



## **Prudential Standard APS 112**

# **Capital Adequacy: Standardised Approach to Credit Risk**

### **Objectives and key requirements of this Prudential Standard**

This Prudential Standard requires an authorised deposit-taking institution to hold sufficient regulatory capital against credit risk exposures.

The key requirements of this Prudential Standard are that an authorised deposit-taking institution:

- must apply risk weights to on-balance sheet assets and off-balance sheet exposures for capital adequacy purposes. Risk weights are based on credit rating grades or fixed weights broadly aligned with the likelihood of counterparty default; and
- may reduce the credit risk capital requirement for on-balance sheet assets and off-balance sheet exposures where the asset or exposure is secured against eligible collateral, where the authorised deposit-taking institution has obtained direct, irrevocable and unconditional credit protection in the form of a guarantee from an eligible guarantor, mortgage insurance from an acceptable lenders mortgage insurer, a credit derivative from a protection provider or where there are eligible netting arrangements in place.

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## Authority

1. This Prudential Standard is made under section 11AF of the *Banking Act 1959* (the **Banking Act**).

## Application

2. This Prudential Standard applies to all **authorised deposit-taking institutions (ADIs)** with the exception of:
  - (a) **foreign ADIs**;
  - (b) **purchased payment facility providers**; and
  - (c) ADIs that have approval from APRA to use an **internal ratings-based approach to credit risk** under *Prudential Standard APS 113 Capital Adequacy: Internal Ratings-based Approach to Credit Risk* (APS 113).
3. A reference to an ADI in this Prudential Standard, unless otherwise indicated, is a reference to:
  - (a) an ADI on a **Level 1** basis; and
  - (b) a **group** of which an ADI is a member on a **Level 2** basis.
4. If an ADI to which this Prudential Standard applies is:
  - (a) the holding company for a group of bodies corporate, the ADI must ensure that the requirements in this Prudential Standard are met on a Level 2 basis, where applicable; or
  - (b) a subsidiary of an authorised non-operating holding company (**authorised NOHC**), the authorised NOHC must ensure that the requirements in this Prudential Standard are met on a Level 2 basis, where applicable.

## Interpretation

5. Terms that are defined in *Prudential Standard APS 001 Definitions* appear in bold the first time they are used in this Prudential Standard.
6. Where this Prudential Standard provides for APRA to exercise a power or discretion, this power or discretion will be exercised in writing.
7. In this Prudential Standard, unless the contrary intention appears, a reference to an Act, Regulations or Prudential Standard is a reference to the Act, Regulations or Prudential Standard as in force from time to time.

## Scope

8. Subject to paragraphs 9 and 10, this Prudential Standard applies to all on-balance sheet assets held by an ADI and all its off-balance sheet exposures.

9. The following items are excluded from the scope of this Prudential Standard:
  - (a) assets or investments that are required to be deducted from **Common Equity Tier 1 Capital, Additional Tier 1 Capital** and/or **Tier 2 Capital** under *Prudential Standard APS 111 Capital Adequacy: Measurement of Capital* (APS 111);
  - (b) securitisation exposures, which are subject to the requirements of *Prudential Standard APS 120 Securitisation* (APS 120); and
  - (c) liabilities of a covered bond special purpose vehicle to an issuing ADI as specified in *Prudential Standard APS 121 Covered Bonds* (APS 121).
10. Items subject to capital requirements under *Prudential Standard APS 116 Capital Adequacy: Market Risk* (APS 116) are excluded for the purpose of calculating risk-weighted assets for credit risk under this Prudential Standard.

## Definitions

11. The following definitions are used in this Prudential Standard:
  - (a) central counterparty (CCP) — is a clearing house that interposes itself between counterparties to contracts traded in one or more financial markets, becoming the buyer to every seller and the seller to every buyer. A CCP becomes counterparty to trades with market participants through novation, an open offer system, or another legally binding arrangement. For the purposes of the capital framework, a CCP is a **financial institution**;
  - (b) clearing member — is a member of, or a direct participant in, a CCP that is entitled to enter into a transaction with the CCP;
  - (c) close-out netting — is the process of combining all outstanding transactions and reducing them to a single net payment in the event of default by a counterparty to a netting agreement;
  - (d) counterparty credit risk (CCR) — is the risk that the counterparty to a transaction could default before the final settlement of the transaction's cash flows. An economic loss would occur if the transactions or portfolio of transactions with the counterparty has a positive economic value at the time of default;
  - (e) credit-event payment — is the amount that is payable by the credit protection provider to the credit protection buyer under the terms of a credit derivative contract following the occurrence of a credit event. The payment can be in the form of 'physical settlement' (payment of par in exchange for physical delivery of a deliverable obligation of the reference entity) or 'cash settlement' (either a payment determined on a par-less-recovery basis, i.e. determined using the par value of the reference obligation less that obligation's recovery value, or a fixed amount, or a fixed percentage of the par amount);

- (f) credit events — are events affecting the reference entity that trigger a credit event payment under the terms of a credit derivative contract;
- (g) credit protection — is the extent of credit risk transference from the party buying credit protection to the party selling credit protection under the terms of a credit derivative contract;
- (h) default funds — are clearing members’ funded or unfunded contributions towards, or underwriting of, a CCP’s mutualised loss-sharing arrangements;
- (i) deliverable obligation — is any obligation of the reference entity that can be delivered, under the terms of a credit derivative contract, if a credit event occurs. A deliverable obligation is relevant for credit derivatives that are to be physically settled;
- (j) eligible bilateral netting agreement — has the meaning in paragraph 7 of Attachment I of this Prudential Standard;
- (k) netting — is the process under a netting agreement of combining all relevant outstanding transactions between two counterparties and reducing them to a single net sum for a party to either pay or receive;
- (l) netting by novation — is a netting agreement between two counterparties under which any obligation between the parties to deliver a given currency (or equity, debt instrument or commodity) on a given date is automatically amalgamated with all other obligations under the netting agreement for the same currency (or other instrument or commodity) and value date. The result is to legally substitute a single net amount for the previous gross obligations;
- (m) normal settlement period — is a contractual settlement period that is equal to or less than the market standard for the instrument underlying the transaction and, in any case, is less than five business days;
- (n) off-balance sheet exposures — are exposures that must be converted to an exposure at default amount under *Prudential Standard APS 180 Capital Adequacy: Counterparty Credit Risk* (APS 180) for market-related off-balance sheet exposures or credit equivalent amount under Attachment B of this Prudential Standard for non-market-related off-balance sheet exposures in order to be risk weighted;
- (o) offsetting transaction — is the transaction leg between the clearing member and the CCP when the clearing member acts on behalf of a client (e.g. when a clearing member clears or novates a client’s trade);
- (p) on-balance sheet netting — is a netting agreement covering loans and deposits under which obligations between the parties are determined on a net basis. Loans are to be treated as an exposure and deposits with a lending ADI that are subject to on-balance sheet netting are to be treated as cash collateral as defined in Attachment G of this Prudential Standard;

- (q) overseas bank — for the purposes of this Prudential Standard, a reference to an overseas bank includes a financial institution which:
  - (i) has the power to accept deposits in the ordinary course of business;
  - (ii) is supervised by the supervisor of banks in its home country; and
  - (iii) is subject to substantially the same prudential requirements as ADIs (including capital adequacy);
- (r) over-the-counter (OTC) derivative transaction — is a customised, privately negotiated, risk-shifting agreement, the value of which is derived from the value of an underlying asset;
- (s) payments netting — is a process designed to reduce operational costs and risks associated with daily settlement of transactions. Payments netting is not recognised for credit risk mitigation purposes under this Prudential Standard;
- (t) positive current exposure amount — is the difference between the agreed settlement price of a transaction and the current market price of the transaction where this would result in a loss to an ADI;
- (u) qualifying CCP (QCCP) — is an entity that is licensed to operate as a CCP (including a licence granted by way of confirming an exemption), and is permitted by the CCP’s regulator/supervisor to operate as such with respect to the products offered. The entity must be based and prudentially supervised in a jurisdiction where the relevant regulator/overseer has established, and publicly indicated that it applies to the CCP, on an ongoing basis, domestic rules and regulations that are consistent with the Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructures and International Organization of Securities Commission’s (CPMI-IOSCO) *Principles for Financial Market Infrastructures*. In order for a CCP to be a QCCP, it must calculate or make available the necessary data to allow for the calculation of an ADI’s default fund capital charge;
- (v) reference entity — is the entity or entities whose obligations are used to determine whether a credit event has occurred under the terms of a credit derivative contract;
- (w) reference obligation — is the obligation used to calculate the amount payable when a credit event occurs under the terms of a credit derivative contract. A reference obligation is relevant for obligations that are to be cash settled (on a par-less-recovery basis);<sup>1</sup>
- (x) roll-off risk — is the risk of a sudden material increase in an exposure(s) when short-term obligations that have been netted against longer-term claims either mature, are rescinded or are generally no longer available to offset the obligation;

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<sup>1</sup> A reference obligation will typically also be a deliverable obligation unless otherwise excluded.

- (y) securities financing transactions (SFTs) — are transactions such as repurchase agreements, reverse repurchase agreements and securities lending and borrowing transactions where the value of the transactions depends on the market valuation of securities and the transactions are typically subject to margin agreements;
- (z) underlying exposure — is the banking book exposure that is being protected by a credit derivative; and
- (aa) walkaway clause — is a provision that permits a non-defaulting counterparty to make only limited payments, or no payments at all, to a defaulting party, even if the defaulting party is a net creditor.

### Key principles

12. An ADI must apply risk weights to its on-balance sheet assets and off-balance sheet exposures in accordance with the risk classes set out in this Prudential Standard for **Regulatory Capital** purposes. Risk weights are based on **credit rating grades** or fixed risk weights as determined by this Prudential Standard and are broadly aligned with the likelihood of counterparty default. An ADI must, where appropriate, use the ratings of **external credit assessment institutions (ECAIs)** to determine the credit rating grades of an exposure, as set out in Attachments A and E of this Prudential Standard.
13. An ADI may, subject to meeting the requirements of this Prudential Standard, use certain credit risk mitigation (CRM) techniques in determining the capital requirement for a transaction or exposure. The CRM techniques allowed in this Prudential Standard are the recognition of eligible collateral, lenders mortgage insurance, guarantees and the use of credit derivatives and netting.

### Risk-weighting approach

14. APRA may determine the risk-weighted amount of a particular on-balance sheet asset or off-balance sheet exposure of an ADI if APRA considers that the ADI has not risk weighted the exposure appropriately.

#### *On-balance sheet assets*

15. For the purpose of assessing its credit risk capital requirement, an ADI's total risk-weighted on-balance sheet assets must equal the sum of the risk-weighted amounts of each on-balance sheet asset.
16. The risk-weighted amount of an on-balance sheet asset is determined by multiplying its current book value (including accrued interest or revaluations, and net of any specific provision or associated depreciation) by the relevant risk weight in Attachment A of this Prudential Standard. Where the transaction is secured by eligible collateral, or there is an eligible guarantee, lenders mortgage insurance, credit derivative or netting arrangement in place, the CRM techniques detailed in Attachments C, F, G, H and I of this Prudential Standard (as relevant) may be used to reduce the capital requirement of the exposure.

*Non-market related off-balance sheet exposures<sup>2</sup>*

17. For the purpose of assessing its credit risk capital requirement, an ADI must determine its risk-weighted non-market related off-balance sheet exposures by the following two-step process:
- (a) first, the credit equivalent amount (CEA) representing the on-balance sheet equivalent amount must be determined according to Attachment B of this Prudential Standard. Where the transaction is secured by eligible collateral or there is an eligible guarantee, credit derivatives or netting arrangement in place, the CRM techniques set out in Attachments F, G, H, and I of this Prudential Standard may be used to reduce the amount of the exposure; and
  - (b) second, the resulting CEA must be multiplied by the risk weight (refer to Attachment A) applicable to the counterparty or type of exposure.

