Other Deloitte Publications

Other Deloitte publications, such as our Roadmap series, are available on the Deloitte Accounting Research Tool (DART), a comprehensive online library of accounting and financial disclosure literature. The Roadmap series includes titles on the following topics:

Business Combinations
Business Combinations — SEC Reporting Considerations
Carve-Out Transactions
Comparison of IFRS Standards and U.S. GAAP
Consolidation — Identifying a Controlling Financial Interest
Contingencies and Loss Recoveries
Contracts on an Entity’s Own Equity
Convertible Debt
Current Expected Credit Losses
Disposals of Long-Lived Assets and Discontinued Operations
Distinguishing Liabilities From Equity
Earnings per Share
Environmental Obligations and Asset Retirement Obligations
Equity Method Investments and Joint Ventures
Equity Method Investees — SEC Reporting Considerations
Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures
Foreign Currency Transactions and Translations
Income Taxes
Initial Public Offerings
Leases
Noncontrolling Interests
Non-GAAP Financial Measures
Revenue Recognition
SEC Comment Letter Considerations, Including Industry Insights
Segment Reporting
Share-Based Payment Awards
Statement of Cash Flows
Acknowledgments and Contact Information

We would like to thank the following individuals for their contributions to this publication:

Jana Allen  Courtney Clifford  Jonathan Howard  Rob Moynihan
Joseph Bakutes  Kevin Conrad  Pat Johnson  Lisa Smith
James Barker  Peggy Cullen  Brianne Loyd  Stefanie Tamulis
Greg Bartholomew  Mark Hanulak  Sean May  Bailey Walsh
Chris Chiriatti  Rich Holtz  Mark Miskinis

We would also like to thank Teri Asarito, Geri Driscoll, and David Eisenberg for their editorial and production efforts.

About Deloitte’s Life Sciences and Health Care Practice

Deloitte and its subsidiaries have approximately 312,000 professionals with a single focus: serving our clients and helping them solve their toughest problems. Deloitte’s Life Sciences and Health Care practice is among the largest in the world, leveraging the extensive knowledge, skills, and experience of over 24,000 professionals in 90 countries. Our practice offers a distinctive menu of professional services delivered in an integrated approach that address all segments of the life sciences and health care industry. We work in four key business areas — audit, advisory, tax, and consulting — but our real strength comes from combining the talents of those groups to address clients’ needs. Bloomberg Businessweek and Fortune consistently rank our organization among the best places in which to work, which is good news for our talent and our clients alike. When the best people tackle the most compelling challenges, everyone wins.

If you have any questions about this publication or ways in which we can help your organization, please contact the following Deloitte industry specialists.

Jeff Ellis
U.S. and Global Audit Leader — Life Sciences
Life Sciences Industry Professional Practice Director
Deloitte & Touche LLP
+1 412 338 7204
jeellis@deloitte.com

Dennis Howell
Senior Consultation Partner, Accounting and Reporting Services
Life Sciences Deputy Industry Professional Practice Director
Deloitte & Touche LLP
+1 203 761 3478
dhowell@deloitte.com
Contents

Preface
Chapter 1 — 2020 Industry Outlook Summary
Chapter 2 — Revenue Recognition
Chapter 3 — Research and Development
Chapter 4 — Acquisitions and Divestitures
Chapter 5 — Consolidation
Chapter 6 — Contingencies and Loss Recoveries
Chapter 7 — Statement of Cash Flows
Chapter 8 — Income Taxes
Chapter 9 — Compensation

Chapter 10 — Financial Instruments
Chapter 11 — Leases
Chapter 12 — Initial Public Offerings
Chapter 13 — Other Accounting and Financial Reporting Topics
Appendix A — Differences Between U.S. GAAP and IFRS Standards

Appendix B — Titles of Standards and Other Literature

Appendix C — Abbreviations
Preface

March 2020

To our clients, colleagues, and other friends:

The life sciences ecosystem encompasses a vast array of entities that discover, develop, and manufacture health care products. Such entities include pharmaceutical manufacturers; biotechnology companies; medical device, diagnostic, and medical equipment manufacturers; and service companies such as drug distributors, contract research organizations (CROs), contract manufacturing organizations (CMOs), and health technology companies.

Finance and accounting professionals in the industry face complex issues and must exercise significant judgment in applying existing rules to matters such as research and development (R&D) costs, acquisitions and divestitures, consolidation, contingencies, revenue recognition, income taxes, financial instruments, and financial statement presentation and disclosure. The 2020 edition of Deloitte’s Life Sciences Industry Accounting Guide (the “Guide”) addresses these and other relevant topics affecting the industry this year. It includes interpretive guidance, illustrative examples, recent standard-setting developments (through February 28, 2020), and key differences between U.S. GAAP and IFRS® Standards. In addition, this Guide discusses the outlook for the life sciences industry in 2020. Further, while many of the key accounting and financial reporting considerations stemming from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak are related to topics addressed in this Guide, we encourage you to review Deloitte’s March 25, 2020, Financial Reporting Alert, which discusses accounting and financial reporting considerations associated with COVID-19 that are broadly applicable as well as those that apply specifically to the life sciences industry.

Appendix B lists the titles of standards and other literature we cited, and Appendix C defines the abbreviations we used.

This Guide is available on the Deloitte Accounting Research Tool (DART).

We hope this Guide helps you navigate the various accounting and reporting challenges you face. We encourage you to contact your Deloitte team for additional information and assistance.

Sincerely,

Jeff Ellis
U.S. and Global Audit Leader — Life Sciences
Life Sciences Industry Professional Practice Director
Deloitte & Touche LLP

Dennis Howell
Senior Consultation Partner, Accounting and Reporting Services
Life Sciences Deputy Industry Professional Practice Director
Deloitte & Touche LLP
Chapter 10 — Financial Instruments

10.1 Introduction
Drug development is challenging, complex, time-consuming and costly. Every year, billions of dollars are spent developing new drugs, with some studies showing that the cost of bringing an asset to market has increased to record levels, even as R&D returns have fallen to the lowest level in years.¹ To fund the cost of drug development, life sciences entities frequently seek external financing. Many of the financing transactions include complex terms and conditions that require a careful accounting analysis.

The SEC staff historically has focused on the classification of liabilities and equity on the balance sheet when equity instruments have redemption provisions or financial instruments possess characteristics of both liabilities and equity. For example, classification of convertible debt instruments and freestanding warrants is often scrutinized since they may contain both liability and equity components under U.S. GAAP.

In addition, prospective SEC registrants in the life sciences industry may have previously outstanding instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity at the time they are approaching a potential IPO, or life sciences entities may issue new instruments in connection with a potential IPO. Even if certain instruments are already outstanding before an IPO, it may be appropriate for an instrument to be classified outside of permanent equity in accordance with SEC rules when public financial statements are initially filed. Further, for a life sciences entity that becomes a public company, there can be other accounting consequences that did not exist while the entity was private.

10.2 Industry Issues
The discussion below highlights guidance on the accounting for financial instruments that frequently affects life sciences entities. The guidance cited is not intended to be all-inclusive or comprehensive; rather, the discussion focuses on targeted considerations related to the application of the guidance most relevant to the industry. To complete an analysis of the accounting for financial instruments, entities must consider all facts and circumstances and use significant judgment. For additional guidance on the topics highlighted below, see Deloitte's *A Roadmap to Distinguishing Liabilities From Equity*, *A Roadmap to Accounting for Contracts on an Entity’s Own Equity*, and *A Roadmap to the Issuer’s Accounting for Convertible Debt*.

¹ See, for example, the Deloitte Centre for Health Solutions' 10th annual pharmaceutical report, *Ten Years On: Measuring the Return From Pharmaceutical Innovation 2019*. 
10.2.1 Sequence of Decision Making

Upon the issuance of an equity instrument, a life sciences entity should first evaluate whether the instrument meets the definition of a liability in accordance with ASC 480-10. ASC 480-10 applies to both PBEs (including SEC registrants) and private companies that are issuers of financial instruments within its scope. ASC 480-10 provides guidance on determining whether (1) certain financial instruments with both debt-like and equity-like characteristics should be accounted for “outside of equity” (i.e., as liabilities or, in some cases, assets) by the issuer and (2) SEC registrants should present certain redeemable equity instruments as temporary equity.

Examples of contracts and transactions that may require evaluation under ASC 480-10 include:

- Redeemable shares.
- Redeemable noncontrolling interests.
- Forward contracts to repurchase own shares.
- Forward contracts to sell redeemable shares.
- Written put options on own stock.
- Warrants (and written call options) on redeemable equity shares.
- Warrants on shares with deemed liquidation provisions.
- Puttable warrants on own stock.
- Equity collars.
- Share-settled debt (i.e., a share-settled obligation that is not in the legal form of debt but has the same economic payoff profile as debt).
- Preferred shares that are mandatorily convertible into a variable number of common shares.
- Unsettled treasury stock transactions.
- Accelerated share repurchase programs.
- Hybrid equity units.

However, ASC 480-10 does not apply to legal-form debt, which is always classified as a liability by the issuer. If the legal form of an instrument is equity, further evaluation is necessary.

ASC 480-10 applies only to items that have all of the following characteristics:

- They embody one or more obligations of the issuer. An obligation can be either unconditional or conditional. An obligation is unconditional if no condition needs to be satisfied (other than the passage of time) to trigger a duty or responsibility for the obligated party to perform. Examples of unconditional obligations include:
  - Mandatorily redeemable financial instruments (as defined in ASC 480-10-20).
  - Physically settled forward contracts that require the issuer to repurchase equity shares by transferring assets or a variable number of shares.
  - Preferred stock that mandatorily converts into a variable number of common shares.
An obligation is conditional if the obligated party only has a duty or responsibility to perform if a specified condition is met (e.g., the occurrence or nonoccurrence of an uncertain future event or the counterparty’s election to exercise an option). Examples of conditional obligations include:

- Physically settled written put options that, if exercised, could require the issuer to purchase equity shares and transfer assets.
- Physically settled forward contracts that require the issuer to purchase equity shares upon the occurrence or nonoccurrence of an event that is outside the issuer’s control.
- Net-settled forward contracts to purchase equity shares that could require the issuer to transfer cash or a variable number of equity shares to settle the contracts’ fair value if they are in a loss position.
- Net-settled written options that require the issuer to transfer assets or shares if the counterparty elects to exercise the options.

ASC 480-10 does not address the accounting for financial instruments that do not embody any obligation of the issuer. Examples of such instruments include:

- Outstanding equity shares that do not have any redemption or conversion provisions.
- Purchased call options that permit but do not require the issuer to purchase equity shares for cash (see ASC 480-10-55-35).
- Purchased put options that permit but do not require the issuer to sell equity shares for cash.

- They meet the definition of a financial instrument. Examples of items that qualify as financial instruments include:
  - Ownership interests (e.g., common or preferred shares or interests in a partnership or limited liability company).
  - Contracts to deliver cash (e.g., net-cash-settled options or forward contracts).
  - Contracts to deliver shares (e.g., share-settled debt or net-share-settled options or forward contracts).
  - Contracts to exchange financial instruments (e.g., physically settled written options or forward contracts that involve the exchange of equity shares for cash or another financial asset).

- They meet the definition of a freestanding financial instrument; that is, they are not features embedded in a freestanding financial instrument. ASC 480-10-20 defines a freestanding financial instrument as one that is entered into either “separately and apart from any of the entity’s other financial instruments or equity transactions” or “in conjunction with some other transaction and is legally detachable and separately exercisable.”

- Their legal form is that of a share, or they could result in the receipt or delivery of shares or are indexed to an obligation to repurchase shares.
ASC 480-10 requires an instrument that has all of the above characteristics to be classified outside of equity if it falls within one of the following classes of instruments:

- **Mandatorily redeemable financial instruments** — The issuer of a financial instrument that is in the form of a share must classify the share as a liability if it embodies an unconditional obligation requiring the issuer to redeem the share by transferring assets unless redemption would occur only upon the liquidation or termination of the reporting entity. Examples of mandatorily redeemable financial instruments include those mandatorily redeemable shares and mandatorily redeemable noncontrolling interests that do not contain any substantive conversion features.

- **Obligations to repurchase the issuer's shares (or indexed to such obligations) by transferring assets** — A financial instrument other than an outstanding share is classified as an asset or a liability if it both (1) embodies an obligation to repurchase the issuer's equity shares (or is indexed to such an obligation) and (2) requires (or may require) the issuer to settle the obligation by transferring assets. Examples of financial instruments that meet these criteria include those forward purchase contracts and written put options on the entity's own equity shares that are either physically settled or net cash settled.

- **Certain obligations to issue a variable number of shares** — An outstanding share that embodies an unconditional obligation, or a financial instrument other than an outstanding share that embodies an obligation, is classified as an asset or a liability if the issuer must or may settle the obligation by issuing a variable number of its equity shares and the obligation's monetary value is based solely or predominantly on one of the following: (1) a fixed monetary amount, (2) variations in something other than the fair value of the issuer's equity shares, or (3) variations inversely related to changes in the fair value of the issuer's equity shares. Examples of instruments in this category include share-settled debt and those forward purchase contracts and written put options on the entity's own equity shares that are net share settled.

Financial instruments that are accounted for as assets or liabilities under ASC 480 are initially recognized at fair value, with one exception. A forward contract that requires the entity to repurchase a fixed number of its equity shares for cash is initially measured at the fair value of the shares at inception (i.e., not the fair value of the forward contract), with certain adjustments, and the offsetting entry is presented in equity (i.e., the transaction is treated as if the repurchase had already occurred with borrowed funds).

In subsequent periods, financial instruments classified as assets or liabilities under ASC 480-10 are remeasured at their then-current fair value, and changes in fair value are recorded in earnings, with two exceptions. ASC 480-10-35-3 states that physically settled forward contracts to repurchase “a fixed number of the issuer's equity shares in exchange for cash and mandatorily redeemable financial instruments shall be measured subsequently in either of the following ways,” as applicable:

a. If both the amount to be paid and the settlement date are fixed, those instruments shall be measured subsequently at the present value of the amount to be paid at settlement, accruing interest cost using the rate implicit at inception.

b. If either the amount to be paid or the settlement date varies based on specified conditions, those instruments shall be measured subsequently at the amount of cash that would be paid under the conditions specified in the contract if settlement occurred at the reporting date, recognizing the resulting change in that amount from the previous reporting date as interest cost.
The fact that an instrument does not need to be classified as an asset or a liability under ASC 480-10 does not necessarily mean that it qualifies for equity classification. To determine whether an instrument qualifies for classification in equity in whole or in part, an entity must also consider other GAAP (e.g., ASC 470-20, ASC 815-10, ASC 815-15, and ASC 815-40). Further, under ASC 480-10-S99-3A, an entity that is subject to SEC guidance should consider whether an equity-classified instrument must be classified outside of permanent equity.

