

**For financial advisers only**

## **Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond investments on ARC – your questions answered**

We've partnered with Canada Life International, to provide access to their Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond investments through the Aegon Retirement Choices (ARC) General Investment Account (GIA).

The following questions and answers should help as you go through the process.

If you have any further questions, please get in touch with your usual Aegon contact.

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## **Are you launching your own offshore bond?**

No. We're partnering with Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac to provide a streamlined application process for their bond products to invest into the ARC GIA.

## **Who can invest into the Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond?**

Investments are made by Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac on behalf of the underlying bondholder(s) into an ARC GIA. All bondholders must be habitually resident in the UK.

## **Which Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bonds are covered by the agreement?**

At present investments will only be accepted into the ARC GIA from new or existing:

- Premiere Europe Account
- Elite and Prestige Accounts and Discounted Gift Trust versions, including
- Wealth Preservation Europe Account
- International Portfolio Bond (Closed Product)
- International Portfolio Bond Discounted Gift Trust (Closed Product)

**We appreciate there are other bonds made available directly, but these are not currently available. We'll keep you updated with any news on further bonds that become accepted through our relationship with Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac.**

## **How do the bond / annual charge work?**

The bond product fees are paid to Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac from the bond product.

The annual charge is paid to Aegon through the GIA the bond invests into and are subject to the adviser firm platform terms.

## **How do I set up adviser fees and where will they get taken from?**

When you complete a new Canada Life International bond application, you'll also need to complete the adviser charge section. This sets up the adviser charge expectation for both the

initial and ongoing fees to be paid through the bond product under your terms as agreed with the bondholder(s).

**Important – General adviser charging (for example advising on the suitability of an offshore bond) must not be set up and taken through the ARC GIA. General adviser charges should be taken from the bond and will reduce the amount of the 5 percent tax deferred allowance available to the bondholder(s).**

## **How do I set up investment fees and where will they get taken from?**

When you complete a new Canada Life International bond application, you'll also need to complete the investment options section and be appointed as the investment adviser for the portfolio. Dependent on your firms' permissions and what you've agreed with the bondholder, this could be either in an advisory or DFM capacity. This sets up the investment adviser charge expectation with investment management fees to be paid through the bond product under your terms as agreed with the bondholder(s).

**Important – Investment management fees must not be set up and taken through the ARC GIA. Instead, these charges should be taken from the bond.**

## **What charges are taken from the ARC GIA?**

The following can be taken from the GIA and will not impact your client's 5% withdrawals: ARC annual charge, investment fund charges, which includes MPS funds run by authorised platform DFMs.

## **How do I apply for the Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond on behalf of my client?**

You'll need to complete the Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond application form and submit this to Canada Life International. Once completed, you'll need to complete our ARC GIA application form on behalf of the bondholder(s) and Canada Life International will be the customer recognised by us.

## **How will the name appear for the Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond on ARC?**

To make it clearly visible the accounts that are held by Canada Life International on behalf of the underlying bondholder(s) we'll apply a strict naming convention. As an example 'Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) - [bond number]'.

**We'll reject any applications that don't comply with the strict naming convention. Our customer is Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac, so we can't permit any**

**specific customer identification in the naming convention. As an example, no client names, initials or Trust names are to be included.**

## **What income options are available and how regularly can they apply?**

The GIA allows regular withdrawals either monthly, quarterly or yearly. We also have ad hoc withdrawals. The withdrawals are paid to Canada Life International and allocated to the relevant bond product, to then be paid to the bondholder.

## **Who manages the GIA investment strategy?**

To have the correct authority to manage the GIA holding, you'll need to be appointed as the adviser to manage the investment strategy, either in an advisory or DFM capacity. Once this is confirmed by Canada Life International, you can trade on the account.

## **What fund range is available to invest in with the Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond?**

ARC's full range of funds are available. However, so your client remains compliant with Canada Life International Terms and conditions, you must follow the DFM/ Platform Investment Restrictions list as issued by Canada Life International. You should also take great care in only investing in permitted investments to avoid highly personalised bond rules applying, which can result in the bondholder being taxed on deemed gains.

## **Can my client see their Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond GIA on ARC?**

No. Bondholders aren't able to view their ARC GIA that the Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond is invested into. Our client in this partnership relationship is Canada Life International. They have made the investment on behalf of the bondholder(s). As we do not receive any information on the bondholder(s) from Canada Life International, we can't create view access for your client.

## **Can the GIA be placed in trust?**

No. The GIA is owned by Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac on behalf of the bondholder(s). As a result, it's the bond that must be placed in trust, then all of its assets will fall under that trust.

## **Can withdrawals be paid directly to the bondholder(s)?**

No. This isn't possible for the following reasons.

1. The GIA investment is owned by Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac on behalf of the bondholders, so the withdrawal can only be paid to their bank account and then into the bond product.
2. Any withdrawals need to be accounted for by Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac for their own records and chargeable event reporting, for example whether inside or outside of the 5% tax deferred withdrawal limits. The bondholder will be taxed in accordance with the chargeable event rules applying to the bond.

### **Can the Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond owned asset from a different platform be re-registered to ARC?**

Not currently. Any assets owned by the Canada Life International Assurance (Ireland) Dac offshore bond on different platforms will need to be sold down and the proceeds returned to the Canada Life International offshore bond. Once the proceeds have been received, an ARC GIA form can be completed as per the new business process.

### **Additional Canda Life International supporting documents**

[Canada Life International Investment range](#)

[Fees and charges for Canada Life International](#)

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