

arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-EMERALD-2025-20 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR-EMERALD-2025-20. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-EMERALD-2025-20 and should be submitted on or before January 8, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁷

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-104405; File No. SR-SAPPHIRE-2025-41]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; MIAx Sapphire, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the MIAx Sapphire Options Exchange Fee Schedule To Regroup Options Exchanges Within the Routing Fee Table

December 15, 2025.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "Exchange Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on December 1, 2025, MIAx Sapphire, LLC ("MIAx Sapphire" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend the MIAx Sapphire Options Exchange Fee Schedule ("Fee Schedule") to amend the MIAx Sapphire Options Exchange Fee Schedule (the "Fee Schedule").

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at <https://www.miaxglobal.com/markets/us-options/all-options-exchanges/rule-filings>, and at MIAx Sapphire's principal office.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend the exchange grouping of options exchanges within the routing fee table in Section 1)b) of the Fee Schedule, Fees and Rebates for Customer Orders Routed to Another Options Exchange, to adjust the groupings of options exchanges. In addition, the Exchange proposes to make a minor, non-substantive change to the heading of Section 1)b) of the Fee Schedule.

Background

Currently, the Exchange assesses routing fees based upon (i) the origin type of the order; (ii) whether or not it is an order for standard option classes in the Penny Interval Program³ ("Penny classes") or an order for standard option classes which are not in the Penny Interval Program ("Non-Penny classes") (or other explicitly identified classes); and (iii) to which away market it is being routed. This assessment practice is identical to the routing fees assessment practice currently utilized by the Exchange's affiliates, Miami International Securities Exchange, LLC ("MIAx"), MIAx PEARL, LLC ("MIAx Pearl"), and MIAx Emerald, LLC ("MIAx Emerald"). This is also similar to the methodology utilized by the Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe BZX Options"), a competing options exchange, in assessing routing fees. Cboe BZX Options has exchange groupings in its fee schedule, similar to those of the Exchange, whereby several exchanges are grouped into the same category dependent upon the order's origin type and whether it is a Penny or Non-Penny class.⁴

As a result of conducting a periodic review of the current transaction fees charged by away markets the Exchange has determined to amend the exchange groupings of options exchanges within the routing fee table to better reflect the associated costs and fees of routing customer orders to certain away markets for execution.

Proposal

The Exchange proposes to amend the table in Section 1)b) of the Exchange's Fee Schedule, Fees and Rebates for Customer Orders Routed to Another

³ See Exchange Rule 510(c).

⁴ See Cboe U.S. Options Fee Schedules, BZX Options, effective November 20, 2025, "Fee Codes and Associated Fees," at https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee_schedule/bzx/ (last visited November 23, 2025).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Options Exchange, to update the exchange groupings of options exchanges within the routing fee table. Under this proposed change, the

Exchange will not amend the fees associated with the exchange groupings. This proposal merely seeks to amend the exchange groupings, which change

is reflected in the routing fee table below and described in detail herein.

Description	Fees
Routed, Priority Customer, Penny Program, to: NYSE American, Cboe, Cboe EDGX Options, MIAX, Nasdaq PHLX (except SPY), Nasdaq MRX	\$0.15
Routed, Priority Customer, Penny Program, to: BOX	0.30
Routed, Priority Customer, Penny Program, to: NYSE Arca Options, Cboe BZX Options, Cboe C2, Nasdaq GEMX, Nasdaq ISE, NOM, Nasdaq PHLX (SPY only), MIAX Pearl, MIAX Emerald, Nasdaq BX Options, MEMX	0.65
Routed, Priority Customer, Non-Penny Program, to: NYSE American, BOX, Cboe, Cboe EDGX Options, MIAX, Nasdaq PHLX, Nasdaq MRX	0.15
Routed, Priority Customer, Non-Penny Program, to: NYSE Arca Options, Cboe BZX Options, Cboe C2, Nasdaq GEMX, NOM, MIAX Pearl, MIAX Emerald, Nasdaq BX Options, Nasdaq ISE, MEMX	1.00
Routed, Public Customer that is not a Priority Customer, Penny Program, to: NYSE American, NYSE Arca Options, Cboe BZX Options, BOX, Cboe, Cboe C2, Cboe EDGX Options, Nasdaq GEMX, Nasdaq ISE, Nasdaq MRX, MIAX, MIAX Pearl, MIAX Emerald, NOM, Nasdaq PHLX, Nasdaq BX Options, MEMX	0.65
Routed, Public Customer that is not a Priority Customer, Non-Penny Program, to: NYSE American, MIAX, Cboe, Nasdaq PHLX, Cboe EDGX Options, NOM	1.00
Routed, Public Customer that is not a Priority Customer, Non-Penny Program, to: Cboe C2, BOX	1.15
Routed, Public Customer that is not a Priority Customer, Non-Penny Program, to: NYSE Arca Options, Nasdaq GEMX, Nasdaq MRX, MIAX Pearl, MIAX Emerald	1.25
Routed, Public Customer that is not a Priority Customer, Non-Penny Program, to: Cboe BZX Options, Nasdaq ISE, Nasdaq BX Options, MEMX	1.40