Once an issuer has determined that the appropriate balance sheet classification for the equity instrument is liability, temporary equity, or permanent equity, the issuer should further evaluate the instrument to identify any embedded features that may need to be bifurcated and accounted for separately as derivative instruments.

The sections below outline some of the more common types of securities that life sciences entities issue, together with the related accounting considerations.

10.2.2 Redeemable Equity Securities

The SEC staff believes that redeemable equity securities are significantly different from conventional equity capital because such securities possess characteristics similar to debt as a result of the redemption obligation attached to the securities. The guidance in ASC 480-10-S99-3A requires instruments to be classified outside of permanent equity in “temporary equity” if they are redeemable (1) at a fixed or determinable price on a fixed or determinable date, (2) at the option of the holder, or (3) upon the occurrence of an event that is not solely within the issuer’s control. To determine the appropriate classification, SEC registrants must evaluate all facts and circumstances related to events that could trigger redemption of the securities. Issuers should evaluate whether equity instruments that do not meet the definition of a liability under ASC 480-10 nevertheless must be presented outside of permanent equity because of any of these provisions.

Because only public entities are required to present certain equity instruments as temporary equity (sometimes referred to as mezzanine equity) instead of permanent equity, the SEC staff frequently comments on this topic during the IPO process.

10.2.2.1 Mandatorily Redeemable Equity Securities

ASC 480 requires mandatorily redeemable securities to be reported as liabilities. Other redeemable equity securities are classified outside of shareholders’ equity in “temporary equity” under the SEC staff’s guidance. More specifically, for a redeemable equity security to be classified as a liability under ASC 480, it must be certain that redemption will occur; redeemable equity securities whose redemption is not certain are classified as temporary equity under the SEC staff’s guidance. Therefore, mandatorily redeemable preferred securities that have substantive conversion options at issuance would not be considered liabilities under ASC 480 even though such securities are called mandatorily redeemable convertible securities. This is because as long as the conversion option is substantive, it is not certain that redemption will occur. If the issuer does not have control over any event that could trigger redemption of the security, the security would be classified as temporary equity under the SEC staff’s guidance.

The treatment of the return paid to the holder of redeemable securities differs depending on whether the securities are classified as liabilities or as temporary equity. For securities classified as liabilities under ASC 480, such a return is treated as an expense. For redeemable securities classified as temporary equity, such a return is treated as a dividend.

2 See ASC 480-10-S99-3A(5).
Connecting the Dots

In general, an entity should first apply the guidance in ASC 480 when determining the appropriate presentation of redeemable securities on the balance sheet. If the securities are not classified as liabilities under ASC 480, the entity should examine them under SEC staff guidance to determine whether it is appropriate to classify them as temporary equity. In addition, registrants should be familiar with the SEC staff's views on the applicability of its guidance in certain situations. For example, if redemption is required only upon the liquidation of the reporting entity, an instrument is not considered redeemable. This situation and others are described in ASC 480-10-S99-3A.

10.2.2.2 Redeemable Securities Whose Redemption Is Outside the Issuer's Control

The analysis of whether a security's redemption is not solely within the issuer's control could be complicated depending on the triggering events associated with redemption. The SEC staff believes that the issuer should evaluate each triggering event separately, along with relevant facts and circumstances, to determine whether it is outside the issuer's control. If any triggering events are outside the issuer's control, the security should be classified outside of permanent equity regardless of the probability of such events. ASC 480-10-S99-3A-6 through S99-3A-9 provide examples of events that are outside the issuer's control.

Connecting the Dots

Nonpublic life sciences entities, including start-ups and other entities financed by private equity or venture capital firms, often have one or more series of convertible preferred stock issued and outstanding. In evaluating the appropriate classification in the statement of financial condition of convertible preferred stock, a life sciences entity should first consider whether the convertible preferred stock represents a mandatorily redeemable financial instrument that is required to be classified as a liability under ASC 480-10-25-4. If a preferred stock instrument contains an embedded conversion option that is considered a substantive feature as of the issuance date, the convertible preferred stock instrument would not qualify as a mandatorily redeemable financial instrument.

When convertible preferred stock is not required to be classified as a liability, life sciences entities should consider the SEC staff's guidance in ASC 480-10-S99-3A to determine whether it is appropriate to classify the convertible preferred stock in permanent equity. Convertible preferred stock should be classified in temporary equity if the instrument contains (1) a stated redemption feature that allows or requires the holder to put the security to the issuer on a specified date (or dates) or (2) a stated redemption feature that allows the holder to put the security to the issuer upon the occurrence of a specified event that is not solely within the issuer's control. Therefore, when the holders of convertible preferred stock have control over the entity, the following convertible preferred stock instruments must also be classified in temporary equity:

- Convertible preferred stock that contains a stated redemption feature that allows the issuer to call the security on a specified date (or dates).

---

3 See footnote 2.
4 A conversion feature that results in settlement of the instrument through the issuance of a variable number of shares of common stock equal to a fixed monetary amount is equivalent to “share-settled” debt and would not represent a substantive conversion option. For additional guidance, see ASC 470-20-40-5 through 40-10.
5 See ASC 480-10-55-11 and 55-12.
• Convertible preferred stock that contains a stated redemption feature that allows the
holder to put the security to the issuer upon the occurrence of a specified event that can
be controlled by the vote of the entity's stockholders or by actions of the entity's board of
directors.

Even if a convertible preferred stock instrument does not contain a stated redemption feature
(i.e., a stated call option or a stated put option), the instrument's liquidation provisions must
still be considered, including whether those provisions are considered "ordinary liquidation"
or "deemed liquidation" provisions. An ordinary liquidation provision does not trigger the
requirement to classify the convertible preferred equity in temporary equity; a deemed
liquidation provision will typically trigger the requirement to classify the convertible preferred
equity in temporary equity. See Chapter 9 of Deloitte's A Roadmap to Distinguishing Liabilities
From Equity for additional guidance.

10.2.2.3 Measurement of Instruments Classified in Temporary Equity

If an instrument classified in temporary equity is currently redeemable, it should be adjusted to its
maximum redemption amount as of the balance sheet date. However, if an instrument classified in
temporary equity is not currently redeemable and the registrant determines that its redeemability is not
probable, subsequent adjustment of the carrying amount is not necessary until it is probable that the
security will become redeemable.6

10.2.3 Preferred Stock That Is Nonredeemable or Is Redeemable Solely at the
Option of the Issuer

When securities are not redeemable or are redeemable solely at the option of the issuer, those
securities are generally classified in permanent equity on the balance sheet. All relevant facts and
circumstances should be considered in the determination of whether the redemption is solely at the
option of the issuer.7 The SEC staff often emphasizes that issuers should examine the redemption
provision of all securities classified in permanent equity to ensure their proper classification. For
example, an instrument may not be redeemable for cash but may be convertible into another class of
equity. Unless management can assert that it has the ability to settle the conversion with shares, it could
be forced to redeem the instrument for cash, resulting in classification of that instrument outside of
permanent equity. In addition, according to its terms, a security may be redeemable solely at the option
of the issuer; however, if the holder of the security controls the issuer's board of directors, that security
would be considered redeemable at the option of the holder and would be classified as temporary
equity.8

If classification of securities as temporary equity is no longer appropriate because of a change in the
redemption feature, the outstanding carrying amount of securities should be reclassified as permanent
equity on the date of the event that causes the reclassification.

Even if the entire instrument should be classified in permanent equity under ASC 480-10-S99-3A, the
issuer may be required to perform further analysis to determine whether the equity instrument contains
embedded derivatives that must be bifurcated and accounted for separately as derivative instruments in
accordance with ASC 815-15.

---

7 See ASC 480-10-S99-3A-11.
8 See ASC 480-10-S99-3A-7.
10.2.4 Conversion Features of Preferred Stock and Debt

As discussed in Section 10.2.6.2, an issuer should perform an evaluation under ASC 815 to determine whether contracts, such as those involving convertible preferred stock or convertible debt, contain embedded equity derivatives that may need to be bifurcated and accounted for separately from the host contract under ASC 815’s bifurcation requirements. If an embedded conversion feature does not need to be bifurcated from the hybrid instrument as an embedded derivative, but the convertible instrument contains beneficial conversion features (BCFs) or may be settled entirely or partially in cash, the instrument may need to be separated into a liability component and an equity component. After concluding that a conversion option does not need to be bifurcated under ASC 815, an issuer should consider whether the cash conversion guidance in ASC 470-20 applies. If the hybrid instrument is not within the scope of the cash conversion guidance, the issuer should consider the BCF guidance in ASC 470-20. Both the cash conversion guidance and the BCF guidance in ASC 470-20 are discussed below.

Connecting the Dots

In July 2019, the FASB issued a proposed ASU that would simplify the accounting for certain financial instruments with characteristics of liabilities and equity, including convertible instruments and contracts on an entity’s own equity. The proposed ASU is part of the FASB’s simplification initiative, which aims to reduce unnecessary complexity in U.S. GAAP.

The proposed ASU would remove the separation models in ASC 470-20 for (1) convertible debt issued at a substantial premium, (2) convertible debt with a cash conversion feature (CCF), and (3) convertible instruments with a BCF. As a result, no embedded conversion features would be separately presented in equity under ASC 470-20. Instead, a convertible debt instrument would be accounted for wholly as debt and convertible preferred stock would be accounted for wholly as preferred stock (i.e., as a single unit of account) unless a convertible instrument contains features that require bifurcation as a derivative under ASC 815.

The comment period ended on October 14, 2019. For additional information on the proposed ASU, see Deloitte’s August 8, 2019, Heads Up.

10.2.4.1 Cash Conversion Features

As discussed above, an issuer should evaluate whether a convertible instrument must be accounted for under the cash conversion guidance in ASC 470-20 if the conversion feature did not need to be bifurcated in accordance with ASC 815-15. The cash conversion guidance applies only to convertible debt that may be settled in whole or in part in cash upon conversion. Typically, the convertible debt will allow the issuer to settle the par amount in cash and to deliver shares with a fair value equal to the intrinsic value of the conversion option.

Issuers of both convertible debt and convertible preferred stock should consider the cash conversion guidance in ASC 470-20; however, since this guidance applies only to convertible debt, all of the following four conditions must be met for the guidance to apply to convertible preferred stock:

1. Upon conversion, the preferred stock may be settled either fully or partially in cash or assets in accordance with its stated terms.
2. The convertible preferred stock meets the definition of a mandatorily redeemable financial instrument in ASC 480-10.

---

9 A convertible debt instrument that may be settled in cash (or other assets) upon conversion, including partial cash settlement, has a CCF. See ASC 470-20-15-4.
3. The convertible preferred stock is classified as a liability under ASC 480-10 (i.e., it is a mandatorily redeemable financial instrument that is not exempt from the scope of ASC 480-10.

4. The CCF is not required to be separately accounted for as a derivative instrument under ASC 815-15.

Equity-classified convertible preferred stock (including preferred stock classified in temporary equity) is outside the scope of the cash conversion guidance in ASC 470-20. In general, mandatorily convertible preferred stock is also outside the scope of the cash conversion guidance in ASC 470-20 because it will be classified as a liability only if (1) the conversion option is not considered substantive at issuance or (2) the issuer, upon conversion, had to settle a portion of that conversion in cash (the issuance of cash for fractional shares can be ignored).

A convertible debt instrument would not be within the scope of the ASC 470-20 cash conversion guidance if cash settlement would occur only when all other holders of the underlying shares also receive cash. Further, convertible debt that provides for the settlement of fractional shares in cash upon conversion would not be within the scope of the cash conversion guidance.

The debt and equity components of instruments within the scope of the cash conversion guidance must be accounted for separately. To account for those components, the issuer first determines the fair value of a similar liability without the conversion option, which represents the liability (debt) portion of the instrument. The remainder of any proceeds allocated to the convertible instrument is allocated to the conversion (equity) portion. The method used to determine the value of a CCF (i.e., based on the fair value of the debt component) differs from the approach discussed below to determine the value of a BCF (i.e., based on the intrinsic value of the equity component).

### 10.2.4.2 Beneficial Conversion Features

ASC 470-20-20 defines a BCF as a “nondetachable conversion feature that is in the money at the commitment date.” If the conversion price embedded in preferred stock or debt is lower than the fair value of the stock into which the preferred stock or debt is convertible as of the commitment date and the conversion feature does not need to be bifurcated as an embedded derivative, the conversion feature may be “beneficial.” If the conversion feature is beneficial, the effect of the difference between the conversion price and the fair value of the stock should reduce the carrying amount of the convertible instrument and be recognized in equity.

**Connecting the Dots**

In determining whether a BCF exists, an entity should consider the “effective conversion price” that an investor effectively would pay for a share upon conversion. For instance, if convertible debt was issued at a discount or a portion of the proceeds was allocated to detachable warrants, an entity would calculate the effective conversion price of the debt by using the amount allocated to the debt for accounting purposes.

The SEC staff frequently seeks to identify embedded BCFs by analyzing the conversion price in convertible instruments issued within one year of an IPO filing. When the conversion price is lower than the IPO price, the SEC staff may require a prospective registrant to recognize an expense related to a BCF and may sometimes require it to use the IPO price as a base in measuring the BCF. If the prospective registrant believes that the conversion price represented the stock’s fair value at the time the instrument was issued, it should be prepared to present sufficient evidence to support its assertion.
Connecting the Dots

Identifying a BCF can be complex because it is directly related to the appropriateness of the fair value assigned to the underlying stock when that stock is not actively traded.

Once an entity identifies a BCF, the entity would recognize that embedded feature separately at issuance by allocating a portion of the proceeds equal to the intrinsic value of the embedded feature to APIC. If a BCF is contingent on the occurrence of a future event such as an IPO, an entity would measure the BCF in the same way but would not recognize it in earnings until the contingency is resolved.

