



POLICIES, RULES, AND REGULATIONS	
Title: INVESTMENT POLICY	
Approval Date: October 2024	Effective Date: October 2024
Approved By: Board of Directors	DMS #39709

INVESTMENT POLICY

1.0 POLICY

1.1 WHEREAS; the Legislature of the State of California has declared that the deposit and investment of public funds by local officials and local agencies is an issue of statewide concern; and

1.2 WHEREAS; the legislative body of a local agency may invest surplus monies not required for the immediate necessities of the local agency in accordance with the provisions of California Government Code Sections 53601 et seq.; and

1.3 WHEREAS; the Treasurer of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (“Agency”), acting under the direction and authority of the Finance Committee of the Agency, shall annually prepare and submit a statement of investment policy and such policy, and any changes thereto, shall be considered by the Board of Directors at a public meeting;

1.4 NOW THEREFORE, it shall be the policy of the Agency to invest funds in a manner, which will provide the highest investment return with the maximum security while meeting the daily cash flow demands of the Agency and conforming to all statutes governing the investment of Agency funds.

2.0 SCOPE

This investment policy applies to all financial assets of the Agency, as set forth in the State Government Code, Sections 53600 *et seq.*, with the following exceptions:

2.1 Proceeds of debt issuance shall be invested in accordance with the Agency’s general investment philosophy as set forth in this policy (e.g., Capital Project Fund, Debt Service Fund); however, such proceeds are to be invested pursuant to the permitted investment provisions of their specific bond indentures.

2.2 CalPERS, OPEB trusts, and the investment of employees’ deferred compensation funds invested pursuant to Government Code Section 53609.



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POOLING OF FUNDS

These funds are accounted for in the annual Agency audit. The Agency pools all cash for investment purposes. This policy is applicable, but not limited to all funds listed below:

General/Operating Fund – 101

Special Revenue Funds

- a) One Percent Property Tax Fund – 101
- b) Facility Capacity Fee Fund – 202
- c) State Water Project Fund – 204

Reserve Funds
Enterprise Fund
Grant Funds

Blended Component Units

- a) Devil’s Den Water District – 970
- b) Upper Santa Clara Valley JPA – 975
- c) SCV Groundwater Sustainability Agency – 980

3.0 PRUDENCE; RESPONSIBILITY

3.1 Prudence: Investments shall be made with judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, including, but not limited to, the general economic conditions and the anticipated needs of the Agency, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs; not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived. The standard of prudence to be used by investment officials shall be the "prudent investor" standard (California Government Code 53600.3) and shall be applied in the context of managing an overall portfolio.

3.2 Responsibility: The Treasurer, Investment Officers, and other individuals assigned to manage the investment portfolio, acting with the intent and scope of this investment policy while exercising due diligence, shall be relieved of personal responsibility for the credit risk and/or market price risk for securities held in the investment portfolio, provided deviations from expectations are reported in a timely manner and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments.

4.0 OBJECTIVES

When investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling and managing public funds, the primary objectives, in priority order, of the investment activities shall be:



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- 4.1 **Safety:** Safety of principal is the foremost objective of the investment program. Investments of the Agency shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure the preservation of capital in the overall portfolio. To attain this objective, diversification is required in order that potential losses on individual securities do not exceed the income generated from the remainder of the portfolio.
- 4.2 **Liquidity:** The investment portfolio will remain sufficiently liquid to enable the Agency to meet all operating requirements and budgeted expenditures. Investments will be undertaken with the expectation that unplanned expenses will be incurred; therefore, portfolio liquidity will be created to cover reasonable contingency costs.
- 4.3 **Return on Investments:** The investment portfolio shall be designed with the objective of attaining a market rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account the investment risk constraints and the cash flow characteristics of the portfolio. The goal is to maximize return while ensuring that safety and liquidity objectives are not compromised.

5.0 **DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY**

Authority to manage the investment program is derived from California Government Code 53600, et seq. Overall accountability and authority for implementation of this policy shall remain with the Board of Directors of the Agency and overseen by the Agency’s Finance Committee. The day-to-day responsibility for management and implementation of the investment program is the responsibility of the General Manager who may delegate the responsibility to the Treasurer, who, where and when appropriate, shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with this investment policy. With this delegation the Treasurer is given the authority to utilize internal staff and outside investment managers to assist in the investment program. The Treasurer shall use care to assure that those assigned responsibility to assist in the management of the Agency's portfolio do so in accordance with this policy.

External investment advisers may be granted discretion to purchase and sell investment securities in accordance with this investment policy.

No person may engage in an investment transaction except as provided under the terms of this policy and the procedures established by the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all transactions undertaken and shall establish a system of controls to regulate the activities of subordinate officials. Under the provisions of California Government Code 53600.3, the Treasurer is a trustee and a fiduciary subject to the prudent investor standard.



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6.0 ETHICS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Treasurer and officers and employees involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with the proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions. Officials and staff members involved with the investment function shall disclose to the Board of Directors any personal financial interest with a financial institution, broker or investment issuer conducting business with the Agency. Officials and staff members shall further disclose to the Board of Directors any personal financial interest in any entity related to the investment performance of the Agency's portfolio.

7.0 AUTHORIZED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND DEALERS

The Treasurer will maintain a list of financial institutions, selected on the basis of credit worthiness, financial strength, experience and minimal capitalization authorized to provide investment services. In addition, a list will also be maintained of approved security broker/dealers selected by credit worthiness who are authorized to provide investment and financial advisory services in the State of California. No public deposit shall be made except in a qualified public depository as established by state laws.

