

## ILLINOIS INVESTMENT POLICY BOARD

555 W. Monroe, 16th Floor

Chicago, Illinois 60601

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)**

#### **Q1. Who are the members of IIPB?**

The Illinois Investment Policy Board consists of 7 members. The boards of the Teachers' Retirement System, State Universities Retirement System, and Illinois State Board of Investment, created under Articles 15, 16, and 22A of this Code (Public Act 099-0128, SB1761), each appoints one member, and the Governor appoints 4 members. See 40 ILCS 5/1-110.16(b).

- Stan Rupnik – Teachers' Retirement System
- Michael C. Schlachter – State Universities Retirement System
- Dipesh Mehta - Illinois State Board of Investment
- Sidney H. Mathias (Board Chairman) - Governor's Appointment
- Gila J. Bronner (Vice Chairman) - Governor's Appointment
- Julie Hamos - Governor's Appointment

#### **Q2. What are the Illinois Investment Policy Board's responsibilities?**

The Illinois Investment Policy Board is responsible for overseeing the investment of public funds and ensuring that such investments do not violate Illinois law. The Board is required to conduct quarterly reviews of the list of restricted companies, using publicly available information to identify any entities that are prohibited from investment. In addition, the Board engages the services of an independent research firm to assist in the identification of restricted companies. This process ensures that public funds are invested in a manner that is consistent with legal requirements.

#### **Q3. When does the IIPB hold meetings?**

The IIPB holds quarterly meetings. The Board may call a special meeting as needed with notice and a quorum. Meeting information can be found at

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/iipb/Pages/default.aspx>.

#### **Q4. Where does the IIPB hold meetings?**

The quarterly meetings are generally held at 555 W Monroe St, 1st Floor Multipurpose Room, Chicago, IL 60661. Alternate locations may be utilized as necessary and approved by the Board based on space planning needs. Meeting information can be found at <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/iipb/Pages/default.aspx>.

#### **Q5. Why does the IIPB meet?**

The IIPB convenes for the purpose of reviewing the list of prohibited companies. Upon request, the Board will hear appeals from companies listed or who may potentially be listed on the Prohibited Investment List. As of 2023, Illinois law prohibits investment in certain companies that boycott Israel, for-profit companies that contract to shelter migrant children, Iran-restricted companies, expatriated entities, companies that are domiciled or have their principal place of business in Russia or Belarus, and companies that are subject to Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions. The Illinois legislature periodically changes the prohibited investments through legislation.

#### **Q6. What are the governing statutes for IIPB?**

The Illinois Investment Policy Board was created by [Public Act 99-128](#) and revised by [Public Act 102-1108](#). The Illinois Investment Policy Board shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

#### **Q7. How do I submit a Freedom of Information Act request to the Board?**

Please email [iipb@mkgamble.com](mailto:iipb@mkgamble.com) with your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. You will be provided the FOIA form to complete and return.

#### **Q8. I received a notification letter from the Board. What should I do?**

You should contact the Illinois Investment Policy Board's Executive Secretary at [iipb@mkgamble.com](mailto:iipb@mkgamble.com) to determine the behavior that led to the notice being sent.

#### **Q9. How does a company appeal its listing as a prohibited entity?**

The company must contact the Illinois Investment Policy Board's Executive Secretary at [iipb@mkgamble.com](mailto:iipb@mkgamble.com) to begin the process. Additionally, the company should submit a written appeal addressing the qualifying behavior and explaining why the company does not qualify as a restricted company pursuant to the governing statute(s). The company is also required to provide a certification that the restricted company has never engaged in the prohibited actions and does not intend to engage in prohibited actions. The certification must be signed by someone duly authorized to represent and speak on behalf of the restricted company. A majority vote of the

Board removes a company at a meeting in which a quorum is present. A company cannot be removed until the certification is received and publicly posted on the website unless the Board votes to modify this process.