10.2.5 Accelerated Share Repurchase Programs

Several life sciences companies have considered or executed accelerated share repurchase (ASR) programs in recent years. As described in ASC 505-30-25-5, an ASR program is “a combination of transactions that permits an entity to repurchase a targeted number of shares immediately with the final repurchase price of those shares determined by an average market price over a fixed period of time. An accelerated share repurchase program is intended to combine the immediate share retirement benefits of a tender offer with the market impact and pricing benefits of a disciplined daily open market stock repurchase program.”

ASC 505-30 contains unit-of-account guidance that applies to ASR programs. Under ASC 505-30-25-6, an entity accounts for an ASR as two separate units of account: a treasury stock repurchase and a separate forward contract on the entity's shares. An entity should analyze the treasury stock repurchase and forward contract separately to determine whether ASC 480-10 applies.

The terms of ASRs vary. In a traditional ASR, an entity (1) repurchases a targeted number of its own shares at the current stock price up front for cash and (2) simultaneously enters into a net-settled forward sale of the same number of shares. Economically, the forward serves as a true-up mechanism to adjust the price ultimately paid for the shares purchased. The purpose is to reduce the number of outstanding shares immediately at a repurchase price that reflects the average stock market price over an extended period (e.g., the volume-weighted average price on each trading day during the contract period). On a combined basis, the initial share repurchase and the forward sale put the issuer in an economic position similar to that of having conducted a series of open market purchases of its own stock over a specified period.

Example 10-1

ASR Analysis

An entity makes an up-front cash payment and receives a specific number of shares from the counterparty (usually an investment bank). Upon settlement of the forward contract (typically within three to six months), the entity either (1) pays the counterparty an amount equal to any excess of the volume-weighted average daily market price (VWAP) of the entity's shares over the initial purchase price or (2) receives from the counterparty an amount equal to any excess of the initial purchase price over the VWAP. Often, the entity can choose to settle the forward contract with the counterparty in either cash or a variable number of shares. Under ASC 505-30, this transaction is analyzed as two units of account: a treasury stock repurchase and a net settled forward contract to sell the entity's stock over the contract period.
In practice, the settlement of the treasury stock repurchase often takes place one or a few days after the execution of the ASR (e.g., the initial share delivery date may be three business days after the transaction date), at which time the issuer pays cash and receives an initial number of shares. If so, the obligation to repurchase shares in exchange for cash is classified as a liability under ASC 480-10-25-8 (see Chapter 5 of Deloitte’s A Roadmap to Distinguishing Liabilities From Equity) during the period between the ASR transaction date and the settlement date of the treasury stock repurchase (sometimes described as the “initial share delivery date” or the “prepayment date”). Note that in some ASR transactions, the payment of cash in the treasury stock repurchase occurs before the receipt of the initial shares, in which case ASC 480-10 may cease to apply once the obligation to pay cash has been settled.

In evaluating whether the forward component of an ASR is within the scope of ASC 480-10, the issuer should consider whether it embodies an obligation to transfer assets or a variable number of shares that meet the criteria in ASC 480-10-25-8 or ASC 480-10-25-14 (see Chapters 5 and 6, respectively, of Deloitte’s A Roadmap to Distinguishing Liabilities From Equity). Usually, an issuer is not required to classify as a liability under ASC 480-10 the forward contract component in a traditional ASR because it does not embody an obligation to repurchase shares for assets and does not involve an obligation to deliver a variable number of shares with a monetary value that moves inversely with — or is based on something other than — the price of the issuer’s stock. However, an issuer cannot assume that the forward contract component of an ASR is outside the scope of ASC 480-10 without analyzing its specific terms and features.

In some ASR transactions, a portion of the prepayment amount on the initial share delivery date represents a premium paid by the issuer to increase the forward sale price that the issuer will receive in the forward component of the transaction (relative to an at-market forward) rather than a payment for the shares to be received in the initial treasury stock repurchase. For example, the issuer may apply 20 percent of the prepayment amount to the forward component to reduce the likelihood that the forward component will ever dilute earnings per share. In this case, the issuer may be required to account for the forward component as an asset or liability under ASC 480-10-25-8 in the period between the transaction date and the prepayment date (which may be the initial share delivery date) if the forward component permits net share settlement, because the forward component embodies an obligation to pay cash (on the initial share delivery date) to repurchase shares (the issuer will receive shares on the forward settlement date if the stock price is less than the forward price).

If the forward component is outside the scope of ASC 480-10, the issuer should evaluate it under ASC 815-40 to determine whether it must be accounted for as an asset or a liability. The terms of an ASR often include rights for the counterparty to end the ASR early upon termination events defined by reference to the International Swaps and Derivatives Association’s equity derivatives definitions (e.g., merger events, tender offers, nationalization, insolvency, delisting, change in law, failure to deliver, loss of stock borrowings, increased cost of stock borrowings, extraordinary dividends). Further, the contractual provisions often specify or permit the counterparty to make adjustments to the settlement terms upon the occurrence of such events (e.g., calculation agent adjustments, cancellation, and payment) and might require the entity to settle the contract net in cash. In evaluating an ASR’s forward-contract component under ASC 815-40, therefore, the entity should be mindful of the need to assess such terms under the indexation guidance and other equity classification conditions in ASC 815-40.
An issuer enters into an ASR transaction on December 30 under which it is obligated to transfer a fixed amount of cash (a prepayment amount of $500 million) in exchange for a fixed number of its common shares (10 million initial shares) on the initial share delivery date (January 2). On the transaction's final settlement date (March 31), the issuer will either deliver or receive shares. If the volume-weighted daily average market price (VWAP) of the issuer's common shares exceeds $50, the issuer will deliver shares; if the VWAP is less than $50, the issuer will receive shares. The number of shares that will be received or delivered is calculated as the prepayment amount ($500 million) divided by the VWAP over the contract period less the initial shares (10 million) already delivered.

In these circumstances, the treasury stock repurchase is required to be accounted for as a liability under ASC 480-10-25-8. In accordance with ASC 480-10-30-3, the issuer recognizes the liability on the ASR transaction date initially measured "at the fair value of the shares at inception, adjusted for any consideration or unstated rights or privileges." Simultaneously, in accordance with ASC 480-10-30-5, equity is "reduced by an amount equal to the fair value of the shares at inception." Because under ASC 480-10-35-3(a) both the amount to be paid — $500 million — and the settlement date — January 2 — are fixed, the liability is measured at the present value of the amount to be paid at settlement — $500 million — with interest cost accruing at the rate implicit at inception during the period from the transaction date to the initial share delivery date. (Further, if any part of the prepayment amount represents a premium payment for the forward component of the ASR transaction, that portion would be accounted for separately as a liability measured at fair value under ASC 480-10-35-1, ASC 480-10-35-4A, or ASC 480-10-35-5 between the transaction date and the initial share delivery date, as discussed above.)

On the initial share delivery date, the liability for the treasury stock repurchase is extinguished by delivery of the prepayment amount. After the initial share delivery date, the transaction is outside the scope of ASC 480-10 and is therefore evaluated under other GAAP (including ASC 815-10 and ASC 815-40; see Section 3.2.5 of Deloitte's A Roadmap to Accounting for Contracts on an Entity's Own Equity).

10.2.6 Derivatives

Common financing arrangements issued by life sciences entities in the form of debt or equity capital may be considered to be or may contain equity derivatives (i.e., equity derivatives may be freestanding or embedded). Examples of common equity derivatives are stock warrants, stock options, and forward contracts to buy or sell an entity's shares. Equity derivatives may be classified as liabilities (or, in some cases, as assets) and measured at fair value on the balance sheet, with changes in fair value recognized in earnings. It is important to be aware of these instruments, how they are accounted for, and subsequent events that could affect such accounting. Sometimes, the measurement attribute for such instruments could be fair value as a result of an IPO or subsequent financing.

The first step in the analysis is to consider whether the equity derivative is a freestanding instrument or whether it is embedded in another instrument. If the instrument is freestanding, the guidance in ASC 815-40 will govern the classification and measurement of the instrument unless the instrument is a liability within the scope of ASC 480, as discussed above. It is important to note that the guidance in ASC 815-40 is applicable to freestanding contracts on an entity's own equity regardless of whether those contracts meet the definition of a derivative in ASC 815-10. Contracts on an entity's own equity may need to be classified as assets and liabilities (and remeasured at fair value every reporting period) even if they are not considered derivatives within the scope of ASC 815-10. Also, contracts that meet the conditions for classification in equity under ASC 815-40 are excluded from the scope of ASC 815-10 even if they meet the definition of a derivative.
If an equity derivative is embedded in a hybrid instrument, the guidance in ASC 815-40 will be applicable only to embedded features that meet the definition of a derivative and meet the other criteria for bifurcation. That is, if an embedded equity derivative is not clearly and closely related to the host contract, the hybrid instrument is not remeasured at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in earnings; and if the embedded derivative meets the definition of a derivative in ASC 815-10, the guidance in ASC 815-40 will be relevant in the determination of whether the equity derivative needs to be bifurcated because of the scope exception in ASC 815-10, as discussed above.

**10.2.6.1 ASC 815-40 — Contracts on an Entity’s Own Equity**

ASC 815-40 provides guidance on the accounting for contracts (and features embedded in contracts) that are indexed to, and potentially settled in, an entity’s own equity (also known as contracts on own equity or equity-linked financial instruments). The analysis under ASC 815-40 can be complex; in performing this analysis, an entity often must consult with its legal counsel regarding the various terms associated with the contract. The SEC staff has noted common issues related to applying the guidance in ASC 815-40, including the following:

- Cash settlement provisions.
- Requirement to settle in registered shares.
- Insufficient number of authorized but unissued shares.
- No limit on the number of shares to be delivered.
- Incorrect conclusion regarding whether the instrument is indexed to an entity’s own stock.

In general, a contract on an entity’s own equity can be classified in equity (and not remeasured while it is classified in equity) as long as it is considered to be indexed to the entity’s own stock and the issuer has the ability to settle the contract by issuing its own shares under all scenarios. This determination requires an evaluation of all events that could change the settlement value (e.g., adjustments to strike price) and all events that would affect the form of settlement. For additional guidance on ASC 815-40, see Deloitte’s *A Roadmap to Accounting for Contracts on an Entity’s Own Equity*.

For example, as the result of a provision to adjust the conversion price (other than a standard antidilution provision that applies to all shareholders), an entity may consider an instrument not to be indexed to the issuer’s own stock. This type of situation has often been problematic for entities that provide certain investors with price protection by adjusting the strike price if there is a subsequent round of equity or convertible instrument financing at a strike price that is lower than theirs. Under a provision that triggers such price protection (a “down-round provision”), the strike price would usually be adjusted to the strike price of the subsequent transaction. As a result, an instrument or embedded derivative would be accounted for as an asset or liability. However, in July 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-11, which makes limited changes to the guidance in ASC 815-40. (For a discussion of other new guidance on financial instruments, see Section 10.3.)

Before an issuer adopts ASU 2017-11, a contract (or embedded equity conversion feature) that contains a down-round provision does not qualify as equity because such an arrangement precludes a conclusion that the contract is indexed to the entity’s own stock under ASC 815-40-15. Therefore, freestanding contracts on an entity’s own equity that contain a down-round feature have been accounted for at fair value, with changes in fair value recognized in earnings. Similarly, embedded equity conversion features containing down-round provisions have been separated and accounted for as derivative instruments at fair value when the bifurcation criteria in ASC 815-15 have been met.
ASU 2017-11 applies to issuers of financial instruments with down-round features. It amends (1) the classification of many of such instruments as liabilities by revising the guidance in ASC 815 on the evaluation of whether instruments with down-round provisions may meet the conditions to be considered indexed to the issuer's own equity and (2) the guidance on recognition and measurement of the value transferred upon the triggering of a down-round feature for equity-classified instruments by revising ASC 260.

For PBEs, ASU 2017-11 is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within those annual reporting periods. For all other entities, the ASU is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2019, and interim periods within annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2020. Early adoption is permitted in any interim or annual period for which financial statements have not yet been issued or have not been made available for issuance.

For additional details, see Deloitte's July 21, 2017, Heads Up.

**Connecting the Dots**

If a freestanding contract on an entity's own equity does not meet the conditions for being considered indexed to the entity's own stock under ASC 815-40-15, ASC 815-40 precludes classification of the contract as equity but does not otherwise address the accounting for the contract. Accordingly, the entity should consult other accounting literature.

The long-standing position of the SEC staff is that if the contract is a written option (e.g., a warrant or call option) that does not qualify for equity classification, and the subsequent accounting is not specifically addressed in other U.S. GAAP (including ASC 480-10, ASC 505-50, ASC 718, ASC 805-30, and ASC 815-10), registrants should account for the contract at fair value with changes in fair value recorded in earnings in each reporting period (ASC 815-10-S99-4).

The SEC staff's view is consistent with AICPA Issues Paper 86-2 on accounting for options, which states, in part:

> Options should be carried at market price. Options not traded on exchanges should be accounted for the same as options traded on exchanges.

Further, at the 2003 AICPA Conference on Current SEC Developments, Professional Accounting Fellow Gregory Faucette stated the following:

> Important to the interpretation of the historical staff position is the scope of [the AICPA Issues Paper]. The Issues Paper addressed all options traded on exchanges, all options on fungible items not traded on exchanges, and all options settled in cash only, such as options on stock indices. The scope excluded options on land or real estate, options on large blocks of stock, options issued by an enterprise on its securities, and agreements that obligated enterprises to make or acquire loans under specified conditions. [Footnote omitted]

In a manner consistent with the AICPA issues paper and the above remarks, we believe that options on large blocks of an entity's own equity shares are not subject to the SEC's long-standing position on written options.
Chapter 10 — Financial Instruments

10.2.6.2 Considerations Related to Embedded Derivatives

In addition to the considerations related to freestanding instruments (e.g., warrants or stock options) under ASC 815, an entity should evaluate whether other contracts, such as those involving preferred stock or convertible debt, contain embedded equity derivatives that may need to be bifurcated and accounted for separately from the host contract under ASC 815’s bifurcation requirements. A reporting entity identifies the terms of each embedded feature on the basis of the feature’s economic payoff profile (underlying)\textsuperscript{10} rather than on the basis of how the feature has been formally documented. In identifying the embedded features, the entity should consider all terms of the convertible instrument. Common examples of embedded features include conversion options and redemption provisions.

