

Federal Housing Finance Board

§ 955.6

(A) Insures that portion of the required credit enhancement attributable to the geographic concentration and size of the pool; and

(B) Is positioned last in the credit enhancement structure so as to cover only those losses remaining after all other elements of the credit enhancement structure have been exhausted; or

(iv) Contracting with another member or housing associate in the Bank's district or in another Bank's district, pursuant to an arrangement with that Bank, to provide an enhancement or undertaking against losses to the Bank in return for some compensation;

(2) The member or housing associate that is providing the credit enhancement required under paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall in all cases bear the direct economic consequences of actual credit losses on the asset or pool of assets:

(i) From the first dollar of loss up to the amount of expected losses; or

(ii) Immediately following expected losses, but in an amount equal to or exceeding the amount of expected losses;

(3) The portion of the credit enhancement that is an obligation of a Bank System member or housing associate shall be fully secured; and

(4) The Bank shall obtain written verification from an NRSRO that concludes to the satisfaction of the Finance Board, based on the underlying economic terms of the credit enhancement structure as represented by the Bank for each AMA product, that either:

(i) The level of credit enhancement provided by the member or housing associate is generally sufficient to enhance the asset or pool of assets to a credit quality that is equivalent to that of an instrument having the fourth highest credit rating from an NRSRO, or such higher rating as the Bank may require; or

(ii) The methodology used by the Bank for estimating the level of credit enhancement provided by the member or housing associate is in accordance with the practices established by the NRSRO.

(c) *Timing of NRSRO opinions.* For AMA programs already in operation at the time of the effective date of this rule, a Bank shall have 90 days from

the effective date of this rule to obtain the NRSRO verifications required under paragraphs (a) and (b)(4) of this section.

[65 FR 43981, July 17, 2000, as amended at 67 FR 12852, Mar. 20, 2002]

§ 955.4 Reporting requirement for acquired member assets.

Each Bank shall report information related to AMA in accordance with the instructions provided in the Data Reporting Manual issued by the Finance Board, as amended from time to time.

[71 FR 35500, June 21, 2006]

§ 955.5 Administrative and investment transactions between Banks.

(a) *Delegation of administrative duties.* A Bank may delegate the administration of an AMA program to another Bank whose administrative office has been examined and approved by the Finance Board to process AMA transactions. The existence of such a delegation, or the possibility that such a delegation may be made, must be disclosed to any potential participating member or housing associate as part of any AMA-related agreements are signed with that member or housing associate.

(b) *Terminability of Agreements.* Any agreement made between two or more Banks in connection with any AMA program shall be made terminable by either party after a reasonable notice period.

(c) *Delegation of Pricing Authority.* A Bank that has delegated its AMA pricing function to another Bank shall retain a right to refuse to acquire AMA at prices it does not consider appropriate.

§ 955.6 Risk-based capital requirement for acquired member assets.

(a) *General.* Each Bank shall hold retained earnings plus general allowance for losses as support for the credit risk of all AMA estimated by the Bank to represent a credit risk that is greater than that of comparable instruments that have received the second highest credit rating from an NRSRO in an amount equal to or greater than the outstanding balance of the assets or

pools of assets times a factor associated with the putative credit rating of the assets or pools of assets as determined by the Finance Board on a case-

by-case basis. For single-family mortgage assets, the factors are as set forth in Table 1 of this part.

TABLE 1

Putative rating of single-family mortgage assets	Percentage applicable to on-balance sheet equivalent value of AMA
Third Highest Investment Grade	0.90
Fourth Highest Investment Grade	1.50
If Downgraded to Below Investment Grade After Acquisition By Bank:	
Highest Below Investment Grade	2.25
Second Highest Below Investment Grade	2.60
All Other Below Investment Grade	100.00

(b) *Recalculation of credit enhancement.* For risk-based capital purposes, each Bank shall recalculate the estimated credit rating of a pool of AMA if there is evidence that a decline in the credit quality of that pool may have occurred.

PART 956—FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK INVESTMENTS

- Sec.
- 956.1 Definitions.
- 956.2 Authorized investments.
- 956.3 Prohibited investments and prudential rules.
- 956.4 Risk-based capital requirement for investments.
- 956.5 Authorization for derivative contracts and other transactions.
- 956.6 Use of hedging instruments.

AUTHORITY: 12 U.S.C. 1422a(a)(3), 1422b(a), 1429, 1430, 1430b, 1431, 1436.

SOURCE: 65 FR 43985, July 17, 2000, unless otherwise noted.

§ 956.1 Definitions.

As used in this part:

Deposits in banks or trust companies has the meaning set forth in §965.1 of this chapter.

Derivative contract means generally a financial contract the value of which is derived from the values of one or more underlying assets, reference rates, or indices of asset values, or credit-related events. Derivative contracts include interest rate, foreign exchange rate, equity, precious metals, commodity, and credit contracts, and any other instruments that pose similar risks.

Investment grade means:

(1) A credit quality rating in one of the four highest credit rating categories by an NRSRO and not below the fourth highest credit rating category by any NRSRO; or

(2) If there is no credit quality rating by an NRSRO, a determination by a Bank that the issuer, asset or instrument is the credit equivalent of investment grade using credit rating standards available from an NRSRO or other similar standards.

Repurchase agreement means an agreement between a seller and a buyer whereby the seller agrees to repurchase a security or similar securities at an agreed upon price, with or without a stated time for repurchase.

[67 FR 12853, Mar. 20, 2002]

§ 956.2 Authorized investments.

In addition to assets enumerated in parts 950 and 955 of this chapter and subject to the applicable limitations set forth in this part, in the Financial Management Policy and in part 980 of this chapter, each Bank may invest in:

- (a) Obligations of the United States;
- (b) Deposits in banks or trust companies;
- (c) Obligations, participations or other instruments of, or issued by, Fannie Mae or Ginnie Mae;
- (d) Mortgages, obligations, or other securities that are, or ever have been, sold by Freddie Mac pursuant to section 305 or 306 of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1454 or 1455);