*Market-related off-balance sheet exposures<sup>3</sup>*

18. For the purpose of assessing its credit risk capital requirement, an ADI must determine its risk-weighted market-related off-balance sheet exposures ('risk-weighted credit exposures for counterparty credit risk'). An ADI must include all market-related off-balance sheet transactions<sup>4</sup> (including on-balance sheet unrealised gains on market-related off-balance sheet transactions) held in the banking and trading books in calculating its risk-weighted credit exposures for counterparty credit risk. An ADI must determine its risk-weighted credit exposures for counterparty credit risk by the following two-step process:
- (a) first, the exposure at default (EAD) or CEA, as applicable, representing the on-balance sheet equivalent amount must be determined according to Attachments D or E, respectively, of APS 180; and
  - (b) second, the resulting EAD or CEA must be multiplied by the risk weight (refer to APS 180) applicable to the counterparty or type of exposure.

**Use of ratings of external credit assessment institutions**

19. An ADI may only use the solicited ratings<sup>5</sup> of ECAIs to determine the credit rating grades that correspond to the risk weights for counterparties and exposures. Ratings must be used consistently for each type of claim.
20. An ADI must not use credit ratings for one entity within a corporate group to determine the risk weight for other (unrated) entities within the same group. If the rated entity has guaranteed the unrated entity's exposure to the ADI, the guarantee

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<sup>2</sup> Items that were treated as off-balance sheet exposures prior to the introduction of the Australian equivalent of the International Financial Reporting Standards will continue to be treated as off-balance sheet exposures for the purpose of this Prudential Standard.

<sup>3</sup> Refer to footnote 2.

<sup>4</sup> All derivatives transactions are classified as market-related off-balance sheet transactions; SFTs are classified as non-market-related off-balance sheet transactions.

<sup>5</sup> A solicited rating is a rating that has been initiated and paid for by the issuer or rated counterparty or a commercial associate of the issuer or rated counterparty.

may be recognised for risk-weighting purposes if the recognition criteria detailed in Attachment F of this Prudential Standard are satisfied.

### **Credit risk mitigation**

21. An ADI must not recognise additional CRM on claims where the risk weight is mapped from an ECAI issue-specific rating and that rating already reflects CRM.
22. For an ADI to obtain capital relief for use of a CRM technique, all documentation must be binding on all parties and legally enforceable in all relevant jurisdictions. The ADI must have undertaken sufficient legal review to be satisfied of the legal enforceability of the technique and its documentation. The ADI will be expected to undertake periodic reviews to confirm the ongoing enforceability of the technique and its documentation.
23. An ADI must have policies and procedures to manage the risks associated with its CRM techniques.
24. Where multiple CRM techniques cover a single exposure, an ADI will be required to divide the exposure into portions covered by each CRM technique. The risk-weighted assets of each portion must be calculated, and then totalled.

### **Adjustments and exclusions**

25. APRA may adjust or exclude a specific requirement in this Prudential Standard in relation to one or more specified ADIs or authorised NOHCs.<sup>6</sup>

### **Previous exercise of discretion**

26. An ADI must contact APRA if it seeks to place reliance, for the purposes of complying with this Prudential Standard, on a previous exemption or other exercise of discretion by APRA under a previous version of this Prudential Standard.

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<sup>6</sup> Refer to subsection 11AF(2) of the Banking Act.

## Attachment A — Risk weights for on-balance sheet assets

	Claim	Credit rating grade <sup>7</sup>	Risk weight (%)
<b>Class I — Cash items</b>			
1.	Notes and coins.		0
2.	All Australian dollar balances and other Australian dollar claims on the Reserve Bank of Australia.		0
3.	Gold bullion held in the ADI's own vaults or on an allocated basis by another party to the extent that it is back by gold bullion liabilities.		0
	(Gold bullion held on an unallocated basis by another party, though backed by gold liabilities, is weighted as a claim on the counterparty unless a lower risk weight is approved by APRA.)		
4.	Cash items in the process of collection (e.g. cheques, draft and other items drawn on other ADIs or overseas banks that are payable immediately upon presentation and that are in the process of collection).		20
<b>Class II — Claims on Australian and foreign governments and central banks</b>			
5.	All Australian dollar claims on the Australian Government.		0
6.	Claims on overseas central governments and state or regional governments, State or Territory Governments in Australia (including	1	0
		2	20

<sup>7</sup> These credit rating grades map to long-term ratings issued by external credit assessment institutions. Refer to Attachment E of this Prudential Standard and, where relevant, the use of specific short-term ratings for exposures to ADIs, overseas banks and corporate counterparties. For the purposes of this Attachment, a credit rating grade that is unrated refers to a claim that must be assessed as unrated for risk-weighting purposes under paragraph 4 of Attachment E of this Prudential Standard.

	<b>Claim</b>	<b>Credit rating grade<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>Risk weight (%)</b>
	State or Territory central borrowing authorities), central banks (including the Reserve Bank of Australia) and foreign currency claims on the Australian Government (refer to Attachment E).	3	50
		4, 5	100
		6	150
		Unrated	100
7.	Claims on local governments and non-commercial public sector entities in Australia and overseas (refer to Attachment E).	1	20
		2	50
		3, 4, 5	100
		6	150
		Unrated	100
<b>Class III — Claims on international banking agencies, multilateral development banks, ADIs and overseas banks</b>			
8.	Claims on international banking agencies and multilateral development banks (refer to Attachment E). <sup>8</sup>	1	20
		2, 3	50
		4, 5	100
		6	150
		Unrated	50
9.	Claims (other than equity) <sup>9</sup> on ADIs and overseas banks, being claims with an original maturity of three months or less (refer to Attachment E).	1, 2, 3	20
		4, 5	50

<sup>8</sup> A zero per cent risk weight may be applied to the following highly rated institutions and banks: the International Monetary Fund, the Bank for International Settlements, the European Central Bank, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Finance Corporation, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, the European Investment Bank, the Nordic Investment Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, the Council of Europe Development Bank, the European Community, the European Investment Fund, International Finance Facility for Immunization, Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, the European Stability Mechanism, the European Financial Stability Facility and International Development Association.

<sup>9</sup> Refer to items 19 and 20 of this Attachment.

Claim	Credit rating grade <sup>7</sup>	Risk weight (%)
	6	150
	Unrated <sup>10</sup>	20
10. Claims (other than equity) <sup>11</sup> on ADIs and overseas banks with an original maturity of more than three months (refer to Attachment E).	1	20
	2, 3	50
	4, 5	100
	6	150
	Unrated <sup>12</sup>	50

**Class IV — Claims secured against eligible residential mortgages**

11. Refer to the risk-weighting schedule in Attachment C.

**Class V — Unsettled and failed transactions**

12. Refer to Attachment D.

**Class VI — Past due claims**

13. The unsecured portion of any claim<sup>13</sup> (other than loans or claims secured against eligible residential mortgages in paragraph 14 of this Attachment) that is past due for more than 90 days and/or impaired:<sup>14</sup>

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (a) where specific provisions are less than 20 per cent of the outstanding amount of the past due claim or impaired asset; or | 150 |
| (b) where specific provisions are no less than 20 per cent of the   |     |

<sup>10</sup> No claim, other than a short-term self-liquidating letter of credit, on an unrated ADI or overseas bank may receive a risk weight lower than that applied to claims on its sovereign of incorporation.

<sup>11</sup> Refer to items 19 and 20 of this Attachment.

<sup>12</sup> Refer to footnote 10.

<sup>13</sup> For the purpose of defining the secured portion of past due claims, eligible collateral, guarantees and credit derivatives will be the same as those recognised for CRM purposes as set out in Attachments F, G and H of this Prudential Standard.

<sup>14</sup> Refer to *Prudential Standard APS 220 Credit Quality* for the definition of '90 days past due' and 'impaired' for the purposes of this Prudential Standard.

Claim	Credit rating grade <sup>7</sup>	Risk weight (%)
outstanding amount of the past due claim or impaired asset.		100
14. Refer to the risk-weighting schedule in Attachment C for loans and claims secured against eligible residential mortgages that are past due for more than 90 day and/or impaired.		
<b>Class VII — Other assets and claims</b>		
15. Claims (other than equity) <sup>15</sup> on Australian and international corporate counterparties (including insurance and securities companies) and commercial public sector entities (refer to Attachment E).  Alternatively, if an ADI has obtained approval from APRA, it may risk weight all claims (other than equity) <sup>16</sup> held on the banking book on Australian and international corporate counterparties (including insurance and securities companies) and commercial public sector entities at 100 per cent. <sup>17</sup> If an ADI has obtained approval to use a 100 per cent risk weight for these claims, it must do so in a consistent manner and not use any credit ratings for any of these claims.	1	20
	2	50
	3, 4	100
	5, 6	150
	Unrated	100
16. All claims (other than equity) <sup>18</sup> on private sector counterparties (other than ADIs, overseas banks and corporate counterparties). <sup>19</sup>		100

<sup>15</sup> Refer to items 19 and 20 of this Attachment.

<sup>16</sup> Refer to items 19 and 20 of this Attachment.

<sup>17</sup> In order to obtain approval, an ADI will be required to satisfy APRA that the capital requirement resulting from a 100 per cent risk weight for these claims is not materially less than the capital requirement which would apply if credit ratings were used or the cost of using credit ratings for these exposures outweighs the benefits.

<sup>18</sup> Refer to items 19 and 20 of this Attachment.

<sup>19</sup> This includes holdings of subordinated debt in commercial (non-financial) entities. Refer to paragraph 25 of Attachment D of APS 111.

<b>Claim</b>	<b>Credit rating grade<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>Risk weight (%)</b>
17. Investments in premises, plant and equipment and all other fixed assets.		100
18. Claims on all fixed assets under operating leases.		100
19. Equity exposures (as defined in paragraphs 49 to 52 of APS 113) that are not deducted from capital <sup>20</sup> and that are listed on a recognised exchange.		300
20. Equity exposures (as defined in paragraphs 49 to 52 of APS 113) that are not deducted from capital <sup>21</sup> and that are not listed on a recognised exchange.		400
21. Margin lending against listed instruments <sup>22</sup> on recognised exchanges that is not deducted from capital as required under APS 111.		20
22. All other assets and claims not specified elsewhere.		100

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<sup>20</sup> Refer to APS 111.

<sup>21</sup> Refer to APS 111.

<sup>22</sup> Where the underlying instruments are unlisted, the ADI must treat the exposure as a secured loan.

## Attachment B — Credit equivalent amounts for non-market related off-balance sheet exposures

1. With the exception of a default fund guarantee in relation to clearing through central counterparties, the CEA for a non-market-related off-balance sheet transaction is calculated by multiplying the contracted amount of the transaction by the relevant credit conversion factor (CCF) specified in Table 1.

**Table 1: CCFs for non-market-related off-balance sheet transactions**

Nature of transaction	Credit conversion factor (%)
1. Direct credit substitutes	100
2. Performance-related contingencies	50
3. Trade-related contingencies	20
4. Lending of securities or posting of securities as collateral <sup>23</sup>	100
5. Assets sold with recourse	100
6. Forward asset purchases	100
7. Partly paid shares and securities	100
8. Placements of forward deposits	100
9. Note issuance and underwriting facilities	50
10. Other commitments (a) Commitments with certain drawdown	100

<sup>23</sup> These exposures may be treated as collateralised transactions as detailed in Attachment G of this Prudential Standard. Where an ADI, acting as an agent, arranges a repurchase/reverse repurchase or securities lending/borrowing transaction between a customer and a third party and provides a guarantee to the customer that the third party will perform on its obligations, the risk to the ADI is the same as if the ADI had entered into the transaction as the principal. In such circumstances, the ADI will be required to calculate regulatory capital as if it was the principal. This treatment does not apply to collateral posted in relation to OTC derivative transactions, exchange-traded derivative transactions and long settlement transactions that are treated under the standardised approach to counterparty credit risk or collateral posted to CCPs (refer to APS 180).

