



CITY OF COLLEGE STATION  
*Home of Texas A&M University®*

***Investment Strategy and Policy***

**2016**

***Approved by Council***

***October 22, 2015***

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# INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The City of College Station will pursue a passive investment strategy. Investments will be purchased with the intent of holding to maturity and will only be sold early under exceptional circumstances. In purchasing investments, the investment officer will attempt to follow a ladder strategy to ensure that the portfolio will have at least one investment maturing every month. Investment priorities are as follows:

1. **Suitability** - Any investment allowed under the Investment Policy is suitable.
2. **Preservation and Safety of Principal** - Investments of the City shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to insure the preservation of capital in the overall portfolio.
3. **Liquidity** - The City's investment portfolio will remain sufficiently liquid to enable the City to meet all operational requirements that might reasonably be anticipated.
4. **Marketability** - Investments should have an active and efficient secondary market to enable the City to liquidate investments prior to the maturity if the need should arise.
5. **Diversification** - The Investment Officer will attempt to maintain a diversified portfolio with regard to security type, financial institution providing the security, and maturity.
6. **Yield** - The City's investment portfolio shall be designed with the objective of attaining the maximum rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account the City's risk constraints and the cash flow characteristics of the portfolio.

# CITY OF COLLEGE STATION

## INVESTMENT POLICY

The Public Funds Investment Act, Chapter 2256, Texas Government Code, as Amended ("PFIA" herein), requires each city to adopt rules governing its investment practices and to define the authority of the investment officer. The following Investment Policy addresses the methods, procedures, and practices that must be exercised to ensure effective and judicious fiscal management of the City of College Station funds.

### I. POLICY

It is the policy of the City of College Station, Texas ("City") to invest public funds in a manner, which will provide the highest investment return with the maximum security while meeting the daily cash flow demands of the City and conforming to all federal, state and local statutes governing the investment of public funds.

### II. SCOPE

This investment policy applies to all the financial assets held by the City. These funds are defined in the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and include:

General Fund	Special Revenue Funds
Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Funds
Enterprise Funds	Internal Service Funds

Any new funds created by the City will be subject to this policy unless specifically exempted by the City Council. To maximize the effective investment of assets, all funds mentioned above will pool their cash balances for investment purposes. The income derived from investing activities will be distributed to the various funds based on calculation of their average balances.

### III. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

The City of College Station shall manage and invest its cash with three primary objectives, listed in order of priority: **safety, liquidity and yield**. The safety of the principal invested always remains the primary objective.

#### **Safety**

Safety of Principal is the foremost objective of the City. Investments of the City shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to insure the preservation of capital in the overall portfolio.

### **Liquidity**

The City's investment portfolio will remain liquid to enable the City to meet all operational requirements that might reasonably be anticipated.

### **Yield**

The City shall invest funds in investments that earn a competitive market yield consistent with stated objectives. For bond proceeds to which arbitrage restrictions apply, the primary objectives shall be to obtain a fair market yield and to minimize the costs associated with the investment of such funds within the constraints of the investment policy and applicable bond covenants.

## **IV. RESPONSIBILITY AND CONTROL**

### **Delegation of Authority**

The Assistant City Manager or his Designee is designated the City's Investment Officer. The Investment Officer shall be responsible for the investment of funds consistent with this Policy, and shall have the authority necessary to carry out such responsibilities. An investment committee consisting of the Investment Officer and at least two other staff members designated by the City Manager will also be formed. This committee will be responsible for selecting eligible broker/dealers, reviewing, and updating the investment policy annually. All participants in the investment process shall seek to act responsibly as custodians of the public trust.

The Investment Officer shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with this investment policy. No person may engage in an investment transaction except as provided under the terms of this policy and the procedures established by the Investment Officer. The Investment Officer shall be responsible for all transactions undertaken and shall establish a system of controls to regulate the activities of subordinate officials.

