

# SAN MATEO COUNTY

## **Investment Policy Statement**

Calendar Year 2025

*Approved by the  
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors  
Updated Date: January 28, 2025  
Resolution:*

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SAN MATEO COUNTY  
**Investment Policy Statement**  
Calendar Year 2025

**I. Introduction**

It is the policy of the San Mateo County Treasurer, consistent with controlling legal mandates, to invest public funds in a manner which will provide maximum security of principal invested with secondary emphasis on providing adequate liquidity to pool participants, achieving a competitive yield while conforming to all applicable statutes and resolutions governing the investment of public funds. Moreover, while complying with these legal mandates, the Treasurer will also promote investments in authorized issuers that display adherence to strong environmental, social, and governance principles.

To meet liquidity and long-term investing needs, the County has established the County Investment Pool. This fund is suitable for planned expenditures or capital funds.

**II. Delegation of Authority**

By Resolution \_\_\_\_\_, approved on \_\_\_\_\_ the County Board of Supervisors has delegated to the Treasurer authority to invest and reinvest the funds of the County and other depositors as specified in California Government Code Sections §27000.1 and §53607 for the period calendar year 2025. The Treasurer may delegate investment authority to whoever has been retained to perform the investment function.

**III. Policy Statement**

This Investment Policy establishes cash management and investment guidelines for the Treasurer, and those to whom he/she delegates investment authority, who are responsible for the stewardship of the San Mateo County Pooled Investment Fund. Each transaction and the entire portfolio must comply with California Government Code and this Policy. All portfolio activities will be monitored and judged by the standards of this Policy and its investment objectives. Activities that violate its spirit and intent will be considered contrary to policy.

The Treasurer will annually render to the Board of Supervisors and any Oversight Committee a statement of investment policy, which the Board shall review and approve at a public meeting. Any change in the policy shall also be reviewed and approved by the Board at a public meeting.

**IV. Standard of Care**

The Treasurer is a fiduciary of the pooled investment fund and therefore subject to the prudent investor standard. The Treasurer, employees involved in the investment process and members of the San Mateo County Treasury Oversight Committee shall refrain from all personal business activities that could conflict with the management of the investment program.

All individuals involved will be required to report all gifts and income in accordance with California state law. (See Section XXI)

When investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling and managing public funds, the Treasurer, and those to whom he/she delegates investment authority, shall act with due professional care, skill, prudence and diligence taking into consideration circumstances then prevailing, including, but limited to, general economic conditions and anticipated needs of the County and other depositors. This should be accomplished with the care that a prudent person acting in a like capacity would use to safeguard the principal and maintain the liquidity needs of the County and other depositors.

As outlined in California Government Code Section §27000.3, the standard of prudence to be used by the County investment officers shall be the “prudent investor” standard and shall be applied in the context of managing the portfolio. Investment officers shall act in accordance with written procedures and the investment policy, exercise due diligence, report in a timely fashion, and implement appropriate controls for adverse development.

## V. Investment Objectives

The San Mateo County Investment Pool shall be prudently invested in order to preserve principal while earning a reasonable rate of return while awaiting application for governmental purposes. Investments should be made with precision and care considering the safety of the principal investment, as well as the income to be derived from the investment. The specific objectives for the program are ranked in order of importance:

- A. Safety of Principal** - The Treasurer shall seek to preserve principal and minimize capital losses by mitigating credit risk and market risk as follows:

Credit Risk - Defined as an issuer(s) ability and willingness to repay interest and principal. Credit risk shall be minimized by diversifying the fund among issues and issuers so that the failure of any one issue or issuer would not result in a significant loss of income or principal to participants. Credit rating evaluations for all securities are monitored on a consistent basis.

Market Risk - Defined as the risk of market value fluctuations due to changes in the general level of interest rates. Because longer-term securities generally have greater market risk than shorter-term securities; market risk will be minimized by establishing the maximum Weighted Average Maturity of the pool at three years. The maximum allowable maturity for any instrument in the pool at time of purchase is 7 years (Treasuries and Agencies only). Occasional market losses on individual securities are inevitable with active portfolio management and must be considered within the context of the overall investment return.

**B. Liquidity**

The Treasurer's Office attempts to match maturities with its 12-month projected cash flow. The nature of the planning process behind the cash flow of the pool is relatively predictable and less volatile than is the case of discretionary money.

This allows leeway for some of the underlying investments in the County Pool to maintain a somewhat longer duration.

**C. Yield**

The County Pool is designed as an income fund to maximize the return on investable funds over various market cycles, consistent with the pool's first priority of safeguarding principal. Yield will be considered only after the basic requirements of safety and liquidity have been met. The County Pool is managed as an income fund whose purpose is to provide its investors with a reasonably predictable level of income, as opposed to a growth fund or fund measured on the basis of total return.

**D. Socially Responsible Investment Objectives**

In addition to and while complying with California Government Code provisions that regulate the investment of public funds (which require that, when managing and investing public funds, the objectives shall be, primarily, to safeguard principal of invested funds; secondarily, to meet the liquidity needs of the local government; and third, to achieve a return on invested funds), the County Treasurer recognizes the importance of socially responsible investing. The Treasurer will consider and promote investment in authorized issuers that display adherence to strong environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles, including but not limited to, environmental sustainability, social and economic justice, and good corporate governance. The Treasurer will forego investments in fossil fuel issuers if able to do so while complying with all legal and fiduciary mandates, including with respect to safety of principal, liquidity, and return on invested funds. The Treasurer will seek to invest in a socially responsible manner by considering investments in corporate issuers that meet designated risk score thresholds, as provided by an independent organization or organizations that supply analytical research, ratings, and data to institutional investors regarding issuers' environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices. Issuers will be reviewed and confirmed against these thresholds on a periodic basis, and any investments in issuers that fall below designated thresholds may be sold or held to maturity.

**VI. Management Style and Strategy**

This policy describes the County's strategic investment objective, risk tolerance and investment constraints. The County Treasurer or designee, at the Treasurer's discretion, prepares an economic outlook and evaluates the capital markets environment. The investment

programs reflect a common strategy that is based on conservative principles of fixed income portfolio management consistently applied in a disciplined fashion.

## **VII. Authorized Investments**

Subject to the limitations set forth in California Government Code §53600 et seq. which may be amended from time to time, the Treasurer may invest in the following instruments, subject to the limits described in the following sections. Long-term credit ratings, where shown, specify the minimum credit rating category required at time of purchase. As noted previously, all securities purchased shall be regularly monitored and re-evaluated should their ratings be downgraded below the minimum investment grade level required of the Pool. The Treasury Oversight Committee will be notified, within 10 days of any security downgrades that fall below the pool's investment standards and the course of action to be taken if any. In addition, the information will be posted on the Treasurer's website within the same time frame. Decisions regarding the holding of, or the potential sale of, securities are based on factors such as remaining time to maturity and the need for liquidity in the Pool.

