

Since 1917



*Building Friends,
Families and Futures*

PLAN AHEAD CHECKLIST

- Copy of Driver's license
- Copy of fully signed purchase contract, if applicable
- Name of homeowner's Insurance Agent and phone number(s)

Income:

- 1 month consecutive paystubs showing Year To Date income
- 2 years W-2's/1099's/K-1's
- Most recent Federal Tax Return
- Social Security Award Letter
- Pension Distribution documentation (showing monthly income) if applicable

Assets/Funds for closing:

- 2 months' bank statements, all pages.
- Most recent stock/retirement account statement(s)
- Copy of sales contract on pending sale

Credit:

- Letter of Explanation for any known credit blemishes
- Copies of statements for accounts to be paid off through loan

If Applicable:

- 2 years tax returns (all schedules/pages) if filing a schedule C, E, or F or if you have Social Security, disability, dividend, or interest income.
- Copy of extension, if applicable
- Copy of divorce decree
- Copy of Bankruptcy papers and discharge
- Rent Schedules & Real Estate Owned List (include leases)
- Self-employed or Ownership of 25% or more
Last 2 years corporate or partnership returns



BANK * 236 N. Main * Ottawa, KS 66067-0720 * 785-242-3600 * Fax 785-242-4114 *

www.MyKansasStateBank.Com



Kansas State Bank Home Equity Loan Application

TYPE OF ACCOUNT REQUESTED

Check one to indicate the type of account you are requesting. Note: Married applicants may apply for separate accounts.

- Joint Account
 Individual Account - Relying solely on my income and assets.
 Individual Account - Relying on my income and assets and as well as income or assets of another.

TERMS REQUESTED

Amount \$	Interest Rate %	Type of Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Home Equity Line of Credit	
No. of Months	Payment / Month	Purpose <input type="checkbox"/> Home Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Pay Debt: <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

COLLATERAL PROPERTY

Address	Year Built	Date Purchased	Present Value	Balance Owing
Title in Name(s) of:		Address of Title Holder		Name and Address of Insurance Carrier
Mortgage Holder				
Name	Address	Phone No.	Acct. No.	

INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name	Birthdate	Social Security No.		
Address (Street, City, State, Zip)		County	Drivers License No.	
Home Phone	Business Phone	No. of Dependents	Ages of Dependents	
Employer/Self Employed	Position	Years Employed	Employer's Address	
Wages, Salary, Commissions Gross \$ /month			How Often Paid	
Previous Employer	Position	Years Employed	Previous Employer's Address	
Name and Address of Applicant's Nearest Relative				Relationship

Alimony, child support, or separate maintenance income need not be revealed if you do not wish to have it considered. Alimony, child support, separate maintenance received pursuant to: Court Order Written Agreement Oral Understanding.

Other Income: Source _____ Amount/Month _____
 Marital Status Married Separated Unmarried (includes single, divorced and widowed)

JOINT APPLICANT OR OTHER PARTY INFORMATION

Provide the information in this section for a joint applicant or other party, if any.

Name	Birthdate	Social Security No.		
Address (Street, City, State, Zip)		County	Drivers License No.	
Home Phone	Business Phone	No. of Dependents	Ages of Dependents	
Employer/Self Employed	Position	Years Employed	Employer's Address	
Wages, Salary, Commissions Gross \$ /month			How Often Paid	
Previous Employer	Position	Years Employed	Previous Employer's Address	
Name and Address of Joint Applicant's or Other Party's Nearest Relative				Relationship

Alimony, child support, or separate maintenance income need not be revealed if you do not wish to have it considered. Alimony, child support, separate maintenance received pursuant to: Court Order Written Agreement Oral Understanding.

Other Income: Source _____ Amount/Month _____
 Marital Status Married Legally Separated Unmarried (includes single, divorced and widowed)

GENERAL INFORMATION

If you or a joint applicant or other party answers "yes" to any of the following questions, please explain in the space provided.

Are you a guarantor or co-maker of any leases, contracts or debts? Applicant: Yes No Joint Applicant/Other Party: Yes No

Are there any suits or judgments pending against you? Applicant: Yes No Joint Applicant/Other Party: Yes No
 (Include amount) _____

Have you been declared bankrupt in the last 10 years? Applicant: Yes No Joint Applicant/Other Party: Yes No

PREVIOUS CREDIT REFERENCES

Describe any previous debt obligations. Please mark Applicant-related information with an "A".