Nature of transaction	Credit conversion factor (%)
(b) Commitments (e.g. undrawn formal standby facilities and credit lines) with original maturity of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="480 443 807 479">(i) one year or less; or</li> <li data-bbox="480 510 735 546">(ii) over one year</li> </ul> (c) Commitments that can be unconditionally cancelled at any time without notice (e.g. undrawn overdraft and credit card facilities providing that any outstanding unused balance is subject to review at least annually) or that effectively provide for automatic cancellation due to deterioration in a borrower's creditworthiness.	20 50 0
11. Irrevocable standby commitments provided under APRA-approved industry support arrangements.	0

2. Where a non-market-related off-balance sheet transaction is an undrawn or partially undrawn facility, in calculating the CEA, an ADI must use the amount of undrawn commitment or the maximum unused portion of the commitment available to be drawn during the remaining period to maturity.
3. In the case of irrevocable commitments to provide off-balance sheet facilities, the original maturity must be measured from the commencement of the commitment up until the time the associated facility expires.
4. Irrevocable commitments to provide off-balance sheet facilities may be assigned the lower of the two applicable CCFs.
5. For capital adequacy purposes, an ADI must include all commitments in its capital calculation regardless of whether or not they contain material adverse change clauses or any other provisions that are intended to relieve the ADI of its obligations under certain conditions.
6. Any applicable capital charge for a default fund exposure to a QCCP and risk-weighted exposures for a default fund exposure to a non-qualifying CCP must be calculated in accordance with APS 180.

## Attachment C — Residential mortgages

### Lending criteria

1. An ADI must at all times have unequivocal enforcement rights over a mortgaged residential property (including a power of sale and a right to possession) in the event of default by the borrower.
2. An ADI that outsources any part of its credit assessment process to a third party (such as a mortgage originator or broker) must ensure that the arrangement complies with *Prudential Standard CPS 231 Outsourcing*.<sup>24</sup>
3. Loans covered by security provided by third parties where the relevant mortgage is unenforceable under the *National Credit Code* in Schedule 1 of the *National Consumer Credit Protection Act 2009* are risk weighted at 100 per cent in the absence of any eligible collateral and guarantees.
4. Subject to satisfying other criteria set out in this Attachment, loans for purposes other than housing must be secured against mortgages over existing residential property to receive a risk weight of less than 100 per cent. Loans, for whatever purpose, secured against speculative residential construction or property development do not qualify for a risk weight of less than 100 per cent.

### Risk weights for residential mortgages

5. In order to determine the appropriate risk weight for a residential mortgage, an ADI must classify the loan as either a standard or non-standard eligible mortgage (refer to paragraphs 6 and 7 of this Attachment) and determine the ratio of the outstanding amount (refer to paragraphs 8 and 9 of this Attachment) of the loan to the value of the residential property or properties that secure the exposure (loan-to-valuation ratio, LVR). For this purpose, the valuation may be based on the valuation at origination or, where relevant, on a subsequent formal revaluation by an independent accredited valuer. The determination of the appropriate risk weight is also dependent upon mortgage insurance provided by an acceptable lenders mortgage insurer (LMI) (refer to paragraph 14 of this Attachment). For this purpose, lenders mortgage insurance must provide cover for all losses up to at least 40 per cent of the higher of the original loan amount and outstanding loan amount (if higher than the original loan amount). Risk weights are in Table 2.

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<sup>24</sup> Where an ADI uses a third party for loan administration functions only, and does not outsource any part of the credit assessment process to the third party, the responsibility for ensuring that the lending criteria are met remains with the ADI.

**Table 2: Risk weights for residential mortgages**

LVR (%)	Standard eligible mortgages		Non-standard eligible mortgages	
	Risk weight (no mortgage insurance) %	Risk weight (with at least 40% of the mortgage insured by an acceptable LMI) %	Risk weight (no mortgage insurance) %	Risk weight (with at least 40% of the mortgage insured by an acceptable LMI) %
0-60	35	35	50	35
60.01-80	35	35	75	50
80.01-90	50	35	100	75
90.01-100	75	50	100	75
>100.01	100	75	100	100

6. A standard eligible mortgage is defined as a residential mortgage where the ADI has:
- prior to loan approval and as part of the loan origination and approval process, documented, assessed and verified the ability of the borrowers to meet their repayment obligation;
  - valued any residential property offered as security; and
  - established that any property offered as security for the loan is readily marketable.

The ADI must also revalue any property offered as security for such loans when it becomes aware of a material change in the market value of property in an area or region.

7. Loans that are secured by residential properties but fail to meet the criteria detailed in paragraph 6 of this Attachment must be classified as non-standard eligible mortgages. Such loans may be reclassified as standard loans where the borrowers have substantially met their contractual loan repayments to the ADI continuously over the previous 36 months. Criteria defining when contractual loan repayments are substantially met must be set out in the ADI's lending/credit policy and procedures manual.
8. For the purposes of paragraph 5 of this Attachment, the outstanding amount of a loan must be calculated as the balance of all claims on the borrower that are secured against the mortgaged residential property. This includes accrued interest

and fees, as well as the gross value of any undrawn limits on commitments that cannot be cancelled at any time without notice. The outstanding amount under an ‘all moneys mortgage’ must include all loans and other exposures to the borrower that are effectively secured against the mortgage.

9. If a loan is also secured against a second mortgage, the outstanding amount of the loan must be calculated as the sum of all claims on the borrower secured by both the first and second mortgages over the same residential property for the purpose of assessing the LVR.
10. If a loan is secured by more than one property, the LVR must be determined on the basis of the outstanding amount of all claims on the borrower that are secured against the mortgaged residential properties to the aggregate value of the mortgaged residential properties.
11. An ADI may, in risk weighting a loan secured by a residential mortgage, make allowance for eligible collateral and guarantees. The recognition of eligible collateral and guarantees is detailed in Attachments F and G of this Prudential Standard. A mortgage offset or other similar account may only be netted off against the outstanding amount of the loan where the arrangement meets the requirements for eligible cash collateral as set out in Attachment G.

#### *Past due claims*

12. Risk weights for loans and claims secured against eligible residential mortgages that are past due for more than 90 days and/or impaired are detailed in Table 3.

**Table 3: Risk weights for past due eligible residential mortgages**

<b>Eligible residential mortgages</b>	<b>Risk weight (%)</b>
Where the claim is not mortgage-insured with an acceptable LMI. <sup>25</sup>	100
Where the claim is mortgage-insured with an acceptable LMI <sup>26</sup> to the extent that the total of loans and claims covered by a single insurer that are past due for more than 90 days and/or impaired do not exceed the ADI’s large exposure limit. <sup>27</sup>	Original risk weights
Where the claim is mortgage-insured with an acceptable LMI <sup>28</sup> to the extent that the total of loans and claims covered by a single insurer that are past due for more than 90 days and/or impaired exceed the ADI’s large exposure limit. <sup>29</sup>	100

<sup>25</sup> Refer to paragraph 14 of this Attachment.

<sup>26</sup> Refer to paragraph 14 of this Attachment.

<sup>27</sup> Refer to *Prudential Standard APS 221 Large Exposures* (APS 221).

<sup>28</sup> Refer to paragraph 14 of this Attachment.

<sup>29</sup> Refer to APS 221.

## **Second mortgages**

13. To qualify for a risk weight of less than 100 per cent, any loans secured by a second mortgage over residential property must, in addition to the requirements in this Attachment, satisfy the following conditions:
  - (a) the first mortgage must not be extended without being subordinated to the second mortgage;
  - (b) an ADI must obtain written consent of the first mortgagee for the second mortgage and confirm the maximum outstanding amount of the loan secured by the first mortgage (including maximum drawdown or limit of facility) for LVR purposes; and
  - (c) an ADI must ensure that its interest as second mortgagee is noted on the title.

## **Mortgage insurance**

14. To qualify as a mortgage insured by an acceptable LMI:
  - (a) for the purposes of Level 1 Regulatory Capital, the LMI must be regulated by APRA; and
  - (b) for the purposes of Level 2 Regulatory Capital, in the case of overseas subsidiaries of Australian ADIs, APRA will accept the host supervisors' requirements on what constitutes an acceptable LMI in those jurisdictions.

## Attachment D — Unsettled and failed transactions

1. The risk weights for delivery-versus-payment (DvP)<sup>30,31</sup> transactions that remain unsettled after their due delivery dates are detailed in Table 4.<sup>32</sup> The amount that must be multiplied by the relevant risk weight is the positive current exposure amount.

**Table 4: Risk weights: delivery-versus-payment transactions**

Number of business days after settlement date	Risk weight (%)
5 to 15	100
16 to 30	625
31 to 45	937.5
46 or more	1250

2. An ADI must hold Regulatory Capital against a non-DvP transaction<sup>33</sup> where:
  - (a) it has paid for debt instruments, equities, foreign currencies or commodities before receiving them or it has delivered debt instruments, equities, foreign currencies or commodities before receiving payment for them; and
  - (b) in the case of a cross-border transaction, one day or more has elapsed since it made that payment or delivery.
3. The capital requirement for a non-DvP transaction referred to in paragraph 2 of this Attachment is calculated as follows:
  - (a) from the business day after the ADI has made its payment or delivery for up to and including four business days after the counterparty payment or delivery is due, the ADI must treat the transaction as an exposure; and
  - (b) from five business days after the ADI has made its payment or delivery until extinction of the transaction, the ADI must apply a 1250 per cent risk weight to the value transferred plus the positive current exposure.
4. Where a non-DvP transaction is required to be treated as an exposure (refer to paragraph 3(a) of this Attachment), an ADI may apply the relevant risk weight as

<sup>30</sup> This would include payment-versus-payment transactions, i.e. foreign exchange transactions in which each counterparty is obligated to make a final transfer of one or more currencies only where the other counterparty has made a final transfer of one or more currencies.

<sup>31</sup> Transactions settled through a DvP system provide for the simultaneous exchange of securities or commodities for cash and expose an ADI to the risk of loss on the difference between the transaction valued at the agreed settlement price and the transaction valued at current market price.

<sup>32</sup> This excludes all SFTs.

<sup>33</sup> A non-DvP transaction exposes the ADI to the risk of loss on the full amount of cash paid or deliverables delivered.

detailed in Attachment A of this Prudential Standard. Alternatively, where exposures are not material, the ADI may apply a 100 per cent risk weight provided that all such exposures are risk weighted consistently.

## **Attachment E — Short-term and long-term credit ratings**

1. For capital adequacy purposes, an ADI may only use an ECAI rating that takes into account all amounts, both principal and interest, owed to it.

### **Multiple assessments**

2. Where a counterparty has multiple ECAI general issuer ratings or where an issue has multiple ECAI issue-specific ratings, and these ratings correspond to multiple credit rating grades, an ADI must apply the following principles for capital requirement purposes:
  - (a) where there are two ratings that correspond to different credit rating grades, the credit rating grade that corresponds to the higher risk weight must be used; or
  - (b) where there are three or more ratings that correspond to different credit rating grades, the credit rating grades corresponding to the two lowest risk weights must be applied and the higher of those two risk weights must be used.

### **Domestic and foreign currency claims**

3. An ADI must not use an ECAI rating that refers to a claim denominated in a particular currency to derive the credit rating grade for another claim on the same counterparty if that claim is denominated in another currency.

### **Claims that cannot be rated**

4. An ADI's claim must be assessed as unrated for risk-weighting purposes if:
  - (a) the ADI's claim does not have an ECAI issue-specific rating;
  - (b) a credit rating grade for the ADI's claim cannot be inferred from an ECAI issue-specific rating of an issued debt of the counterparty; and
  - (c) the counterparty does not have a general ECAI issuer rating from which a credit rating grade for the ADI's claim can be inferred.

### **Short-term ratings**

5. Short-term ratings by ECAIs must only be used for short-term claims against ADIs, overseas banks and corporate counterparties.
6. If there is an ECAI issue-specific short-term rating in respect of a claim, an ADI must use this rating to determine the credit rating grade of the claim. However, this ECAI issue-specific short-term rating cannot be used to risk weight any other claim.

