

# NEW YORK LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION



## Investment Report

for fiscal year ended March 31, 2021

**NEW YORK LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION**

**ANNUAL INVESTMENT REPORT**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021**

**PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
SECTION 2925 OF THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES LAW**

## **INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with Sections 2925(6) of the Public Authorities Law, Part 201 of Title Two of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, and as required by the New York Local Government Assistance Corporation's Investments Policy, Procedures, Reporting and Control Guidelines (the "Guidelines"), the Corporation shall annually prepare and approve an investment report.

The organization of this Annual Investment Report (the "Report") is structured to conform with the prescribed format specified in the section on "Required Reports" of the Guidelines. Section I of this Report contains the Corporation's Guidelines that were most recently amended and approved by the Board pursuant to Resolution 2020-07 on June 23, 2020. There have been no amendments to the Guidelines since last approved. Section II contains a concise explanation of the Guidelines. Section III summarizes the recorded results of the Corporation's investment activity and a schedule of the qualified dealers used for the Corporation's investment transactions for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021. Pursuant to the Exclusive Agent Agreement between the Corporation and the State Comptroller (the "Comptroller"), as amended, the Corporation delegates the responsibility of investing the Corporation's monies to the Comptroller. Section IV contains the Report on Compliance with Section 201.3 of Title Two of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York during the year ended March 31, 2021.

After the Corporation's Board has reviewed and accepted this Report, copies of this Report will be submitted to the Division of the Budget, the Senate Finance Committee, the Assembly Ways and Means Committee and the Office of the State Comptroller pursuant to Section 2925(7) of the Public Authorities Law, Section 201.3 of Title Two of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York and in accordance with the Corporation's Guidelines.

**SECTION I**

**INVESTMENTS**

**POLICY, PROCEDURES, REPORTING AND CONTROL GUIDELINES**

**OF**

**THE NEW YORK**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION**

**As last amended by Resolution No. 2020-07**

**on June 23, 2020**

# **NEW YORK LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION INVESTMENT GUIDELINES**

As last amended June 23, 2020

## **INTRODUCTION**

Pursuant to the Exclusive Agent Agreement between the New York Local Government Assistance Corporation (“Corporation” or “LGAC”) and the Comptroller, the Corporation has delegated the responsibility of investing the Corporation’s monies to the Comptroller. In addition, various investment restrictions and procedures are contained in the Corporation’s Bond Resolutions.

These guidelines refer to various officers and employees of the Office of the State Comptroller. Such officers and employees designated in these Guidelines shall be deemed to be acting on behalf of LGAC when performing duties described in the Guidelines with respect to LGAC investments.

## **STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The basic guide for the investment of monies held on behalf of or in the custody of LGAC is the “prudent person rule.” The “rule” provides that fiduciaries are required to exercise the same diligence and prudence in the care and management of other people’s money as they would their own. In addition, the rule provides that investments should be made in such a manner so as to seek a reasonable income while preserving capital.

Beyond the “prudent person rule,” the investment of LGAC monies is made in accordance with Section 98a of the State Finance Law, the various Bond Resolutions of LGAC, the Payment Agreement between the Corporation and the Director of the Budget, and the provisions of Section 201.3 of Title Two of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York as promulgated on March 29, 2006 (“Section 201.3”).

## **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the investment program for LGAC monies are:

1. To safeguard the principal as the primary objective;
2. To obtain the maximum yield consistent with safety of principal;
3. To develop a portfolio which will emphasize quality, flexibility, diversity (where possible), and marketability; and
4. To maintain the tax-exempt status of LGAC’s debt.

## **INVESTMENT STANDARDS**

These objectives have been implemented through the development of the following standards which, while subject to continual review, provide the criteria against which investment decisions must be judged.

- A. Statutory - No investment of LGAC monies may be made unless it is an Authorized Investment. However, the converse is not to be inferred. The fact that there is authorization

for a particular type of investment is not sufficient ground for making such an investment. Fiduciary judgment is essential and will be exercised in all cases.

B. Administrative - Procedures are maintained to ensure that:

1. Only high-grade securities are purchased;
2. Every purchase or sale is in accordance with the Bond Resolutions, the investment policies adopted by the Board of Directors, and Section 201.3;
3. Every purchase or sale is approved by an authorized officer of the Corporation or the Comptroller.

### **AUTHORIZED INVESTMENTS**

The Comptroller is authorized to invest monies that are on deposit with the Trustee in the following funds held under each Resolution:

Local Assistance Payment Fund  
Operating Fund  
Cost of Issuance Account  
Rebate Fund  
Subordinated Payment Fund  
Debt Service Fund (restricted to authorized investments stated below)  
Capital Reserve Fund (restricted to authorized investments stated below)

Accounts and sub-accounts within each of the foregoing funds or temporary accounts for the payment of costs of issuance or capitalized interest may from time to time be established in accordance with a Series Resolution or upon the direction of the Corporation.