The Exchange proposes to remove “MEMX” from the “Routed, Public Customer that is not a Priority Customer, Non-Penny Program” \$1.25 fee tier and amend the “Routed, Public Customer that is not a Priority Customer, Non-Penny Program” \$1.40 fee tier to add “MEMX”. This change is being made as MEMX LLC (“MEMX”) recently amended its fee schedule and now assesses a transaction fee of \$1.21 per contract for orders in Non-Penny classes in Professional capacities which remove liquidity from the MEMX Options Book.⁵

The purpose of the proposal is to adjust the routing fee groups for orders routed to other exchanges to better reflect the associated costs for that routed execution in Penny and Non-

Penny classes as determined by the fees and rebates at the executing exchange. In determining to amend its groupings, the Exchange took into account transaction fees assessed by the away market to which the Exchange routes orders, as well as the Exchange’s clearing costs, administrative, regulatory, and technical costs associated with routing orders to an away market. The Exchange uses unaffiliated routing brokers to route orders to the away markets; the costs associated with the use of these services are included in the routing fees specified in the Fee Schedule. This routing fee structure is not only similar to the Exchange’s affiliates, MIAX, MIAX Pearl, and MIAX Emerald, but is also comparable to the structure in place on at least one other competing options exchange, Cboe BZX Options.⁶ The Exchange’s routing fee structure approximates the Exchange’s costs associated with routing orders to away markets. The per-contract transaction fee amount associated with each grouping closely approximates the Exchange’s all-in cost (plus an additional, non-material amount)⁷ to

execute that corresponding contract at that corresponding exchange.

The Exchange notes that in determining whether to adjust certain groupings of options exchanges in the routing fee table, the Exchange considered the transaction fees assessed by away markets, and determined to amend the grouping of exchanges that assess transaction fees for routed orders within a similar range. This same logic and structure apply to all of the groupings in the routing fee table. By utilizing the same structure that is utilized by the Exchange’s affiliates, MIAX, MIAX Pearl, and MIAX Emerald, the Exchange’s Members⁸ will be assessed routing fees in a similar manner. The Exchange notes that its affiliates, MIAX, MIAX Pearl, and MIAX Emerald, will file to make the same proposed routing fee changes contained herein.

In addition, the Exchange proposes to make a minor, non-substantive change to the heading of Section 1)b) of the Fee Schedule. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend the heading of Section 1)b) of the Fee Schedule from “Fees and Rebates for Customer Orders Routed to Another Options Exchange” to “Fees for Customer Orders Routed to Another Options Exchange”. The proposed change is intended to align the heading information of the Exchange’s Fee Schedule with the heading

⁵ See MEMX Options Fee Schedule (effective August 1, 2025), Transaction Fees, available at <https://info.memxtrading.com/us-options-trading-resources/us-options-fee-schedule/> (last visited November 23, 2025); see also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100804 (August 22, 2024), 89 FR 68956 (August 28, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-32). The Exchange notes that the origin type of the order “Public Customer that is not a Priority Customer” in the MIAX Options Fee Schedule is substantively similar to the origin type of the order “Professional” in the MEMX Options Fee Schedule. The term “Public Customer” means a person that is not a broker or dealer in securities. The term “Priority Customer” means a person or entity that (i) is not a broker or dealer in securities, and (ii) does not place more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial account(s). See Exchange Rule 100. The term “Professional” means any person or entity that (A) is not a broker or dealer in securities; and (B) places more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial account(s). See Rules of MEMX, Rule 16.1, available at <https://info.memxtrading.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/MEMX-Rulebook-9.16.25-Clean.pdf> (last visited November 23, 2025).