### **Cash Flow Analysis**

Supplemental to the financial and budgetary systems, the Investment Officer will maintain a cash flow forecasting process designed to monitor and forecast cash positions for investment purposes. Cash flow analysis will include the historical researching and monitoring of specific cash flow items, payables and receivables as well as overall cash position and patterns.

### **Training Requirement**

In order to ensure the quality and capability of investment management, the Assistant City Manager and the Investment Officer shall:

- attend at least one training session within 12 months of assuming duties *and* containing not less than 10 hours of instruction from an independent source approved by the governing board or a designated investment committee;
- receive training which includes education in investment controls, security risks, strategy risks, market risks, *diversification of the investment portfolio*, and compliance with the PFIA; and
- attend a training session not less than once each state fiscal biennium (beginning on the first day of the fiscal year and consisting of two consecutive fiscal years after that date) and receive not less than 8 hours of training from an independent source approved by the governing board or a designated investment committee.

### **Internal Controls**

The Investment Officer shall establish an annual process of independent review by an external auditor. This review will provide internal control by assuring compliance with policies and procedures. Annually, the City's independent auditors will review quarterly reports for the fiscal year.

### **Prudence**

Investments shall be made with the judgment and care which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived.

The standard of prudence to be used by investment officials shall be the "prudent person" standard and shall be applied in the context of managing an overall portfolio. Investment officers acting in accordance with written procedures and the investment policy and exercising due diligence shall be relieved of personal responsibility for an individual security's credit risk or market price changes provided deviations from expectations are reported in a timely fashion and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments.

### **Ethics and Conflicts of Interest**

Officers and employees involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions. Employees and investment officials shall disclose to the City Manager any material financial interest in financial institutions that conduct business within this jurisdiction, and they shall further disclose any large personal financial/investment positions that could be related to the performance of the City, particularly with regard to the time of purchases and sales. Employees and investment officials shall refrain from undertaking personal investment transactions with the same individual with which business is conducted on behalf of the City.

On an annual basis, the Investment officials shall sign a statement acknowledging that they are in compliance with Section 2256.005 (i) of the Public Funds Investment Act.

## V. SUITABLE AND AUTHORIZED INVESTMENTS

### **Portfolio Management**

The City currently has a “buy and hold” portfolio strategy. Maturity dates are matched with cash flow requirements and investments are purchased with the intent to be held until maturity.

### **Investments**

Acceptable investments under this policy shall be limited to the instruments as described by the Government Code; Chapter 2256, Sections 2256.009 through 2256.011 and Sections 2256.013 through 2256.016 of the Public Funds Investment Act. Investment of funds in any instrument or security not authorized for investment under the Act is prohibited.

#### • **Authorized**

1. Direct obligations of the United States government: U.S. Treasury Bills, U.S. Treasury Notes, and U.S. Treasury Bonds as well as Bonds or other interest bearing obligations for which the principal and interest are guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the United States government and rated not less than A or its equivalent by at least one nationally recognized investment rating firm.
2. Federal Agencies and Instrumentalities including but not limited to, discount notes, callables and debentures of the Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA), the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), the Federal Farm Credit Bank (FFCB), and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC).
3. Time Certificates of Deposit, insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or its successor, or the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund or its successor, in state or national banks. Any deposits exceeding FDIC insurance limits shall be collateralized at 102% of the face amount of the Certificate of Deposit by securities listed in 1 - 2 above and held by the City's custodial bank or the custodial bank of the institution the CD's are held. Bids for Certificates of Deposit may be solicited orally, in writing, electronically or using any combination of these methods.
4. Repurchase Agreements with a defined termination date of 90 days or less collateralized by a combination of cash and securities listed in 1 - 2 above. Collateral must have a minimum market value of 102% of the repurchase agreement, and must be held by the custodian bank or other independent third-party custodian contracted by the City. Bond proceeds may be invested in flexible repurchase agreements with maturity dates not exceeding the expected final project expenditure if a formal bidding process is followed and properly documented for IRS purposes.

