

CalPERS Investment Policy for Real Assets Program

Effective Date

This Policy is effective December 16, 2019 and supersedes all previous Real Assets Program investment policies.

Contents

Introduction	2
Strategic Objective	2
Benchmark	2
Responsibilities	2
Investment Approaches and Parameters	2
Investment Constraints/Limitations	3
Glossary of CalPERS Specific Terms	3
Policy Document History	3
Policy Appendices	3
Appendix 1: Reporting to the Investment Committee	4
Appendix 2: Investment Responsibilities	5
Appendix 3: Investment Constraints/Limitations	6
Appendix 4: Policy Document History	8

Introduction

The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) Total Fund Investment Policy, adopted by the CalPERS Investment Committee (Committee), sets forth the CalPERS investment beliefs and overarching investment purposes and objectives with respect to its investment programs. The CalPERS Total Fund Investment Policy specifically covers key areas of investment strategy, including performance objectives, asset allocation strategies, benchmark selection, investment risk management, and derivatives, leverage, and divestment policies, among other elements that are applicable to all asset classes and programs at CalPERS.

This document sets forth the investment policy (Program Policy) for the Real Assets Program (Program), which is comprised of the following three portfolios: Real Estate, Infrastructure, and Forestland. The design of this Program Policy ensures that staff, investors, managers, consultants, and other participants selected by CalPERS take prudent and careful action while managing the Program. Additionally, use of this Program Policy assures sufficient flexibility in managing investment risks and returns associated with this Program.

This Program Policy should be read in conjunction with Policy-Related Procedures (PRPs) and is subject to the CalPERS Total Fund Investment Policy (Total Fund Policy). Staff shall manage this Program Policy in compliance with all applicable Investment Office policies.

Strategic Objective

The Program's strategic objective is to provide stable and predictable cash yield, diversification of equity risk, and inflation protection.

Benchmark

The benchmarks for the Program are specified in the Benchmarks section of the Total Fund Investment Policy.

Responsibilities

Details regarding various levels of responsibility for this Program are provided in the following appendices to this Program Policy: Appendix 1, Reporting to the Investment Committee, and Appendix 2, Investment Responsibilities.

Investment Approaches and Parameters

1. Real Assets Program Allocations

Program allocation targets and ranges are listed in the Total Fund Investment Policy.

2. Diversification and Limits

To mitigate risk, staff shall maintain an appropriate level of diversification within the Program. Staff shall monitor the Program for adherence to the Key Policy Parameters specified in Appendix 3 to this Policy.

3. Infrastructure and Forestland Parameters

The Key Policy Parameters pertaining to risk classifications, geographic regions, and leverage will apply to (a) the Infrastructure portfolio only when the Net Asset Value (NAV) for that portfolio exceeds \$5.0 billion and (b) the Forestland portfolio only when the NAV for that portfolio exceeds \$3.0 billion.

Investment Constraints/Limitations

See Appendix 3 for program investment constraints.

Glossary of CalPERS Specific Terms

Bold italicized terms appearing in the Program Policy are “CalPERS specific” in nature and are defined in the [CalPERS Specific Glossary of Terms](#).

Policy Document History

See Appendix 4 for historical details of the Committee’s adoption of, and subsequent revisions to, this Program Policy.

Policy Appendices

See the [Total Fund Investment Policy](#) appendices for overarching reporting requirements and responsibilities for the Investment Committee, staff, ***General Pension Consultant***, and ***Private Asset Class Board Investment Consultant***.

Appendix 1: Reporting to the Investment Committee

The following tables provide details regarding reporting to the Investment Committee:

1. Investment Office staff
2. **General Pension Consultant**

Table 1: Investment Office Staff Reporting Responsibilities

Ref #	Report Content	Frequency
1.	Staff shall provide an Annual Program Review that will include a program overview, investment review, and business review in general conformance with the Annual Program Review Template.	No less than annually
2.	Staff shall maintain a Strategic Plan approved by the Committee setting forth CalPERS' long-term objectives for investment and management of the Program. Changes to the Strategic Plan require Committee approval.	At a minimum every five years

Table 2: General Pension Consultant Reporting Responsibilities

Ref #	Report Content	Frequency
1.	The Consultant shall monitor, evaluate, and report on the performance of the Program relative to the benchmarks and this Program Policy and other applicable CalPERS policies.	No less than annually

Appendix 2: Investment Responsibilities

The following sections provide details regarding investment-related responsibilities for the:

- Investment Committee
- **General Pension Consultant**
- **Private Asset Class Board Investment Consultants**
- Managers/Partners

As used in this Policy, the term “manager” refers to third-party managers under the Program, and the term “partner” includes managing members of Limited Liability Companies.

Investment Office Staff Responsibilities

1. Undertake all aspects of portfolio management including monitoring, trading, analyzing, and evaluating performance relative to the appropriate benchmark, and selecting and contracting with managers/partners consistent with all applicable policies and procedures.
2. Develop and maintain investment procedures, program guidelines, and portfolio guidelines.
3. Screen and evaluate investment proposals consistent with the Program’s Strategic Plan, Appendix 3, and applicable investment policies and procedures.
4. Execute approved investment transactions, including negotiating investment agreements, performing initial and ongoing due diligence, and closing transactions.

General Pension Consultant Responsibilities

1. Provide independent perspective and counsel to the Committee, to include routine communication with the Investment Office staff and periodic reviews of processes and procedures.

Private Asset Class Board Investment Consultants Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the respective board consultants are specified in the “Private Asset Class Board Investment Consultants” section of, and the reporting and responsibility appendices to, the Total Fund Investment Policy.