The Corporation and the Comptroller agree that monies in the Local Government Assistance Tax Fund (restricted to 1, 3, and 4 below) will be held in the custody of the Comptroller and the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance and will be kept separate and not commingled with other monies and will be invested in Debt Service Fund Investments pursuant to the Resolutions. In accordance with the Bond Resolutions, to the extent such funds are not so invested, the Comptroller will, upon receipt, deliver such monies to the Trustee.

A. To the extent permitted by law, the following are the Authorized Investments for the Capital Reserve Fund.

1. Any bonds or other obligations which as to principal and interest constitute direct obligations of, or are unconditionally guaranteed by, the United States of America including inflation index securities and Treasury STRIPS issued by a Federal Reserve bank;
2. Direct and general obligations of New York State, provided that the rating thereon shall not be less than the rating on the Corporation's Bonds, each as established by Fitch Ratings, Inc., Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and S&P Global Ratings, if and to the extent that such firms continue to maintain a rating on the Corporation's Bonds and on such obligations of the State;
3. Certificates of deposit, whether negotiable or non-negotiable, issued by any bank or trust company having a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000 organized under the laws of any state of the United States of America or any national banking

association (including the Corporation's Trustee), which certificates of deposit are fully insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or fully secured by such securities as are described in paragraph (1) above, but in any event collateralized to the level required by each of the rating agencies referred to in paragraph (2) if and to the extent such firms maintain a rating on the Corporation's Bonds;

4. Any Purchase and Sale of Securities (simultaneous purchase of a permitted investment with an agreement to sell it back to the seller) ("PSS" or "Repurchase Agreements") with any bank or trust company organized under the laws of any state of the United States of America and authorized to do business in the State of New York or any national banking association (including the Corporation's Trustee) or government bond dealer reporting to, trading with, and recognized as a primary dealer by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York with respect to any one or more of the securities described in paragraph (1) above;
5. General obligation bonds and notes of any state other than New York State and, to the extent permitted by law, general obligation bonds and notes of any political subdivision of the State or any state, provided that such bonds and notes receive the highest rating from each of Fitch Ratings, Inc., Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and S&P Global Ratings, if and to the extent that such firms continue to maintain a rating on the Corporation's Bonds and on such bonds and notes.

B. The following are Authorized Investments for the Debt Service Fund.

To the extent permitted by law, and to the extent the securities are legal investments for the Corporation, the Authorized Investments for monies in the Debt Service Fund are as described in (1), (3), and (4) under Authorized Investments for the Capital Reserve Fund.

C. Monies on deposit in any other funds or accounts held by the Trustee as listed above may be invested pursuant to Section 98a of the State Finance Law.

### **DIVERSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

In order to safeguard principal from imprudent risks, it is the policy of LGAC, where possible, to diversify a portfolio among the investment instruments which it may legally and prudently hold and also among investment firms with which it transacts business. However, since LGAC is legally limited in the type of securities it may invest in, the opportunity to diversify among investments is very limited. The terms of each investment will be consistent with LGAC's cash liquidity requirements. The term of Repurchase Agreements will be for periods no longer than ninety days.

### **QUALIFYING INVESTMENT BANKERS AND BROKERS**

A. An approved list of financial institutions shall be established and revised, as necessary, by the Division of Pension Investment and Cash Management ("PICM") for each type of investment based on applicable law, bond resolutions and upon the qualifications of investment bankers, brokers, agents, dealers and other investment advisors and agents which transact business with LGAC. In addition, a list shall also be maintained of approved security broker/dealers selected by creditworthiness. All financial institutions and broker/dealers who desire to become qualified for investment transactions must supply the following as appropriate:

1. Audited financial statements;



2. Proof of Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) certification;
  3. Proof of state registration;
  4. Completed broker/dealer questionnaire (Exhibit C).
- B. To ensure safety of principal, the Comptroller has established criteria, consistent with the Bond Resolutions, applicable law, and Section 201.3, for qualifying investment bankers, brokers, agents, and dealers (“Authorized Investment Bankers and Brokers”) with whom LGAC may transact investments as follows:
1. From the list of recognized reporting government securities dealers, the Chief Investment Officer for PICM (the “CIO”) or the CIO’s designee responsible for the daily investment operation designates the Authorized Investment Bankers and Brokers eligible for PSS investments.

If it is necessary to use a banker or broker that is not an Authorized Investment Banker and Broker under the above criteria, then a written waiver must be signed by an authorized officer of the Corporation permitting such an investment. (See Exhibit A for authorized waiver.)

#### **DEALER LIMITATIONS**

Each recognized Authorized Investment Banker and Broker is restricted as to the total dollar amount of outstanding PSS investments which may be placed with them at any point in time. Such restrictions are based on the size and quality of the Authorized Investment Banker or Broker as well as the judgment of PICM staff concerning the ability of the various Authorized Investment Banker and Broker to effectively engage in the quantity and quality of required investments. In no event shall the total amount of such investments exceed the designated dollar limitation established by the Comptroller or an authorized officer. It is the responsibility of PICM to revise the dollar limitations as market conditions and the financial viability of the Authorized Investment Banker and Broker change.

