Great news for Homeowners — The New \$6,500 Homebuyer Tax Credit!

New Tax Credit Benefits Both Repeat and First-time Buyers.

Congress has extended and expanded the homebuyer tax credit. While extending the \$8,000 credit for first-time buyers, the new law also gives qualified homeowners a tax credit up to \$6,500 when they purchase a new home.

New \$6,500 tax credit for current homeowners:

• The new law offers a tax credit for repeat homebuyers. Homeowners who have lived in one residence for five consecutive years during the previous eight can claim a tax credit of 10% of the purchase price, up to \$6,500.

 Even if you are currently renting, you may claim the credit for a home purchase as long as you have lived in your own home for five consecutive years in the previous eight.

 The repeat buyer credit applies to new home purchase made after November 6, 2009, the date of the law.

Extension of the \$8,000 tax credit for first-time buyers:

• First-time homebuyers can claim a credit of as much as 10% of the purchase price, up to \$8,000. (Homes above \$800,000 do not qualify for any credit.) First-time homebuyers are defined as not owning a principal residence for three years before the new home purchase.

Provisions for both first-time and repeat homebuyers:

• The tax credit is a dollar-for-dollar reduction in taxes owed to the I.R.S. For example, if the buyer's entire income tax liability for the year is \$5,000, and an \$8,000 credit can be claimed, that buyer would receive a \$3,000 refund check from the I.R.S.

 Income limits for both first-time and repeat buyers have been increased. The

full amount of the credit may be claimed by single filers with income up to \$125,000 and for married couples filing jointly up to \$225,000. The tax credit is phased out over an additional \$20,000 of income in both cases.

 Homebuyers may claim the credit for a purchase in 2009 on either their 2008 or 2009 tax returns. 2010

buyers may claim the credit on their 2009 or 2010 returns.

- The purchased home must be used as your principal residence for the next three consecutive years.
- Homebuyers now have through April 30, 2010 to have a purchase contract in place and settlement must close before July 1, 2010.
- Any type of residence qualifies: single family homes, condominiums, co-op apartments, attached or semi-attached townhomes, and more.

The new tax credit law replaces the previous provision that expired on November 30, 2009. If you had a transaction pending but were unable to make settlement before that date, you may be able to take advantage of the new expanded benefits.

And if you are considering a new home purchase – don't let this opportunity pass you by!

Talk to your Prudential Fox & Roach Sales Associate or Trident Mortgage Consultant for more details.



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