

# **Texas Connect Information Statement**





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### Overview of Texas Connect

Texas Connect® is an investment pool administered and managed exclusively for Texas government entities.

The Connect Investment Trust (the "Trust") established Texas Connect (also referred to as the "Pool") under the Public Funds Investment Act of the Texas Government Code, Chapter 2256 (the "Act").

### Authorized Participants ("Participants") include any Texas:

- ★ Municipality, county, school district or authority created under applicable state law
- ★ Fresh water supply district
- ★ Hospital district
- Political subdivision, authority, public corporation, body politic, or instrumentality of the State of Texas
- ★ Non-profit corporation acting on behalf of any of the above-referenced entities

The Trust is supervised by a Board of Trustees (the "Board"). The Board has entered into contracts and agreements on behalf of the Trust to effectuate the terms of the Trust Agreement. The Board has also adopted an Investment Policy to govern the management of the assets of the Pool (the "Investment Policy").



The purpose of Texas Connect is to offer Participants with a pooled investment option that prioritizes preservation of principal, liquidity, and yield. Texas Connect is similar in concept to a registered investment company issuing redeemable securities, commonly known as a "money market mutual fund."

Texas Connect intends to invest Participant assets in accordance with the Investment Policy and Texas law. The only source of payment to Participants are the assets of Texas Connect.

This Information Statement contains a summary of the Trust Agreement, the Texas Connect Investment Policy, and other relevant information.

A copy of the Investment Policy is available at www.texas-connect.com.

The purpose of Texas Connect is to offer Participants with a pooled investment option that prioritizes preservation of principal, liquidity, and yield.

## Service Providers and Advisory Board

The Trust has hired experienced investment professionals to manage Texas Connect.

### **SERVICE PROVIDERS**

 Mutual Funds Service Company d/b/a Public Funds Administrators (the "Program Administrator")

An SEC-registered transfer agent, is the administrator of Texas Connect. The Program Administrator is responsible for the daily valuation of the Pool, maintaining Participants' account records, producing account statements for Participants, allocating net investment income, processing purchase and redemption requests, participant services, and other fund administration functions. The Program Administrator also maintains the financial records of the Pool, including paying the Pool's expenses and reconciling the Pool's records with those of the Custodian (defined below). The Program Administrator may also engage in marketing activities to promote participation of the Pool.

### ★ Meeder Public Funds, Inc. (the "Adviser")

An SEC-registered investment adviser is the investment adviser of Texas Connect. The Investment Adviser is responsible for the direct management of the assets of Texas Connect, including making investment decisions, subject to Texas Connect's Investment Policy, and executing orders to buy and sell securities on behalf of the Pool. The Investment Adviser is also responsible for performing credit analysis and monitoring investment compliance. The Investment Adviser is responsible for selecting the broker-dealers that execute transactions on behalf of the Pool.

### ★ U.S. Bank National Association (the "Custodian")

The Custodian is, among other things, responsible for the receipt and safekeeping of all cash, securities, or other assets comprising the cooperatively invested assets. Such assets are held for the benefit of the Pool in the name of the Custodian or its nominee. The Custodian also collects the income from investments and allocates it in accordance with the instructions from the Program Administrator. The Custodian is required to hold the investments of the Pool separate and apart from other property of the Custodian and assure that such property is never deemed an asset or liability of the Custodian.

### ★ Cohen & Co. (the "Auditor")

The auditor provides an opinion on the financial statements of the Pool of the Trust in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

★ FinTech Law, LLC ("Legal Counsel") Legal Counsel provides general legal services to the Trust.

### **ADVISORY BOARD**

The Trust has appointed an Advisory Board to provide advice to the Board and to the Investment Adviser with respect to the Investment Policy, strategy, and such other matters as requested.

The Advisory Board is composed of Participants and qualified non-participants that do not have a business relationship with the Trust or Pool.

The members of the Advisory Board are available at www.texas-connect.com.





### Investment Objectives and Authorized Investments

The investment objectives of Texas Connect are preservation and safety of principal, maintenance of liquidity, and provision of current income.

