

Frequently Asked Questions — Subsidy Scheme for Housing Finance

Sr. No.	FAQ	Response
1.	Can financing under the facility be utilized for the purchase of plot?	A plot of land can only be purchased under the facility if a house is to be constructed on the plot and financing is meant both for purchase of land and construction thereon provided all other terms and conditions of the facility including maximum price of house and maximum financing under the relevant tier are complied with.
2.	How can the first time homeownership be established?	In order to establish first time homeownership, financing bank will obtain an undertaking to the same effect from its customer with necessary provisions for termination of subsidy and other penalties, in case it is established at a later stage, that the customer owned a house at the time of application for availing subsidy facility.
3.	Is the financing also available for purchase of flat	Yes, financing will be available for purchase of flat which meets covered area requirements specified for 'apartment' under the Facility.
4.	Is the financing for expansion/extension in the existing housing unit allowed?	Yes, financing will be available for expansion/extension of existing housing unit provided the housing unit after expansion/extension falls within the criteria specified under the facility.
5.	Can financing under the scheme be utilized for renovation of the existing residential unit?	No, financing for renovation of existing housing unit will not be allowed under the facility.
6.	Is bank staff eligible to avail financing under this facility?	No, bank staff is not eligible under the facility
6a.	Whether banks' third party staff is eligible under the scheme?	Yes
6b.	Are contractual employees of banks eligible for financing under the Scheme?	Contractual employees of banks who are below officer grade and are not eligible to avail staff housing finance are eligible for financing under the Scheme.
6c.	Whether staff of Microfinance banks is eligible?	Yes
6d.	In case <u>if a bank staff is NOT eligible</u> under their respective HR house financing policy/ facility (for whatever reason), whether such employees of the bank can avail this scheme?	No. Permanent employees of the bank are not eligible under the scheme.
7.	What does new house mean?	New house/ apartment/ flat means a unit not more than 1 year old from the date of application, as established by Completion Certificate.

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7a.	Where "Completion Certificate" is NOT available , how we can gauge age of property?	In such areas where completion certificate is not available, valuation certificate issued by external valuers may be considered.
8.	What does first purchase mean?	First purchase means first transfer of the house/ apartment/ flat.
8a.	If the property is being sold out in 1 year to 2 nd owner, can the 2 nd owner apply for the financing under this facility?	Yes
9.	How much income of co-applicant can be clubbed and how many co-applicants are allowed?	In case of co-applicants, 100% income of co-applicants may be clubbed for credit assessment. Up to four co-applicants are allowed for a single housing unit.
10.	While availing the subsidy, is it allowed to sell or rent out the residential unit?	Home owner will not be allowed to sell the housing unit before expiry of 5 years from the date of acquisition. Further, during this period, he/she will not be allowed to rent out financed housing unit.
11.	What is difference between Tier 1 (T1) and Tier 2 (T2)?	<p>Tier 1(T1): Maximum Financing Amount is up to Rs. 2.7 million</p> <p>Tier 2(T2): Maximum Financing Amount is up to Rs. 6.0 million</p> <p>Tier 1(T1): Maximum value of Housing Unit / Apartment is 3.5 million</p> <p>Tier 2(T2): Maximum value of Housing Unit / Apartment is 'No Cap'</p> <p>Tier 1(T1): Size of Housing Unit / Apartment is (a) House up to 125 sq. yds. (5 Marla) with maximum covered area of 850 sq. ft. and (b) Flat/apartment with maximum covered area of 850 sq. ft.</p> <p>Tier 2(T2): Size of Housing Unit / Apartment is (a) House up to 125 sq. yds. (5 Marla) and (b) flat/apartment with maximum covered area of 1,250 sq. ft.</p>
12.	What would be the size of housing units under Tier 3 in terms of Marla?	Housing units under Tier 3 are required to be greater than 5 Marla but up to 10 Marla.
12a.	Is there any covered area requirement for house in Tier 3 as covered area is only mentioned against apartment/ flat?	(a) House up to 250 sq. yds. (10 Marla) and (b) flat/apartment with maximum covered area of 2,000 sq. ft.
13.	In case the plot size of housing unit is 5 Marla but the covered area is more than 850 square feet, what would be its classification in terms of Tiers defined in the scheme?	(a) House up to 125 sq. yds. (5 Marla) and (b) flat/apartment with maximum covered area of 1,250 sq. ft. will be covered under Tier 2 (T2) if the Financing Amount required is maximum Rs. 6.0 million.