An identified embedded feature generally\textsuperscript{11} must be bifurcated and accounted for separately from the host contract if the following three conditions are met:

- The embedded feature is not clearly and closely related to the host contract.
- The host instrument (e.g., preferred stock or debt) is not remeasured at fair value, with changes in fair value recognized in earnings, under other applicable GAAP.
- A separate instrument with the same terms as the embedded feature meets the definition of a derivative instrument under ASC 815-10.\textsuperscript{12}

10.2.6.2.1 Clearly and Closely Related to the Host Contract

10.2.6.2.1.1 Determining the Nature of the Host Contract

When determining whether the embedded feature being analyzed is clearly and closely related to the host contract, an entity must first decide whether the nature of the host contract is more debt-like or equity-like. ASU 2014-16, issued in November 2014, clarifies that the only acceptable method for determining the nature of the host contract in a hybrid instrument issued in the form of a share is a method commonly referred to as the “whole-instrument” approach. Under the whole-instrument approach, the nature of the host contract is the same for each embedded feature being analyzed. Determining the nature of the host contract under the whole-instrument approach involves the following steps:

- Identify all of the hybrid financial instrument’s stated and implied substantive terms and features.
- Determine whether the identified terms and features are more debt-like or equity-like.
- Identify the relative weight of the identified terms and features “on the basis of the relevant facts and circumstances.”\textsuperscript{13}

\textsuperscript{10} Although there is no explicit guidance under U.S. GAAP on how to determine the unit of accounting for embedded features in a hybrid instrument, the approach described herein is commonly applied. Under the payoff-profile approach, each embedded derivative feature in a hybrid instrument is defined on the basis of the monetary or economic value that the feature conveys to the instrument’s counterparty upon settlement. This approach is consistent with the definition of an embedded derivative in ASC 815-15-20, which focuses on the effect of an implicit or explicit term on the cash flows or values of other exchanges required under a contract.

\textsuperscript{11} Subject to the scope exceptions in ASC 815-10.

\textsuperscript{12} See ASC 815-10-15-83.

\textsuperscript{13} See ASC 815-15-25-17C.
Further, ASC 815-15-25-17A states, in part:

In evaluating the stated and implied substantive terms and features, the existence or omission of any single term or feature does not necessarily determine the economic characteristics and risks of the host contract. Although an individual term or feature may weigh more heavily in the evaluation on the basis of the facts and circumstances, an entity should use judgment based on an evaluation of all of the relevant terms and features. For example, an entity shall not presume that the presence of a fixed-price, noncontingent redemption option held by the investor in a convertible preferred stock contract, in and of itself, determines whether the nature of the host contract is more akin to a debt instrument or more akin to an equity instrument. [Emphasis added]

If a reporting entity is still unclear about the nature of the host contract after performing this analysis, it should consider the anticipated outcome for the holder of the hybrid financial instrument in reaching its final conclusion. Given the complexity of determining the nature of a host contract of a hybrid instrument with both conversion and redemption features, entities are encouraged to consult with their accounting advisers.

The method described above for determining the nature of the host contract applies only to hybrid instruments issued in the form of a share. A legal-form debt instrument will typically be considered to be a debt host contract.

10.2.6.2.1.2 Determining Whether the Feature Is Clearly and Closely Related to the Host Contract

Once the reporting entity has determined the nature of the host contract, it should, in accordance with ASC 815-15-25-1(a), evaluate each embedded feature separately to determine whether the economic characteristics and risks of the embedded feature are clearly and closely related to those of the host contract. If the embedded feature is clearly and closely related to the host contract, the embedded feature should not be bifurcated. If the embedded feature is not clearly and closely related to the host contract, the reporting entity must analyze the other two conditions described above to determine whether bifurcation of the embedded feature is required.

Commonly identified embedded features that an entity would evaluate to determine whether they are clearly and closely related to a debt or equity host contract include the following:

- **Redemption features** — A redemption feature enables the holder to receive cash to settle the equity instrument. A redemption feature may be held by the issuer or the holder and may be exercisable upon the occurrence of certain events or at any time. If an equity host contract has a redemption feature, the redemption is explicitly not considered clearly and closely related to that contract in accordance with ASC 815-15-25-20. Therefore, in such cases, an entity would need to perform additional analysis to determine whether it is required to bifurcate the redemption feature.

Under ASC 815-15-25-42, if a debt host contract has a redemption feature, an entity must perform a four-step test to determine whether the redemption feature is clearly and closely related to the debt host.

- **Conversion features** — Conversion features enable an entity to convert an existing instrument into another form of the entity’s equity (e.g., convertible preferred stock, convertible debt). ASC 815-15-25-16 indicates that a conversion feature in an equity host contract would be clearly and closely related to the equity host contract since it provides the holder with another residual interest in the same entity. Accordingly, a conversion feature in an equity host contract would not be bifurcated and accounted for separately as a derivative instrument.
However, ASC 815-15-25-51 indicates that a conversion option in a debt host contract is not clearly and closely related to the contract. Therefore, the entity would have to perform further analysis to determine whether the other bifurcation criteria are met.

- **Changing interest/dividend rates** — Contracts may include provisions under which stated interest or dividend rates increase or decrease as a result of the occurrence or nonoccurrence of specific events. An embedded derivative that resets the interest rate of a debt host contract (i.e., a debt instrument or an equity instrument that was determined to represent a debt host) is generally clearly and closely related to the debt host if it is based on changes in interest rates, the issuer's creditworthiness, or inflation. However, if, for example, an entity's bonds include a provision under which the interest rate must be reset to a different rate if an unrelated party's credit rating is downgraded at any time during the term of the bonds, the reset feature is not clearly and closely related to the debt host. An embedded derivative that changes an instrument's interest rate because of changes to the rate of inflation in the economic environment for the currency in which a debt instrument is denominated would be considered clearly and closely related to the debt host. Further, changes to an interest rate based on changes in an entity's operating performance (e.g., EBITDA) may be considered clearly and closely related to the debt host if the operating performance metric is related to the entity's creditworthiness. Such interest rate reset provisions are generally not considered clearly and closely related to an equity host, however.

### 10.2.6.2.2 Separate Instrument With Same Terms Meets the Definition of a Derivative

An embedded equity derivative (e.g., a conversion option) that meets the first two conditions outlined above for bifurcating embedded equity derivatives would require further evaluation for an entity to determine whether the embedded feature should be separately accounted for as a derivative under ASC 815-10. ASC 815-10-15-83 defines a derivative as a financial instrument or other contract that (1) has an underlying as well as a notional amount or payment provision, (2) requires little or no initial net investment, and (3) can be net settled.

Equity instruments will generally meet the first and second criteria in the definition of a derivative but may not meet the third. For instance, a contract in a nonpublic entity's own stock (e.g., a warrant or stock option) may not qualify as a derivative because the entity's equity shares are not publicly traded. In such cases, unless the contract provides for net share settlement or cash settlement, the contract generally would not meet the net settlement criterion because the equity shares would not be readily convertible to cash. However, upon an IPO, the entity would need to reevaluate the contract under ASC 815 to determine whether the contract is or contains an accounting derivative now that the entity's shares are publicly traded. If the post-IPO shares or an embedded conversion feature is readily convertible to cash, the net settlement criterion would be met, resulting in an accounting derivative that may need to be recognized unless it qualifies for a scope exception to derivative accounting (discussed further below).

---

For example, a warrant to acquire common-stock shares that explicitly permits net settlement (e.g., cashless exercise) would meet the net settlement criterion. However, a warrant to acquire common-stock shares of a nonpublic entity for which gross exercise is required (i.e., the warrant holder pays the exercise price in cash to acquire common shares) would generally not meet the net settlement criterion since the contract would be settled in shares that are not readily convertible to cash. If that nonpublic entity went public, however, the warrant that previously did not meet the net settlement criterion might now satisfy the criterion since common-stock shares of a publicly traded entity are generally readily convertible to cash.

A contract that meets the definition of a derivative under the above criteria may not need to be accounted for as a derivative if it qualifies for any of the scope exceptions in ASC 815-10-15-13. One of these scope exceptions involves contracts on an entity’s own equity. Generally, the value of an equity derivative is linked to the entity’s own stock (i.e., the underlying of the derivative). If the derivative is indexed to the entity’s own stock and would not require the entity to settle the derivative by paying cash or other assets, it would qualify for classification as equity and be outside of the scope of ASC 815.

Some equity derivatives may qualify for the scope exception in ASC 815-10-15-74 for certain contracts indexed to the company’s own stock. If this scope exception applies, such equity derivatives would not have to be bifurcated.

However, an embedded feature that meets the definition of a derivative and does not qualify for an explicit scope exception would need to be bifurcated from the host instrument and accounted for separately as a derivative (if the other two conditions for bifurcation are also met). A bifurcated derivative (e.g., a conversion feature) would be measured initially and subsequently at fair value, with changes in fair value recognized in earnings.

The accounting for convertible debt instruments and convertible preferred stocks is complex, and the SEC staff frequently asks about the classification of such instruments in entities’ registration statements. The flowchart below illustrates the multistep evaluation that entities are required to perform for any hybrid instrument with a conversion feature.
10.2.7 Fair Value

Many Codification topics require or permit the subsequent measurement of assets or liabilities at fair value. ASC 820-10-35 provides guidance on the subsequent measurement of items at fair value and applies to both recurring and nonrecurring measurements. The definition of fair value is based on an exit price notion. An asset, liability, or equity instrument is measured at fair value on the basis of market-participant assumptions; such measurement is not entity-specific. Entities must consider all characteristics of the asset, liability, or equity instrument that a market participant would consider in determining an exit price in the principal or most advantageous market.

10.2.7.1 Restrictions on the Sale or Use of an Asset

In some cases, it is appropriate to consider a restriction on the sale or use of an asset as a characteristic of the asset that affects its fair value. Only a legal or contractual restriction on the sale or use of an asset that is specific to the asset (an instrument-specific restriction) and that would be transferred to market participants should be incorporated into the asset's fair value measurement. Thus, an entity should consider the effect of a restriction on the sale or use of an asset that it owns only if market participants would consider such a restriction in pricing the asset because they would also be subject to the restriction if they acquired the asset. Entity-specific restrictions that would not be transferred to market participants should not be considered in the determination of the asset's fair value, since doing so would be inconsistent with the exit price notion underlying the definition of fair value. The table below gives examples of restrictions on the sale of assets and addresses whether they are instrument-specific or entity-specific.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of Restriction</th>
<th>Description of Restriction</th>
<th>Impact of Restriction on Fair Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restriction on the sale of securities offered in a private offering in accordance with SEC Rule 144 or similar rules (private placements)</td>
<td>SEC Rule 144 legally restricts the sale of certain securities to buyers that meet specified criteria.</td>
<td>As discussed in ASC 820-10-55-52, this type of restriction is a characteristic of the security and would be transferred to market participants. Therefore, the fair value measurement of the security should take this instrument-specific restriction into account. An instrument-specific restriction on a security affects a fair value measurement by the amount that a market participant would demand because of the inability to access a public market for the security for the specified period. As discussed in ASC 820-10-55-52, that amount depends on the nature and duration of the restriction, the extent to which buyers are limited by the restriction, and qualitative and quantitative factors specific to both the instrument and the issuer. Quoted prices for such securities would reflect the resale restriction; therefore, there should be no further adjustment to reflect the restriction.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(Table continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of Restriction</th>
<th>Description of Restriction</th>
<th>Impact of Restriction on Fair Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Founder's shares in an IPO of equity securities</td>
<td>Founders may be contractually restricted from selling their shares for a period after an IPO. Such restrictions may be outlined in the IPO prospectus.</td>
<td>If this restriction is not embedded in the contractual terms of the shares (which it generally is not) and thus would not be transferred in a hypothetical sale of the shares, the restriction is specific to the founders and not a characteristic of the security. Therefore, the founders should not consider this restriction in determining fair value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security sale restriction related to a seat on the board of directors</td>
<td>An entity (Entity A) has an equity investment in another entity (Entity B) and is represented on its board of directors. Because officers of A are directors of B, A is restricted from selling any of its investment securities in B during each period that is two weeks before the end of each quarter through 48 hours after B’s earnings are released (also referred to as a “blackout period”).</td>
<td>Other market participants would not face this restriction. Because the restriction is entity-specific (i.e., it is not a characteristic of the security) and would not be transferred with the security, an entity should not consider the restriction in measuring the security at fair value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assets pledged as collateral</td>
<td>An entity has a borrowing arrangement in which assets must be pledged as collateral.</td>
<td>Other market participants would not face this restriction. Because the restriction is entity-specific (i.e., it is not a characteristic of the assets) and would not be transferred with the assets, an entity should not consider the restriction in measuring the assets at fair value.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The determination of whether a contractual or legal restriction on the sale or use of an asset is instrument-specific or entity-specific is sometimes straightforward; other times, an entity may need to exercise judgment or consult a legal specialist in making this determination.

10.2.7.2 Premiums or Discounts Based on Size of a Position

ASC 820-10-35-36B addresses when a fair value measurement should include a premium or discount as a result of the size of an asset, liability, or instrument classified in an entity’s stockholders’ equity. In a manner consistent with the guidance on transfer restrictions (see above), a fair value measurement includes a premium or discount that reflects the size of the item only if size is a characteristic of the asset, liability, or instrument classified in stockholders’ equity. A fair value measurement cannot include “[p]remiums or discounts that reflect size as a characteristic of the . . . entity’s holding” (i.e., a blockage factor) rather than as a characteristic of the asset, liability, or instrument classified in stockholders’ equity that is determined on the basis of its unit of account under other Codification topics (e.g., a control premium or minority interest discount that is appropriate on the basis of its unit of account).

ASC 820-10-35-36B indicates that when “there is a quoted price in an active market . . . for an asset or a liability” (i.e., a Level 1 input), an entity must “use that quoted price without adjustment when measuring fair value, except as specified in paragraph 820-10-35-41C.” However, even if a fair value measurement is categorized within Level 2 or Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy in its entirety, the fair value measurement cannot include a premium or discount for size (e.g., a blockage factor) when this premium or discount results from the size of an entity’s holding rather than from a characteristic of the item being valued.
10.2.7.2.1 Blockage Factors

As described in ASC 820-10-35-36B, a blockage factor represents a discount that “adjusts the quoted price of an asset or a liability because the market's normal daily trading volume is not sufficient to absorb the quantity held by the entity.” The basic principle in ASC 820-10-35-36B is that blockage factors are prohibited at all levels of the fair value hierarchy. An adjustment to a quoted price of an individual asset or liability to reflect a blockage factor is not permitted under ASC 820 when the unit of account for the asset or liability is the individual instrument (i.e., the unit of account for the holding under U.S. GAAP is aligned with the unit of account related to the quoted price). For example, if an entity holds a large position in a publicly traded common stock and would expect to sell the position in a single transaction (i.e., a large block), the price it would receive would reflect a discount to the product of the quoted market price and the number of shares held; however, that discount should not be reflected in a fair value measurement because it reflects the size of the entity's holding as opposed to a characteristic of the asset held.