1. _____	\$ _____	Date Paid _____
2. _____	\$ _____	Date Paid _____

ASSET AND DEBT INFORMATION

If "Joint Applicant or Other Party Information" section was completed above, this section should be completed giving information about both the Applicant and the Joint Applicant or Other Party. **Attach additional sheets if necessary.**

ASSETS

DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT ASSETS	NAME(S) OF OWNER(S)	SUBJECT TO DEBT: YES/NO	VALUE
Checking Accounts (Institution, Acct. No.)			\$
Savings Accounts (Institution, Acct. No.)			
Automobiles (Make, Model, Year)			
Marketable Securities (Issuer, Type, No. of Shares)			
Life Insurance Cash Value (Issuer)			
Other Real Estate (Location, when acquired)			
Other Assets (Describe)			
Total Assets			\$

OUTSTANDING DEBTS (Include all charge accounts, installment contracts, credit cards, rents, mortgages and other obligations.)

CREDITOR	ACCOUNT NUMBER	NAMES IN WHICH THE ACCOUNT IS CARRIED	ORIGINAL AMOUNT	PRESENT BALANCE	MONTHLY PAYMENTS
Auto Loans					
Credit or Charge Cards					
Landlord or Mortgage Holder on other Real Estate					
Other					
TOTAL DEBTS			\$	\$	\$

NOTICE - JOINT CREDIT:

We intend to apply for joint credit. (Initials) _____

I certify that everything I have stated in this application and on any attachments is correct. You may keep this application whether or not it is approved. By signing below, I authorize you to check my credit and employment history, to have a consumer credit report prepared on me for the purpose of evaluating this application for credit, and to answer questions others may ask you about my credit record with you. I understand that I must update this credit information at your request and if my financial condition changes.

I acknowledge receipt of the Home Equity Brochure and the lender's Home Equity disclosure statement on today's date.

Applicant _____ Date _____ Joint-Applicant _____ Date _____



CREDITOR USE ONLY

This application was taken by: <input type="checkbox"/> face-to-face interview <input type="checkbox"/> mail <input type="checkbox"/> telephone.		
Date Application Received:	Received By:	Amount Requested \$
Date Application Completed:	Approved By: _____ / _____	Amount Approved \$
Rescindable? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No RESPA Applicable? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Funding Date:	Initial Advance \$

IMPORTANT APPLICANT INFORMATION: Federal law requires financial institutions to obtain sufficient information to verify your identity. You may be asked several questions and to provide one or more forms of identification to fulfill this requirement. In some instances we may use outside sources to confirm the information. The information you provide is protected by our privacy policy and federal law.

The Kansas State Bank—236 N. Main St., Ottawa, KS 66067 & 602 Ames, Baldwin City, KS 66006

WHAT DOES KANSAS STATE BANK (KSB) DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?

Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives consumers the right to limit some, but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share and protect your personal information. Please read this notice carefully to understand what we do.

The types of personal information we collect and share depend on the product or service you have with us. This information can include:

- Social security number and income;
- Account balances and payment history; and
- Credit history and credit scores.

When you are no longer our customer, we continue to share your information as described in this notice.

All financial companies need to share customers' personal information to run their everyday business. In the following section we list the reasons financial companies can share their customers' personal information; the reasons Kansas State Bank chooses to share; and whether you may limit this sharing.

Reasons we may share your personal information:

- **For our everyday business purposes**—such as to process your transactions, maintain your account(s), respond to court orders and legal investigations or to report to credit bureaus.
Does KSB share? -Yes
Can you limit this sharing? -No
- **For our marketing purposes**—to offer our products and services to you.
Does KSB share? -No
Can you limit this sharing? -N/A
- **For joint marketing with other financial companies.**
Does KSB share? -No
Can you limit this sharing? -N/A
- **For our affiliates' everyday business purposes**—information about your transactions, experiences and creditworthiness.
Does KSB share? -Yes
Can you limit this sharing? -No
- **For our affiliates to market to you.**
Does KSB share? -No
Can you limit this sharing? -N/A
- **For non-affiliates to market to you.**
Does KSB share? -No
Can you limit this sharing? -N/A

How does Kansas State Bank protect my personal information?

To protect your personal information from unauthorized access and use, we use security measures that comply with federal law. These measures include computer safeguards and secured files and buildings.

How does Kansas State Bank collect my personal information?

We collect personal information, for example, when you:

- Open an account or deposit money;
- Pay your bills or apply for a loan; and
- Use your credit or debit card.

We also collect your personal information from others, such as credit bureaus, affiliates, or other companies as necessary to transact business.

Why can't I limit all sharing?

Federal law gives you the right to limit only:

- Sharing for affiliates' everyday business purposes—information about your creditworthiness;
- Affiliates from using your information to market to you; and
- Sharing for non-affiliates to market to you.

