KeyBank

Institutional Advisors

Protecting Institutional Assets Through Independent Oversight and Operational Excellence

Brian Crosby, Vice President, Regional Special Services Consultant
Thor G. Haraldsson, Senior Vice President, Regional Special Services Consultant



Institutional investors operate in an environment of heightened fiduciary scrutiny, increasing operational complexity, and growing demands for transparency. Whether managing pension assets, operating reserves, endowment funds, insurance portfolios, or public-sector investments, organizations need confidence that assets are secure, accurately accounted for, and administered within a strong control framework.

Institutional custody plays a critical role in achieving these objectives. Beyond asset safekeeping, an effective custody relationship strengthens governance, enhances transparency, supports regulatory compliance, and helps mitigate operational risk. By separating asset custody from investment decision-making, organizations establish an important layer of independent oversight that reinforces accountability and improves confidence among stakeholders, auditors, and governing bodies.

Why institutional custody matters

As investment programs become more sophisticated, strong governance requires clear separation between those making investment decisions and those safeguarding and administering assets.

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Organizations need confidence that assets are secure, accurately accounted for, and administered within a strong control framework.

Independent custody provides:

- Protection of institutional assets through secure safekeeping
- Independent verification of holdings and transactions
- Enhanced transparency through comprehensive reporting and recordkeeping
- Operational controls that help mitigate administrative and processing risk
- Support for audit, compliance, and governance requirements

For institutional leaders, custody is not simply an administrative service. It is a foundational component of a sound governance framework.

The governance advantage

Effective governance depends on independent oversight. A well-structured custody arrangement creates clear segregation of duties by separating asset safekeeping and transaction processing from investment management responsibilities. This distinction helps organizations strengthen internal controls, improve accountability, and reduce exposure to operational and reputational risk.

Boards, investment committees, finance officers, and fiduciaries benefit from independent reporting, asset verification, and transparent administration that support informed oversight and decision-making.

In today's environment, transparency is no longer optional. Institutional stakeholders increasingly expect timely access to information, robust controls, and demonstrable accountability throughout the investment process.

What institutional custody delivers

Institutional custody provides the operational infrastructure that supports effective administration of investment assets.

Core services typically include:

- Asset safekeeping and verification
- Trade settlement and transaction processing
- Cash management and cash sweep solutions
- Collection of dividends, interest, and other income
- Corporate action administration
- Reporting and trust accounting
- Authorized wire and payment processing

While these functions occur largely behind the scenes, they provide the operational discipline necessary to support institutional investment programs.

Solutions for complex institutions

Organizations across multiple sectors rely on institutional custody to strengthen oversight and support long-term financial objectives.

Corporate and Treasury Organizations

Support for investment portfolios, operating reserves, collateralized accounts, and cash management programs

Insurance Companies

Custody and accounting solutions that help support regulatory reporting, asset control, and portfolio administration

Foundations and Endowments

Independent oversight, transparent reporting, and operational support that help boards and investment committees fulfill stewardship responsibilities

Public Sector and Tribal Governments

Governance-focused custody solutions designed to support accountability, transparency, and prudent management of public assets

Retirement Plans

Independent custody services that support effective plan governance through clear separation of fiduciary and operational responsibilities

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The KeyBank difference

KeyBank delivers a custody platform that combines institutional capabilities with a high-touch service model.

Our approach integrates:

- Dedicated client service teams
- Real-time access to holdings and transaction activity
- Integrated custody and trust accounting
- Comprehensive reporting and data access
- Automated cash management solutions
- Twelve months of forward cash projections
- Daily collateral monitoring for pledged accounts
- Strong controls and practices to help ensure client assets remain protected from fraudulent activity.

What distinguishes KeyBank is not simply our technology or operational platform, but our commitment to relationship-based service. Institutional clients benefit from dedicated support, deep industry expertise, and a model designed to align custody, reporting, cash management, and banking services within a single integrated relationship.

KeyBank's 99% client retention rate and average institutional client tenure of more than 20 years reflect that commitment.

Conclusion

Strong governance begins with strong controls. Institutional custody provides independent oversight, operational discipline, and the transparency organizations need to safeguard assets and support effective decision-making. In an increasingly complex environment, custody has evolved from a back-office function into a strategic component of institutional risk management and governance.

KeyBank helps organizations protect assets, strengthen accountability, and improve operational efficiency through integrated custody solutions backed by experienced professionals and a commitment to exceptional service.

For more information, please contact your advisor.

KeyBank Institutional Advisors collaboratively engages stakeholders to understand their organization's strategic mission, values, and goals. Our advisors are professionals supported by subject matter experts across client disciplines/market segments. Combining our expertise with an understanding of the client, we recommend and implement customized, coordinated financial solutions.

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