For brokers/dealers of government securities and other investments, the Treasurer shall select only broker/dealers who are licensed and in good standing with the California Department of Securities, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the National Association of Securities Dealers or other applicable self-regulatory organizations.

Before engaging in investment transactions with a broker/dealer, the Treasurer shall have received from said firm a signed Certification Form. This form shall attest that the individual responsible for the Agency's account with that firm has reviewed the Agency's Investment Policy and that the firm understands the policy and intends to present investment recommendations and transactions to the Agency that are appropriate under the terms and conditions of the Investment Policy.

Selection of financial institutions and broker/dealers authorized to engage in transactions will be at the sole discretion of the Agency, except where the Agency utilizes an external investment adviser in which case the Agency may rely on the adviser for selection. To the extent practicable, the Treasurer or its external investment advisor shall endeavor to complete investment transactions using a competitive bid process whenever possible.

The Agency is a local agency authorized to invest surplus monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF). LAIF is a special trust fund in the custody of the State Treasurer and the Local Investment Advisory Board created under Government Code Section 16429.2, which advises the State Treasurer on the investment and reinvestment of LAIF deposits. Each local agency with LAIF deposits has a separate account within LAIF, but the total deposits in LAIF are managed as a pooled investment account. The securities eligible for LAIF investments are statutorily specified in Government Code



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Section 16430 and are more conservative than those investments permitted under Government Code Section 53601, which governs the management of invested surplus monies by local agencies. Accordingly, the Treasurer need not be concerned with the qualifications of those financial institutions and broker/dealers with whom LAIF transacts business.

8.0 PORTFOLIO MATURITY LIMITS

8.1 The maximum maturity for any single investment in the portfolio shall not exceed five years, unless the security is a US Treasury, Agency, or Municipal bond, in which case the Board has approved a maximum maturity is 10 years.

8.2 Market risk is the risk that the portfolio value will fluctuate due to changes in the general level of interest rates. The Agency recognizes that, over time, longer-term portfolios have the potential to achieve higher returns. On the other hand, longer-term portfolios have higher volatility of return. The Agency will mitigate market risk by providing adequate liquidity for short-term cash needs, and by making longer-term investments only with funds that are not needed for current cash flow purposes.

The Agency further recognizes that certain types of securities, including variable rate securities, securities with principal paydowns prior to maturity, and securities with embedded options, will affect the market risk profile of the portfolio differently in different interest rate environments. Therefore, the duration of the portfolio will generally be approximately equal to the duration (typically, plus or minus 20%) of a Market Benchmark, an index selected by the Agency based on the Agency’s investment objectives, constraints and risk tolerances.

9.0 AUTHORIZED AND SUITABLE INVESTMENTS

The Agency is empowered by California Government Code 53601 et seq. to invest in the following:

- 9.1 Bonds issued by the Agency.
- 9.2 United States Treasury Bills, Notes and Bonds.
- 9.3 Registered state warrants or treasury notes or bonds issued by the State of California.
- 9.4 Registered treasury notes or bonds of any of the 49 United States in addition to California, including bonds payable solely out of revenues from revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by a state or by a department, board, agency, or authority of any of the other 49 United States, in addition to California. The securities are rated in a rating category of “A” or its equivalent or



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better by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization (“NRSRO”). No more than 30% of the total portfolio may be in Municipal Securities.

- 9.5 Bonds, notes, warrants or other evidence of debt issued by a local agency within the State of California, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by the local agency, or by a department, board, agency, or authority of the local agency; and also including pooled investment accounts sponsored by the State of California, County Treasurers, other local agencies or Joint Powers Agencies. The securities are rated in a rating category of “A” or its equivalent or better by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization (“NRSRO”). No more than 30% of the total portfolio may be in Municipal Securities. The LAIF is an approved pooled investment account.
- 9.6 Federal agency or United States government-sponsored enterprise obligations, participations, or other instruments, including those issued by, or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by federal agencies or United States government-sponsored enterprises. No more than 30% of the total portfolio may be invested in any single federal agency/GSE issuer. The maximum percent of federal agency callable securities in the total portfolio will be 20%.
- 9.7 Bankers’ acceptances otherwise known as bills of exchange or time drafts that are drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank. Purchases of bankers’ acceptances may not exceed 180 days’ maturity or 40% of the Agency’s money that may be invested pursuant to this policy. However, no more than 30% of the Agency’s money can be invested in the bankers’ acceptances of any single commercial bank.
- 9.8 Commercial paper of “prime” quality of the highest ranking or of the highest letter and number rating as provided for by a nationally-recognized statistical-rating organization. The entity that issues the commercial paper shall either be:
 - 9.8.1 organized and operating within the United States as a general corporation, shall have total assets in excess of Five Hundred Million Dollars (\$500,000,000), and shall issue debt, other than commercial paper, if any, that is rated in a rating category of “A” or its equivalent or higher by a nationally-recognized statistical-rating organization; or
 - 9.8.2 organized within the United States as a special-purpose corporation, trust, or limited liability company, have program-wide credit enhancements including, but not limited to, over collateralization, letters of credit, or surety bond, and has commercial paper that is rated “A-1” or



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higher, or the equivalent, by a nationally-recognized statistical rating organization.

Eligible commercial paper shall have a maximum maturity of 270 days or less. The Agency shall invest no more than 25% of its money in eligible commercial paper. Under a provision sunseting on January 1, 2026, provided that if the Agency has \$100,000,000 or more of investment assets under management, the Agency may invest no more than 40% of its money in eligible commercial paper.