Where a percentage limitation of eligible security percentages and maximum maturity is established, for the purpose of determining investment compliance, that maximum amount will be applied on the date of trade settlement. Therefore, depending on the liquidation of other securities and the performance of other securities in the pool, the percentage of the pool of any given security or instrument could exceed the initial percentage limitations without violating the Investment Policy.

### **A. U.S. Treasury Securities**

United States Treasury bills, notes, bond or certificates of indebtedness, for which the full faith and credit of the United States is pledged for the payment of principal and interest. The maximum maturity of U.S. Treasury Securities is 7 years.

### **B. U.S. Government Agency/GSE (Government Sponsored Enterprise)**

Obligations, participations, or other instruments of, or issued by, a federal agency or a United States government sponsored enterprise. The maximum percent of the fund per issuer is 40%. The maximum percent of the fund for U.S. Agencies Callable Securities is 25%. U.S. Government Agency/GSE securities must be rated in a rating category of "AA," long-term, or "A-1," Short-term, or their equivalent or higher by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody's and Fitch). The maximum maturity for Agency Securities is 7 years.

### **C. Commercial Paper**

At the time of purchase, commercial paper must be rated either A-1/P-1/F1 or better by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody's and Fitch). Eligibility is limited to U.S. organized and operating corporations. Corporations must have assets in excess of \$5 Billion and have debt other than commercial paper, if any, that is rated in a rating category of "A" or

its equivalent or higher by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody's and Fitch). Maturities may not exceed 270 days. Purchases of commercial paper will not exceed 40% of the pool's investable money.

#### **D. Negotiable Certificates of Deposit**

Negotiable certificates are negotiable money market instruments that trade on the open market. At the time of purchase, negotiable certificates of deposit must be rated in a rating category of "A," long-term, or "A-1"/"P-1"/"F1, short-term," or their equivalents or better by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody's and Fitch). These certificates must be issued by a U.S. National or State chartered bank or state or federal association (as defined by section 5102 of the California Financial Code) or by a state licensed branch of a foreign bank. Eligible foreign banks must have branches or agencies in the U.S. Issuers must be a corporation with total assets in excess of \$5 Billion. Purchases of Negotiable Certificates of Deposit will not exceed 30% of the pool.

#### **E. Bankers Acceptance**

A Bankers Acceptance (BA) is a draft drawn and accepted by banks that is based upon funds that will pay its face value at maturity. The security is normally traded at a discounted price. Because the accepting institution is obligated to pay for the bill, a Bankers Acceptance is considered less risky than commercial paper.

At the time of purchase, BAs must be rated A-1/P-1/F1 or better by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody's and Fitch). BAs are primarily used to finance international trade. BAs are timed drafts (bills of exchange) drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank. Issuers must be a corporation with total assets in excess of \$5 Billion. Purchases of Bankers Acceptances will not exceed 15% of the pool for domestic commercial banks and 15% of the pool for foreign commercial banks.

#### **F. Collateralized Time Deposits**

Collateralized Certificates of Deposit must comply with Bank Deposit Law. Purchases of Collateralized Certificates of Deposit will not exceed 15% of the pool.

#### **G. Mortgage Backed Securities and Asset Backed Securities**

##### **A. Mortgage Backed Securities**

The securities must be rated in a rating category of "AA" or its equivalent or higher by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody's and Fitch). Securities shall have a maximum remaining maturity of five years. Combined holdings of Mortgage Backed Securities and Asset Backed Securities will not exceed 20% of the pool.



The allowable types of Mortgage Backed Securities include the following:

1. U.S. Government Agency Mortgage pass-through securities.
2. Collateralized Mortgage Obligations (CMO) where the underlying mortgages have U.S. government backing.

### **B. Asset Backed Securities**

The securities must be rated “AAA” or its equivalent by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody’s and Fitch). Securities shall have a maximum remaining maturity of five years. Combined holdings of Asset Backed Securities and Mortgage backed Securities will not exceed 20% of the pool.

The allowable types of Asset Backed Securities include the following:

1. Equipment lease back certificates.
2. Consumer receivable backed bonds.
3. Auto loan receivable backed bonds.

## **H. Corporate Securities**

The maximum maturity for corporate securities is five years. Eligible securities shall be 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. At the time of purchase, corporate securities must be rated in a rating category of “A” or its equivalent or better by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody’s and Fitch). Securities in this classification must be dollar denominated. If a security is owned and downgraded below the pool’s investment standards, the Treasury Oversight Committee will be notified within 10 days of any security downgrades that fall below the pool’s investment standards and the course of action to be taken if any. In addition, the information will be posted on the Treasurer’s website within the same time frame.

Purchases of Corporate Securities shall not exceed 30% of the pool. The amount invested in corporate securities in the “A” rating category may not exceed 27% of the pool (90% of the 30% permitted corporate allocation). For purposes of determining compliance with this requirement, a security’s rating will be determined by its highest rating by either S&P, Moody’s, or Fitch. There is a 5% limitation of the fund in any single issuer of Money Market/Corporate Securities, however, the Pool has a target of holding no more than 3%. The 3% target may be exceeded under exceptional circumstances (i.e.: peak tax collection periods, G.O. Bond issuances, etc.) when there is a large influx of cash.

## **I. US Instrumentalities**

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 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 “AA” or its equivalent or higher by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody’s and Fitch). Purchases of US Instrumentalities are not to exceed 30% of the pool.

#### **J. CA Municipal Obligations**

Registered state warrants or municipal notes or bonds of this state, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by the state or by a department, board, agency, or authority of the state. Investments under this subdivision shall be rated in a rating category “AA” or its equivalent or higher by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody’s and Fitch). Such investments shall have a maximum security of five years or less, and shall not exceed 30% of the pool, 5% per issuer. The foregoing investments shall be limited to the General Obligation (GO) bonds, Tax & Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS), or other debt, which is issued by the state of California, the University of California Regents or the California State University Regents.

#### **K. Repurchase Agreements**

Repurchase Agreements must be executed with dealers with whom the County has written agreements and are either banking institutions that meet the rating requirements of this policy or dealers who report to the Market Reports Division of the Federal Reserve Bank of N.Y. (Primary Dealers). All transactions must be collateralized at 102% of current value plus accrued interest and must be marked to market daily. The only acceptable collateral for these transactions include Treasuries or Agencies with a maximum maturity of seven years.

For purposes of this authorized investments section, the term “Repurchase Agreement” means a purchase of a security by the County pursuant to an agreement by which the seller will repurchase the securities on or before a specified date and for a specified dollar amount and will deliver the underlying securities to the County by book entry. All County pool transactions are conducted through the County custodian on a payment vs. delivery basis. When the transaction is unwound, the transfer of the underlying securities will revert to the counter party’s bank account by book entry. The term “Counter party” means the other party to the transaction with the County. The Counter Party, or its parent, must have a short-term rating of “A-1,” “P-1,” or “F1” by at least two of the three nationally recognized rating services (S&P, Moody’s and Fitch). The maximum allowable term of a repurchase agreement shall not exceed 92 days.

