

§ 317.4

issue a certificate of qualification to the organization. Until the receipt of such a certificate, an organization shall not perform any act as an issuing agent, or advertise in any manner that it is authorized to so act or that it has applied for qualification as an issuing agent. After receipt of a certificate of qualification, an organization may perform the functions of an issuing agent. Under the terms of the application-agreement, the proceeds of the sale of bonds are at all times the property of the United States for which the organization shall be fully accountable.

(c) *Adverse action or change in qualification.* An organization will be notified by the designated Federal Reserve Bank or the Bureau of the Public Debt if its application-agreement to act as issuing agent is not approved, or if, after issuance, its certificate of qualification is terminated.

[54 FR 40830, Oct. 3, 1989, as amended at 59 FR 10535, 10536, Mar. 4, 1994; 63 FR 64550, Nov. 20, 1998]

§ 317.4 Issuing agents currently qualified.

Each organization, qualified as an issuing agent under a trust agreement currently in effect, is authorized to continue to act in that capacity without requalification. By so acting, it shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the previously executed application-agreement and these regulations in the same manner and to the same extent as though it had requalified hereunder.

§ 317.5 Termination of qualification.

(a) *By the United States.* The Secretary of the Treasury or a delegate may terminate the qualification of an issuing agent at any time, upon due notice to the agent. If this action is taken, the agent will be required to make a final accounting for the balance of savings bond stock for which it is charged, based on the records of the designated Federal Reserve Bank. The agent must surrender all unissued bonds and remit the issue price of any remaining bonds included in its accountability.

(b) *At request of issuing agent.* A designated Federal Reserve Bank will terminate the qualification of an issuing

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agent upon its request, provided the agent is in full compliance with the terms of its agreement and the applicable regulations and instructions, and renders a final accounting.

[54 FR 40830, Oct. 3, 1989, as amended at 59 FR 10536, Mar. 4, 1994]

§ 317.6 Issuance of bonds.

(a) *General.* Each issuing agent shall comply with all regulations and instructions issued by the Department of the Treasury directly, or through the designated Federal Reserve Bank, concerning the sale, inscription, dating, and validation of bonds; the acceptance, processing, and transmittal of over-the-counter purchase orders; the remittance of sales proceeds; and the disposition of paper and electronic registration records. No issuing agent shall have authority to sell bonds other than as provided in the offering circular.

(b) *Fees.* Each issuing agent, other than a Federal agency, will be paid fees. Only issuing agents are eligible to collect fees. With prior approval, agents that are authorized to inscribe bonds and receive fee payments will also be paid a bonus for presorting savings bond mailings. Schedules reflecting the amount of the fees and presort bonuses, and the basis on which they are computed and paid, will be published separately in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(c) *No charge to customers.* Any issuing agent that accepts fees from the Department of the Treasury for selling savings bonds, and/or accepting over-the-counter purchase orders, shall not make any charge to customers for the same service.

[54 FR 40830, Oct. 3, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 39960, Oct. 1, 1990; 58 FR 63529, Dec. 2, 1993; 59 FR 10536, Mar. 4, 1994; 63 FR 64550, Nov. 20, 1998]

§ 317.7 Obtaining and accounting for bond stock.

An issuing agent that is authorized to inscribe bonds sold over-the-counter or through payroll savings plans may obtain bond stock from the designated Federal Reserve Bank. The bond stock is, at all times, the property of the United States. The organization shall be fully accountable for the bond stock