If circumstances arise where it becomes necessary to exceed the designated dollar amount authorized, a written waiver must be signed by an authorized officer of the Corporation or his/her designee permitting such an investment. (See Exhibit B for authorized waiver.)

#### **PURCHASE AND SALE OF SECURITIES (“PSS”)**

It is the Comptroller's policy to regard a Repurchase Agreement as a simultaneous purchase of a permitted investment with an agreement to sell it back to the seller (a “PSS”). The term and yield of the PSS is fixed at the time that offers are being sought from an Authorized Investment Banker or Broker. The securities purchased under a PSS are marked to market. The custodian of any securities purchased under a PSS shall not be the same party that is selling the securities to the Corporation. A custodial bank shall be a member of the Federal Reserve System or maintain accounts with member banks to accomplish book-entry transfer of securities to the credit of the public authority.

A properly executed Master Repurchase Agreement must be on file with the Comptroller and the Trustee in a form approved by the CIO or the CIO’s designee before entering any PSS transaction. As in any purchase of securities, the Corporation’s Trustee or other fiscal agent is instructed not to release the funds to the seller until the securities have been delivered according to the Investment Record sent by the Bureau of Debt Management within the Office of Budget and Policy Analysis (“BDM”). The Master Repurchase Agreement shall include:



1. The events of default which would permit the purchaser to liquidate the pledged collateral;
2. The relationship between parties to the agreement, which shall ordinarily be purchaser and seller;
3. Procedures which ensure that the Corporation obtains a perfected security interest in the securities which are the subject of the agreement;
4. The method of computing margin maintenance requirements and providing for timely correction of margin deficiencies or excesses. Specific guidelines regarding margin maintenance shall be established, taking into consideration:
  - (i) the type of collateral or purchased security;
  - (ii) the maturity of the collateral or purchased security; and
  - (iii) the method by which additional margin will be maintained; and
5. Circumstances, if any, under which substitution of securities subject to the agreement shall be permitted.

### **INVESTMENT DECISION PROCESS**

To ensure that the Comptroller exercises his fiduciary responsibility on behalf of LGAC for each investment transaction, the following decision-making process has been established:

1. The Comptroller appoints the CIO and empowers the CIO with the ability to buy and sell securities on behalf of the Comptroller and to execute all agreements, instruments, documents and papers with the like power and effect as if the Comptroller had executed these documents in the performance of his statutory duties for LGAC.
2. The CIO formulates an overall investment strategy, and disseminates the approved investment strategy to those members of the Comptroller's staff authorized to invest monies of the Common Retirement Fund and State Funds, who are also authorized to execute trades or direct the Trustee to execute trades on behalf of the Corporation, ("Investment Officer") at staff meetings, which are held at least quarterly, in writing as minutes of the meeting and orally, and confirmed in writing, as required by changing economic and market conditions and resulting strategy. Copies of all such correspondence are available to the Compliance Officer.
3. The Investment Officer implements the approved investment guidelines, making minor adjustments within the broader strategy as market conditions change, in the execution of their daily investment transactions commensurate with appropriate legal statutes, Bond Resolutions and policy considerations.
4. A legal opinion is obtained from LGAC's General Counsel when necessary.

### **INVESTMENT PROCEDURES**

The following investment procedures have been established to ensure that the Corporation's investment policy has been implemented and that the objectives and standards of the portfolios under management are met.

A. Cash Position

1. BDM staff will provide the Investment Officer with written instructions regarding the investment of all LGAC monies. Instructions will include both the amount to be invested and the term of the investment.
2. To assist BDM staff in determining the current cash position of LGAC Funds a report may be generated from the Statewide Financial System (“SFS”), detailing all LGAC maturing investments for the upcoming week. The report will include both maturing principal and any interest earnings.

B. Solicitation of Offerings/Bids

1. Based on the amount of funds, the duration of the availability of funds, the legal framework of the funds and LGAC’s investment strategy, an Investment Officer solicits competitive offerings/bids from the approved list of Authorized Investment Bankers and Brokers.
2. As offerings/bids are solicited, they are recorded electronically.
3. Once offerings/bids have been received from all interested Authorized Investment Bankers and Brokers, the Investment Officer determines which offering or offerings/bid or bids: (i) meets the maturity requirements of the funds; (ii) provides the greatest rate of return; (iii) fulfills the Corporation's investment strategy; (iv) provides collateral, if required, that meets the legal list of acceptable collateral and is in an amount sufficient to protect the amount of the investment; and (v) does not exceed the imposed Authorized Investment Banker and Broker limitation. (Note: If the Authorized Investment Banker and Broker limitation is exceeded, the Investment Officer must obtain a waiver signed by an authorized officer of the Corporation or his/her designee.)
4. Because of the limited timeframe in which an investment decision must be made, the Investment Officer decides which of the offerings/bids to accept.
5. An Investment Officer confirms the winning offering/bid electronically with the appropriate Authorized Investment Banker or Broker and issue delivery instructions.
6. All investment transactions are entered into SFS.
7. After the winning offering/bid is electronically confirmed with the Authorized Investment Banker or Broker, the Investment Officer or Operations Officer prepares an Investment Purchase and/or Sales Record (“Investment Record”).
8. The Investment Record is transferred to BDM staff who complete the processing of the trade to include notifying the Trustee electronically and receive confirmation from the Trustee when the trade has settled, consistent with the Investment Record.

