



THINK AND CHECK BEFORE YOU INVEST: *The World of Investing and Saving*

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Financial Services Commission (FSC)



- The role of the FSC is to supervise and regulate the **securities, insurance and private pensions industries** in Jamaica
- The FSC's mission is to protect users of financial services in the areas of insurance, securities and pensions by fostering the integrity, stability and health of the financial sector.
- It oversees the registration, solvency and conduct of approximately **614 firms** and over **4,800 individuals** doing business in these industries





FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS IN JAMAICA



- Jamaica's financial landscape is made up of several institutions involved in:
 - Banking
 - Foreign Exchange
 - Insurance
 - Investments
 - Pensions
 - Loans



Financial knowledge helps persons to:

- Make better decisions with money
- Focus on planning for the future
- Save and invest to meet your goals
- Avoid taking risks in unwise financial investments



- Investment - any item bought to **increase in value in the future**
- Investing helps you to **earn more money** to achieve your goals
- Investing - the act of **committing money** to an endeavor with the expectation of making a profit
- Investing – participating in a pension plan





HOW THE FSC HELPS THE INVESTOR

- The FSC licenses dealers and investment advisors
- Ensures that licensed dealers are fit and proper and have adequate capital
- Monitors the financial condition of the dealers and take remedial action when problems arise





SOUND INVESTING CAN ALLOW YOU TO :



- Accumulate wealth and acquire assets
- Put aside money for your goals and emergencies
- Pay bills, school fees, etc.
- Start your business venture





GET INFORMATION



- Do research
- Ask questions.

All investors, whether large institutions or private individuals, should have access to certain basic facts about an investment prior to buying it, and as long as they hold it





TIPS FOR INVESTORS:



Ask Questions:

“Did the FSC register this investment?”

- Get full information about the person or entity that you have chosen to invest with
- Ask for balance sheets and income statements, ask for contracts.



TIPS FOR INVESTORS

- Find out from the FSC whether they have any knowledge of the person or entity, whether they are licensed or registered, and if they need to be licensed or registered
- Governments, laws and regulators cannot tell you where or with whom to invest your money, but it is important that you keep yourself informed and skeptical regarding extraordinary investment claims





TIPS FOR INVESTORS



The FSC in carrying out its responsibilities helps to ensure that investors receive all the information they need in order to make prudent investment decisions.

***You cannot rely on the efforts
of the FSC alone in order to ensure
that your funds are safe***





WONDERS AND DANGERS: INVESTMENTS ONLINE



- Be careful about sending personal and or financial information online
- Be careful about ‘scamming’ text messages, emails, phone calls that appear to be from legitimate businesses
- Be careful about opening attachments from emails you receive
- Use good judgment when networking on the internet





GET EXPERT ADVICE



A **registered** financial advisor can help you to:

- **Prioritize** your goals
- Know your **risk appetite**
- Learn about different **investment options**
- Create an **investment plan** to show you **how much** to invest, **how long** to invest and the **right type** of investment for you





TAKE ACTION NOW!



- Read **books, newspapers and magazines** about money management and investing
- Watch **TV shows** and listen to **radio programs** that discuss money issues
- Surf the **internet** for websites that teach financial success principles
- Attend **seminars** that offer financial planning information
- **Share the information** you learn about money with your friends and family
- Start **saving** now!



FINAL TIPS

Remember to:

- Take the time to investigate a possible investment opportunity before you hand over your hard-earned money
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- Ensure that the individual or company has been licensed as a securities dealer by the FSC
- closely examine the last annual audited financial statements and quarterly unaudited financial statements of the securities dealer and the company whose securities you are purchasing



FINAL TIPS

Remember to:

- be certain that you are comfortable with any document that you are asked to sign. Do not hesitate to get a second opinion
- make sure that you understand the level of risk you are taking
- pay attention to what investments you are buying and always seek advice if you do not understand



FINAL TIPS

Remember to:

- Take an interest in and monitor your investments carefully and regularly
- Do not hesitate to seek guidance from the Financial Services Commission, especially if you are not satisfied with the quality of service that you are receiving from your securities dealer or investment advisor



**REMEMBER... IF IT WALKS LIKE A DUCK OR
QUACKS LIKE A DUCK IT IS A DUCK!**





Think and check before you invest