State laws and individual companies may give you additional rights to limit sharing.

Definitions:

Affiliates: Companies related by common ownership or control. They may be financial or non-financial companies. Affiliates of Kansas State Bank are First National Bank of Louisburg and Marion National Bank.

Non-affiliates: Companies not related by common ownership or control. They may be financial or non-financial companies.

Joint marketing: A formal agreement between non-affiliated financial companies that together market financial products or services to you.

APPLICANT'S NOTICE OF NEGATIVE INFORMATION (Pre-sharing):

Federal law requires us to provide the following notice to customers before any "negative information" may be furnished to a nationwide consumer reporting agency. "Negative information" means information concerning delinquency, late payments, insolvency or any form of default.

This notice does not mean that we will be reporting such information about you, only that we may report such information about customers that have not done what they are required to do under our agreement.

After providing this notice, additional negative information may be submitted without providing another notice.



We may report information about your account to credit bureaus. Late payments, missed payments or other defaults on your account may be reflected in your credit report.

CO-APPLICANT'S NOTICE OF NEGATIVE INFORMATION (Pre-sharing):

Federal law requires us to provide the following notice to customers before any "negative information" may be furnished to a nationwide consumer reporting agency. "Negative information" means information concerning delinquency, late payments, insolvency or any form of default.

This notice does not mean that we will be reporting such information about you, only that we may report such information about customers that have not done what they are required to do under our agreement.

After providing this notice, additional negative information may be submitted without providing another notice.



We may report information about your account to credit bureaus. Late payments, missed payments or other defaults on your account may be reflected in your credit report.

Kansas State Bank

P.O. Box 720
236 N. Main

Ottawa, KS 66067

Telephone: 785-242-3600

Lender

10 YEAR - HOMETOWN HELOC SPECIAL

This disclosure contains important information about our 10 Year - HOMETOWN HELOC SPECIAL. You should read it carefully and keep a copy for your records.

1. 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 that you have paid to us or anyone else in connection with your application.

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

3. POSSIBLE ACTIONS. Under certain circumstances, we can:

- A. Terminate your line of credit and require you to pay us the entire outstanding balance in one payment;
- B. Refuse to make additional extensions of credit; and
- C. Reduce your credit limit.

We can terminate your line of credit and require you to pay us the entire outstanding balance in one payment if:

- A. You fail to make a payment as required by the agreement; or
- B. 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:

- A. The value of the dwelling securing the line of credit declines significantly below its appraised value for purposes of the line of credit;
- B. We reasonably believe you will not be able to meet the repayment requirements under the line of credit due to a material change in your financial circumstances;
- C. You are in default of a material obligation of the agreement;
- D. Government action prevents us from imposing the annual percentage rate provided for in the agreement, or impairs our security interest such that the value of the interest is less than 120 percent of the credit limit on the line of credit;
- E. A regulatory agency has notified us that continued advances would constitute an unsafe and unsound practice; or
- F. The maximum annual percentage rate is reached.

4. MINIMUM PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS. You can obtain credit advances for 10 years. During this period, payments will be due monthly. Your minimum monthly payment will equal the following:

* 1.000 percent of the principal balance outstanding on the last day of the billing cycle.

The minimum payment amount will be rounded to the nearest \$.01. The minimum monthly payments may not be sufficient to fully repay the principal that is outstanding on your line of credit at the end of 10 years. If they are not, you will, to the extent permitted by law, be required to pay the entire balance in a single payment.

Balances of less than \$50.00 must be paid in full.

5. MINIMUM PAYMENT EXAMPLE. If you made only the minimum monthly payment and took no other credit advances, it would take 10 years to pay off a credit advance of \$10,000.00 at an **ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE** of 7.750%. During that period, you would make 119 payments varying between \$100.00 and \$65.79, with a final payment of \$6,598.32.

6. FEES AND CHARGES. You must pay certain fees to third parties, such as appraisers, credit reporting firms, and government agencies. These fees generally total \$250.00. If you ask, we will provide you with an itemization of the fees you will have to pay to third parties.

You must carry insurance on the property that secures the line of credit.

7. REFUNDABILITY OF FEES. If you decide not to enter into this plan within three business days of receiving this disclosure and the home equity brochure, you are entitled to a refund of any fee you may have already paid.

8. MINIMUM DRAW REQUIREMENTS. The minimum credit advance that you can receive is \$100.00.

9. NEGATIVE AMORTIZATION. Under some circumstances, your monthly payment will not cover the finance charges that accrue and "negative amortization" will occur. Negative amortization will increase the amount that you owe us and reduce your equity in your home.