C. Collateralization

The Corporation’s financial interest in investments requiring security or collateralization must be fully secured or collateralized. The collateral shall be limited to obligations having the same or higher rating than the ratings of the obligations permissible for the Corporation’s direct investments. The collateral shall be segregated in the Corporation’s name and shall be in the custody of the Corporation or a third-party custodian. The

Custodian shall be a member of the Federal Reserve System. The Custodian must have prior authorization from the Corporation to deliver obligations and collateral. The Corporation shall not accept a pledge of a proportionate interest in a pool of collateral. For demand deposits, time deposits and certificates of deposit, collateralization is required for amounts over and above Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation coverage. The market value and the accrued interest of the collateral shall equal the value of the investment and any accrued interest at all times. The recorded value of the collateral shall be compared with the current market values (mark-to-market) at the time of initial investment, and thereafter at least monthly (or more often if the Corporation determines that volatile market conditions exist), to be certain that the value of the collateral continues to be equal to the value of the investment plus accrued interest. The mark-to-market reviews shall use "bid" price from one constant source. The Corporation, in its discretion, may determine that it is desirable to require collateralization in excess of the market value at the time of the purchase. There shall be a written agreement (or agreements) which, among other things, specifies the circumstances under which collateral may be substituted and provides that the custodian is holding the securities solely for the benefit of the Corporation and that the custodian makes no claim thereto.

D. Investment Management Reporting

Reports from SFS will be available to assist in the management of the Corporation's investments. These reports may be generated from SFS and shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Current Portfolio by type of security;
2. Income Projection Report- Interest received by type of security;
3. Earned Income Summary - Shows interest received and interest earned by security as well as the investment yield for a given period of time;
4. Broker Report - Breakdown of all trades by Authorized Investment Bankers and Brokers; and
5. General Journal - Listing in chronological order of all trades by settlement date along with a summary of purchases, sales and maturities by type of security.

E. Internal Controls

1. The CIO and BDM shall establish and maintain internal control structures designed to ensure that LGAC's investment assets are protected from loss, theft or misuse. The internal controls shall include procedures to address:
  - (i) Control of collusion;
  - (ii) Separation of transaction authority from accounting and recordkeeping;
  - (iii) Custodial safekeeping;
  - (iv) Avoidance of physical delivery securities;
  - (v) Clear delegation of authority to subordinate staff members;
  - (vi) Confirmation of transactions for investments and wire transfers; and

- (vii) Wire transfer agreements.
- 2. All investments will be registered in LGAC's name if in book entry form or delivered to LGAC's Corporate Trustee.
- 3. Whenever possible, investments will be made in book-entry form to avoid physical delivery of securities.
- 4. The Investment Officers of the Comptroller's staff authorized to invest monies of the Common Retirement Fund and State funds are also authorized to execute trades or direct the Trustee to execute trades on behalf of the Corporation.
- 5. On a daily basis, all trading activity by the Investment Officer is reviewed by the CIO or the CIO's designee.
- 6. After the winning offering/bid is electronically confirmed with the Authorized Investment Banker or Broker, an Investment Record is prepared by an Investment Officer. These Records will also be reviewed by the CIO or the CIO's designee and the BDM by the close of the business day.
- 7. All transactions are reported by the BDM to the Trustee, where the Corporation's investments settle. The Trustee will not fund the investments unless the delivered securities conform to BDM's instructions.
- 8. Any identified issues are reviewed by PICM's Compliance Officer.
- 9. An annual inventory of all securities is conducted by an independent accounting firm. Other more specialized audits may be performed throughout the year by internal auditors and independent auditors.
- 10. In accordance with Section 2925(3)(c) of the Public Authorities Law, all investments of LGAC funds must be made pursuant to a written contract except as provided below. Such written contract shall cover the matters set forth in items (1) through (4) of section 201.3 (c)(3)(iii)(F) of the Comptroller's regulations as promulgated on March 29, 2006. However, written contracts are not practical, nor is it a regular business practice to enter such contracts for permitted investments other than PSSs, and this requirement is hereby waived for permitted investments other than PSSs.