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13a.	If the price of housing unit is greater than Rs. 3.5 million (say Rs. 4.0 million) but size of housing unit is under Tier 2 i.e. upto 5 marla with covered area upto 850 sq/ft. Will it fall under tier-2 or tier-3 & why?	It will fall under Tier 2. This has already been clarified in FAQ 13, available on SBP website. In order for a house/ flat/ apartment to be eligible for under particular Tier, all criteria under that Tier has to be met. If any of the criteria exceeds prescribed limit, financing will fall under higher Tier.
14.	What financing-to-Value ratio should be observed while extending financing under the scheme?	The housing finance under Tier 1 and Tier 2 shall be provided at a maximum financing-to-Value ratio of 90:10 whereas it is 85:15 for Tier 3.
15.	Will the subsidy be available even after the financing is classified as loss?	Subsidy will be discontinued on categorization of a financing as “Loss”.
16.	Is unequal monthly installment for the repayment of financing allowed under the scheme?	The repayment of financing under this Facility will be in equal monthly installments.
17.	Will there be any additional unit price in case of for early termination?	In case of early termination, banks will not charge any additional unit price to the customer.
18.	Which KIBOR shall be used for financing pricing?	The KIBOR used for pricing will be One Year KIBOR to be reset every year.
19.	Is the pricing spread for banks mentioned in the scheme fixed for each Tier?	The spread mentioned in the scheme for each Tier is the maximum spread. Banks may opt for less spread.
20.	Can banks obtain documents in addition to checklist provided by PBA?	The financing banks will not require customer to provide documents in excess of standard checklist of documents circulated by Pakistan Banks’ Association.
21.	Is it right to say that the financing tenor under the facility is up to 10 years with flexibility to go up to 20 years, depending upon choice of customers.	It is other way round. The financing tenor is up to 20 years with the flexibility on the choice of the customer.
22.	What is the minimum financing tenor under this scheme?	Minimum financing tenor under the scheme is 5 years.
23.	Is NRP eligible under this scheme either as a main applicant or co-applicant?	The financing can be extended to an NRP holding CNIC. However, financing bank has to adhere to all relevant regulations including Foreign Exchange Regulations.
23a.	Are NRP allowed to avail financing under the subsidy facility?	Yes, NRPs holding NICOP can also avail financing with a local CNIC holding co – applicant.

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24.	In case of both salaried & non-salaried individual working in an informal sector , how can a minimum required tenor of job & business be ascertained in the absence of any formal document?	There is no regulatory requirement of minimum tenure for Job/ business of a customer.
25.	Can this facility be terminated/paid-off at any point of time say before 5 years or there is any minimum terminated/pay-off period.	Facility can be terminated/paid-off by customer at any point in time. Further, financing banks will not charge any additional price in case of early termination by the customer.
26.	Is there any maximum income criteria ?	There is no such regulatory requirement.
27.	If applicant holds an agricultural land , can he/she apply under this scheme?	Scheme does not bar such arrangement provided all other Federal/ Provincial Governments' rules & regulations are observed.
28.	In case where both spouse are working , can they both apply on their own?	Both the spouse can apply. However, only one of the spouse can avail financing under the scheme.
29.	Kindly also provide subsidy mechanism for this scheme.	State Bank will provide procedure of claiming subsidy separately.