANY SCORE MODELS
- A 2012 report from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) puts the number of FICO<sup>®</sup> scores at 49
- The  $\rm FICO^{\otimes}$  8 model is the most widely used scoring model for general lending
- + For mortgage loans, lenders may use different versions, such as FICO  $^{\circ}$  2, FICO  $^{\circ}$  4, or FICO  $^{\circ}$  5
- + Car loan issuers can use the same options:  $FICO^{\otimes}$  2,  $FICO^{\otimes}$  4,  $FICO^{\otimes}$  5, or  $FICO^{\otimes}$  8
- In 2020 FICO  $^{\otimes}$  released two new credit scores: the "FICO  $^{\otimes}$  10" and "FICO  $^{\otimes}$  10T"









## **Credit Score Calculations**

## Payment History 35%

- Identifies if credit accounts have been paid on time
- Includes the payment history of all revolving and installment debt
- Includes public record and collection items and details on late or missed payments
- Calculates how many accounts show NO late payments
- Total Debt Utilization 30% (Amounts Owed)

  Revolving accounts only
  - Takes into consideration the amount that is owed (balance) versus the maximum amount that can be borrowed (credit limit)
  - Credit score is maximized by keeping revolving account balances less than 30% of the total credit limit
     The recommendation is to keep the

balance at less than 10% of the limit



Le	ngth of Credit History 15%	Ne	ew Credit 10%		ccount Diversity 10% ypes of Credit in Use
•	How long credit accounts have been opened	•	How many accounts are new When was the last time a new	·	Revolving Credit Cards Home Equity Line of
•	The age of the oldest account The average age of ALL the accounts		account was opened How many times new credit has been requested		Credit     Personal Line of Credit
•	How long specific credit accounts have been opened		How long since inquiries were made, by lenders and consumers	•	Installment <ul> <li>Mortgage</li> <li>Student Debt</li> </ul>
•	How long it has been since the used of certain accounts use		If after past payment problems, has been a good recent payment history		<ul> <li>Car Payments</li> <li>Personal Loans</li> </ul>

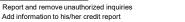


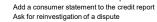
## **Consumer Rights**

## Several Laws Protect Consumer Rights

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), enforces federal consumer protection laws that prevent fraud, deception, fraudulent and unfair business practices

## A consumer has the right to:





- Ask about why is not getting a response from a request for information
- Dispute any inaccurate information



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# How Long do Negative Items Stay on the CR

Types of Negative Information	Maximum Time on the Credit Report
Charge-Off & Collection Accounts	7 years from the date it became delinquent
General Civil Judgment	7 years from the filing date
City, County, State & Federal Tax Liens	7 years from the date paid off (if not paid it may remain in the credit report indefinitely)
Chapter 7, 11 & 12	10 years from the filing date Accounts included in bankruptcy (BK) will remain 7 years from the date they were reported as included in the BK or from the original delinquency date
Chapter 13	7 years from the filing date Accounts included in bankruptcy will remain 7 years from the date they were reported as included in the bankruptcy or from the original delinquency date

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## **Credit Dispute Process**

- Credit Dispute Process: Credit Bureaus utilize the E-OSCAR system to read/review disputes. \*\* Always mail dispute letters via certified mail \*\* • If possible, hand write the despite letter, this can help to have a human read and review the dispute.
- Always dispute based on the law, and include a reference to it and the request letter
- (e.g., FCRA § 611 15 U.S.C. § 1681I referrers to inaccurate reporting)
- (e.g., FCRA § 605B 15 U.S.C. & 1681 c-2 states that an account involved in Identity theft must be
- removed within four business days of receipt of the request)

(e.g., 5 U.S.C. § 552e(i)(3), states that any agency that fails to maintain any record with accuracy, relevance, timeliness, and completeness as is necessary to guarantee fairness in any determination shall not use such record

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## **Credit Dispute Process**

- The Credit agencies created an online dispute system called eOSCAR (electronic Online Solutions for Complete Accurate Reporting) that can be used to dispute Items on the credit report
- Credit is a game; to win we must know the rules of the game; many people are losing the credit game because nobody ever taught them how to play it. The credit agencies, every creditor, and collection company in the country know these rules
- · Write dispute letters and mail using certified mail
- Do not send them personal information: (SS#, DOB, Phone Number, Etc.)
  - They can use this information to verify the account, they should have this information if the account is legit, is their responsibility to prove to you that you owe the amount

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# Credit Dispute Process Dispute Credit Report

## Dispute Credit Report Inaccuracies Inaccuracy samples:

- Charge Off remarks dated after the account was closed
- A debt collector fails to identify the original creditor
- A collection should not report/show a late payment, it is by default late
   A collection shows "Open" status
- A collection or Charge Off should not report/show a past-due amount
- Late payments are listed with different amounts
- Last activity listed with different dates
- Last Payment listed with different dates