⁶ See *supra* note 4. The Cboe BZX Options fee schedule has exchange groupings, whereby several exchanges are grouped into the same category, dependent on the order’s origin type and whether it is a Penny or Non-Penny class.

⁷ This amount is to cover de minimis differences/changes to away market fees (*i.e.*, minor increases or decreases) that would not necessitate a fee filing by the Exchange to re-categorize the away exchange into a different grouping. Routing fees are not intended to be a profit center for the Exchange and the Exchange’s goal regarding routing fees and expenses is to be as close as possible to net neutral.

⁸ The term “Member” means an individual or organization that is registered with the Exchange pursuant to Chapter II of these Rules for purposes of trading on the Exchange as an “Electronic Exchange Member” or “Market Maker.” Members are deemed “members” under the Exchange Act. See Exchange Rule 100.

conventions used for the fee schedules of the Exchange's affiliates, MIAX, MIAX Pearl, and MIAX Emerald. The proposed rule change is to promote consistency across the Exchange's and its affiliates' fee schedules.

Implementation

The proposed rule changes will become effective on December 1, 2025.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend its Fee Schedule is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act⁹ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act¹⁰ in particular, in that it is an equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and issuers and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange also believes the proposal furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act¹¹ in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers and dealers.

The Exchange believes that the proposed changes to the exchange groupings of options exchanges within the routing fee table furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act and is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed change will continue to apply in the same manner to all Members that are subject to routing fees. The Exchange believes the proposed changes to the routing fee table exchange groupings furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act and is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade and is not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed changes seek to recoup costs that are incurred by the Exchange when routing orders for Public Customers that are not Priority Customers to away markets on behalf of Members and does so in the same manner for all Members that are subject to routing fees. The costs to the Exchange to route orders to away markets for execution primarily includes transaction fees assessed by the away markets to which the Exchange routes orders, in addition to the Exchange's clearing costs, administrative, regulatory and technical costs. The Exchange believes that the

proposed re-categorization of certain exchange groupings would enable the Exchange to better reflect the costs and fees associated with routing orders to other exchanges for execution.

The Exchange places away markets in the fee tier grouping that best approximates the Exchange's costs and fees to route the orders in that segment to that away market. The per-contract transaction fee amount associated with each grouping approximates the Exchange's all-in cost (plus an additional, non-material amount)¹² to execute the corresponding contract at the corresponding exchange. The Exchange believes its tier structure represents the best approach to reflect the costs and fees associated with routing and executing orders on other exchanges. As noted above, this routing fee structure is comparable to the structure in place on at least one other competing options exchange, Cboe BZX Options.¹³

The Exchange believes the proposed change to the heading of Section 1(b) of the Fee Schedule furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act and is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade and remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, protect investors and the public interest because the proposed rule change will provide greater clarity to Members and the public regarding the Exchange's Fee Schedule by aligning the heading information of the Exchange's Fee Schedule with the heading conventions used for the fee schedules of the Exchange's affiliates. It is in the public interest for the Exchange's Fee Schedule to be accurate and consistent.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed re-categorization of certain exchange groupings will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange's proposed re-categorization of certain exchange groupings is intended to enable the Exchange to recover the costs it incurs to route orders to away markets. The costs to the Exchange to route orders to away markets for execution primarily includes the transaction fees assessed by the away markets to which the Exchange routes orders, in addition to the Exchange's clearing costs, administrative, regulatory and technical costs. The Exchange does

not believe that this proposal imposes any unnecessary burden on competition because it seeks to better reflect the costs and fees incurred by the Exchange when routing orders to away markets on behalf of Members and notes that at least one other options exchange has a similar routing fee structure.¹⁴

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed change to the heading of Section 1(b) of the Fee Schedule will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed change is not intended to address competitive issues but rather is concerned solely with aligning the heading information of the Exchange's Fee Schedule with the heading conventions used for the fee schedules of the Exchange's affiliates. This is to promote consistency across the Exchange's and its affiliates' fee schedules.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,¹⁵ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)¹⁶ thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

¹⁴ See *supra* note 4.