However, if the unit of account for fair value measurement purposes is the entire holding (i.e., entire position), an adjustment to reflect the size of the holding may be appropriate. Further, if the unit of valuation reflects the entire holding, an adjustment to reflect the size of the holding may be appropriate even if the unit of account differs from the unit of valuation and application of a blockage factor at the unit-of-account level would be inappropriate. Thus, a discount that adjusts a quoted price of an asset or liability to reflect a blockage factor could, in certain circumstances, be consistent with the definition of fair value in ASC 820.

10.3 New Accounting Standards

10.3.1 Classification and Measurement (ASU 2019-04)

In April 2019, the FASB issued ASU 2019-04, which clarifies certain aspects of the guidance in ASU 2016-01 on the accounting for financial instruments. Other aspects of that guidance are clarified by ASU 2018-03, which the FASB issued in February 2018.

10.3.1.1 Background

In January 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-01 to amend the guidance on the classification and measurement of financial instruments. The ASU’s amendments include changes related to the following:

- Accounting for equity investments (apart from those that are accounted for under the equity method or those that are consolidated).
- Recognition of changes in fair value attributable to changes in instrument-specific credit risk for financial liabilities for which the fair value option has been elected.
- Determining the valuation allowance for DTAs related to available-for-sale (AFS) debt securities.
- Disclosure requirements for financial assets and financial liabilities.
Before the adoption of ASU 2016-01, marketable equity securities other than equity method investments or those that result in consolidation of the investee were classified as either (1) held for trading, with changes in fair value recognized in earnings, or (2) AFS, with changes in fair value recognized in other comprehensive income (OCI). Further, nonmarketable equity securities for which the fair value cannot be readily determined generally would be measured at cost (less impairment) unless the fair value option was elected. Under ASU 2016-01, since equity securities can no longer be accounted for as AFS, entities holding such investments could see more volatility in earnings. Entities’ application of the measurement alternative to investments without readily determinable fair values may reduce such earnings volatility, but this alternative is not available to broker-dealers.

For financial liabilities (excluding derivative instruments) for which the fair value option has been elected, the amendments in ASU 2016-01 require an entity to separately recognize in OCI any changes in fair value associated with instrument-specific credit risk. The guidance indicates that the portion of the total change in fair value that exceeds the amount resulting from a change in a base market risk (such as a risk-free interest rate) may be attributable to instrument-specific credit risk, but it also acknowledges that there may be other methods that an entity can use to determine instrument-specific credit risk.

For more information about ASU 2016-01, see Deloitte’s January 12, 2016, Heads Up.

In February 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-03 to clarify certain aspects of the guidance in ASU 2016-01. For more information about ASU 2018-03, see Deloitte’s March 1, 2018, journal entry.

**10.3.1.2 Codification Improvements to ASU 2016-01**

ASU 2019-04 provides the following clarifications to the guidance in ASU 2016-01 on the accounting for financial instruments:

- **Held-to-maturity debt securities fair value disclosures** — Entities other than PBEs are exempt from the “fair value disclosure requirements for financial instruments not measured at fair value on the balance sheet.”

- **Measurement alternative in ASC 321-10-35-2** — The measurement alternative in ASC 321-10-35-2 for equity securities without readily determinable fair values represents a nonrecurring fair value measurement under ASC 820; therefore, such securities should be remeasured at fair value when an entity identifies an orderly transaction “for an identical or similar investment of the same issuer,” and applicable ASC 820 disclosures are required.

- **Remeasurement of equity securities at historical exchange rates** — An entity should remeasure equity securities without readily determinable fair values subject to the measurement alternative at historical exchange rates. In addition, the historical exchange rate used should be the rate that existed on the later of (1) the acquisition date or (2) the most recent fair value measurement date.

The amendments in ASU 2019-04 related to ASU 2016-01 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, including interim periods therein. Early adoption is permitted in any interim period after issuance of ASU 2019-04 for those entities that have already adopted ASU 2016-01.

The amendments related to equity securities without readily determinable fair values require prospective application; however, the remaining amendments should be “applied on a modified-retroactive transition basis by means of a cumulative-effect adjustment to the opening retained earnings balance in the statement of financial position as of the date an entity adopted all of the amendments in Update 2016-01.” ASU 2019-04 also requires certain transition disclosures. For more information about ASU 2019-04, see Deloitte’s May 7, 2019, Heads Up.
Connecting the Dots

In September 2019, the FASB issued a proposed ASU aimed at reducing the cost and complexity of determining whether debt should be classified as current or noncurrent in a classified balance sheet. The proposal, which revises a proposed ASU issued in January 2017, would amend the current guidance in ASC 470-10 and establish a uniform principle for determining debt classification. It would also provide application guidance that clarifies how covenant violations, covenant waivers, post-balance-sheet refinancing transactions, and subjective acceleration clauses affect debt classification.


10.3.2.1 Background

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13 (the “new credit losses standard,” codified in ASC 326), which amends guidance on the impairment of financial instruments. The ASU adds to U.S. GAAP an impairment model (known as the current expected credit loss [CECL] model) that is based on expected losses rather than incurred losses. Under the new guidance, an entity recognizes as its estimate of expected credit losses an allowance, which is presented as either (1) an offset to the amortized cost basis of the related asset (for on-balance-sheet exposures) or (2) a separate liability (for off-balance-sheet exposures). That is, the expected credit losses estimated over the lifetime of a financial instrument are recognized at inception (i.e., on day 1).

Key provisions of ASU 2016-13 and ASUs that amend its guidance are discussed below. For more information about the new credit losses standard, see Deloitte’s A Roadmap to Accounting for Current Expected Credit Losses.

10.3.2.2 The CECL Model

10.3.2.2.1 Scope

The CECL model applies to most debt instruments (other than those measured at fair value), trade receivables, net investments in leases, reinsurance receivables that result from insurance transactions, financial guarantee contracts, and loan commitments. However, AFS debt securities are excluded from the model’s scope and will continue to be assessed for impairment under the guidance in ASC 320 (the FASB moved the impairment model for AFS debt securities from ASC 320 to ASC 326-30 and has made limited amendments to the impairment model for AFS debt securities).

10.3.2.2.2 Recognition of Expected Credit Losses

Unlike the incurred loss models in existing U.S. GAAP, the CECL model does not specify a threshold for the recognition of an impairment allowance. Rather, an entity will recognize its estimate of expected credit losses for financial assets as of the end of the reporting period. Credit impairment will be recognized as an allowance — or contra-asset — rather than as a direct write-down of a financial asset’s amortized cost basis. However, the carrying amount of a financial asset that is deemed uncollectible will be written off in a manner consistent with existing U.S. GAAP.

---

16 The following debt instruments would not be accounted for under the CECL model:
- Loans made to participants by defined contribution employee benefit plans.
- Policy loan receivables of an insurance entity.
- Pledge receivables (promises to give) of an NFP.
- Loans and receivables between entities under common control.

17 The CECL model does not apply to financial guarantee contracts that are accounted for as insurance or measured at fair value through net income.
10.3.2.2.3 Measurement of Expected Credit Losses

ASU 2016-13 describes the impairment allowance as a “valuation account that is deducted from the amortized cost basis of the financial asset(s) to present the net carrying value at the amount expected to be collected on the financial asset.” An entity can use various measurement approaches to determine the impairment allowance. Some approaches project future principal and interest cash flows (i.e., a discounted cash flow method), while others project only future principal losses. Regardless of the measurement method used, an entity’s estimate of expected credit losses should reflect the losses that occur over the contractual life of the financial asset.

When determining the contractual life of a financial asset, an entity is required to consider expected prepayments either as a separate input in the method used to estimate expected credit losses or as an amount embedded in the credit loss experience that it uses to estimate such losses. The entity is not allowed to consider expected extensions of the contractual life unless (1) extensions are a contractual right of the borrower or (2) the entity has a reasonable expectation as of the reporting date that it will execute a troubled debt restructuring with the borrower.

An entity must consider all available relevant information when estimating expected credit losses, including details about past events, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts. That is, while an entity can use historical charge-off rates as a starting point for determining expected credit losses, it must evaluate how conditions that existed during the historical charge-off period may differ from its current expectations and revise its estimate of expected credit losses accordingly. However, the entity is not required to forecast conditions over the entire contractual life of the asset. Rather, for the period beyond that for which the entity can make reasonable and supportable forecasts, the entity should revert to historical credit loss experience.

10.3.2.2.4 Unit of Account

The CECL model does not prescribe a unit of account (e.g., an individual asset or a group of financial assets) in the measurement of expected credit losses. However, an entity is required to evaluate financial assets within the scope of the model on a collective (i.e., pool) basis when assets share similar risk characteristics. If a financial asset’s risk characteristics are not similar to those of any of the entity’s other financial assets, the entity would evaluate that asset individually. If the financial asset is individually evaluated for expected credit losses, the entity would not be allowed to ignore available external information such as credit ratings and other credit loss statistics.

10.3.2.2.5 Write-Offs

Like current guidance, ASU 2016-13 requires an entity to write off the carrying amount of a financial asset when the asset is deemed uncollectible. However, unlike current requirements, the ASU’s write-off guidance also applies to AFS debt securities.
10.3.2.2.6 Application of the CECL Model to Trade Receivables

The CECL model applies to trade receivables that result from revenue transactions within the scope of ASC 606. The example below, which is reproduced from ASU 2016-13 and codified in ASC 326-20-55-38 through 55-40 (Example 5), illustrates how an entity would apply the guidance to trade receivables by using a provision matrix.\textsuperscript{18}

Entity E manufactures and sells products to a broad range of customers, primarily retail stores. Customers typically are provided with payment terms of 90 days with a 2 percent discount if payments are received within 60 days. Entity E has tracked historical loss information for its trade receivables and compiled the following historical credit loss percentages:

\begin{itemize}
  \item a. 0.3 percent for receivables that are current
  \item b. 8 percent for receivables that are 1–30 days past due
  \item c. 26 percent for receivables that are 31–60 days past due
  \item d. 58 percent for receivables that are 61–90 days past due
  \item e. 82 percent for receivables that are more than 90 days past due.
\end{itemize}

Entity E believes that this historical loss information is a reasonable base on which to determine expected credit losses for trade receivables held at the reporting date because the composition of the trade receivables at the reporting date is consistent with that used in developing the historical credit-loss percentages (that is, the similar risk characteristics of its customers and its lending practices have not changed significantly over time). However, Entity E has determined that the current and reasonable and supportable forecasted economic conditions have improved as compared with the economic conditions included in the historical information. Specifically, Entity E has observed that unemployment has decreased as of the current reporting date, and Entity E expects there will be an additional decrease in unemployment over the next year. To adjust the historical loss rates to reflect the effects of those differences in current conditions and forecasted changes, Entity E estimates the loss rate to decrease by approximately 10 percent in each age bucket. Entity E developed this estimate based on its knowledge of past experience for which there were similar improvements in the economy.

At the reporting date, Entity E develops the following aging schedule to estimate expected credit losses.

\begin{table}[h]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{lccr}
\hline
\textbf{Past-Due Status} & \textbf{Amortized Cost Basis} & \textbf{Credit Loss Rate} & \textbf{Expected Credit Loss Estimate} \\
\hline
Current & $5,984,698 & 0.27\% & $16,159 \\
1–30 days past due & 8,272 & 7.2\% & 596 \\
31–60 days past due & 2,882 & 23.4\% & 674 \\
61–90 days past due & 842 & 52.2\% & 440 \\
More than 90 days past due & 1,100 & 73.8\% & 812 \\
\hline
$5,997,794 & & & $18,681 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{table}

\textsuperscript{18} ASC paragraph numbers have been omitted.
Connecting the Dots

The example above from ASU 2016-13 illustrates that an entity’s use of a provision matrix to apply the CECL model to trade receivables may not differ significantly from its current methods for determining the allowance for doubtful accounts. However, the example also shows that when using such a matrix, the entity is required to consider the following:

- Whether expected credit losses should be recognized for trade receivables that are considered “current” (i.e., not past due). In the example above, a historical loss rate of 0.3 percent is adjusted to 0.27 percent on the basis of the current and reasonable and supportable forecasted economic conditions and is applied to the trade receivables that are classified as current. This may be a change from current practice for many life sciences companies.

- When using historical loss rates in a provision matrix, the entity must assess whether and, if so, how the historical loss rates differ from what is currently expected over the life of the trade receivables (on the basis of current conditions and reasonable and supportable forecasts).

10.3.2.3 Effective-Date Changes and Transition

In November 2019, the FASB issued ASU 2019-10, which gives private companies, NFPs, and certain small public companies additional time to implement the Board’s new standards on credit losses, leasing, and hedging. For more information about ASU 2019-10, see Deloitte’s November 19, 2019, Heads Up.

Upon the adoption of ASU 2016-13, all entities record a cumulative-effect adjustment in retained earnings on the balance sheet as of the beginning of the year of adoption (i.e., retrospective application is prohibited).

10.3.2.4 Other Developments

ASU 2019-04, which, as previously noted, was issued in April 2019, makes certain technical corrections and amendments to the guidance on credit losses in ASC 326. The tables below, which are reproduced from ASU 2019-04, summarize those amendments. For additional information, see Deloitte’s May 7, 2019, Heads Up.
Area for Improvement

Summary of Amendments

**Issue 1A: Accrued Interest**

The guidance in Subtopic 326-20, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses — Measured at Amortized Cost, and Subtopic 326-30, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses — Available-for-Sale Debt Securities, contains specific guidance on the measurement, presentation, and disclosure of financial assets within the scope of those Subtopics. Because the definition of *amortized cost basis* in the Codification includes accrued interest, the guidance in Subtopics 326-20 and 326-30 also applies to the accrued interest amounts included as part of the amortized cost of a related financial asset. Applying the guidance in Subtopics 326-20 and 326-30 to accrued interest as part of the amortized cost basis of a related financial asset potentially imposes unintended costs to implement Update 2016-13.