#### **L. Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)**

The Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) is an investment fund run by the Treasurer of the State of California to pool local agency monies. LAIF will be used

as a comparative fund to the County's pool. The maximum percent of the fund that can be invested is up to the current State limit.

**M. Mutual Funds**

Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies as defined in Government Code Section § 53601. Purchases of Mutual Funds will not exceed 20% of the pool, 10% per mutual fund.

**N. Local Government Investment Pools (LGIPs)**

Shares of beneficial interest issued by a joint power's authority organized pursuant to Section 6509.7 that invests in the securities and obligations authorized by the Government Code. Each share shall represent an equal proportional interest in the underlying pool of securities owned by the joint powers authority. Purchases are limited to LGIPs that seek to maintain a stable share price and will not exceed 20% of the pool, 10% per LGIP.

**VIII. Security Lending**

Security Lending is a temporary exchange of portfolio assets for acceptable collateral between a lender and an approved borrower. The additional income generated from this transaction can be used to enhance portfolio performance. This process can be summarized in three key steps:

- A.** The Security Lending agent lends securities from our portfolio to an approved borrower at a negotiated rate. The negotiated rate is dependent upon the level of demand for the securities.
- B.** The Security Lending agent invests the cash collateral in highly liquid, short duration, high credit quality instruments approved by our investment policy.
- C.** The earnings generated net of rebates from these transactions are split between the third party agent and the County based on the contract agreement.

Our contract with The Bank of New York requires daily reporting of the securities borrowed, the borrowers, and the short term investments made with the collateral. The County retains the right to recall securities at any given time; cutoffs are 9:30 a.m. eastern standard time for same day recalls of treasuries/agencies and 1:30 p.m. eastern standard time on trade date for corporates. We also require acknowledgement of the County Investment Policy, and check the adherence to that policy daily.

All securities purchased with any funds received as a result of such lending shall be regularly monitored and re-evaluated. Should their ratings fall below the pool's investment standards, the Treasury Oversight Committee will be notified within 10 days of any security downgrades that fall below the pool's investment standards and the course of action if any. In addition, the information will be posted on the Treasurer's website within the same time frame.

Additionally, the percentage of the Fund's market value in any one issuer's securities shall be regularly monitored and the Treasury Oversight Committee will be notified within 10 days, and the information posted on the Treasurer's website, of any instances where the percentage of the Fund's market value in any one issuer's securities exceeds the percentage limitations set forth herein or where there is any change in diversification and the course of action, if any.

There are always risks in any financial transaction. The three most common risks in Security Lending are as follows:

- A. Borrower Default Risk – Although rare, a borrower may not return a security in a timely manner. To protect against this risk, we require 102% cash collateral, which is marked to market and monitored daily. In the event of borrower default, the Security Lending agent is responsible for replacing the securities or providing the cash value of the securities. In other words, The Bank of New York indemnifies the County of San Mateo against borrower default.
- B. Collateral Investment Risk – The value of the securities in which we invest the cash collateral may decline due to fluctuations in interest rates or other market related events. This risk is controlled by investing in a huge investment pool with highly liquid short duration, high credit quality instruments identified in this investment policy.
- C. Operational Risks – Critical operations, such as maintaining the value of the collateral, collecting interest and dividend payments are essential to a smooth running Security Lending operation. Operational risks are the responsibility of the Security Lending agent. We further mitigate this risk by reviewing all transactions and collateral requirements on a daily basis.

### Schedule 1 – Securities Lending

#### Securities Loans

- No more than 5% of the Pool can be on loan to any single counterparty.
- A single loan shall not exceed 3% of the total portfolio.
- The maximum maturity of a securities loan shall not exceed 92 days.

#### Collateral

##### Acceptable Collateral

U.S. Treasuries and Agencies and cash.

##### Collateral Investment

The only authorized investments are shown in the following table. No floating or reset notes are permitted.

“Fund” means actual market value of all securities lending collateral.

INSTRUMENT	RATING	LIMITATIONS		
		% of Fund	% of Fund per Issuer	Maturity
U.S. Treasury Obligations		100	100%	1 year

INSTRUMENT	RATING	-	LIMITATIONS	
Obligations of U.S. Agencies or government sponsored enterprises	AA or A-1	100	40% per issuer	1 year
Repurchase agreements secured by U.S. Treasury or agency obligation (102% collateral)	A-1	100	50%	overnight
Bankers Acceptances Domestic	A-1 / P-1 / F1	15	5% Aggregate	180 days
Foreign		15	5% Aggregate	180 days
Commercial paper	A-1 / P-1 / F1	40	5% Aggregate	270 days or less

## **Other**

### Agent Qualifications

The only acceptable Agent is the Pool's custodian bank.

### Contract Provisions

The Agent must indemnify the Pool against borrower default.

The Agent must acknowledge and accept the Policy in writing. A copy of this acceptance will be attached to future policies.

The Agent must submit monthly reports showing securities out on loan (terms and borrowers), defaults, earnings, and the percent by sector of Pool assets out on loan as well as information on the collateral investments (including market values, income and realized and unrealized gains and losses).

### Oversight

The Treasurer shall include copies of the Agent's most recent report with their reports to the Treasury Oversight Committee.

## **IX. Community Reinvestment Act Program**

**A.** This policy sets aside up to \$5 million dollars for investment in banks whose primary operations are located in San Mateo County. Investments from this fund must meet the requirements of this investment policy. Eligible banks must have Community Reinvestment Act performance ratings of "satisfactory" or "outstanding" from each financial institution's regulatory authority. In addition, deposits greater than the federally-insured amount must be collateralized. Banks must place securities worth between 110% and 150% of the value of the deposit with a custodial bank.

## **X. Diversification and Maturity Restrictions**

It is the policy of the Treasurer to diversify the Fund's portfolios. Investments are diversified to minimize the risk of loss resulting in over-concentration of assets in a specific

maturity, specific issuer, or a specific class of securities. Diversification strategies shall be established by the Treasurer and whoever has been retained to perform the investment function.

