

Federated Hermes Institutional Prime Obligations Fund

Institutional Shares

Nasdaq symbol: POIXX | Cusip number: 60934N203 | Newspaper listing: PrimeObIS

9/30/24

Product highlights

- Pursues current income consistent with stability of principal.
- Invests primarily in short-term, high-quality, fixed-income securities issued by banks, corporations and the US government.
- Holds AAAM and AAAMmf ratings from S&P Global Ratings and Fitch, respectively.
- Offers intraday liquidity.

Key investment team

Paige Wilhelm
Mark Weiss, CFA

Credit ratings

AAAM S&P Global Ratings

AAAMmf Fitch

Portfolio assets

\$16.7 billion

Top holdings

ABN Amro Bank NV

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Holdings, Inc.

Bank of Montreal

National Bank of Canada

Bank of America Corp.

Toronto Dominion Bank

JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.

BNP Paribas SA

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

Total % of Portfolio: 39.7%

Share class statistics

Inception date

3/26/90

Federated Hermes fund number

10

Cut-off times

3:00 pm ET — purchases

3:00 pm ET — redemptions

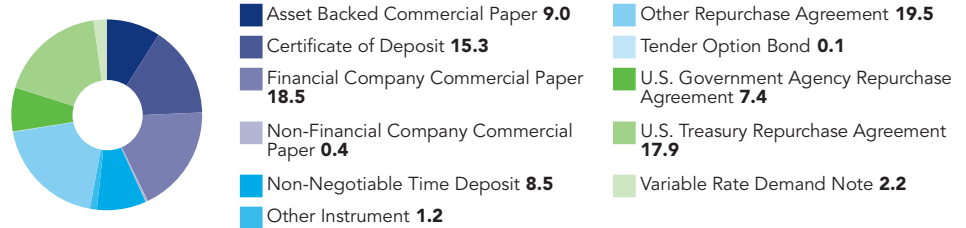
Strike times

3:00 pm ET

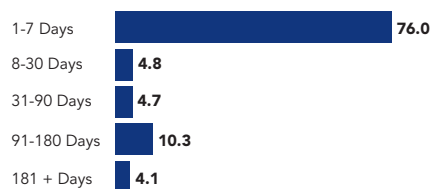
Dividends

Declared daily/paid monthly

Portfolio composition (%)



Effective maturity schedule (%)



2a-7 liquidity

Daily 37.75%

Weekly 56.33%

Weighted average maturity

29 Days

Weighted average life

57 Days

Fund performance

| Net yield (%) | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total return (%) |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------------------|
| 7-day | | | | | | | | | | | | | 4.90 |
| 1-year | | | | | | | | | | | | | 5.55 |
| Annualized yields (%) | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | |
| 7-day | 5.45 | 5.45 | 5.45 | 5.42 | 5.38 | 5.37 | 5.34 | 5.34 | 5.34 | 5.33 | 5.31 | 4.90 | |

Performance quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. Investment return will vary. An investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than what is stated. To view performance current to the most recent month-end, contact us or visit [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://www.federatedhermes.com/us).

Although not contractually obligated to do so, the advisor and/or certain fund service providers waived all or a portion of their fees or reimbursed the fund for certain operating expenses. These voluntary waivers and reimbursements may be modified or terminated at any time; accordingly, the fund's expenses may vary (i.e., increase or decrease) during the fund's fiscal year. These waivers increase income to the fund and result in a higher return to investors.

Otherwise, the 7-day yield would have been 4.85% and total return would have been lower.

Total return represents the change in value of an investment after reinvesting all income and capital gains. Yield quotations more closely reflect the current earnings of the fund than the total return quotation.

Prior to April 2, 2024, Rule 2a-7 required that money market funds maintain at least 10% daily liquidity assets and at least 30% weekly liquidity assets. Effective April 2, 2024, the daily and weekly liquid assets thresholds increased to 25% and 50%, respectively. Both requirements are "point of purchase" requirements. Thus, it is possible that money market funds may, at any given time, have liquidity percentages reflecting less than the daily and weekly liquidity asset thresholds. In such circumstances, the portfolio manager will be required to purchase securities to meet the requisite liquidity thresholds prior to purchasing longer-dated securities. Additionally, the SEC requirements for what may be defined as "daily" and "weekly" differs from the standard maturities used in calculating the "Effective Maturity Schedule." Therefore, the percentages in the 2a-7 Liquidity table will generally not equal the amounts shown in the "Effective Maturity Schedule."



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Portfolio manager commentary

After staying in neutral for the first half of 2024, the Federal Reserve shifted into gear and hit the accelerator in the third quarter.

