



INVESTMENT POLICY

Fiscal Year 2023
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TEXAS STATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CORPORATION

INVESTMENT POLICY

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TEXAS STATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CORPORATION

INVESTMENT POLICY

I. POLICY

It is the policy of Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation (the “Corporation”) to invest public funds in a manner which will fulfill, by priority, the following objectives:

- A. Safety of principal.
- B. Sufficient liquidity to meet the Corporation's cash flow needs.
- C. Diversification to reduce market and credit risk.
- D. A market rate of return for the risk assumed; and
- E. Compliance with all applicable state statutes governing the investment of public funds, including (i) the Corporation's enabling legislation, Texas Government Code, Section 2306, Subchapter Y, (ii) the Public Funds Investment Act (the “Act”), Texas Government Code, Section 2256, and (iii) any other applicable law.

II. SCOPE

This Investment Policy (“Policy”) applies to all financial assets of the Corporation, except for any promissory notes payable to the Corporation. A separate portfolio is created for surplus bond funds which are received because of the early redemption of bonds. The long-term nature of these funds requires a distinct portfolio for the purpose of investment. The purpose of the funds is directed solely towards investment income. The fund’s investment shall be in full compliance with all applicable state statutes governing the investment of public funds, including (i) the Corporation’s enabling legislation, Texas Government Code, Section 2306, Subchapter Y, and (ii) the Public Funds Investment Act (the “Act”), Texas Government Code, Section 2256.

III. PRUDENCE

- A. Prudent Person Standard - Investments shall be made with judgment and care under circumstances then prevailing which persons of prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs; not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety and liquidity of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived.
- B. The standard of prudence to be used by the Investment Officer shall be the “prudent person” standard and shall be applied in the context of managing an overall portfolio. Investment Officers (hereinafter defined) acting in accordance with the Policy and written procedures and exercising due diligence shall be relieved of personal liability for an individual security's credit risk or market price changes, provided that

deviations from expectations are reported in a timely fashion and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments.

IV. OBJECTIVES

The investment portfolio shall be designed with the objective of obtaining reasonable yield throughout budgetary and economic cycles commensurate with the Corporation's investment risk constraints and cash flow needs. A maximum dollar-weighted average maturity (WAM) will be two years which is based on the historic cash flows. The benchmarks for risk in the portfolio shall be the one-year and two-year U.S. Treasury Notes mirroring that WAM. The following are the primary objectives of investment activities in order of priority:

A. Safety of Principal

Preservation and safety of principal is the foremost objective of the investment program. Investments of the Corporation shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure the preservation of capital. The principal will be protected by limiting credit risk through purchase of high credit quality securities and limiting interest rate risk through a structured portfolio which addresses projected cash flow requirements.

B. Liquidity

Liquidity risk is the risk that funds will not be available to pay liabilities or the inability to sell a security for needed cash. To protect liquidity needs the Corporation will prepare a cash flow analysis to direct investments and limit its maximum final stated maturity to five years for non-surplus funds. The Corporation's investment portfolio shall contain a liquidity buffer to meet all unanticipated cash flow needs. In addition, securities with active secondary or resale markets will be used to meet unanticipated liabilities.

C. Diversification

The Corporation shall diversify its portfolio to eliminate the risk of loss resulting from over-concentration of assets in a specific maturity, a specific issuer, or a specific class of investments. Investment shall always be selected that provide for stability of income and reasonable liquidity.

D. Yield

The Corporation's investment portfolio shall be designed with the objective of attaining a reasonable market yield throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account the investment risk constraints and cash flow needs of the Corporation. Return on investment is of less importance than the safety and liquidity of the investments. Reasonable yield shall be obtained through competitive bidding on all transactions and comparative analysis of all market alternatives available within the parameters of this Policy.

