FHA Connection Training Resources

This **FHA Connection Guide** module describes the FHA Connection's many training, information, and user assistance resources. **Table 1: FHA Connection Training and Information Resources** lists each title and gives a brief summary of its contents. The table itself provides a printable single-page, ready reference guide to the types of FHA Connection training available.

The sections following **Table 1** describe each resource in detail, with illustrations and examples of their key features. Unless noted, resources are directly available with no sign on required.

Table 1: Fl	HA Connection Training and Information Resources	
Training/Information Resource	Purpose	
FHA Connection Guide	The FHA Connection Guide presents training on the full range of FH Connection use, administration, functions, and resources. Access it from the FHA Connection Welcome page (does not require sign on) (Figure 1).	
Quick Start Guide	The <i>Quick Start Guide</i> provides rapid access to key information on the FHA Connection system, its functions, and resources. Detailed Training Resources tables (Figure 5) link to comprehensive training. Access it from the FHA Connection Welcome page (does not require sign on) (Figure 1).	
Getting Started and References	This section of the FHA Connection Welcome page (Figure 1) provides direct FHA Connection user assistance contacts, information pages, and links to training materials (does not require sign on).	
FHA Connection/HUD User Assistance and Information Links	These links located in the header and footer of the FHA Connection (Figure 1) go to user assistance contacts and HUD Web sites outside the FHA Connection.	
FHA Connection Help	The Help for the FHA Connection provides detailed assistance in the areas of business background, steps for processing, and field descriptions. Most Help requires sign on. Access it via Help Links on the function page.	
Processing a Mortgage for FHA Insurance	The Processing a Mortgage for FHA Insurance tutorial provides workflows for Single Family Origination case processing sequences. Access it from the Quick Start Guide without sign on or from the Single Family Origination Case Processing menu (after sign on).	
What I Need to Know (WINK)	WINK provides subject-specific modules targeted to users' business information and processing needs. Each module is next to the described function's menu link for easy access. Currently available only for Single Family Origination topics (requires sign on).	
Single Family Premium Collection Subsystem- Periodic Information Packet http://portal.hud.gov/h	The Single Family Premium Collection Subsystem-Periodic Information Packet provides comprehensive information on billing, collection, and case-level reconciliation of FHA Single Family monthly mortgage insurance premiums, including access and use of the FHA Connection Monthly Premiums functions. nudportal/HUD?src=/program offices/housing/comp/premiums/sfpcsp5	
FHA Connection Title I User's Guide	The <i>FHA Connection Title I User's Guide</i> describes the use of the FHA Connection for Title I processing. This guide is available online via the FHA Connection at the following (user ID and password required): https://entp.hud.gov/title1/html/f72main_userguide.cfm)	

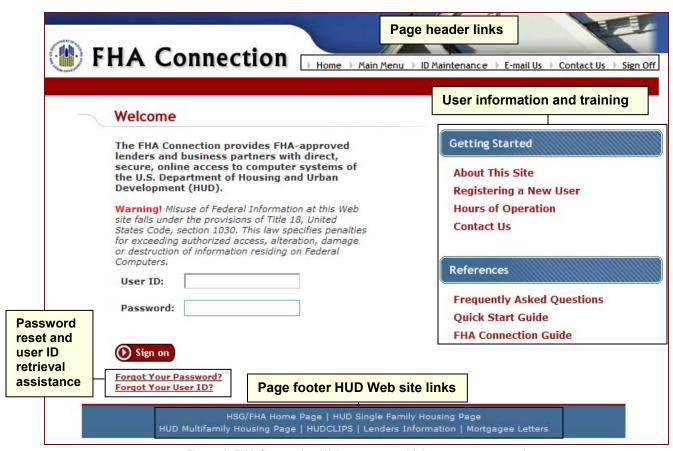


Figure 1: FHA Connection Welcome page with key resources noted

FHA Connection Guide

The *FHA Connection Guide* is accessed via the FHA Connection Welcome page (**Figure 1**, see **References** section) or directly at https://entp.hud.gov/idapp/html/mrtg-pkg.cfm. It is available without sign on to the FHA Connection.

The **FHA Connection Guide** page (**Figure 2**) links to detailed, illustrated training in portable document format (PDF) that can be viewed online, saved, and/or printed. The **FHA Connection Guide** modules are organized by the sections and topics as shown in **Table 2**: **FHA Connection Guide Resources**.

Table 2: FHA Connection Guide Resources		
Section	Topics Topics are FHA Connection Registration Procedures, Signing on/off of the FHA Connection, Using the FHA Connection, FHA Connection Training Resources, User Administration, and Service Bureau Administration	
Getting Started		
Single Family Origination	 This section begins with an overview of the case processing cycle, then provides individual modules that describe each Single Family Origination function. The Case Processing Overview module introduces: the four key case processing functions (Case Number Assignment, Appraisal Logging, and Insurance Application/HECM Insurance Application) the case processing support functions used to support Single Family Origination business processes. 	
	The Single Family Origination functions described are:	

	ble 2: FHA Connection Guide Resources Tonics
Section	Topics Case Number Assignment Holds Tracking Logging an Appraisal Endorsing a Case Endorsing a HECM Case Case Processing Support Functions HA Approval Lists Underwriter Registry Origination Reports Upfront Premium Payments
	Upfront Premium Case Information
Single Family Servicing	Upfront Premium Reports This section begins with an overview of the Single Family Servicing functions and support materials on the FHA Connection, followed by individual modules that describe each function: Single Family Servicing Overview Filing a Claim for Insurance Benefits Claim Status Title Approval Status Claim Remittances Delinquent Loans Lender Query by Case Number Monthly Premium Payments Monthly Premium Reports Mortgage Record Changes Mortgage Calculator
Neighborhood Watch	 Mortgage Servicing Data Quality System This module provides an overview of HUD/FHA's system used for monitoring lenders, programs, and problems.
Lender Functions	Lender Functions describes the following functions available on the FHA Connection to support FHA-approved lenders: Lender Approval Lender Insurance History Cash Flow Account Setup
Lender Resources Note: The FHA Connection does not maintain the Web site listed in the Lender Resources section. For questions about these resources, refer to the current contacts listed or those sites.	FHA Mortgagee Letters Lender Resources: HUD Housing's FHA resource page for lenders Lender's Page: Covers how to become an FHA lender;



Figure 2: FHA Connection Guide page

Quick Start Guide

The *Quick Start Guide* (Figure 3) serves as an online, ready reference for Federal Housing Administration (FHA) lenders and HUD personnel. It is designed to put fast facts at your fingertips, providing key information via succinct descriptions, bulleted lists, examples, and screen captures. The *Quick Start Guide* describes how to access and use the more than 100 Single Family Origination and Servicing loan processing functions performed using the FHA Connection. All *Quick Start Guide* pages may be viewed online and/or printed. The following subsections describe the *Quick Start Guide*:

- Quick Start Guide: Top-Level Sections, Content, and Presentation
- Quick Start Guide. Detailed Information Resources
- Quick Start Guide: Site Index
- Quick Start Guide: Sections and Subsections
- Navigation, Page Identification in the Quick Start Guide

Quick Start Guide: Top-Level Sections, Content, and Presentation

The *Quick Start Guide's* top-level sections are illustrated in **Figure 3**. Top-level sections are: Registration and Sign on, Using the FHA Connection, Functions Defined, Information Resources, FHA Connection Facts, and Site Index.

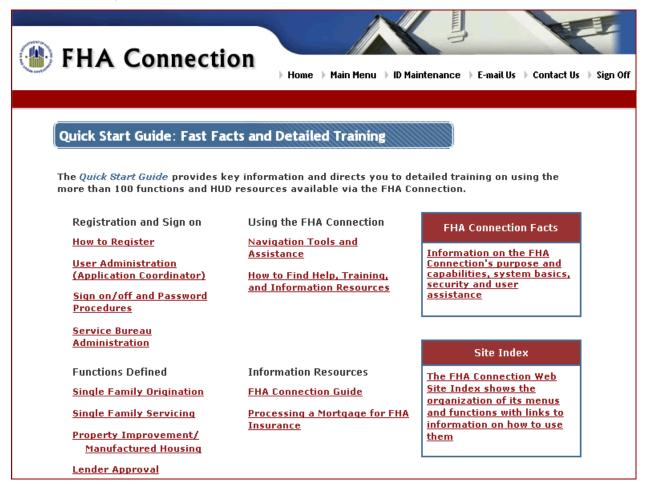


Figure 3: Quick Start Guide Home page

The types of information contained in the **Quick Start Guide** and the way it is presented are illustrated in **Figure 4**, the Sign on and Password Procedures page. The key topics listed at the top of the page link to essential facts about using the FHA Connection.

Quick Start Guide: Sign on/off and Password Procedures

This Quick Start Sign on/off and Password page outlines:

- . How to sign on for the first time
- Password rules
- Password change
- Password reset and sign on problems
- Account lockout assistance
- Signing off
- Getting help quickly
- Detailed Information Resources table
- How to sign on for the first time

Once you are registered and authorized by HUD to use the FHA Connection, you will use the user ID provided to you (by your Application Coordinator or HUD, depending on your organization type). To sign on:

- On the Welcome page, enter your user ID in the User ID field.
- In the Password field, as a first-time user, enter the password you provided on your registration form.

(See also Quick Start's User Administration (Application Coordinator) page.)

Password rules

The following rules must be observed in creating and entering an FHA Connection password.

FHA CONNECTION PASSWORDS:

- MUST have exactly 6 characters
- MUST contain at least one number, and may consist entirely of numbers
- ARE case sensitive, e.g., if MARY11 is your password, entering mary11 will fail
- MAY include numbers or letters and the two special characters "_" or "-"

EXAMPLES: de1_i2 or 918961 or WyYnt9

Figure 4: Example of Quick Start Guide page - FHA Connection Sign on and Password Procedures

Quick Start Guide: Detailed Information Resources

The *Quick Start Guide* is also an avenue of direct access to more in-depth training. **Detailed Information Resources** tables provided at the end of *Quick Start Guide* pages link to more comprehensive, illustrated treatments of each topic or related topics (**Figure 5**). Source materials include the FHA Connection's Frequently Asked Questions, the *FHA Connection Guide*, and/or other specialized resources that may be viewed online, printed, and/or saved to your computer.

Detailed Information Resources		
Subject/Type of Information	Resources	
FHA Approval Lists functions: detailed, illustrated explanations	FHA Approval Lists ; Underwriter Registry	

Figure 5: Example of a Detailed Information Resources table

Quick Start Guide. Site Index

The *Quick Start Guide* Site Index (Figure 6) gives a bird's-eye view of the overall structure of the FHA Connection and its menus. Links go to informational pages that describe FHA Connection functions. The **Site Index** page itself also serves as a single-page, printable ready reference to the organization and functionality of the FHA Connection.

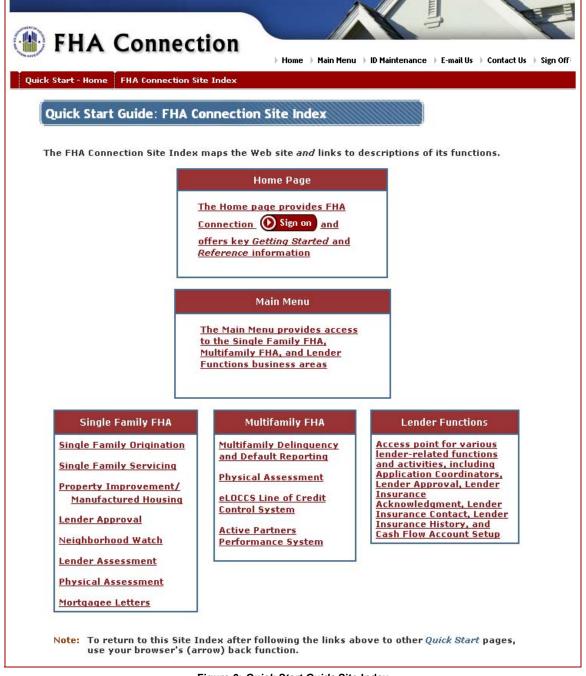


Figure 6: Quick Start Guide Site Index

Quick Start Guide. Sections and Subsections

The *Quick Start Guide* consists of the sections and subsections listed in **Table 3: Quick Start Guide's Sections and Subsections** and shown in **Figures 3** and **6**.

