

Subchapter Z—Opportunity Zones

§1400Z–1. Designation

(a) Qualified opportunity zone defined

For the purposes of this subchapter, the term "qualified opportunity zone" means a population census tract that is a low-income community that is designated as a qualified opportunity zone.

(b) Designation

(1) In general

For purposes of subsection (a), a population census tract that is a low-income community is designated as a qualified opportunity zone if—

(A) not later than the end of the determination period, the chief executive officer of the State in which the tract is located—

(i) nominates the tract for designation as a qualified opportunity zone, and

(ii) notifies the Secretary in writing of such nomination, and

(B) the Secretary certifies such nomination and designates such tract as a qualified opportunity zone before the end of the consideration period.

(2) Extension of periods

A chief executive officer of a State may request that the Secretary extend either the determination or consideration period, or both (determined without regard to this subparagraph), for an additional 30 days.

~~(3) Special rule for Puerto Rico~~

~~Each population census tract in Puerto Rico that is a low-income community shall be deemed to be certified and designated as a qualified opportunity zone, effective on the date of the enactment of Public Law 115–97.~~

(c) Other definitions

For purposes of this ~~sub~~section—

~~(1) Low-income communities~~

~~The term "low-income community" has the same meaning as when used in section 45D(e).~~

(1) Low-income communities

The term "low-income community" means any population census tract if—

(A) such population census tract has a median family income that—

(i) in the case of a population census tract not located within a metropolitan area, does not exceed 70 percent of the statewide median family income, or

(ii) in the case of a population census tract located within a metropolitan area, does not exceed 70 percent of the metropolitan area median family income, or

(B) such population census tract—

- (i) has a poverty rate of at least 20 percent, and
- (ii) has a median family income that—

- (I) in the case of a population census tract not located within a metropolitan area, does not exceed 125 percent of the statewide median family income, or
- (II) in the case of a population census tract located within a metropolitan area, does not exceed 125 percent of the metropolitan area median family income.

(2) Definition of periods

(A) Consideration period

The term "consideration period" means the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Secretary receives notice under subsection (b)(1)(A)(ii), as extended under subsection (b)(2).

(B) Determination period

The term "determination period" means the 90-day period ~~beginning on the date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act~~ beginning on the decennial determination date, as extended under subsection (b)(2).

(C) DECENNIAL DETERMINATION DATE.—The term "decennial determination date" means—

- (i) July 1, 2026, and
- (ii) each July 1 of the year that is 10 years after the preceding decennial determination date under this subparagraph.

(3) State

For purposes of this section, the term "State" includes any possession of the United States.

(d) Number of designations

(1) In general

Except as provided by paragraph (2) ~~and subsection (b)(3)~~, the number of population census tracts in a State that may be designated as qualified opportunity zones under this section **during any period** may not exceed 25 percent of the number of low-income communities in the State.

(2) Exception

If the number of low-income communities in a State is less than 100, then a total of 25 of such tracts may be designated as qualified opportunity zones **during any period**.

~~**(e) Designation of tracts contiguous with low-income communities**~~

~~**(1) In general**~~

~~A population census tract that is not a low-income community may be designated as a qualified opportunity zone under this section if—~~

- ~~(A) the tract is contiguous with the low-income community that is designated as a qualified opportunity zone, and~~

~~(B) the median family income of the tract does not exceed 125 percent of the median family income of the low-income community with which the tract is contiguous.~~

~~(2) Limitation~~

~~Not more than 5 percent of the population census tracts designated in a State as a qualified opportunity zone may be designated under paragraph (1).~~

~~(f)~~ Period for which designation is in effect

~~A designation as a qualified opportunity zone shall remain in effect for the period beginning on the date of the designation and ending at the close of the 10th calendar year beginning on or after such date of designation.~~

(1) IN GENERAL.—A designation as a qualified opportunity zone shall remain in effect for the period beginning on the applicable start date and ending on the day before the date that is 10 years after the applicable start date.

(2) APPLICABLE START DATE.—For purposes of this section, the term “applicable start date” means, with respect to any qualified opportunity zone designated under this section, the January 1 following the date on which such qualified opportunity zone was certified and designated by the Secretary under subsection (b)(1)(B).

(Added Pub. L. 115–97, title I, §13823(a), Dec. 22, 2017, 131 Stat. 2183; amended Pub. L. 115–123, div. D, title II, §41115, Feb. 9, 2018, 132 Stat. 161.)

EDITORIAL NOTES

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of the enactment of Public Law 115–97, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is Dec. 22, 2017.

