Bond Case Briefs

Municipal Finance Law Since 1971

Free Interactive Course Simulates Decision-Making about Investing in Municipal Bonds.

Washington, DC - The Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB) today launched a free, interactive online course to help investors understand how municipal bonds work and assess how they might fit into a balanced portfolio.

"For sheer variety, there is no market quite like the universe of municipal securities," said MSRB Executive Director Lynnette Kelly. "One million securities are outstanding, a total that dwarfs all other equity and bond instruments. The MSRB is committed to providing objective and authoritative information to help investors navigate this diverse marketplace."

"Exploring Municipal Bonds: A Course for Investors" uses real-world scenarios to show investors where to get information about municipal bonds and to highlight considerations for selecting an individual security. Appropriate for both individual investors and professionals, the course was developed to supplement the MSRB's online Education Center, which provides free, objective information about the municipal bond market. Create an account in MuniEdPro® to take the free, 45-minute course.

The municipal bond investor course is part of MSRB's MuniEdPro® suite of online, interactive courses about municipal market activities and regulations. Other topics in the series include primary market offering disclosure responsibilities, roles and responsibilities of market participants in a primary offering, and the role of the regulator.

"We wanted to leverage the latest in online technology to engage investors seeking a deeper understanding of municipal bonds," said Ritta McLaughlin, MSRB's Chief Education Officer. "Our investor course enables them to experience a variety of scenarios to explore how municipal bond investing would have an impact on their portfolio and their income. It is an exciting addition to the growing catalog of MuniEdPro® courses."

The MSRB developed the free course to educate fixed-income investors about municipal bonds and help them evaluate how municipal bonds can fit into a balanced portfolio of investments. Municipal bonds attract perennial interest through ups and downs in the broader financial markets because of their tax advantages and historically low default rates.

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