Manager/Partner Responsibilities

1. Manage its allocated portion of the Program in accordance with (a) each manager/partner’s contract or partnership/operating agreement with CalPERS and (b) applicable policies.
2. Communicate and cooperate with Investment Office staff and authorized third parties regarding the management of its allocated portion of the Program.

Appendix 3: Investment Constraints/Limitations

Staff Authority Limits

Table 3 below outlines the NAV limits at which staff may undertake commitments and dispositions.

Commitment limits (i) include new commitments, additional commitments made for investments in existing assets, and debt pay-downs, and (ii) apply only to the amount committed or invested, excluding any leverage or fees.

Table 3: Staff Authority Limits - Real Assets Program

	Commitments (\$ billions)	Dispositions (\$ billions)
Managing Investment Director limit per: (Real Estate)	\$3	\$3
Chief Investment Officer limit per: (Real Estate)	\$6	\$6
Managing Investment Director limit per: (Infrastructure)	\$1	\$1
Chief Investment Officer limit per: (Infrastructure)	\$2	\$2
Managing Investment Director limit per: (Forestland)	\$1	\$1
Chief Investment Officer limit per: (Forestland)	\$2	\$2
Managing Investment Director Cumulative Fiscal Year Limit: (Real Assets)	\$15	\$15

Key Policy Parameters

1. Partner Relationship Exposure

The maximum Partner Relationship Exposure for the Program is 20%. Similarly, the maximum exposure to outstanding investments with no **External Manager** is also 20%. For purposes of this Appendix 3,

- a. “Partner Relationship Exposure” means, with reference to any given Partner Relationship, the ratio of (i) the NAV of assets under management with such

Partner Relationship, plus total unfunded commitments, to (ii) the total NAV of the Program plus total unfunded commitments; and

- b. “Partner Relationship” means, collectively, the total investment allocation with any one manager or partner, or, in cases where the Program has investments with multiple members of an affiliated group of managers and/or partners, the investment allocation with that affiliated group.

2. Risk Classifications

The Program will be divided into three risk classifications: core, value add, and opportunistic. Individual assets will be assigned to the appropriate risk classification.

The permitted NAV percentage ranges for each risk classification are outlined in Table 4.

Table 4: Risk Classifications

Risk Classification	Real Assets	Real Estate	Infrastructure	Forestland
Core	75-100%	75-100%	60–100%	75-100%
Value Add	0-25%	0-25%	0–25%	0-25%
Opportunistic*	0-25%	0-25%	0–25%	0-25%

*Development assets will have a limit of 10% of the Program and each portfolio. All Development assets will be assigned the “opportunistic” risk classification.

3. Geography

Staff will pursue a global real assets investment strategy, with emphasis in the United States. International markets are categorized as Developed, Emerging, and Frontier, based on FTSE classification of markets. The permitted NAV percentage ranges for each geographic region are outlined in Table 5.

Table 5: Geography

Region	Real Assets	Real Estate	Infrastructure	Forestland
United States	70-100%	75-100%	40–100%	50-100%
International Developed Markets	0-30%	0-25%	0-60%	0-50%
International Emerging Markets	0-15%	0-15%	0-15%	0-15%
International Frontier Markets	0-5%	0-5%	0-5%	0-5%

4. Public Securities

Public securities will not exceed 10% of the Program.

Appendix 4: Policy Document History

Table 6: Real Assets Program Policy History

Date	Detail
2011-04-11	Approved by the Policy Subcommittee
2011-05-16	Adopted by the Investment Committee
2011-06-15	Approved by the Policy Subcommittee
2011-08-15	Adopted by the Investment Committee
2013-04-15	Approved by the Investment Committee
2013-12-16	Approved by the Investment Committee
2014-05-28	Administrative changes to (1) align this policy with the Global Derivatives and Counterparty Risk Policy, and (2) to standardize reporting frequencies to the Investment Committee to “no less than annually”
2014-05-28	Administrative changes to reflect the Policy Glossary of Terms Update Project
2016-02-16	Approved by the Investment Committee Added Attachment D, Investment Limits and Constraints, to incorporate Investment Restructuring Project revisions
2016-08-15	The Investment Policy for Real Assets was conditionally approved by the Investment Committee pending approval of the Real Assets Investment Policy Procedures and Guidelines by the Board Investment Consultants. The Policy was reformatted to incorporate Investment Policy Revision Project revisions. As of November 30, 2016, the IPPGs were approved by the Board Investment Consultants. Real Assets staff requested the updated Investment Policy for Real Assets and the IPPGs be effective as of January 1, 2017.
2018-03-19	Approved by the Investment Committee Revisions to clarify fiscal year commitment limits specific to the Managing Investment Director, and establish a threshold at which the concentration limits apply to the Forestland Portfolio.
2018-11-13	Approved by the Investment Committee Revisions to clarify that threshold limits apply to leverage considerations for the Forestland and Infrastructure programs, clarify that the Real Assets Strategic Plan shall be used in the evaluation of investment proposals, and several ministerial updates.
2018-12-17	Approved by the Investment Committee Revision of the regional ranges for the Infrastructure portfolio to increase the permitted exposure to International Developed Markets by 10% with a corresponding reduction to the permitted exposure to the U.S.

Date	Detail
2019-01-08	Administrative changes made to migrate policy into an accessible template.
2019-12-16	Approved by the Investment Committee Updates were made to RA Program Policy staff authority limits. Administrative changes were to reflect business process changes and migrate policy into an accessible template.