The date of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, referred to in subsec. (c)(2)(B), probably means the date of enactment of title I of Pub. L. 115–97, which was approved Dec. 22, 2017. Prior versions of the bill that was enacted into law as Pub. L. 115–97 included such Short Title, but it was not enacted as part of title I of Pub. L. 115–97.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 115–123, §41115(a), added par. (3).

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 115–123, §41115(b), inserted “and subsection (b)(3)” after “paragraph (2)”.

STATUTORY NOTES AND RELATED SUBSIDIARIES

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on Dec. 22, 2017, see section 13823(d) of Pub. L. 115–97, set out as an Effective Date of 2017 Amendment note under section 1016 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2025 AMENDMENT (DECENNIAL DESIGNATIONS)

Pub. L. 119–___, div. __ (H.R. 1), § 70421(a)(5), ___ 2025, 139 Stat. ___, provided that—Except as provided in par. (2), the amendments made by this subsection shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act. The amendment made by par. (3) (repeal of § 1400Z-1(b)(3) relating to Puerto Rico) shall take effect on December 31, 2026.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2025 AMENDMENT (QUALIFICATION FOR DESIGNATIONS)

Pub. L. 119–___, § 70421(b)(4), ___ 2025, 139 Stat. ___, provided that the amendments made by that subsection apply to areas designated under 26 U.S.C. 1400Z-1 after the date of enactment of this Act.

§1400Z–2. Special rules for capital gains invested in opportunity zones

(a) In general

(1) Treatment of gains

In the case of gain from the sale to, or exchange with, an unrelated person of any property held by the taxpayer, at the election of the taxpayer—

(A) gross income for the taxable year shall not include so much of such gain as does not exceed the aggregate amount invested by the taxpayer in a qualified opportunity fund during the 180-day period beginning on the date of such sale or exchange,

(B) the amount of gain excluded by subparagraph (A) shall be included in gross income as provided by subsection (b), and

(C) subsection (c) shall apply.

(2) Election

No election may be made under paragraph (1) with respect to a sale or exchange if an election previously made with respect to such sale or exchange is in effect. ~~or~~

~~(B) with respect to any sale or exchange after December 31, 2026.~~

(b) Deferral of gain invested in opportunity zone property

(1) Year of inclusion—Gain to which subsection (a)(1)(B) applies shall be included in gross income in the taxable year which includes the earlier of—

(A) the date on which such investment is sold or exchanged, or

(B) ~~December 31, 2026~~ the date which is 5 years after the date the investment in the qualified opportunity fund was made.

(2) Amount includible

(A) In general

The amount of gain included in gross income under subsection (a)(1)(AB) shall be the excess of—

- (i) the lesser of the amount of gain excluded under ~~paragraph (1)~~ subsection (a)(1)(A) or the fair market value of the investment as determined as of the date described in paragraph (1), over
- (ii) the taxpayer's basis in the investment.

(B) Determination of basis

~~(i) In general~~

~~Except as otherwise provided in this clause or subsection (c), the taxpayer's basis in the investment shall be zero.~~

~~(ii) Increase for gain recognized under subsection (a)(1)(B)~~

~~The basis in the investment shall be increased by the amount of gain recognized by reason of subsection (a)(1)(B) with respect to such property.~~

~~(iii) Investments held for 5 years~~

~~In the case of any investment held for at least 5 years, the basis of such investment shall be increased by an amount equal to 10 percent of the amount of gain deferred by reason of subsection (a)(1)(A).~~

~~(iv) Investments held for 7 years~~

~~In the case of any investment held by the taxpayer for at least 7 years, in addition to any adjustment made under clause (iii), the basis of such property shall be increased by an amount equal to 5 percent of the amount of gain deferred by reason of subsection (a)(1)(A).~~

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subparagraph or subsection (c), the taxpayer's basis in the investment shall be zero.

(ii) INCREASE FOR GAIN RECOGNIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (a)(1)(B).— The basis in the investment shall be increased by the amount of gain recognized by reason of subsection (a)(1)(B) with respect to such investment.

(iii) INVESTMENTS HELD FOR 5 YEARS.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any investment held for at least 5 years, the basis of such investment shall be increased by an amount equal to 10 percent (30 percent in the case of any investment in a qualified rural opportunity fund) of the amount of gain deferred by reason of subsection (a)(1)(A).

(II) APPLICATION OF INCREASE.—For purposes of this subsection, any increase in basis under this clause shall be treated as occurring before the date described in paragraph (1)(B).