Location/Link	Purpose/Function	
Registration and Sign on/off	 How to Register User Administration (Application Coordinator) Sign on/off and Password Procedures Service Bureau Administration 	
Using the FHA Connection	 Navigation Tools and Assistance FHA Connection user resources (including contacts, If Maintenance) (header of each page) HUD/FHA information resources (footer of each page) Getting Started and References (training/information resource links) Help (business background, steps for processing, and field descriptions) Processing a Mortgage for FHA Insurance which provides high-level training on loan processing itself (Single Family Origination Case Processing menu) What I Need to Know which provides specialized training, targeted to specific functions (adjacent to Single Family Origination functions) User Aids provided in Single Family Origination and Single Family Servicing. These user aids and tools are located directly on the processing pages to provide information and assistance while using the loan processing functions. 	
	 How to Find Help, Training, and Information Resources is concise, single-source guide to FHA Connection Help, training resources, and user assistance contacts. Find it at https://entp.hud.gov/qckstart/gethelp.cfm 	
Functions Defined		

Table 3: Quick Start Guide's Sections and Subsections		
Location/Link	Purpose/Function	
	 Property Improvement/Manufactured includes definitions of each function on its menu 	
	 Lender Approval offers definitions of each function 	
Information Resources	FHA Connection Guide	
	 Processing a Mortgage for FHA Insurance 	
FHA Connection Facts	Information on the FHA Connection's purpose and capabilities, system basics, security and user assistance.	
Site Index	The FHA Connection Web Site Index shows the organization of the FHA Connection's menus and functions. Each entry links to the Quick Start Guide information page describing its purpose and use.	

Navigation, Page Identification in the *Quick Start Guide*

The **Quick Start Guide** uses the same navigation and page identification techniques that the FHA Connection uses to make information and resources easy to find and quickly accessible (**Figure 7**).

Navigation and page identification techniques include:

 a top-of-page red navigation bar that provides a breadcrumb trail identifying your location in the Web site

Note: These titles are **active links** to return to the previous topics.

the page title provided in multiple places to assist you in your navigation.

Find the page title:

- o in the upper left of corner of your Internet browser
- o in the blue banner which identifies the name of the menu or function page you are using
- o as the last link in the navigation bar's breadcrumb trail



Figure 7: Quick Start Guide breadcrumb trail and page identification example

FHA Connection Welcome Page: Getting Started and References Sections

The links in the FHA Connection Welcome page's **Getting Started** and **References** sections (**Figure 8**) connect users directly to key information and training resources. **Table 4: Resources Provided in the FHA Connection Welcome Page's Getting Started and References Sections** lists and briefly describes those resources.

Table 4: Resources Provided in the FHA Connection Welcome Page's Getting Started and References Sections	
Section/Link	Topics
Getting Started: About the FHA Connection	A very brief, but thorough, overview, including the FHA Connection's purpose and function
Getting Started: Registering a New User	A step-by-step depiction of the process to register to use the FHA Connection, designed for both users and for the Application Coordinators who assist their organization's users and administer their FHA Connection user accounts
Getting Started: Hours of Operation	The Hours of Operation for HUD systems appear by application name, schedule type, start time, end time, and specific planned events. The Hours of Operation page states that all times listed are Eastern time.
Getting Started: Contact Us	E-mail and telephone contact information for HUD Single Family, Multifamily, the FHA Resource Center, and other system assistance
References: Frequently Asked Questions	Answers provided by the FHA Connection Single Family Administration help desk cover: Access and Administration; Using the FHA Connection business areas of Case Processing, Single Family Servicing, Property Improvement/Manufactured Housing, Lender Assessment (LASS), and Lender Approval; and General topics.
References: Quick Start Guide	See the Quick Start Guide section, pp. 5-9.
FHA Connection Guide	Provides detailed, illustrated training that can be viewed online, saved, and/or printed. See the FHA Connection Guide section, pp. 2-4.