- 9.9 (i) Negotiable certificates of deposit issued by a nationally or state-chartered bank, a savings association or a federal association (as defined by Section 5102 of the Financial Code), a state or federal credit union, or by a federal or state-licensed branch of a foreign bank. Purchases of negotiable certificates of deposit may not exceed 30% of the Agency’s money which may be invested pursuant to this policy. The Board of Directors and the Treasurer are prohibited from investing Agency funds, or funds in the Agency’s custody, in negotiable certificates of deposit issued by a state or federal credit union if a member of the Board of Directors, or any person with investment decision-making authority within the Agency also serves on the Board of Directors, or any committee appointed by the Board of Directors, or the credit committee or the supervisory committee of the state or federal credit union issuing the negotiable certificates of deposit. The amount of the NCD insured up to the FDIC limit does not require any credit ratings. Any amount above the FDIC insured limit must be issued by institutions which have short-term debt obligations rated “A-1” or its equivalent or better by at least one NRSRO; or long-term obligations rated in a rating category of “A” or its equivalent or better by at least one NRSRO.
- (ii) Deposits at a commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association or credit union that uses a private sector entity that assists in the placement of such certificates of deposit, pursuant to Government Code Section 53601.8. Deposits shall be subject to Government Code Section 53638 and may not exceed 50% of the Agency’s money which may be invested pursuant to this policy.
- 9.10 Repurchase/Reverse Repurchase Agreements of any securities authorized by Section 53061. The market value of securities that underlay a repurchase agreement shall be valued at 102% or greater of the funds borrowed against those securities, and are subject to the special limits and conditions of California Government Code 53601(j).
- 9.11 Medium term notes, defined as all corporate and depository institution debt securities with a maximum remaining maturity of 5 years or less, issued by corporations organized and operating with the United States or by depository institutions licensed by the United States or any state and operating within the



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United States. Notes eligible for investment under this subdivision shall be rated in a rating category of “A” or its equivalent or better by a nationally recognized rating service. Purchases of medium-term notes shall not include other instruments authorized by this policy and shall not exceed 30% of the Agency’s total portfolio which may be invested pursuant to this policy.

- 9.12 Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies (mutual funds) investing in the securities and obligations authorized by this policy, and shares in money market mutual funds, subject to the restrictions of California Government Code Section 53601(l). The purchase price of investments under this subdivision shall not exceed 20% of the Agency’s total portfolio under this policy. However, no more than 10% of the Agency’s total portfolio may be invested in any one mutual fund.

- 9.13 Moneys held by a trustee or fiscal agent and pledged to the payment or security of bonds or other indebtedness, or obligations under a lease, installment sale, or other agreement of a local agency, or certificates of participation in those bonds, indebtedness, or lease installment sale, or other agreements, may be invested in accordance with the statutory provisions governing the issuance of those bonds, indebtedness, or lease installment sale, or other agreement, or to the extent not inconsistent therewith or if there are no specific statutory provisions, in accordance with the ordinance, resolution, indenture, or agreement of the local agency providing for the issuance.

- 9.14 Notes, bonds, or other obligations that are at all times secured by a valid first priority security interest in securities of the types listed by California Government Code Section 53651 as eligible securities for the purpose of securing local agency deposits having a market value at least equal to that required by California Government Code Section 53652 for the purpose of securing local agency deposits. The securities serving as collateral shall be placed by delivery or book entry into the custody of a trust company or the trust department of a bank which is not affiliated with the issuer of the secured obligation, and the security interest shall be perfected in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Commercial Code or federal regulations applicable to the types of securities in which the security interest is granted.

- 9.15 Asset backed, mortgage passthrough security, collateralized mortgage obligation, mortgage-backed or other pay-through bond, equipment lease-backed certificate, consumer receivable passthrough certificate, or consumer receivable-backed bond from issuers not defined in sections 9.2 and 9.6 shall have:



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- 9.15.1 A maximum legal final maturity that does not exceed five years.
- 9.15.2 A rating category of “AA” or its equivalent or better by a nationally recognized rating service.
- 9.15.3 May not exceed 20% of the Agency's surplus moneys that may be invested pursuant to this policy.
- 9.15.4 No more than 5% of the total portfolio may be invested in any single Asset-Backed or Commercial Mortgage security issuer.

- 9.16 Shares of beneficial interest issued by a joint powers authority organized pursuant to Section 6509.7 that invests in the securities and obligations authorized under Government Code Section 53601. Each share shall represent an equal proportional interest in the underlying pool of securities owned by the joint powers authority. To be eligible, the joint powers authority issuing the shares must have retained an investment advisor that is registered or exempt from registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission, have not less than five years of experience in investing in the securities and obligations authorized under Government Code Section 53601, and have assets under management in excess of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000).

- 9.17 Proposition 1A receivables sold pursuant to California Government Code Section 53999. A “Proposition 1A receivable” constitutes the right to payment of moneys due or to become due to a local agency, pursuant to clause (iii) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 25.5 of Article XIII of the California Constitution and Section 100.06 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

- 9.18 United States dollar denominated senior unsecured unsubordinated obligations issued or unconditionally guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Finance Corporation, or Inter-American Development Bank, with a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less, and eligible for purchase and sale within the United States. Investments under this subdivision shall be rated in a rating category of “AA” or its equivalent or better by a nationally recognized rating service and shall not exceed 30 percent of the Agency's moneys that may be invested pursuant to this policy. No more than 10% of the total portfolio may be invested in any single issuer.

- 9.19 Deposits at a commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association or credit union that uses a private sector entity that assists in the placement of such certificates of deposit, pursuant to Government Code Section 53601.8. Deposits shall be subject to Government Code Section 53638 and may not exceed 50% of the Agency’s total portfolio which may be invested pursuant to this policy.

