

LEGAL COMPLIANCE MANUAL
DEPOSITORIES OF PUBLIC FUNDS
AND
PUBLIC INVESTMENTS

Introduction

A government entity that receives and disburses funds may deposit the funds only in financial institutions designated by its governing body. The governing body may authorize its treasurer or chief financial officer to make such designations. The government entity may deposit funds in amounts that are federally insured or, if it deposits more than this amount, it must either have the depository furnish a bond or assign collateral to protect the excess deposit.

"Government entity" for the purpose of this section means:

- a county;*
- a city;*
- a town;
- a school district;
- a hospital district;
- a public authority;
- a public corporation;
- a public commission;
- a special district;
- a political subdivision; or
- an American Indian tribal government entity located within a reservation.

Minn. Stat. § 118A.01, subd. 2.

"Public funds" for the purpose of this section means all general, special, permanent, trust, or other funds, regardless of source or purpose, held or administered by a government entity, unless otherwise restricted. Minn. Stat. § 118A.01, subd. 4.

If the audited governmental entity is one of those listed and it has the power to receive and disburse public funds, then complete this section to determine if the government entity has properly invested its funds or deposited its funds in a properly designated depository with appropriate collateral or bond.

In addition, the depository and collateral requirements of Minn. Stat. §§ 356A.06, subd. 8a, and 118A.03 apply to fire relief associations. Parts I and II should be completed for fire relief associations.

* Note: A "city with a population in excess of 200,000 or a county that contains a city of that size" (currently the two largest cities and counties) has additional investment authority. See Minn. Stat. § 118A.07.

Minn. Stat. Section	DEPOSITORIES OF PUBLIC FUNDS AND PUBLIC INVESTMENTS	Yes	No	Workpaper Reference
	Part I. Designation of Depository			
§ 118A.02, subd. 1	<p>A. In the case of a government entity:</p> <p>1. Has each depository of public funds been designated by the government entity's governing body, or by its treasurer or chief financial officer, if the governing body has authorized them to make such a designation?</p>	_____	_____	_____
§ 118A.01, subd. 3	<p>2. Is each depository one of the following:</p> <p>a. a savings association;</p> <p>b. a commercial bank;</p> <p>c. a trust company;</p> <p>d. a credit union; or</p> <p>e. an industrial loan and thrift company?</p>	_____	_____	_____
§ 356A.06, subd. 8a	<p>B. In the case of a relief association:</p> <p>1. Has each depository for assets, not held by the relief association's custodian bank, been designated by the relief association's governing board?</p> <p>2. Is each depository one of the following:</p> <p>a. a national bank;</p> <p>b. an insured state bank;</p> <p>c. an insured credit union; or</p> <p>d. an insured thrift institution?</p>	_____	_____	_____
	Part II. Insuring or Securing Deposits			
§ 118A.03	<p>A. If a government entity desires to deposit an amount in excess of deposit insurance, it must obtain a bond or collateral which, when computed at its market value, shall be at least ten percent more than the amount of the excess deposit. If irrevocable standby letters of credit from Federal Home Loan Banks are used as collateral, the amount must be equal to the amount of the excess deposit plus interest at the close of the day.</p> <p>B. Review the following general principles of FDIC coverage and complete the spread sheet in this section to determine the amount of the government entity's funds that are not insured and thus need to be either bonded or collateralized. Deposits held by credit unions are covered by separate deposit insurance rules promulgated by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).</p>			

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Part II. Insuring or Securing Deposits (Continued)</p> <p>General Principles of FDIC coverage:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deposits are insured only if the depository is a member of FDIC. 2. Deposits in one depository are insured separately from deposits in another depository which is not a branch of the first one. However, a depository and all of the branches associated with it are treated as a single combined depository, and the funds deposited in the branches are aggregated for purposes of insurance coverage. 3. The aggregate of a government entity's interest bearing accounts, i.e., savings accounts, NOW accounts, and time deposits (CD's) with the same depository are insured up to a total of \$100,000. The aggregate of a government entity's non-interest bearing accounts, i.e., non-interest checking accounts, are insured up to a total of \$100,000 and are insured separately from the government entity's interest-bearing deposits. This separate \$100,000 coverage for non-interest bearing accounts only applies if the depository is in the same state as the government entity. 4. A public authority, public corporation, public commission, or special district receives separate insurance coverage from its parent government entity only if it was created expressly by state statute and funds have been allocated for its exclusive use and control. Subordinate or nonautonomous divisions, agencies, or boards do not receive separate insurance coverage. 5. Funds held for a special purpose and required by law to be paid to bondholders or beneficiaries such as members of pension funds or relief associations are covered up to \$100,000 per bondholder or beneficiary whether the beneficial interest is vested or not. The fiduciary nature must be indicated on the account name in the bank's records. 6. If more than one person is legal or official custodian of funds for a government entity, each custodian is separately insured up to \$100,000. Also, if the same person is the custodian of funds for two separate government entities, the funds for the two government entities are separately insured. 7. Moneys held by a government entity in trust are insured separately from other government entity funds only <u>if</u> the trust is an irrevocable express trust and the account records indicate the name of both the settlor and the trustee. <p>C. Has the spread sheet been completed? (See page 1-10)</p>			

