



SECTION: Investment of Pension Funds

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Can a pension fund invest in a limited partnership? Can a limited partnership hold real estate and shares in a manufacturing business? Can the limited partnership be listed or unlisted on a stock exchange?

There is nothing in Regulation 909 preventing a pension fund from investing in limited partnerships, nor are there limits as to what the partnership may hold. However, a partnership may not be used to circumvent limits prescribed by the Regulation. For instance, if the pension fund's investment in the limited partnership exceeds 10 per cent of total fund assets in terms of book value at the time of the investment, section 70(1) of the Regulation would be contravened. If the limited partnership in which a pension fund participated invested in only one parcel of real estate, the fund would be required to comply with the 5 per cent, per-parcel limit prescribed in section 71(1)(a) of the Regulation. The same principles apply to other holdings the partnership might have.

The use of partnership investments should be provided for in the Statement of Investment Policies and Goals of the pension fund. The administrator or investment manager should also ascertain the tax implications of partnership investments. The *Income Tax Act* (Canada) stipulates that partnerships constitute "foreign property."

With respect to whether a limited partnership can be listed on a stock exchange, there are no requirements in the Regulation to that effect. The possibility of listing on a stock exchange would have to be explored by the exchange's listing department. There are some limited partnerships that report their net taxable income or loss to the press at certain dates. These reports appear periodically in the financial pages of some newspapers.