V. INVESTMENT STRATEGY

- A.** The Corporation may commingle its operating funds for maximum investment efficiency and economy of scale. Interest will be distributed as applicable among the funds. The authorized securities, investments or pools utilized for this portfolio will be of the highest credit quality and marketability supporting the Corporation's objectives of safety, liquidity, diversification, and yield.
- B.** Securities, when not matched to a specific liability, will be short-term and of a liquid nature to provide adequate cash flow for the Corporation. The portfolio shall be diversified to protect against credit and market risk in any one sector. Diversification requirements can be fully met through use of an authorized pool. The weighted average maturity on the pooled investment group will be no greater than two years. Because the funds are pooled for investment purposes, the portfolio will address the varying needs of all funds in the pooled fund.
- C.** Surplus funds of the Corporation may be invested in certain longer-term, mortgage-backed pass-through investments (not CMOs) than those authorized for operating funds, as described in this paragraph. The maximum stated maturity (from the date of investment of such surplus funds) of such investments will be thirty (30) years. The permitted longer-term investments are pass-through mortgage-backed securities guaranteed by GNMA (Government National Mortgage Association), FNMA (Federal National Mortgage Association) or FHLMC (Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation) as authorized under the Corporation's specific bond issues. Investment of surplus funds includes transfers to the Corporation of surplus investments released from a bond trust indenture established to secure bonds of the Corporation.

VI. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

A. Board of Directors

1. The Board of Directors of the Corporation (the "Board") shall establish the Corporation's Investment Policy, strategies and objectives, review and adopt the Policy and Strategies in accordance with State law annually, obtain such expert advice and assistance with respect to its actions as is necessary to exercise its responsibilities prudently, and monitor the actions of staff and advisors to ensure compliance with this Policy. It is the Board's intention that this Policy be carried out by those persons who are qualified and competent in their areas of expertise.

The Board shall also review and adopt the list of eligible brokers/dealers annually and shall receive and review the quarterly investment report. The Board shall designate the Corporation's Investment Officer(s). Authority granted to a person to invest the Corporation's funds shall remain effective until rescinded by the Board or the termination of the Investment Officer's employment by the Corporation. The Board shall also provide for the training required for Investment Officers.

2. The delegation of authority as provided below in no way diminishes the Board's ultimate responsibility as the funds' fiduciary.
3. Each member of the Board shall attend at least one training session relating to the person's responsibilities under the Act within six months after taking office or assuming duties. Training under this section may be provided by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and include investment controls, security risks, strategy risks, market risks, diversification of investment portfolio, compliance with the Act and compliance with this Policy.

B. Investment Officer(s)

1. The authority to manage the Corporation's investment program is granted to the President. The President may delegate the responsibility for the operation of the investment program to the Chief Financial Officer and Controller as the Corporation's designated "Investment Officers".
2. The Investment Officer shall be responsible for all transactions undertaken and shall establish internal controls to regulate the activities of subordinate officials. Procedures should include reference to safekeeping, delivery vs. payment, investment accounting, repurchase agreements, wire transfer agreements, collateral/depository agreements and banking service contracts. Such procedures may include explicit temporary delegation of authority to persons responsible for investment transactions.
3. The Investment Officer shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with this Policy.
4. The Investment Officer shall attend ten (10) hours of training within twelve (12) months of assuming the position and every two fiscal years thereafter. Training is to include investment controls, security risks, strategy risks, market risks, diversification of investment portfolio, and compliance with the Act.
5. The Investment Officer may temporarily delegate investment responsibilities to subordinate staff. Subordinate staff members must have a clear understanding of their authority and responsibilities to avoid improper actions.
6. No person may engage in an investment transaction except as provided under the terms of this Policy and the procedures established by the Investment Officer.

VII. ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- A. If an Investment Officer of the Corporation has a personal or business relationship with a business organization offering to engage in an investment transaction with the Corporation (as described in Section 2256.005(i) of the Act), the Investment Officer

shall file a statement disclosing that personal business interest with the Board and the Texas Ethics Commission.