Figure 8: Getting Started and References portions of FHA Connection Welcome page

FHA Connection/HUD User Assistance and Information Links

The following FHA Connection and HUD user assistance and information links are directly available—without need for sign on—in the FHA Connection Welcome page's header and footer (**Figure 1**). They allow one-click access to key user information and contacts. These links are also continuously available on many FHA Connection menus following sign on. **Table 5: FHA Connection Header and Footer User Assistance and Information Links** lists and describes each link.

Important: These links are an important resource for users who cannot sign on to the FHA Connection due to a password or user ID problem or for those needing information about the FHA Connection who are not currently FHA Connection users.

Table 5: FHA Connection Header and Footer User Assistance and Information Links		
Page Location	Link	Purpose/Function
Page Header	Home	Use this link to return to the Home page from other menu and function pages
	Main Menu	This link provides access to the Single Family FHA, Multifamily FHA, and Lender Approval menus (requires sign on)
	ID Maintenance	Use this link to reach password change and other administrative functions (requires sign on)
	E-mail Us	Use this link to send an e-mail question to the FHA Connection Single Family Administrator
	Contact Us	Use this link to reach e-mail and telephone contact information for HUD Single Family, Multifamily, the FHA Resource Center, and other system assistance
	Sign Off	Use this link to end your current session on the FHA Connection.
Page Footer Note: The FHA Connection does not maintain the Web sites in the page footer. With questions about these resources, refer to the current contacts listed on those sites.	HSG/FHA Home page	Use this link for resources such as contact information, keyword Housing topics index, Site index, Work Online page (with links to HUD forms, handbooks, and systems processes), HUD Reading Room, HUD Office of Affordable Housing
	HUD Single Family FHA Housing Home page	Use this link for Single Family resources such as information for and about key participants in the FHA loan process, e.g., appraisers, home buyers, lenders, etc.; HUD's departmental home buying page and other related resources; events and training; Single Family FHA-insured mortgage programs information; Housing Counseling; HUD Homes (HUD-owned real estate); owning a home; reference guide; regulatory programs; and Neighborhood Networks (multiservice community learning centers in HUD-insured and assisted properties)
	HUD Multifamily	Use this link for Multifamily resources such as offices' description and contacts, data and statistics, program descriptions, renting, Section 8 information, Multifamily Accel Processing (MAP) (expedited Lender/HUD staff handling of the application and insurance process)

Table 5: FHA Connection Header and Footer User Assistance and Information Links		
Page Location	Page Location	Page Location
	HUDCLIPS	Use this link to access the Web page for HUDCLIPS which serves as a database search tool for HUD Mortgagee Letters, the Federal Register, the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) titles pertaining to HUD business, the Congressional Record, and HUD's guidebooks, handbooks and notices, and its various other policy letters.
	Lenders Information	Use this link for resources such as information on how to become an FHA Lender, including a mortgagee starter kit on:
		 what FHA lenders need to know
		 FHA-insured mortgage programs
		the FHA Connection
		 events and training for mortgage industry professionals
		 HUD's National Servicing Center
		 Neighborhood Watch early warning default and monitoring system
		 online lender recertification/renewal
	Mortgagee Letters	Access resources such as information for lenders on Federal Housing Administration (FHA) operations, policies, procedures, and changes. FHA Mortgagee Letters are also accessible from the Main Menu page of the FHA Connection.

FHA Connection Help

Individualized, detailed Help explaining the use of each function and its individual pages is available directly on the FHA Connection processing pages. Help Links 7 is the access point for Help provided in the following format; it opens Help pop-up pages (**Figure 9**) with links to:

- Business Background: General background information on specific application, including the
 business rules and regulations and relationships of functions within the loan processing cycle
 (Business Background Help section and Figure 10)
- Steps for Processing: Procedures required to complete the loan processing task (Steps for Processing Help section and Figure 11)
- **Field Descriptions**: Definition, data input, data validation rules, and data format for each field (**Field Descriptions Help** section and **Figure 12**)
- Help Index: Alphabetical index of the Help available for the business area

As can be seen in **Figure 9**, the **Help** menu, each Help page is provided in pop-up browser format (**Figure 11**) that includes access to the Internet browser's File\Print menu to print individual Help pages. The Help also provides page-end links to other, related Help pages (**Figure 10**).