5. Commercial Paper maturing within 180 days carrying a minimum rating not less than A-1 or P-1 or equivalent by two nationally recognized rating agencies, or; rated not less than A-1 or P-1 equivalent by one nationally recognized rating agency plus secured by an irrevocable letter of credit issued by a domestic bank.
6. AAA-rated Money Market Mutual Funds registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission that invest exclusively in investments described in this section.
7. AAA-rated Investment Pools organized under the Texas Interlocal Cooperation Act that follow the requirements in the Public Funds Investment Act and which have been specifically approved by the City.

- **Not Authorized**

The following security types are not permitted:

1. Obligations whose payment represents the coupon payments of the underlying mortgage-backed security collateral and pays no principal (IO's);
2. Obligations whose payment represents the principle stream from the underlying mortgage-backed security collateral and bears no interest (PO's);
3. Collateralized Mortgage Obligations (CMO's) that have a stated final maturity date of greater than 10 years; and
4. Any security, the interest rate of which is determined by an index that adjusts opposite to the changes in the Market index (inverse floaters).

### **Exemption for Existing Investments**

Any investment, which was authorized at the time of purchase, shall not be required to be liquidated.

### **Loss of Required Rating**

If any security that requires a minimum investment rating is downgraded below that minimum rating subsequent to purchase, it will no longer be considered an authorized investment. As a result, the City shall take all prudent measures to liquidate the security in effort to preclude or reduce principle loss. The City will select a different approved broker/dealer each quarter to verify the ratings of securities held. Local Government Pools ratings will be verified quarterly by checking their websites.

## VI. INVESTMENT PARAMETERS

### **Maximum Maturities**

To the extent possible, the City will attempt to match its investments with anticipated cash flow requirements. Unless matched to a specific cash flow, the City will not directly invest in securities maturing more than five years from the date of purchase. Additionally, the City will maintain a dollar-weighted average maturity of two years or less.

### **Diversification**

It is the intent of the City to diversify the investment instruments within the portfolio to avoid incurring unreasonable risks inherent in over-investing in specific instruments, individual financial institutions or maturities. The asset allocation in the portfolio should be flexible depending upon the outlook for the economy and the securities markets. If conditions warrant, the guidelines below may be exceeded by approval of the Investment Committee.

With the exception of U.S. Treasury securities, authorized pools, and the City's depository accounts, the City may not invest more than 30% of the City's investment portfolio with a single financial institution. In addition, the following maximum limits, by instrument, are established for the City's total portfolio:

1. U.S. Treasury Securities	100%
2. Agencies and Instrumentalities	70%
3. Certificates of Deposits	40%
4. Money Market Mutual Funds	30%
5. Repurchase Agreements	20%
6. Commercial Paper	20%
7. Authorized Pools	70%

## VII. FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND DEALERS

### **Depository**

At least every three to five years a Depository shall be selected through the City's banking services procurement process, which shall include a formal request for application (RFA). The selection of a depository will be determined by competitive bid and evaluation of bids will be based on the following selection criteria:

- The ability to qualify as a depository for public funds in accordance with state and local laws.
- The ability to provide requested information or financial statements for the period specified.

- The ability to meet all requirements in the banking RFA.
- Complete response to all required items on the bid form.
- Lowest net banking service cost, consistent with the ability to provide an appropriate level of service.
- The credit worthiness and financial stability of the bank.

The bank depository contract is subject to Council approval. During the term of the contract, additional accounts may be established. The City may open a cash money market account with its approved depository bank. Accounts held by the approved bank are to be collateralized at no less than 105%. Two authorized signers on the City's accounts must approve the establishment of new accounts.

