

its capacity to prevent and to identify and self-cort status of the attached interagency guidance.

This rescission applies to the transmitting document only and This questionnaire is for use in conjunction with to the attached interagency guidance. Refer to Comptroller's Program as a device for examiners to evaluate the Handbook - Consumer Compliance - Fair Lending for the

or issues selected for analysis. The questionnaire is not intended to be an absolute test of an institution's compliance management program. Programs containing all or most of the features described in the list may nonetheless be flawed for other reasons; conversely, a compliance program that encompasses only a portion of the factors listed below may nonetheless adequately support a strong program under appropriate circumstances. In short, you must exercise your best judgment in utilizing this list and in assessing the overall quality of an institution's efforts to ensure fair lending compliance.

If the transactions within the proposed scope are covered by a listed preventive measure, and the answer is "Yes," check the box in the left column. You may then reduce the intensity (mainly the sample size) of the planned comparative file review to the degree that the preventive measures cover transactions within the proposed scope. Document your findings in sufficient detail to justify any resulting reduction in the intensity of the examination.

You are not required to learn whether preventive measures apply to specific products outside the proposed scope. However, if the information you have obtained shows that the measure is a general practice of the institution, and thus applies to all loan products, check the box in the second column in order to assist future examination planning.

#### PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Determine whether policies and procedures exist that tend to prevent illegal disparate treatment in the transactions you plan to examine. There is no legal or agency requirement for institutions to conduct these activities. The absence of any of these policies and practices is never, by itself, a violation.



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		Yes	No	NA
_en	ding Practices and Standards			
1.	Principal policy issues			
	• Are <b>underwriting practices</b> clear, objective and generally consistent with industry standards?			
	<ul> <li>Is pricing within reasonably confined ranges with guidance linking variations to risk and/or cost factors?</li> </ul>			
	• Does management monitor the nature and frequency of exceptions to its standards?			
	• Are <b>denial reasons</b> accurately and promptly communicated to unsuccessful applicants?			
	• Are there clear and objective standards for referring applicants to (i) subsidiaries, affiliates, or other lending channels within the institution, (ii) classifying applicants as "prime" or subprime" borrowers, or (iii) deciding what kinds of alternative loan products should be offered or recommended to applicants?			
	• Are loan officers required to document any deviation from the rate sheet?			
	• Does management monitor consumer complaints alleging discrimination in loan pricing or underwriting?			
2.	Do training, application-processing aids, and other guidance correctly and adequately describe:			
	• Prohibited bases under ECOA, Regulation B, and the Fair Housing Act?			
	• Other substantive credit access requirements of Regulation B (e.g., spousal signatures, improper inquiries, protected income)?			
3.	Is it specifically <i>communicated to employees</i> that they must not, <i>on a prohibited basis:</i>			
	• Refuse to deal with individuals inquiring about credit?			
	• Discourage inquiries or applicants by delays, discourtesy, or other means?			
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	• Provide different, incomplete, or misleading information about the availability of loans, application requirements, and processing and approval standards or procedures (including selectively informing applicants about certain loan products while failing to inform them of alternatives)?			
	• Encourage or more vigorously assist only certain inquirers or applicants?			
	• Refer credit seekers to other institutions, more costly loan products, or potentially onerous features?			
	• Refer credit seekers to nontraditional products (i.e., negative amortization, interest only, "payment option" adjustable rate mortgages) when they could have qualified for traditional mortgages?			
	• Waive or grant exceptions to application procedures or credit standards?			
	• State a willingness to negotiate?			
	• Use different procedures or standards to evaluate applications?			
	• Use different procedures to obtain and evaluate appraisals?			
	• Provide certain applicants opportunities to correct or explain adverse or in- adequate information, or to provide additional information?			
	Accept alternative proofs or creditworthiness?			
	• Require co-signers?			
	Offer or authorize loan modifications?			
	• Suggest or permit loan assumptions?			
	• Impose late charges, reinstatement fees, etc.?			
	• Initiate collection or foreclosure?			
4.	Has the institution taken specific initiatives to prevent the following practices?			
	<ul> <li>Basing credit decisions on assumptions derived from racial, gender, and other stereotypes, rather than facts?</li> </ul>			
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		Yes	No	NA
	• Seeking consumers from a particular racial, ethnic, or religious group, or of a particular gender, to the exclusion of other types of consumers, on the basis of how "comfortable" the employee may feel in dealing with those different from him/her?			
	• Limiting the exchange of credit-related information or limiting efforts to qualify an applicant from a prohibited basis group.			
	• Drawing the institution's CRA assessment area by unreasonably excluding minority areas?			
5.	<ul> <li>Targeting certain borrowers or areas with less advantageous products?</li> <li>Does the institution have procedures to ensure that it does not:</li> </ul>			
3.				
	• State racial or ethnic limitations in advertisements?			
	• Employ words or use photos in advertisements that convey racial or ethnic limitations or preferences?			
	• Place advertisement that a reasonable person would regard as indicating minority consumers are less desirable?			
	• Advertise only in media serving predominately minority or nonminority areas of the market?			
	• Conduct other forms of marketing differentially in nonminority areas of the market?			
	• Market only through brokers known to serve one racial or ethnic group in the market?			
	• Use a prohibited basis in any prescreened solicitation?			
	• Provide financial incentives for loan officers to place applicants in nontraditional products or higher-risk products?			
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Yes	No	NA
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### Compliance Audit Function: Does the Institution Attempt to Detect Prohibited Disparate Treatment by Self-Test or Self-Evaluation?