- 9.20 Any other investment security authorized under the provisions of California Government Code Sections 5922 and 53601.



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California Code (Source: CDIAC, As of January 1, 2024)

INVESTMENT TYPE	MAXIMUM MATURITY ^c	MAXIMUM SPECIFIED % OF PORTFOLIO ^d	MINIMUM QUALITY REQUIREMENTS	GOV'T CODE SECTIONS
Local Agency Bonds	5 years	None	None	53601(a)
U.S. Treasury Obligations	5 years	None	None	53601(b)
State Obligations—CA And Others	5 years	None	None	53601(c) 53601(d)
CA Local Agency Obligations	5 years	None	None	53601(e)
U.S Agency Obligations	5 years	None	None	53601(f)
Bankers' Acceptances	180 days	40% ^e	None	53601(g)
Commercial Paper—Non-Pooled Funds ^f (under \$100,000,000 of investments)	270 days or less	25% of the agency's money ^a	Highest letter and number rating by an NRSRO ^h	53601(h)(2)(c)
Commercial Paper—Non-Pooled Funds ⁱ (min. \$100,000,000 of investments)	270 days or less	40% of the agency's money ^a	Highest letter and number rating by an NRSRO ^h	53601(h)(2)(c)
Commercial Paper—Pooled Funds ^j	270 days or less	40% of the agency's money ^a	Highest letter and number rating by an NRSRO ^h	53635(a)(1)
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	5 years	30% ^k	None	53601(i)
Non-negotiable Certificates of Deposit	5 years	None	None	53630 et seq.
Placement Service Deposits	5 years	50% ^l	None	53601.8 and 53635.8
Placement Service Certificates of Deposit	5 years	50% ^l	None	53601.8 and 53635.8
Repurchase Agreements	1 year	None	None	53601(j)
Reverse Repurchase Agreements and Securities Lending Agreements	92 days ^m	20% of the base value of the portfolio	None ⁿ	53601(j)
Medium-Term Notes ^o	5 years or less	30%	"A" rating category or its equivalent or better	53601(k)
Mutual Funds And Money Market Mutual Funds	N/A	20% ^p	Multiple ^{q, r}	53601(l) and 53601.6(b)
Collateralized Bank Deposits ^s	5 years	None	None	53630 et seq. and 53601(n)
Mortgage Pass-Through and Asset-Backed Securities ^t	5 years or less ^t	20%	"AA" rating category or its equivalent or better ^t	53601(o)
County Pooled Investment Funds	N/A	None	None	27133
Joint Powers Authority Pool	N/A	None	Multiple ^u	53601(p)
Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)	N/A	None	None	16429.1
Voluntary Investment Program Fund ^v	N/A	None	None	16340
Supranational Obligations ^w	5 years or less	30%	"AA" rating category or its equivalent or better	53601(q)
Public Bank Obligations	5 years	None	None	53601(r), 53635(c) and 57603



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Footnotes for CGC Allowable Investments

- ^a Sources: Sections 16340, 16429.1, 27133, 53601, 53601.6, 53601.8, 53630 et seq., 53635, 53635.8, and 57603.
- ^b Municipal Utilities Districts have the authority under the Public Utilities Code Section 12671 to invest in certain securities not addressed here.
- ^c Section 53601 provides that the maximum term of any investment authorized under this section, unless otherwise stated, is five years from the settlement date. However, the legislative body may grant express authority to make investments either specifically or as a part of an investment program approved by the legislative body that exceeds this five year remaining maturity limit. Such approval must be issued no less than three months prior to the purchase of any security exceeding the five-year maturity limit.
- ^d Percentages apply to all portfolio investments regardless of source of funds. For instance, cash from a reverse repurchase agreement would be subject to the restrictions.
- ^e No more than 30% of the agency's money may be in bankers' acceptances of any one commercial bank.
- ^f Applies to local agencies, other than counties or a city and county, with less than \$100 million of investment assets under management. Includes agencies defined as a city, a district, or other local agency that do not pool money in deposits or investment with other local agencies, other than local agencies that have the same governing body.
- ^g Local agencies, other than counties or a city and county, may purchase no more than 10% of the outstanding commercial paper and medium-term notes of any single issuer.
- ^h Issuing corporation must be organized and operating within the U.S., have assets in excess of \$500 million, and debt other than commercial paper must be in a rating category of "A" or its equivalent or higher by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization, or the issuing corporation must be organized within the U.S. as a special purpose corporation, trust, or LLC, have program wide credit enhancements, and have commercial paper that is rated "A-1" or higher, or the equivalent, by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.
- ⁱ Applies to counties or a city and county, and the City of Los Angeles that have \$100 million or more of investment assets under management.
- ^j Includes agencies defined as a county, a city and county, or other local agency that pools money in deposits or investments with other local agencies, including local agencies that have the same governing body. Local agencies that pool exclusively with other local agencies that have the same governing body must adhere to the limits set forth in Section 53601(h)(2)(C).
- ^k No more than 30% of the agency's money may be in negotiable certificates of deposit that are authorized under Section 53601(i).
- ^l Effective January 1, 2020, no more than 50% of the agency's money may be invested in deposits, including certificates of deposit, through a placement service as authorized under 53601.8 (excludes negotiable certificates of deposit authorized under Section 53601(j)). On January 1, 2026, the maximum percentage of the portfolio reverts back to 30%. Investments made pursuant to 53635.8 remain subject to a maximum of 30% of the portfolio.
- ^m Reverse repurchase agreements or securities lending agreements may exceed the 92-day term if the agreement includes a written codical guaranteeing a minimum earning or spread for the entire period between the sale of a security using a reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement and the final maturity dates of the same security.
- ⁿ Reverse repurchase agreements must be made with primary dealers of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or with a nationally or state chartered bank that has a significant relationship with the local agency. The local agency must have held the securities used for the agreements for at least 30 days.
- ^o "Medium-term notes" are defined in Section 53601 as "all corporate and depository institution debt securities with a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less, issued by corporations organized and operating within the United States or by depository institutions licensed by the United States or any state and operating within the United States."
- ^p No more than 10% invested in any one mutual fund. This limitation does not apply to money market mutual funds.
- ^q A mutual fund must receive the highest ranking by not less than two nationally recognized rating agencies or the fund must retain an investment advisor who is registered with the SEC (or exempt from registration), has assets under management in excess of \$500 million, and has at least five years' experience investing in instruments authorized by Sections 53601 and 53635.
- ^r A money market mutual fund must receive the highest ranking by not less than two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations or retain an investment advisor registered with the SEC or exempt from registration and who has not less than five years' experience investing in money market instruments with assets under management in excess of \$500 million.
- ^s Investments in notes, bonds, or other obligations under Section 53601(n) require that collateral be placed into the custody of a trust company or the trust department of a bank that is not affiliated with the issuer of the secured obligation, among other specific collateral requirements.
- ^t Security types authorized under Section 53601(o) that are issued or guaranteed by an issuer identified in subdivisions (b) or (f), are not subject to the limitations placed on privately issued securities authorized in Section 53601(o)(2)(A)(B).
- ^u A joint powers authority pool must retain an investment advisor who is registered with the SEC (or exempt from registration), has assets under management in excess of \$500 million, and has at least five years' experience investing in instruments authorized by Section 53601, subdivisions (a) to (o).
- ^v Local entities can deposit between \$200 million and \$10 billion into the Voluntary Investment Program Fund, upon approval by their governing bodies. Deposits in the fund will be invested in the Pooled Money Investment Account.
- ^w Only those obligations issued or unconditionally guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), International Finance Corporation (IFC), and Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), with a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less.



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10.0 PROHIBITED INVESTMENTS

The following are prohibited:

- 10.1 Investment in futures and options.
- 10.2 Investment in inverse floaters, range notes, or mortgage derived interest-only strips. (Gov. Code §53601.6.)
- 10.3 Investment in any security that could result in a zero-interest accrual if held to maturity. Under a provision sunseting on January 1, 2026, securities backed by the U.S. Government that could result in a zero- or negative-interest accrual if held to maturity are permitted. (Gov. Code §53601.6.)
- 10.4 Trading securities for the sole purpose of speculating on the future direction of interest rates.
- 10.5 Purchasing or selling securities on margin.
- 10.6 The use of reverse repurchase agreements as a form of leverage, securities lending or any other form of borrowing or leverage.
- 10.7 The purchase of foreign currency denominated securities.
- 10.8 The purchase of a security with a forward settlement date exceeding 45 days from the time of the investment is prohibited.

11.0 INVESTMENT POOLS/MUTUAL FUNDS

The Agency shall conduct a thorough investigation of any pool or mutual fund prior to making an investment, and on a continual basis thereafter. Annually, the Designated Official shall seek responses to the following questions from any investment pool or mutual fund in which the Agency invests:

- 11.1 A description of eligible investment securities, and a written statement of investment policy and objectives.
- 11.2 A description of interest calculations and how it is distributed, and how gains and losses are treated.
- 11.3 A description of how the securities are safeguarded (including the settlement processes), and how often the securities are priced and the program audited.
- 11.4 A description of who may invest in the program, how often, what size deposit and withdrawal are allowed.



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- 11.5 A schedule for receiving statements and portfolio listings.
- 11.6 Are reserves, retained earnings, etc. utilized by the pool/fund?
- 11.7 A fee schedule, and when and how it is assessed.
- 11.8 Is the pool/fund eligible for bond proceeds and/or will it accept such proceeds?

12.0 COLLATERALIZATION

12.1 **Certificates of Deposit (CDs).** The Agency shall require any commercial bank or savings and loan association to deposit eligible securities with an agency of a depository approved by the State Banking Department to secure any uninsured portion of a Non-Negotiable Certificate of Deposit. The value of eligible securities as defined pursuant to California Government Code, Section 53651, pledged against a Certificate of Deposit shall be equal to 150% of the face value of the CD if the securities are classified as mortgages and 110% of the face value of the CD for all other classes of security.

12.2 **Collateralization of Bank Deposits.** This is the process by which a bank or financial institution pledges securities, or other deposits for the purpose of securing repayment of deposited funds. The Agency shall require any bank or financial institution to comply with the collateralization criteria defined in California Government Code, Section 53651.

12.3 **Repurchase Agreements.** The Agency requires that Repurchase Agreements be collateralized only by securities authorized in accordance with California Government Code:

- The securities which collateralize the repurchase agreement shall be priced at Market Value, including any Accrued Interest plus a margin. The Market Value of the securities that underlie a repurchase agreement shall be valued at 102% or greater of the funds borrowed against those securities.
- Financial institutions shall mark the value of the collateral to market at least monthly and increase or decrease the collateral to satisfy the ratio requirement described above.
- The Agency shall receive monthly statements of collateral.

13.0 SAFEKEEPING AND CUSTODY

All securities owned by the Agency, except collateral for repurchase agreements, will be held in safekeeping at a third-party bank trust department that will act as agent for the Agency under terms of a custody agreement. Third-party safekeeping arrangements will be approved by Treasurer and will be corroborated by a written custodial agreement.