- B. An Investment Officer who is related within the second degree by affinity or consanguinity to an individual seeking to sell an investment to the Corporation shall file a statement disclosing that relationship with the Board and the Texas Ethics Commission.

VIII. AUTHORIZED BROKER/DEALERS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

- A. The Corporation shall maintain a list with a minimum of three qualified brokers/dealers authorized to engage in investment transactions with the Corporation. This list of qualified brokers/dealers shall be reviewed, revised, and adopted at least annually by the Board.
- B. Broker/dealers shall, at a minimum, provide information as required by the Investment Officer and provide evidence of Financial Industry Regulatory Agency (FINRA) membership. Information on the broker/dealers shall be maintained by the Investment Officer or non-discretionary Investment Adviser. The Corporation shall assure that every Corporation authorized broker/dealer is provided a current copy of the Corporation's Investment Policy.
- C. Financial institutions used for time and demand deposits do not need the prior approval of the Board. The nature of competition for rates in financial institutions within Texas prohibits foreknowledge of applicable financial institutions. These institutions shall, however, fulfill all remaining requirements for authorization including depository/collateral contracts, as applicable.
- D. Any business organization (defined as pools and contracted discretionary investment advisers) offering to engage in an investment transaction with the Corporation shall be provided a copy of this Policy for review and certification of that review (PFIA 2256.005(k)). Material changes to the Policy will require re-certification. The Corporation will utilize only a non-discretionary investment adviser to assure that cash-flow is monitored and protected.

A certification for business organizations in a form acceptable to the Corporation shall affirm that the business organization:

1. Has received and reviewed this Policy; and
2. Acknowledged that the business organization has implemented reasonable procedures and controls in an effort to preclude investment transactions that are not authorized by this Policy, except to the extent that this authorization is dependent on an analysis of the makeup of the entire portfolio or requires an interpretation of subjective investment standards.

E. The Investment Officer of the Corporation may not transact any business from a business organization (pool) which has not delivered the signed certification to the Corporation.

F. The brokerage subsidiary of the Corporation's depository banking services bank shall not be used for purchase of securities in order to perfect delivery versus payment (DVP) unless that DVP process can be clearly documented by the firm on all confirmations.

G. No less than every five years, the Corporation shall, through a competitive process, choose a banking services institution to serve as its primary depository and a custodian for Corporation owned securities.

IX. AUTHORIZED INVESTMENTS

A. Notwithstanding any grant or program limitations to the contrary, the following are authorized investments of the Corporation:

1. **Obligations of the U.S. Government, its agencies and instrumentalities** including pass-through mortgage-backed and collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs). In all but the Surplus Funds:

- a. Debentures shall have a stated maturity not to exceed three (3) years and
- b. Pass-through mortgage-backs and CMOs shall have a stated maturity (i) not to exceed ten (10) years and (ii) pass the Federal Reserve's *bank shocktest*.

Surplus funds are authorized to be invested in pass-through mortgage-backed securities (not CMOs) with a maximum maturity of 30 years as described in Section V.C. above.

2. **Depository Certificates of Deposit** issued by any state or national bank doing business in the State of Texas or a credit union doing business in the State of Texas to include the CDARS program as defined by the Act and are:

- a. Guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or its successor or the National Credit Union Insurance Fund or its successor.
- b. Secured by obligations of the US Government, its agencies and instrumentalities as further defined in this Policy; and
- c. Have a stated maturity not to exceed one year.

3. **Fully collateralized repurchase agreements** and reverse repurchase agreements which:

- a. Have a defined termination date and are executed under the terms of a written Master Repurchase Agreement.
- b. Are secured by collateral defined in this Policy and held by an independent safekeeping agent approved by the Corporation.
- c. Require that the securities being purchased be held in the Corporation's name by an independent custodian approved by the Corporation; and
- d. Are executed with a primary government securities dealer, as defined by the Federal Reserve.