Texas Connect seeks to achieve these objectives by solely investing in instruments authorized by the Act and permitted by the Investment Policy ("Authorized Investments").

### **Authorized Investments include:**

- ★ U.S. treasury bills, notes, and bonds
- U.S. government agency obligations
- State and local government obligations
- ★ Certificates of deposit
- ★ Money market mutual funds
- \* Repurchase agreements
- \* Commercial paper



The maximum maturity for any individual security in Texas Connect is limited to 397 days (other than for floating or variable rate government obligations of the United States, its agencies, or instrumentalities).

No guarantees or assurances can be given that the Pool will achieve its investment objectives. To the extent a Texas local government's investment policy is more restrictive than the Act, Texas Connect's investments may not comply with such restrictions. It is the sole responsibility of the Participants to determine whether Texas Connect is a compliant investment under their investment policies.

### **S&P RATING OF TEXAS CONNECT**

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services ("S&P") has assigned its highest principal stability rating, AAAm to Texas Connect. By obtaining an AAAm rating, Texas Connect is considered to have a superior capacity to maintain principal stability (\$1.00 per share value) and limit exposure to principal losses due to credit risk. The rating is based on an analysis of the pool's management, investment guidelines, portfolio holdings and market price exposure.

A copy of this report is available at www.texas-connect.com.

### **TEXAS CONNECT PERFORMANCE HISTORY**

Texas Connect's performance history, including yield and weighted average maturity, is provided on the Texas Connect website, www.texas-connect.com, under the "Performance" link.

The current assets of Texas Connect are available upon request by calling 866.877.2368.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE INVESTMENT RISKS OF TEXAS CONNECT**

An investment in Texas Connect is not insured nor guaranteed by the FDIC or guaranteed by any other federal or state agency. Participants could lose money by investing in Texas Connect.

Participants should specifically consider, among other things, the following risks before deciding to invest in the Pool. The following summary does not purport to be comprehensive or definitive regarding all risk factors.

- ★ Interest Rate Risk. There is interest rate risk associated with investing in Texas Connect. Interest rate risk is the risk that when interest rates rise, the prices of debt securities fall. Interest rate changes have a greater effect on the price of debt securities with longer maturities. However, market factors, such as demand for particular debt securities, may cause the price of certain securities to fall while the price of other securities rise or remain unchanged. Interest rate changes have a greater effect on the price of debt securities with longer maturities.
- ★ Credit Risk. There is credit risk associated with investing in Texas Connect. Credit risk is the risk that an issuer of a debt security fails to repay interest or principal in a timely manner. All debt securities in which the Pool invests are subject to the risk that the issuer of the debt security may not make principal or interest payments as they become due, or may default entirely on its obligations. The value and liquidity of an issuer's debt securities will typically decline if the market perceives a deterioration in the creditworthiness of that issuer. If an issuer defaults, the Pool will lose money.
- ★ Liquidity Risk. Liquidity risk is the risk that an investment cannot be sold in a timely manner or at or near its fair value in order meet Participant redemptions.
- \* Reinvestment Risk. Reinvestment risk is the risk that interest rates decline and the reinvestment of interest or principal payments occur at lower yields.
- ★ Stable Net Value Risks. As discussed below, Texas Connect will seek to stabilize the net asset value of the Pool at \$1.00 per share. This cannot, however, be guaranteed.

### **NET ASSET VALUE & VALUATION PROCEDURES**

The net asset value ("NAV") of Texas Connect is determined at fund close on each day that the Pool is open for business. The NAV per share is computed by taking the total value of the assets of Texas Connect, subtracting its liabilities, and dividing that number by the shares outstanding.

It is the objective of Texas Connect to stabilize the NAV per share at \$1.00 for the purpose of sales and redemptions of shares, but this cannot be guaranteed. The Pool is managed to maintain a weighted average maturity to reset ("WAM(R)") of 60 days or less and a weighted average maturity to final ("WAM(F)") of 90 days or less, to enhance liquidity and to limit market price exposure to volatile interest rate movements in the market. The Investment Adviser will manage Texas Connect in accordance with the General Accounting Standard Board's Statement Number 79 requirements for measuring its investments at amortized cost.