F. Procedures for Permitted Investments

All investments purchased by the Corporation must be delivered to its Custodian against payment. In any purchase of securities, the Corporation's Custodian is instructed not to release funds to the seller until the securities are delivered according to instructions issued by the Corporation. In the case of investments that require collateral, the collateral must be delivered to the Custodian, deposited in a separate account in the name of the Corporation, be rated at least as high as securities approved for purchase by the Corporation and marked to market at the time of initial investment, and thereafter at least monthly (or more often if the Corporation determines that volatile market conditions exist), by PICM to be certain that the value of the collateral is at least equal to the amount of the investment plus any accrued interest. In the event that collateral falls below the value of the investment plus accrued interest, additional collateral will be required from the seller to meet any deficiency. Custodial banks shall be required to report monthly or more frequently on activity occurring in the Corporation's custodial account. There shall be at least monthly verifications of both the principal amount and the market values of all investments and

collateral. Appropriate listings shall be obtained from the custodian and compared against the Corporation's records.

In the case of Repurchase Agreements, the Corporation enters into signed agreements with its approved Dealers. The agreements cover delivery of securities, passage of title and the value of the securities that are used as collateral and which must be maintained throughout the life of the investment. The margin percentage is 102 percent of the value of the investment plus accrued interest. Counterparties may exercise their rights only when the value of the collateral is less than 102 percent of the current value, including accrued interest, of the PSS or greater than 104 percent, including accrued interest, of the PSS.

### **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Corporation and the Office of the State Comptroller are committed to honoring the highest professional standards of conduct. To this end, all employees of PICM and the staff of BDM that support the LGAC operations are provided with Policies and Procedures regarding professional standards of conduct. These Policies and Procedures are intended to prevent insider trading and the misuse of material non-public information and confidential information. All employees directly involved in the selection and placement of investments must also submit securities transaction disclosure forms on a semi-annual basis, at a minimum. These disclosure forms are filed with and reviewed by PICM's Compliance Officer to assure compliance with the Policies and Procedures.

### **REQUIRED REPORTS**

#### A. Internal Management Reporting

In accordance with Section 2925(5) of the Public Authorities Law, the CIO, in conjunction with the Treasurer of the Corporation, shall cause to be prepared and filed with the Corporation's board of directors a quarterly report on any new investments, the inventory of existing investments and the selection of investment bankers, brokers, agents, dealers, or auditors.

#### B. Reporting to Oversight Agencies

Annually, in accordance with Sections 2925(6) and 2925(7) of the Public Authorities Law, and Section 201.3, the Corporation shall prepare:

1. An Investment Report for approval by the Board which shall include the following:
  - (i) the Corporation's Investments Policy, Procedures, Reporting and Control Guidelines;
  - (ii) Amendments to the Guidelines since the last investment report;
  - (iii) an explanation of the Guidelines and Amendments;
  - (iv) the results of the annual independent audit of investments;
  - (v) the investment income record of the Corporation; and
  - (vi) a list of the total fees, commissions or other charges paid to each Authorized Investment Banker or Broker, including Trustee fees, since the last Investment Report.

The Investment Report shall be submitted to the Division of the Budget and copies thereof shall be submitted to the Office of Budget and Policy Analysis of the Office of the State Comptroller, the Senate Finance Committee and the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. Copies of the Investment Report shall also be made available to the public upon reasonable request.

C. Performance Evaluation and Audit

The Corporation shall annually engage its financial statement auditor to perform an audit of investments to determine whether: the Corporation complies with its own investment policies; investment assets are adequately safeguarded; adequate accounts and records are maintained which accurately reflect all transactions and report on the disposition of Corporation investment assets; a system of adequate internal controls is maintained; the Corporation complied with the applicable laws, regulations, the State Comptroller's investment guideline requirements set forth in Section 201.3 and such public authority accounting directives as may be issued by the State Comptroller.

A written audit report shall be prepared presenting the results of the annual independent audit of all investments and shall include:

1. a description of the scope and objectives of the audit;
2. a statement attesting that the audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards;
3. a description of any material weaknesses found in the internal controls;
4. a description of all non-compliance with the Corporation's own investment policies as well as applicable laws, regulations, the State Comptroller's investment guideline requirements for public authorities, and such public authority accounting directives as may be issued by the State Comptroller;
5. a statement of positive assurance of compliance on the items tested; and
6. a statement of any other material deficiency or finding identified during the audit not covered in (5) above.

D. Financial Statements

The Corporation's annual basic financial statements, which are required to be prepared in conformance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"), shall contain all note disclosures on deposits with financial institutions and investments required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") for the period covered by the basic financial statements. GASB has issued numerous Statements, Interpretations and Technical Bulletins establishing and clarifying investment reporting and disclosure requirements. The Corporation shall review and apply these standards and guidance as appropriate and in compliance with the requirements of Section 201.3 and public authority accounting directives as may be issued by the State Comptroller.

EXHIBIT A

Investment  
Officer

Comptroller  
(Chief Investment Officer)

Waiver of Qualifying  
Investment Banker/  
Broker

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You are hereby authorized to transact an investment with (name of banker/broker) for the purchase/sale of (type and amount of investment) even though such banker/broker does not meet the established criteria.

