

MONTANA

BOARD OF INVESTMENTS

BOARD ADOPTED POLICY

POLICY NUMBER: 40.502

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 22, 2024

TITLE: Real Estate Asset Class
Investment Policy Statement

SUPERSEDES: May 26, 2022

BOARD ADOPTION: November 30, 2021

REVIEWED: May 22, 2024

I. Introduction

- A. The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for the Real Estate Asset Class under the guidance of the Board.

II. Purpose

- A. The purpose of this policy is to:
1. Establish the investment objectives and performance standards of the Real Estate Asset Class; and
 2. Provide diversified exposure to Real Estate in a prudent and cost-effective manner.

III. Investment Objective

- A. Strategic - The objective of the Real Estate Asset Class is to attain the highest possible return within the parameters established in this policy.
- B. Performance - Success in achieving this objective will be measured by comparing the risk and after-fee return of the Real Estate Asset Class to the NCREIF ODCE Index (the Benchmark). Performance results will be monitored and evaluated quarterly. However, the success in achieving the objective will be measured on a five (5) year, and ten (10) year annualized basis.

C. Investment Guidelines

1. Staff will have full discretion to manage the Real Estate Asset Class consistent with this policy. Compliance with the following guidelines for permitted investments and other restrictions is the sole responsibility of the Staff. Any exceptions or compliance violations are to be reported to the Board at the next scheduled quarterly Board meeting.
2. Most of the Real Estate Asset Class investments will be managed by external investment managers.

D. Permitted Investments

1. The Real Estate Asset Class may invest only in the following:
 - a) Separate Accounts, Open-Ended Funds, Closed-Ended Funds, Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs), Real Estate Investment Trusts or Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs) managing publicly traded Real Estate, where the investments are approved by the CIO and purchased and monitored by Staff;
 - b) Private Investment partnership interests. These private partnerships may be direct limited partnerships, limited liability companies, or vehicles that primarily invest in partnerships, including Fund-of-Funds and Secondary Funds;

- c) The Real Estate Asset Class may co-invest with private investment managers in transactions that are suitable for inclusion into a private Real Estate investment partnership;
- d) Individual public or private securities received as distributions from funds are also permitted to be held in the Real Estate Asset Class; and
- e) Cash – either an investment in STIP, a vehicle available through the Custodian, or an SEC registered money market fund that is considered a “US Treasury” or “US Government” money market fund per the SEC regulations.

E. Other Restrictions

- 1. No less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the aggregate of the Real Estate Asset Class net asset value capital shall be invested in “Core and Core-Plus” Real Estate.
- 2. No more than forty percent (40%) of the aggregate of the Real Estate Asset Class Net Asset Value should be considered “Non-U.S.” exposure based on the dominant geographic exposure of the Fund, Partnership, Separate Account, or Index.
- 3. No more than ten percent (10%) of the aggregate of the Real Estate Asset Class Net Asset Value shall be invested in direct co-investments.
- 4. No more than five percent (5%) of the Trust Funds Investment Pool assets as a percentage of Net Asset Value shall be invested in a single Fund, Partnership or Separate Account in the Real Estate Asset Class.
- 5. Individual public securities received as distributions will be liquidated over a reasonable time period dependent on market conditions.

F. The following table provides a guideline range with respect to the Real Estate Asset Class strategy diversification. These ranges reference the Real Estate Asset Class Net Asset Value.

<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Policy Range</u>
Core and Core Plus Real Estate	75% - 100%
Real Estate Debt	0% - 25%

- 1. For funds with exposure across these categories, the fund will be classified in the category that is most reflective of the underlying investments in the funds.

G. Leverage

- 1. Leverage is a significant risk factor. On an individual fund basis, the leverage level can range up to seventy-five percent (75%). Leverage for Core and Core-plus Funds consists of the combined borrowing at the property level and the fund level. Leverage for Real Estate Debt is only measured at the fund level. On a select basis, the leverage may exceed seventy-five percent (75%) for a given investment if it is determined to be reasonable to do so. Leverage shall be monitored on an individual fund level and new investments shall be made with the intention that the total Real Estate Asset Class leverage shall not exceed sixty percent (60%).

<u>Strategy</u>	<u>Leverage Policy</u>
Core Real Estate Investments	0% - 50%
Core-plus	0% - 75%
Real Estate Debt	0% - 75%

2. If at any time, due to market fluctuations or any other circumstances, any of the guidelines are not maintained, Staff will use its best efforts to conform to these limits in a timely manner, while considering current market conditions and the associated costs of rebalancing. At the Board's next regularly scheduled quarterly meeting, the CIO shall inform the Board of any situations where the Real Estate Asset Class allocations were outside of the limits and either inform the Board of the actions that were taken to return the Real Estate Asset Class back within guidelines or a plan to do so.
3. While no formal diversification ranges are set forth for property type diversification or regional diversification within the United States, it is expected that the Real Estate Asset Class shall remain diversified across these factors. These and other factors shall be monitored and reported to the Board at least annually.

Authority: Montana Constitution, Article VIII, Section 13
Section 2-15-1808, MCA
Section 17-6-201, MCA
Sections 17-6-204 and -205, MCA