



What happens if you don't have the right liquidity?

Working with public agencies throughout California, it's common to hear the term liquidity used broadly. As Chris mentioned in the last video and as required by Code, liquidity is one of the three primary objectives of local government investing: Safety, Liquidity and Yield. But what does having the *right* liquidity mean?

To us, this means having access to your funds when you need them without having to worry about risk to your principal. Often that need is planned, but, as we've seen recently, that need can also be unexpected. For investors with operating cash, these needs typically translate to same-day access. To help ensure same-day access, liquidity options like CAMP offer a stable Net Asset Value or NAV fund. That simply means for every dollar you put in you should be able to get at least a dollar back out, and there's a lot that goes on behind the scenes operationally to support this, such as pricing each individual investment.

A stable NAV can be maintained by adhering to requirements such as GASB 79 which provides specific guidelines for external investment pools with regard to:

- portfolio maturity,
- credit quality,
- diversification,
- and other requirements.

GASB 79 also provides liquidity guidelines, such as keeping at least 10% of the portfolio in daily liquid assets.

Without a stable NAV, funds may not be suitable to function as a true daily sweep vehicle or support emergent cash needs. Therefore, it's important to have a diversified liquidity strategy that includes a stable-NAV-supported same-day option.

The current pandemic has reminded us that unforeseen crises can arise and that being familiar with the liquidity of your investments is paramount in being able to weather the storm. From the CAMP Board of Directors and my PFM colleagues, we are here to be a resource for you and your agency. Thank you and stay tuned for our next video.

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