### **Authorized Brokers/Dealers**

The Investment Officer shall maintain a list of financial institutions authorized to provide investment services. In addition, a list will also be maintained of approved security broker/dealers selected by credit worthiness who are authorized to provide investment services in the State of Texas. These may include "primary" or regional dealers that qualify under SEC rule 15C3-1. No public deposit shall be made except in a qualified public depository as established by state laws.

All financial institutions and broker/dealers who desire to become qualified bidders for investment transactions must supply the Investment Officer with a completed Broker/Dealer Questionnaire and Certification, which shall include the following:

- An audited financial statement for the most recent period.
- Proof of certification by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).
- Proof of current registration with the State Securities Commission.

Financial institutions eligible to transact investment business with the City shall be presented a written copy of this Investment Policy.

Additionally, the qualified representative of the business organization seeking to transact investment business shall execute a written instrument substantially to the effect that the qualified representative has received and reviewed this Investment Policy, and acknowledged that the organization has implemented reasonable procedures and controls in an effort to preclude imprudent investment activities with the City.

The City will not enter into an investment transaction with a Broker/Dealer prior to receiving the written agreement described above and current audited financial statements.

Annually, the Investment Committee shall review and revise the list as needed. The Committee will consider any new firms that have submitted the required documentation and review the performance of the previously approved firms. Any modifications to the list will be submitted to Council for their review, approval and adoption.

### **Competitive Bids**

Securities will be purchased or sold after three (3) offers/bids are taken to verify that the City is receiving fair market value/price for the investment. Security transactions that may be purchased without competitive offers include: a) transactions with money market mutual funds b) local government investment pools and c) new securities still in syndicate and priced at par.

### **Delivery vs. Payment**

All securities transaction, including collateral for repurchased agreements, shall be purchased using the delivery vs., payment method with the exception of investment pools and mutual funds. Funds will be released after notification that the purchased security has been received.

## **VIII. SAFEKEEPING OF SECURITIES**

### **Safekeeping Agreement**

The City shall contract with a bank or banks for the safekeeping of securities either owned by the City as part of its investment portfolio or held as collateral to secure demand or time deposits.

### **Safekeeping and Custody**

Safekeeping and custody of securities and collateral shall be in accordance with state law. Securities and collateral will be held by a third party custodian designated by the Investment Officer and held in the City's name as evidenced by safekeeping receipts of the institution with which the securities are deposited. Original safekeeping receipts shall be obtained.

### **Collateralization**

Consistent with the requirements of the Public Funds Collateral Act, it is the policy of the City to require full collateralization of all investments and funds on deposit with a depository bank, other than investments, which are obligations of the U.S. government, its agencies and instrumentalities, and government sponsored enterprises. In order to anticipate market changes and provide a level of security for all funds, the collateralization level will be 102% of market value of principal and accrued interest on deposits or investments less than an amount insured by the FDIC. The collateralization level of the City's depository accounts will be no less than 105%.

Collateral will always be held by an independent third party with whom the City has a current custodial agreement. A clearly marked evidence of ownership (safekeeping receipt) must be supplied to the City and retained.

The right of collateral substitution is granted.

## **IX. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

### **Performance Standards**

The investment portfolio shall be designed with the objective of obtaining a rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, commensurate with the investment risk constraints and cash flow needs.

### **Performance Benchmark**

Given the passive investment strategy of the City, the benchmark to be used by the Investment Officer to determine whether market yields are being achieved shall be the average closing yield during the reporting period comparable to the portfolios dollar-weighted average maturity in days.

## **X. REPORTING**

### **Methods**

Not less than quarterly and within a reasonable time after the end of the period reported, the Investment Officer should prepare and submit to the City Council a written report of the investment transactions for all funds of the City for the preceding reporting period. The report must:

- describe in detail the investment position of the City on the date of the report,
- be prepared jointly by all the Investment Officers if the City appoints more than one,
- be signed by all Investment Officials,
- contain a summary statement of each pooled fund group that states the beginning market value for the reporting period,
- state the book value and the market value of each separately invested asset at the end of the reporting period by the type of asset and fund type invested,
- state the maturity date of each separately invested asset that has a maturity date,
- state the fund for which each individual investment was acquired,
- state all accrued interest payable; and
- state the compliance of the investment portfolio as it relates to this Policy and Investment Act.