(C) QUALIFIED RURAL OPPORTUNITY FUND.—For purposes of subparagraph (B)(iii)—

(i) QUALIFIED RURAL OPPORTUNITY FUND.—The term “qualified rural opportunity fund” means a qualified opportunity fund that holds at least 90 percent of its assets in qualified opportunity zone property which—

(I) is qualified opportunity zone business property substantially all of the use of which, during substantially all of the fund's holding period for such property, was in a qualified opportunity zone comprised entirely of a rural area, or

(II) is qualified opportunity zone stock, or a qualified opportunity zone partnership interest, in a qualified opportunity zone business in which substantially all of the tangible property owned or leased is qualified opportunity zone business property described in subsection (d)(3)(A)(i) and substantially all the use of which is in a qualified opportunity zone comprised entirely of a rural area. For purposes of the preceding sentence, property held in the fund shall be measured under rules similar to the rules of subsection (d)(1).

(ii) RURAL AREA.—The term “rural area” means any area other than—

(I) a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants, and

(II) any urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town described in subclause (I).

(c) Special rule for investments held for at least 10 years

In the case of any investment held by the taxpayer for at least 10 years and with respect to which the taxpayer ~~makes an election under this clause, the basis of such property shall be equal to the fair market value of such investment on the date that the investment is sold or exchanged.~~ makes an election under this subsection, the basis of such investment shall be equal to—

(A) in the case of an investment sold before the date that is 30 years after the date of the investment, the fair market value of such investment on the date such investment is sold or exchanged, or

(B) in any other case, the fair market value of such investment on the date that is 30 years after the date of the investment.

(d) Qualified opportunity fund

For purposes of this section—

(1) In general

The term “qualified opportunity fund” means any investment vehicle which is organized as a corporation or a partnership for the purpose of investing in qualified opportunity zone property (other than another qualified opportunity fund) that holds at least 90 percent of its assets in qualified opportunity zone property, determined by the average of the percentage of qualified opportunity zone property held in the fund as measured—

(A) on the last day of the first 6-month period of the taxable year of the fund, and

(B) on the last day of the taxable year of the fund.

(2) Qualified opportunity zone property

(A) In general

The term “qualified opportunity zone property” means property which is—

(i) qualified opportunity zone stock,

(ii) qualified opportunity zone partnership interest, or

(iii) qualified opportunity zone business property.

(B) Qualified opportunity zone stock

(i) In general

Except as provided in clause (ii), the term "qualified opportunity zone stock" means any stock in a domestic corporation if—

(I) such stock is acquired by the qualified opportunity fund after ~~December 31, 2017~~ the applicable date, at its original issue (directly or through an underwriter) from the corporation solely in exchange for cash,

(II) as of the time such stock was issued, such corporation was a qualified opportunity zone business (or, in the case of a new corporation, such corporation was being organized for purposes of being a qualified opportunity zone business), and

(III) during substantially all of the qualified opportunity fund's holding period for such stock, such corporation qualified as a qualified opportunity zone business.

(ii) Redemptions

A rule similar to the rule of section 1202(c)(3) shall apply for purposes of this paragraph.

(C) Qualified opportunity zone partnership interest

The term "qualified opportunity zone partnership interest" means any capital or profits interest in a domestic partnership if—

(i) such interest is acquired by the qualified opportunity fund after ~~December 31, 2017~~ the applicable date, from the partnership solely in exchange for cash,

(ii) as of the time such interest was acquired, such partnership was a qualified opportunity zone business (or, in the case of a new partnership, such partnership was being organized for purposes of being a qualified opportunity zone business), and

(iii) during substantially all of the qualified opportunity fund's holding period for such interest, such partnership qualified as a qualified opportunity zone business.

(D) Qualified opportunity zone business property

(i) In general

The term "qualified opportunity zone business property" means tangible property used in a trade or business of the qualified opportunity fund if—

(I) such property was acquired by the qualified opportunity fund by purchase (as defined in section 179(d)(2)) after ~~December 31, 2017~~ the applicable start date (as defined in section 1400Z-1(e)(2)) with respect to the qualified opportunity zone described in subclause (III),

(II) the original use of such property in the qualified opportunity zone commences with the qualified opportunity fund or the qualified opportunity fund substantially improves the property, and

(III) during substantially all of the qualified opportunity fund's holding period for such property, substantially all of the use of such property was in a qualified opportunity zone.

