

Tips on the Investor Identification Regime

You may have received a notification from your broker and bank asking you to sign a consent form and update your personal information. If you are unsure what to do, here is some practical information which may help. 💡



What is the Investor Identification Regime?

The Hong Kong Investor Identification Regime and the Over-the-counter Securities Transactions Reporting Regime, collectively known as the Investor Identification Regime, will enhance the market surveillance function of the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) by identifying the underlying investors of orders.

Under the regime, brokers and banks will need to submit their clients' identity document information to Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEX) and the SFC. If you are an individual client, your information to be submitted will include your full name as shown on your identity document and the place of issue, type and number of the identity document.

If you are a holder of Hong Kong Identity Card, but used a different identity document when you opened your account, your broker or bank will contact you to update your identity document information.



To comply with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance and the SFC's requirements, brokers and banks will need your signed consent before submitting your identity document information to HKEX and the SFC.

The new regime will take effect by the end of 2022 at the earliest. Preparations are well underway, and that is why you may have received a notification from your broker and bank.

Should I sign the client consent? What would happen if I do not sign it?

The client consent authorises your broker and bank to submit your identity document information to HKEX and the SFC as required under the Investor Identification Regime.

Without your signed consent, your broker and bank would not be able to submit your identity document information to HKEX and the SFC. Following the implementation of the regime, they would also not be able to buy or deposit stocks for you. You would only be able to sell or withdraw the stocks you hold.



Will my identity document information be kept confidential?

All of your identity document information will be encrypted and kept in the secured data repositories of HKEX and the SFC. Moreover, it will only be accessible by authorised HKEX and the SFC personnel on need-to-know basis.

If the elderly in your family have a stock account, you should share this information to help them understand the importance of the new requirements and what they need to do.



Investor Identification
Regime dedicated
webpage



"Unlocking Investor ID"
short video

