



Banc Ceannais na hÉireann
Central Bank of Ireland

Eurosystem

Participation in TARGET-Ireland

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Participation in TARGET-Ireland

The harmonised rules for participation in TARGET-Ireland are set out in Part I of Annex I of the TARGET-Ireland Terms and Conditions.

Article 4 of Annex I of the Terms and Conditions sets out the access criteria for direct participation and Article 5 specifies the application procedure to become a participant. Conditions that must be satisfied before becoming a participant in TARGET-Ireland are contained in section 3 (Conditions Precedent) of the TARGET-Ireland Terms and Conditions.

TARGET-Ireland Participation types:

TARGET participants are entities that have at least one main cash account (MCA) and may additionally hold one or more dedicated cash accounts (DCAs) in TARGET or, an ancillary system (AS). A description of the participation types can be found on the ECB website (see [T2T2S Professional User webpage](#), under the “Participation/Registration” heading in the menu options and the sub-heading, “Supporting documents”). The [Fundamentals document](#) on that webpage outlines the initial overview of the different participation types, while the remaining documents address specific TARGET Services.

Access to TARGET-Ireland

As mentioned above, the application procedure for TARGET-Ireland is set out in Article 5 of Annex I of the TARGET-Ireland Terms and Conditions. TARGET-Ireland connection is estimated to take anywhere between 3 and 6 months depending on the participation type required. The various steps defined below take place during that period.

1. Request for TARGET-Ireland Access

An official request to access TARGET-Ireland must be made to the Eurosettlements and Collateral Management Manager at targetadmin@centralbank.ie & eurosettlements@centralbank.ie detailing:

- (i) TARGET participation type required (see above);
- (ii) Purpose of the TARGET account;
- (iii) The expected values and volumes that will be processed (direct participant);
- (iv) The expected balance that will be held on the account (direct participant).

Following an assessment process in accordance with Guideline ECB/2022/8¹, the applicant will need to go through a number of steps outlined below to access TARGET-Ireland.

2. Legal requirements:

The legal requirements for participation in TARGET-Ireland, in accordance with Guideline ECB/2022/8 are as set out in section 3 of the TARGET-Ireland Terms and Conditions. They include an obligation for applicants to enter into:

1. The Agreement in respect of Participation in TARGET-Ireland (the **Participation Agreement**), which is accessible on the Bank's website via this [link](#); and
2. The Deed of Floating Charge over Credit Balances on TARGET Accounts (the **Deed of Charge**) in the form set out at the following [link](#).

¹ Guideline of the European Central Bank of 24 February 2022 on a new generation Trans-European Automated Real-time Gross Settlement Express Transfer system (TARGET) and repealing Guideline ECB/2012/27 (ECB/2022/8) – available at <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/browse/institutions/bank.html>

In order for the Bank to progress the completion and execution of the above documents, we will require the following information:

- *Participation Agreement:*
 - a) **Participant details:** the full name, incorporation details, company registration number and registered office address of the 'Participant';
 - b) **Notice details:** the relevant notice details for the purpose of clause 5, i.e., the address, e-mail address, SWIFT address and the relevant contact person (preferably a function rather than a named person - for example, Head of Payments and Securities and Settlements Division);
 - c) **Process Agent details** (if applicable): the relevant process agent details for the purpose of clause 13, including name and address; and
 - d) **Signing block details:** the form of execution and the number of signatories.

- *Deed of Charge:*
 - e) **Counterparty details:** the full name, incorporation details, company registration number and registered office address of the 'Counterparty' (i.e. the Participant);
 - f) **Notice details:** the relevant notice details for the purpose of clause 17, i.e. the address, email address and the relevant contact person (preferably a function rather than a named person - for example, Head of Payments and Securities and Settlements Division); and
 - g) **Signing block details:** the form of execution, the number of signatories (for example, along with a single witness, whether one or two signatories) and whether the company seal will be applied.