(ii) Substantial improvement

For purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii), property shall be treated as substantially improved by the qualified opportunity fund only if, during any 30-month period beginning after the date of acquisition of such property, additions to basis with respect to such property in the hands of the qualified opportunity fund exceed an amount equal to the adjusted basis of such property (50 percent of such adjusted basis in the case of property in a qualified opportunity zone comprised entirely of a rural area (as defined in subsection (b)(2)(C)(ii))) at the beginning of such 30-month period in the hands of the qualified opportunity fund.

(iii) Related party

For purposes of subparagraph (A)(i), the related person rule of section 179(d)(2) shall be applied pursuant to paragraph (8) of this subsection ¹ in lieu of the application of such rule in section 179(d)(2)(A).

(E) APPLICABLE DATE.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term “applicable date” means, with respect to any corporation or partnership which is a qualified opportunity zone business, the earliest date described in subparagraph (D)(i)(I) with respect to the qualified opportunity zone business property held by such qualified opportunity zone business.

(3) Qualified opportunity zone business**(A) In general**

The term “qualified opportunity zone business” means a trade or business—

(i) in which substantially all of the tangible property owned or leased by the taxpayer is qualified opportunity zone business property (determined by substituting “qualified opportunity zone business” for “qualified opportunity fund” each place it appears in paragraph (2)(D)),

(ii) which satisfies the requirements of paragraphs (2), (4), and (8) of section 1397C(b), and

(iii) which is not described in section 144(c)(6)(B).

(B) Special rule

For purposes of subparagraph (A), tangible property that ceases to be a qualified opportunity zone business property shall continue to be treated as a qualified opportunity zone business property for the lesser of—

(i) 5 years after the date on which such tangible property ceases to be so qualified, or

(ii) the date on which such tangible property is no longer held by the qualified opportunity zone business.

(e) Applicable rules**(1) Treatment of investments with mixed funds**

In the case of any investment in a qualified opportunity fund only a portion of which consists of investments of gain to which an election under subsection (a) is in effect—

(A) such investment shall be treated as 2 separate investments, consisting of—

- (i) one investment that only includes amounts to which the election under subsection (a) applies, and
- (ii) a separate investment consisting of other amounts, and

(B) subsections (a), (b), and (c) shall only apply to the investment described in subparagraph (A)(i).

(2) Related persons

For purposes of this section, persons are related to each other if such persons are described in section 267(b) or 707(b)(1), determined by substituting "20 percent" for "50 percent" each place it occurs in such sections.

(3) Decedents

In the case of a decedent, amounts recognized under this section shall, if not properly includible in the gross income of the decedent, be includible in gross income as provided by section 691.

(4) Regulations

The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section, including—

- (A) rules for the certification of qualified opportunity funds for the purposes of this section,
- (B) rules to ensure a qualified opportunity fund has a reasonable period of time to reinvest the return of capital from investments in qualified opportunity zone stock and qualified opportunity zone partnership interests, and to reinvest proceeds received from the sale or disposition of qualified opportunity zone property, and
- (C) rules to prevent abuse.

(f) Failure of qualified opportunity fund to maintain investment standard

(1) In general

If a qualified opportunity fund fails to meet the 90-percent requirement of subsection (c)(1),² the qualified opportunity fund shall pay a penalty for each month it fails to meet the requirement in an amount equal to the product of—

- (A) the excess of—
 - (i) the amount equal to 90 percent of its aggregate assets, over
 - (ii) the aggregate amount of qualified opportunity zone property held by the fund, multiplied by
- (B) the underpayment rate established under section 6621(a)(2) for such month.

(2) Special rule for partnerships

In the case that the qualified opportunity fund is a partnership, the penalty imposed by paragraph (1) shall be taken into account proportionately as part of the distributive share of each partner of the partnership.

(3) Reasonable cause exception

No penalty shall be imposed under this subsection with respect to any failure if it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause.

(Added Pub. L. 115–97, title I, §13823(a), Dec. 22, 2017, 131 Stat. 2184.)

STATUTORY NOTES AND RELATED SUBSIDIARIES

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on Dec. 22, 2017, see section 13823(d) of Pub. L. 115–97, set out as an Effective Date of 2017 Amendment note under section 1016 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2025 AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF SPECIAL RULES FOR CAPITAL GAINS)

Pub. L. 119–____, § 70421(c)(5), ____ 2025, 139 Stat. ____, provided that—

- (1) Except as otherwise provided, the amendments made by that subsection apply to amounts invested in qualified opportunity funds after December 31, 2026.
- (2) The amendments made by § 70421(c)(4)(A) and (B) (new “applicable start date” test for property) apply to property acquired after December 31, 2026.
- (3) The amendment made by § 70421(c)(4)(C) (50% improvement rule for rural areas) is effective on the date of enactment.