

**MONTANA BOARD OF INVESTMENTS
TRUST FUNDS INVESTMENT POOL (MU41) (FUND 07112)
INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT**

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this policy statement is to provide a broad strategic framework for investments within the Trust Funds Investment Pool (TFIP). The pool's participants consist primarily of the state's trust funds. The pool is designed to provide the participants exposure to a portfolio of diversified income-producing assets. The pool's assets include an investment grade fixed income portfolio managed internally by MBOI staff, one or more core real estate funds, and one or more high yield fixed income funds. Allocation across these asset classes is limited to the following ranges. The use of high yield fixed income and core real estate investments are justified in order to diversify the sources of income provided by the pool, however are constrained to prudent levels of maximum exposure given their unique and somewhat more volatile return patterns.

Asset Class	Minimum	Maximum
Investment grade fixed income	0%	100%
High yield fixed income	0%	10%
Core real estate	0%	8%

The primary component of the pool consists of the investment grade fixed income portfolio. The investment guidelines governing the management of that portfolio are contained herein. The other asset categories represented in the pool are advised by external managers. Specific portfolio guidelines that prohibit or constrain certain types of securities or real estate investments will be addressed in the managers' specific investment guidelines. A brief description of these other asset classes follows.

High Yield Fixed Income: This sector consists of predominantly U.S. corporate credits, whether in the form of bonds or loans that are rated below investment grade. These assets carry a higher risk of default than investment grade securities and accordingly provide a higher level of income or yield commensurate with that risk.

Core Real Estate: Equity investment in operating and substantially-leased institutional quality real estate in the traditional property types (apartment, office, retail, industrial and hotel). Net long-term returns historically have been in the 4.0 percent to 6.0 percent range (inflation-adjusted and net of fees) and are typically comprised of greater levels of income (i.e., two-thirds of long-term total returns) with appreciation matching or exceeding inflation.

OBJECTIVES: Investment Grade Fixed Income Portfolio

Strategic: Attaining a competitive stream of income in the fixed income markets while diversifying investment risk. The primary objective of the Trust Fund Bond Pool portfolio is to provide diversified exposure to the various sectors of the investment grade bond market for the benefit of fund participants in a prudent and cost effective manner. In this sense the portfolio investment strategy is core-like and is to be benchmarked against the Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index. The portfolio will also provide primary liquidity to fund participants and to facilitate allocation between the other asset classes held in the pool.

Performance: The objective of the TFIP is to achieve a moderate yield advantage to the Barclays Capital Aggregate bond index. Ideally, the annualized time weighted total return will exceed that of the Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index over a three year rolling period.

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PERMITTED INVESTMENTS: Investment Grade Fixed Income Portfolio

- Debt obligations of the U.S. Government, including its agencies and instrumentalities. These include Treasuries, Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) and fixed and floating rate agency obligations.
- Dollar denominated debt obligations of developed country foreign governments.
- Dollar denominated debt obligations of index-eligible supranational agencies.
- Dollar denominated debt obligations of domestic and foreign corporations (Yankee bonds) up to 2% of portfolio assets per issuer. These may include Trust Preferred securities and be fixed or floating rate coupon structures.
- Securitized assets, including U.S. Agency mortgage pass-through securities (MBS), non-agency MBS (limited to 3% of portfolio market value in total), collateralized mortgage obligations (CMO's), commercial mortgage backed securities (CMBS), hybrid ARMS and asset backed securities (ABS).
 - When issued securities.
 - Rule 144a securities.
 - Medium term notes.
 - Short term investment pool (STIP).
 - Loans for the Montana CRP Program.

PROHIBITED INVESTMENTS: Investment Grade Fixed Income Portfolio

- Over the counter derivatives, including interest rate swaps and credit default swaps.
- Short sales and securities margin loans.
- Bank loans.
- Interest only (IO) and principal only (PO) mortgage strips.
- Companion/residual/equity tranches of CMO's or other structured securities.
- Capital securities (convertible from fixed to floating).
- Inverse floaters.
- Convertible bonds.

CONSTRAINTS: Investment Grade Fixed Income Portfolio

Credit quality: Securities must be rated investment grade, or no lower than triple-B minus, by two nationally recognized securities rating organizations (NRSRO) at time of purchase, with the exception of non-rated securities issued or guaranteed by agencies or instrumentalities of the U.S. Government. Securities downgraded below investment grade may be held at the portfolio manager's discretion. Non-rated securities will be assigned an internal "equivalent" rating.

Duration: The weighted average effective duration of the portfolio, including cash, must be within 20% of the duration of the Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond index.

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Sector: The portfolio sector exposure will be maintained within the ranges shown in the table below.

ASSET ALLOCATION SECTORS & RANGES
(At market)

<u>Sectors</u>	<u>Policy Ranges</u>
U.S. Treasury	15-45
Government Related	2-10
Total Government	20-60
MBS	20-40
Asset Backed Securities	0-7
CMBS	0-12
Total Structured	20-59
Corporate Credit	15-40
Total	100%

LIQUIDITY: Investment Grade Fixed Income Portfolio

Liquidity needs for the fixed income program are low, as participant capital allocated to the pool is not expected to change dramatically on short notice. Nevertheless, the underlying assets held are predominantly publicly traded securities which can normally be liquidated in a relatively short period to accommodate asset allocation changes between the internally managed fixed income portfolio and other asset categories held by the Trust Funds pool. Assets considered to be generally illiquid will be limited to 10% of the portfolio’s market value.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Securities Lending: Section 17-1-113, MCA, authorizes the Board to lend securities held by the state. The Board may lend its publicly traded securities held in the investment pools, through an agent, to other market participants in return for compensation. Currently, through an explicit contract, State Street Bank and Trust, the state's custodial bank, manages the state's securities lending program. The Board seeks to assess the risks, such as counterparty and reinvestment risk, associated with each aspect of its securities lending program. The Board requires borrowers to maintain collateral at 102 percent for domestic securities and 105 percent for international securities. To ensure that the collateral ratio is maintained, securities on loan are marked to market daily and the borrower must provide additional collateral if the value of the securities on loan increases. In addition to the strict collateral requirements imposed by the Board, the credit quality of approved borrowers is monitored continuously by the contractor. From time to time, Staff or the investment manager may restrict a security from the loan program upon notification to State Street Bank. Staff will monitor the securities lending program, and the CIO will periodically report to the Board on the status of the program.

Cash Investments

Cash investments held at the pool level, any managed account within it, or any separate account entail an element of credit risk. Thus, only approved cash investment vehicles are permitted. These include the custodian’s STIF vehicle, STIP, or any SEC-registered money market fund, all of which specifically address credit risk in their respective investment guidelines.