This authorization is limited to (type and amount of investment) on (date), and any future investments with (name of banker/broker) will require a new authorization.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Officer



EXHIBIT B

Investment  
Officer

Comptroller  
(Chief Investment Officer)

Waiver of Dealer  
Limitation

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You are hereby authorized to exceed the \$ \_\_\_\_\_ limitation which has been placed on (name of banker/broker) for the purchase of (amount and type of investment) for the (name of portfolio) on (date).

This authorization is limited to (amount and type of investment), and any future investments with (name of banker/broker), which exceeds its \$ \_\_\_\_\_ limit, will require a new authorization.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Officer

## EXHIBIT C - BROKER/DEALER QUESTIONNAIRE

### Background Information

\* 1. Firm Name: (please do not abbreviate)

\* 2. Your Name or Contact Person:  
(If different from you)

\* 3. Phone Number:  
(of person in Item 2)

If your office is located outside the US please show, and separate Country Code. Regardless of location please separate Area Code, Exchange, Number, etc. using dashes. e.g. 011-123-456-7890 or 123-456-7890.

\* 4. Email Address for general communications:

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We encourage the use of an address that is also covered by others (ideally coverage team members) so employee turnover does not affect communication. We will ONLY use this address for general announcements. Please be sure that your filters are set to allow access.

5. Email Address for other communications:

PLEASE REVIEW FOR ACCURACY

Email address for us to use for reaching out to the contact person for follow-up questions, notification, etc. Typically this is the email address of the contact person.

\* 6. What is the physical address of the office that will cover NYSCRF - including a floor number if needed?  
The NYSCRF due diligence process includes an office visit, so please let Mosaic know if this address changes.

7. Alternative Contact Name:

Should be someone familiar with the Questionnaire Responses and available during normal business hours.

8. Alternative Contact Phone Number:

\* 9. What year did your firm begin trading fixed income securities?

\* 10. Please list the members of your proposed NYSCRF client service team, identifying the primary coverage person(s) and including brief bios of the primary team members. At a minimum we expect to see licenses, role/market focus, education, experience (including prior employers) and desk location included in each bio.

## Presence in the Marketplace

- \* 11. What is your average Net Capital position for the most recent calendar year? Please answer this question and others that involve dollar amounts in millions.

Average Net Capital  
position

Which calendar year is  
this?

- \* 12. What is your average size fixed income trade?

- \* 13. On a separate schedule please list the 10 largest new Corporate IG issues you have led and placed during the preceding 12 months. Please include as much information as possible. At a minimum we expect: Issuer name, Role, Size, Date

14. On a separate schedule please list the 10 largest Structured product issues you have led and placed during the preceding 12 months. Please include as much information as possible and exclude any passive deals. At a minimum we expect: Issuer name, Role, Size, Date

- \* 15. Is your firm a Primary Treasury Dealer?

Yes

No

16. What was your firm's 2018 repo volume (in \$ Million)

17. How many individual repo relationships did your firm have in 2018 where each transaction was \$1M or more.

18. If your firm does do repo transactions are you willing to agree to the SIFMA Master Repurchase Agreement, including Annex I. (A copy of these agreements is available upon request from Mosaic.)

Yes

No

\* 19. What is the approximate number of total firm employees as of the end of last year? Approximately how many of these employees are in your Institutional Fixed Income Trading operation - including back and middle offices?

20. What was the approximate US \$ value of short-term fixed income securities traded during your most recent calendar year? Please respond using whole \$ (US). Please be sure to not double count the purchase and sale of the same security.

DO NOT ENTER ANY NON-NUMERIC CHARACTERS such as dollar signs, periods, commas, etc.

Financials

Non-financials

Asset-backed paper

Money market-eligible  
paper rated Tier 1 CP/CD  
or better

Money market-eligible  
paper rated Tier 2 CP/CD

\* 21. What was the approximate US \$ value of non short-term fixed income securities traded during your most recent calendar year? Please respond using whole \$ (US). Please be sure to not double count the purchase and sale of the same security.

DO NOT ENTER ANY NON-NUMERIC CHARACTERS such as dollar signs, periods, commas, etc.

US Investment grade

Corporates (ex. "fallen angels" and "rising stars")

Non US investment grade

Corporates - denominated in US dollars

US High Yield Corporates

Non US High Yield Corporates

US "fallen angels"

US "rising stars"

US taxable Munis

US Treasuries (ex. TIPS)

TIPS

Securities issued by foreign governments that are denominated in US\$

US CMOs

US MBS

US CLOs

US CMBS

Floating Rate note - denominated in US dollars

Investment Grade Preferreds

Money market-eligible paper rated Tier 1 CP/CD or better

Money market-eligible paper rated Tier 2 CP/CD

Private issue debt with limited marketability

Other

22. What is your firm's average Tier 1 and Tier 2 inventory level in \$US Millions

\* 23. What Order Management System do you currently use (e.g., Bloomberg TOMS) and how does your firm settle fixed income trades?

\* 24. What ECNs do you appear on?