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

11. AVAILABILITY OF OTHER HOME EQUITY PLANS. If you ask, we will provide you with information on our other available home equity lines of credit.

12. VARIABLE RATE FEATURES. This line of credit has a variable rate feature and the annual percentage rate (corresponding to the periodic rate) and the minimum monthly payment can change as a result. The annual percentage rate includes only interest and not other costs. The annual percentage rate is based on the value of an index. The index is the base rate on corporate loans posted by at least 70% of the 10 largest U.S. banks known as the Wall Street Journal U.S.

Prime Rate and is published daily in the Wall Street Journal. To determine the annual percentage rate that will apply to your line of credit, we add a margin to the value of the index. The initial annual percentage rate is a specific value - it is not based on the index and margin used for later rate adjustments. The initial rate will be in effect for 6 months. Ask us for the current index value, margin, initial rate and annual percentage rate. After you open a line of credit, rate information will be provided on periodic statements that we send you.

13. RATE CHANGES. The annual percentage rate can change monthly after remaining fixed for 6 months. There is no limit on the amount by which the rate can change in any one year period. The maximum **ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE** that can apply during the line of credit is 18.000 percent. The minimum **ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE** that can apply during the line of credit is 5.000 percent.

14. MAXIMUM RATE AND PAYMENT EXAMPLES. If you had an outstanding balance of \$10,000.00 the minimum monthly payment at the maximum **ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE** of 18.000 percent would be \$100.00. The maximum annual percentage rate could be reached in the 1st month (1 month) following an initial hold of 6 months.

15. HISTORICAL EXAMPLES. 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 last 15 years. The index values are from the first business day of March. While only one payment amount per year is shown, payments would have varied during each year. The table assumes that no additional credit advances were taken, that only the minimum payment was made, and that the rate remained constant during each year. It does not necessarily indicate how the index or your payments would change in the future.

Year	Index (%)	Margin (%)	ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE (%)	Minimum Monthly Payment (\$)
2009	3.250	0.000	5.000 (K)(L)	100.00
2010	3.250	0.000	5.000 (K)	93.22
2011	3.250	0.000	5.000 (K)	86.90
2012	3.250	0.000	5.000 (K)	81.01
2013	3.250	0.000	5.000 (K)	75.52
2014	3.250	0.000	5.000 (K)	70.40
2015	3.250	0.000	5.000 (K)	65.62
2016	3.500	0.000	5.000 (K)	61.17
2017	3.750	0.000	5.000 (K)	57.03
2018	4.500	0.000	5.000 (K)	53.16 (P)
2019	5.500	0.000	5.500	N/A
2020	4.750	0.000	5.000 (K)	N/A
2021	3.250	0.000	5.000 (K)	N/A
2022	3.250	0.000	5.000 (K)	N/A
2023	7.750	0.000	7.750	N/A

(K) This reflects a lifetime floor of 5.000 percent.

(L) This is a 1.300 percentage point discount that we have used recently, your line of credit may have a different discount amount.

(P) At the end of this year a balloon payment of \$5,005.50 would occur. You would be required to pay the entire balance in one payment.

This is not a commitment to make a loan.

You hereby acknowledge receipt of this Home Equity Plan Disclosure and a copy of the Home Equity Brochure on today's date.

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

What you should know about home equity lines of credit

This booklet was initially prepared by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has made technical updates to the booklet to reflect new mortgage rules under Title XIV of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act). A larger update of this booklet is planned in the future to reflect other changes under the Dodd-Frank Act and to align with other CFPB resources and tools for consumers as part of the CFPB's broader mission to educate consumers. Consumers are encouraged to visit the CFPB's website at consumerfinance.gov/owning-a-home to access interactive tools and resources for mortgage shoppers, which are expected to be available beginning in 2014.

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1. Introduction

If you are in the market for credit, a home equity plan is one of several options that might be right for you. Before making a decision, however, you should weigh carefully the costs of a home equity line against the benefits. Shop for the credit terms that best meet your borrowing needs without posing undue financial risks. And remember, failure to repay the amounts you've borrowed, plus interest, could mean the loss of your home.

1.1 Home equity plan checklist

Ask your lender to help you fill out this worksheet.

Basic features for comparison	Plan A	Plan B
Fixed annual percentage rate	%	%
Variable annual percentage rate	%	%
<input type="checkbox"/> Index used and current value	%	%
<input type="checkbox"/> Amount of margin		
<input type="checkbox"/> Frequency of rate adjustments		
<input type="checkbox"/> Amount/length of discount (if any)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Interest rate cap and floor		
Length of plan		
Draw period		

Basic features for comparison (continued)	Plan A	Plan B
Repayment period		
Initial fees		
Appraisal fee		
Application fee		
Up-front charges, including points		
Closing costs		
Repayment terms		
During the draw period		
Interest and principal payments		
Interest-only payments		
Fully amortizing payments		
When the draw period ends		
Balloon payment?		
Renewal available?		
Refinancing of balance by lender?		