7. The risk weights in Table 5 apply to ECAI issue-specific short-term ratings.

**Table 5: Risk weights for short-term claims**

<b>Credit rating grade (short-term claims on corporates, ADIs and overseas banks)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
Risk weight (%)	20	50	100	150

8. Notwithstanding paragraph 6 of this Attachment, where the counterparty has a short-term claim that attracts a 50 per cent risk weight, unrated short-term claims on the same counterparty cannot be risk weighted at less than 100 per cent.
9. Notwithstanding paragraph 6 of this Attachment, where the counterparty has a short-term claim that attracts a risk weight of 150 per cent, all unrated claims (short-term and long-term) on the same counterparty must be risk weighted at not less than 150 per cent.

#### **Short-term claims on ADIs and overseas banks**

10. Where there is no ECAI issue-specific short-term rating, the general preferential treatment for short-term claims detailed in item 9 of Attachment A may be applied to all claims on ADIs and overseas banks that have an original maturity of up to three months.
11. Where there is an ECAI issue-specific short-term rating on a claim held by an ADI, and that rating corresponds to a credit rating grade that is lower than or identical to that derived from the general treatment detailed in item 9 of Attachment A, the ECAI issue-specific short-term rating may be used for the specific claim.
12. Where there is an ECAI issue-specific rating for a short-term claim on an ADI or overseas bank and that rating corresponds to a higher credit rating grade than that which would be applied by item 9 of Attachment A, the general short-term preferential treatment cannot be used for any short-term claim on the counterparty. All unrated short-term claims on that counterparty would be assigned the same credit rating grade as that implied by the ECAI issue-specific short-term rating.

#### **Mapping of ratings grades for Standard and Poor's, Moody's and Fitch**

13. For the purposes of this Attachment, where the ECAI is Standard & Poor's, Moody's or Fitch, ratings are to be mapped as shown in Table 6 and Table 7 below.

**Table 6: Recognised long-term ratings and equivalent credit rating grades**

<b>Credit rating grade</b>	<b>Standard &amp; Poor's Corporation</b>	<b>Moody's Investors Services</b>	<b>Fitch Ratings</b>
1	AAA AA+ AA AA-	Aaa Aa1 Aa2 Aa3	AAA AA+ AA AA-
2	A+ A A-	A1 A2 A3	A+ A A-
3	BBB+ BBB BBB-	Baa1 Baa2 Baa3	BBB+ BBB BBB-
4	BB+ BB BB-	Ba1 Ba2 Ba3	BB+ BB BB-
5	B+ B B-	B1 B2 B3	B+ B B-
6	CCC+ CCC CCC- CC C D	Caa1 Caa2 Caa3 Ca C C	CCC+ CCC CCC- CC C D

**Table 7: Recognised short-term ratings and equivalent credit rating grades**

<b>Credit rating grade</b>	<b>Standard &amp; Poor's Corporation</b>	<b>Moody's Investors Services</b>	<b>Fitch Ratings</b>
1	A-1	P-1	F-1
2	A-2	P-2	F-2
3	A-3	P-3	F-3
4	Others	Others	Others

## Attachment F — Guarantees

1. Where a claim on a counterparty is secured by a guarantee from an eligible guarantor (refer to paragraph 3 of this Attachment), the portion of the claim that is supported by the guarantee may be weighted according to the risk weight appropriate to the guarantor. The unsecured portion of the claim must be weighted according to the risk weight applicable to the original counterparty (refer to Attachment A of this Prudential Standard).<sup>34</sup>
2. A guarantee must represent a direct claim on the guarantor with the extent of the cover being clearly defined and incontrovertible. A guarantee must be irrevocable such that there must be no clause in the guarantee that would allow the guarantor to cancel unilaterally the cover of the guarantee or that would increase the effective cost of cover as a result of deteriorating credit quality in the guaranteed exposure.<sup>35</sup> A guarantee must also be unconditional; there must be no clause in the guarantee outside the direct control of an ADI that could prevent the guarantor from being obliged to pay out in a timely manner in the event that the original counterparty fails to make the due payment(s).
3. Subject to the conditions in this Prudential Standard, the following entities are recognised as eligible guarantors:
  - (a) Commonwealth, State, Territory and local governments in Australia (including State and Territory central borrowing authorities); central, state, regional and local governments in other countries; public sector entities in Australia and overseas; the Reserve Bank of Australia; central banks in other countries; ADIs and overseas banks; international banking agencies and multilateral development banks; and
  - (b) other entities that are externally rated, where credit protection is provided to a non-securitisation exposure. This would include guarantees provided by parent, subsidiary and affiliate companies where they have a lower risk weight than the obligor. Where credit protection is provided to a securitisation exposure, other entities with a credit rating grade of three or better and that were externally rated two or better at the time the credit protection was provided. This also includes guarantees provided by parent, subsidiary and affiliated companies where they have a lower risk weight than the obligor.
4. A claim that is indirectly guaranteed by the Australian Government (i.e. guarantee of guarantee, such as the Commonwealth's guarantee of the entity that provides

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<sup>34</sup> Guarantees that provide partial coverage whereby the ADI and guarantor share losses on a *pro rata* basis are eligible for the same recognition.

<sup>35</sup> The irrevocability condition does not require that the guarantee and the exposure be maturity matched. However, it does require that the maturity agreed *ex ante* may not be reduced *ex post* by the guarantor.

the guarantee) may be treated as guaranteed by the Australian Government provided that:

- (a) the indirect guarantee covers all credit risk elements of the claim;
- (b) both the original guarantee and the indirect guarantee meet all the operational requirements for guarantees except that the indirect guarantee need not be direct and explicit to the original claim; and
- (c) the ADI is satisfied that the cover of the indirect guarantee is robust and there is no historical evidence to suggest that the coverage of the indirect guarantee is not equivalent to that of a direct guarantee of the Australian Government.

5. Letters of comfort do not qualify as eligible guarantees for CRM purposes.

### **Operational requirements**

6. In addition to the requirements detailed in paragraph 22 of this Prudential Standard and paragraph 2 of this Attachment, in order for a guarantee to be recognised the following conditions must be satisfied:

- (a) on the qualifying default/non-payment of the counterparty, the ADI has the capacity to pursue, in a timely manner, the guarantor for any monies outstanding under the documentation governing the transaction. The ADI must have the right to receive payment from the guarantor without first having to take legal action in order to pursue the counterparty for payment;
- (b) the guarantee is an explicitly documented obligation assumed by the guarantor; and
- (c) except as noted in this paragraph, the guarantee covers all types of payments the underlying obligor is expected to make under the documentation governing the transaction. Where a guarantee covers payment of principal only, interest and other amounts not covered by the guarantee must be treated as uncovered.

### **Materiality thresholds**

7. Where a guarantee provides for a materiality threshold on payments below which no payment will be made in the event of loss, this is equivalent to a retained first loss position and must be deducted from Common Equity Tier 1 Capital (refer to APS 111). This deduction will be capped at the amount of capital the ADI would be required to hold against the full value of the exposure.

### **Proportional cover**

8. Where there is partial coverage of an exposure by a guarantee and the covered and uncovered portions are of equal seniority (i.e. the ADI and the guarantor share losses on a *pro rata* basis), capital relief will be afforded on a proportional basis. This means that the covered portion of the exposure will receive the treatment applicable to eligible guarantees with the remainder treated as uncovered.

### Tranched cover

9. Where there is partial coverage of an exposure by a guarantee and there is a difference in seniority between the covered and uncovered portions of the exposure, then the arrangement is considered to be a synthetic securitisation and is subject to APS 120.

### Currency mismatch

10. A currency mismatch exists where a guarantee is denominated in a different currency from that in which the exposure is denominated. In this case the amount of the exposure deemed to be protected ( $G_a$ ) must be reduced by the application of a haircut ( $H_{fx}$ ) as follows:

$$G_a = G \times (1 - H_{fx})$$

where:

$G$  = nominal amount of the guarantee

$H_{fx}$  = haircut appropriate for the currency mismatch between the guarantee and the underlying exposure

11. The  $H_{fx}$  haircut detailed in paragraph 10 of this Attachment is the same as that applied to collateral in the comprehensive approach (refer to Attachment G of this Prudential Standard). If an ADI uses the comprehensive approach and it uses the standard haircuts, the haircut to be applied for a currency mismatch will be eight per cent (assuming daily mark-to-market). If the ADI uses its own-estimate haircuts, the estimates for a currency mismatch must be based on a 10-business day holding period. Where the ADI uses the simple approach it may use the standard haircut of eight per cent for the currency mismatch (assuming daily mark-to-market) or own-estimate haircuts based on a 10-business day holding period.
12. Using the formula detailed in paragraph 41 of Attachment G of this Prudential Standard, haircuts must be adjusted depending on the actual frequency of revaluation of the currency mismatch.

### Maturity mismatch

13. A maturity mismatch exists where the residual maturity of a guarantee is less than the maturity of the exposure covered by the guarantee.
14. Where there is a maturity mismatch, a guarantee may only be recognised for CRM purposes where the original maturity of the guarantee is greater than or equal to 12 months. Guarantees with an original maturity of less than 12 months will not be eligible unless the maturity of the guarantee matches the maturity of the underlying exposure. In all cases where there is a maturity mismatch, a guarantee will not be eligible where it has a residual maturity of three months or less.

15. Where credit protection provided by a single guarantor has different maturities, an ADI must divide the exposure into separate covered portions for risk-weighting purposes.

### Measurement of maturity

16. For capital adequacy purposes, an ADI must take the effective maturity of the underlying exposure to be the longest possible remaining time before the counterparty is scheduled to fulfil its obligation.
17. In the case of a guarantee, an ADI must take into account any clause within the documentation supporting the transaction that may reduce its maturity so that the shortest possible effective maturity is used. For this purpose, the ADI must consider clauses that give the guarantor the capacity to reduce the effective maturity of the guarantee and those that give the ADI, at origination of the guarantee, a discretion and positive incentive to reduce its effective maturity.

### Adjustment for maturity mismatch

18. Where there is a maturity mismatch between a guarantee and the covered exposure, for capital adequacy purposes an ADI must apply the following adjustment:

$$P_a = P \times \left( \frac{t - 0.25}{T - 0.25} \right)$$

where:

$P_a$  = value of the guarantee adjusted for maturity mismatch

$P$  = guarantee amount adjusted for any haircuts (in which case,  $P = G_a$  as determined in paragraph 10 of this Attachment)

$t$  = min (T, residual maturity of the guarantee) expressed in years

$T$  = min (5, residual maturity of the exposure) expressed in years

## Attachment G — Simple and comprehensive approaches to the recognition of collateral

### General principles

1. A capital requirement will be applied to an ADI on both sides of a collateralised transaction.
2. An ADI must select either the simple or the comprehensive approach and apply that approach to all its on-balance sheet assets and off-balance sheet exposures on the banking book that are secured by eligible collateral.
3. For trading book exposures, an ADI must use the comprehensive approach to the recognition of eligible collateral where collateral is pledged against counterparty credit risk exposure.
4. An ADI must ensure that sufficient resources are devoted to the orderly operation of margin agreements with OTC derivative and securities-financing counterparties, as measured by the timeliness and accuracy of its outgoing calls and response time to incoming calls. An ADI must have collateral management policies in place to control, monitor and report:
  - (a) the risk to which margin agreements exposes it (such as the volatility and liquidity of the securities exchanged as collateral);
  - (b) the concentration risk to particular types of collateral;
  - (c) the re-use of collateral (both cash and non-cash) including the potential liquidity shortfalls resulting from the re-use of collateral received from counterparties; and
  - (d) the surrender of rights on collateral posted to counterparties.

### Eligible collateral

5. Subject to the conditions set out in this Attachment, the following forms of collateral may be recognised as eligible collateral:
  - (a) cash collateral (cash, certificates of deposit and bank bills issued by the lending ADI) on deposit with the ADI incurring the exposure;<sup>36</sup>
  - (b) gold bullion;

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<sup>36</sup> Cash-funded credit-linked notes issued by the ADI against exposures in the banking book that fulfil the criteria for credit derivatives (refer to Attachment H of this Prudential Standard) may be treated as cash collateralised transactions. Where cash on deposit, certificates of deposit and bank bills issued by the lending ADI are held as collateral at a third-party ADI or overseas bank in a non-custodial arrangement, if they are pledged or assigned to the lending ADI and the pledge or assignment is unconditional and irrevocable, the exposure amount covered by the collateral may be assigned the risk weight of the third-party ADI or overseas bank as set out in Attachment A.

- (c) subject to paragraph 12 of this Attachment, debt securities rated by an ECAI where these debt securities have a credit rating grade of either:
    - (i) four (or better) for long-term securities issued by: Commonwealth, State and Territory governments in Australia (including State and Territory central borrowing authorities); central, state and regional governments in other countries; the Reserve Bank of Australia; central banks in other countries; and the international banking agencies and multilateral development banks that qualify for a zero per cent risk weight as detailed in Attachment A; or
    - (ii) three (or better) for short-term or long-term securities issued by ADIs, overseas banks, Australian and international local governments and corporates;
  - (d) subject to paragraph 12 of this Attachment, debt securities not rated by an ECAI where these securities are issued by an ADI or overseas bank as senior debt and are listed on a recognised exchange. This is subject to the condition that all rated issues of the same seniority by the issuing ADI or overseas bank have a long-term or short-term credit rating grade of at least three and the ADI holding the security has no information suggesting that the security justifies a rating below this level; and
  - (e) subject to paragraph 12 of this Attachment, units in a listed trust where the unit price of the trust is publicly quoted on a daily basis and the listed trust is limited to investing in the instruments detailed in paragraphs 5(a) to 5(d) of this Attachment.<sup>37</sup>
6. Claims secured or collateralised in other ways (e.g. by insurance contracts, put options, forward sales contracts or agreements) are not considered to be covered by eligible collateral.
  7. Re-securitisations, irrespective of credit ratings, are not eligible financial collateral.
  8. An ADI may use all instruments included in its trading book as eligible collateral for SFTs included in the trading book. Instruments that would otherwise not be treated as eligible collateral for the purposes of this Prudential Standard are subject to a haircut at the level applicable to non-main index equities listed on recognised exchanges. Where an ADI uses an own-estimates approach to haircutting, haircuts must be calculated for each individual security that counts as eligible collateral in the trading book but not the banking book.

### **Minimum conditions for collateralised transactions**

9. There must be a formal written contractual agreement between the lender (or party holding the claim) and the party lodging the collateral which establishes the lender's direct, explicit, irrevocable and unconditional recourse to the collateral.

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<sup>37</sup> The use of derivative instruments by a listed unit trust to hedge investments listed in paragraphs 5(a) to 5(d) of this Attachment would not prevent the listed unit trust from being recognised as eligible collateral.

In the case of cash collateral, this may include a contractual right of set-off on credit balances, but a common law right of set-off is insufficient on its own to satisfy this condition.

10. The legal mechanism by which collateral is pledged or transferred must allow the ADI the right to liquidate or take legal possession of the collateral in a timely manner. The ADI must take all steps necessary to satisfy the legal requirements applicable to the ADI's interest in the collateral. This would include clear and robust procedures for the timely liquidation of collateral to ensure that any legal conditions required for declaring the default of the counterparty and liquidating the collateral are observed and that the collateral can be liquidated promptly.
11. In the event of default, any requirement on the lender to serve notice on the party lodging the collateral must not unnecessarily impede the lender's recourse to the collateral.
12. Collateral in the form of securities issued by the counterparty to the credit exposure (or by any person or entity related or associated with the counterparty) is considered to have a material positive correlation with the credit quality of the original counterparty and is therefore not eligible collateral.
13. With the exception of cash collateral,<sup>38</sup> collateral must be held by an independent custodian, or an equally independent third party, or by the ADI. Where the collateral is held by an independent custodian or an independent third party, the ADI must take reasonable steps to ensure that the custodian or third party segregates the collateral from its own assets.
14. Where collateral is lodged with an overseas branch of the ADI, the branch holding the collateral must be bound to act in accordance with the agreement between the ADI and the party lodging the collateral.
15. Where collateral is lodged by a third party, that third party must indemnify or guarantee the borrower's obligations (or those of the party on which a claim is held) to the lender. The lender must ensure that the arrangement will not fail for lack of consideration.

#### **Additional conditions specific to cash collateral**

16. For the purposes of paragraph 5(a) of this Attachment, cash collateral may only attract a zero risk weight where the cash collateral is lodged with the entity holding the credit exposure, except where:
  - (a) the entity holding the credit exposure and the entity holding the cash collateral belong to the same consolidated group; and
  - (b) the entity holding the collateral is bound to act in accordance with the agreement between the entity holding the credit exposure and the party lodging the collateral.

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<sup>38</sup> For the lodgement of cash collateral, refer to paragraph 16 of this Attachment.

Where cash is lodged with a third party (other than a central counterparty), the risk weight of the counterparty with which the cash has been lodged must be used. This applies to any cash collateral held by a custodian unless the collateral is in the form of notes and coins.

17. Where cash collateral is lodged in the form of a certificate of deposit or bank bill issued by the lending ADI or any eligible entity described in paragraph 16 of this Attachment, the ADI must retain physical possession of the instrument until the collateral obligations are extinguished.

### **Simple approach**

18. Under the simple approach, the secured portion of a claim may be weighted according to the risk weight appropriate to the collateral. The risk weight on the collateralised portion will be subject to a floor of 20 per cent except under the conditions specified in paragraphs 20 to 23 of this Attachment. The unsecured portion of the claim must be weighted according to the risk weight applicable to the original counterparty (refer to Attachment A).
19. For collateral to be eligible collateral in the simple approach, it must be pledged for at least the life of the exposure and be marked to market with a minimum frequency of six months. The release of collateral by the lending ADI must be conditional upon the repayment of the exposure. Collateral may be reduced in proportion to the amount of the reduction in the exposure amount.

### *Exceptions to the 20 per cent risk-weight floor*

20. A zero per cent risk weight may be applied to collateralised transactions where the exposure and the collateral are denominated in the same currency and either:
  - (a) the collateral is cash on deposit;<sup>39</sup> or
  - (b) the collateral is in the form of sovereign or public sector entity securities eligible for a zero per cent risk weight as detailed in Attachment A and the market value of the collateral has been discounted by 20 per cent.
21. SFTs that fulfil the criteria in paragraph 42 of this Attachment may receive risk weights of zero per cent. If the counterparty to the transaction is not a core market participant as defined in paragraph 43 of this Attachment, the transaction may be risk weighted at 10 per cent.
22. OTC derivative transactions may be risk weighted at zero per cent where:
  - (a) they are subject to daily marking-to-market;
  - (b) they are fully collateralised by cash; and
  - (c) there is no currency mismatch.

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<sup>39</sup> As defined in paragraph 5(a) of this Attachment.

23. OTC derivative transactions collateralised by sovereign or public sector entity securities that qualify for a zero per cent risk weight as detailed in Attachment A may be risk weighted at 10 per cent.

### **Comprehensive approach**

24. Under the comprehensive approach, an ADI must calculate the adjusted exposure amount to a counterparty to take into account the effects of any eligible collateral (as defined in paragraph 26 of this Attachment) the ADI has taken. Using haircuts, the ADI must adjust both the amount of the exposure (volatility-adjusted exposure amount) and the value of the collateral (volatility-adjusted collateral amount) in order to take into account possible future price fluctuations of the exposure or collateral.<sup>40</sup> The difference between the volatility-adjusted exposure amount and the volatility-adjusted collateral amount is the adjusted exposure amount. The adjusted exposure amount must be weighted according to the risk weight of the original counterparty (refer to Attachment A) to obtain the risk-weighted asset amount for the collateralised transaction.
25. An ADI may use standard haircuts or, subject to meeting the requirements in paragraphs 32 to 38 of this Attachment, its own-estimate haircuts using internal estimates of market price volatility. Where the use of own-estimate haircuts is approved, the estimates must cover the full range of relevant instruments used by the ADI excluding portfolios that APRA has determined are immaterial. The ADI may use standard haircuts for those immaterial portfolios.

#### *Eligible collateral for the comprehensive approach*

26. In addition to the items listed in paragraph 5 of this Attachment and subject to the conditions set out in this Attachment, the following forms of collateral are eligible collateral under the comprehensive approach:
- (a) equities (including convertible bonds) that are included in a main index or listed on a recognised exchange; and
  - (b) units in listed trusts that invest in equities as set out in paragraph 26(a) of this Attachment.

#### *Calculation of Regulatory Capital for collateralised transactions*

27. For a collateralised transaction under the comprehensive approach, and subject to paragraph 28 of this Attachment, the adjusted exposure amount is calculated as follows:

$$E^* = \max \left\{ 0, \left[ E \times (1 + H_e) - C \times (1 - H_c - H_{fx}) \right] \right\}$$

where:

$E^*$  = the adjusted exposure amount

<sup>40</sup> Exposure amounts may vary where, for example, securities are lent.

$E$  = current value of the exposure

$H_e$  = haircut appropriate to the exposure

$C$  = the current value of the collateral

$H_c$  = haircut appropriate to the collateral

$H_{fx}$  = haircut appropriate for currency mismatch between the collateral and exposure.

28. In the case of OTC derivatives under the adjusted current exposure method (adjusted CEM) (refer to Attachment E of APS 180),  $E \times (1 + H_e)$ , as set out in paragraph 27 of this Attachment, is replaced by the CEA of the OTC derivative calculated in accordance with Attachment E of APS 180.
29. Where the collateral is a basket of assets, the haircut on the basket will be:

$$H = \sum_i a_i H_i$$

where  $a_i$  is the weight of the asset in the basket (as measured by units of currency) and  $H_i$  is the haircut applicable to that asset.

### *Standard haircuts*

30. The standard exposure and collateral haircuts (H), expressed as percentages, are detailed in Table 8. These standard haircuts assume daily mark-to-market, daily remargining and a 10-business day holding period.

**Table 8: Standard haircuts**

<b>Credit rating grade for debt securities</b>	<b>Residual maturity</b>	<b>Sovereigns<sup>41</sup></b>	<b>Other issuers<sup>42</sup></b>	<b>Securitisation exposures</b>
1 (long- and short-term)	≤ 1 year	0.5	1	2
	> 1 year, ≤ 5 years	2	4	8
	> 5 years	4	8	16
	≤ 1 year	1	2	4

<sup>41</sup> Sovereigns include the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments in Australia (including State and Territory central borrowing authorities), central, state and regional governments of other countries, the Reserve Bank of Australia and central banks of other countries, and the international banking agencies and multilateral development banks qualifying for a zero per cent risk weight as set out in Attachment A of this Prudential Standard.

<sup>42</sup> This includes ADIs, overseas banks, local governments in Australia and other countries, and corporates.

<b>Credit rating grade for debt securities</b>	<b>Residual maturity</b>	<b>Sovereigns<sup>41</sup></b>	<b>Other issuers<sup>42</sup></b>	<b>Securitisation exposures</b>
2-3 (long- and short-term) and unrated bank securities in paragraph 5(d) of this Attachment	> 1 year, ≤ 5 years	3	6	12
	> 5 years	6	12	24
4 (long-term)	All	15	N/A	N/A
Main index equities (including convertible bonds) and gold		15		
Other equities (including convertible bonds) listed on a recognised exchange		25		
Units in listed trusts		Highest haircut applicable to any security in which the trust can invest		
Cash in the same currency <sup>43</sup>		0		
Currency mismatch		8		

31. For transactions in which an ADI lends non-eligible instruments, the haircut to be applied on the exposure is 25 per cent.

#### *Own-estimate haircuts*

32. If approved by APRA, an ADI may calculate its own exposure and collateral haircuts (H) based on internal estimates of market price and foreign exchange volatilities. Approval to calculate own haircuts will be conditional upon APRA being satisfied that the ADI meets the conditions set out in paragraphs 33 to 38 of this Attachment.