### **Marking to Market**

The market values of the City's investments shall be obtained from a reliable outside source, which has access to investment market values. Marketing to Market will be done at least quarterly.

## **XI. INVESTMENT POLICY ADOPTION**

The City's investment policy and investment strategies must be adopted annually by resolution of the City Council even if there are no changes. The City Council shall review the policy annually and they must approve any changes or modifications made thereto.

## QUALIFIED BROKERS/DEALERS

### **Costal Securities, Inc.**

Tony Sekaly  
5555 San Felipe, Suite 2200  
Houston, Texas 77056  
Phone: (713)435-4328

### **Vining Sparks**

775 Ridge Lake Boulevard  
Memphis, Tennessee 38120  
Phone: (901)681-1008

### **First Southwest Securities**

Linda Calloway  
300 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1940  
Austin, TX 78701  
Phone: (512)481-2040

### **American Momentum (CD's only)**

Five Momentum Blvd.  
College Station, TX 77845  
Phone: (979)599-9349

## INVESTMENT POOLS

### **TexPool**

600 Travis Street, Suite 7200  
Houston, TX 77002  
Phone: (866)891-7665

### **TexSTAR**

325 North St. Paul, Suite 800  
Dallas, TX 75201  
Phone: (800)839-7827

## DEPOSITORY BANK

### **Branch Banking & Trust (BB&T)**

2717 Texas Avenue South  
College Station, Texas 77840  
(979)260-1482

## GLOSSARY OF COMMON TREASURY TERMINOLOGY

**Accrued Interest** - The accumulated interest due on a bond as of the last interest payment made by the issuer.

**Agency** - A debt security issued by a federal or federally sponsored agency. Federal agencies are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. Federally sponsored agencies (FSAs) are backed by each particular agency with a market perception that there is an implicit government guarantee. An example of federal agency is the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA). An example of a FSA is the Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA).

**Amortization** - The systematic reduction of the amount owed on a debt issue through periodic payments of principal.

**Asked** - The price at which securities are offered.

**Average Life** - The average length of time that an issue of serial bonds and/or term bonds with a mandatory sinking fund feature is expected to be outstanding.

**Basis Point** - A unit of measurement used in the valuation of fixed-income securities equal to 1/100 of 1 percent of yield, e.g., "1/4" of 1 percent is equal to 25 basis points.

**Bid** - The indicated price at which a buyer is willing to purchase a security or commodity.

**Book Value** - The value at which a security is carried on the inventory lists or other financial records of an investor. The book value may differ significantly from the security's current value in the market.

**Broker** - A broker brings buyers and sellers together for a commission paid by the initiator of the transaction or by both sides; he does not position. In the money market, brokers are active in markets in which banks buy and sell money and in interdealer markets.

**Callable Bond** - A bond issue in which all or part of its outstanding principal amount may be redeemed before maturity by the issuer under specified conditions.

**Call Price** - The price at which an issuer may redeem a bond prior to maturity. The price is usually at a slight premium to the bond's original issue price to compensate the holder for loss of income and ownership.

**Call Risk** - The risk to a bondholder that a bond may be redeemed prior to maturity.

**Cash Sale/Purchase** - A transaction that calls for delivery and payment of securities on the same day that the transaction is initiated.

**Certificate of Deposit (CD)** – A time deposit with a specific maturity evidenced by a certificate. Large-denomination CD's are typically negotiable.

**Collateralization** - Process by which a borrower pledges securities, property, or other deposits for the purpose of securing the repayment of a loan and/or security.

**Commercial Paper** - An unsecured short-term promissory note issued by corporations, with maturities ranging from 2 to 270 days.

**Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)** – The official annual report for the City of College Station. It includes combined statements and basic financial statements for each individual fund and account group prepared in conformity with GAAP. It also includes supporting schedules necessary to demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provision, extensive introductory material, and a detailed statistical section.

**Coupon Rate** - The annual rate of interest received by an investor from the issuer of certain types of fixed-income securities. It is also known as the interest rate.

**Credit Quality** - The measurement of the financial strength of a bond issuer. This measurement helps an investor to understand an issuer's ability to make timely interest payments and repay the loan principal upon maturity. Generally, the higher the credit quality of a bond issuer, the lower the interest rate paid by the issuer because the risk of default is lower. Credit quality ratings are provided by nationally recognized rating agencies.

**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 (Current Return)** - A yield calculation determined by dividing the annual interest received on a security by the current market price of that security.

**Dealer** – A dealer, as opposed to a broker, acts as a principal in all transactions, buying and selling for his own account.

**Delivery Versus Payment (DVP)** - A type of securities transaction in which the purchaser pays for the securities when they are delivered either to the purchaser or his/her custodian.

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

**Discount Security** – Non-interest bearing money market instruments that are issued at a discount and redeemed at maturity for full face value, e.g. U.S. Treasury Bills.

**Diversification** - A process of investing assets among a range of security types by sector, maturity, and quality rating.

**Duration** - A measure of the timing of the cash flows, such as the interest payments and the principal repayment, to be received from a given fixed-income security. This calculation is based on three variables: term to maturity, coupon rate, and yield to maturity. The duration of a security is a useful indicator of its price volatility for given changes in interest rates.

**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 (Fed 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 immediately available funds.

**Federal Funds Rate** - Interest rate charged by one institution lending federal funds to the other.

**Federal Credit Agencies** – Agencies of the Federal Government set up to supply credit to various classes of institutions and individuals, e.g. S&L's small business firms, students, farmers, farm cooperatives, and exporters.

**Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)** – A federal agency that insures bank deposits, currently up to \$250,000 per depository account through December 31, 2013. On January 1, 2014, the standard insurance amount will return to \$100,000.

**Federal Home Loan banks (FHLB)** – The institutions that regulate and lend to savings and loan associations. The Federal Home Loan Banks play a role similar to that played by the Federal Reserve Bank versus member commercial banks.

**Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA)** – A government –sponsored enterprise (GSE) that was created in 1938 to expand the flow of mortgage money by creating a secondary mortgage market. Fannie Mae is a publicly traded company which operates under a congressional charter that directs Fannie Mae to channel its efforts into increasing the availability and affordability of homeownership for low-, moderate-, and middle-income Americans.

**Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC)** – Consists of seven members of the Federal Reserve Board and five of the twelve Federal Reserve Bank Presidents. The President of the New York Federal Reserve Bank is a permanent member while the other Presidents serve on a rotating basis. The Committee periodically meets to set 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.

**Federal Reserve System** – The central bank of the United States created by Congress and consisting of a seven member Board of Governors in Washington, D.C., 12 regional banks and about 5,700 commercial banks that are members of the system.

**Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA)** - A self-regulatory organization (SRO) of brokers and dealers in the over-the-counter securities business. Its regulatory mandate includes authority over firms that distribute mutual fund shares as well as other securities.

**Government Securities** - An obligation of the U.S. government, backed by the full faith and credit of the government. These securities are regarded as the highest quality of investment securities available in the U.S. securities market. See "Treasury Bills, Notes, and Bonds."

**Interest Rate** - See "Coupon Rate."

**Interest Rate Risk** - The risk associated with declines or rises in interest rates which cause an investment in a fixed-income security to increase or decrease in value.

