

**§ 628.43 What investment standards shall a grantee follow?**

(a) A grantee shall invest, for the duration of the grant period, the endowment fund established under this part in savings accounts or in low-risk securities in which a regulated insurance company may invest under the law of the State in which the institution is located.

(b) When investing the endowment fund, the grantee shall exercise the judgment and care, under the circumstances, that a person of prudence, discretion and intelligence would exercise in the management of his or her own financial affairs.

(c) An institution may invest its endowment fund in savings accounts permitted under paragraph (a) of this section such as—

- (1) A federally insured bank savings account;
- (2) A comparable interest bearing account offered by a bank; or
- (3) A money market fund.

(d) An institution may invest its endowment fund in low-risk securities permitted under paragraph (a) of this section such as—

- (1) Certificates of deposit;
- (2) Mutual funds;
- (3) Stocks; or
- (4) Bonds.

(e) An institution may not invest its endowment fund in real estate.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1065)

**§ 628.44 When and for what purposes may a grantee use the endowment fund corpus?**

(a)(1) During the grant period, a grantee may not withdraw or spend any part of the endowment fund corpus.

(2) If, during the grant period, a grantee withdraws or spends all or part of the endowment fund corpus, it must repay to the Secretary an amount equal of 50 percent of the amount withdrawn or spent plus the income earned on that amount.

(b) At the end of the grant period, the institution may use the endowment fund corpus for any educational purpose.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1065)

**§ 628.45 How much endowment fund income may a grantee use and for what purposes?**

(a) During the endowment challenge grant period, a grantee—

(1) May withdraw and spend up to 50 percent of the total aggregate endowment fund income earned prior to the date of expenditure;

(2) May spend the endowment fund income for—

(i) Costs necessary to operate the institution, including general operating and maintenance costs;

(ii) Costs to administer and manage the endowment fund; and

(iii) Costs associated with buying and selling securities, such as stockbroker commissions and fees to “load” mutual funds;

(3) May not use endowment fund income for—

(i) A school or department of divinity or any religious worship or sectarian activity;

(ii) An activity that is inconsistent with a State plan for desegregation applicable to the grantee; or

(iii) An activity that is inconsistent with a State plan applicable to the grantee; and

(4) May not withdraw or spend the remaining 50 percent of the endowment fund income.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a)(1) of this section, the Secretary may permit a grantee that requests to spend more than 50 percent of the total aggregate endowment fund income to do so if the grantee demonstrates that the expenditure is necessary because of—

(1) A financial emergency such as a pending insolvency or temporary liquidity problem;

(2) A situation threatening the existence of the institution such as destruction due to a natural disaster or arson; or

(3) Another unusual occurrence or demanding circumstance, such as a judgment against the institution for which the institution would be liable.

(c) If, during the grant period, a grantee spends more endowment fund income or uses it for purposes other than permitted under paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section, it shall repay to the Secretary an amount equal to 50 percent of the amount improperly spent.