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## **Credit Improvement Tips**

- Freezing the Secondary CR before disputing will help during a dispute process
- Keep the Primary and Secondary CRs when not looking for credit (unfreeze before applying for credit and keep it accessible for an adequate time frame)
- Pay attention to the Statement Date: This is typically when the creditor reports to the Credit Agencies, your activity for the month
- Pay attention to the **Due Date**: This is typically when the creditor requires you to make the monthly payment

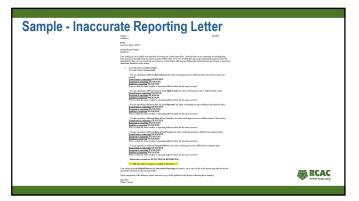


## **Credit Dispute Web Addresses to Dispute**

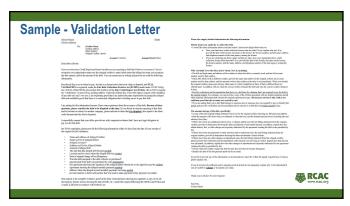
- . TransUnion: https://www.transunion.com/credit-disputes/dispute-your-credit
- . Equifax: https://www.equifax.com/personal/disputes
- . Experian: https://www.experian.com/disputes/main.html



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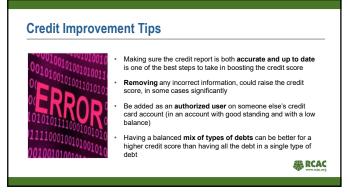


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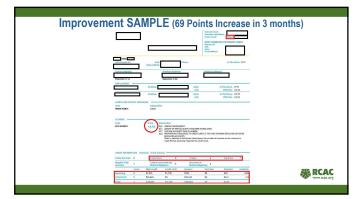


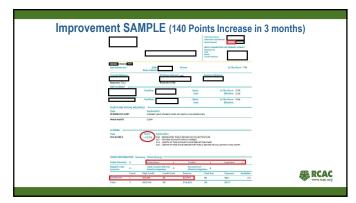


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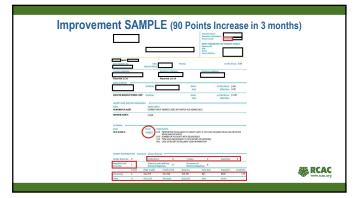


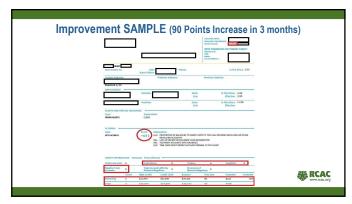
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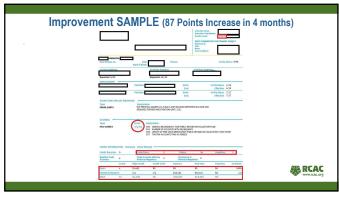


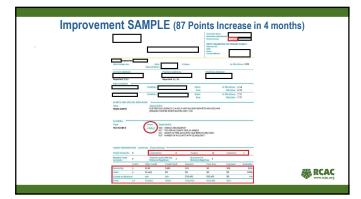
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#### **Credit Do's and Don'ts** Do... Don't... · dispute inaccurate information on · ignore credit reports credit reports (errors and negative) apply for too much credit during a short period of time avoid unnecessary credit • • pay bills late inquiries · pay down credit card balances before installment debt · become an authorized user be wary of anyone who claims that can "fix" credit 40

Credit – Do's and Don'ts (Cont.)
Do...

keep the oldest account open
open a self-lender loan
get a Secure Credit Card
send all disputes/requests in writing via certified mail
use the same name when you apply for credit. Don't leave out middle initials or "Jr."

Don't...

fall for a credit repair scheme. Why pay for something that can be done by yourself for free? Be patient
stop using credit cards

Do	Don't
<ul> <li>review bill statements and pay them on time every month and set up either auto-pay or bill payment reminders</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>"max out" your cards, keep the balance at less than 30% of the available limit (3% to 6% is best)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>keep credit cards secure. Always have the card issuer's phone number available in case the card is lost or stolen</li> </ul>	ignore the warning signs of credit trouble
<ul> <li>have rent, utility, and service payments reported to a self- reporting system</li> </ul>	

## **Credit Improvement Tips**

Create a Budget, this will help clarify the actual monthly amount received and will help to allocate it to pay for expenses and bill payments, it will also help when tempted to use a credit card, and limit the credit utilization

Take responsibility, the result of doing so is immeasurable, it will liberate the mind and allow it to accept recommendations in a completely different manner and achieve the desired outcome

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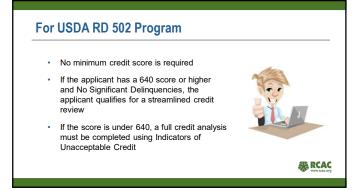
## **RD's Credit Review**

