

year, the waiver or reduction of a fee, or the absorption of expenses.

(o) *Interest rate* means the annual rate of interest paid on an account which does not reflect compounding. For the purposes of the account disclosures in § 230.4(b)(1)(i) of this part, the interest rate may, but need not, be referred to as the “annual percentage rate” in addition to being referred to as the “interest rate.”

(p) *Passbook savings account* means a savings account in which the consumer retains a book or other document in which the institution records transactions on the account.

(q) *Periodic statement* means a statement setting forth information about an account (other than a time account or passbook savings account) that is provided to a consumer on a regular basis four or more times a year.

(r) *State* means a state, the District of Columbia, the commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of the United States.

(s) *Stepped-rate account* means an account that has two or more interest rates that take effect in succeeding periods and are known when the account is opened.

(t) *Tiered-rate account* means an account that has two or more interest rates that are applicable to specified balance levels.

(u) *Time account* means an account with a maturity of at least seven days in which the consumer generally does not have a right to make withdrawals for six days after the account is opened, unless the deposit is subject to an early withdrawal penalty of at least seven days' interest on amounts withdrawn.

(v) *Variable-rate account* means an account in which the interest rate may change after the account is opened, unless the institution contracts to give at least 30 calendar days advance written notice of rate decreases.

[57 FR 43376, Sept. 21, 1992, as amended at 58 FR 15081, Mar. 19, 1993; 59 FR 52658, Oct. 19, 1994]

§ 230.3 General disclosure requirements.

(a) *Form*. Depository institutions shall make the disclosures required by §§ 230.4 through 230.6 and § 230.10 of this

part, as applicable, clearly and conspicuously, in writing, and in a form the consumer may keep. Disclosures for each account offered by an institution may be presented separately or combined with disclosures for the institution's other accounts, as long as it is clear which disclosures are applicable to the consumer's account.

(b) *General*. The disclosures shall reflect the terms of the legal obligation of the account agreement between the consumer and the depository institution. Disclosures may be made in languages other than English, provided the disclosures are available in English upon request.

(c) *Relation to Regulation E (12 CFR part 205)*. Disclosures required by and provided in accordance with the Electronic Fund Transfer Act (15 U.S.C. 1601) and its implementing Regulation E (12 CFR part 205) that are also required by this part may be substituted for the disclosures required by this part.

(d) *Multiple consumers*. If an account is held by more than one consumer, disclosures may be made to any one of the consumers.

(e) *Oral response to inquiries*. In an oral response to a consumer's inquiry about interest rates payable on its accounts, the depository institution shall state the annual percentage yield. The interest rate may be stated in addition to the annual percentage yield. No other rate may be stated.

(f) *Rounding and accuracy rules for rates and yields*—(1) *Rounding*. The annual percentage yield, the annual percentage yield earned, and the interest rate shall be rounded to the nearest one-hundredth of one percentage point (.01%) and expressed to two decimal places. For account disclosures, the interest rate may be expressed to more than two decimal places.

(2) *Accuracy*. The annual percentage yield (and the annual percentage yield earned) will be considered accurate if not more than one-twentieth of one percentage point (.05%) above or below the annual percentage yield (and the annual percentage yield earned) determined in accordance with the rules in appendix A of this part.

(g) *Electronic communication*. For rules governing the electronic delivery

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of disclosures, including the definition of electronic communication, see § 230.10.0.

[57 FR 43376, Sept. 21, 1992, as amended by Reg. DD, 66 FR 17802, Apr. 4, 2001]

§ 230.4 Account disclosures.

(a) *Delivery of account disclosures.* (1) *Account opening.* (i) *General.* A depository institution shall provide account disclosures to a consumer before an account is opened or a service is provided, whichever is earlier. An institution is deemed to have provided a service when a fee required to be disclosed is assessed. Except as provided in paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section, if the consumer is not present at the institution when the account is opened or the service is provided and has not already received the disclosures, the institution shall mail or deliver the disclosures no later than 10 business days after the account is opened or the service is provided, whichever is earlier.

(ii) *Electronic communication.* If a consumer who is not present at the institution uses electronic communication (as defined in § 230.10) to open an account or request a service, the disclosures required under paragraph (a)(1) of this section must be provided before an account is opened or a service is provided.

(2) *Requests.* (i) A depository institution shall provide account disclosures to a consumer upon request. If a consumer who is not present at the institution makes a request, the institution shall mail or deliver the disclosures within a reasonable time after it receives the request and may provide the disclosures in paper form, or electronically if the consumer provides an electronic mail address.

(ii) In providing disclosures upon request, the institution may:

(A) Specify an interest rate and annual percentage yield that were offered within the most recent seven calendar days; state that the rate and yield are accurate as of an identified date; and provide a telephone number consumers may call to obtain current rate information.

(B) State the maturity of a time account as a term rather than a date.

(b) *Content of account disclosures.* Account disclosures shall include the following, as applicable:

(1) *Rate information—*(i) *Annual percentage yield and interest rate.* The “annual percentage yield” and the “interest rate,” using those terms, and for fixed-rate accounts the period of time the interest rate will be in effect.

(ii) *Variable rates.* For variable-rate accounts:

(A) The fact that the interest rate and annual percentage yield may change;

(B) How the interest rate is determined;

(C) The frequency with which the interest rate may change; and

(D) Any limitation on the amount the interest rate may change.

(2) *Compounding and crediting—*(i) *Frequency.* The frequency with which interest is compounded and credited.

(ii) *Effect of closing an account.* If consumers will forfeit interest if they close the account before accrued interest is credited, a statement that interest will not be paid in such cases.

(3) *Balance information—*(i) *Minimum balance requirements.* Any minimum balance required to:

(A) Open the account;

(B) Avoid the imposition of a fee; or

(C) Obtain the annual percentage yield disclosed.

Except for the balance to open the account, the disclosure shall state how the balance is determined for these purposes.

(ii) *Balance computation method.* An explanation of the balance computation method specified in § 230.7 of this part used to calculate interest on the account.

(iii) *When interest begins to accrue.* A statement of when interest begins to accrue on noncash deposits.

(4) *Fees.* The amount of any fee that may be imposed in connection with the account (or an explanation of how the fee will be determined) and the conditions under which the fee may be imposed.

(5) *Transaction limitations.* Any limitations on the number or dollar amount of withdrawals or deposits.

(6) *Features of time accounts.* For time accounts: