

April 2012

FDIC Model Safe Accounts Template

The FDIC Model Safe Accounts Template provides insured institutions with guidelines for offering cost-effective transactional and savings accounts that are safe and affordable for consumers. The electronic deposit accounts are designed to meet the needs of underserved consumers. The accounts reflect the following guiding principles: transparent rates and fees that are reasonable and proportional to costs, access to banking services that feature FDIC insurance, and the protections afforded by applicable federal and state consumer protection laws, regulations, and guidelines. Standard customer identification rules would apply, including verification through the use of a variety of well-established, permissible forms of identification (see 31 C.F.R. § 1020.220). FDIC Model Safe Accounts also would be subject to all other applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

Elements of the FDIC Model Safe Accounts

	Transactional Account	Basic Savings Account
Core Features and Fees		
Card-based electronic account	√	√
No overdraft or NSF fees	√	--
Interest bearing	--	√
Direct deposit	Free	Free
Automatic saving	Free	Free
Online and mobile banking/ bill pay	Free	Free
Electronic statements (with consumer's consent)	Free	Free
Opening balance	\$10 - \$25	\$5
Monthly minimum balance	\$1	\$5
Monthly maintenance fee	Up to \$3	None, if minimum balance is met
Money orders/e-checks	2 free per month, additional for a fee that is reasonable and proportional to the cost	--
Check cashing	Drawn on insured institution: Free Not drawn on insured institution: Fee that is reasonable and proportional to cost	Drawn on insured institution: Free Not drawn on insured institution: Fee that is reasonable and proportional to cost
General funds availability (subject to appropriate exceptions, e.g. large deposits)	Same day or next day from an established customer	Same day or next day from an established customer
Auxiliary Services and Fees		
Financial education	Free	Free
Linked savings account	Transfer fees that are reasonable and proportional to cost	--
Line of credit	Rates and fees that are reasonable and proportional to cost	--
Small-dollar loans (less than \$2500)	Terms and conditions consistent with the FDIC's Safe, Affordable, and Feasible Template for Small-Dollar Loans	Terms and conditions consistent with the FDIC's Safe, Affordable, and Feasible Template for Small-Dollar Loans
Kiosk bill payment	Fees that are reasonable and proportional to cost	Fees that are reasonable and proportional to cost
Domestic and international wire transfers	Fees that are reasonable and proportional to cost	Fees that are reasonable and proportional to cost