- MarketAxess
- Tradeweb/Bond Desk
- Muni Center
- Knight Bond Point
- Other -please specify below

Other (please specify)

\* 25. Does your firm have its own Bloomberg page that is used to display your offerings?

Yes	No
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 26. Does your firm use Bloomberg FIT?

Yes	No
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



## Clearing Capabilities

\* 27. In which regions, if any, do you offer/provide the following?

	US	Non-US
Self-Clearing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clearing Through 3rd Parties/Intermediaries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trade Matching Through OMGEO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIX Connectivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\* 28. How do you approach clearing? Specifically: a) determining when to self-clear, b) what process you use to resolve issues:

## Execution and Risk Management Considerations

\* 29. Do you have a Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery Plan? Please use a supplemental submission for any discussion of your plan.

Yes

No

\* 30. Please identify the market segments where you feel your firm is consistently extremely competitive.

\* 31. What does your firm consider to be the principal execution "sweet spot" that NYSCRF should use to benchmark your firm against peers? NYSCRF is defining "sweet spot" as the transaction where your firm expects to be more competitive than your peers. Please be as specific as possible including why you selected this type of transaction.

\* 32. What sort of market intelligence and color are you willing and able to provide the NYSCRF fixed income desk? Please be sure to indicate how you provide this.

\* 33. Please identify those fixed income market segments where your firm has an analyst.

\* 34. Which are the Fixed Income market segments that account for most of your firm's published research?

35. What Short-term asset classes do your analysts cover?

36. Which short-term asset classes are included in your firm's publications?

\* 37. What additional value-add are you willing and able to provide the NYSCRF fixed income desk (e.g., trade ideas, economic forecasts, position accumulation perspectives, etc.)?

38. Are your analysts routinely available for calls with significant institutional clients?

Yes

No

## Professional Staff Resources and Client Service

\* 39. Describe the scope of your trading operations:

In how many different  
countries does your firm  
have bond trading desks?

In how many different  
countries does your firm  
have back office  
operations for fixed  
income?

## Other Considerations

\* 40. Does your firm have a diversity program?

- Yes
- No

41. If your firm does have a diversity program please either summarize the program or attach a program description.

\* 42. Has anyone on any of your institutional fixed income desks been sanctioned by the SEC, FINRA or a comparable body (e.g., regulators in another country or jurisdiction) during the period beginning January 1, 2009 until present? Please take into account any actions against individuals while at prior firm(s). UNLESS YOUR RESPONSE IS AN UNQUALIFIED "NO", PLEASE PROVIDE THE SPECIFIC DETAILS IN AN EMAIL TO MOSAIC.

- No, none of the individuals on the proposed NYSCRF client service team have been sanctioned during the specified time period.
- Yes, individuals presently associated with us and on the proposed NYSCRF client service team have been sanctioned during the specified time period. (Please provide specific details in an email to Mosaic.)

\* 43. Please send a copy of the following quarterly FOCUS report to Mosaic at [nyscrf\\_questionnaire@mosaic-global.com](mailto:nyscrf_questionnaire@mosaic-global.com). Please send Part IIA as a full, un-redacted PDF. Reports needed are each quarter of 2018 including 4Q (December) when available.

- Have sent FOCUS Reports
- Have not sent FOCUS Report, but will do so by March 11, 2019
- Will not be sending FOCUS Report and have provided explanation.

Explanation:

\* 44. Do you plan to submit additional supplementary material? If so, please send any documents in PDF format to Mosaic (nyscrf\_questionnaire@mosaic-global.com). If material is in reference to a particular question, please indicate the question number on the material.

- Have already submitted supplementary material.
- Plan to submit supplementary material.
- Do not plan to submit supplementary material.

\* 45. What is/are the names and email addresses of the individuals who have submitted your FOCUS report and supplementary material?

46. What other factors do you want NYSCRF to consider?

## Emerging Broker Program

**Please do not complete this section unless your firm qualifies and wants to be considered as an emerging broker.**

47. What percentage of your firm is owned by its employees? Note that for this and the following questions shareholders and officers who work at a firm are considered employees.

48. Do you feel your firm meets the definition/criteria of an MWBE firm as outlined below? (If one of these definitions accurately describes your firm please check that box .)

- Traditional MWBE - The firm is at least 51 percent owned by one or more minority group members, and/or by one or more women, in each case, who have significant experience in the relevant area.
- Substantially Owned and Operated MWBE
- (1) At least 33 percent owned by members of minority groups and/or by women; or
- (2) Between 25 percent and 32 percent owned by members of minority groups and/or women and:
- \* Between 1 percent and 8 percent of the firm's senior managers are non-owner minorities and/or women; and
  - \* The percentage of the firm's non-owner minority and/or women senior managers, when added to the firm's minority and/or women ownership percentage, equals or exceeds 33 percent.