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Securities used as collateral for repurchase agreements with a term of up to seven days can be safe kept by a third-party bank trust department, or by the broker/dealer's safekeeping institution, acting as agent for the Agency under the terms of a custody agreement executed by the broker/dealer and the Agency and specifying the Agency's perfected ownership of the collateral.

All investment transactions will require a safekeeping receipt or acknowledgment generated from the trade. A monthly report will be received by the Agency from the custodian listing all securities held in safekeeping with current market data and other information. Payment for all transactions will be conducted on a delivery-versus-payment (DVP) basis.

The only exceptions to the foregoing shall be depository accounts and securities purchases made with: (i) local government investment pools; (ii) time certificates of deposit, and, (iii) mutual funds and money market mutual funds, since these securities are not deliverable.

14.0 LEVERAGING

Investments may not be purchased on margin. Securities can be purchased on a "When Issued" basis only when a cash balance can be maintained to pay for the securities on the purchase settlement date.

15.0 DIVERSIFICATION

The Agency will diversify its investments by security type and institution. Assets shall be diversified to eliminate the risk of loss resulting from over concentration of assets in a specific maturity, a specific issuer or a specific class of securities.

Diversification strategies shall be reviewed and revised periodically. In establishing specific diversification strategies, the following general policies and constraints shall apply:

- 15.1 Portfolio maturity dates shall be matched versus liabilities to avoid undue concentration in a specific maturity sector.
- 15.2 Maturities selected shall provide for stability of income and liquidity.
- 15.3 Disbursement and payroll dates shall be covered through maturities of investments, marketable United States Treasury bills or other cash equivalent instruments such as money market mutual funds.
- 15.4 No more than 5% of the total portfolio may be deposited with or invested in securities issued by any single issuer unless except treasuries, agencies, Supranationals, and money market funds and otherwise specified in this policy.



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15.5 If a security owned by the Agency is downgraded to a level below the requirements of this policy, making the security ineligible for additional purchases, the following steps will be taken:

- a. Any actions taken related to the downgrade by the investment manager will be communicated to the Treasurer in a timely manner.
- b. If a decision is made to retain the security, the credit situation will be monitored and reported to the Board of Directors.

15.6 Credit risk is the risk that a security or a portfolio will lose some or all its value due to a real or perceived change in the ability of the issuer to repay its debt. The Agency will mitigate credit risk by adopting diversification requirements, issuer limitations and downgrade language. The Agency may elect to sell a security prior to its maturity and record a capital gain or loss to manage the quality, liquidity or yield of the portfolio in response to market conditions or the Agency’s risk preferences.

16.0 REPORTING

Monthly transaction reports will be submitted by the Treasurer to the Board of Directors within 30 days of the end of the reporting period in accordance with California Government Code Section 53607.

The Treasurer shall submit to each member of the Board of Directors an investment report at least monthly. The report shall include a complete description of the portfolio, the type of investments, the issuers, maturity dates, par values and the current market values of each component of the portfolio, including funds managed for Agency by third party contracted managers. The report will also include the source of the portfolio valuation. For funds, which are placed in LAIF, FDIC-insured accounts and/or in a county investment pool, the foregoing report elements may be replaced by copies of the latest statements from such institutions. The report must also include a certification that (1) all investment actions executed since the last report have been made in full compliance with the Investment Policy and, (2) the Agency will meet its expenditure obligations for the next six months as required by Government Code Section 53646(b)(2) and (3), respectively. The Treasurer shall maintain a complete and timely record of all investment transactions.

17.0 INTERNAL CONTROLS

The Treasurer is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure designed to ensure that the assets of the entity are protected from loss, theft or misuse. The internal control structure shall be designed to provide reasonable assurance that these objectives are met. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that (1) the cost of a control should not exceed the benefits likely to be



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derived; and (2) the valuation of costs and benefits requires estimates and judgments by management.

Periodically, as deemed appropriate by the Agency and/or the Board of Directors, an independent analysis by an external auditor shall be conducted to review internal controls, account activity and compliance with policies and procedures.

18.0 PORTFOLIO REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:

The Treasurer shall periodically, but no less than quarterly, review the portfolio to identify investments that do not comply with this investment policy and establish protocols for reporting major and critical incidences of noncompliance to the Board of Directors.

The investment portfolio shall be designed to attain a market-average rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account the Agency’s risk constraints, the cash flow characteristics of the portfolio, and state and local laws, ordinances or resolutions that restrict investments.

The Treasurer shall monitor and evaluate the portfolio’s performance relative to the chosen market benchmark(s), which will be included in the Treasurer’s quarterly report. The Treasurer shall select an appropriate, readily available index to use as a market benchmark.

19.0 INVESTMENT POLICY ADOPTION

The Investment Policy shall be adopted by resolution of the Agency. Moreover, the Policy shall be reviewed on an annual basis, and modifications must be approved by the Board of Directors.



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GLOSSARY OF INVESTMENT TERMS

AGENCIES. Shorthand market terminology for any obligation issued by a *government-sponsored entity (GSE)*, or a *federally related institution*. Most obligations of GSEs are not guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the US government. Examples are:

FFCB. The Federal Farm Credit Bank System provides credit and liquidity in the agricultural industry. FFCB issues discount notes and bonds.

FHLB. The Federal Home Loan Bank provides credit and liquidity in the housing market. FHLB issues discount notes and bonds.

FHLMC. Like FHLB, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation provides credit and liquidity in the housing market. FHLMC, also called “FreddieMac” issues discount notes, bonds and mortgage pass-through securities.

FNMA. Like FHLB and FreddieMac, the Federal National Mortgage Association was established to provide credit and liquidity in the housing market. FNMA, also known as “FannieMae,” issues discount notes, bonds and mortgage pass-through securities.