The amendments to Subtopic 326-20 allow an entity to:

a. Measure the allowance for credit losses on accrued interest receivable balances separately from other components of the amortized cost basis of associated financial assets.

b. Make an accounting policy election not to measure an allowance for credit losses on accrued interest receivable amounts if an entity writes off the uncollectible accrued interest receivable balance in a timely manner and makes certain disclosures.

c. Make an accounting policy election to write off accrued interest amounts by reversing interest income or recognizing credit loss expense, or a combination of both. The entity also is required to make certain disclosures.

d. Make an accounting policy election to present accrued interest receivable balances and the related allowance for credit losses for those accrued interest receivable balances separately from the associated financial assets on the balance sheet. If the accrued interest receivable balances and the related allowance for credit losses are not presented as a separate line item on the balance sheet, an entity should disclose the amount of accrued interest receivable balances and the related allowance for credit losses and where the balance is presented.

e. Elect a practical expedient to disclose separately the total amount of accrued interest included in the amortized cost basis as a single balance to meet certain disclosure requirements.

Certain amendments in (a) through (e) above are applicable to Subtopic 326-30.
### Issue 1B: Transfers Between Classifications or Categories for Loans and Debt Securities

Subtopics 310-10, Receivables — Overall, and 948-310, Financial Services — Mortgage Banking — Receivables, provide guidance on how an entity should account for loans with various classifications. While a significant portion of that guidance was superseded by Update 2016-13, stakeholders questioned how to account for the allowance for credit losses or valuation allowance when transferring nonmortgage loans between classifications (that is, not-held-for-sale and held-for-sale classifications) and mortgage loans between classifications (that is, held-for-long-term-investment and held-for-sale classifications).

Subtopic 320-10, Investments — Debt Securities — Overall, provides guidance on how an entity should account for transfers of debt securities between categories. Stakeholders questioned how to account for the allowance for credit losses when transferring debt securities between the available-for-sale category and the held-to-maturity category.

The amendments require that an entity reverse in earnings, any allowance for credit losses or valuation allowance previously measured on a loan or debt security, reclassify and transfer the loan or debt security to the new classification or category, and apply the applicable measurement guidance in accordance with the new classification or category.

### Issue 1C: Recoveries

The guidance in paragraph 326-20-35-8 states that recoveries of financial assets and trade receivables previously written off should be recorded when received. Without proper clarification, stakeholders noted that this guidance could be interpreted to prohibit the inclusion of recoveries in the estimation of expected credit losses on financial assets measured at amortized cost basis.

Furthermore, stakeholders questioned how an entity should account for an amount expected to be collected greater than the amortized cost basis.

The amendments clarify that an entity should include recoveries when estimating the allowance for credit losses.

The amendments clarify that expected recoveries of amounts previously written off and expected to be written off should be included in the valuation account and should not exceed the aggregate of amounts previously written off and expected to be written off by the entity. In addition, for collateral-dependent financial assets, the amendments clarify that an allowance for credit losses that is added to the amortized cost basis of the financial asset(s) should not exceed amounts previously written off.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area for Improvement</th>
<th>Summary of Amendments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Issue 1B: Transfers Between Classifications or Categories for Loans and Debt Securities</strong></td>
<td>The amendments require that an entity reverse in earnings, any allowance for credit losses or valuation allowance previously measured on a loan or debt security, reclassify and transfer the loan or debt security to the new classification or category, and apply the applicable measurement guidance in accordance with the new classification or category.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Issue 1C: Recoveries</strong></td>
<td>The amendments clarify that an entity should include recoveries when estimating the allowance for credit losses. The amendments clarify that expected recoveries of amounts previously written off and expected to be written off should be included in the valuation account and should not exceed the aggregate of amounts previously written off and expected to be written off by the entity. In addition, for collateral-dependent financial assets, the amendments clarify that an allowance for credit losses that is added to the amortized cost basis of the financial asset(s) should not exceed amounts previously written off.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area for Improvement</td>
<td>Summary of Amendments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Issue 2A: Conforming Amendment to Subtopic 310-40</strong></td>
<td>The amendment clarifies the illustration by removing the incorrect cross-reference to paragraph 326-20-35-2 and replacing it with the correct cross-reference to paragraphs 326-20-35-4 through 35-5, which require that an entity use the fair value of collateral to determine expected credit losses when foreclosure is probable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholders noted that the cross-reference to paragraph 326-20-35-2 in Example 2 in Subtopic 310-40, Receivables — Troubled Debt Restructurings by Creditors, is incorrect. The illustration describes an entity that determines that foreclosure is probable on a collateral-dependent loan. Therefore, stakeholders asked whether the cross-reference should instead link to paragraphs 326-20-35-4 through 35-5, which require that an entity use the fair value of collateral to determine expected credit losses when foreclosure is probable.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Issue 2B: Conforming Amendment to Subtopic 323-10</strong></td>
<td>The amendment clarifies the equity method losses allocation guidance in paragraphs 323-10-35-24 and 323-10-35-26 by adding cross-references to Subtopics 326-20 and 326-30 for the subsequent measurement of those loans and debt securities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholders noted that the guidance on equity method losses in paragraphs 323-10-35-24 and 323-10-35-26 was not amended in Update 2016-13. Specifically, the guidance describes the allocation of equity method losses when an investor has other investments, such as loans and debt securities, in the equity method investee. Stakeholders asked whether the guidance should refer an entity to Topic 326 for the subsequent measurement of those loans and debt securities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Issue 2C: Clarification That Reinsurance Recoverables Are Within the Scope of Subtopic 326-20</strong></td>
<td>The amendment clarifies the Board’s intent to include all reinsurance recoverables within the scope of Topic 944 within the scope of Subtopic 326-20, regardless of the measurement basis of those recoverables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholders asked whether reinsurance recoverables measured on a net present value basis in accordance with Topic 944, Financial Services — Insurance, are within the scope of Subtopic 326-20. As written, the scope could be interpreted to exclude those recoverables because they are not measured at amortized cost basis.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Area for Improvement | Summary of Amendments
---|---
**Issue 2D: Projections of Interest Rate Environments for Variable-Rate Financial Instruments**
Stakeholders asked whether the prohibition of using projections of future interest rate environments in estimating expected future cash flows and determining the effective interest rate to discount expected cash flow for variable-rate financial instruments was consistent with the Board's intent. As written, an entity that chooses to use a discounted cash flow method to determine expected credit losses on a variable-rate financial instrument is precluded from forecasting changes in the variable rate for the purposes of estimating expected cash flows and determining the effective interest rate with which to discount those cash flows.

Stakeholders also asked if an entity is required to use a prepayment-adjusted effective interest rate if it uses projections of interest rate environments for variable-rate financial instruments in estimating expected cash flows.

The amendments clarify the Board's intent to provide flexibility in determining the allowance for credit losses by removing the prohibition of using projections of future interest rate environments when using a discounted cash flow method to measure expected credit losses on variable-rate financial instruments.

The amendments clarify that an entity that uses projections or expectations of future interest rate environments in estimating expected cash flows should use the same assumptions in determining the effective interest rate used to discount those expected cash flows.

The amendments also clarify that if an entity uses projections of future interest rate environments when using a discounted cash flow method to measure expected credit losses on variable-rate financial instruments, it also should adjust the effective interest rate to consider the timing (and changes in the timing) of expected cash flows resulting from expected prepayments.

**Issue 2E: Consideration of Prepayments in Determining the Effective Interest Rate**
Stakeholders asked whether an entity may adjust the effective interest rate used to discount expected cash flows in a discounted cash flow method for the entity's expectations of prepayments on financial assets. Stakeholders noted that expected prepayments are required to be considered in estimating expected cash flows. However, they noted that without incorporating those expected prepayments into determining the effective interest rate, the discounted cash flow calculation fails to appropriately isolate credit risk in the determination of an allowance for credit losses.

The amendments permit an entity to make an accounting policy election to adjust the effective interest rate used to discount expected future cash flows for expected prepayments on financial assets within the scope of Subtopic 326-20 and on available-for-sale debt securities within the scope of Subtopic 326-30 to appropriately isolate credit risk in determining the allowance for credit losses.

The amendments also clarify that an entity should not adjust the effective interest rate used to discount expected cash flows for subsequent changes in expected prepayments if the financial asset is restructured in a troubled debt restructuring.
Issue 2F: Consideration of Estimated Costs to Sell When Foreclosure Is Probable

Stakeholders asked whether an entity is required to consider estimated costs to sell the collateral when using the fair value of [the] collateral to estimate expected credit losses on a financial asset because foreclosure is probable in accordance with paragraph 326-20-35-4. Stakeholders noted that the collateral-dependent financial asset practical expedient in paragraph 326-20-35-5 requires that an entity consider estimated costs to sell if repayment or satisfaction of the asset depends on the sale of the collateral.

Stakeholders also noted that paragraphs 326-20-35-4 through 35-5 require that an entity adjust the fair value of collateral for the estimated costs to sell on a discounted basis if it intends to sell rather than operate the collateral. Stakeholders asked why an entity is required to estimate the costs to sell on a discounted basis if the fair value of collateral should be based on amounts as of the reporting date.

The amendments clarify the guidance in paragraph 326-20-35-4 by specifically requiring that an entity consider the estimated costs to sell if it intends to sell rather than operate the collateral when the entity determines that foreclosure on a financial asset is probable.

Additionally, the amendments clarify the guidance that when an entity adjusts the fair value of collateral for the estimated costs to sell, the estimated costs to sell should be undiscounted if the entity intends to sell rather than operate the collateral.

In May 2019, the FASB issued ASU 2019-05, which allows entities to irrevocably elect, upon the adoption of ASU 2016-13, the fair value option for financial instruments that (1) were previously recorded at amortized cost, (2) are within the scope of ASC 326-20, and (3) are eligible for the fair value option under ASC 825-10. Entities would make this election on an instrument-by-instrument basis. The fair value option election does not apply to held-to-maturity debt securities.

First-time adopters of ASU 2016-13 would elect the fair value option upon their adoption of ASU 2016-13 and would apply a modified retrospective approach under which the cumulative effect of the election would be recorded in beginning retained earnings in the period of adoption. Early adoption of ASU 2019-05 is permitted in any interim period within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018, provided that the entity has adopted ASU 2016-13.

In November 2019, the FASB issued ASU 2019-11, which amends certain aspects of the Board’s new credit losses standard, including guidance related to the following:

- Purchased credit-deteriorated financial assets.
- Transition relief for troubled debt restructurings.
- Disclosure relief for accrued interest receivable.
- Financial assets secured by collateral maintenance provisions.

ASU 2019-11 also makes conforming amendments to ASC 805-20. For entities that have not yet adopted ASU 2016-13, the amendments in ASU 2019-11 are effective on the same date as those in ASU 2016-13. For entities that have adopted ASU 2016-13, the amendments in ASU 2019-11 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, and interim periods therein.

For more information about ASU 2019-11, see Deloitte’s December 2, 2019, Heads Up.
10.3.3 Hedging (ASUs 2017-12 and 2019-04)

10.3.3.1 Background
In August 2017, the FASB issued ASU 2017-12, which amends the hedge accounting recognition and presentation requirements in ASC 815. The Board's objectives in issuing the ASU were to (1) improve the transparency and understandability of information conveyed to financial statement users about an entity's risk management activities by better aligning the entity's financial reporting for hedging relationships with those risk management activities and (2) reduce the complexity, and simplify the application, of hedge accounting by preparers. However, as a result of subsequent stakeholder feedback on the ASU, the FASB decided to make certain Codification improvements, some of which the Board incorporated into ASU 2019-04.

10.3.3.2 Key Changes to the Hedge Accounting Model
ASU 2019-04 clarifies various aspects of ASU 2017-12, including its guidance on the following:

- Certain aspects of partial-term fair value hedges of interest rate and foreign exchange risk.
- The amortization period for fair value hedge basis adjustments.
- Disclosure requirements for fair value hedge basis adjustments when the hedged item is an AFS debt instrument.
- Consideration of the hedged contractually specified interest rate for measuring hedge effectiveness for a cash flow hedge when the hypothetical derivative method is used.
- Application of a first-payments-received cash flow hedging technique to overall cash flows on a group of variable interest payments.
- The requirements for NFPs related to the treatment of an excluded component in a fair value hedge.
- The transition relief provided for certain NFPs.
- Transition for all entities.

10.3.3.3 Effective Date and Transition
As noted in ASU 2019-04, “[f]or entities that have not yet adopted the amendments in Update 2017-12 as of the issuance date of this Update, the effective dates and transition requirements for the amendments to Topic 815 are the same as the effective dates and transition requirements in Update 2017-12.” See Section 10.3.3.4.

For entities that have adopted ASU 2017-12, ASU 2019-04 is effective “as of the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning after the date of issuance of Update 2019-04.” Those entities may early adopt ASU 2019-04 at any time after its issuance.

10.3.3.4 Changes to Effective Dates

In November 2019, the FASB issued ASU 2019-10, which (1) provides a framework to stagger effective dates for future major accounting standards and (2) gives private companies, NFPs, and certain small public companies additional time to implement the FASB’s major standards on credit losses, leasing, and hedging. For more information about ASU 2019-10, see Deloitte’s November 19, 2019, Heads Up.

10.3.3.5 Implementation Developments

The FASB is continuing its efforts to improve ASU 2017-12. For example, in November 2019, the Board issued a proposed ASU that would clarify certain aspects of the ASU, including (1) changes in hedged risk in a cash flow hedge, (2) contractually specified components in cash flow hedges of nonfinancial forecasted transactions, (3) foreign-currency-denominated debt instruments designated as hedging instruments and hedged items, and (4) use of the term “prepayable” under the shortcut method. The comment period for the proposed ASU ended on January 13, 2020.

In addition, the FASB’s technical agenda includes a narrow-scope project on the last-of-layer method. At the FASB’s August 21, 2019, meeting, as stated in the meeting minutes, the Board “discussed outreach performed and issues encountered in (1) developing a last-of-layer model for multiple layers and (2) potentially providing further guidance on the accounting for fair value hedge basis adjustments for both the existing single-layer model and the proposed multiple-layer model.” At its October 16, 2019, meeting, the FASB reached tentative decisions related to its project on last-of-layer hedging; see Deloitte’s October 22, 2019, journal entry for further details. At the FASB’s January 22, 2020, meeting, the Board discussed the disclosures and transition related to the development of a proposed ASU on last-of-layer hedging. The Board has not yet determined when it will issue such a proposal.