#### *Own-estimate haircut categories*

33. For debt securities with a credit rating grade below three, and for eligible equities, haircuts must be calculated for each individual security.
34. For debt securities with a long-term or short-term credit rating grade of three or better, an ADI may calculate a volatility estimate for a group (or category) of securities. In determining relevant categories, the ADI must take into account the

<sup>43</sup> Eligible cash collateral as defined in this Attachment.

type of issuer of the securities, the relevant rating, residual maturity and modified duration. Volatility estimates must be representative of the securities actually included in each of the ADI's categories.

35. An ADI must estimate separately the volatility of the collateral instrument and any foreign exchange mismatch. That is, estimated volatilities must not include estimation of the correlation between unsecured exposures, collateral and exchange rates.
36. An ADI that calculates its own-estimate haircuts must follow the requirements for maturity mismatches as detailed in paragraphs 44 to 48 of this Attachment.

*Criteria for calculating own-estimate haircuts*

37. In order to be approved by APRA, the model used by the ADI to estimate own-estimate haircuts must capture all material risks and satisfy the following quantitative criteria:
  - (a) a 99 per cent confidence level;
  - (b) minimum holding periods as detailed in paragraph 39 of this Attachment. The ADI may use haircut numbers calculated according to shorter holding periods provided these estimates are adjusted by the formula in paragraph 39 of this Attachment;
  - (c) the ADI must take into account the illiquid nature of lower-quality assets. Holding periods will be required to be adjusted upward in cases where the minimum holding period is inappropriate given the illiquid nature of the collateral. The ADI must also identify where historical data may understate potential volatility (e.g. pegged currencies). Such cases must be dealt with by subjecting the data to stress testing;
  - (d) the ADI must use a minimum of one year of historical observations for calculating haircuts. Where the ADI uses a weighting scheme or other methods for the historical observation period, the effective observation period must be at least one year (i.e. the weighted average time lag of the individual observations cannot be less than six months); and
  - (e) data sets upon which own-estimate haircuts are based must be updated no less frequently than once every three months and reassessed whenever market prices are subject to material change. Accordingly, haircuts must be calculated at least every three months. APRA may also require the ADI to calculate its haircuts using a shorter observation period where there is a significant upsurge in price volatility.

38. In addition to the quantitative criteria detailed in paragraph 37 of this Attachment, an ADI must satisfy the following qualitative criteria in order to obtain approval to use own-estimate haircuts:
- (a) the ADI must have robust processes in place for ensuring compliance with a documented set of internal policies, controls and procedures concerning the operation of the risk measurement system;
  - (b) the estimated volatility data (and holding period) must be used in the day-to-day risk management process of the ADI;
  - (c) the risk measurement system must be used in conjunction with internal exposure limits; and
  - (d) an independent review of the risk measurement system and risk management process must be carried out at least annually by an independent function.

*Adjustments to standard and own-estimate haircuts for different holding periods and non-daily mark-to-market or remargining*

39. The minimum conditions and holding periods for SFTs, other capital-market-driven transactions (i.e. OTC derivative transactions) and secured lending are detailed in Table 9.

**Table 9: Minimum conditions and holding periods**

<b>Transaction type</b>	<b>Minimum holding period (business days)</b>	<b>Condition</b>
Securities financing transactions	Five	Daily remargining
Other capital market transactions (e.g. non-centrally cleared derivatives)	Ten	Daily remargining
Secured lending	Twenty	Daily revaluing

40. Under the following circumstances, an ADI must apply a higher minimum holding period:
- (a) for all netting sets where the number of trades exceeds 5,000 at any point during a quarter, an ADI must set the minimum holding period to 20 business days for the following quarter;
  - (b) for netting sets containing one or more trades involving either illiquid collateral, or an OTC derivative that cannot be easily replaced, an ADI must set the minimum holding period to 20 business days. An ADI must determine both liquidity and ease of replacement in the context of stressed market conditions.

In determining the holding period, an ADI must consider whether trades or securities it holds as collateral are concentrated in a particular counterparty and, if that counterparty exited the market precipitously, whether the ADI would be able to replace its trades; and

- (c) if an ADI has experienced more than two margin call disputes on a particular netting set over the previous two quarters that have lasted longer than the applicable minimum holding period (before consideration of this provision), the ADI must use a minimum holding period that is at least double the supervisory floor for that netting set for the subsequent two quarters.
41. When remargining or revaluation is undertaken less frequently than the minimum specified in paragraph 39 of this Attachment, haircuts must be adjusted depending on the actual number of business days between remargining or revaluation using the formula detailed below. This adjustment is required for both standard and own-estimate haircuts.

$$H = H_m \sqrt{\frac{N_r + (T_m - 1)}{T_m}}$$

where:

$H$  = haircut

$H_m$  = haircut under the minimum holding period

$T_m$  = minimum holding period for the type of transaction

$N_r$  = actual number of business days between remargining or revaluation.

Where a haircut is based on a holding period that is different to that detailed in paragraph 39 of this Attachment, the haircut must be adjusted using the formula detailed below. This adjustment is required for both standard and own-estimate haircuts.

$$H_m = H_n \sqrt{\frac{T_m}{T_n}}$$

where:

$T_n$  = holding period of the transaction

$H_n$  = haircut based on the holding period  $T_n$ .

*Conditions for a zero haircut*

42. For SFTs, where the counterparty is a core market participant (as defined in paragraph 43 of this Attachment), an ADI may apply a haircut of zero, where the following conditions are satisfied:
- (a) both the exposure and the collateral are cash, a sovereign security or public sector entity security, qualifying for a zero per cent risk weight as set out in Attachment A;
  - (b) both the exposure and the collateral are denominated in the same currency;
  - (c) either the transaction is overnight, or both the exposure and the collateral are marked-to-market daily and are subject to daily remargining;
  - (d) following a counterparty's failure to remargin, the time between the last mark-to-market before the failure to remargin and the liquidation of the collateral is no more than four business days;<sup>44</sup>
  - (e) the transaction is settled across an established settlement system for that type of transaction;
  - (f) the documentation for the transaction is standard market documentation;
  - (g) the documentation for the transaction specifies that if the counterparty fails to satisfy an obligation to deliver cash or securities or to deliver a margin call or otherwise defaults, the transaction is immediately terminable; and
  - (h) upon any default event, regardless of whether the counterparty is insolvent or bankrupt, the ADI has an unequivocal, legally enforceable right to immediately seize and liquidate the collateral.
43. For the purpose of applying a zero haircut, the following entities are considered core market participants:
- (a) the Australian Government and the Reserve Bank of Australia;
  - (b) governments and entities detailed in item 6 of Attachment A that qualify for a zero per cent risk weight;
  - (c) ADIs and overseas banks;
  - (d) other financial companies (including insurance companies) eligible for a 20 per cent risk weight as set out in Attachment A; and
  - (e) recognised clearing organisations.

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<sup>44</sup> This does not require the ADI always to liquidate the collateral but rather to have the capability to do so within the given time frame.

*Maturity mismatch*

44. A maturity mismatch exists where the residual maturity of the term of lodgement of the collateral is less than the maturity of the exposure covered by the collateral.
45. Where there is a maturity mismatch, the collateral may only be recognised for capital adequacy purposes where the original maturity of the term of lodgement of the collateral is greater than or equal to 12 months. If the original maturity of the term of lodgement of the collateral is less than 12 months, the collateral will not be eligible unless the term of lodgement matches the maturity of the underlying exposure. In all cases where there is a maturity mismatch, the collateral will not be eligible where it has a residual maturity of three months or less.

*Measurement of maturity*

46. For capital adequacy purposes, an ADI must take the effective maturity of the underlying exposure to be the longest possible remaining time before the counterparty is scheduled to fulfil its obligation.
47. In the case of collateral, an ADI must take into account any clause within the documentation supporting the transaction that may reduce its term of lodgement so that the shortest possible effective maturity is used. For this purpose, the ADI must consider clauses that give the protection provider the capacity to reduce the term of lodgement of the collateral and those that give the ADI at origination of the lodgement of collateral a discretion and positive incentive to reduce the term of lodgement.

*Adjustment for maturity mismatch*

48. Where there is a maturity mismatch between collateral and the underlying exposure, for capital adequacy purposes an ADI must apply the following adjustment:

$$P_a = P \times \left( \frac{t - 0.25}{T - 0.25} \right)$$

where:

$P_a$  = value of the collateral adjusted for maturity mismatch

$P$  = collateral amount adjusted for any haircuts

$t$  = min (T, residual maturity of the term of lodgement of the collateral) expressed in years

$T$  = min (5, residual maturity of the exposure) expressed in years.

## **Attachment H — Credit derivatives in the banking book**

1. For the purposes of this Prudential Standard, APRA recognises the following credit derivatives:
  - (a) single-name credit-default and certain total-rate-of-return swaps;
  - (b) cash-funded credit-linked notes; and
  - (c) first and second-to-default credit derivative basket products.

An ADI that transacts more complex credit derivatives that fall outside the scope of this Attachment must, prior to execution of the relevant credit derivative contract, undertake a written assessment of the appropriate Regulatory Capital treatment for the transaction. The ADI must provide its written assessment to APRA upon request. The ADI must apply the treatment set out in its written assessment unless APRA determines an alternative methodology for calculating the Regulatory Capital treatment.

2. Where an ADI buys credit protection through a credit derivative that forms part of a synthetic securitisation, this Attachment must be read in conjunction with APS 120.
3. Where credit derivatives are used for the purpose of acquiring credit risk exposure (or selling credit protection), this Attachment must be read in conjunction with Attachments A to E of this Prudential Standard.
4. An ADI must include in its trading book total-rate-of-return swaps except those that have been transacted to hedge a banking book credit exposure in accordance with the requirements of this Attachment.
5. An ADI must include open short positions in credit derivatives in its trading book. APRA may grant an exception to this requirement in writing, on a one-off approval basis.

### **Determining the amount of credit protection purchased or sold**

6. In order for a credit derivative contract to be recognised for CRM purposes, it must not contain terms or conditions that terminate or increase the ADI's cost of the credit protection purchased if the credit quality of the underlying exposure deteriorates.

## Required credit events

7. An ADI must ensure that, for CRM purposes, there is sufficient credit risk transfer under each credit derivative contract. At a minimum, sufficient credit risk transfer requires that credit events under the terms of the credit derivative contract cover:
  - (a) failure to pay an amount due under the terms of the underlying exposure that is in effect at the time of such failure;<sup>45</sup>
  - (b) the bankruptcy, insolvency or inability of the obligor of the underlying exposure to pay its debts, or its failure or admission in writing of its inability generally to pay its debts as those debts become due, or analogous events; and
  - (c) subject to paragraph 8 of this Attachment, the restructuring of the underlying exposure. For this purpose, restructuring involves any forgiveness or postponement of principal, interest or fees that results in the charge-off, specific provision or other similar debit to the profit and loss account of the ADI and restructured items where facilities are rendered non-commercial because of concessional contractual changes related to financial difficulties of the customer as defined in *Prudential Standard APS 220 Credit Quality*.
  
8. When restructuring of the underlying exposure is not included within the terms of the credit derivative contract but the requirements of paragraphs 7(a) and 7(b) of this Attachment are met, an ADI may recognise, for capital adequacy purposes, 60 per cent of the amount of the credit protection purchased (refer to paragraph 15 of this Attachment) where the amount of credit protection purchased is less than or equal to the amount of the underlying exposure. If the amount of credit protection purchased exceeds that of the underlying exposure, the amount of eligible credit protection is capped at 60 per cent of the amount of the underlying exposure.
  
9. An asset mismatch exists where an ADI has purchased credit protection using a credit derivative and the underlying exposure that is protected by the credit derivative is different to either:
  - (a) the deliverable obligation or the reference obligation (as the case may be); or
  - (b) the obligation specified in the credit derivative contract for the purpose of determining whether a credit event has occurred.
  