GNMA. The Government National Mortgage Association, known as “GinnieMae,” issues mortgage pass-through securities, which are guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the US Government.

PEFCO. The Private Export Funding Corporation assists exporters. Obligations of PEFCO are not guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the US government.

TVA. The Tennessee Valley Authority provides flood control and power and promotes development in portions of the Tennessee, Ohio, and Mississippi River valleys. TVA currently issues discount notes and bonds.

ASSET BACKED SECURITIES. Securities supported by pools of installment loans or leases or by pools of revolving lines of credit.

AVERAGE LIFE. In mortgage-related investments, including CMOs, the average time to expected receipt of principal payments, weighted by the amount of principal expected.

BANKER’S ACCEPTANCE. A money market instrument created to facilitate international trade transactions. It is highly liquid and safe because the risk of the trade transaction is transferred to the bank which “accepts” the obligation to pay the investor.

BENCHMARK. A comparison security or portfolio. A performance benchmark is a partial market index, which reflects the mix of securities allowed under a specific investment policy.

BROKER. A broker brings buyers and sellers together for a transaction for which the broker receives a commission. A broker does not sell securities from their own position.

CALLABLE. A callable security gives the issuer the option to call it from the investor prior to its maturity. The main cause of a call is a decline in interest rates. If interest rates decline, the issuer will likely call its current securities and reissue them at a lower rate of interest.

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT (CD). A time deposit with a specific maturity evidenced by a certificate.



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COLLATERAL. Securities or cash pledged by a borrower to secure repayment of a loan or repurchase agreement. Also, securities pledged by a financial institution to secure deposits of public monies.

COLLATERALIZED BANK DEPOSIT. A bank deposit that is collateralized at least 100% (principal plus interest to maturity). The deposit is collateralized using assets set aside by the issuer such as Treasury securities or other qualified collateral to secure the deposit in excess of the limit covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

COLLATERALIZED MORTGAGE OBLIGATIONS (CMO). Classes of bonds that redistribute the cash flows of mortgage securities (and whole loans) to create securities that have different levels of prepayment risk, as compared to the underlying mortgage securities.

COLLATERALIZED TIME DEPOSIT. Time deposits that are collateralized at least 100% (principal plus interest to maturity). These instruments are collateralized using assets set aside by the issuer such as Treasury securities or other qualified collateral to secure the deposit in excess of the limit covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

COMMERCIAL PAPER. The short-term unsecured debt of corporations.

COUPON. The rate of return at which interest is paid on a bond.

CREDIT RISK. The risk that principal and/or interest on an investment will not be paid in a timely manner due to changes in the condition of the issuer.

DEALER. A dealer acts as a principal in security transactions, selling securities from and buying securities for their own position.

DELIVERY VS. PAYMENT (DVP). A securities industry procedure whereby payment for a security must be made at the time the security is delivered to the purchaser's agent.

DERIVATIVE. Any security that has principal and/or interest payments which are subject to uncertainty (but not for reasons of default or credit risk) as to timing and/or amount, or any security which represents a component of another security which has been separated from other components ("Stripped" coupons and principal). A derivative is also defined as a financial instrument the value of which is totally or partially derived from the value of another instrument, interest rate, or index.

DISCOUNT. The difference between the par value of a bond and the cost of the bond, when the cost is below par. Some short-term securities, such as T-bills and banker's acceptances, are known as discount securities. They sell at a discount from par and return the par value to the investor at maturity without additional interest. Other securities, which have fixed coupons, trade at a discount when the coupon rate is lower than the current market rate for securities of that maturity and/or quality.

DIVERSIFICATION. Dividing investment funds among a variety of investments to avoid excessive exposure to any one source of risk.

DURATION. The weighted average time to maturity of a bond where the weights are the present values of the future cash flows. Duration measures the price sensitivity of a security to changes interest rates.



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FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (FDIC). The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) is an independent federal agency insuring deposits in U.S. banks and thrifts in the event of bank failures. The FDIC was created in 1933 to maintain public confidence and encourage stability in the financial system through the promotion of sound banking practices.

FEDERALLY INSURED TIME DEPOSIT A time deposit is an interest-bearing bank deposit account that has a specified date of maturity, such as a certificate of deposit (CD). These deposits are limited to funds insured in accordance with FDIC insurance deposit limits.

FIDUCIARY. A person or organization that acts on behalf of another person(s) or organization that puts their clients' interest ahead of their own as they are bound both legally and ethically to act in other's best interests.

LEVERAGE. Borrowing funds in order to invest in securities that have the potential to pay earnings at a rate higher than the cost of borrowing.

LIQUIDITY. The speed and ease with which an asset can be converted to cash.

LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND (LAIF). A voluntary investment fund open to government entities and certain non-profit organizations in California that is managed by the State Treasurer's Office.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT POOL. Investment pools that range from the State Treasurer's Office Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) to county pools, to Joint Powers Authorities (JPAs). These funds are not subject to the same SEC rules applicable to money market mutual funds.

MAKE WHOLE CALL. A type of call provision on a bond that allows the issuer to pay off the remaining debt early. Unlike a call option, with a make whole call provision, the issuer makes a lump sum payment that equals the net present value (NPV) of future coupon payments that will not be paid because of the call. With this type of call, an investor is compensated, or "made whole."

MARGIN. The difference between the market value of a security and the loan a broker makes using that security as collateral.

MARKET RISK. The risk that the value of securities will fluctuate with changes in overall market conditions or interest rates.

MARKET VALUE. The price at which a security can be traded.

MATURITY. The final date upon which the principal of a security becomes due and payable. The investment's term or remaining maturity is measured from the settlement date to final maturity.