10.3.4 Fair Value Measurement Disclosures (ASU 2018-13)

10.3.4.1 Background

In August 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-13, which changes the fair value measurement disclosure requirements of ASC 820. The amendments in this ASU are the result of a broader disclosure project called FASB Concepts Statement No. 8, Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting — Chapter 8: Notes to Financial Statements, which the Board finalized in August 2018. The Board used the guidance in the Concepts Statement to improve the effectiveness of ASC 820’s disclosure requirements.

The table below summarizes the amendments to the fair value measurement disclosure requirements of ASC 820 that will take effect upon adoption of ASU 2018-13.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary of Changes to ASC 820</th>
<th>Other-Than-Nonpublic Entities</th>
<th>Nonpublic Entities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Changes in unrealized gains or losses included in other OCI for recurring Level 3 fair value measurements held at the end of the reporting period</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explicit requirement to disclose the range and weighted average used to develop significant unobservable inputs for Level 3 fair value measurements</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No[^{19}]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[^{19}\] Nonpublic entities are still subject to the quantitative requirements in ASC 820-10-50-2(bbb)(2) but are not subject to the requirements in ASC 820-10-50-2(bbb)(2)(k).
Table continued:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary of Changes to ASC 820</th>
<th>Applicable to:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other-Than-Nonpublic Entities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eliminated Disclosure Requirements</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of and reasons for transfers between Level 1 and Level 2</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valuation processes for Level 3 fair value measurements</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy for timing of transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in unrealized gains and losses included in earnings for recurring Level 3 fair value measurements held at the end of the reporting period</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Modified Disclosure Requirements</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deletion of “at a minimum” from the phrase “an entity shall disclose at a minimum” to promote the appropriate exercise of discretion by entities</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to disclose transfers into and out of Level 3 and purchases and issues of Level 3 assets and liabilities in lieu of reconciling the opening balances to the closing balances of recurring Level 3 fair value measurements</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarification that the measurement uncertainty disclosure is to communicate information about the uncertainty in measurement as of the reporting date</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For investments in certain entities that calculate net asset value, a requirement to disclose the timing of liquidation of an investee’s assets and the date when restrictions from redemption might lapse only if the investee has communicated the timing to the entity or announced the timing publicly</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 10.3.4.2 Effective Date and Transition

ASU 2018-13 is effective for all entities for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, including interim periods therein. Early adoption is permitted upon issuance of this ASU, including in any interim period for which financial statements have not yet been issued or made available for issuance. Entities making this election are permitted to early adopt the eliminated or modified disclosure requirements22 and delay the adoption of all the new disclosure requirements23 until their effective date.

The ASU requires application of the prospective method of transition (for only the most recent interim or annual period presented in the initial fiscal year of adoption) to the new disclosure requirements for (1) changes in unrealized gains and losses included in OCI and (2) the range and weighted average used to develop significant unobservable inputs for Level 3 fair value measurements. The ASU also requires prospective application to any modifications to disclosures made because of the change to the requirements for the narrative description of measurement uncertainty. The effects of all other amendments made by the ASU must be applied retrospectively to all periods presented.24

---

20 Under current U.S. GAAP, nonpublic entities are exempt from this disclosure requirement. Accordingly, elimination or modification of this disclosure requirement by the ASU does not affect nonpublic entities.

21 See footnote 20.

22 See ASC 820-10-65-12(c), which states that “an entity is permitted to early adopt the removed or modified disclosures in paragraph 820-10-50-2(b), (c)(3), (f), and (g), paragraph 820-10-50-2G, and paragraph 820-10-50-6A(b) and (e).”

23 See ASC 820-10-65-12(c), which states that an entity may “adopt the additional disclosures in paragraph 820-10-50-2(bbb)(2)(i) and (d) upon their effective date.”

24 See ASC 820-10-65-12(b), which states that an “entity shall apply the pending content that links to this paragraph retrospectively to all periods presented, except for the changes in unrealized gains and losses required by paragraph 820-10-50-2(d), the range and weighted-average disclosure required by paragraph 820-10-50-2(bbb)(2)(i), and the narrative description of measurement uncertainty in accordance with paragraph 820-10-50-2(g) that are required to be applied prospectively for only the most recent interim or annual period presented in the initial fiscal year of adoption.”
10.3.5 Clarifying the Interactions Between ASC 321, ASC 323, and ASC 815 (ASU 2020-01)

In January 2020, as a result of subsequent stakeholder feedback on ASU 2016-01, the FASB issued ASU 2020-01, which clarifies the interactions between (1) the accounting for equity securities under ASC 321, (2) the accounting for investments under the equity method in accordance with ASC 323, and (3) the accounting for certain forward contracts and purchased options under ASC 815. The amendments in ASU 2020-01 include the following provisions:

- Immediately before applying or upon discontinuing the equity method of accounting, an entity that applies the ASC 321 measurement alternative should consider observable transactions that require it to either apply or discontinue the equity method.
- In applying ASC 815-10-15-141(a), an entity should not consider whether, upon the settlement of a forward contract or exercise of a purchased option, the underlying securities individually or with existing investments would be accounted for under the equity method in accordance with ASC 323 or the fair value option in accordance with the financial instruments guidance in ASC 825. However, the entity should evaluate the remaining characteristics in ASC 815-10-15-141 to determine the accounting for its forward contracts and purchased options.

For more information, see Deloitte's November 2019 EITF Snapshot.

10.3.5.1 Effective Date and Transition

ASU 2020-01 is effective for PBEs for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2020, and interim periods within those fiscal years. For all other entities, the ASU is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2021, and interim periods within those fiscal years.

Early adoption is permitted, including in an interim period. ASU 2020-01 should be applied prospectively.

10.4 On the Horizon — Reference Rate Reform

In response to the market-wide migration away from the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) and other interbank offered rates, the FASB initiated a project on reference rate reform. The Board held several meetings in 2019 to discuss the project and to consider hedge accounting relief and broader transition implications. For information about the tentative views expressed by the Board at these meetings, see Deloitte's June 26, 2019, and July 22, 2019, journal entries.

As a result of the meetings, the Board issued a proposed ASU in September 2019. At its November 13, 2019, meeting, as stated in a FASB news release issued that day, the Board discussed feedback on the proposed ASU and tentatively decided to provide “temporary, optional guidance to ease the potential burden in accounting for, or recognizing the effects of, reference rate reform on financial reporting.” The FASB directed its staff to draft a final ASU for a vote by written ballot.
In addition, in July 2019, the SEC staff issued a statement on LIBOR transition (the “Statement”) that includes:

- A discussion of the expected discontinuation of LIBOR use and how the transition from LIBOR may significantly affect financial markets and market participants (including public companies, investment companies and advisers, and broker-dealers).
- Questions and considerations for market participants related to new or existing contracts and other business risks.

Although there are still some questions about the ultimate resolution and timing of the transition from LIBOR, the SEC staff strongly encourages market participants that have not already done so to begin assessing their risks associated with the transition. Further, the staff notes that it is actively monitoring participants’ progress with their risk identification and risk management efforts related to the LIBOR transition.

The Statement notes the following regarding existing and new contracts:

- **Existing contracts** — Market participants are encouraged to assess their exposure to LIBOR in existing contracts that extend beyond 2021 in a timely manner to avoid potential market or business disruptions. As the Statement explains, many such contracts “did not contemplate the permanent discontinuation of LIBOR and, as a result, there may be uncertainty or disagreement over how the contracts should be interpreted. In addition, in circumstances where the contractual interpretation is clear, the adjustment may be inconsistent with expectations of the affected parties” (e.g., a floating-rate contract would become fixed-rate). Since renegotiating contracts with counterparties can be time-consuming, it is important for market participants to promptly assess their LIBOR exposure.

- **New contracts** — Market participants that enter into new contracts are encouraged to assess whether those contracts should refer to an alternative reference rate instead of LIBOR or should incorporate fallback provisions that take into account the LIBOR transition. The Statement notes that the Alternative Reference Rates Committee “has published recommended fallback language for new issuances of floating rate notes, syndicated loans, bilateral business loans, and securitizations” (footnotes omitted). The Statement also acknowledges the efforts of the International Swaps and Derivatives Association to develop “robust fallback language” for derivative contracts.

The SEC staff has urged registrants to consider (1) other business risks that may be affected by the discontinuation of LIBOR and (2) providing additional disclosures about the status of risk identification and appropriate information regarding exposures. See Deloitte’s August 6, 2019, Heads Up for more information about the Statement.
Appendix B — Titles of Standards and Other Literature

The following are the titles of standards and other literature mentioned in this Guide:

**AICPA Literature**

**Accounting and Valuation Guides**
*Assets Acquired to Be Used in Research and Development Activities*
*Valuation of Privately-Held-Company Equity Securities Issued as Compensation*

**Audit and Accounting Guide**
*Revenue Recognition*

**Issues Papers**
*Identification and Discussion of Certain Financial Accounting and Reporting Issues Concerning LIFO Inventories 86-2, Accounting for Options*

**Other**
*AICPA Technical Q&A Section 2260.03, “Other Assets; Legal Expenses Incurred to Defend Patent Infringement Suit”*

**FASB Literature**

**ASC Topics**
*ASC 205, Presentation of Financial Statements*
*ASC 210, Balance Sheet*
*ASC 220, Income Statement — Reporting Comprehensive Income*
*ASC 230, Statement of Cash Flows*
*ASC 235, Notes to Financial Statements*
*ASC 250, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*
*ASC 260, Earnings per Share*
*ASC 270, Interim Reporting*
*ASC 275, Risks and Uncertainties*
*ASC 280, Segment Reporting*
ASC 310, Receivables
ASC 320, Investments — Debt and Equity Securities
ASC 321, Investments — Equity Securities
ASC 323, Investments — Equity Method and Joint Ventures
ASC 326, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses
ASC 330, Inventory
ASC 340, Other Assets and Deferred Costs
ASC 350, Intangibles — Goodwill and Other
ASC 360, Property, Plant, and Equipment
ASC 405, Liabilities
ASC 410, Asset Retirement and Environmental Obligations
ASC 420, Exit or Disposal Cost Obligations
ASC 450, Contingencies
ASC 460, Guarantees
ASC 470, Debt
ASC 480, Distinguishing Liabilities From Equity
ASC 505, Equity
ASC 605, Revenue Recognition
ASC 606, Revenue From Contracts With Customers
ASC 610, Other Income
ASC 705, Cost of Sales and Services
ASC 710, Compensation — General
ASC 712, Compensation — Nonretirement Postemployment Benefits
ASC 715, Compensation — Retirement Benefits
ASC 718, Compensation — Stock Compensation
ASC 720, Other Expenses
ASC 730, Research and Development
ASC 740, Income Taxes
ASC 805, Business Combinations
ASC 808, Collaborative Arrangements
ASC 810, Consolidation
ASC 815, Derivatives and Hedging
ASC 835, Financial Instruments
ASC 840, Leases
ASC 842, Leases
ASC 845, Nonmonetary Transactions
ASC 860, Transfers and Servicing
ASC 915, Development Stage Entities
ASC 930, Extractive Activities — Mining
ASC 942, Financial Services — Depository and Lending
ASC 944, Financial Services — Insurance
ASC 946, Financial Services — Investment Companies
ASC 948, Financial Services — Mortgage Banking
ASC 954, Health Care Entities
ASC 958, Not-for-Profit Entities
ASC 960, Plan Accounting — Defined Benefit Pension Plans
ASC 985, Software

ASUs
ASU 2010-27, Other Expenses (Topic 720): Fees Paid to the Federal Government by Pharmaceutical Manufacturers — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force
ASU 2011-06, Other Expenses (Topic 720): Fees Paid to the Federal Government by Health Insurers — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force
ASU 2014-02, Intangibles — Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Accounting for Goodwill — a consensus of the Private Company Council
ASU 2014-09, Revenue From Contracts With Customers (Topic 606)
ASU 2014-10, Development Stage Entities (Topic 915): Elimination of Certain Financial Reporting Requirements, Including an Amendment to Variable Interest Entities Guidance in Topic 810, Consolidation
ASU 2014-15, Presentation of Financial Statements — Going Concern (Subtopic 205-40): Disclosure of Uncertainties About an Entity’s Ability to Continue as a Going Concern
ASU 2014-16, Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815): Determining Whether the Host Contract in a Hybrid Financial Instrument Issued in the Form of a Share Is More Akin to Debt or to Equity — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force
ASU 2015-14, Revenue From Contracts With Customers (Topic 606): Deferral of the Effective Date
ASU 2015-16, Business Combinations (Topic 805): Simplifying the Accounting for Measurement-Period Adjustments
ASU 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842)
ASU 2016-08, Revenue From Contracts With Customers (Topic 606): Principal Versus Agent Considerations (Reporting Revenue Gross Versus Net)

ASU 2016-09, Compensation — Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting

ASU 2016-10, Revenue From Contracts With Customers (Topic 606): Identifying Performance Obligations and Licensing

ASU 2016-11, Revenue Recognition (Topic 605) and Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815): Rescission of SEC Guidance Because of Accounting Standards Updates 2014-09 and 2014-16 Pursuant to Staff Announcements at the March 3, 2016 EITF Meeting

ASU 2016-12, Revenue From Contracts With Customers (Topic 606): Narrow-Scope Improvements and Practical Expedients

ASU 2016-13, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments


ASU 2016-16, Income Taxes (Topic 740): Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets Other Than Inventory

ASU 2016-17, Consolidation (Topic 810): Interests Held Through Related Parties That Are Under Common Control


ASU 2016-20, Technical Corrections and Improvements to Topic 606, Revenue From Contracts With Customers

ASU 2017-01, Business Combinations (Topic 805): Clarifying the Definition of a Business

ASU 2017-04, Intangibles — Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment

ASU 2017-05, Other Income — Gains and Losses From the Derecognition of Nonfinancial Assets (Subtopic 610-20): Clarifying the Scope of Asset Derecognition Guidance and Accounting for Partial Sales of Nonfinancial Assets