2. What is a home equity line of credit?

A home equity line of credit is a form of revolving credit in which your home serves as collateral. Because a home often is a consumer's most valuable asset, many homeowners use home equity credit lines only for major items, such as education, home improvements, or medical bills, and choose not to use them for day-to-day expenses.

With a home equity line, you will be approved for a specific amount of credit. Many lenders set the credit limit on a home equity line by taking a percentage (say, 75 percent) of the home's appraised value and subtracting from that the balance owed on the existing mortgage. For example:

Appraised value of home	\$100,000
Percentage	x 75%
Percentage of appraised value	= \$75,000
Less balance owed on mortgage	– \$40,000
Potential line of credit	\$35,000

In determining your actual credit limit, the lender will also consider your ability to repay the loan (principal and interest) by looking at your income, debts, and other financial obligations as well as your credit history.

Many home equity plans set a fixed period during which you can borrow money, such as 10 years. At the end of this “draw period,” you may be allowed to renew the credit line. If your plan

does not allow renewals, you will not be able to borrow additional money once the period has ended. Some plans may call for payment in full of any outstanding balance at the end of the period. Others may allow repayment over a fixed period (the “repayment period”), for example, 10 years.

Once approved for a home equity line of credit, you will most likely be able to borrow up to your credit limit whenever you want. Typically, you will use special checks to draw on your line. Under some plans, borrowers can use a credit card or other means to draw on the line.

There may be other limitations on how you use the line. Some plans may require you to borrow a minimum amount each time you draw on the line (for example, \$300) or keep a minimum amount outstanding. Some plans may also require that you take an initial advance when the line is set up.

2.1 What should you look for when shopping for a plan?

If you decide to apply for a home equity line of credit, look for the plan that best meets your particular needs. Read the credit agreement carefully, and examine the terms and conditions of various plans, including the annual percentage rate (APR) and the costs of establishing the plan. Remember, though, that the APR for a home equity line is based on the interest rate alone and will not reflect closing costs and other fees and charges, so you’ll need to compare these costs, as well as the APRs, among lenders.

2.1.1 Variable interest rates

Home equity lines of credit typically involve variable rather than fixed interest rates. The variable rate must be based on a publicly available index (such as the prime rate published in some major daily newspapers or a U.S. Treasury bill rate). In such cases, the interest rate you pay for the line of credit will change, mirroring changes in the value of the index. Most lenders cite the interest rate you will pay as the value of the index at a particular time, plus a “margin,” such as 2 percentage points. Because the cost of borrowing is tied directly to the value of the index, it is important to find out which index is used, how often the value of the index changes, and how high it has risen in the past. It is also important to note the amount of the margin.

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

Variable-rate plans secured by a dwelling must, by law, have a ceiling (or cap) on how much your interest rate may increase over the life of the plan. Some variable-rate plans limit how much your payment may increase and how low your interest rate may fall if the index drops.

Some lenders allow you to convert from a variable interest rate to a fixed rate during the life of the plan, or let you convert all or a portion of your line to a fixed-term installment loan.

2.2 Costs of establishing and maintaining a home equity line

Many of the costs of setting up a home equity line of credit are similar to those you pay when you get a mortgage. For example:

- A fee for a property appraisal to estimate the value of your home;
- An application fee, which may not be refunded if you are turned down for credit;
- Up-front charges, such as one or more “points” (one point equals 1 percent of the credit limit); and
- Closing costs, including fees for attorneys, title search, mortgage preparation and filing, property and title insurance, and taxes.

In addition, you may be subject to certain fees during the plan period, such as annual membership or maintenance fees and a transaction fee every time you draw on the credit line.

You could find yourself paying hundreds of dollars to establish the plan. And if you were to draw only a small amount against your credit line, those initial charges would substantially increase the cost of the funds borrowed. On the other hand, because the lender’s risk is lower than for other forms of credit, as your home serves as collateral, annual percentage rates for home equity lines are generally lower than rates for other types of credit. The interest you save could offset the costs of establishing and maintaining the line. Moreover, some lenders waive some or all of the closing costs.

