

## Federal Reserve System

## § 230.8

### § 230.7 Payment of interest.

(a) *Permissible methods*—(1) *Balance on which interest is calculated.* Institutions shall calculate interest on the full amount of principal in an account for each day by use of either the daily balance method or the average daily balance method.<sup>1</sup>

(2) *Determination of minimum balance to earn interest.* An institution shall use the same method to determine any minimum balance required to earn interest as it uses to determine the balance on which interest is calculated. An institution may use an additional method that is unequivocally beneficial to the consumer.

(b) *Compounding and crediting policies.* This section does not require institutions to compound or credit interest at any particular frequency.

(c) *Date interest begins to accrue.* Interest shall begin to accrue not later than the business day specified for interest-bearing accounts in section 606 of the Expedited Funds Availability Act (12 U.S.C. 4005 *et seq.*) and implementing Regulation CC (12 CFR part 229). Interest shall accrue until the day funds are withdrawn.

### § 230.8 Advertising.

(a) *Misleading or inaccurate advertisements.* An advertisement shall not be misleading or inaccurate and shall not misrepresent a depository institution's deposit contract. An advertisement shall not refer to or describe an account as "free" or "no cost" (or contain a similar term) if any maintenance or activity fee may be imposed on the account. The word "profit" shall not be used in referring to interest paid on an account.

(b) *Permissible rates.* If an advertisement states a rate of return, it shall state the rate as an "annual percentage yield" using that term. (The abbreviation "APY" may be used provided the term "annual percentage yield" is stated at least once in the advertisement.) The advertisement shall not state any other rate, except that the "interest rate," using that term, may

<sup>1</sup>Institutions shall calculate interest by use of a daily rate of at least  $\frac{1}{365}$  of the interest rate. In a leap year a daily rate of  $\frac{1}{366}$  of the interest rate may be used.

be stated in conjunction with, but not more conspicuously than, the annual percentage yield to which it relates.

(c) *When additional disclosures are required.* Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section, if the annual percentage yield is stated in an advertisement, the advertisement shall state the following information, to the extent applicable, clearly and conspicuously:

(1) *Variable rates.* For variable-rate accounts, a statement that the rate may change after the account is opened.

(2) *Time annual percentage yield is offered.* The period of time the annual percentage yield will be offered, or a statement that the annual percentage yield is accurate as of a specified date.

(3) *Minimum balance.* The minimum balance required to obtain the advertised annual percentage yield. For tiered-rate accounts, the minimum balance required for each tier shall be stated in close proximity and with equal prominence to the applicable annual percentage yield.

(4) *Minimum opening deposit.* The minimum deposit required to open the account, if it is greater than the minimum balance necessary to obtain the advertised annual percentage yield.

(5) *Effect of fees.* A statement that fees could reduce the earnings on the account.

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

(i) *Time requirements.* The term of the account.

(ii) *Early withdrawal penalties:* A statement that a penalty will or may be imposed for early withdrawal.

(iii) *Required interest payouts.* For noncompounding time accounts with a stated maturity greater than one year that do not compound interest on an annual or more frequent basis, that require interest payouts at least annually, and that disclose an APY determined in accordance with section E of Appendix A of this part, a statement that interest cannot remain on deposit and that payout of interest is mandatory.

(d) *Bonuses.* Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section, if a bonus is stated in an advertisement, the advertisement shall state the following