<b>Instrument</b>	<b>Min. Rating Category</b>	<b>% of Fund</b>	<b>Limitations % of Fund per Issuer</b>	<b>Maturity</b>
U.S. Treasury Obligations		100%	100%	7 years
Obligations of U.S. Agencies or government sponsored enterprises	AA or A-1	100%	40%	7 years
U.S. Agencies Callables	AA		25%	7 years
Commercial paper (two agencies)	A-1/P-1/F1	40%	5% Aggregate	270 days or less
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit (\$5 billion minimum assets) (two agencies)	A-1/P-1/F1	30%	5% Aggregate	5 years
Bankers Acceptances *Domestic: (\$5 billion minimum assets) *Foreign: (\$5 billion minimum assets) (two agencies)	A-1 / P-1/ F1	15% 15%	5% Aggregate 5% Aggregate	180 days 180 days
Collateralized Time Deposits within the state of CALIFORNIA	A-1/P-1/ F1	15%	5% Aggregate	1 year
Mortgage Backed Securities/CMO's: No Inverse Floaters No Range Notes No Interest only strips derived from a pool of Mortgages	AA	20% Combined total	5% Aggregate 5% Aggregate	5 Years 5 Years
Asset Backed Securities	AAA			
Corporate bonds, Medium Term Notes & Covered Bonds (two agencies)	A	30%  A maximum of 27% may be invested in	5% Aggregate	5 years

Instrument	Min. Rating Category	% of Fund	Limitations % of Fund per Issuer	Maturity
		A rated securities (90% of the 30% allocation)		
US Instrumentalities	AA	30%		5 Years
CA Municipal Obligations	AA	30%	5% Aggregate	5 Years
Repurchase Agreements secured by U.S. Treasury or agency obligation (102% collateral)	A-1	100%	See limitations for Treasuries and Agencies above	92 days
Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)			Up to the current state limit	
Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies as defined in Government Code Section § 53601 (Mutual Funds)	Money Market AAAm	20%	10% per mutual fund	
Local Government Investment Pools (LGIPs)		20%	10% per LGIP	

## XI. Average Life

The maximum dollar-weighted average maturity of the fund will be 3 years. The focus of this fund is in order of priority: preservation of principal, liquidity and then yield. The policy of maintaining a maximum dollar-weighted maturity or weighted average maturity (WAM) of 3 years leaves open the flexibility to take advantage of interest rate trends to maximize the return on investment. The imposed maximum 3-year average maturity limits the market risk to levels appropriate to a short, intermediate-income fund. The word "Maturity" refers to the instrument's stated legal final redemption date - not coupon reset, put or call dates.

Securities purchased specifically to match the maturity of a bond issue and/or a contractual arrangement must be authorized by California Government Code §53601 and §53635 but are not included in the requirements listed above. Such securities shall be clearly designated in the appropriate investment journals and reports.

## **XII. Prohibited Transactions**

At the time of purchase, all permitted investments shall conform in all respects with this Investment Policy and California Government Code Sections §53601, §53601.1, §53601.2, §53601.6, and §53635, as may be amended from time to time. No investment prohibited by the California Government Code or other controlling provision of law shall be permitted herein.

Any investment transactions, credit risk criterion, percentage limitations or market valuation that are not in compliance with this Investment Policy **at time of purchase** must be documented and approved by the Treasurer in writing. Thereafter, action shall be taken by the Treasurer to correct such matter as soon as practical. If a percentage restriction is adhered to at the time of purchase, a later increase or decrease in percentage resulting from a change in values or assets will not constitute a violation of that restriction.

The Treasurer shall not leverage the County pool through any borrowing collateralized or otherwise secured by cash or securities held unless authorized by this investment policy.

Security Lending is authorized by this policy and will be limited to a maximum of 20% of the portfolio.

### **The following transactions are prohibited:**

- A.** Borrowing for investment purposes (“Leverage”).
- B.** Inverse floaters, leveraged floaters, equity-linked securities, event-linked securities, structured investment vehicles (SIV).

Simple “floating rate notes” whose periodic coupon adjustment is based on a short-term (one-year or less) rate index (such as Treasury bills, federal funds, prime rate or LIBOR) and which have a reasonable expectation of maintaining a value at par at each interest rate adjustment through final maturity, are exempt from this definition. Additionally, U.S. Treasury and Agency zero coupon bonds, U.S. Treasury and Agency strips, Resolution Funding Corporation (REFCORP) strips or other callable securities which otherwise meet quality, maturity and percent limitations assigned to their respective security category, are exempt from this section.

- C.** Derivatives (e.g. swaptions, spreads, straddles, caps, floors, collars, etc.) shall be prohibited.
- D.** Trading of options and futures are prohibited.

## **XIII. Method of Accounting:**

- A.** For earnings calculations, investments will be carried at original purchase cost (plus purchased accrued interest, if applicable). Premiums or discounts acquired in the purchase of securities will be amortized or accreted over the life of the respective securities. For GASB purposes, investments will be carried at cost and marked to market.



- B. Gains or losses from investment sales will be credited or charged to investment income at the time of sale. All interest income, gains/ losses are posted quarterly.
- C. Premiums paid for callable securities will be amortized to the 1<sup>st</sup> call date after purchase.
- D. Purchased accrued interest will be capitalized until the first interest payment is received. Upon receipt of the first interest payment, the funds will be used to reduce the investment to its principal cost with the remaining balance credited to investment income.
- E. Yield is calculated on an accrual basis using a 365-day calendar year. Earnings are calculated as follows:

$$\frac{(\text{Earnings}^* + \text{Capital Gains}) - (\text{Fees} + \text{Amortized Premiums} + \text{Capital Losses})}{\text{Average Daily Pool Balance}}$$

\* Earnings equal net interest payments + accrued interest + accreted discounts.

- F. The County Pool is operated as a single investment pool. Banking and reporting services required by a participant are charged directly to the participant. All participants are charged an administrative fee.
- G. The administrative fee is 9.5 basis points effective July 1, 2018, and will be evaluated annually.

The County Pool Administrative Fee is established annually and is effective July 1 through June 30. The fee is developed to align with the actual administrative cost of managing the pool. Due to variations in the pool size during the fiscal year (such as those caused by the influx of funds from unanticipated school bond issues or voluntary pool participant withdrawals), a true-up of fees collected will take place in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of each fiscal year.

#### **XIV. Safekeeping**

All deliverable security transactions, including collateral for repurchase agreements, entered into by the Treasurer shall be conducted on a Delivery-versus-Payment basis (DVP).

All deliverable securities shall be held by a third-party custodian designated by the Treasurer. The third-party custodian shall be required to issue a safekeeping statement to the Treasurer listing the specific instrument, rate, maturity and other pertinent information.

#### **XV. Performance Evaluation**

The Treasurer shall submit monthly, quarterly and annual reports, in compliance with Government Code Sections §53607 and §53646 to the Treasury Oversight Committee, Pool participants and the Board of Supervisors. These reports shall contain sufficient information to permit an informed outside reader to evaluate the performance of the investment program and

shall be in compliance with Government Code. This includes the type of investments, name of the issuer, maturity date, and par and dollar amount of the investment. For the total Pooled Investment Fund, the report will list the average maturity, the market value and the pricing source. Additionally, the report will show any funds under the management of contracting parties, a statement of compliance to the Policy and a statement of the Pooled Investments Fund's ability to meet the expected expenditure requirements for the next 6 months. In accordance with GASB Statements 31 and 40, the Treasurer shall provide financial information on the treasury for the County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

## **XVI. Withdrawal Requests**

### **Voluntary Pool Participants**

- A.** Any request to withdraw funds shall be released at no more than 12.5% per month, based on the month-end balance of the prior month.
- B.** Current secured tax apportionments and property tax revenue distributed to Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Funds will be exempt from the 12.5% withdrawal rule, however, these apportionments must be withdrawn in the same month they are received or they will be subjected to the 12.5% withdrawal rule.
- C.** Any additional withdrawal requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- D.** All requests for withdrawals must first be made in writing to the Treasurer, at a minimum, 24 hours in advance.

In accordance with California Government Code § 27136 et seq, and §27133 (h) et seq, these requests are subject to the Treasurer's consideration of the stability and predictability of the pooled investment fund, or the adverse effect on the interests of the other depositors in the pooled investment fund.

### **Schools**

- A.** Withdrawals of surplus funds by a school district for investment elsewhere will require a Resolution from the District Office requesting such withdrawal and specifying that funds are 'surplus.' Such requests must be made at a minimum 24 hours in advance.
- B.** A one-year dark period will exist for such withdrawals before funds can be re-deposited into the treasury by that school district. A Resolution from the District Office will be required to do so.
- C.** Any emergency situation that requires previously withdrawn school district funds be re-deposited into the treasury within that one-year period will require a Resolution from the District Office and Office of Education.
- D.** No Bond Proceeds may be withdrawn for investment outside of the pool (AB2738)

## **XVII. Internal Controls**

The County Treasurer shall establish internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the investment objectives are met and to ensure that the assets are protected from loss, theft, or misuse. The County Treasurer shall also be responsible for ensuring that all investment transactions comply with the County's investment policy and the California Government Code.

The County Treasurer shall establish a process for daily, monthly, quarterly and annual review and monitoring of investment program activity.

Daily, the County Treasurer or authorized treasury personnel shall review the investment activity, as well as corresponding custodial and commercial bank balances and positions for compliance with the investment policy and guidelines. The County Controller's Office shall conduct an annual audit of the investment program's activities. It is to be conducted to determine compliance with the County's investment policy and the Government Code. The audit shall be conducted by staff with experience in auditing large, complex investment programs consistent with industry standards as promulgated by the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS) adopted by the CFA Institute Board of Governors.

### **A. Investment Authority and Responsibility**

The responsibility for conducting the County's investment program resides with the Treasurer, who supervises the investment program within the guidelines set forth in this policy. The Treasurer may delegate the authority for day-to-day investment activity to whoever has been retained to perform the investment function.

### **B. County Treasury Oversight Committee**

The Board of Supervisors, in consultation with the Treasurer, has established the County Treasury Oversight Committee pursuant to California Government Code § 27130 et seq. Members of the County Treasury Oversight Committee shall be selected pursuant to California Government Code §27131. The Treasury Oversight Committee will meet at least three times a year to evaluate general strategies and to monitor results and shall include in its discussions the economic outlook, portfolio diversification, maturity structure and potential risks to the County pool's funds. All actions taken by the Treasury Oversight Committee are governed by rules set out in § 27131 et seq. of the California Government Code.

Members of the County Treasury Oversight Committee must pay particular attention to California Government Code § 27132.1, § 27132.2, § 27132.3 and § 27132.4, which read as follows:

§ 27132.1 A member may not be employed by an entity that has (a) contributed to the campaign of a candidate for the office of local treasurer, or (b) contributed to the campaign of a candidate to be a member of a legislative body of any local agency that has deposited funds in the county treasury, in the previous three years or during the period that the employee is a member of the committee.

§ 27132.2 A member may not directly or indirectly raise money for a candidate for local treasurer or a member of the governing board of any local agency that has deposited funds in the county treasury while a member of the committee.

§ 27132.3 A member may not secure employment with bond underwriters, bond counsel, security brokerages or dealers, or with financial services firms, with whom the Treasurer is doing business during the period that the person is a member of the committee or for one year after leaving the committee.

§ 27132.4 Committee meetings shall be open to the public and subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act (chapter 9 (commencing with section 54950) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5).

### **C. Reporting**

The Treasurer will prepare a monthly report for the County pool participants and members of the County Treasury Oversight Committee stating, for each investment: the type of investment, name of the issuer, maturity date, par value of the investment, current market value and the securities S&P/Moody's rating. For the total pooled investment fund, the report will list average maturity, effective duration, cost, the current market value, net gains/losses and the sector and issuer concentrations. In addition, the report will break down distribution by maturities, coupon, duration and both S&P/Moody's ratings. The Treasurer shall prepare a monthly cash flow report which sets forth projections for revenue inflows, and interest earnings as compared to the projections for the operating and capital outflows of depositors. This projection shall be for a minimum of 12 months. All Reports will be available on the County Treasurer's website at [treasurer.smcgov.org](http://treasurer.smcgov.org)

### **D. Annual Audit of Compliance**

The County Treasury Oversight Committee shall cause an annual audit to be conducted of the portfolio, procedures, reports and operations related to the County pool in compliance with California Government Code § 27134.

### **E. Pool Rating**

The Pool strives to maintain the highest credit rating at all times. Annually, a contract may be requested for a rating from one of the three leading nationally recognized credit rating organizations (S&P, Moody's or Fitch).

### **F. Compliance Review**

The County will ensure a monthly compliance review of the County's portfolio holdings and provide a monthly written report which will:

1. Verify the accuracy of holdings information.
2. Provide summary-level information about the portfolio.
3. Verify compliance with California Government Code.
4. Verify compliance with the County's written Investment Policy.

5. List any exceptions or discrepancies identified.

### **G. Loss Control**

While this Investment Policy is based on “the Prudent Investor Rule”, the Treasurer shall seek to enhance total portfolio return by means of actively managing the portfolio. In any professionally managed portfolio, occasional controlled losses are inevitable and must be realized and judged within the context of overall portfolio performance. Losses shall be allocated as otherwise described in this policy in section XIII, entitled “Method of Accounting”.

### **H. Credit Quality**

Should any investment or financial institution represented in the portfolio, be downgraded by any of the major rating services to a rating below those established in this investment policy, the Treasurer must immediately make an informed decision as to the disposition of that asset and will so advise the County Treasury Oversight Committee. The situation will be monitored daily by the Treasurer until final disposition has been made.

### **I. Approved Brokers**

The Treasurer will maintain a current list of Approved Brokers and Dealers who may conduct business with the County. All financial institutions on the approved list will be evaluated individually, with preference given to primary dealers, who possess a strong capital and credit base appropriate to their operations. The Treasurer will forward a copy of the County Investment Policy to all approved brokers and require written acknowledgment of the policy from the broker.

