



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Habitat for Humanity program. Our goal as a non-profit ministry is to provide low-income families with the opportunity to buy safe, decent, affordable housing.

Each year we have families who are unable to partner with us because of negative financial situations and unresolved credit issues. There are steps you can take to improve your credit and improve your chances at being selected, even if your credit is not perfect.

1. The first step is to obtain a copy of your credit report. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report one time per year online at www.annualcreditreport.com.
2. If, after obtaining a credit report you find that you have credit issues, contact the creditors and arrange to make monthly payments to each creditor focusing on paying off the smaller accounts first. Oftentimes, creditors are willing to accept smaller payoff amounts.
3. Keep track of your payments to creditors. Although we do not expect you to have perfect credit, we would like to see that you are making an effort to improve it. Applicants that are denied because of credit issues are encouraged to reapply once they have a payment plan in place and are making reasonable progress towards resolution of the negative accounts. Although it is not a guarantee that you will be accepted into the program, improving your credit could increase your chances.

If you have any credit issues, don't wait, begin working to improve your situation now!

***Union County Habitat for Humanity
Credit Guidelines and Policy***

1. Bankruptcies must have been fully discharged for two (2) years and applicant should have Reestablished positive credit.
2. Debt payments are not to exceed 25% of gross monthly income.
3. All judgments and/or liens must be paid in full before closing.
3. Total of unpaid judgments, child support, collections should be less than 25% gross monthly income.
4. There should be no more than 6 credit report inquiries for possible debts within last 6 months.
5. Any debt or income changes incurred between application and closing may change the debt-to-income ratio and will be reassessed before the closing date, using a current credit report.
6. No more than 25% of accounts on credit report should be past due.

If you have any questions about Union County Habitat for Humanity's credit policies, please contact Alice Baker, Family Services Coordinator at 704-296-9414 or alicebaker@unionhabitat.org.

01/07