Amortized Cost Valuation Method. Under normal circumstances, the pricing of Pool securities will be determined by using the amortized cost valuation method, which in most cases approximates the market value of the securities. This involves initially valuing a security at its acquisition cost and thereafter assuming a constant amortization to maturity of premium or constant accretion to maturity of discount, regardless of the impact of fluctuating interest rates or other market factors on the market value of the investment.

By declaring these amortizations and accruals (less accruals of expenses) in a daily dividend, the value of Texas Connect's assets and the NAV per share will generally remain constant. The expenses to be accrued are detailed in the "Fees and Expenses" section below. Although this method provides certainty in valuation, it may result in periods during which the value of the Pool's investments, as determined by amortized cost, is higher or lower than the price Texas Connect would receive if its investments were sold.

All Pool securities will be marked to market daily by using valuations from a credible pricing service as determined by the Program Administrator. If, upon daily calculation, the Program Administrator finds that the deviation between the amortized cost valuation and marked to market valuation exceeds \$0.005, the Program Administrator will promptly notify the Board. The Board will direct the Investment Adviser to take such action, if any, it determines necessary to eliminate or reduce to the extent reasonably practicable any dilution or unfair result to existing Participants and bring the deviation back within the threshold. These actions could include selling portfolio securities prior to maturity.

### **FEES AND EXPENSES**

Participants are charged an all-inclusive Program Administrator fee. The Program Administrator fee is outlined in the Trust Agreement. The fee accrues daily and is deducted from the daily earnings accrual prior to distribution to Participants. The fee is paid monthly and may be waived or abated any time in the sole discretion of the Program Administrator, except that any contractual waiver will require approval by the Board.

### The Program Administrator fee covers the costs and expenses of Texas Connect including, but not limited to:

- Program administrator fees
- Investment adviser fees
- ★ Banking charges, including outgoing wire fees
- Custodian fees
- Rating agency costs
- ★ Valuation of the Pool's assets
- \* Auditor expenses
- ★ Legal expenses
- Participant service functions
- Sales and marketing services
- Website maintenance
- ★ Board of Trustee meeting charges

The Program administrator fee may not cover extraordinary fees incurred by the Trust. All Texas Connect quoted yields are net of fees. There are no hidden costs or additional reductions to Participants' accounts.

### **Investing in Texas Connect**

To initiate participation in Texas Connect, Participants must adopt a resolution authorizing investment in Texas Connect and complete an Application Form, which must be signed by an Certifying Officer of the Participant. A Certifying Officer is someone in a supervisory or board governance position at the Participant, with the ability to authorize the investment applied for pursuant to the Application Form.

Each applicant must also complete an Authorized Signers Certification Form. Authorized Signers receive direct account access to effectuate investment transactions and other requests for the Participant. Participants are required to have at least two authorized signers.

Applicants must also complete the Bank Account Registration Form to open a Texas Connect account. Bank Account Registration Form is set forth below.

### **INITIAL INVESTMENTS**

There is no minimum amount required to establish an account. Account numbers can be obtained by Participants prior to investing any monies by calling 866.877.2368. Additional information about the Initial investments of monies into Texas Connect may be made in two ways:

### Wire Transfer

After your account is established, you may request wire instructions to initiate a wire transaction at your bank to be deposited into Texas Connect. All wire transfer funds received at the Custodian before the Pool close at 3:00 PM CT will be applied to the indicated Texas Connect account the same business day and the Participant will be entitled to the net investment income earned for that day. It is the responsibility of the Participant to ensure wires are sent to Texas Connect with sufficient time and in good order to be processed before the Pool closes at 3:00 PM CT. Any wire transfer received after 3:00 PM CT will be deposited into the Participant's account the following business day.