No broker, brokerage, dealer or securities firm is allowed on the approved list if, within any consecutive 48-month period, they have made a political contribution in an amount exceeding the limitations contained in Rule G-37 of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, to the local Treasurer, any member of the governing board of the local agency or any candidate for those offices.

If the County has contracted with an investment advisor to provide investment services, the investment advisor may use their own list of approved issuers, brokers/dealers and financial institutions to conduct transactions on the County’s behalf.

### **J. Transaction Settlement**

Payment of settlement in a securities transaction will be against delivery only. A due bill or other substitution will not be acceptable. All securities purchased from the brokers/dealers must be held in safekeeping by the County’s safekeeping agent or designated third party.

## **K. Internal Controls**

The Treasurer has established a system of controls designed to prevent losses of pooled funds due to fraud, employee error, and misrepresentations by third parties, and unanticipated changes in financial markets or imprudent actions by employees of the County. The controls include:

1. Procedures for investment activity which includes separation of duties for transaction authority, accounting and operations and requires clear documentation of activity.
2. Custodial safekeeping as prescribed in California Government Code § 53601.
3. Independent audit, both external and internal.
4. Clear delegation of authority.
5. Written confirmations of all telephone transactions.
6. Establishment of written ethical standards and rules of behavior.

## **XVIII. Execution of Investment Authority**

**A.** All transactions are documented as to date, time and vendor, signed by the originator and include the following information:

1. Buy or sell
2. Specific description of security involved (CUSIP)
3. Settlement date
4. Price
5. The total amount of funds involved
6. On non-treasury or agency transactions a notation will be made on the transaction ticket of competitive bids and offers
7. Broker/dealer

**B.** Information in "A" must be provided to the Investment Specialist for the following purpose:

1. To contact the dealer to verify the information on the trade with the dealer's instructions. Any misunderstanding must be clarified prior to settlement.
2. To provide the County's custodian bank with the specifics of the pending transaction to assure a smooth settlement.
3. To compare with the daily custodian transaction report to assure there are no errors.
4. To generate the internal entries necessary for the movement of funds to complete the transaction.
5. To compare with the broker's confirmations when received.

- C.** At the end of each day, the Investment Specialist summarizes all of the current day transactions in a “Daily Cash Flow Report” available immediately the following morning. This report includes:
1. A summary of all the day’s investment transaction.
  2. A listing of the day’s incoming and outgoing wires.
  3. A listing of the day’s state automatics and other deposits received.
  4. If the pool has “Repos” out, the current earnings rate statement.
  5. An estimate of the total anticipated clearings for the day.
- D.** A best effort will be made to obtain a minimum of three prices from different brokers before executing a security transaction whenever possible. Exceptions will occur with Treasuries. In those cases the Bloomberg screen will be printed as close to the actual executed price as possible. In the case of money market, agencies or corporate securities, a best effort will be made to obtain differential bids and offers.
- E.** Repurchase Agreements All Repurchase Agreements with approved dealers will be governed by a Public Securities Association (PSA) agreement that has been approved in writing by the Treasurer.
- F.** Confirmations resulting from securities purchased or sold under a Repurchase Agreement shall state the exact and complete nomenclature of the underlying securities bought or sold, as well as the term structure (i.e. maturity) of the transaction.
- G.** Securities on loan and their corresponding investments under the County Security Lending Program must be monitored daily by the Investment Specialist to assure the County Treasurer or Designee has a list of those securities that are out on loan. Interest earned will be monitored daily and compared to the monthly report of earnings by the custodial bank.
- H.** The assets of the County shall be held in safekeeping by the County’s safekeeping agent, or secured through third-party custody and safekeeping procedures. A due bill or other substitution will not be acceptable.
- I.** Safekeeping procedures shall be reviewed annually by the Treasurer’s office and an external auditor. Surprise audits of safekeeping and custodial procedures must be conducted at least once a year.
- J.** Security Lending: The custodial bank may be authorized to lend out up to 20% of the portfolio within the guidelines of this policy. Guidelines for securities lending and the investment of collateral are attached to this policy as Schedule 1. Securities on loan must be monitored daily by the Treasurer’s office to assure that the Treasurer has a list of those securities that are out on loan. Interest earned will be monitored daily and compared to the monthly report of earnings by the custodial bank.

- K.** Voluntary Participants participating in the San Mateo County Pooled Fund meet the following requirements:
1. A public agency
  2. Domiciled in the County of San Mateo.
  3. Agree to abide by the approved San Mateo County Pooled Fund Investment Policy Statement.
  4. Acknowledge changes to the policy annually in writing and meet the minimum balance requirements (250K).
  5. In the event a participant's funds fall below \$250K the Treasurer has discretion to set aside that participant's funds in a separate account so that the participant does not run the risk of overdrafting their funds.

Effective 11/1/2018, acceptance of new voluntary participants was discontinued to decrease liquidity requirements.

- L.** Agencies whose jurisdiction includes San Mateo County, but are not domiciled in San Mateo County, may participate in the San Mateo County Pooled Fund with the approval of the Treasurer and the County Treasury Oversight Committee.

## **XIX. Disaster Recovery**

The San Mateo County Treasurer's Disaster Recovery Plan includes critical phone numbers and addresses of key personnel as well as active bankers and brokers/dealers. Portable devices have been issued to key personnel for communicating between staff, banks and broker/dealers. The plan includes an offsite location to be communicated at the time of readiness if our offices are uninhabitable.

In the event investment staff is unable to invest the portfolio, the custodial bank will automatically sweep all un-invested cash into a collateralized account at the end of the business day. Union Bank is currently the pools bank.

Should this guarantee program not be extended, a collateralized account will be set up. Until normal operations of the Treasurer's office have been restored, the limitations on the size of an individual issuer and the percentage restrictions by investment type would be allowed to exceed those approved in this Investment Policy.

## **XX. Ethics and Conflict of Interest**

The Treasurer and all investment personnel shall refrain from personal business activity which could create a conflict with proper execution of the investment program or which could impair the ability to execute impartial investment decisions. The Treasurer and all investment personnel shall complete and submit State of California Form 700, Statement of Economic Interests Disclosure annually.

## **XXI. Limits on Honoraria, Gifts and Gratuities**

In accordance with California Government Code Section 27133, this policy establishes limits for the Treasurer; individuals responsible for management of the portfolios; and members



of the Treasury Oversight Committee; select individual investment advisors and broker/dealers who conduct day-to-day investment trading activity.

Any individual who receives an aggregate total of gifts, honoraria and gratuities in excess of \$50 in a calendar year from a broker/dealer, bank or service provider to the Pooled Investment Fund must report the gifts, dates and firms to the designated filing official and complete the appropriate State forms.

No individual designated in a conflict of interest code may receive aggregate gifts, honoraria and gratuities in a calendar year in excess of the amount specified in Section 18940.2(a) of Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations. Gifts from a single source are subject to a \$420 limit. Any violation must be reported to the State Fair Political Practices Commission.