Most FHA Connection business areas provide Help in the common format described here. Some business areas provide variations of the Help described here. Access to Help requires sign on to the FHA Connection, except for the Help on public pages, such as registration forms.



Figure 9: Illustration of Help menu

Business Background Help

Business background provides practical insights to assist in using the particular loan processing or administrative function. View the type of content provided in **Figure 10** (which shows the help text only).

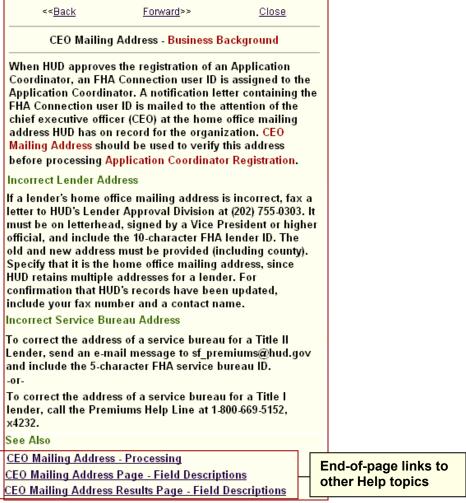


Figure 10: Business Background Help example (browser frame omitted)

Steps for Processing Help

Directions for processing take users step by step through each field on each function page. For detailed pages, with multiple sections, the processing steps are presented section by section.

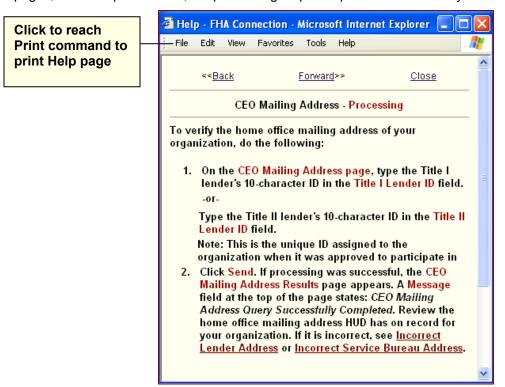


Figure 11: Segment of a processing steps page

Field Descriptions Help

The field descriptions **Help** defines each field on each page, explaining required inputs or selections. **Figure 12** shows the **Help** Field Descriptions pop-up page for the CEO Mailing Address page.

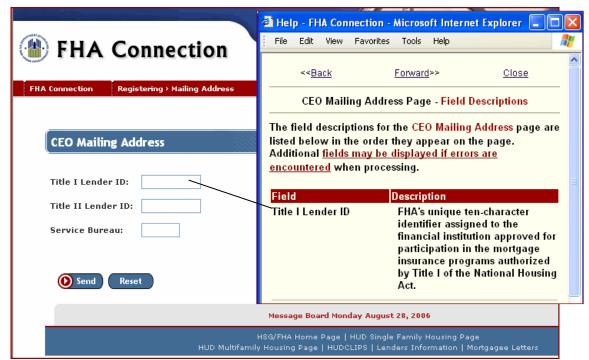


Figure 12: Field Description Help example

Processing a Mortgage for FHA Insurance Tutorial

Processing a Mortgage for FHA Insurance (Figure 13) is an illustrated tutorial on using Single Family Origination menus and functions to:

- process requests for FHA insurance in mortgage origination
- to research supporting information.

Users are Title II Direct Endorsement (DE) lenders accessing HUD's origination system, the Computerized Homes Underwriting Management System (CHUMS).

Find *Processing a Mortgage* on the Single Family Origination Case Processing menu (Figure 16) and in the *Quick Start Guide* Home page's Information Resources section (Figure 3).

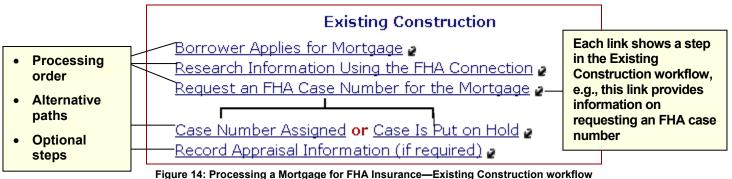
Processing a Mortgage has two workflows (Figure 13) with task sequences for:

- Existing Construction property
- 203k Substantial Rehabilitation property.