10. An asset mismatch for CRM purposes is allowed provided:
  - (a) the deliverable obligation, the reference obligation or the obligation specified in the credit derivative contract for the purpose of determining whether a credit event has occurred (as the case may be) ranks *pari passu*

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<sup>45</sup> The grace period of the credit derivative contract must align closely with the grace period of the underlying exposure.

or more junior, in seniority of claim, relative to the underlying exposure;  
and

- (b) the underlying exposure and the deliverable obligation, reference obligation or the obligation specified in the credit derivative contract for the purpose of determining whether a credit event has occurred are obligations of the same legal entity or the underlying exposure is an obligation of an entity that is unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by the reference entity to the credit derivative contract, and legally enforceable cross-default or cross-acceleration clauses are in place.
11. An ADI that has sold credit protection using a credit derivative must, for capital adequacy purposes, assume that 100 per cent of the credit risk is purchased irrespective of the range of specified credit events.

### **Materiality thresholds**

12. In order to be recognised for CRM purposes, a credit derivative contract must not contain significant materiality thresholds below which credit protection is deemed not to be provided even if a credit event occurs.
13. Subject to paragraph 12 of this Attachment, when determining the amount of credit protection purchased using a credit derivative, an ADI must have regard to any materiality threshold specified in the credit derivative contract as equivalent to a retained first loss position and deduct this amount from Common Equity Tier 1 Capital (refer to APS 111). This deduction will be capped at the amount of capital the ADI would be required to hold against the full value of the underlying exposure.
14. When determining the amount of credit protection sold, an ADI must assume that any materiality thresholds included in the credit derivative contract do not reduce the acquired credit risk.

### **Credit-event payments**

15. Where the credit event payment specified in the credit derivative contract is on the basis of cash settlement or physical settlement, the amount of credit protection purchased or sold must be set equal to the par value of the reference or deliverable obligation respectively. Where the credit event payment is defined as a fixed amount or a percentage of the par amount, the amount of credit protection purchased or sold must be set equal to that fixed amount or as the defined percentage multiplied by the notional principal of the contract amount.

### **Measurement of maturity**

16. For capital adequacy purposes, an ADI must take the effective maturity of the underlying exposure to be the longest possible remaining time before the counterparty is scheduled to fulfil its obligation.
17. In the case of a credit derivative, an ADI that purchases credit protection must take into account any clause within the credit derivative contract that may reduce its maturity so that the shortest possible effective maturity is used. For this

purpose, the ADI must consider clauses that give the protection seller the capacity to reduce the effective maturity of the credit derivative and those that give the ADI at origination of the credit derivative contract a discretion and positive incentive to reduce its effective maturity. Where a credit derivative is not prevented from terminating prior to expiration of any grace period required for a default on the underlying obligation to occur as a result of a failure to pay, the effective maturity of the credit derivative must be reduced by the amount of the grace period.

18. An ADI that sells credit protection using a credit derivative containing an embedded option to extend the term of the credit derivative must assume the longest possible effective maturity of the credit derivative. This is regardless of any contractual arrangements that may give either the protection buyer or the protection seller the incentive to reduce the contract term.

### **Credit derivatives used for credit risk mitigation purposes**

19. Subject to the requirements of this Prudential Standard, credit default swaps, credit linked notes and first and second to default credit derivative basket products will be eligible for CRM purposes. Total-rate-of-return swaps may be recognised for CRM purposes where an ADI records any deterioration in the value of the underlying exposure (such as by an addition to reserves) in addition to recording the net payments received on the swap as net income.
20. With the exception of cash-funded credit-linked notes (refer to paragraph 26 of this Attachment), where an underlying exposure is protected by a credit derivative from an eligible protection seller (as defined in paragraph 21 of this Attachment), the portion of the claim that is protected by the credit derivative (or the amount of credit protection purchased as detailed in paragraph 15 of this Attachment) may be weighted according to the risk weight appropriate to the protection seller. The unprotected portion of the underlying exposure must be weighted according to the risk weight applicable to the original counterparty (refer to Attachment A).<sup>46</sup>

### **Eligible credit protection sellers**

21. In the case of credit default swaps, total-rate-of-return swaps and first- and second-to-default credit derivative basket products, an ADI may recognise the credit protection provided by the entities detailed in paragraph 3 of Attachment F of this Prudential Standard.

### **Operational requirements**

22. In addition to the requirements in paragraph 22 of this Prudential Standard, in order for a credit derivative to be recognised the following conditions must be satisfied:
  - (a) it must represent a direct claim on the protection seller with the extent of the credit protection being clearly defined and incontrovertible. It must be

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<sup>46</sup> Credit derivatives that provide partial coverage whereby the ADI and the credit protection seller share losses on a *pro rata* basis are eligible for the same recognition.

irrevocable; there must be no clause in the credit derivative contract that would allow the protection seller to cancel unilaterally the protection of the credit derivative.<sup>47</sup> A credit derivative must also be unconditional; there must be no clause in the credit derivative contract outside the direct control of the ADI and the credit events specified in the contract that could prevent the protection seller from being obliged to pay out in a timely manner in the event that the obligor to the underlying exposure fails to make the due payment(s);

- (b) where the credit derivative is based on cash settlement, eligibility for capital relief requires that the ADI has in place a robust valuation process in order to estimate reliably credit losses on the reference obligation specified in the credit derivative contract, including a defined period for obtaining post credit event valuations of the reference obligation;
- (c) where an ADI purchases credit protection and an existing credit exposure of the ADI is the deliverable obligation under the credit derivative contract, eligibility for capital relief requires that the terms of the underlying exposure must allow for its transfer to the protection seller.<sup>48</sup> If the protection purchaser's right and ability to transfer the underlying obligation to the protection provider is required for settlement, the terms of the underlying obligation must provide that any required consent to such transfer may not be unreasonably withheld; and
- (d) it must identify clearly those parties responsible for determining whether a credit event has occurred. This determination must not be the sole responsibility of the protection seller. An ADI buying the credit protection must have the right to inform the protection seller of the occurrence of a credit event.

### Proportional cover

- 23. Where there is partial coverage of an underlying exposure by a credit derivative and the protected and unprotected portions are of equal seniority (i.e. the ADI buying credit protection and the protection seller share losses on a *pro rata* basis), capital relief will be afforded on a proportional basis. This means that the protected portion of the underlying exposure will receive the capital treatment applicable to eligible credit derivatives with the remainder treated as unprotected.

### Tranched cover

- 24. Where there is partial coverage of an underlying exposure by a credit derivative and there is a difference in seniority between the protected and unprotected

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<sup>47</sup> The irrevocability condition does not require that the credit derivative and the exposure be maturity matched. However, it requires that the maturity agreed *ex ante* may not be reduced *ex post* by the protection provider.

<sup>48</sup> An exception applies where there is a restriction on the transfer of the existing credit exposure and this restriction only applies in the event of restructuring. In this case the limit described in paragraph 8 of this Attachment applies as if restructuring of the underlying exposure was not included within the terms of the credit derivatives contract.

portions of the underlying exposure, then the arrangement is considered to be a synthetic securitisation and is subject to APS 120.

### **Credit-default and total-rate-of-return swaps**

25. Where credit protection is purchased using a credit-default swap referenced to a single reference entity or a total-rate-of-return swap, that portion of the underlying exposure protected by the credit derivative (or the amount of credit protection purchased as detailed in paragraph 15 of this Attachment) may be weighted according to the risk weight of the protection seller.

### **Cash-funded credit-linked notes**

26. Where credit protection is purchased using a credit-linked note that is funded by cash, the note issued by an ADI must be treated for capital adequacy purposes as a cash-collateralised transaction, subject to the ADI satisfying the requirements for cash collateral as set out in Attachment G of this Prudential Standard.

### **First-to-default basket credit derivatives**

27. Where an ADI has purchased credit protection using a credit derivative that is referenced to more than one reference entity and that protection terminates after a credit event occurs on one of those entities (i.e. a first-to-default basket product), protection must only be recognised against the reference entity with the lowest risk-weighted amount. In this case, that portion of the relevant exposure protected by the credit derivative (or the amount of credit protection purchased as detailed in paragraph 15 of this Attachment) may be weighted according to the risk weight of the protection seller.

### **Second-to-default basket credit derivatives**

28. Where an ADI has purchased credit protection using a credit derivative that is referenced to more than one reference entity and that protection is triggered after a second credit event occurs on one of those entities (i.e. a second-to-default basket product), protection must only be recognised if the ADI has also purchased first-to-default credit protection or after a first-to-default credit event has occurred on one of the entities in the basket. In this case, the treatment is the same as for first-to-default credit derivatives detailed in paragraph 27 of this Attachment.

### **Maturity mismatch**

29. A maturity mismatch exists where the residual maturity of a credit derivative is less than the maturity of the underlying exposure.
30. Where there is a maturity mismatch, a credit derivative may only be recognised for CRM purposes where the original maturity of the credit derivative is greater than or equal to 12 months. Credit derivatives with an original maturity of less than 12 months will not be eligible unless the maturity of the credit derivative matches the maturity of the underlying exposure. In all cases where there is a maturity mismatch, a credit derivative will not be eligible where it has a residual maturity of three months or less.

31. Where credit protection provided by a single protection seller has different maturities, an ADI must divide the exposure into separate covered portions for risk-weighting purposes.

### Adjustment for maturity mismatch

32. Where there is a maturity mismatch between a credit derivative and the covered exposure, for capital adequacy purposes an ADI must apply the following adjustment:

$$P_a = P \times \left( \frac{t - 0.25}{T - 0.25} \right)$$

where:

$P_a$  = value of the amount of credit protection adjusted for maturity mismatch

$P$  = the amount of credit protection adjusted for any haircuts (in which case,  $P = G_a$  as determined in paragraph 33 of this Attachment)

$t$  = min (T, residual maturity of the credit derivative) expressed in years

$T$  = min (5, residual maturity of the underlying exposure) expressed in years.

### Currency mismatches

33. A currency mismatch exists where an ADI has purchased credit protection using a credit derivative and the credit derivative is denominated in a different currency from that in which the underlying exposure is denominated. In this case the amount of the exposure deemed to be protected ( $G_a$ ) must be reduced by the application of an adjustment or haircut ( $H_{fx}$ ) as follows:

$$G_a = G \times (1 - H_{fx})$$

where:

$G$  = nominal amount of the credit derivative

$H_{fx}$  = haircut appropriate for the currency mismatch between the credit derivative and the underlying exposure.

34. The  $H_{fx}$  haircut detailed in paragraph 33 of this Attachment is the same as that applied to collateral in the comprehensive approach (refer to Attachment G of this Prudential Standard). If an ADI uses the comprehensive approach and it uses the standard haircuts, the haircut to be applied for a currency mismatch will be eight per cent (assuming daily mark-to-market). If the ADI uses its own-estimate haircuts, the estimates for a currency mismatch must be based on a 10-business day holding period. Where the ADI uses the simple approach it may use the standard haircut of eight per cent for the currency mismatch (assuming daily

mark-to-market) or own-estimate haircuts based on a 10-business day holding period.

35. Using the formula detailed in paragraph 41 of Attachment G of this Prudential Standard, haircuts must be adjusted depending on the actual frequency of revaluation of the currency mismatch.

### **Credit derivatives used for acquiring credit risk exposure**

36. An ADI that sells credit protection that is not detailed in paragraphs 37 to 41 of this Attachment must obtain APRA's written approval regarding the appropriate Regulatory Capital treatment for the transaction.

#### *Credit-default swaps*

37. Where credit protection is sold via a credit-default swap referenced to a single reference entity, the ADI acquires an exposure to the credit risk of that entity. The risk weight that must be applied to the exposure is the risk weight that would otherwise apply to the reference entity. The amount of the exposure is the maximum possible amount payable under the terms of the credit derivative contract if a credit event were to occur.

#### *Total-rate-of-return swaps*

38. Credit protection sold via a total-rate-of-return swap must be included in an ADI's trading book.

#### *Cash-funded credit-linked notes*

39. Where credit protection is sold via a cash-funded credit-linked note, the ADI acquires an exposure to both the protection buyer and the entity where the cash collateral is held, with the amount of the exposure being the face value of the note. Where the credit-linked note is structured such that the protection seller receives some percentage of the note's face value if the credit derivative is triggered, the amount of exposure to the reference entity is the difference between the face value and this percentage amount. To account for this exposure, the higher of the risk weights applicable to the protection buyer and the entity where the cash collateral is held must be applied to the exposure.