## Comparison and Interpretation of Credit Ratings<sup>1</sup>

### Long Term Debt Ratings

Rating Interpretation	Moody's	Standard & Poor's	Fitch
Best-Quality grade	Aaa	AAA	AAA
High-Quality Grade	Aa1	AA+	AA+
	Aa2	AA	AA
	Aa3	AA-	AA-
Upper Medium Grade	A1	A+	A+
	A2	A	A
	A3	A-	A-
Medium Grade	Baa1	BBB+	BBB+
	Baa2	BBB	BBB
	Baa3	BBB-	BBB-
Speculative Grade	Ba1	BB+	BB+
	Ba2	BB	BB
	Ba3	BB-	BB-
Low Grade	B1	B+	B+
	B2	B	B
	B3	B-	B-
Poor Grade to Default	Caa	CCC+	CCC
In Poor Standing	-	CCC	-
	-	CCC-	-
Highly Speculative Default	Ca	CC	CC
	C	-	-
Default	-	-	DDD
	-	-	DD
	-	D	D

**Short Term/Commercial Paper Investment Grade Ratings**

<b>Rating Interpretation</b>	<b>Moody's</b>	<b>Standard &amp; Poor's</b>	<b>Fitch</b>
Superior Capacity	P-1	A-1+/A-1	F1+/F1
Strong Capacity	P-2	A-2	F2
Acceptable Capacity	P-3	A-3	F3

<sup>1</sup> These are general credit rating guidelines and are for information only

## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

### **ACCRUED INTEREST**

Interest that has accumulated but has not yet been paid from the most recent interest payment date or issue date to a certain date.

### **ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES (ABS)**

A financial security backed by a loan, lease or receivables against assets other than real estate and mortgage-backed securities. For investors, asset-backed securities are an alternative to investing in corporate debt.

### **AVERAGE LIFE**

The length of time the principal of a debt issue is expected to be outstanding. The average life is an average period before a debt is repaid through amortization or sinking fund payments.

### **BANKERS' ACCEPTANCE**

A time bill of exchange drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank to finance the exchange of goods. When a bank "accepts" such a bill, the time draft becomes, in effect, a predated, certified check payable to the bearer at some future specified date. Little risk is involved for the investor because the commercial bank assumes primary liability once the draft is accepted.

### **BASIS POINT**

One basis point is equal to 1/100 of one percent or .01%. Thus, 100 basis points equals 1%. For example, if interest rates increase from 4.25% to 4.50%, the difference is referred to as a 25-basis-point increase.

### **BENCHMARK**

A comparative base for measuring the performance or risk tolerance of the investment portfolio. A benchmark should represent a close correlation to the level of risk and the average duration of the portfolio's investments.

### **BID**

The price at which a buyer offers to buy a security.

### **BOND**

A bond is essentially a loan made by an investor to a division of the government, a government agency or a corporation. The bond is a promissory note to repay the loan in full at the end of a fixed time period. The date on which the principal must be repaid is called the maturity date or maturity. In addition, the issuer of the bond, that is, the agency or corporation receiving the loan proceeds and issuing the promissory note, agrees to make regular payments of interest at a rate initially stated on the bond. Bonds are rated according to many factors, including cost, degree of risk and rate of income.

### **BOOK VALUE**

The value of a held security as carried in the records of an investor. May differ from current market value of the security.

**BROKER/DEALER**

Any person engaged in the business of effecting transactions in securities in this state for the account of others or for her/his own account. Broker/dealer also includes a person engaged in the regular business of issuing or guaranteeing options with regard to securities not of her/his own issue.

**CALLABLE SECURITIES**

An investment security that contains an option allowing the issuer to retire the security prior to its final maturity date.

**COMMERCIAL PAPER**

Short-term, unsecured promissory notes issued in either registered or bearer form and usually backed by a line of credit with a bank. Maturities do not exceed 270 days and generally average 30-45 days.

**COLLATERALIZED TIME DEPOSITS**

An interest-bearing bank deposit that has a specific maturity date.

**CORPORATE BOND**

A debt security issued by a corporation and sold to investors. The backing for the bond is usually the payment ability of the company, which is typically money to be earned from future operations. In some cases, the company's physical assets may be used as collateral for bonds. Corporate bonds are considered higher risk than government bonds. As a result, interest rates are almost always higher, even for top flight credit quality companies.

**COUPON RATE**

The annual rate of interest payable on a security expressed as a percentage of the principal amount.

**COVERED BOND**

A covered or mortgage bond is an on-balance sheet obligation of the issuing institution. Typically, a covered bond receives the legal structure, the issuer's backing and the pledge of quality assets, should the issuer fail to qualify for a higher rated bond.

**CREDIT RISK**

The risk to an investor that an issuer will default in the payment of interest and/or principal on a security.

**CURRENT YIELD**

The annual income from an investment divided by the current market value. Since the mathematical calculation relies on the current market value rather than the investor's cost, current yield is unrelated to the actual return the investor will earn if the security is held to maturity.

**CUSIP NUMBERS**

CUSIP is an acronym for Committee on Uniform Security Identification Procedures. CUSIP numbers are identification numbers assigned each maturity of a security issue and usually printed on the face of each individual security in the issue. The CUSIP numbers are intended to facilitate identification and clearance of securities.

**DISCOUNT**

The amount by which the par value of a security exceeds the price paid for the security.

**DIVERSIFICATION**

Dividing investment funds among a variety of securities offering independent returns.

**DURATION**

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

**EARNINGS APPORTIONMENT**

The quarterly interest distribution to the Pool Participants where the actual investment costs incurred by the Treasurer are deducted from the interest earnings of the Pool.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIAL GOVERNANCE (ESG) PRINCIPLES**

Assessment of investment issuers with respect to the following:

Environmental: How a company limits its environmental impact and carbon footprint.

Social: How a company treats its employees, customers, community, and other companies with whom it interacts.

Governance: How a company is led and managed, including executive pay and internal controls.

**EQUITY-LINKED SECURITIES**

A hybrid debt instrument that is linked to the equity markets. Equity-linked securities can be in the form of a single stock, a group of stocks or an equity-based index, such as the S&P 500.

**EVENT-LINKED SECURITIES**

A type of bond whose interest and principal payments are determined based on the non-occurrence of certain events such as an earthquake and hurricane. If an event, usually referred to as a "trigger event", occurs, then the holder of the bond could see a loss of all future interest payments or a loss of most principal.

**FAIR VALUE**

The amount at which an investment could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties, other than in a forced or liquidation sale.

**FEDERAL FUNDS**

Funds placed in Federal Reserve banks by depository institutions in excess of current reserve requirements. These depository institutions may lend Fed funds to each other overnight or on a longer basis. They may also transfer funds among each other on a same-day basis through the Federal Reserve banking system. Fed funds are considered to be immediately available funds.

