

(c) *Non-affiliation requirement.* At least 30 percent of your Regulatory Capital and Leverageable Capital must be owned and controlled by Persons unaffiliated with your management and unaffiliated with each other, and whose investments are significant in dollar and percentage terms as determined by the Secretary. Such Persons must not be your Associates (except for their status as your shareholders, limited partners or members) and must not Control, be Controlled by, or be under Common Control with any of your Associates. A single "acceptable" Institutional Investor may be substituted for two or three of the three investors who are otherwise required. The following Institutional Investors are "acceptable" for this purpose:

- (1) Entities whose overall activities are regulated and periodically examined by State, Federal or other governmental authorities satisfactory to the Secretary;
- (2) Entities listed on the New York Stock Exchange;
- (3) Entities that are publicly-traded and that meet both the minimum numerical listing standards and the corporate governance listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange;
- (4) Public or private employee pension funds;
- (5) Trusts, foundations, or endowments, but only if exempt from Federal income taxation; and
- (6) Other Institutional Investors satisfactory to the Secretary.

(d) *Voting requirement.* The investors relied upon to satisfy the diversity requirement may not delegate their voting rights to any Person who is your Associate, or who Controls, is Controlled by, or is under Common Control with any of your Associates, without prior approval by the Secretary.

(e) *Requirement to maintain diversity.* You must maintain management-ownership diversity while you are a RBIC. If, at any time, you no longer have the required management-ownership diversity, you must:

- (1) Notify the Secretary within 10 days; and
- (2) Re-establish diversity within six months after loss of diversity.

#### § 4290.160 Special rules for Partnership RBICs and LLC RBICs.

(a) *Entity General Partner or Entity Managing Member.* (1) A general partner of a Partnership RBIC which is a corporation, limited liability company or partnership (an "Entity General Partner"), or a managing member of an LLC RBIC which is a corporation, limited liability company, or partnership (an "Entity Managing Member") shall be organized under State law solely for the purpose of serving as the general partner or managing member of one or more RBICs, and shall be organized for profit.

(2) The Secretary must approve any person who will serve as an officer, director, manager, or general partner of the Entity General Partner or Entity Managing Member and of an entity that Controls the Entity General Partner or Entity Managing Member. This provision must be stated in an Entity General Partner's or Entity Managing Member's articles of incorporation or charter and bylaws if a corporation, operating agreement if a limited liability company, or partnership agreement if a partnership.

(3) An Entity General Partner or Entity Managing Member is subject to the same examination and reporting requirements as a RBIC under sections 384K and 384L of the Act. The restrictions and obligations imposed upon a RBIC by §§ 4290.1810, 4290.30, 4290.410 through 4290.450, 4290.470, 4290.500, 4290.510, 4290.585, 4290.600, 4290.680, 4290.690 through 4290.692, and 4290.1910 apply also to an Entity General Partner or Entity Managing Member of a RBIC.

(4) The general partner(s) of your Entity General Partner(s) or Entity Managing Member(s) will be considered your general partner.

(5) If your Entity General Partner or Entity Managing Member is a limited partnership, its limited partners may be considered your Control Person(s) if they meet the definition for Control Person in § 4290.50.

(b) *Liability of general partner of Partnership RBIC.* Subject to section 384O(b) of the Act, your general partner(s) is not liable solely by reason of its status as a general partner for repayment of any Leverage or debts you

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owe to the Secretary unless the Secretary, in the exercise of reasonable investment prudence, and with regard to your financial soundness, determines otherwise prior to the purchase or guaranty of your Leverage. The conditions specified in § 4290.1810 and § 4290.1910 apply to all general partners.

(c) *Special Leverage requirement for Partnership RBICs and LLC RBICs.* Before your first issuance of Leverage, you must furnish the Secretary with evidence that you qualify as a partnership for tax purposes, either by a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service or by an opinion of counsel.

**§ 4290.165 Obligations of Control Persons.**

All Control Persons are bound by the provisions of sections 384O and 384P of the Act and by the conflict-of-interest rules under § 4290.730. The term RBIC, as used in §§ 4290.30, 4290.460, and 4290.680, includes all of the RBIC’s Control Persons.

**CAPITALIZING A RBIC**

**§ 4290.200 Adequate capital for RBICs.**

You must meet the requirements of §§ 4290.200 through 4290.230 in order to qualify as a RBIC and to receive Leverage.

**§ 4290.210 Minimum capital requirements for RBICs.**

(a) *General Rule.* You must have Regulatory Capital of at least \$10,000,000, or such lesser amount (but not less than \$5,000,000) as the Secretary may prescribe by notice published from time to time in the FEDERAL REGISTER, and Leverageable Capital of at least \$500,000, to become a RBIC.

(b) *Exception.* (1) The Secretary in his or her sole discretion and based on a showing of special circumstances and good cause may license an Applicant with Regulatory Capital of at least \$2,500,000, but only if the Applicant:

(i) Has satisfied all eligibility criteria for licensing as a RBIC as described in § 4290.390(a) of this part, except the capital requirement specified in paragraph (a)(1) of that section, as determined solely by the Secretary;

(ii) Has a viable business plan reasonably projecting profitable operations; and

(iii) Has a reasonable timetable for achieving Regulatory Capital of at least \$10,000,000.

(2) A RBIC licensed under this exception is not eligible to receive Leverage until it has complied with paragraph (a) of this section.

**§ 4290.230 Private Capital for RBICs.**

(a) *General.* Private Capital means the contributed capital of a RBIC, plus unfunded binding commitments by Institutional Investors (including commitments evidenced by a promissory note) to contribute capital to a RBIC.

(b) *Contributed capital.* For purposes of this section, contributed capital means the paid-in capital and paid-in surplus of a Corporate RBIC, the members’ contributed capital of a LLC RBIC, or the partners’ contributed capital of a Partnership RBIC, in each case subject to the limitations in paragraph (c) of this section.

(c) *Exclusions from Private Capital.* Private Capital does not include:

(1) Funds borrowed by an Applicant or a RBIC from any source.

(2) Funds obtained through the issuance of Leverage.

(3) Funds obtained directly or indirectly from the Federal government or any State (including by a political subdivision, agency or instrumentality of the Federal government or a State), except that the following categories of such funds are not excluded from Private Capital—

(i) Funds obtained directly or indirectly from the business revenues (excluding any governmental appropriation) of any federally-chartered or government-sponsored enterprise established prior to May 13, 2002;

(ii) Funds invested by an employee welfare benefit plan or pension plan; and

(iii) Qualified Non-private Funds in an amount not to exceed 33 percent of the total Private Capital of any Applicant or RBIC, *provided, however*, that in no event may any investor or investors of Qualified Non-private Funds have