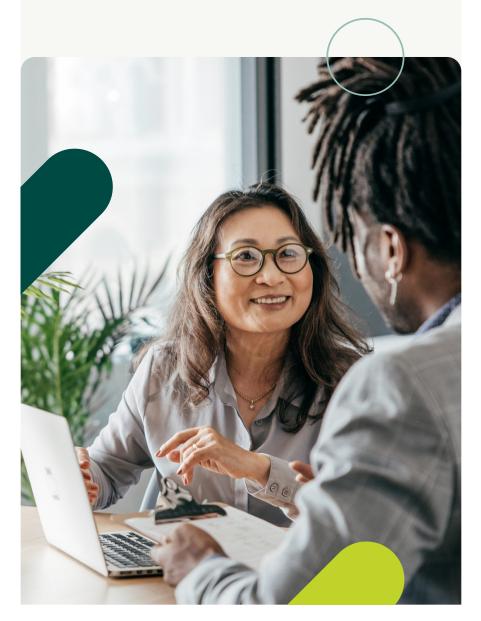


How CIRO protects investors



You are opening an account with a firm regulated by the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO). CIRO regulates the activities of Canadian investment dealers and mutual fund dealers and the advisors they employ.

CIRO works to protect investors. Here is how:



Rules and Standards

CIRO sets rules for the firms and advisors we regulate, from conduct rules regarding the handling of your account to capital requirements to reduce the risk of a firm insolvency to how your firm trades on a marketplace. These rules protect investors like you.



Oversight

We conduct regular reviews of all firms to make sure they comply with our rules. We also monitor the trading activity of all Canadian marketplaces. We can take disciplinary action if firms or their advisors break our rules.



Registration and Education Requirements

Advisors registered with a CIRO regulated firm must pass background checks and specific education requirements before they become registered. They must also meet continuing education requirements to keep their knowledge up to date.



Putting Your Interests First

If you are receiving investment advice, your advisor must first work with you to understand your personal and financial circumstances, investment needs and objectives, risk profile and investment time horizon. Any investment recommendation your advisor makes must be suitable for you and put your interests first.



Keeping You Informed

Your firm must keep you informed about your investments with regular account statements and periodic reports on the fees and charges you pay and the performance of your investments.





Addressing Your Complaints

You can complain directly to your firm and they must address your complaint fairly. You can also complain directly to CIRO if you feel there has been misconduct in the handling of your account and we can investigate and, if necessary, take disciplinary action.



Ombudsman

If you are not satisfied with your firm's response to your complaint, you can also complain to the Ombudsman for Banking Services and Investments. Learn more at **obsi.ca**



CIPF Protection

Your account is eligible for CIPF protection if your CIRO regulated firm becomes insolvent. Learn more at **cipf.ca**

Questions?

Contact us: 1-877-442-4322



ciro.ca