2.3 How will you repay your home equity plan?

Before entering into a plan, consider how you will pay back the money you borrow. Some plans set a minimum monthly payment that includes a portion of the principal (the amount you borrow) plus accrued interest. But, unlike with typical installment loan agreements, the portion of your payment that goes toward principal may not be enough to repay the principal by the end of the term. Other plans may allow payment of only the interest during the life of the plan, which means that you pay nothing toward the principal. If you borrow \$10,000, you will owe that amount when the payment plan ends.

Regardless of the minimum required payment on your home equity line, you may choose to pay more, and many lenders offer a choice of payment options. However, some lenders may require you to pay special fees or penalties if you choose to pay more, so check with your lender. Many consumers choose to pay down the principal regularly as they do with other loans. For example, if you use your line to buy a boat, you may want to pay it off as you would a typical boat loan.

Whatever your payment arrangements during the life of the plan—whether you pay some, a little, or none of the principal amount of the loan—when the plan ends, you may have to pay the entire balance owed, all at once. You must be prepared to make this “balloon payment” by refinancing it with the lender, by obtaining a loan from another lender, or by some other means. If you are unable to make the balloon payment, you could lose your home.

If your plan has a variable interest rate, your monthly payments may change. Assume, for example, that you borrow \$10,000 under a plan that calls for interest-only payments. At a 10 percent interest rate, your monthly payments would be \$83. If the rate rises over time to 15 percent, your monthly payments will increase to \$125. Similarly, if you are making payments that cover interest plus some portion of the principal, your monthly payments may increase, unless your agreement calls for keeping payments the same throughout the plan period.

If you sell your home, you will probably be required to pay off your home equity line in full immediately. If you are likely to sell your home in the near future, consider whether it makes sense to pay the up-front costs of setting up a line of credit. Also keep in mind that renting your home may be prohibited under the terms of your agreement.

2.4 Line of credit vs. traditional second mortgage loans

If you are thinking about a home equity line of credit, you might also want to consider a traditional second mortgage loan. This type of loan provides you with a fixed amount of money, repayable over a fixed period. In most cases, the payment schedule calls for equal payments that pay off the entire loan within the loan period. You might consider a second mortgage instead of a home equity line if, for example, you need a set amount for a specific purpose, such as an addition to your home.

In deciding which type of loan best suits your needs, consider the costs under the two alternatives. Look at both the APR and other charges. Do not, however, simply compare the APRs, because the APRs on the two types of loans are figured differently:

- The APR for a traditional second mortgage loan takes into account the interest rate charged plus points and other finance charges.
- The APR for a home equity line of credit is based on the periodic interest rate alone. It does not include points or other charges.

2.4.1 Disclosures from lenders

The federal Truth in Lending Act requires lenders to disclose the important terms and costs of their home equity plans, including the APR, miscellaneous charges, the payment terms, and information about any variable-rate feature. And in general, neither the lender nor anyone else may charge a fee until after you have received this information. You usually get these disclosures when you receive an application form, and you will get additional disclosures before the plan is opened. If any term (other than a variable-rate feature) changes before the plan is opened, the lender must return all fees if you decide not to enter into the plan because of the change. Lenders are also required to provide you with a list of homeownership counseling organizations in your area.

When you open a home equity line, the transaction puts your home at risk. If the home involved is your principal dwelling, the Truth in Lending Act gives you three days from the day the account was opened to cancel the credit line. This right allows you to change your mind for any reason. You simply inform the lender in writing within the three-day period. The lender must

then cancel its security interest in your home and return all fees— including any application and appraisal fees—paid to open the account.

The Home Ownership and Equity Protection Act of 1994 (HOEPA) addresses certain unfair practices and establishes requirements for certain loans with high rates and fees, including certain additional disclosures. HOEPA now covers some HELOCs. You can find out more information by contacting the CFPB at the website address and phone number listed in the Contact information appendix, below.

2.5 What if the lender freezes or reduces your line of credit?

Plans generally permit lenders to freeze or reduce a credit line if the value of the home “declines significantly” or when the lender “reasonably believes” that you will be unable to make your payments due to a “material change” in your financial circumstances. If this happens, you may want to:

- **Talk with your lender.** Find out what caused the lender to freeze or reduce your credit line and what, if anything, you can do to restore it. You may be able to provide additional information to restore your line of credit, such as documentation showing that your house has retained its value or that there has not been a “material change” in your financial circumstances. You may want to get copies of your credit reports (go to the CFPB’s website at consumerfinance.gov/askcfpb/5/can-i-review-my-credit-report.html for information about how to get free copies of your credit reports) to make sure all the information in them is correct. If your lender suggests getting a new appraisal, be sure you discuss appraisal firms in advance so that you know they will accept the new appraisal as valid.
- **Shop around for another line of credit.** If your lender does not want to restore your line of credit, shop around to see what other lenders have to offer. If another lender is willing to offer you a line of credit, you may be able to pay off your original line of credit and take out another one. Keep in mind, however, that you may need to pay some of the same application fees you paid for your original line of credit.

APPENDIX A:

Defined terms

This glossary provides general definitions for terms commonly used in the real estate market. They may have different legal meanings depending on the context.

DEFINED TERM

**ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP OR
MAINTENANCE FEE**

An annual charge for access to a financial product such as a line of credit, credit card, or account. The fee is charged regardless of whether or not the product is used.

**ANNUAL
PERCENTAGE RATE
(APR)**

The cost of credit, expressed as a yearly rate. For closed-end credit, such as car loans or mortgages, the APR includes the interest rate, points, broker fees, and other credit charges that the borrower is required to pay. An APR, or an equivalent rate, is not used in leasing agreements.

APPLICATION FEE

Fees charged when you apply for a loan or other credit. These fees may include charges for property appraisal and a credit report.

BALLOON PAYMENT

A large extra payment that may be charged at the end of a mortgage loan or lease.

**CAP (INTEREST
RATE)**

A limit on the amount that your interest rate can increase. Two types of interest-rate caps exist. *Periodic adjustment caps* limit the interest-rate increase from one adjustment period to the next. *Lifetime caps* limit the interest-rate increase over the life of the loan. By law, all adjustable-rate mortgages have an overall cap.

CLOSING OR SETTLEMENT COSTS

Fees paid when you close (or settle) on a loan. These fees may include application fees; title examination, abstract of title, title insurance, and property survey fees; fees for preparing deeds, mortgages, and settlement documents; attorneys' fees; recording fees; estimated costs of taxes and insurance; and notary, appraisal, and credit report fees. Under the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act, the borrower receives a good faith estimate of closing costs within three days of application. The good faith estimate lists each expected cost as an amount or a range.

CREDIT LIMIT

The maximum amount that may be borrowed on a credit card or under a home equity line of credit plan.

EQUITY

The difference between the fair market value of the home and the outstanding balance on your mortgage plus any outstanding home equity loans.

INDEX

The economic indicator used to calculate interest-rate adjustments for adjustable-rate mortgages or other adjustable-rate loans. The index rate can increase or decrease at any time. See also Selected index rates for ARMs over an 11-year period (consumerfinance.gov/f/201204_CFPB_ARMs-brochure.pdf) for examples of common indexes that have changed in the past.

INTEREST RATE

The percentage rate used to determine the cost of borrowing money, stated usually as a percentage of the principal loan amount and as an annual rate.

MARGIN

The number of percentage points the lender adds to the index rate to calculate the adjustable-rate-mortgage interest rate at each adjustment.

MINIMUM PAYMENT

The lowest amount that you must pay (usually monthly) to keep your account in good standing. Under some plans, the minimum payment may cover interest only; under others, it may include both principal and interest.

POINTS (ALSO CALLED DISCOUNT POINTS)

One point is equal to 1 percent of the principal amount of a mortgage loan. For example, if a mortgage is \$200,000, one point equals \$2,000. Lenders frequently charge points in both fixed-rate and adjustable-rate mortgages to cover loan origination costs or to provide additional compensation to the lender or broker. These points usually are paid at closing and may be paid by the borrower or the home seller, or may be split between them. In some cases, the money needed to pay points can be borrowed (incorporated in the loan amount), but doing so will increase the loan amount and the total costs. Discount points (also called discount fees) are points that you voluntarily choose to pay in return for a lower interest rate.

SECURITY INTEREST

If stated in your credit agreement, a creditor, lessor, or assignee's legal right to your property (such as your home, stocks, or bonds) that secures payment of your obligation under the credit agreement. The property that secures payment of your obligation is referred to as "collateral."

TRANSACTION FEE

Fee charged each time a withdrawal or other specified transaction is made on a line of credit, such as a balance transfer fee or a cash advance fee.

VARIABLE RATE

An interest rate that changes periodically in relation to an index, such as the prime rate. Payments may increase or decrease accordingly.

APPENDIX B:

More information

For more information about mortgages, including home equity lines of credit, visit consumerfinance.gov/mortgage. For answers to questions about mortgages and other financial topics, visit consumerfinance.gov/askcfpb. You may also visit the CFPB's website at consumerfinance.gov/owning-a-home to access interactive tools and resources for mortgage shoppers, which are expected to be available beginning in 2014.

