

# Australian Bond Exchange

## Product Quotation Guidance and Procedures

### Overview

Issuers enjoy significant benefits from having their debt securities (**Product**) quoted on ABE's platform, including:

- a. access to a secondary market providing price transparency to OTC products that to date have only traded in an opaque market.
- b. a pool of retail and wholesale investors through ABE's broker and financial planner community and its other B2C channels.
- c. trading, settlement, and registry infrastructure for OTC bonds that has no peer.
- d. differentiating themselves and their securities, including in marketing material to investors, from other OTC issuers that are not listed on ABE's platform

Issuers need to complete, sign, and submit the ABE Product Quotation Application and Information Schedule (the **Application**) to formally commence the process to have Product admitted to trading status on ABE's platform. If unsure the proposed Product will meet ABE's criteria, issuers can obtain an early sounding from ABE on the likelihood of the Product meeting the criteria by submitting the ABE Product Quotation In-Principle Advice Request.

### Initial discussions in advance of making an Application

ABE recommends issuers (the **Applicant**) discuss their Application with ABE prior to submitting the Application. This will help the Applicant determine:

1. how to complete the Application form,
2. what information and documents need to be submitted with the Application, and
3. general guidance on the review process and expected timeframe.

If the Applicant is uncertain about its ability to meet the product quotation criteria, it should consider applying to ABE for in-principle advice before going through the effort and expense of lodging the full Application. The form to request in-principle advice is located [here](#). Any in-principle advice given by ABE to the Applicant is non-binding and based solely on the facts provided by the Applicant and known at the time. ABE may place conditions on the in-principle advice provided, may place a time limit on it or may change or withdraw it if other facts subsequently come to light.

ABE will provide written advice stating, based on the information submitted in the request, if there are any critical issues that would make it ineligible for admission.

### Application process

Issuers need to complete, sign, and submit the [ABE Product Quotation Application and Information Schedule](#) to formally commence the process to have Product admitted to trading status on ABE's platform. Once the Application form has been submitted, ABE will commence the review process.

The time between lodgement and a decision being made will depend on the workload at the time and the complexity of the Application. However, the typical period is around 5 weeks. Factors that can impact on this timetable include:

1. delay or failure to pay the Application fee and the initial product quotation fee
2. quality and completeness of information provided
3. availability of final documents
4. ABE workload at the time

In respect to point 2 above, it is important for Applicants, when completing Part 3 of the Application form, to clearly identify relevant documents and provide detailed and clear references to the page and / or other headings, clauses, tables, or schedules where that specific information can be found in the document(s) submitted with the Application. Otherwise, time will be wasted trying to locate the relevant information in the documents or the information may be overlooked altogether, delaying the process or at worst, leading to the Application being rejected. Moreover, an Application may be rejected immediately, or the review deferred if it has not been properly or fully completed or where it is not accompanied by all the information or documents required.

Where the Application is in respect of a new issue that has a minimum subscription condition, ABE may defer finalising its review until the Applicant confirms it has achieved the minimum subscription required to meet the condition.

### Fee and payment of fee

An entity applying for admission to trading status must pay the non-refundable application fee plus the applicable initial product quotation fee as set out in the [Schedule of Fees](#). The fees should be paid at the time of lodging the Application and should be made by electronic funds transfer to:

**Account Name:** Australian Bond Exchange Pty Ltd

**BSB:** 012 003

**Account:** 838222926

A remittance advice stating the name of the entity, describing the payment as the “Application and initial product quotation fees”, and the amount paid should be emailed to:

[settlements@bondexchange.com.au](mailto:settlements@bondexchange.com.au)

ABE will not commence the review process until receipt of the fee has been confirmed.

Once an Application is approved, the Applicant will be advised of the annual listing fee that must be paid for the first year on a pro rata basis<sup>1</sup>. The Product will not be available to trade on ABE’s platform until the fee has been received in ABE’s bank account.

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<sup>1</sup> Annual fees are paid in advance for each Financial Year. Invoices will be sent each June and are payable by the end of July. Annual fees for the first year following quotation will be pro rata up to the end of the first Financial Year.

## Quotation decision

Applicants will be advised in writing of ABE's decision to either admit or reject the Applicant's Product to trading status on the ABE platform. The decision is made by the ABE Product Committee. ABE has absolute discretion in deciding to admit or reject a Product and, in the event of rejection, is under no obligation to advise the Applicant of reasons for the rejection. However, examples of reasons why ABE may reject an Application include:

1. Concerns that the Applicant's structure, business, industry, financial condition, earnings forecast, governance arrangements, board or management may not be suitable for an entity and its Product to be traded on ABE's platform.
2. The Applicant's main business operation is in an emerging or developing market and ABE has concerns over the regulatory environment, integrity or social responsibility demonstrated in those markets.
3. Concerns over the qualifications and experience of the Applicant's auditor or other expert or professional adviser providing services in relation to the Product or Application.
4. Prior unacceptable dealings between the Applicant, its senior management or directors and ABE.
5. Concerns that admitting the Applicant's Product to trading status on its platform may put at risk ABE's reputation and brand.