

§ 704.4 Board responsibilities.

(a) *General.* A corporate credit union's board of directors must approve comprehensive written strategic plans and operating policies, review them annually, and provide them upon request to the auditors, supervisory committee, and NCUA.

(b) *Operating policies.* A corporate credit union's operating policies must be commensurate with the scope and complexity of the corporate credit union.

(c) *Procedures.* The board of directors of a corporate credit union must ensure that:

(1) Senior managers have an in-depth, working knowledge of their direct areas of responsibility and are capable of identifying, hiring, and retaining qualified staff;

(2) Qualified personnel are employed or under contract for all line support and audit areas, and designated back-up personnel or resources with adequate cross-training are in place;

(3) GAAP is followed, except where law or regulation has provided for a departure from GAAP;

(4) Accurate balance sheets, income statements, and internal risk assessments (e.g., risk management measures of liquidity, market, and credit risk associated with current activities) are produced timely in accordance with §§ 704.6, 704.8, and 704.9;

(5) Systems are audited periodically in accordance with industry-established standards;

(6) Financial performance is evaluated to ensure that the objectives of the corporate credit union and the responsibilities of management are met; and

(7) Planning addresses the retention of external consultants, as appropriate, to review the adequacy of technical, human, and financial resources dedicated to support major risk areas.

§ 704.5 Investments.

(a) *Policies.* A corporate credit union must operate according to an investment policy that is consistent with its other risk management policies, including, but not limited to, those related to credit risk management, asset and liability management, and liquid-

ity management. The policy must address, at a minimum:

(1) Appropriate tests and criteria, if any, for evaluating standard investments and investment transactions prior to purchase; and

(2) Risk analysis requirements for any new investment type or transaction, not previously owned or marketed by the corporate credit union, considered for purchase by the corporate credit union and/or for sale to members.

(b) *General.* All investments must be U.S. dollar-denominated and subject to the credit policy restrictions set forth in § 704.6.

(c) *Authorized activities.* A corporate credit union may invest in:

(1) Securities, deposits, and obligations set forth in Sections 107(7), 107(8), and 107(15) of the Federal Credit Union Act, 12 U.S.C. 1757(7), 1757(8), and 1757(15), except as provided in this section;

(2) Deposits in, the sale of federal funds to, and debt obligations of corporate credit unions, Section 107(8) institutions, and state banks, trust companies, and mutual savings banks not domiciled in the state in which the corporate credit union does business;

(3) Corporate CUSOs, as defined in and subject to the limitations of § 704.11;

(4) Marketable debt obligations of corporations chartered in the United States. This authority does not apply to debt obligations that are convertible into the stock of the corporation;

(5) Asset-backed securities; and

(6) CMOs/REMICs that meet the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council High Risk Security Test (HRST) requirements.

(i) The HRST must be prepared quarterly on all CMOs/REMICs, documented and reviewed by an appropriate committee, and retained while the instrument is held in portfolio and until completion of the next audit and NCUA examination.

(ii) A corporate credit union's board of directors must approve at least three prepayment models for CMOs/REMICs unless a median estimate from an industry-recognized information provider is used. These approved models must be used consistently for all

subsequent compliance tests. Any changes in approved models should be infrequent and documented with a reasonable and supportable justification.

(iii) A corporate credit union must obtain prepayment estimates, based upon an instantaneous, permanent, parallel shift in market rates of plus or minus 100, 200, and 300 basis points, to conduct the HRST.

(A) If a median prepayment estimate is used, it must be obtained from an industry-recognized information provider. At purchase, the median estimate must be based on at least 5 prepayment models. At retesting, the median estimate must be based on at least 2 prepayment models.

(B) If individual prepayment models are used, estimates must be obtained from all of the models identified in the corporate credit union's investment policy. One of the individual prepayment models may be the median prepayment estimate from an industry-recognized information provider. All of the models identified in the investment policy must be used when purchasing and retesting a CMO/REMIC. At purchase, a CMO/REMIC must pass the tests for each prepayment model used. At retesting, the CMO/REMIC must pass the tests for a majority of the prepayment models used at the time of purchase.