Housing counselors can be very helpful, especially for first-time home buyers or if you're having trouble paying your mortgage. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) supports housing counseling agencies throughout the country that can provide free or low-cost advice. You can search for HUD-approved housing counseling agencies in your area on the CFPB's web site at consumerfinance.gov/find-a-housing-counselor or by calling HUD's interactive toll-free number at 800-569-4287.

The company that collects your mortgage payments is your loan servicer. This may not be the same company as your lender. If you have concerns about how your loan is being serviced or another aspect of your mortgage, you may wish to submit a complaint to the CFPB at consumerfinance.gov/complaint or by calling (855) 411-CFPB (2372).

When you submit a complaint to the CFPB, the CFPB will forward your complaint to the company and work to get a response. Companies have 15 days to respond to you and the CFPB. You can review the company's response and give feedback to the CFPB.

APPENDIX C:

Contact information

For additional information or to submit a complaint, you can contact the CFPB or one of the other federal agencies listed below, depending on the type of institution. If you are not sure which agency to contact, you can submit a complaint to the CFPB and if the CFPB determines that another agency would be better able to assist you, the CFPB will refer your complaint to that agency and let you know.

Regulatory agency	Regulated entities	Contact information
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) P.O. Box 2900 Clinton, IA 52733	Insured depository institutions and credit unions with assets greater than \$10 billion (and their affiliates), and non-bank providers of consumer financial products and services, including mortgages, credit cards, debt collection, consumer reports, prepaid cards, private education loans, and payday lending	(855) 411-CFPB (2372) consumerfinance.gov consumerfinance.gov/complaint
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (FRB) Consumer Help P.O. Box 1200 Minneapolis, MN 55480	Federally insured state-chartered bank members of the Federal Reserve System	(888) 851-1920 federalreserveconsumerhelp.gov

Regulatory agency	Regulated entities	Contact information
<p>Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) Customer Assistance Group 1301 McKinney Street Suite 3450 Houston, TX 77010</p>	<p>National banks and federally chartered savings banks/associations</p>	<p>(800) 613-6743 occ.treas.gov helpwithmybank.gov</p>
<p>Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) Consumer Response Center 1100 Walnut Street, Box #11 Kansas City, MO 64106</p>	<p>Federally insured state-chartered banks that are not members of the Federal Reserve System</p>	<p>(877) ASK-FDIC or (877) 275-3342 fdic.gov fdic.gov/consumers</p>
<p>Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) Consumer Communications Constitution Center 400 7th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20024</p>	<p>Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and the Federal Home Loan Banks</p>	<p>Consumer Helpline (202) 649-3811 fhfa.gov fhfa.gov/Default.aspx?Page=369 ConsumerHelp@fhfa.gov</p>
<p>National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) Consumer Assistance 1775 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314</p>	<p>Federally chartered credit unions</p>	<p>(800) 755-1030 ncua.gov mycreditunion.gov</p>
<p>Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Consumer Response Center 600 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W. Washington, DC 20580</p>	<p>Finance companies, retail stores, auto dealers, mortgage companies and other lenders, and credit bureaus</p>	<p>(877) FTC-HELP or (877) 382-4357 ftc.gov ftc.gov/bcp</p>

Regulatory agency	Regulated entities	Contact information
<p>Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Complaint Center 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20549</p>	<p>Brokerage firms, mutual fund companies, and investment advisers</p>	<p>(202) 551-6551 sec.gov sec.gov/complaint/select.shtml</p>
<p>Farm Credit Administration Office of Congressional and Public Affairs 1501 Farm Credit Drive McLean, VA 22102</p>	<p>Agricultural lenders</p>	<p>(703) 883-4056 fca.gov</p>
<p>Small Business Administration (SBA) Consumer Affairs 409 3rd Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20416</p>	<p>Small business lenders</p>	<p>(800) U-ASK-SBA or (800) 827-5722 sba.gov</p>
<p>Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) 1155 21st Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20581</p>	<p>Commodity brokers, commodity trading advisers, commodity pools, and introducing brokers</p>	<p>(866) 366-2382 cftc.gov/ConsumerProtection/index.htm</p>

Regulatory agency	Regulated entities	Contact information
<p>U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Civil Rights Division 950 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W. Housing and Civil Enforcement Section Washington DC 20530</p>	<p>Fair lending and housing issues</p>	<p>(202) 514-4713 TTY-(202) 305-1882 FAX-(202) 514-1116 To report an incident of housing discrimination: 1-800-896-7743 fairhousing@usdoj.gov</p>
<p>Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity 451 7th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20410</p>	<p>Fair lending and housing issues</p>	<p>(800) 669-9777 hud.gov/complaints</p>