The term of any reverse security repurchase agreement may not exceed 90 days after the date of the reverse. Money received by the Corporation from the reverse security repurchase agreement may be used to acquire authorized investments, but the maturity date of the investment acquired must not be later than the expiration date of the reverse.

4. **AAA-rated, SEC registered money market mutual funds.**

- a. A money market mutual fund is an authorized investment if the fund:
 - i. Is registered with and regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission.
 - ii. Has a dollar-weighted average stated maturity of 60 days or fewer; and
 - iii. Includes in its investment objectives the maintenance of a stable net asset value of \$1 for each share.
- b. The Corporation is not authorized to invest its funds or funds under its control in any money market mutual fund in an amount that exceeds 10 percent of the total assets of the mutual fund.

5. **Commercial Paper.** Commercial paper is an authorized investment if it:

- a. Has a stated maturity of two hundred-seventy (270) days or fewer; and
- b. Is rated not less than A-1/P-1 or equivalent by at least two nationally recognized credit rating agencies,

6. **Uncollateralized Guaranteed Investment Contracts.** For funds that are pledged under a trust indenture for bonds issued by the Corporation, investment securities that are permitted under the terms of such trust indenture, including, but not limited to, uncollateralized investment agreements.

7. **Texas Local Government Investment Pools.** Permitted constant dollar investment pools, as defined by the Act, are authorized under this policy if the investment pool:
 - a. Is created to function as a money market mutual fund, marks its portfolio to market daily and strives to maintain a \$1 net asset value.
 - b. If it is rated not less than AAA or V-1 or equivalent rating by at least one nationally recognized rating service.
 8. **State and Municipal Obligations.** Obligations of any state and their subdivisions rated A, or better, by at least one nationally recognized rating agency with a stated maturity not to exceed three years.
 9. **FDIC Insured Brokered Certificate of Deposit Securities. Brokered Certificate of Deposit Securities** from banks in any US state, delivered versus payment to the Corporation's safekeeping depository, not to exceed one year to maturity. Before purchase, the Investment Officer or Investment Adviser must verify the status of the bank on www.fdic.gov to assure that the bank is FDIC insured.
 10. **AAA-Rated. SEC Registered Ultra Short-Term Duration Funds** if the mutual fund has an average weighted maturity of less than two years; and a) if the fund has a duration of one year or more is invested exclusively in obligations approved by this Policy; or b) if the fund has a duration of less than one year the investment portfolio is limited to investment grade securities, excluding asset-backed securities.
- B. No additional securities or investments are authorized for Corporation use until this Policy has been amended and the amended policy has been adopted by the Board.
 - C. All investment transactions shall require competitive bidding.
 - D. To minimize loss of principal, securities which are downgraded in credit or become unauthorized after purchase should be monitored daily and may be sold prior to maturity after a prudent analysis of market conditions.
 - E. Security swaps may be utilized for improvement in the quality, yield, or target duration in the portfolio but only if analysis proves a positive horizon value for the swap.
 - F. Any investment held prior to changes in this Policy that does not meet the guidelines of this Policy shall be exempted from the requirements of this Policy. The Corporation is not required to liquidate investments that were authorized at the time of purchase (Act Section 2256.017). However, at maturity or liquidation, such monies shall be reinvested only as provided by this Policy.

X. OTHER INVESTMENT POWERS.

In accordance with Section 2256.024(a) of the Act, the investment authority set forth in Section IX of this Policy is in addition to that granted to the Corporation by other applicable law. In accordance with Section 2256.024(b) and (c) of the Act, the Corporation may invest in mortgage pass-through certificates and individual mortgage loans that are originated in connection with authorized housing bond programs of the Corporation, subject to any limitations otherwise set forth in this Policy.

