

**Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston Correspondent Services  
Control Standards for Members**

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Federal Housing Finance Agency Regulation 12 CFR 1271.3 authorizes Federal Home Loan Banks to engage in, be agents or intermediaries for, or otherwise participate or assist in, the processing, collection, and settlement of checks, drafts, or any other negotiable or nonnegotiable items and instruments of payment drawn on eligible institutions or FHLBank members and be drawees of checks, drafts, and other negotiable and nonnegotiable items and instruments issued by eligible institutions or FHLBank members.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston (the “Bank”) employs commercially reasonable control standards for creating and authenticating payment activities, enters into written agreements with members for correspondent services, and utilizes system(s) owned and/or operated by the Bank for communicating and/or executing instructions.

Members that utilize the Bank’s correspondent and deposit services are required to adhere to commercially reasonable control standards (Standards) in order to ensure the integrity of interactions with the Bank. It is the member’s responsibility to communicate these Standards to all staff within its organization as deemed appropriate but at minimum with those who are authorized to manage users, and/or to execute and/or affect transactions with the Bank. It is the responsibility of the member to ensure adherence to these as well as other control standards that the Bank may prescribe from time to time.

The following is a list of Standards that each member, at minimum, must employ when utilizing the Bank’s correspondent services.

Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meaning set forth in the Bank’s Correspondent Services Agreement.

## **1. Account Authorization and Acceptance**

- 1.1. Prior to utilizing the Bank’s services, members are required to execute the Bank’s Correspondent Services Agreement and related delegations of authority, as may be required from time to time, that dictate the terms and conditions of access and/or execution of transactions with the Bank.
- 1.2. Members are responsible for confirming that all accounts and applications accessible to the Member are the same as those requested or added by the Member.
- 1.3. Members are responsible for monitoring transaction limits and ensuring compliance with the user entity’s internal policies and requirements including, but not limited to, those established by the user entity’s Board of Directors or an equivalent governance body as those limits are not monitored or validated by the Bank.

## **2. Internet Portal Services**

- 2.1. The Bank’s Internet Portal Services are the electronic-based information, communication and transaction services that the Bank provides to members through the member-specific portion of the Bank’s website accessible through the Internet. Each user will have their own credential(s) to be used for login. See the Bank’s Correspondent Services Agreement for terms of use. For additional information reference the [Online Banking page on our website](#).

### 3. Password and Access Security

- 3.1. Each member is responsible for designating at least two (2) administrators at their institution who are responsible for user administration for the member with respect to all interactions with the Bank, including, without limitation, on the Internet Portal Services offered by the Bank. Such administrators will act as the point of contact on all matters relating to user administration, which includes user establishment, modification and deactivation.
- 3.2. Members are responsible for verifying that all user access and application functionality that may be established by the Bank from time to time match the member's requirements.
- 3.3. Each member is responsible for maintaining and keeping current their authorizations for all designated processes. It is each member's responsibility to immediately take action to identify and reflect any staff changes that affect its authorizations on file with the Bank and to ensure appropriate safeguarding of user access credentials (e.g. user ID, password, test key, and other access credentials that may be prescribed from time to time in part or in full as prescribed by the required credential(s)). This includes the timely removal of access for terminated employees.
- 3.4. Each member is responsible for implementing and maintaining its own physical and logical security and management controls to appropriately protect the hardware, software, and access used in processing transactions with the Bank.
- 3.5. Each member is responsible for ensuring that an appropriate segregation of duties is in place and enforced to mitigate risk of fraud or error.
- 3.6. Sharing of passwords and/or authentication tools is strictly prohibited. User access to Bank systems should be deactivated immediately for any user where credentials may have been compromised.
- 3.7. Each member shall periodically assess the adequacy and effectiveness of its own control standards with regard to the use of the Bank's correspondent services and associated systems, including, without limitation, any Internet Portal Services offered by the Bank, and make such changes in its procedures as are appropriate in response to such assessment.
- 3.8. The Bank reserves the right to deny the member, or any of its users, access to correspondent services if it believes that security has been compromised.

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#### **4. Notices and Instructions**

- 4.1. It is highly recommended that members subscribe to the Bank's offered Internet Portal Services to receive advices and reporting made available by the Bank. The Bank's alternative means of transmitting this information to the member is the United States Postal Service via first class mail. Note that requests for transmitting information outside of the Bank's offered Internet Portal Services may result in additional charges to the member.
- 4.2. The Bank generates and provides notices for all transactions contracted with members. All advices are available online via an Internet Portal Service offered by the Bank on the following business day. Issues with publishing such notices will be communicated through the relevant Internet Portal Service.
- 4.3. The Bank generates statement notices of account activity at least monthly as of the end of each month. All statements are available online via an Internet Portal Service offered by the Bank on the following business day. Issues with publishing such notices will be communicated through the relevant Internet Portal Service.
- 4.4. The Bank receives instructions from the member via multiple channels that may include phone, facsimile, mail, and Internet Portal Services. The Bank reserves the right to take additional steps to authenticate any and all transactions communicated by the member via any channel as determined by the Bank from time to time.
- 4.5. All notices relating to correspondent services (including deposit accounts) are to be made, as appropriate, to the contact information referenced in Section 8 of this document. If the notice is of an urgent matter, members are to call the customer service line during published business hours at the telephone number listed.

#### **5. Reconciliation and Balancing**

- 5.1. Members are responsible for ensuring that all advices, confirmations and statements (including, without limitation, security holdings and cash activity statements) are reviewed for accuracy, balanced, and reconciled as appropriate for their internal activity levels. It is optimal for cash and security account balances and transaction activities to be reconciled daily in order to promptly identify and investigate any discrepancies. Monthly statements and special run requests should also be promptly balanced and reconciled by members. Written notice of unresolved discrepancies must be reported to the Bank in accordance with the [Correspondent Services Agreement](#), Section 12.07. Notice of Discrepancies.

- 5.2. Upon identification by the member, disputes, defects and/or unresolved discrepancies must be reported to the Bank Operations department using the Contact Information included in Section 8 of this document. If reporting occurs outside of Bank business hours or is communicated through channels that do not have direct contact with a Bank Operations employee, the member is responsible for follow-up with the Bank to ensure that the Bank is addressing the issue.

## **6. Backup and Emergency Procedures**

- 6.1. Members are responsible for having procedures to ensure continued operations during events where the Bank's services may be interrupted. Such procedures should be documented and tested periodically. For information on how the Bank manages its operational risks, see "How the Bank Manages Operational Risks" on the Bank's website.
- 6.2. Members are responsible for having plans in place to recover from a disaster that may impair their ability to do business with the Bank.

## **7. ACH Processing**

- 7.1. In order to minimize credit, operational, and regulatory exposure to themselves and/or the Bank, members that engage in ACH and/or other related services must take prudent measures to ensure the creditworthiness, legitimacy, and viability of the originating institution and/or ODFI prior to clearing these business activities with these institutions through the Bank.

## **8. Contact Information for all correspondent services and Internet Portal Inquiries:**

**By Telephone** 1-800-357-3452 (option 3)

**By E-Mail:** [customerservice@fhlbboston.com](mailto:customerservice@fhlbboston.com)

**By ExtraFax:** 1-617-261-3304