- Tri Merge Credit Report (TMCR) for ALL note signers
- For Community Property States Only Non-Purchasing Spouse (NPS) Considerations:
  - NPS (Non-Purchasing Spouse) must provide a copy of their credit report
    Obligations must be considered in the Total Debt
  - Obligations must be considered in the Total Debt (TD) ratio Judgements of a non-purchasing spouse must be paid in full unless an exception is granted by the Loan Approval Official
- be

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- Review credit inquiries and confirm whether the applicant has obtained credit that is not yet reflected on the report
- Highlight any other areas of concern and develop a list of questions or issues that need clarification from the applicant



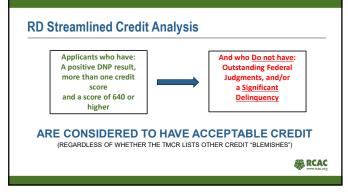
## For RD - Which Credit Score to Use?

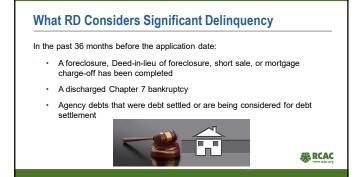
- If 3 scores <u>use the middle score</u>
- If 2 scores <u>use the lowest score</u>
- If 1 score or 0 is reported
  - <u>a full/manual credit analysis must be completed</u>
     <u>obtain alternate credit verifications if needed</u>\*

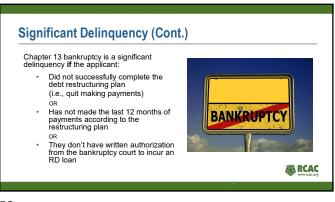


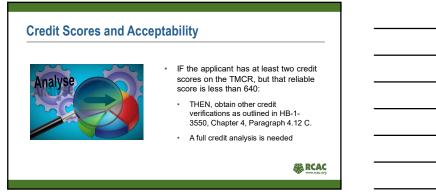
\*alternate credit cannot be used to offset derogatory credit

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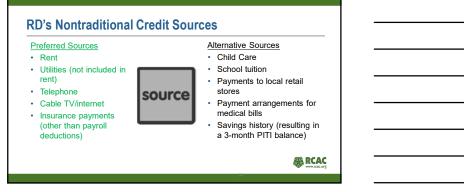










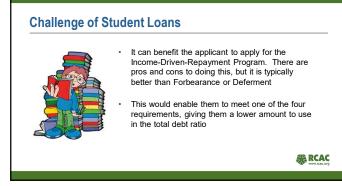


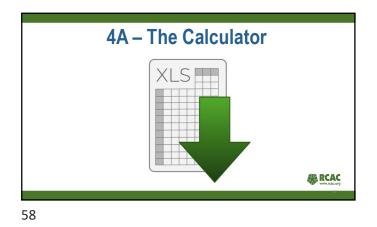
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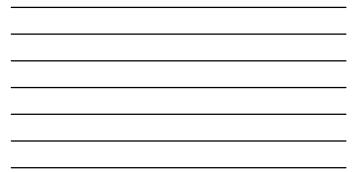
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# Credit - Student Loans

- Can be a Long-Term Challenge
- If Deferred or in Forbearance RD uses the higher of:
   Monthly payment as shown on TMCR or
  - .50% of the loan balance(s)
- · If in Repayment use the actual payment -
  - If all 4 criteria below are met:
    - Loan is in repayment status
    - Credit Score is 640 or higherNo indicators of Significant Delinquency
    - Payment Shock of 100% or less
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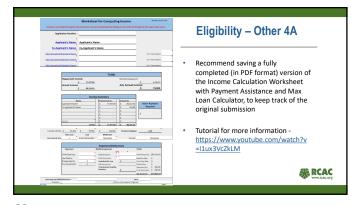


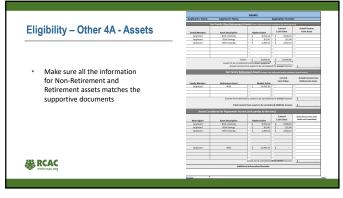
You can Find the Most Updated Worksheet for Computing Income and Max Loan Calculator using the link below

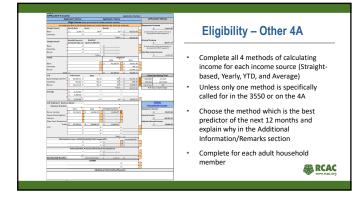
https://www.rd.usda.gov/programsservices/services/direct-loan-application-packagers

Watch the automated calculator tutorial using the link below

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I1ux3VcZkLM







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# Eligibility – Other 4A

- If the applicant(s) have both wage income and is self-employed make sure to complete all methods
- If the applicant(s) has only self-employment income, not need to complete the other methods
- For Seasonal workers, can complete only the YTD/Average method (make sure this is clearly explained in the narrative)