**Internal Controls** - An internal control structure designed to ensure that the assets of the entity are protected from loss, theft, or misuse. The internal control structure is designed to provide reasonable assurance that these objectives are met. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that 1) the cost of a control should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived and 2) the valuation of costs and benefits requires estimates and judgments by management. Internal controls should address the following points:

- **Control of collusion** - Collusion is a situation where two or more employees are working in conjunction to defraud their employer.
- **Separation of transaction authority from accounting and record keeping** - By separating the person who authorizes or performs the transaction from the people who record or otherwise account for the transaction, a separation of duties is achieved.
- **Custodial safekeeping** - Securities purchased from any bank or dealer including appropriate collateral (as defined by state law) shall be placed with an independent third party for custodial safekeeping.

**Inverted Yield Curve** - A chart formation that illustrates long-term securities having lower yields than short-term securities. This configuration usually occurs during periods of high inflation coupled with low levels of confidence in the economy and a restrictive monetary policy.

**Investment Policy** - A concise and clear statement of the objectives and parameters formulated by an investor or investment manager for a portfolio of investment securities.

**Liquidity** - An asset that can be converted easily and quickly into cash.

**Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP)** - An investment by local governments in which their money is pooled as a method for managing local funds.

**Mark-to-market** - The process whereby the book value or collateral value of a security is adjusted to reflect its current market value.

**Market Risk** - The risk that the value of a security will rise or decline as a result of changes in market conditions.

**Market Value** - Current market price of a security.

**Maturity** - The date on which payment of a financial obligation is due. The final stated maturity is the date on which the issuer must retire a bond and pay the face value to the bondholder. See "Weighted Average Maturity."

**Money Market** – The market in which short-term debt instruments (bills, commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, etc.) are issued and traded.

**Money Market Mutual Fund** - Mutual funds that invest solely in money market instruments (short-term debt instruments, such as Treasury bills, commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, repos and federal funds).

**Mutual Fund** - An investment company that pools money and can invest in a variety of securities, including fixed-income securities and money market instruments. Mutual funds are regulated by the Investment Company Act of 1940.

**Net Asset Value** - The market value of one share of an investment company, such as a mutual fund. This figure is calculated by totaling a fund's assets that includes securities, cash, and any accrued earnings, subtracting this from the fund's liabilities and dividing this total by the number of shares outstanding. This is calculated once a day based on the closing price for each security in the fund's portfolio. (See below.)  $[(\text{Total assets}) - (\text{Liabilities})] / (\text{Number of shares outstanding})$

**Nominal Yield** - The stated rate of interest that a bond pays its current owner, based on par value of the security. It is also known as the "coupon," "coupon rate," or "interest rate."

**Offer** - An indicated price at which market participants are willing to sell a security or commodity. Also referred to as the "Ask price."

**Par** - Face value or principal value of a bond, typically \$1,000 per bond.

**Portfolio** – Collection of securities held by an investor.

**Positive Yield Curve** - A chart formation that illustrates short-term securities having lower yields than long-term securities.

**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.

**Principal** - The face value or par value of a debt instrument. Also may refer to the amount of capital invested in a given security.

**Prospectus** - A legal document that must be provided to any prospective purchaser of a new securities offering registered with the SEC. This can include information on the issuer, the issuer's business, the proposed use of proceeds, the experience of the issuer's management, and certain certified financial statements.

**Prudent Person Rule** - An investment standard outlining the fiduciary responsibilities of public funds investors relating to investment practices.

**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 or the current income return.

**Reinvestment Risk** - The risk that a fixed-income investor will be unable to reinvest income proceeds from a security holding at the same rate of return currently generated by that holding.

**Repurchase Agreement (repo or RP)** - An agreement of one party to sell securities at a specified price to a second party and a simultaneous agreement of the first party to repurchase the securities at a specified price or at a specified later date.

**Reverse Repurchase Agreement (Reverse Repo)** - An agreement of one party to purchase securities at a specified price from a second party and a simultaneous agreement by the first party to resell the securities at a specified price to the second party on demand or at a specified date.

**Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act** - Applies to all money market mutual funds and mandates such funds to maintain certain standards, including a 13- month maturity limit and a 90-day average maturity on investments, to help maintain a constant net asset value of one dollar (\$1.00).

**Safekeeping** - Holding of assets (e.g., securities) by a financial institution.

**Secondary Market** – A market made for the purchase and sale of outstanding issues following the initial distribution.

**Securities & Exchange Commission** – Agency created by Congress to protect investors in securities transactions by administering securities legislation.

**Serial Bond** - A bond issue, usually of a municipality, with various maturity dates scheduled at regular intervals until the entire issue is retired.

**Sinking Fund** - Money accumulated on a regular basis in a separate custodial account that is used to redeem debt securities or preferred stock issues.

**Swap** - Trading one asset for another.

**Term Bond** - Bonds comprising a large part or all of a particular issue which come due in a single maturity. The issuer usually agrees to make periodic payments into a sinking fund for mandatory redemption of term bonds before maturity.

**Total Return** - The sum of all investment income plus changes in the capital value of the portfolio. For mutual funds, return on an investment is composed of share price appreciation plus any realized dividends or capital gains. This is calculated by taking the following components during a certain time period.  $(\text{Price Appreciation}) + (\text{Dividends paid}) + (\text{Capital gains}) = \text{Total Return}$

**Treasury Bills** - Short-term U.S. government non-interest bearing debt securities with maturities of no longer than one year and issued in minimum denominations of \$10,000. Auctions of three- and six-month bills are weekly, while auctions of one-year bills are monthly. The yields on these bills are monitored closely in the money markets for signs of interest rate trends.

**Treasury Bonds** – Marketable, fixed-interest U.S. government debt securities with maturities of more than ten years and issued in minimum denominations of \$1,000. Treasury bonds make interest payments semi-annually and the income that holders received is only taxed at the federal level.

**Treasury Notes** - Marketable U.S. government debt securities with fixed interest rates and maturities between 1 to 10 years. Treasury notes can be bought either directly from the U.S. government or through banks.

**Uniform Net Capital Rule** - SEC Rule 15C3-1 – Securities and Exchange Commission requirement that member firms as well as nonmember broker-dealers in securities maintain a maximum ratio of indebtedness to liquid capital of 15 to 1: also called net capital rule and net capital ratio. Indebtedness covers all money owned to a firm, including margin loans and commitments to purchase securities. This is one reason new public issues are spread among members of underwriting syndicates. Liquid capital includes cash and assets easily converted into cash.

**Volatility** - A degree of fluctuation in the price and valuation of securities.

**Volatility Risk Rating** - A rating system to clearly indicate the level of volatility and other non-credit risks associated with securities and certain bond funds. The ratings for bond funds range from those that have extremely low sensitivity to changing market conditions and offer the greatest stability of the returns ("aaa" by S&P; "V-1" by Fitch) to those that are highly sensitive with currently identifiable market volatility risk ("ccc-" by S&P, "V-10" by Fitch).

**Weighted Average Maturity (WAM)** - The average maturity of all the securities that comprise a portfolio. According to SEC rule 2a-7, the WAM for SEC registered money market mutual funds may not exceed 90 days and no one security may have a maturity that exceeds 397 days.

**Yield** - The current rate of return on an investment security generally expressed as a percentage of the security's current price.

**Yield-to-call (YTC)** - The rate of return an investor earns from a bond assuming the bond is redeemed (called) prior to its nominal maturity date. **Yield Curve** - A graphic representation that depicts the relationship at a given point in time between yields and maturity for bonds that are identical in every way except maturity. A normal yield curve may be alternatively referred to as a positive yield curve.

**Yield-to-maturity** - The rate of return yielded by a debt security held to maturity when both interest payments and the investor's potential capital gain or loss are included in the calculation of return.

**Zero-coupon Securities** - Security that is issued at a discount and makes no periodic interest payments. The rate of return consists of a gradual accretion of the principal of the security and is payable at par upon maturity.