



Resource Documents

Examination Procedures

Bank Secrecy Act Anti-Money Laundering Examination Manual

[Backward](#) | [Table of Contents](#) | [Forward](#)

APPENDIX D: STATUTORY DEFINITION OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

As defined in the BSA [31 USC 5312\(a\)\(2\)](#), the term "financial institution" includes the following:

- An insured bank (as defined in section 3(h) of the FDI Act ([12 USC 1813\(h\)](#))).
- A commercial bank or trust company.
- A private banker.
- An agency or branch of a foreign bank in the United States.
- Any credit union.
- A thrift institution.
- A broker or dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ([15 USC 78a et seq.](#)).
- A broker or dealer in securities or commodities.
- An investment banker or investment company.
- A currency exchange.
- An issuer, redeemer, or cashier of traveler's checks, checks, money orders, or similar instruments.
- An operator of a credit card system.
- An insurance company.
- A dealer in precious metals, stones, or jewels.
- A pawnbroker.
- A loan or finance company.
- A travel agency.
- A licensed sender of money or any other person who engages as a business in the transmission of funds, including any person who engages as a business in an informal money transfer system or any network of people who engage as a business in facilitating the transfer of money domestically or internationally outside of the conventional financial institutions system.
- A telegraph company.
- A business engaged in vehicle sales, including automobile, airplane, and boat sales.
- Persons involved in real estate closings and settlements.
- The United States Postal Service.
- An agency of the United States government or of a state or local government carrying out a duty or power of a business described in this paragraph.

- A casino, gambling casino, or gaming establishment with an annual gaming revenue of more than \$1,000,000 that —
 - Is licensed as a casino, gambling casino, or gaming establishment under the laws of any state or any political subdivision of any state; or
 - Is an Indian gaming operation conducted under or pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act other than an operation that is limited to class I gaming (as defined in section 4 (6) of such act).
- Any business or agency which engages in any activity which the Secretary of the Treasury determines, by regulation, to be an activity that is similar to, related to, or a substitute for any activity in which any business described in this paragraph is authorized to engage.
- Any other business designated by the Secretary whose cash transactions have a high degree of usefulness in criminal, tax, or regulatory matters.
- Any futures commission merchant, commodity trading advisor, or commodity pool operator registered, or required to register, under the Commodity Exchange Act (7 USC 1, et seq.).

[Backward](#) | [Table of Contents](#) | [Forward](#)