Figure 13: Processing a Mortgage for FHA Insurance

To provide a succinct view of the entire process, each workflow in the tutorial shows each processing task in step-by-step flowchart format that includes alternative paths and optional steps. **Figure 14** shows these features in the Existing Construction workflow.



rigure 14: Processing a Mortgage for FHA Insurance—Existing Construction Workflow

Click on any link in the flowchart and its task description appears. For example, the Existing Construction workflow step: *Request an FHA Case Number for the Mortgage* (Figure 14) links to the drilled down detail of the pop-up page shown in Figure 15.

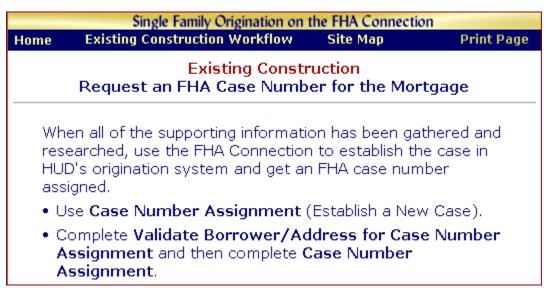


Figure 15: Portion of Request an FHA Case Number...descriptive pop-up page

What I Need to Know (WINK): Function-specific Training

What I Need to Know (**WINK**) modules are function-specific FHA Connection training tools for Single Family loan origination. **WINK** pages illustrate key information and critical procedures to help users to avoid common errors or to work through sometimes problematic processing points.

WINK modules are located on the menu right next to the function they support, e.g., as shown in **Figure 16** on the **Case Processing** menu, providing helpful tips and troubleshooting aids.

Click the *WINK* icon next to the loan processing function of interest e.g., as illustrated in **Figure 16**, **Case Number Assignment**, **Appraisal Logging**, **Insurance Application**, **HECM Insurance Application** to open the corresponding *WINK* module.

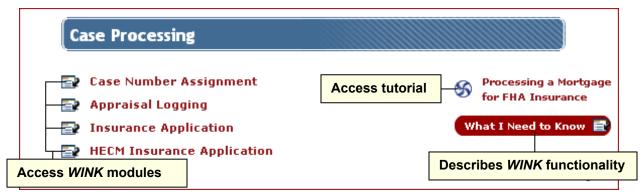


Figure 16: Processing a Mortgage for FHA Insurance

The **WINK** format consists of Topics indexes linked to illustrated information pages. This is illustrated in **Figures 17** and **18**.

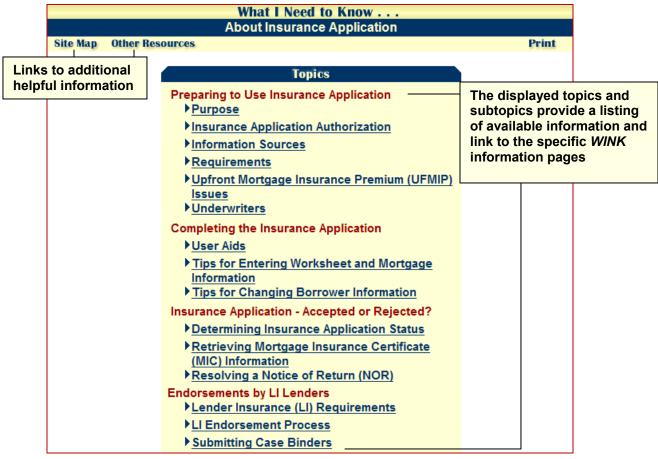


Figure 17: Access to WINK information is organized by topics

On each **WINK** Topics page (**Figure 17**), click a topic link. A **WINK** information page appears with detail (**Figure 18**). This **WINK** information page (**Figure 18**) illustrates the **WINK** approach, putting specific FHA Connection loan processing information directly at the user's fingertips with:

- succinct, targeted text on a narrow aspect of a topic
- representative illustrations of the processing tip or business background item presented
- callouts describing features or problem areas, e.g., "Note assigned appraiser's information"
- pullouts (expanded portions with larger fonts) focusing attention on key details, e.g., shows data formats for specific fields of interest

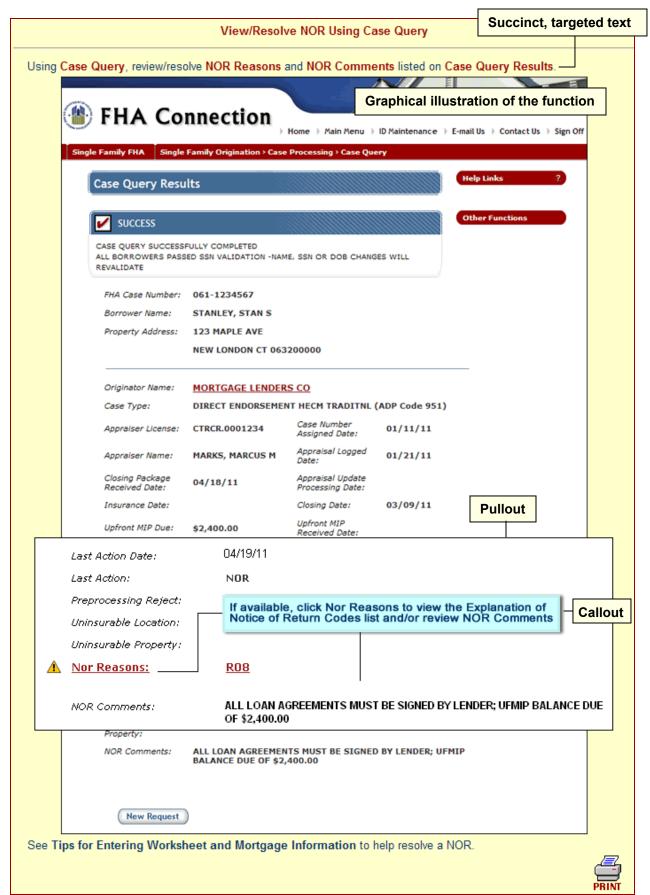


Figure 18: WINK information page

Single Family Premium Collection Subsystem-Periodic Information Packet

The **Single Family Premium Collection Subsystem-Periodic Information Packet** covers the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) automated data processing system for FHA Single Family monthly mortgage insurance premium collection and case-level reconciliation. Detailed information is provided on paying monthly premiums and on all report files included in the FHA Connection **Monthly Premiums** function, including the report file layouts and how to retrieve the files.

This Web site (*url listed below*) is organized into various topical sections shown in **Table 6: Single Family Premium Collection Subsystem-Periodic Information Packet**:

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program offices/housing/comp/premiums/sfpcsp5

Table 6: Single Family Premium Collection Subsystem-Periodic Information Packet		
Chapter	Topics	
Basic Information	Business overview of HUD's collection of monthly mortgage insurance premiums, including:	
	 Answers to mortgagee questions 	
	 Premium, interest, and late charge calculations 	
	 Reconciliation discrepancy types 	
	Service bureaus	
	 Accessing HUD's systems and data 	
Technical Issues	Technical assistance related to:	
	 Submitting payments 	
	Accessing reports	
Layouts for Report Files	File formats for monthly premium reports downloadable via the FHA Connection or Alternate Report Retrieval:	
	Advance Notices Layout	
	Billing Layout	
	Lender Notification Layout	
	Portfolio Layout	
	Reallocation Transactions Layout	
	Reconciliation Layout	
	Refund Transactions Layout	
What's New	Date and summary of recent and previous system updates.	

FHA Connection Title I User's Guide

The *Property Improvement/Manufactured Housing - User's Guide* for the FHA Connection provides instruction and information on Title I Property Improvement/Manufactured Housing function processing via the FHA Connection. Information topics include: Title I Property Improvement Loans, Title I FHA PowerSaver Loans, Title I Manufactured Housing Loans, and Title I Servicing. Each section can be viewed online, saved, and/or printed as needed. This information is available to authorized Title I lender personnel.