### ACH Transfer

After your account is established, you may request ACH instructions to initiate a transaction at your bank to be deposited into Texas Connect. Additionally, provided the ACH banking instructions have been added to your account, an ACH transaction may be initiated by Texas Connect by calling 866.877.2368.

### TRANSACTION SUBMISSIONS

Participants may provide purchase, redemption, and transfer request instructions to Texas Connect in two ways:

### **★** Telephonically

You may call 866.877.2368. Be prepared to give your account number, bank information, and unique security code.

### **★ Via Online Portal**

Please call 866.877.2368 to request online trading authorization.

Forward-dated transactions may be submitted via the online portal up to 90 days in advance.

### **PURCHASES**

Funds received in good order at the Custodian before 3:00 PM CT will be applied to the indicated Texas Connect account the same business day and the Participant is entitled to the dividend for that day. Any funds received after 3:00 PM CT will be deposited into the Participant's account the following business day. It is the responsibility of the Participant to ensure wires are sent with sufficient time to be received prior to the Pool's close.

Purchases initiated through the Texas Connect online portal may be processed via ACH. If you will be initiating ACH purchases via the Texas Connect online account, please consult your bank or update your ACH fraud prevention service to allow Texas Connect to conduct ACH transactions out of your account. If these preferences are not changed, the ACH transactions will be declined by your bank, resulting in the transaction being voided.

ACH transfers may take up to three business days to settle depending on the processing times at the bank. A four-day hold is placed on all ACH purchases. Such purchases will be posted to the Participant account and will begin to earn income on the day the ACH funds settle into the Texas Connect account. Funds will be available to redeem after the hold is released.

### REDEMPTIONS

Redemptions initiated on the Texas Connect online account may be transacted via ACH or wire to a bank account on file. Redemptions may only be made on business days that Texas Connect is open. A request for redemption will be rejected if the amounts to be withdrawn exceed the available balance in the account. ACH redemptions may take up to three business days to settle at the receiving bank. Dividends for the day of the redemption will not be paid on that particular trade.

If a Participant wishes to close an account, it should request "redemption to close." A complete redemption may be accomplished by wire or ACH through the procedures described above. The Participant's final monthly statement will indicate the amount of the complete redemption attributable to principal and the amount paid as dividends.

### **BANK ACCOUNT REGISTRATION CHANGES**

Requests to add or modify existing financial institution or account designations for wire or ACH transfers may only be made by sending a properly executed Bank Account Registration Form via email to info@texas-connect.com. Bank account registration change requests must be signed by two Authorized Signers. The Program Administrator will perform a verbal call-back verification with an Authorized Signer on file to confirm the bank account registration changes.

After the completion of the call-back procedure, there will be a one-business day hold on executing any wire or ACH transaction requests to a newly added or changed bank account.

### **CHANGING AUTHORIZED SIGNERS**

Requests to change Authorized Signers may only be made by written instruction from an Authorized Signer by sending an updated Authorized Signers Certification Form via email to info@texas-connect. com. The Authorized Signers Certification Form requires a notarized signature of a Certifying Officer at the Participant. The updated form will replace any prior forms received and access will be removed for anyone not included on the updated form. Requests to change Online Access may be made telephonically with the provision of the unique authorization code.

### REPORTS

The Program Administrator will provide Participants with a monthly electronic statement within the first three business days of the succeeding month. The monthly statement will include a detailed listing of the balance in the Participant's accounts as of the statement date and all account activity, including deposits and withdrawals. Additionally, copies of the Participant's reports will be maintained for a minimum of three prior fiscal years.

## **Contacting Texas Connect**

For information on Texas Connect, to initiate a transaction, to request forms, to inquire about current account status, or to contact the Program Administrator, please use the contact information below.

### MAIL

Texas Connect 6125 Memorial Drive Dublin, OH 43017

### **EMAIL**

info@texas-connect.com

### **PHONE**

866.877.2368

### **NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS**

Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM CT

On dates when the bond market closes early, the cutoff for Texas Connect transactions will be 11:00 AM CT.









texas-connect.com | 866.877.2368