In addition to entering into the above documents, for the opening and operation of a TARGET account in TARGET-Ireland, an applicant must provide the following (in accordance with Article 5.1(d) and (e) of Annex I to the Terms and Conditions), as appropriate:

- (i) A capacity legal opinion, which must be in the form specified in Appendix III to Annex I to the Terms and Conditions.

This opinion must be provided by an external law firm. A draft of the capacity opinion should be provided to the Bank for our review in advance of completion.

- (ii) There is an additional requirement to provide a country opinion, in the form specified in Appendix III to Annex I to the Terms and Conditions, where the participant is established outside the EEA, provided that they act through a branch established in the Union or the EEA.

Access to intra-day credit: Participants in TARGET-Ireland that wish to apply to access the intra-day credit facility must contact the Bank at eurosettlements@centralbank.ie. One of the Bank's pre-conditions for granting intraday is that participants are a (full access) Eurosystem monetary policy counterparty. See [here](#) for this process

3. Network Service Provider connection

Where a direct Network Service Provider connection is required, the following steps apply:

- Register with one of the two approved network Service Providers SWIFT or NEXI:
 - Register for a Bank Identifier Code (BIC).
 - The applicant will be required to go through the e-ordering process on the SWIFT/NEXI website to subscribe to T2 services for both the test and live environments.

4. Registration of static data

In order to give the applicant access to T2, they will be required to submit a number of static data forms to targetadmin@centralbank.ie. Two sets of forms will be required, one for the test environment and one for the production environment. The forms must be signed by an authorised signatory on behalf of the participant and sent to the Bank to be processed.

Static data forms are found here: <https://www.centralbank.ie/financial-system/payments-and-securities-settlements/target-services/target-forms>

5. Certification Testing

Applicants that want to connect to TARGET-Ireland are subject to a number of certification test requirements in order to confirm connectivity to TARGET-Ireland and that the applicant can fully operate its business without any issues. A test plan will be agreed between the Bank and the applicant. We will provide all necessary support during the test period.

- i. **Connectivity testing** verifies the ability of the future TARGET-Ireland users to connect to TARGET-Ireland.
- ii. **Interoperability testing** ensures that the future user can participate in TARGET-Ireland by using all the relevant functionalities of TARGET. All future TARGET-Ireland users should be able to send and receive correctly formatted information and a different set of test cases is assigned to the user depending on the user profile.

Connectivity testing must be completed before interoperability testing starts.

The latest version of the T2 Testing Guide and Connectivity and Interoperability test cases are available from the Bank on request

6. Go-live

The connection always goes live at the start of a new reserve maintenance period (see ECB website for relevant dates), once the Bank has completed its assessment and is satisfied that the access criteria have been met and that all required legal documentation is in place.

TARGET Pricing

The costs related to the participation in TARGET-Ireland, which consist of a fixed monthly charge plus a charge per transaction, will be invoiced to the participant.

TARGET Services Pricing Guide

The Core Pricing Scheme

The tariffs for participation in TARGET-Ireland are as follows:

For a connection via SWIFT or NEXI, the participant will be charged according to the option chosen: option A or option B.

Option A:

- A monthly fee of €400; plus
- A flat transaction fee of €0.80 per transaction (debit entry).

Option B

- A monthly fee of €5,000; plus
- A volume-based transaction fee ranging from €0.60 to €0.05 per transaction (debit entry) based on the bands below:

Voluntary termination of Target-Ireland participation at the discretion of the participant

Article 24(2) of Annex I to the TARGET-Ireland Terms and Conditions provides that a participant may terminate its participation in TARGET-Ireland at any time by giving 14 business days' notice, unless it agrees a shorter notice period with the Bank.

On termination of participation, the TARGET accounts of the participant concerned shall be closed in accordance with Article 26 of Annex I to the TARGET-Ireland Terms and Conditions.

Notice of termination must be provided in writing in a form available on the Bank's [website](#).

