

PREPARING TO BUY CHECKLIST



LOOKING TO BUY, BUT NOT SURE WHERE TO START?

THE FOLLOWING STEPS WILL HELP OPEN THE DOOR TO YOUR NEW HOME.

DEFINE YOUR GOALS AND TIMELINE

- Knowing your destination will help in determining your next steps.

ATTEND HOME BUYING WORKSHOPS

- www.huecu.org/workshops

SET UP AUTOMATIC SAVINGS FOR YOUR DOWN PAYMENT

- The larger the down payment, the lower your monthly mortgage payments.

USE SEPARATE SAVING ACCOUNT(S) FOR HOME BUYING EXPENSES

- A down payment isn't the only expense to save for; remember to save for relocation, closing, and other home expenses. Separate accounts will help you track your savings goal progress.

BUILD YOUR CREDIT SCORE

- We recommend a 720 or higher credit score. GreenPath Financial Wellness accredited credit counselors can help you improve your credit score for free.

REDUCE DEBT-TO-INCOME RATIO

- Lowering your debt will put you in a stronger financial situation.

GET PRE-APPROVAL

- Knowing how much you can afford will help as you search for homes. Remember, you don't have to go with the highest amount of your pre-approval.

BUILD YOUR HOME BUYING TEAM

- Talk to friends, relatives, and us at HUECU, to find a realtor, mortgage loan originator and other key teammates that will help you through the process.

- _____
- _____
- _____

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

MEET WITH A HOME BUYING EXPERT:

- HARVARD SQUARE
- ASSEMBLY ROW
- MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL
- LONGWOOD MEDICAL AREA
- CHARLESTOWN NAVY YARD

WANT TO DISCUSS YOUR SPECIFIC SITUATION?

MEET WITH A HOME BUYING EXPERT:

- In person or over the phone
- Available 7 days a week, including evening hours
- Available in Spanish

SCHEDULE A MEETING:

HUECU.ORG/HOMEBUYING

Available to Harvard and affiliated community and non-HUECU members.