#### *First-to-default basket credit derivatives*

40. Where an ADI has sold credit protection using a first-to-default basket product, capital must be held against all the reference entities in the basket. The risk-weighted exposure arising from the credit derivative must be calculated as the sum of the individual risk-weighted exposures in the basket, with the amount of capital held capped at the nominal amount of the credit protection provided by the credit derivative.

*Second-to-default basket credit derivatives*

41. Where an ADI has sold credit protection using a second-to-default basket product, capital must be held against all the reference entities in the basket except for the entity that has the lowest corresponding risk-weighted exposure. The risk-weighted exposure arising from the credit derivative will be the sum of the individual risk-weighted exposures in the basket, excluding the lowest risk-weighted exposure amount, with the amount of capital held capped at the nominal amount of the protection provided by the credit derivative.

## Attachment I — Netting

### Use of netting

1. An ADI may, for capital adequacy purposes, net (i.e. through close-out netting or netting by novation) the following types of transactions, subject to the requirements of this Attachment:
  - (a) on-balance sheet loans and deposits where:
    - (i) the ADI is able to determine, at all times, the assets and liabilities of the counterparty that are subject to the netting agreement; and
    - (ii) deposits meet the criteria for eligible financial collateral as set out in Attachment G of this Prudential Standard;
  - (b) OTC derivative transactions (across both the banking and trading books) with a single counterparty. This may include netting across different market-related product types, such as credit derivatives, to the extent that they are recognised as market-related transactions for capital adequacy purposes;<sup>49</sup> and
  - (c) SFTs.

An ADI may not, however, recognise payments netting.
2. At Level 1, an ADI may only net transactions with related entities for CRM purposes if the transactions comply with the requirements for netting in this Attachment.
3. At Level 2, an ADI may only net transactions undertaken by an individual member of a consolidated group for CRM purposes if the transactions comply with the requirements for netting in this Attachment.
4. An ADI that chooses to net transactions must continue to do so and must apply netting to all transactions in both the banking and trading book covered by a netting agreement.
5. An ADI may only net positions across the banking and trading book if the netted transactions:
  - (a) are marked-to-market daily, where applicable; and
  - (b) any collateralised instruments used in the transactions comply with the criteria for eligible collateral in the banking book.
6. An ADI that uses the close-out netting method must apply the following stages:
  - (a) fixing of obligations on the occurrence of an event; and

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<sup>49</sup> For the purposes of this Attachment, SFTs are not included as part of market-related transactions.

- (b) calculating the cost to each party in closing out transactions according to a prescribed formula.

The amounts due to both counterparties may be calculated in a single currency, or converted to a single currency, and then netted to a single payment due by one party to the other.

### **Eligible bilateral netting agreements**

- 7. An ADI may only net, for capital adequacy purposes, claims and obligations with a counterparty that are covered by a legally binding eligible bilateral netting agreement (including a master agreement) (netting agreement), if the netting agreement:

- (a) is in writing;
- (b) creates a single legal obligation covering all transactions and collateral included in the netting agreement, such that the ADI would have the right to:
  - (i) terminate and close-out, in a timely manner, all transactions under the netting agreement;
  - (ii) net gains and losses on transactions, including the value of any collateral, terminated and closed out under the netting agreement so that the ADI would have either a claim to receive or an obligation to pay only the net sum of the close-out values of individual transactions. For forwards, swaps, options and similar derivative contracts, this will include the positive and negative mark-to-market values of individual transactions; and
  - (iii) liquidate or set-off collateral

in the event that either party fails to perform due to default, liquidation or bankruptcy or other similar circumstances;<sup>50</sup>

- (c) is supported by a written and reasoned legal opinion that concludes that in the event of default, liquidation, bankruptcy or other similar circumstances of a party to a netting agreement, the relevant courts and authorities would find the ADI's claims and obligations are limited to the single net sum determined in the netting agreement under:
  - (i) the law of the jurisdiction in which the counterparty is incorporated or formed (or, in the case of a natural person, resides), and if a foreign

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<sup>50</sup> In some countries, there are provisions for the authorities to appoint an administrator to a troubled bank. Under statutory provisions applying in those countries, the appointment of an administrator may not constitute grounds for the triggering of netting agreements. Such provisions do not prevent the recognition of affected netting agreements for the purposes of this Prudential Standard provided that a netting agreement can still take effect in the event the bank under administration does not meet its obligations under transactions as they fall due.

branch of the counterparty is involved, the law of the jurisdiction in which the branch is located;

- (ii) the law that governs the individual transactions involved;
- (iii) the law that governs any contract or agreement necessary to give effect to the netting;

and, in particular, in the insolvency or external administration of the counterparty, the netting will be recognised under those laws, so that it will not be possible for the liquidator or other external administrator of the counterparty to claim a gross amount due from the ADI while only being liable to pay a dividend in insolvency to the ADI (as separate money flows); and

- (d) is not subject to a walkaway clause.

### **Legal opinion**

8. An ADI that has obtained a positive legal opinion about the enforceability of a netting agreement must:
  - (a) ensure that the legal opinion is not subject to assumptions or qualifications that are unduly restrictive;
  - (b) review assumptions regarding the enforceability of the netting agreement and ensure they are specific, factual and adequately explained in the opinion; and
  - (c) review and assess all assumptions, qualifications and omissions in a legal opinion on the netting agreement to determine whether they give rise to any doubt about the enforceability of the netting agreement.
9. A legal opinion may be obtained on a group basis, and an individual member of the consolidated banking group may rely on the opinion for the purposes of this Attachment. This is provided the ADI and the individual group member have satisfied themselves as to the application of the legal opinion to a netting agreement to which the group member is a counterparty.
10. An ADI must not recognise a netting agreement, for capital adequacy purposes, if there is any doubt as to the enforceability of the netting agreement.
11. An ADI may rely on a general legal opinion about the enforceability of a netting agreement in a particular jurisdiction if the ADI has determined that the type of netting agreement involved is encompassed by the general legal opinion.
12. An ADI must satisfy itself that a netting agreement and supporting general legal opinion are applicable to each counterparty, transaction and product type undertaken with the counterparty and in all jurisdictions where transactions are originated.

### **Policies, systems and controls**

13. An ADI that applies netting for capital adequacy purposes must have a netting policy, approved by the Board of directors, that sets out its approach to netting and that, as a minimum, addresses the requirements of this Attachment.
14. An ADI's netting policy must include systems and controls for monitoring netting agreements, including monitoring and managing:
  - (a) roll-off risk;
  - (b) relevant exposures on a net basis; and
  - (c) termination riskfor all transactions subject to netting.
15. An ADI must have appropriate systems and controls to monitor and report netted transactions on a gross and net basis.
16. An ADI must have internal procedures to verify that a transaction that is netted is covered by an appropriate legal opinion which satisfies the requirements of this Attachment.
17. An ADI must be able to demonstrate to APRA, if required, the satisfactory application of its netting policy, including netting systems and controls, and must provide details of the policy to APRA if requested to do so.

### **Monitoring and reporting of netting agreements**

18. An ADI that nets transactions for capital adequacy purposes must maintain adequate records to support the application of the netting agreement.
19. An ADI must exclude netted transactions for which it has not obtained a satisfactory legal opinion in a specific jurisdiction, when determining the net sum due to/from the counterparty involved. Excluded transactions must be reported on a gross basis. The ADI may, however, continue to net other transactions that originate in jurisdictions where it has obtained a positive legal opinion about the enforceability of a netting agreement.
20. An ADI that becomes aware that a regulator or supervisor of a counterparty has given notice that it is not satisfied that netting is enforceable under the laws of the regulator's or supervisor's home country must not recognise the netting agreement for capital adequacy purposes regardless of any legal opinion obtained by the ADI.
21. An ADI must have procedures in place to monitor legal developments to ensure that netting agreements continue to be legally enforceable. The ADI must update its legal opinion covering netting agreements, as necessary, to ensure the continued enforceability of a netting agreement.

22. An ADI must report transactions on a gross basis, including for the purposes of measuring capital adequacy, if legal developments affect the enforceability of a netting agreement.

### **Collateral and guarantees**

23. An ADI may take into account collateral and guarantees when calculating the risk weight to be applied to the net sum calculated under a netting agreement. An ADI may only assign a risk weight based on collateral and guarantees if the collateral or guarantees have been posted or are otherwise subject to a legally enforceable agreement and are legally available for all individual transactions making up the net sum of exposures involved.
24. An ADI that has a netting agreement with a counterparty that contains provisions for applying collateral or guarantees to netted exposures outstanding between the ADI and the counterparty, must ensure that the provisions comply with the requirements set out in Attachments F and G of this Prudential Standard with respect to eligible collateral and guarantees.

### **Calculation of exposure: On-balance sheet netting transactions**

25. An ADI that satisfies the requirements of this Attachment for on-balance sheet netting must use the formula in paragraph 27 of Attachment G of this Prudential Standard to calculate its net on-balance sheet exposure for capital adequacy purposes. The ADI must use a zero haircut in this formula except when a currency mismatch exists. The ADI must also apply a 10-business day holding period when daily mark-to-market is conducted and satisfy paragraphs 30 and 44 to 48 of Attachment G of this Prudential Standard.

### **Calculation of exposure: Securities financing transactions (SFTs)**

#### *Comprehensive approach*

26. An ADI that uses the comprehensive approach to eligible collateral (refer to Attachment G of this Prudential Standard) must apply the following formula for the purposes of calculating the ADI's adjusted exposure ( $E^*$ ) amount after netting for SFTs, unless it chooses to use a value-at-risk (VaR) models approach in accordance with paragraph 28 of this Attachment.

$$E^* = \max\left\{0, \left[ \sum E - \sum C + \sum (E_s \times H_s) + \sum (E_{fx} \times H_{fx}) \right] \right\}$$

where:

$E^*$  = the exposure value after risk mitigation

$E$  = current value of the exposure

$C$  = the value of the collateral received

$E_s$  = absolute value of the net position in a given security

$H_s$  = haircut appropriate to  $E_s$

$E_{fx}$  = absolute value of the net position in a currency different from the settlement currency

$H_{fx}$  = haircut appropriate for currency mismatch.

27. An ADI must multiply the net long or short position of each security included in the netting agreement by the appropriate haircut. The ADI must also apply the rules in paragraphs 24 and 27 to 48 of Attachment G of this Prudential Standard regarding the calculation of haircuts.

*VaR models approach*

28. An ADI that wishes to use a VaR model to determine its net SFT exposure for capital adequacy purposes must seek explicit approval to do so from APRA. If approved, the VaR model may be used for SFTs covered by netting agreements on a counterparty-by-counterparty basis.
29. An ADI's VaR model used to determine the ADI's net SFT exposure for capital adequacy purposes must provide daily estimates of the 99 per cent, one-tailed confidence interval of the potential change in value of the unsecured exposure amount ( $\sum E - \sum C$ ), and satisfy the General Criteria, Qualitative Standards and Quantitative Standards for recognition of internal models in APS 116, other than the requirement for a 10-day holding period listed therein. The minimum holding period is five days, and the ADI must adjust upwards the minimum holding periods for market instruments where such a holding period would be inappropriate given the liquidity of the instrument concerned. Furthermore, under the circumstances described in paragraph 40 of Attachment G of this Prudential Standard, a higher minimum holding period will apply.
30. An ADI using the VaR model approach to determine its net SFT exposure for capital adequacy purposes must use the formula below to calculate its exposure ( $E^*$ ):

$$E^* = \max\left\{0, \left[\sum E - \sum C + VaR \text{ output from internal model}\right]\right\}$$

where symbols are as defined in paragraph 26 of this Attachment. An ADI using the VaR models approach must use the previous business day's model output when calculating its capital requirement.