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Part III. The Bond and Collateral				
§ 118A.03, subd. 1	<p>A. If a bond was furnished by the depository to the government entity, answer the following question:</p> <p>1. Was the bond executed by a corporate surety company authorized to do business in the state?</p>	_____	_____	_____
§ 118A.03, subd. 2	<p>B. If the depository assigned collateral to the government entity, answer the following questions:</p> <p>1. Was the collateral one of the following:</p> <p>a. U.S. government treasury bills, notes, or bonds;</p> <p>b. issues of a U.S. government agency or instruments that are quoted by a recognized industry quotation service available to the government entity;</p> <p>c. a general obligation of a state or local government, with taxing powers, rated "A" or better;</p> <p>d. a revenue obligation of a state or local government, with taxing powers, rated "AA" or better;</p> <p>e. unrated general obligation securities of a local government with taxing powers pledged as collateral against funds deposited by that same local government entity;</p> <p>f. an irrevocable standby letter of credit issued by a Federal Home Loan Bank accompanied by written evidence that the Federal Home Loan Bank's public debt is rated "AA" or better by Moody's or Standard and Poor's; or</p> <p>g. Certificates of Deposit insured by the FDIC?</p>	_____	_____	_____
§ 118A.03, subd. 7	<p>2. Was the collateral placed for safekeeping:</p> <p>a. in a restricted account at the Federal Reserve Bank; or</p> <p>b. in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution not owned or controlled by the depository?</p>	_____	_____	_____
§ 118A.03, subd. 7	<p>3. Did the government entity approve of the selection of the safekeeping entity?</p>	_____	_____	_____
§ 118A.03, subd. 4	<p>4. Was the collateral assignment in writing?</p> <p>5. Did the assignment provide that, upon default, the depository shall release the collateral pledged to the government entity on demand?</p>	_____	_____	_____

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	Part IV. Public Investments (Continued)			_____
§ 118A.05, subd. 2	<p>C. Were the securities sold or pledged under the repurchase agreement or reverse repurchase agreement permissible direct investments under Minn. Stat. § 118A.04 (see L and M below)?</p> <p>D. Were all reverse repurchase agreements only entered into:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. for a period of 90 days or less, and 2. only to meet short-term cash needs and not to generate cash for investments? 	_____	_____	_____
§ 118A.05, subd. 3	<p>E. Were all securities lending agreements (including custody agreements) entered into only with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a financial institution qualified as a depository having a principal executive office in Minnesota; or 2. a financial institution which is a member of the Federal Reserve System and whose combined capital and surplus equals or exceeds \$10,000,000, and which has a principal executive office in Minnesota? 	_____	_____	_____
§ 118A.05, subd. 5	<p>F. Did the custodian or entity operating the securities lending program only enter into securities lending transactions with those entities identified in Part IV.A. (above)?</p>	_____	_____	_____
§ 118A.05, subd. 4	<p>G. Were all guaranteed investment contracts or agreements only entered into with an issuer or guarantor:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that was a U.S. commercial bank, a domestic branch of a foreign bank, a U.S. insurance company, or its Canadian subsidiary; <u>and</u> 2. whose credit quality for long-term and short-term unsecured debt was rated in one of the highest two categories by a nationally recognized rating agency? <p>H. Did all guaranteed investment contracts give the public entity withdrawal rights in the event the issuer's or guarantor's credit quality was downgraded below "A"?</p>	_____	_____	_____
§ 118A.05, subd. 4	<p>I. Did the government entity only invest in shares of a Minnesota joint powers investment trust whose investments were restricted to securities described in Minn. Stat. §§ 118A.04 and 118A.05?</p> <p>J. Mutual Funds - Did the government entity only invest in shares of an investment company that met the criteria in either 1 or 2 below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a. registered under the Federal Investment Company Act of 1940; b. whose shares were registered under the Federal Securities Act of 1933; 	_____	_____	_____

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	Part IV. Public Investments (Continued)			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. was rated in the highest quality category by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies, <u>and</u> b. matures in 270 days or less; 			____
§ 118A.04, subd. 5	6. In time deposits fully insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;			____
	7. In bankers' acceptances issued by United States banks; or			
§ 118A.04, subd. 7	8. In its own temporary obligations issued under Minn. Stat. §§ 429.091, subd. 7 (special assessments), 469.178, subd. 5 (tax increment bonds), or 475.61, subd. 6?	____	____	____
§ 118A.04, subd. 8	Note: A debt service fund can purchase any issue payable from the fund.			
§ 118A.04, subd. 2	<p>M. Mortgage-Backed Securities</p> <p>Government entities may only purchase mortgage-backed securities that are direct obligations or guaranteed or insured issues of the United States, its agencies, its instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of Congress.</p>			
§ 118A.04, subds. 2 & 6	<p>Mortgage-backed securities purchased shall not be "high risk." Minn. Stat. § 118A.04, subd. 6, states "high risk mortgage-backed securities" are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. interest-only or principal-only mortgage-backed securities; and 2. any mortgage derivative security that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. has an expected average life greater than ten years; or b. has an expected average life that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) will extend by more than four years as the result of an immediate and sustained parallel shift in the yield curve of plus 300 basis points, or (2) will shorten by more than six years as the result of an immediate and sustained parallel shift in the yield curve of minus 300 basis points; or c. will have an estimated change in price of more than 17 percent as the result of an immediate and sustained parallel shift in the yield curve of plus or minus 300 basis points. 3. Were all mortgage-backed securities purchased by the government entity after August 1, 1993, not "high risk?" 	____	____	____

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	Part V. Broker Acknowledgment Certification			
§ 118A.04, subd. 9	A. Annually, prior to completing an initial investment transaction with each broker, did the government entity provide to that broker a written statement of investment restrictions?	_____	_____	_____
	B. Did the broker acknowledge receipt of the investment restrictions and agree to handle the government entity's account in accordance with the restrictions?	_____	_____	_____
	C. Did the government entity retain documentation of compliance with A and B above?	_____	_____	_____

Part VI. Audit Conclusion
<p>The auditor must state a conclusion--based on this questionnaire and any other audit procedures performed--whether the client has complied with the legal provisions reviewed relating to depositories of public funds and public investments.</p> <p>Conclusion: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