MEDIUM TERM NOTES. Unsecured, investment-grade senior debt securities of major corporations which are sold in relatively small amounts on either a continuous or an intermittent basis. MTNs are highly flexible debt instruments that can be structured to respond to market opportunities or to investor preferences.

MODIFIED DURATION. The percent change in price for a 100-basis point change in yields. Modified duration is the best single measure of a portfolio's or security's exposure to market risk.



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MONEY MARKET. The market in which short-term debt instruments (T-bills, discount notes, commercial paper, and banker’s acceptances) are issued and traded.

MONEY MARKET MUTUAL FUND. A mutual fund that invests exclusively in short-term securities. Examples of investments in money market funds are certificates of deposit and U.S. Treasury securities. Money market funds attempt to keep their net asset values at \$1 per share.

MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH SECURITIES. A securitized participation in the interest and principal cash flows from a specified pool of mortgages. Principal and interest payments made on the mortgages are passed through to the holder of the security.

MUNICIPAL SECURITIES. Securities issued by state and local agencies to finance capital and operating expenses.

MUTUAL FUND. An entity which pools the funds of investors and invests those funds in a set of securities which is specifically defined in the fund’s prospectus. Mutual funds can be invested in various types of domestic and/or international stocks, bonds, and money market instruments, as set forth in the individual fund’s prospectus. For most large, institutional investors, the costs associated with investing in mutual funds are higher than the investor can obtain through an individually managed portfolio.

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED STATISTICAL RATING ORGANIZATION (NRSRO). A credit rating agency that the Securities and Exchange Commission in the United States uses for regulatory purposes. Credit rating agencies provide assessments of an investment’s risk. The issuers of investments, especially debt securities, pay credit rating agencies to provide them with ratings. The three most prominent NRSROs are Fitch, S&P, and Moody’s.

NEGOTIABLE CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT (CD). A short-term debt instrument that pays interest and is issued by a bank, savings or federal association, state or federal credit union, or state-licensed branch of a foreign bank. Negotiable CDs are traded in a secondary market.

PAYDOWN. A reduction in the principal amount owed on a bond, loan, or other debt.

PLACEMENT SERVICE DEPOSITS. A private service that allows local agencies to invest in FDIC-insured deposits with one or more banks, savings and loans, and credit unions located in the United States. IntraFi (formerly known as CDARS) is an example of an entity that provides this service.

PRIMARY DEALER. A financial institution (1) that is a trading counterparty with the Federal Reserve in its execution of market operations to carry out U.S. monetary policy, and (2) that participates for statistical reporting purposes in compiling data on activity in the U.S. Government securities market.

PRUDENT PERSON (PRUDENT INVESTOR) RULE. A standard of responsibility which applies to fiduciaries. In California, the rule is stated as “Investments shall be managed with the care, skill, prudence and diligence, under the circumstances then prevailing, that a prudent person, acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters, would use in the conduct of an enterprise of like character and with like aims to accomplish similar purposes.”



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REPURCHASE AGREEMENT. Short-term purchases of securities with a simultaneous agreement to sell the securities back at a higher price. From the seller’s point of view, the same transaction is a reverse repurchase agreement.

SAFEKEEPING. A service to bank customers whereby securities are held by the bank in the customer’s name.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC). The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is an independent federal government agency responsible for protecting investors, maintaining fair and orderly functioning of securities markets and facilitating capital formation. It was created by Congress in 1934 as the first federal regulator of securities markets. The SEC promotes full public disclosure, protects investors against fraudulent and manipulative practices in the market, and monitors corporate takeover actions in the United States.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION SEC) RULE 15C3-1. An SEC rule-setting capital requirements for brokers and dealers. Under Rule 15c3-1, a broker or dealer must have sufficient liquidity in order to cover the most pressing obligations. This is defined as having a certain amount of liquidity as a percentage of the broker/dealer's total obligations. If the percentage falls below a certain point, the broker or dealer may not be allowed to take on new clients and may have restrictions placed on dealings with current client.

STRUCTURED NOTE. Notes issued by Government Sponsored Enterprises (FHLB, FNMA, etc.) and Corporations, which have imbedded options (e.g., call features, step-up coupons, floating rate coupons, derivative-based returns) into their debt structure. Their market performance is impacted by the fluctuation of interest rates, the volatility of the imbedded options and shifts in the shape of the yield curve.

SUPRANATIONAL. A Supranational is a multi-national organization whereby member states transcend national boundaries or interests to share in the decision making to promote economic development in the member countries.

TOTAL RATE OF RETURN. A measure of a portfolio’s performance over time. It is the internal rate of return, which equates the beginning value of the portfolio with the ending value; it includes interest earnings, realized and unrealized gains, and losses in the portfolio.

U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS. Securities issued by the U.S. Treasury and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. Treasuries are considered to have no credit risk and are the benchmark for interest rates on all other securities in the US and overseas. The Treasury issues both discounted securities and fixed coupon notes and bonds.

TREASURY BILLS. All securities issued with initial maturities of one year or less are issued as discounted instruments and are called Treasury bills. The Treasury currently issues three- and six-month T-bills at regular weekly auctions. It also issues “cash management” bills as needed to smooth out cash flows.

TREASURY NOTES. All securities issued with initial maturities of two to ten years are called Treasury notes and pay interest semi-annually.

TREASURY BONDS. All securities issued with initial maturities greater than ten years are called Treasury bonds. Like Treasury notes, they pay interest semi-annually.



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YIELD TO MATURITY. The annualized internal rate of return on an investment which equates the expected cash flows from the investment to its cost.

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