XI. UNAUTHORIZED INVESTMENTS

The following are not authorized investments:

- A.** Interest only obligations whose payment represents the coupon payments on the outstanding principal balance of the underlying mortgage-backed security collateral and pays no principal (IO).
- B.** Principal only obligations whose payment represents the principal stream of cash flow from the underlying mortgage-backed security collateral and bears no interest (PO); and
- C.** Collateralized mortgage obligations that have a stated final maturity date of greater than 10 years, except as otherwise authorized under this Policy.
- D.** Inverse floating collateralized mortgage obligations, the interest rate of which is determined by an index that adjusts opposite to the changes in a market index (Inverses).

XII. DIVERSIFICATION

The Corporation will diversify its investments by security type and institution. With the exception of U.S. Treasury securities, no more than 50% of the Corporation's total investment portfolio will be invested in a single security type or single issuer.

General diversification parameters will include:

<u>Type of Obligation</u>	<u>Maximum Percentage of Total Portfolio</u>
U.S. Obligations	80%
Obligations of U.S. Agencies	80%
Certificates of Deposit (total)	60%
Certificates of Deposit (by institution)	15%
Repurchase Agreements	30%
Money Market Mutual Funds	25%
Commercial Paper (total)	30%
Commercial Paper (by issuer)	10%
Local Government Pool	75%
Banking Accounts	80%

XIII. EFFECT OF LOSS OF REQUIRED RATING

An investment that requires a minimum rating under this Policy does not qualify as an authorized investment during the period the investment does not meet or exceed the minimum rating. The Corporation shall take prudent measures that are consistent with its Policy to evaluate possible liquidation of an investment that does not meet or exceed the minimum rating as market conditions dictate (Act Section 2256.021).

The Investment Officer or Investment Adviser shall monitor, on no less than a weekly basis, the credit rating on all authorized investments in the portfolio based upon independent information from a nationally recognized rating agency. If any security falls below the minimum rating required by Policy, the Investment Officer or Investment Adviser shall notify the President of the loss of rating, conditions affecting the rating and possible loss of principal with liquidation options available, within two weeks after the loss of the required rating.

XIV. COLLATERALIZATION

Collateralization will be required on all time and demand accounts above FDIC insurance levels and on repurchase agreements. To anticipate market changes and provide a level of security for all funds, the collateralization margin level will be 102%.

- A.** For time and demand deposits the following securities are authorized as pledged collateral. Preference to be given to pledged securities over letters of credit:
1. Obligations of the United States or its agencies and instrumentalities including mortgage-backed securities meeting the bank test.
 2. Direct obligations of the State of Texas or its agencies and instrumentalities.
 3. Other obligations, the principal and interest of which are unconditionally guaranteed or insured by or backed by the full faith and credit of Texas or the United States or their respective agencies and instrumentalities; and
 4. Obligations of states, agencies, counties, cities, and other political subdivisions of any state rated as to investment quality by a nationally recognized investment rating firm not less than A or its equivalent.
 5. FHLB Letters of Credit
- B.** For repurchase agreements, obligations of the U.S. Government, its agencies and instrumentalities including mortgage-backed securities are authorized as collateral owned under the transaction. A letter of credit is not authorized for repurchase agreements.
- C.** Collateral for time and demand accounts shall always be held in safekeeping by an independent third party with whom the Corporation has a current custodial agreement executed under the terms of FIRREA (time and demand deposits). A clearly marked

evidence of pledge or ownership must be supplied to the Corporation and retained. The Corporation shall grant the right of collateral substitution, subject to receiving prior approval from the Investment Officer.

- D. It shall be the contractual liability of the counterparty pledging or selling the securities to monitor and maintain the appropriate 102% margin daily.
- E. The custodian of the collateral shall provide an independent, detailed listing of the collateral on a monthly basis directly to the Corporation.
- F. Any pooled collateral program proposed to the Corporation shall be reviewed by the Investment Officer(s) for risk/reward, but approval of the collateral pool will be by the Board.

XV. SAFEKEEPING AND CUSTODY

All securities owned by the Corporation will be held by an independent third-party custodian approved by the Corporation and under a current custody agreement.

