

# FDIC Insurance:

Protecting The Principal Of  
Market-Linked Certificates Of Deposit



# Protecting Your Assets Through FDIC Insurance

A Market-Linked Certificate of Deposit is a principal protected investment, subject to the credit risk of the issuing bank. Should the issuer become insolvent, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), an independent agency of the United States government, protects the principal investments of Market-Linked CDs. Protection is only up to the allowable insurance limits.



## What if...

### The issuer of the Market-Linked CD becomes insolvent? What happens to my investment?

If the issuer of a Market-Linked CD becomes insolvent, the FDIC would insure up to \$250,000 per account ownership category and for each account owner and each of their beneficiaries. Any investment that exceeds the FDIC limit is subject to the credit risk of the issuer. If the issuer has guaranteed the

return of principal, the FDIC will cover both the principal and any accrued interest, up to the applicable insurance limits, in the event the issuer was to become insolvent. However, if interest is only credited at maturity and the issuer was to become insolvent prior to the maturity of the Market-Linked CD, no interest would be insured. Positive returns generated are not insured, and therefore are not paid should the bank become insolvent.

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## What if...

### I hold Market-Linked CDs in several different accounts? What are my protection limits?

The FDIC insures accounts held in several ownership categories. That means if you hold your Market-Linked CDs in multiple accounts in a variety of ownership categories, each account owner and each of their beneficiaries will qualify for coverage up to \$250,000. The ownership categories include:

- **Single Accounts;**
- Certain **Retirement Accounts** – Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), Roth IRAs, Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) IRAs, Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE) IRAs, and Self-Directed Contribution accounts such as Section 457 plans;
- **Joint Accounts** – All co-owners must be alive and have equal rights to ownership;
- **Revocable Trust Accounts** – Owners of these accounts are insured up to \$250,000 for each unique beneficiary;
- **Irrevocable Trust Accounts** – FDIC rules apply to beneficiaries when a revocable trust account becomes an irrevocable trust due to the death of the owner;
- **Employee Benefit Plan Accounts** – Pension and defined benefit plans;
- **Corporations, Partnerships and Unincorporated Association Accounts** – Deposits owned by profit and not-for-profit organizations; and,
- **Government Accounts** – Accounts owned by federal agencies, states, counties and municipalities, as well as The District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and other government possessions, territories and Indian tribes.



## What if...

**I want to invest more than \$250,000 in Market-Linked CDs but want my total investment eligible for FDIC insurance?**

By structuring Market-Linked CDs into multiple ownership categories, you can maximize how much FDIC coverage you and your family can receive.

This is an example of how you can take advantage of multiple ownership categories:

Account Title	Account Ownership Category	Owner(s)	Beneficiary(ies)	Maximum Insurable Amount
Individual	Single Account	Individual		\$250,000
Spouse	Single Account	Spouse		\$250,000
Individual & Spouse	Joint Account	Individual & Spouse		\$500,000
Individual – Payable on Death	Revocable Trust Account	Individual	Spouse	\$250,000
Spouse – Payable on Death	Revocable Trust Account	Spouse	Individual	\$250,000
Individual & Spouse Living Trust	Revocable Trust Account	Individual & Spouse	Child 1 Child 2 Child 3	\$1,500,000
Individual IRA	Retirement Account	Individual		\$250,000
Spouse IRA	Retirement Account	Spouse		\$250,000
<b>FDIC INSURANCE TOTAL</b>				<b>\$3,500,000</b>

# What you should know before investing in Market-Linked CDs...

Market-Linked CDs are intended to be buy-and-hold investments. The principal investment in a Market-Linked CD can only be 100% protected if held until maturity, subject to the credit risk of the issuer.

## **CALL RISK**

Some Market-Linked CDs (MLCDs) are callable or redeemable, solely at the option of the issuer. The issuer is not obligated to redeem a callable CD or note, and will typically call a MLCD when it is most advantageous for them to do so. If the MLCD is called, it is possible that the investor may be unable to reinvest in a MLCD with similar or better terms.

## **CREDIT RISK**

Any investment above the FDIC allowable limit is subject to the credit risk of the issuer, as are any market-linked returns.

## **FEES**

MLCDs are subject to fees and costs including commission paid to your Advisor, structuring and development costs, and offering expenses. There are also trading costs including costs to hedge the product. Any sales prior to maturity will be reduced by the cost of all the associated fees and costs. Please refer to the offering documents for a full list of fees. MLCDs, when held to maturity, will return the initial principal, subject to the credit risk of the issuer, regardless of fees.

## **LIQUIDITY RISK**

MLCDs are intended to be held until maturity and there is no formal secondary market for the product. This makes early redemptions difficult and subject to a variety of market-related factors. In the event that clients are able to redeem MLCDs prior to maturity, the redemption proceeds may be less than the amount they invested

due to fluctuations in the underlying assets and other market-related factors. FDIC insurance does not protect against losses if the MLCDs are sold or redeemed prior to maturity.

## **MARKET RISK**

MLCDs are linked to the performance of specified underlying assets. The return on MLCDs can be adversely impacted if the underlying assets perform poorly. Depending on the terms of the relevant MLCD (outlined in the offering document), market risk could result in no return above the principal amount.

## **PERFORMANCE RISK**

The MLCD pays a return based upon the performance of an underlying asset as outlined in the offering document. These terms could include interim caps, averaging and rates of participation in the underlying asset. MLCDs do not pay dividends. If dividends are declared on the underlying asset, they will be excluded when calculating the performance of the MLCD.

## **TAX IMPLICATIONS**

MLCDs may be treated as a "contingent debt instrument" for federal income tax purposes, if they are held in a non-qualified account. While a MLCD may not pay interest until maturity, if at all, you may be required to include your charged interest amount each year as income for federal income tax purposes. For specific terms, please refer to the offering documents or consult a tax professional.

**Speak with your Financial Advisor**  
about the risks and suitability of  
Market-Linked CDs in your portfolio.



The information in this brochure is based on laws and regulations in effect as of August 2018. These rules can be amended, and therefore, some of the information may become outdated. For the most updated information please visit: [www.fdic.gov](http://www.fdic.gov).

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