**Q10. Do I have to appeal my listing as a prohibited entity?**

No, you are not required to appeal your company's listing. However, your company's listing will remain until publicly available information indicates that the prohibited activity has ceased and a certification has been received.

**Q11. What does it mean to be a prohibited entity?**

The company is prohibited from investment under any of the three laws listed in Q6, as approved by the Illinois Investment Policy Board.

**Q12. What is the process to remove a company from the Prohibited Entity List?**

A majority vote can remove a company during any quarterly meeting of the Illinois Investment Policy Board in which a quorum is present. A company must also provide a certification certifying that the restricted company has never engaged in the prohibited actions and does not intend to engage in actions that are prohibited. A company cannot be removed until a certification is received and publicly posted on the website.

**Q13. What is a certification?**

A certification is a document signed by someone duly authorized to represent and speak on behalf of the restricted company certifying that the company has never engaged in the prohibited actions and does not intend to engage in actions that are prohibited.

**Q14. Am I required to submit a certification letter?**

A company can only be removed once a certification is received and publicly posted on the website. In some instances, a certification is required to prevent a company from being listed as a prohibited entity.

**Q15. Why is my company listed? I have yet to receive a notification letter.**

The public act defines a company as follows:

“‘Company’ means any sole proprietorship, organization, association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company, or other entity or business association, including all wholly owned subsidiaries, majority-owned subsidiaries, parent companies, or affiliates of those entities or business associations, that exist for the purpose of making profit.”[sic]

Pursuant to this definition, IIPB may send a notice letter to one entity based on the qualifying behavior. The Board will make an attempt to notify the parent company.

Alternatively, the letter may have been delivered by email, fax, or physical mail to an address that the Board was able to obtain. The Board will provide you with as much information as it has regarding the contact details used.

**Q16. Once I am removed from the prohibited entities list, can I be relisted?**

Yes. In the event that a company is discovered to be participating in prohibited activities even after appealing and posting its certification, the Board will issue a new notification letter. Additionally, the Board may decide to reinstate the company on the prohibited investment list. However, the company's previous certification will still be visible on the website.

**Q17. Why are some companies listed in the prohibited entities list despite having submitted a certification that is published on the website?**

The company likely was relisted following its appeal and posting of the certification, pursuant to the procedure outlined in Q16. The relisting may be due to new or prior prohibited activity.

**Q18. Can the Board meet without a quorum?**

No. See the Illinois Open Meetings Act at <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=84&ChapterID=2>

**Q19. How do I determine what actions are prohibited?**

Please review the following Public Acts: [Public Act 99-128](#) and revised by [Public Act 102-0118](#).

**Q20. How does the Board make a determination?**

The Board uses publicly available information and third-party vendor reports, as well as the company's responses to any questions that arise during notification and appeal.

**Q21. Am I able to speak directly with the Chairman?**

Communication with Board members is bound by the [Open Meetings Act](#). You should direct your communication for the Illinois Investment Policy Board to its Executive Secretary at [iipb@mkgamble.com](mailto:iipb@mkgamble.com). The Chairman cannot independently make a determination on Board matters.

**Q22. Am I able to attend a hearing?**

Yes. All meetings are public. You will need a valid state-issued ID to access the building. Meeting details can be found at <https://iipb.illinois.gov>

**Q23. Can I appeal without attending a hearing?**

Yes. You may submit a written appeal along with a certification. The Board will discuss the appeal during official meetings. Attending a hearing allows the Board to ask questions and make a more informed decision during the hearing. If a company doesn't attend the hearing and the Board has additional questions, the Board's decision may be postponed until the next scheduled meeting.

**Q24. What is the deadline for matters to be considered for an upcoming Board meeting?**

All information must be received 14 days before the scheduled Board meeting. IIPB business hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST Monday through Friday. IIPB observes all state holidays.

**Q25. Who should the Press contact for comments?**

You should direct your communication for the Illinois Investment Policy Board to its Executive Secretary at [iipb@mkgamble.com](mailto:iipb@mkgamble.com).