(d) *Repurchase agreements.* A corporate credit union may enter into a repurchase agreement provided that:

(1) The corporate credit union, or its agent, nominee, or designee, receives written confirmation of the transaction and either takes physical possession or control of the repurchase securities or is recorded as owner of the repurchase securities through the Federal Reserve Book-Entry Securities Transfer System;

(2) The repurchase securities are legal investments for that corporate credit union;

(3) In the event of default, the corporate credit union sells the repurchase securities in a timely manner, subject to a bankruptcy stay, to satisfy the commitment of any net principal and interest owed to it by the counterparty;

(4) The corporate credit union receives daily assessment of the market

value of the repurchase securities, including a market quote or dealer bid indication and any accrued interest, and maintains adequate margin that reflects a risk assessment of the repurchase securities and the term of the transaction;

(5) The corporate credit union has entered into signed contracts with all approved counterparties. Such contracts must address any supplemental terms and conditions necessary to meet the specific requirements of this part. Third party arrangements must be supported by tri-party contracts in which the repurchase securities are priced and reported daily and the tri-party agent ensures compliance; and

(6) The corporate credit union has sufficient market relationships established in advance to timely execute the disposition of the repurchase securities.

(e) *Securities Lending.* A corporate credit union may enter into a securities lending transaction provided that:

(1) The corporate credit union, or its agent, nominee, or designee, receives written confirmation of the loan, obtains a perfected first priority security interest in the collateral, and either takes physical possession or control of the collateral or is recorded as owner of the collateral through the Federal Reserve Book-Entry Securities Transfer System;

(2) The collateral is a legal investment for that corporate credit union;

(3) The corporate credit union, directly or through its agent, receives daily assessment of the market value of collateral, including a market quote or dealer bid indication and any accrued interest, and maintains adequate margin that reflects a risk assessment of the collateral and terms of the loan; and

(4) The corporate credit union, directly or through its agent, has executed a written loan and security agreement with the borrower, approved any form of agreement attached thereto, and obtained the right to approve any material modification to such agreement.

(f) *Investment companies.* A corporate credit union may invest in an investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission

under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a), provided that the portfolio of such investment company is restricted by its investment policy solely to investments and investment transactions that are permissible for that corporate credit union.

(g) *Forward settlement of transactions later than regular way.* A corporate credit union may enter into an agreement to purchase or sell an instrument, with settlement later than regular way, provided that:

(1) Delivery and acceptance are mandatory;

(2) The transaction is clearly disclosed in the appropriate risk reporting required under § 704.8(b);

(3) If the corporate credit union is the purchaser, it has adequate cash flow projections evidencing its ability to purchase the instrument;

(4) If the corporate credit union is the seller, it owns the instrument on the trade date; and

(5) The transaction is settled on a cash basis at the settlement date.

(h) *Prohibitions.* A corporate credit union is prohibited from:

(1) Purchasing or selling off balance sheet financial derivatives, such as futures, options, interest rate swaps, or forward rate agreements;

(2) Engaging in pair-off transactions, when-issued trading, adjusted trading, or short sales; and

(3) Purchasing stripped mortgage-backed securities, residual interests in CMO/REMICs, mortgage servicing rights, commercial mortgage related securities, or small business related securities.

(i) *Conflicts of interest.* A corporate credit union's officials, employees, and immediate family members of such individuals, may not receive pecuniary consideration in connection with the making of an investment or deposit by the corporate credit union. Employee compensation is exempt from this prohibition. All transactions not specifically prohibited by this paragraph must be conducted at arm's length and in the interest of the corporate credit union.

(j) *Grandfathering.* A corporate credit union's authority to hold an investment is governed by the regulation in effect at the time of purchase. How-

ever, all grandfathered investments are subject to the requirements of §§ 704.8 and 704.9.

§ 704.6 Credit risk management.

(a) *Policies.* A corporate credit union must operate according to a credit risk management policy that is commensurate with the investment and lending risks and activities it undertakes. The policy must address, at a minimum:

(1) The approval process associated with credit limits;

(2) Due diligence analysis requirements;

(3) Maximum credit limits with each obligor and transaction counterparty, set as a percentage of the sum of reserves and undivided earnings and paid-in capital. In addition to addressing loans, deposits, and securities, limits with transaction counterparties must address aggregate exposures of all transactions, including, but not necessarily limited to, repurchase agreements, securities lending, and forward settlement of purchases or sales of investments; and

(4) Concentrations of credit risk (*e.g.*, industry type, sector type, and geographic).

(b) *Exemption.* The requirements of this section do not apply to instruments that are issued or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the U.S. government or its agencies or enterprises or are fully insured (including accumulated interest) by the National Credit Union Administration or Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

(c) *Concentration limits.* (1) Aggregate investments in mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities are limited to 200 percent of the sum of reserves and undivided earnings and paid-in capital for any single security or trust.

(2) Except for investments in a wholesale corporate credit union, aggregate investments in repurchase and securities lending agreements with any one counterparty are limited to 400 percent of the sum of reserves and undivided earnings and paid-in capital.

(3) Except for investments in a wholesale corporate credit union, the aggregate of all investments in non secured obligations of any single domestic issuer is limited to 100 percent of