

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

DRAFT DIGITAL ASSETS AND REGISTERED EXCHANGES (FEES) RULES, 2026

CONSULTATION PERIOD:
FRIDAY 28 AUGUST 2026 - FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2026



DRAFT DIGITAL ASSETS AND REGISTERED EXCHANGES (FEES) RULES, 2026

The Securities Commission of The Bahamas (“Commission”), in its capacity as the regulator of digital asset businesses, has issued the Digital Assets and Registered Exchanges (Fees) Rules, 2026 (“the Rules”) for public consultation. The draft Rules can be found on the Commission's website at: scb.gov.bs/legislative-framework/consultation-documents/.

Summary/Purpose

The draft Rules prescribe the fee requirements for registrants carrying on digital asset business, in or from The Bahamas and would replace the Digital Assets and Registered Exchanges (Fees) Rules, 2024 (No. 40 of 2024). The Rules:

- (a) increase certain fees applicable to digital asset businesses registered under the Digital Assets and Registered Exchanges Act, 2024;
- (b) introduce a new fee category for digital asset business applying for registration as a digital asset exchange;
- (c) introduce a new fee for digital asset exchange or digital asset business registered in respect of more than one digital asset business activity; and
- (d) introduces a new administrative fee for extension to file audited financial statements for a 6-month period (for a maximum of 2 extension requests).

Scope

These Rules would apply to persons regulated under the Digital Assets and Registered Exchanges Act, 2024.

Consultation period

Commences: Friday 28 August 2026

Ends: Friday 25 September 2026

Reply to:

Please submit any comments to **DAREconsultation@scb.gov.bs**.

Or alternatively, to:

Executive Director
Securities Commission of The Bahamas
Poinciana House North Building
2nd Floor, 31A East Bay Street
P.O. Box N-8347
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Tel: (242) 397-4100
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**DIGITAL ASSETS AND REGISTERED EXCHANGES (FEES)
RULES, 2026**

Arrangement of Rules

Rule

1. Citation and commencement.
2. Fees.
3. Fees for additional digital asset business activities.
4. Revocation of S.I. No. 110 of 2024.

SCHEDULE

DIGITAL ASSETS AND REGISTERED EXCHANGES ACT, 2024 (NO. 40 OF 2024)

DIGITAL ASSETS AND REGISTERED EXCHANGES (FEES) Rules, 2026

The Securities Commission of The Bahamas, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 79 of the Digital Assets and Registered Exchanges Act, 2024 (*No. 40 of 2024*), makes the following rules —

1. Citation and commencement.

- (1) These Rules may be cited as the Digital Assets and Registered Exchanges (Fees) Rules, 2026.
- (2) These Rules shall come into operation on 1 January, 2027.

2. Fees.

- (1) The fees set out in the *Schedule* and in these Rules shall —
 - (a) apply in relation to the Act unless exempted by the Commission;
 - (b) be payable to the Commission; and
 - (c) not be refundable.
- (2) The annual fees set out in the *Schedule* shall be payable on or before 31 January in each year.
- (3) Annual fees payable on the grant of registration shall be pro-rated from the date of registration to the 31 December of that year.

3. Fees for additional digital asset business activities.

- (1) A registrant applying for registration in respect of an additional digital asset business activity shall pay the application fee set out in the *Schedule* for each additional activity for which application is being made, in addition to any application, registration or annual renewal fee otherwise payable by the registrant.
- (2) Where a digital asset exchange or digital asset business is registered in respect of more than one digital asset business activity, the registration fee and the annual renewal fee payable shall be the highest fee payable for the activities registered plus \$6,250.00 for each additional activity.

4. Revocation of S.I. No. 110 of 2024.

The Digital Assets and Registered Exchanges (Fees) Rules, 2024 (*S.I. No. 110 of 2024*) are hereby revoked.

SCHEDULE

(rules 2 and 3)

A. Fees for persons registered under Part III (Digital Asset Businesses)			
Category of Registration	Application Fee	Registration Fee	Annual Renewal Fee
Digital Asset Exchange	\$7,500.00	\$23,500.00	\$23,500.00
All other digital asset businesses	\$5,000.00	\$15,625.00	\$15,625.00
Digital asset exchange applying for registration in respect of an additional digital asset business activity <i>This fee is payable in addition to the application, registration or renewal fee for a digital asset exchange.</i>	\$3,500.00 for each additional activity for which application is being made	—	—
Digital asset business applying for registration as a digital asset exchange	\$5,000.00	—	—
Digital asset business applying for registration in respect of an additional digital asset business activity	\$3,500.00 for each additional activity for which application is being made	—	—
Digital asset exchange or digital asset business registered in respect of more than one digital asset business activity	—	Registration fee and annual renewal fee: highest fee payable for the activities registered plus \$6,250.00 for each additional activity	

B. Fees for Chief Executive Officer, Compliance Officer and Money Laundering Reporting Officer		
Category of Registration	Application Fee	Annual Fee
Chief Executive Officer	\$750.00	\$1,000.00
Compliance Officer	\$750.00	\$1,000.00
Money Laundering Reporting Officer	\$750.00	\$1,000.00

C. Fee for registration of Offering Memorandum under Part IV (Token Offerings)	
Description	Fee
Registration of offering memorandum (Application Fee)	\$6,000.00

D. Administrative Fees	Fee
Appointment or change in directors	\$750.00
Approval of issue, transfer, disposal or re-categorization of digital assets	\$800.00
Audit confirmation letters	\$625.00
Replacement certificate	\$625.00
Name change	\$625.00
Extension to file interim statements for a 1-month period (for a maximum of 3 extension requests, i.e. one quarter)	\$875.00
Extension to file audited financial statements for a 6-month period (for a maximum of 2 extension requests)	\$1,250.00
Surrender of registration certificate	\$625.00
Application for exemption or modification	\$625.00