The reporting period opened with policymakers concerned they were holding interest rates too high but not worried enough to lower them. The caution stemmed from the pause earlier in the year in what had been inflation's orderly decline from four-decade highs in 2022. In its July meeting, the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) kept the fed funds target range at 5.25-5.5%, the level at which it had sat for a year. Chair Jerome Powell repeated the message that the Summary of Economic Projections (SEP) provided in June, namely that officials forecasted they would likely cut rates by a quarter percentage point by year-end. That prediction suggested they envisioned inflation would not only decrease again in a sustainable manner, but also that it would come close enough to the Fed's long-held target of 2% to declare victory. But Powell presented a twist: policymakers are now concerned more about the U.S. employment situation. "As the labor market has cooled and inflation has declined, the risks to achieving our employment and inflation goals continue to move into better balance." The Fed was finally seeing the other half of its mandate display the sort of weakness that typically would demand a cut. In other words, Powell had become concerned that further weakening in the labor market could precipitate a recession he believed avoidable.

With no FOMC meeting on the schedule in August, attention turned to Jackson Hole, Wyo., the site of the Fed's annual central bank symposium. In his keynote address, Powell indicated that he was troubled by the Labor Department's unexpectedly large downward revision of previous employment data, which could mean the economy weakened more than previously thought. "The time has come for policy to adjust." The clarity of this statement startled the markets, which entertained the notion that the first cut might not only come at the September FOMC meeting, but also be of the larger half-point variety. That proved true, as the first cut was 50 basis points, shifting the target range to 4.75-5%. But the new SEP did not suggest as much conviction to ease quickly as that big step implied. In its 'dot plot' members predicted they would only enact a quarter-point cut in each of the remaining meetings. Also, one of the voters dissented, the first by a governor since 2005.

The Fed continues to allow \$25 billion of Treasuries and \$35 billion of mortgage-backed securities to mature without replacing them and held the Reverse Repo Facility at a level 10 basis points above the fed funds lower bound.

At the end of the quarter, yields on 1-, 3-, 6- and 12-month U.S. Treasuries were 4.83%, 4.62%, 4.42% and 4.01%, respectively.

You could lose money by investing in the fund. Because the share price of the fund will fluctuate, when you sell your shares, they may be worth more or less than what you originally paid for them. The fund may impose a fee upon sale of your shares. The fund generally must impose a fee when net sales of fund shares exceed certain levels. An investment in the fund is not a bank account and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. The fund's sponsor is not required to reimburse the fund for losses, and you should not expect that the sponsor will provide financial support to the fund at any time, including during periods of market stress.

Performance shown is for Institutional Shares. The fund offers additional share classes whose performance will vary due to differences in charges and expenses. Please consult your financial institution regarding your eligibility to purchase these classes.

A word about risk

The value of some asset-backed securities may be particularly sensitive to changes in prevailing interest rates, and although the securities are generally supported by some form of government or private guarantee and/or insurance, there is no assurance that private guarantors or insurers will meet their obligations.

Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.

Definitions

Net yields are based on the average daily income dividend and average net asset value for the 7 days ended on the date of calculation. The 7-day net annualized yield is based on the average net income per share for the 7 days ended on the date of calculation and the offering price on that date.

The fund is a managed portfolio and its holdings are subject to change. Holdings percentages are based on net assets at the close of business on the date above, and may not necessarily reflect adjustments that are routinely made when presenting net assets for formal financial statement purposes.

Weighted average maturity is the mean average of the periods of time remaining until the securities held in the fund's portfolio (a) are scheduled to be repaid, (b) would be repaid upon a demand by the fund or (c) are scheduled to have their interest rate readjusted to reflect current market rates. Securities with adjustable rates payable upon demand are treated as maturing on the earlier of the two dates if their scheduled maturity is 397 days or less, and the later of the two dates if their scheduled maturity is more than 397 days. The mean is weighted based on the percentage of the amortized cost of the portfolio invested in each period.

Weighted average life is calculated in the same manner as the Weighted average maturity (WAM), but is based solely on the periods of time remaining until the securities held in the fund's portfolio (a) are scheduled to be repaid or (b) would be repaid upon a demand by the fund without reference to when interest rates of securities within the fund are scheduled to be readjusted.

Repurchase agreements consist of a financial institution selling securities to a fund and agreeing to repurchase them at a mutually agreed upon price and time.

Variable rate demand notes are tax-exempt securities that require the issuer or a third party, such as a dealer or bank, to repurchase the security for its face value upon demand. The securities also pay interest at a variable rate intended to cause the securities to trade at their face value.

Ratings and rating agencies

Ratings are based on an evaluation of several factors, including credit quality, diversification and maturity of assets in the portfolio, as well as management strength and operational capabilities. A money market fund rated AAAM by S&P Global Ratings is granted after evaluating a number of factors, including credit quality, market price, exposure and management. Fitch's money market fund ratings are an assessment of a money market fund's capacity to preserve principal and provide liquidity through limiting credit, market and liquidity risk. For more information on credit ratings, visit spglobal.com and fitchratings.com.

Ratings are subject to change and do not remove market risk.

Credit ratings do not provide assurance against default or other loss of money and can change.