ASU 2017-11, Earnings per Share (Topic 260); Distinguishing Liabilities From Equity (Topic 480); Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815): (Part I) Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments With Down Round Features, (Part II) Replacement of the Indefinite Deferral for Mandatorily Redeemable Financial Instruments of Certain Nonpublic Entities and Certain Mandatorily Redeemable Noncontrolling Interests With a Scope Exception

ASU 2017-12, Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815): Targeted Improvements to Accounting for Hedging Activities

ASU 2017-13, Revenue Recognition (Topic 605), Revenue From Contracts With Customers (Topic 606), Leases (Topic 840), and Leases (Topic 842): Amendments to SEC Paragraphs Pursuant to the Staff Announcement at the July 20, 2017 EITF Meeting and Rescission of Prior SEC Staff Announcements and Observer Comments (SEC Update)

ASU 2017-14, Income Statement — Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220), Revenue Recognition (Topic 605), and Revenue From Contracts With Customers (Topic 606) (SEC Update)

ASU 2018-01, Leases (Topic 842): Land Easement Practical Expedient for Transition to Topic 842

ASU 2018-07, Compensation — Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Nonemployee Share-Based Payment Accounting

ASU 2018-08, Not-For-Profit Entities (Topic 958): Clarifying the Scope and the Accounting Guidance for Contributions Received and Contributions Made

ASU 2018-10, Codification Improvements to Topic 842, Leases

ASU 2018-11, Leases (Topic 842): Targeted Improvements


ASU 2018-17, Consolidation (Topic 810): Targeted Improvements to Related Party Guidance for Variable Interest Entities

ASU 2018-18, Collaborative Arrangements (Topic 808): Clarifying the Interaction Between Topic 808 and Topic 606

ASU 2018-20, Leases (Topic 842): Narrow-Scope Improvements for Lessors

ASU 2019-01, Leases (Topic 842): Codification Improvements

ASU 2019-04, Codification Improvements to Topic 326, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses, Topic 815, Derivatives and Hedging, and Topic 825, Financial Instruments

ASU 2019-05, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses (Topic 326): Targeted Transition Relief

ASU 2019-08, Compensation — Stock Compensation (Topic 718) and Revenue From Contracts With Customers (Topic 606): Codification Improvements — Share-Based Consideration Payable to a Customer

ASU 2019-10, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses (Topic 326), Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815), and Leases (Topic 842): Effective Dates

ASU 2019-11, Codification Improvements to Topic 326, Financial Instruments — Credit Losses

ASU 2019-12, Income Taxes (Topic 740): Simplifying the Accounting for Income Taxes

ASU 2020-01, Investments — Equity Securities (Topic 321), Investments — Equity Method and Joint Ventures (Topic 323), and Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815): Clarifying the Interactions Between Topic 321, Topic 323, and Topic 815 — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force

Concepts Statements

No. 5, Recognition and Measurement in Financial Statements of Business Enterprises

No. 6, Elements of Financial Statements

No. 8, Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting — Chapter 8, Notes to Financial Statements
Proposed ASUs

No. 2015-310, Notes to Financial Statements (Topic 235): Assessing Whether Disclosures Are Material

No. 2015-340, Government Assistance (Topic 832): Disclosures by Business Entities About Government Assistance

No. 2017-200, Debt (Topic 470): Simplifying the Classification of Debt in a Classified Balance Sheet (Current Versus Noncurrent)

No. 2017-210, Inventory (Topic 330): Disclosure Framework — Changes to the Disclosure Requirements for Inventory

No. 2017-280, Consolidation (Topic 812): Reorganization


No. 2019-730, Debt — Debt With Conversion and Other Options (Subtopic 470-20) and Derivatives and Hedging — Contracts in Entity’s Own Equity (Subtopic 815-40): Accounting for Convertible Instruments and Contracts in an Entity’s Own Equity

No. 2019-770, Reference Rate Reform (Topic 848): Facilitation of the Effects of Reference Rate Reform on Financial Reporting


No. 2019-790, Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815): Codification Improvements to Hedge Accounting

Other FASB Proposal


International Standards

IFRS 2, Share-Based Payment

IFRS 3, Business Combinations

IFRS 5, Non-Current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations

IFRS 9, Financial Statements

IFRS 10, Consolidated Financial Statements

IFRS 11, Joint Arrangements

IFRS 12, Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities

IFRS 15, Revenue From Contracts With Customers

IFRS 16, Leases

IAS 1 (Revised 2007), Presentation of Financial Statements

IAS 7, Statement of Cash Flows

IAS 10, Events After the Reporting Period

IAS 12, Income Taxes
IAS 17, *Leases*
IAS 20, *Accounting for Government Grants and Disclosure of Government Assistance*
IAS 27 (Revised 2011), *Separate Financial Statements*
IAS 32, *Financial Instruments: Presentation*
IAS 37, *Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets*
IAS 38, *Intangible Assets*
IAS 40, *Investment Property*

**IRC**
Section 78, “Gross Up for Deemed Paid Foreign Tax Credit”
Section 163(j), “Interest; Limitation on Business Interest”
Section 199, “Income Attributable to Domestic Production Activities”
Section 382, “Limitation on Net Operating Loss Carryforwards and Certain Built-In Losses Following Ownership Change”
Section 383, “Special Limitations on Certain Excess Credits, etc.”
Section 409A “Inclusion in Gross Income of Deferred Compensation Under Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plans”
Section 422, “Incentive Stock Options”
Section 423, “Employee Stock Purchase Plans”

**PCAOB Literature**

**SEC Literature**

**FRM**
Topic 1, “Registrant's Financial Information”
Topic 2, “Other Financial Statements Required”
Topic 3, “Pro Forma Financial Information”
Topic 5, “Smaller Reporting Companies”
Topic 7, “Related Party Matters”
Topic 9, “Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Position and Results of Operations (MD&A)”
Topic 10, “Emerging Growth Companies”

**Interpretive Release**
33-10403, *Updates to Commission Guidance Regarding Accounting for Sales of Vaccines and Bioterror Countermeasures to the Federal Government for Placement Into the Pediatric Vaccine Stockpile or the Strategic National Stockpile*
Proposed Rule Release
No. 33-10635, Amendments to Financial Disclosures About Acquired and Disposed Businesses

Regulation S-K
Item 101, “Description of Business”
Item 103, “Business; Legal Proceedings”
Item 201, “Market Price of and Dividends on the Registrant’s Common Equity and Related Stockholder Matters”
Item 301, “Selected Financial Data”
Item 302, “Supplementary Financial Information”
Item 303, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations”
Item 305, “Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk”
Item 402, “Executive Compensation”
Item 404, “Transactions With Related Persons, Promoters and Certain Control Persons”
Item 407, “Corporate Governance”
Item 503, “Prospectus Summary”
Item 601, “Exhibits”

Regulation S-X
Rule 1-02(w), “Definitions of Terms Used in Regulation S-X (17 CFR part 210); Significant Subsidiary”
Article 2, “Qualifications and Reports of Accountants”
Rule 3-02, “Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income and Cash Flows”
Rule 3-05, “Financial Statements of Businesses Acquired or to Be Acquired”
Rule 3-09, “Separate Financial Statements of Subsidiaries Not Consolidated and 50 Percent or Less Owned Persons”
Rule 3-10, “Financial Statements of Guarantors and Issuers of Guaranteed Securities Registered or Being Registered”
Rule 3-14, “Special Instructions for Real Estate Operations to Be Acquired”
Rule 3-16, “Financial Statements of Affiliates Whose Securities Collateralize an Issue Registered or Being Registered”
Rule 4-08(g), “General Notes to Financial Statements: Summarized Financial Information of Subsidiaries Not Consolidated and 50 Percent or Less Owned Persons”
Rule 4-08(h), “General Notes to Financial Statements: Income Tax Expense”
Rule 4-08(n), “Accounting Policies for Certain Derivative Instruments”
Article 8, “Financial Statements of Smaller Reporting Companies”
Rule 10-01(b), “Interim Financial Statements: Other Instructions as to Content”
Article 11, “Pro Forma Financial Information”
Rule 11-01 “Presentation Requirements”

**SAB Topics**
No. 1.M, “Financial Statements; Materiality”
No. 5.A, “Expenses of Offering”
No. 5.Y, “Miscellaneous Accounting; Accounting and Disclosures Relating to Loss Contingencies”
No. 11.A, “Miscellaneous Disclosure; Operating-Differential Subsidies”
No. 13, “Revenue Recognition”
No. 14.B, “Share-Based Payment; Transition From Nonpublic to Public Entity Status”
No. 14.D.1, “Certain Assumptions Used in Valuation Methods; Expected Volatility”
SAB 116, “Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 116”

**SEC Securities Act of 1933 General Rules and Regulations**
Rule 144, “Persons Deemed Not to be Engaged in a Distribution and Therefore Not Underwriters — General Guidance”

**Superseded Literature**

**EITF Issues**
Issue 00-21, “Revenue Arrangements With Multiple Deliverables”
Issue 01-10, “Accounting for the Impact of the Terrorist Attacks of September 11, 2001”
Issue 02-16, “Accounting by a Customer (Including a Reseller) for Certain Consideration Received From a Vendor”
Issue 01-8, “Determining Whether an Arrangement Contains a Lease”
Issue 08-6, “Equity Method Investment Accounting Considerations”
Issue 09-2, “Research and Development Assets Acquired in an Asset Acquisition”
Issue 09-4, “Seller Accounting for Contingent Consideration”

**FASB Interpretations**
No. 47, *Accounting for Conditional Asset Retirement Obligations* — an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 143
No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* — an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109
FASB Statements

No. 5, Accounting for Contingencies

No. 95, Statement of Cash Flows

No. 114, Accounting by Creditors for Impairment of a Loan — an amendment of FASB Statements No. 5 and 15

No. 123(R), Share-Based Payment

No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities

No. 141, Business Combinations

No. 141(R), Business Combinations

No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements — an amendment of ARB No. 51
### Appendix C — Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABO</td>
<td>accumulated benefit obligation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFS</td>
<td>available for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AI</td>
<td>artificial intelligence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AICPA</td>
<td>American Institute of Certified Public Accountants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMT</td>
<td>alternative minimum tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>API</td>
<td>active pharmaceutical ingredient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APIC</td>
<td>additional paid-in capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASC</td>
<td>FASB Accounting Standards Codification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASR</td>
<td>accelerated share repurchase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASU</td>
<td>FASB Accounting Standards Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCF</td>
<td>beneficial conversion feature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEAT</td>
<td>base erosion anti-abuse tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEMTA</td>
<td>base erosion minimum tax amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BPD</td>
<td>branded prescription drug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAGR</td>
<td>compound annual growth rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAM</td>
<td>critical audit matter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCF</td>
<td>cash conversion feature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CECL</td>
<td>current expected credit loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CFC</td>
<td>controlled foreign corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CFR</td>
<td>Code of Federal Regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMO</td>
<td>contract manufacturing organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CODM</td>
<td>chief operating decision maker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRO</td>
<td>contract research organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSR</td>
<td>corporate social responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DTA</td>
<td>deferred tax asset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DTL</td>
<td>deferred tax liability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBITDA</td>
<td>earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED</td>
<td>exposure draft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDGAR</td>
<td>SEC electronic data gathering, analysis, and retrieval system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EGC</td>
<td>emerging growth company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EITF</td>
<td>Emerging Issues Task Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPP</td>
<td>employee stock purchase plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FASB</td>
<td>Financial Accounting Standards Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDA</td>
<td>Food and Drug Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDII</td>
<td>foreign derived intangible income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFO</td>
<td>first in, first out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIN</td>
<td>FASB Interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOB</td>
<td>free on board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRM</td>
<td>SEC Division of Corporation Finance Reporting Manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FVTOCI</td>
<td>fair value through other comprehensive income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAAP</td>
<td>generally accepted accounting principles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GILTI</td>
<td>global intangible low-taxed income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPO</td>
<td>group purchasing organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HFI</td>
<td>held for investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HFS</td>
<td>held for sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAS</td>
<td>International Accounting Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IASB</td>
<td>International Accounting Standards Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFRIC</td>
<td>IFRS Interpretations Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFRS</td>
<td>International Financial Reporting Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIR</td>
<td>investigator-initiated research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP</td>
<td>intellectual property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPO</td>
<td>initial public offering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPR&amp;D</td>
<td>in-process research and development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRC</td>
<td>Internal Revenue Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRS</td>
<td>Internal Revenue Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISO</td>
<td>incentive stock option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT</td>
<td>information technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCD</td>
<td>liquid-crystal display</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBOR</td>
<td>London Interbank Offered Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIFO</td>
<td>last in, first out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLC</td>
<td>limited liability company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M&amp;A</td>
<td>merger and acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD&amp;A</td>
<td>Management's Discussion &amp; Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSL</td>
<td>medical science liaison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>not-for-profit entity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOL</td>
<td>net operating loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NQSO</td>
<td>non-qualified stock option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSO</td>
<td>nonstatutory option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCI</td>
<td>other comprehensive income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OEM</td>
<td>original equipment manufacturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBE</td>
<td>public business entity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PBO</td>
<td>projected benefit obligation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCAOB</td>
<td>Public Company Accounting Oversight Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCC</td>
<td>Private Company Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;E</td>
<td>property, plant, and equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRV</td>
<td>priority review voucher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTRS</td>
<td>probability of technical and regulatory success</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q&amp;A</td>
<td>question and answer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;D</td>
<td>research and development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;E</td>
<td>research and experimentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REMS</td>
<td>risk evaluation and mitigation strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROC</td>
<td>return on capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROU</td>
<td>right of use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SaaS</td>
<td>software as a service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAB</td>
<td>Staff Accounting Bulletin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEC</td>
<td>Securities and Exchange Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SME</td>
<td>small to medium-sized entity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPPI</td>
<td>solely payments of principal and interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRC</td>
<td>smaller reporting entity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;P 500</td>
<td>Standard &amp; Poor's 500 Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TD</td>
<td>Treasury Decision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRG</td>
<td>transition resource group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTB</td>
<td>unrecognized tax benefit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIE</td>
<td>variable interest entity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VWAP</td>
<td>volume-weighted average daily market price</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following is a list of short references for the Acts mentioned in this Guide:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Act</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAST Act</td>
<td>Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOBS Act</td>
<td>Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securities Act</td>
<td>Securities Act of 1933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCJA</td>
<td>Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>