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹² See *supra* note 7.

¹³ See *supra* notes 4 and 6.

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-SAPPHIRE-2025-41 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR-SAPPHIRE-2025-41. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-SAPPHIRE-2025-41 and should be submitted on or before January 8, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁷

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-104391; File No. SR-IEX-2025-34]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Investors Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Amend IEX's Fee Schedule To Modify a Displayed Liquidity Adding Rebate Tier

December 15, 2025.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that, on December 5, 2025, the Investors Exchange LLC

("IEX" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) under the Act,⁴ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,⁵ the Exchange is filing with the Commission a proposed rule change to amend the Exchange's fee schedule applicable to Members⁶ (the "Fee Schedule")⁷ pursuant to IEX Rule 15.110(a) and (c) to modify the required criteria for one of its Displayed Liquidity Adding Rebate Tiers for executions priced at or above \$1.00 per share. Changes to the Fee Schedule pursuant to this proposal are effective upon filing,⁸ and will be operative on December 1, 2025.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange's website at <https://www.iexexchange.io/resources/regulation/rule-filings> and at the principal office of the Exchange.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The self-regulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to modify its Fee Schedule, pursuant to IEX Rule 15.110(a) and (c), to modify the required criteria for one of its Displayed Liquidity Adding Rebate Tiers for

executions priced at or above \$1.00 to introduce an alternative means of qualifying for the rebate tier. IEX is not proposing to change the amounts of any rebates or fees.

Displayed Liquidity Adding Rebate Tiers

As reflected in the Transaction Fees section of the Fee Schedule, IEX currently offers Members the following seven Displayed Liquidity Adding Rebate tiers:

- *Tier 1:* provides Member the Exchange's base fee of FREE for all displayed liquidity adding executions priced at or above \$1.00 per share ("Added Displayed Liquidity")⁹ if the Member adds less than 3,000,000 ADV¹⁰ of displayed liquidity in that month.
- *Tier 2:* provides Member a rebate of \$0.0010 per share for all Added Displayed Liquidity if the Member trades at least 5,000,000 non-displayed ADV and less than 10,000,000 non-displayed ADV.
- *Tier 3:* provides Member a rebate of \$0.0014 per share for all Added Displayed Liquidity if the Member: (1) adds at least 3,000,000 ADV of displayed liquidity and less than 10,000,000 ADV of displayed liquidity; or (2) trades at least 10,000,000 non-displayed ADV; or (3) has an NBBO Time of at least 50% in at least 250 ETPs.
- *Tier 4:* provides Member a rebate of \$0.0016 per share for all Added Displayed Liquidity if the Member: (1) adds at least 10,000,000 ADV of displayed liquidity and less than 15,000,000 ADV of displayed liquidity; or (2) has an NBBO Time of at least 50% in at least 750 ETPs.
- *Tier 5:* provides Member a rebate of \$0.0018 per share for all Added Displayed Liquidity if the Member: (1) adds at least 15,000,000 ADV of displayed liquidity and less than 20,000,000 ADV of displayed liquidity; or (2) trades at least 15,000,000 non-displayed ADV.
- *Tier 6:* provides Member a rebate of \$0.0020 per share for all Added Displayed Liquidity if the Member: (1) adds at least 20,000,000 ADV of

⁹ Nothing in this rule filing affects trades below \$1.00 per share ("subdollar trades"). Any subdollar trade that adds displayed liquidity does not impact the rebate tier calculations and receives a rebate of 0.15% of the total dollar value of the execution. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 102086 (January 2, 2025), 90 FR 1586 (January 8, 2025) (SR-IEX-2024-30).

¹⁰ The Fee Schedule defines "ADV" as average daily volume calculated as the number of shares added or removed (as applicable) that execute at or above \$1.00 per share, per day. ADV is calculated on a monthly basis.

¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

⁶ See IEX Rule 1.160(s).

⁷ See Investors Exchange Fee Schedule, available at <https://www.iexexchange.io/resources/trading/fee-schedule>.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).