**FEDERAL FUNDS RATE**

Interest rate at which banks lend federal funds to each other.

**FEDERAL OPEN MARKET COMMITTEE (FOMC)**

This committee sets Federal Reserve guidelines regarding purchases and sales of government securities in the open market as a means of influencing the volume of bank credit and money.

**FIDUCIARY**

An individual who holds something in trust for another and bears liability for its safekeeping.

**FLOATING RATE NOTE**

A debt security whose interest rate is reset periodically (monthly, quarterly, annually) and is based on a market index (e.g. Treasury bills, LIBOR, etc.).

**FUTURES**

Commodities, which are sold to be delivered at a future date

**INTEREST**

The amount earned while owning a debt security, generally calculated as a percentage of the principal amount.

**INVERSE FLOATING RATE NOTES**

Variable-rate notes whose coupon and value increase as interest rates decrease.

**LEVERAGED FLOATER**

A security, generally a bond, which has a leverage factor of greater than one and a fixed margin with a variable coupon rate, which is tied to a benchmark interest rate or index.

**LIQUIDITY**

The ease with which investments can be converted to cash at their present market value. Liquidity is significantly affected by the number of buyers and sellers trading a given security and the number of units of the security available for trading.

**LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND (LAIF)**

The State of California investment pool in which money of local agencies is pooled as a method for managing and investing local funds.

**MARKET RISK**

Market risk is the risk that investments will change in value based on changes in general market prices.

**MARKET VALUE**

The price at which a security is trading and could presumably be purchased or sold.

**MASTER REPURCHASE AGREEMENT**

A written contract covering all future transactions between the parties to repurchase-reverse repurchase agreements that establishes each party's rights in the transaction. A master agreement will often specify, among other things, the right of the buyer-lender to liquidate the underlying securities in the event of default by the seller-borrower.

**MATURITY**

The date upon which the principal of a security becomes due and payable to the holder.

**MONEY MARKET MUTUAL FUND**

A mutual fund with investments directed in short-term money market instruments only, which can be withdrawn daily without penalty.

**MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES (MBS)**

A type of asset-backed security that is secured by a mortgage or collection of mortgages. These securities must also be grouped in one of the top two ratings as determined by an accredited credit rating agency, and usually pay periodic payments that are similar to coupon payments.

**MUNICIPAL BOND**

Debt obligation of a state or local government entity

**NEGOTIABLE CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT (NCD)**

A negotiable certificate of deposit (NCD) is a certificate of deposit with a minimum face value of \$100,000, and they are guaranteed by the bank and can usually be sold in a highly liquid secondary market, but they cannot be cashed in before maturity.

**OPTION**

A contract that provides the right, but not the obligation, to buy or to sell a specific amount of a specific security within a predetermined time period. A call option provides the right to buy the underlying security. A put option provides the right to sell the underlying security. The seller of the contracts is called the writer.

**PAR**

The stated maturity value, or face value, of a security.

**PAR VALUE**

The stated or face value of a security expressed as a specific dollar amount marked on the face of the security, the amount of money due at maturity. Par value should not be confused with market value.

**PREMIUM**

The amount by which the price paid for a security exceeds the security's par value.

**PRIME RATE**

A preferred interest rate charged by commercial banks to their most creditworthy customers. Many interest rates are keyed to this rate.

**PRUDENT-MAN RULE**

When one person is given control over another's assets, such fiduciaries must act as a prudent man or woman would be expected to act, with discretion and intelligence, to seek reasonable income, preserve capital, and, in general, avoid speculative investments.

**RANGE NOTE**

A structured note that provides investors with an above-market coupon, but against foregoing coupon payments when the floating rate (LIBOR, typically) breaks outside the boundaries of a specific range.

**RATE OF RETURN**

The yield obtainable on a security based on its purchase price or its current market price. This may be the amortized yield to maturity on a bond and the current income return.

**REPURCHASE AGREEMENT OR RP OR REPO**

An agreement consisting of two simultaneous transactions whereby the investor purchases securities from a bank or dealer and the bank or dealer agrees to repurchase the securities at the same price on a certain future date. The interest rate on a RP is that which the dealer pays the investor for the use of his funds. Reverse repurchase agreements are the mirror image of the RPs when the bank or dealer purchases securities from the investor under an agreement to sell them back to the investor.

**SAFEKEEPING**

A service to customers rendered by banks for a fee whereby securities and valuables of all types and descriptions are held by the bank in the customer's name.

**SECURITIES LENDING**

A transaction wherein the Treasurer's Pool transfers its securities to broker/dealers and other entities for collateral which may be cash or securities and simultaneously agrees to return the collateral for the same securities in the future.

**SETTLEMENT DATE**

The date on which the purchase or sale of securities is executed. For example, in a purchase transaction, the day securities are physically delivered or wired to the buyer in exchange for cash is the settlement date.

**STRIPs**

Bonds, usually issued by the U.S. Treasury, whose two components, interest and repayment of principal, are separated and sold individually as zero-coupon bonds. Strips are an acronym for Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal of Securities.

**STRUCTURED INVESTMENT VEHICLES (SIV)**

A pool of investment assets that attempts to profit from credit spreads between short-term debt and long-term structured finance products such as asset-backed securities (ABS).

**TRADE DATE**

The date and time corresponding to an investor's commitment to buy or sell a security.

**U.S. AGENCY OBLIGATIONS**

Federal agency or United States government-sponsored enterprise obligations, participants, or other instruments. The obligations are issued by or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by federal agencies or United States government-sponsored enterprises. Issuers include: Fannie Mae, Farmer Mac, Federal Farm Credit Banks, Freddie Mac, Federal Home Loan Banks, Financing Corporation, Tennessee Valley Authority, Resolution Trust Funding Corporation, World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank and PEFCO.

**US INSTRUMENTALITIES**

An organization that serves a public purpose and is closely tied to federal and/or state government, but is not a government agency. Many instrumentalities are private companies, and some are chartered directly by state or federal government.



**U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS (TREASURIES)**

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 U.S. and overseas. The Treasury issues both discounted securities and fixed coupon notes and bonds.

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE MATURITY**

The remaining average maturity of all securities held in a portfolio.

**YIELD**

The rate of annual income return on an investment, expressed as a percentage. Yield does not include capital gains. (a) INCOME YIELD is obtained by dividing the current dollar income by the current market price for the security. (b) NET YIELD or YIELD TO MATURITY is the current income yield minus any premium above par or plus any discount from par in purchase price, with the adjustment spread over the period from the date of purchase to the date of maturity of the bond.

**ZERO-COUPON BOND**

A bond on which interest is not payable until maturity (or earlier redemption), but compounds periodically to accumulate to a stated maturity amount. Zero-coupon bonds are typically issued at a discount and repaid at par upon maturity.