49. Does your firm have MWBE/DVBE certification from New York State?

Yes

No

Comments

50. What portion of your firm is owned by women employees?

- 0-24%
- 25-49%
- 50-74%
- 75-100%



51. What portion of your firm is owned by disabled veteran (DVBE) employees?

- 0-24%
- 25-49%
- 50-74%
- 75-100%

52. What portion of the firm is owned by employees representing the following ethnic and/or racial minority groups as defined for purposes of the United States Census?

	0-24%	25-49%	50-74%	75-100%
Hispanic-American	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
African-American	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asian-American	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Native-American	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

53. How much of the firm is owned by employees combining ethnicity, gender, race and DVBE status?

- 0-24%
- 25-49%
- 50-74%
- 75-100%

## **SECTION II**

### **EXPLANATION OF THE CORPORATION'S INVESTMENT GUIDELINES**

The Guidelines of the New York Local Government Assistance Corporation, most recently amended and approved by the Board pursuant to Resolution 2020-07, are based on the principles and precepts of investment safety and control contained in the Office of the State Comptroller's "Investment Guidelines for Public Authorities" as most recently revised. The Corporation's Guidelines contained in Section I are the Corporation's Guidelines which are currently in effect. There have been no amendments to the Guidelines since they were last approved.

The Guidelines set forth the Corporation's policy regarding the investment of corporate funds and the objectives of such investments. By the Guidelines, the Corporation's Directors have determined that the basic guide for the investment of corporate funds shall be the "prudent person rule" as further limited by statute, the Corporation's Bond Resolutions and the Payment Agreement between the Corporation and the Director of the Budget.

As indicated in the Guidelines, the Corporation's objectives for its investment program are to:

1. safeguard the investment principal as a primary objective;
2. obtain the maximum yield consistent with safety of principal;
3. develop a portfolio which will emphasize quality, flexibility, diversity (where possible), and marketability; and
4. maintain the tax-exempt status of the Corporation's debt.

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**SECTION III**

**NEW YORK LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION**

**INVESTMENT ACTIVITY**

**FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021**

The Corporation on a cash basis received a total of \$15,788.60 in interest on its investments during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021. Interest income for the Corporation's 2020-21 fiscal year was derived as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Total Interest Income</u>
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 13,709.29
Debt Service Fund	1,388.93
Operating Fund	690.38
<b>Total Interest</b>	<b>\$ 15,788.60</b>

The Corporation had cash and investments with a reported value in the Corporation's Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021 of \$93.3 million, \$92.3 million of which represented amounts required for its April 1, 2021 debt service payment. The investments held by the Corporation include U.S. Treasury Bills. The following table lists the Corporation's invested assets by Fund at March 31, 2021:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Investment Type</u>
Operating Fund	\$ 983,995.41	Treasury Bill

The Corporation utilized the services of six dealers for investment transactions during the period April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021. All investments were awarded based on the highest yield to the Corporation. A listing of total investment purchases by dealer is as follows:

<u>Dealer</u>	<u>Securities Par (in millions)</u>
Citigroup Global Markets, Inc.	\$ 100.9
Bank of America	8.9
Wells Fargo/Norwest	6.0
Bank of New York Mellon	1.1
Barclays	1.0
RBC Capital Markets	1.0
<b>Total Securities</b>	<b>\$ 118.9</b>

The Corporation incurred the following fees related to investment transactions during the Corporation's 2020-21 fiscal year:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Investment Transaction Fees</u>
The Bank of New York Mellon	\$ 1,280.00

## **SECTION IV**

**NEW YORK LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION  
REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 201.3  
OF TITLE TWO OF THE OFFICIAL COMPILATION OF CODES,  
RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
MARCH 31, 2021**



**Report on Compliance with Section 201.3 of  
Title Two of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules  
and Regulations of the State of New York**

Board of Directors  
New York Local Government Assistance Corporation  
Albany, New York

We have examined the New York Local Government Assistance Corporation's (Corporation), a component unit of the State of New York, compliance with the requirements of Section 201.3 of Title Two of the *Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York* (Section 201.3) during the year ended March 31, 2021. Management of the Corporation is responsible for the Corporation's compliance with Section 201.3. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Corporation's compliance with Section 201.3 based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Corporation complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referred to above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Corporation complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Corporation's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Corporation complied, in all material respects, with Section 201.3 during the year ended March 31, 2021.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we are required to report material weaknesses and significant deficiencies in internal control, violations of provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, and abuse that are material to the Corporation's compliance with Section 201.3 and any fraud or illegal acts that are more than inconsequential that come to our attention during our examination. We are also required to obtain views of management on those matters. We performed our examination to express an opinion on the Corporation's compliance with Section 201.3 and not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on internal control over compliance with Section 201.3 or other matters; accordingly, we express no such opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.



Board of Directors  
New York Local Government Assistance Corporation

This report is intended solely for the information and use of Corporation management, the Board of Directors, the New York State Office of the State Comptroller, and the New York State Authority Budget Office and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

BST+Co.CPAs, LLP

Albany, New York  
June 15, 2021