NOTE: A self-test is any program, practice or study that is designed and specifically used to assess the institution's compliance with the ECOA and the Fair Housing Act. It creates data or factual information that is not otherwise available and cannot be derived from loan, application, or other records related to credit transactions (12 CFR 202.15(b)(1) and 24 CFR 100.141). The report, results, and many other records associated with a self-test are privileged unless an institution voluntarily discloses the report or results or otherwise forfeits the privilege. See 12 CFR 202.15(b)(2) and 24 CFR 100.142(a) for a complete listing of the types of information covered by the privilege. A self-evaluation, while generally having the same purpose as a self-test does not meet the self-test definition. It does not create any new data or factual information, but uses data readily available in loan or application files and other records used in credit transactions. See Using Self-Tests and Self-Evaluations to Streamline the Examination in the Appendix for more information about self-tests and self-evaluations.

While you may request the results of self-evaluations, you should not request the results of self-tests or any of the information listed in 12 CFR 202.15(b)(2) and 24 CFR 100.142(a). If an institution discloses the self-test report or results to its regulator, it will lose the privilege. The following items are intended to obtain information about the institution's approach to self-testing and self-evaluation, not the findings. Complete the questionnaire below for each self-evaluation and each self-test, where the institution voluntarily discloses the report or results. Evaluating the results of self-evaluations and voluntarily disclosed self-tests is described in Using Self-tests Self-Evaluations to Streamline the Examination in this Appendix.

	Mark the box if the answer is "yes" for the transactions with	thin the scope.		
1.	Are the transactions reviewed by an independent analyst w	ho:		
	• Is directed to report objective results?			
	• Has an adequate level of expertise?			
	• Produces written conclusions?			
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2.	Does the institution's approach for self-testing or self-evaluation call for:			
	• Attempting to explain major patterns shown in the HMDA or other loan data?			
	• Determining whether actual practices and standards differ from stated ones and basing the evaluation on the actual practices?			
	• Evaluating whether the reasons cited for denial are supported by facts relied on by the decision maker at the time of the decision?			
	• Comparing the treatment of prohibited basis group applicants to control group applicants?			
	• Obtaining explanations from decision makers for any unfavorable treatment of the prohibited basis group that departed from policy or customary practice?			
	• Covering significant decision points in the loan process where disparate treatment or discouragement might occur, including:			
	— The approve/deny decision?			
	— Pricing?			
	— Other terms and conditions?			
	• Covering at least as many transactions as examiners would independently, if using the Fair Lending Sample Size Tables in the Appendix for a product with the application volumes of the product to be evaluated?			
	• Maintaining information concerning personal characteristics collected as part of a self-test separately from application or loan files?			
	• Timely analysis of the data?			
	• Taking appropriate and timely corrective action?			
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3.	In the institution's plan for comparing the treatment of prohibited basis group applicants with that of control group applicants:			
	<ul> <li>Are control and prohibited basis groups based on a prohibited basis found in ECOA or the FHAct and defined clearly to isolate that prohibited basis for analysis?</li> </ul>			
	• Are appropriate data to be obtained to document treatment of applicants and the relative qualifications vis-à-vis the requirement in question?			
	• Will the data to be obtained reflect the data on which decisions were based?			
	• Does the plan call for comparing the denied applicants' qualifications related to the stated reason for denial with the corresponding qualifications for approved applicants?			
	• Are comparisons designed to identify instances in which prohibited basis group applicants were treated less favorably than control group applicants who were no better qualified?			
	• Is the evaluation designed to determine whether control and prohibited basis group applicants were treated differently in the processes by which the institution helped applicants overcome obstacles and by which their qualifications were enhanced?			
	• Are responses and explanations to be obtained for any apparent disparate treatment on a prohibited basis or other apparent violations of credit rights?			
	<ul> <li>Are reasons cited by credit decision makers to justify or explain instances of apparent disparate treatment to be verified?</li> </ul>			
4.	For self-tests under ECOA that involved the collection of applicant personal characteristics, did the institution:			
	• Develop a written plan that describes or identifies the:			
	— Specific purpose of the self-test?			
	— Methodology to be used?			
	— Geographic area(s) to be covered?			
	— Type(s) of credit transactions to be reviewed?			
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			Yes	No	NA
<ul> <li>Entity that will conduct</li> </ul>	t the test and analyze the data?				
<ul> <li>Timing of the test, income self-test</li> </ul>	cluding start and end dates or the	he duration of the			
<ul> <li>Other related self-test</li> </ul>	data that is not privileged?				
Disclose at the time applie	cant characteristic information is	requested, that:			
— The applicant will not	be required to provide the inform	nation?			
— The creditor is request ECOA?	ing the information to monitor it	s compliance with			
<b>Corrective Measures</b>					
	tion has provisions to take appro- tef to victims for any violations in				
• Who is to receive the re self-test?	sults of a self-evaluation or vol	untarily disclosed			
• What decision process is s	supposed to follow delivery of th	e information?			
• Is feedback to be given to	staff whose actions are reviewed	1?			
What types of corrective a	action may occur?				
• Are consumers to be:					
<ul> <li>Offered credit if they v</li> </ul>	vere improperly denied?	\'\\			
<ul> <li>Compensated for any of</li> </ul>	lamages, both out of pocket and	compensatory?			
<ul> <li>Notified of their legal</li> </ul>	rights?				
2. Other corrective action:					
<ul> <li>Are institutional policies of crimination to be corrected</li> </ul>	or procedures that may have cond?	tributed to the dis-			
• Are employees involved t	o be trained and/or disciplined?				
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		Yes	No	NA
strategy or	for community outreach programs and/or changes in marketing loan products to better serve minority segments of the instituet to be considered?			
	nd oversight systems to be improved in order to ensure there is ace of any identified discrimination?			
COMMENTS				
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