Once a participant has duly notified the Bank of its intention to terminate its participation in TARGET-Ireland on a specified date, as provided for above, and this has been acknowledged by the Bank, they must resubmit their original static data forms with the delete options ticked and duly signed by the authorised signatories.

Having terminated its participation in TARGET-Ireland, the Deed of Floating Charge over Credit Balances on TARGET Accounts between the parties may be released. The Bank has prepared a deed of release for that purpose, which will be provided to the entity on request.

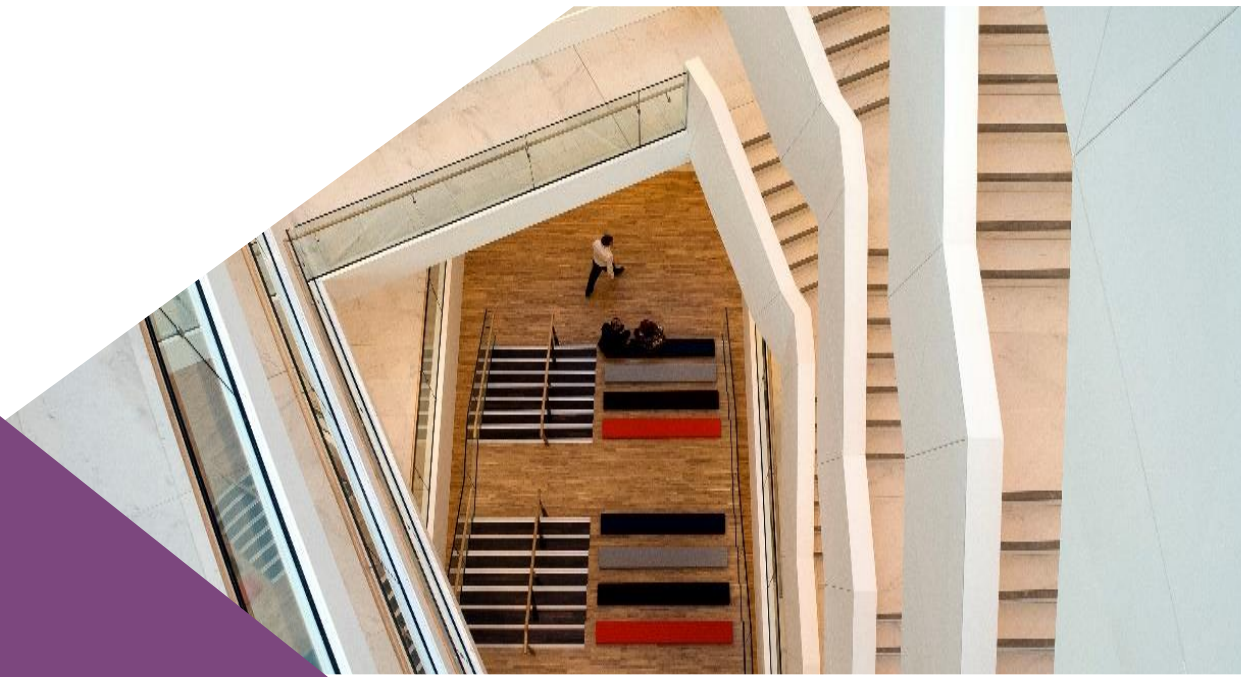
Please contact targetadmin@centralbank.ie for further information

Queries:

Queries in relation to TARGET-Ireland access may be sent to the Bank at targetadmin@centralbank.ie / eurosettlements@centralbank.ie

Table 1 | Table Title

Band	From	To	Price
1	1	10,000	€0.60
2	10,001	35,000	€0.50
3	35,001	80,000	€0.40
4	80,001	135,000	€0.20
5	135,001	200,000	€0.125
6	200,001	300,000	€0.08
7	Above 300,000		€0.05



T: +353 (0)1 224 5800
E: publications@centralbank.ie
www.centralbank.ie



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