# **Electronic Processing Agreement (EPA)**

The Electronic Processing Agreement (EPA) is a mutual agreement between fund Manufacturers and Distributors that enables a Distributor to send instructions through the Fundserv network without requiring the submission of documentation for eligible client name instructions.





### The Problem



Manual handling of e-signed forms



LTAs, signature guarantees and other Manufacturer requirements



Complexity in the secure delivery of documentation



Processing delays or duplication related to documentation problems

## The Solution

The Electronic Processing Agreement (EPA) allows for the electronic submission of client name eligible transactions without the need to exchange and process associated paperwork between network participants.

#### **Features**

- For the large majority of instructions\*, electronic orders sent over the Fundserv network don't require the submission of settlement documents to Manufacturers
- A Documention Requirement Flag is returned for exceptions where documentation needs to be submitted
- Expanded member and transaction eligibility in V32
- Added an addendum to the Fundserv Contract to universally apply the EPA to all eligible instructions in V33

## Benefits

- Increased automation and faster processing times
- Improved operational efficiencies by minimizing documentprocessing and by keeping documents in digital form
- More autonomy for Distributors to manage their documentation without needing to meet various Manufacturer requirements
- Distributors retain documents already obligated by SRO rules



To learn more, visit our member site or email rm@fundserv.com.

#### **EPA Standards**

The following guidelines set out Fundserv's requirements on the proper implementation of the Electronic Processing Agreement adopted by Distributors by minimizing the documentation being sent to Manufacturers for transactions submitted electronically.

Manufacturers may use the Documentation Requirement Flag to indicate which transactions still require documentation to be submitted for specific exceptional cases. Otherwise, documentation should not be sent for most common financial and non-financial instructions being processed through the Fundserv network.



Do not submit documents

Submit documents

Purchases, switches, internal Mutual funds, HISA and transfers, in-cash transfers and liquid alternative products Any redemption amount, including external transfers for client name Segregated funds and in RRIF accounts or for corporate accounts held by Canadian non-prospectus funds accounts investors Special cases such as HBP/ Non-residents or any transaction LLP, marriage breakdown, estate not submitted electronically through settlement, etc. Fundserv New open, RRSP, TFSA All error corrections done and FHSA account setups electronically for open, (see exceptions) RRSP, RRIF, TFSA and Open accounts with FHSA accounts Error corrections for other recipient codes 3, 4 and 5, group RRSPs, and all other account types remaining account types supported on Fundserv Any instruction that returns a Documentation Requirement Flag All non-financial updates Beneficiary designations/changes if requested by manufacturer

#### **Notes**

- Documentation should not be submitted to Manufacturers for eligible instructions. If documents are sent, they may be ignored as the order will have been processed by the Manufacturer using the information in the electronic instruction.
- The EPA is applicable to orders where all the necessary data needed by the Manufacturer to fulfill the instruction is sent electronically through the Fundserv network. In the event that the Manufacturer does not have all required information or there is a regulatory obligation to have a copy of the instructions, they are required to return a Documentation Requirement Flag along with the wire order number to indicate that backup documentation needs to be submitted.



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# **EPA Quick Reference Sheet**

PRODUCT TYPE	Mutual funds, HISA and liquid alternative products only  Excluded from the EPA: All other product types including segregated funds		
GENERAL NOTE	Trades not supported on the Fundserv network are not applicable to the EPA  Documentation and/or instructions sent to the Manufacturer, which are not requested by them via the  Documentation Requirement Flag, may be ignored		
FORM TYPE	ACCOUNT	ТҮРЕ	EPA ELIGIBLE
		√ Do not send documentation   ✓ S	end documentati
1. Account opening	RRSP		$\checkmark$
	Group RRSP		×
	TFSA		$\checkmark$
	FHSA		$\checkmark$
	Open	Individual	$\checkmark$
		Joint	✓
		All other remaining open plan registrations	×
2. Purchases	RRSP		✓
	Group RRSP		×
	TFSA		✓
	FHSA		✓
	Open	Individual	✓
		Joint	✓
		All other remaining open plan registrations	×
	<ul> <li>Excluded from the EPA:</li> <li>Purchases with Contribution/Withdrawal codes</li> <li>J - 60J Pension transfer</li> <li>L - 60L Transfer on death</li> </ul>		
3. Commission rebate purchases	All account types		✓
4. Redemptions	RRIF		<b>√</b>
	RRSP		· ✓
	Group RRSP		· /
	TFSA		· ✓
	FHSA		<b>√</b>
	Open	Individual	<b>✓</b>
	Ороп	Joint	<b>√</b>
		All other remaining open plan registrations	
	Note: All client name RRIF redemptions placed over the Fundserv network are to be redeemed from the excess of minimum.		
	Excluded from the EPA:  • Home Buyers' Plan (HBP)  • Lifelong Learning Plan (LLP)  • Marriage breakdown  • Estates		
5. Switches	All account	t types	<b>√</b>
	RRSP	-	<b>→</b>
5. Transfers  • Internal	Group RRS	SP	<b>∨</b> ✓
External	TFSA	л	<b>✓</b>
In-cash transfers (ICT)	FHSA		<b>✓</b>
		Individual	<b>✓</b>
	Open	Individual	*
		Joint All the control of the control	<b>√</b>
		All other remaining open plan registrations	<b>√</b>
	Note: Refer to the <u>EPA Eligible Transaction Types</u> for more details on allowable transfers based on Account Designation		
7. Non-financial updates	All account types ✓		
(NFU)	Note:		
	<ul> <li>Accounts without beneficiary information may require documentation to be sent to the Manufacturer</li> <li>Updates to existing beneficiaries are excluded in their entirety</li> </ul>		
8. Error corrections	RRSP		✓
	Group RRSP		×
	RRIF		✓
	TFSA		✓
	FHSA		✓
	Open	Individual	<b>√</b>
	-	Joint	· ✓
		All other remaining open plan registrations	×
	Note:  • As-of-trade (AOT) and reversal (REV) transactions are applicable to purchases, EPA eligible internal transfers and switches only.		



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