All security transactions will be executed on a Delivery vs. Payment (DVP) basis. This ensures that securities are deposited prior to the release of funds. Securities will be held by an independent third-party custodian and evidenced by safekeeping receipts.

XVI. INTERNAL CONTROLS

A. Internal Controls

The Investment Officer is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls to ensure that the assets of the Corporation are protected from loss, theft, or misuse. The internal controls shall address the following points:

1. Control of collusion,
2. Separation of transaction authority from accounting and record keeping.
3. Custodial safekeeping.
4. Clear delegation of authority to subordinate staff members.
5. Written confirmation of all transactions.

In developing controls, the concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that:

1. The cost of control should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived; and
2. The valuation of costs and benefits requires estimates and judgments by management.

B. Compliance Audit

At least once every two years, the Corporation shall arrange for a compliance audit of management controls on investments and adherence to this Policy and the Act.

1. The compliance audit shall be performed by the Corporation's internal auditor or by a private auditor.
2. The results of the audit performed under this section shall be presented to the Board.
3. The Corporation shall report the results of the audit performed under this section to the Office of the State Auditor not later than January 1 of each even-numbered year. The report shall be prepared in a manner as prescribed by the Office of the State Auditor.
4. The Corporation shall also report to the Office of the State Auditor other information the state auditor determines necessary to assess compliance with laws and policies applicable to the Corporation's investment.

C. Wire Transfers

All wire transfers will be transacted under a written agreement and, if possible, require two signoffs. This agreement shall delineate controls, security provisions, and responsibilities of each party.

D. Monitoring FDIC Insurance

The Investment Officer or Investment Adviser shall monitor, on no less than a weekly basis, the status and ownership of all banks issuing brokered CDs owned by the Corporation based upon information from the FDIC. If any bank has been acquired or merged with another bank in which brokered CDs are owned, the Investment Officer or Investment Adviser shall immediately liquidate any brokered CD which places the Corporation above the FDIC insurance level.

XVII. REPORTING

A. Quarterly Reports

At least quarterly, the Investment Officer shall prepare and present to the Board an investment report, including a summary that provides a clear picture of the status of the current investment portfolio and transactions made over the last quarter. This investment report will be prepared in a manner which will allow the Board to ascertain whether investment activities during the reporting period have conformed to the Policy. The report must:

1. Describe in detail the investment position on the date of the report.

2. Be prepared jointly by all Investment Officers.
3. Be signed by each Investment Officer.
4. Be prepared in compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for each fund that states:
 - a. The stated maturity date and call or reset date of each security.
 - b. The book value and market value of each security at the beginning and end of the reporting period by type and market sector.
 - c. Additions and changes in market value during the period.
 - d. Fully accrued interest and total earnings for the reporting period.
 - e. State the fund or pooled group for which each individual investment was acquired; and
5. State the compliance of the investment portfolio as it relates to the investment strategy expressed in this Policy and the Act.

B. Audit Report

An independent auditor shall formally review the investment reports prepared by the Investment Officer under this Policy at least annually and that auditor shall report the result of the review to the Board.

C. Performance Standards

The investment portfolio will be managed in accordance with the parameters specified within this Policy and the cash flow analysis. The maximum dollar weighted average maturity of the portfolio is two years. To measure performance and the level of risk in the portfolio, the benchmarks of the one-year and two-year Treasury Notes for the comparable period will be reported quarterly.

D. Market Value

The Investment Officer will obtain market prices used to calculate market value from independent, recognized published sources or from other qualified professionals.

E. Changes to Public Funds Investment Act

The Investment Officer shall present to the Board a report on changes to the Act no later than 180 days after the last regular session of the legislature.

XVIII. INVESTMENT POLICY ADOPTION

The Investment Policy shall be reviewed and adopted by resolution of the Board at least annually. The Board must approve and adopt any amendments made thereto. The Board shall adopt by written resolution a statement that it has reviewed the investment policies and strategies and note any changes made.