

# Preopening Checklist for Organizers

**Note: This checklist is not a complete list of requirements that must be met before the national bank/Federal savings association (bank) opens. You must refer to the Procedures to complete the organization phase. (See the “[Charters](#)” booklet of the *Comptroller’s Licensing Manual - Procedures: Organization Phase.*)**

	Date _____	Comment _____
<b>Organizing the Bank</b>		
Adopt articles of association/charter and bylaws	_____	
File adopted articles of association/charter with OCC	_____	
Adopt organization certificate	_____	
File organization certificate with OCC	_____	
Receive OCC acceptance of articles of association/charter and bylaws and organization certificate letter	_____	_____
Elect organizing directors previously cleared by the OCC	_____	
Execute <a href="#">oaths</a> of organizing directors and file with OCC	_____	
Select chairperson and secretary	_____	
Adopt corporate seal (only for national banks)	_____	
Adopt stock certificate form	_____	_____

## Raising Capital

Designate in the board minutes an insured depository bank as escrow agent to receive stock subscription funds	_____	
Establish depository escrow account	_____	
Send copy of depository agreement to OCC	_____	
Authorize offering materials and solicitation of stock subscriptions	_____	
Designate a board member or executive officer (typically the chairperson, Secretary to the Board, or president) as the OCC contact person	_____	_____
Notify the OCC of the contact person, if different from previous designee	_____	_____
Submit offering materials to OCC for review	_____	
File amended offering materials with OCC, if applicable	_____	

Receive OCC approval of amended offering materials \_\_\_\_\_

Receive OCC approval of offering materials as "effective" \_\_\_\_\_

Solicit stock subscriptions \_\_\_\_\_

Request OCC extension of expired offering materials, if needed \_\_\_\_\_

Receive OCC approval of extension of expired offering materials \_\_\_\_\_

Receive certification letter for capital funds from escrow agent \_\_\_\_\_

Forward copy of certification letter from escrow agent to the OCC \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare list of shareholders and submit to the OCC \_\_\_\_\_

**Continuing to Organize Bank Operations**

Sign fidelity insurance and other insurance contracts \_\_\_\_\_

Approve organization expenses in minutes if charged to bank \_\_\_\_\_

Approve location in minutes \_\_\_\_\_

Submit for review to the OCC directors' and executive officers' [Interagency Biographical and Financial Reports](#), if not already done \_\_\_\_\_

Hire the following officers who will be in place before opening:  
 Cashier or chief financial officer \_\_\_\_\_

Senior lending officer \_\_\_\_\_

Submit for review to the OCC principal shareholders' (10% or more) Interagency Biographical and Financial Reports, if not already done \_\_\_\_\_

Execute Capital Stock Payment Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

Forward Capital Stock Payment Certificate to OCC \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Regulatory Approvals**

Submit Federal Reserve Stock/Membership application to the FRB \_\_\_\_\_  
 (if applicable)

Receive approval of deposit insurance application from the FDIC (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Receive approval from FRB for holding company acquisition of the bank or Federal savings association, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

**Holding Company Requirements**

Forward certification to the OCC that the capital funds have been accounted for separately and are available to capitalize the bank \_\_\_\_\_

Provide unanimous written consent of all shareholders in  
Place of Proxy Card and Proxy Sample for First Shareholders'  
Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

### **Shareholders' Meeting**

Prepare and distribute to shareholders:

[Proxy Card](#)

Proxy Sample for First Shareholders' Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Hold initial shareholders' meeting \_\_\_\_\_

### **First Meeting of the Board and Board Activities**

Hold initial board of directors' meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Execute Oaths of directors \_\_\_\_\_

File an executed original copy of the Oaths with the OCC \_\_\_\_\_

Designate the following officers in the minutes:

Compliance officer \_\_\_\_\_

Security officer \_\_\_\_\_

Technology officer \_\_\_\_\_

Sign one or more contracts with a data processing  
and other service providers, each contract specifying  
the OCC's examination and regulatory jurisdiction \_\_\_\_\_

Adopt Board report formats \_\_\_\_\_

### **Final Preparations for Opening**

Complete building construction or leasehold improvements \_\_\_\_\_

Install furniture, fixtures, and equipment \_\_\_\_\_

Fulfill requirements of 12 CFR 21 (Minimum Security Devices) \_\_\_\_\_

Test operating business platform, including general ledger \_\_\_\_\_

Request preopening exam via "Organization Completed" letter  
(with Preopening Checklist for Applicants) \_\_\_\_\_

Specify desired opening date \_\_\_\_\_

Correct any preopening examination deficiencies \_\_\_\_\_

Verify approval of FDIC deposit insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Order FDIC deposit insurance signage from the FDIC \_\_\_\_\_

File documents with Fed for Federal Reserve Membership \_\_\_\_\_

(if applicable)

Request OCC to authorize Release of Escrow Fund	_____	
Receive letter from OCC authorizing Release of Escrow Fund	_____	
Receive OCC authorization to open	_____	_____
Call Licensing staff on first day to confirm opening	_____	_____

**The board of directors should adopt and be ready to implement the following policies and procedures when the bank opens. Depending on the proposed activities, the board may need to develop, adopt, and monitor additional written policies and procedures. Management may submit copies of policies and procedures to the supervisory office for review and comment prior to the preopening examination.**

	Date _____	Comment _____
Lending Policy	_____	_____
Loan and Lease Losses Policy	_____	_____
Loan Compliance Program	_____	_____
Interest Rate Risk Policy	_____	_____
Funds Management and Liquidity Risk Management Policy	_____	_____
Investment Portfolio Policy	_____	_____
Asset Management Policy	_____	_____
Capital Policy	_____	_____
Internal and External Audit Policy	_____	_____
Insider and Conflicts of Interest Policy	_____	_____
Compliance Policies including:		
Compliance Program (including CRA Policy)	_____	_____
Bank Secrecy Act Program	_____	_____
Office of Foreign Assets Control Complicance Program	_____	_____
Privacy of Consumer Financial Information policy (12 CFR 40)	_____	_____
Information Security Program (12 CFR 30)	_____	_____
Security Transaction Policy	_____	_____
Regulatory Reports Procedures	_____	_____
Information Technology Policies (including a business continuity plan)	_____	_____
Staffing and Compensation Policy	_____	_____

**List of Documents to be held for Preopening Examination --  
Management may send copies of the minutes to the supervisory office  
for review and comment prior to the preopening examination.**

Notice or Waiver of Notice of First Meeting of Organizers

Minutes of First Meeting of Organizers

Notice or Waiver of Notice of Organizing Board's First Meeting

Minutes of the Organizing Board's First Meeting

Joint (and Individual) Oaths of Organizing Directors (copy)  
(File with OCC when executed. See Oath of Bank Director  
Instructions.)

Stock Certificate Form

Bylaws

Minutes of Subsequent Organizing Board Meetings

Notice or Waiver of Notice of First Shareholders' Meeting

Sample of Proxy Card

Proxy Sample for First Shareholders' Meeting

Minutes of First Shareholders' Meeting

Notice or Waiver of Notice of First Board Meeting

Minutes of the First Meeting of Directors

Subscription Sample

Original of this checklist