

# nucleus<sup>®</sup> platform

## Key features of the Nucleus Modular ISA

 20 minute read

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) is a financial services regulator. It requires us, Nucleus Financial Platforms Group, to give you this important information to help you to decide whether our Modular ISA is right for you. You should read this document carefully so that you understand what you are buying, and then keep it safe for future reference.



### What you should know before you invest

#### What is the purpose of this document?

This Key Features Document, along with your Key Features Illustration, gives you a summary of information to help you decide if you want to invest in the Modular ISA, referred to in this document as the Modular ISA, and whether the Modular ISA is right for you.

#### What is an Individual Savings Account (ISA)?

An ISA provides a tax efficient way of saving. There are currently five types of ISAs available:

- Cash ISA
- Stocks and Shares ISA
- Innovative Finance ISA
- Lifetime ISA
- Junior ISA

## What is the Modular ISA?

The Modular ISA is a stocks and shares ISA as defined under ISA regulations.

There is no minimum amount you must pay into your Modular ISA. The maximum amount you can pay into an ISA in the current tax year is £20,000. This limit may be reviewed by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and could change in the future.

You can split the amount you subscribe across different types of ISA, up to the £20,000 limit. For example, you could put £5,000 in a cash ISA, £4,000 (the maximum) in a lifetime ISA and £11,000 in a stocks and shares ISA.

If you don't use the ISA subscription limit in any tax year, you cannot carry it forward or add it to the subscription limit of the next tax year.

## Who is the Modular ISA suitable for?

The Modular ISA may be suitable for anyone who can afford to set aside money, to build up savings over the medium to long term.



## Key features

### Its aims

The Modular ISA provides a tax efficient way of investing in a wide range of investments, including stocks and shares, bonds and gilts, and collective investment schemes.

It enables you to benefit from potential capital growth and/or income over the medium to long term, as well as a return on cash investments in the form of interest that is paid gross.

It provides you with the option to make regular withdrawals, if required, as you continue to invest.

### Your commitment

With the help of your adviser, you should consider whether you have sufficient investment experience and are prepared to be responsible for making decisions about how your money is invested during the time that your Modular ISA is open.

You'll need to:

- make at least one payment into your Modular ISA, which could be a transfer from an existing ISA you hold, or a new subscription
- pay the charges set out in the relevant **Charges Schedule**, as well as any third party charges that may arise
- regularly review your investments and financial goals, and manage your product's assets accordingly.

Nucleus products are designed to be managed with the support of an adviser. If you remove your adviser from your plan, or end your relationship with them, your service experience with Nucleus may vary due to the different ways we must interact with direct customers.

For more information, please refer to the **Platform Services Terms and Conditions**, a copy of which is available on our website [nucleusfinancial.com](https://www.nucleusfinancial.com).





## Understanding the risks

Below are some of the risks associated with investing your money through a Modular ISA which, depending on how they are managed, could affect the value of your ISA in the future. You may be able to reduce the impact of some of the risks, as you're able to control:

- the amount you put in
- the investments you select
- when you choose to take withdrawals and how often.

However there may be other risk factors outside of your control. For example, the Government may change the tax rules applicable to ISAs and this could affect the tax treatment of your Modular ISA.

### Your right to cancel

If you open a Modular ISA and later change your mind, you may choose to cancel your application. Doing so could mean you get back less than you paid in if your asset values have fallen during this time.

Please refer to the **Platform Services Terms and Conditions** for more information, which is available on our website [nucleusfinancial.com](https://www.nucleusfinancial.com).



### Transferring in

If you're transferring an existing ISA, there could be exit penalties imposed by the transferring ISA manager.

If you transfer existing investments into your Modular ISA, they may need to be transferred as cash and you may not get the benefit of any investment increases while the transfer is being processed.

### Investing your money

The value of your investments can fluctuate up and down and it's possible that you may get back less than the amount you originally invested.

Depending on the type of assets you choose to hold, there will be different risks that will affect their value. For example:

- foreign investments are affected by changes in the rate of currency exchange
- investments in stocks and shares, or funds that invest in stocks and shares, are affected by fluctuations in the stock market
- cash deposits are affected by changes in interest rates.

For more information on the risks that are specific to different types of investments, please read our **Guide to Investment Risk** on our website, and speak to your adviser.



## Charges

If the returns on your Modular ISA investments are poor, they may not cover the level of charges you're paying, and the value of your Modular ISA could significantly reduce in value over time. You should regularly review the performance of your chosen assets to check that they remain suitable for providing you with the benefits you want in the future.

## Compensation

Not all of your investments may be protected by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). The FSCS provides financial compensation to investors in the event of the failure of a financial institution. To understand how this may affect your Modular ISA, please see the 'Other Information' section of this document.

## Withdrawals

The value of your Modular ISA is not guaranteed. Its value will depend on a number of factors including:

- what you've paid in
- how your investments have performed
- the charges that have been deducted.

The amount you can withdraw from your ISA will depend on:

- the value of your Modular ISA
- whether you're able to sell your investments
- how much you take out and how often you make withdrawals.

High levels of inflation could also reduce the value of your ISA in real terms.

## Questions and answers

### Is the Modular ISA the right product for me?

The Modular ISA may be right for you if you're looking to:

- build capital growth
- save money while earning interest free of UK income tax
- make withdrawals whenever you need to
- access a wide range of investment options
- accept a degree of risk with your capital.

### Who can open a Modular ISA?

With the help of an FCA regulated adviser, you can open a Modular ISA if you are:

- over 18,
- resident in the UK, and
- not an undischarged bankrupt.

### Who can pay subscriptions into the Modular ISA?

We'll normally only accept payments, known as subscriptions, into your Modular ISA from you. Payments can be made by bank transfer or Direct Debit.

Your product bank account details, including the required payment reference, can be found within your online account with us.

### How much can I pay in?

There's no minimum amount you must pay into your Modular ISA. The maximum amount you can pay into an ISA in the 2024/25 tax year is £20,000. This limit may be reviewed by HMRC and could change in the future.

You can make regular or single payments at any time, and you can vary the amount and frequency of your payments, as long as you do not exceed the HMRC maximum limits for tax free savings into an ISA account in any tax year.

## Questions and answers - continued

### Can I transfer existing ISAs into my Modular ISA?

You can transfer existing ISAs that you own into your Modular ISA. Transfer payments in the form of cash or assets other than cash (known as in-specie transfers) may be accepted. Please see the product's **Permitted Investments List** for details of the types of assets a Modular ISA can hold.

### What is the product bank account?

Any money you pay into your Modular ISA is held in a pooled bank account in the name of our trustee company, until we receive instructions to invest from you or your adviser.

This account also holds money for other ISA customers. Your Modular ISA's individual balance is recorded in our internal records and referred to as your product bank account.

For more information on our banking arrangements, including details of any interest payable, please see the banking page of our website [nucleusfinancial.com](https://www.nucleusfinancial.com).

### What can I invest in?

You can invest in a wide range of assets, including platform funds, stocks and shares through our integrated stockbroking service, model portfolios and investment trusts.

You can change your investments at any time, subject to any restrictions. These will be covered in the terms and conditions and supporting literature for the asset you have chosen.

### What are the charges?

Full details of our charges are found in the relevant **Charges Schedule**, which is available on our website. You may pay charges to other parties depending on the investments you select. You may also pay charges to your adviser.

Our charges are normally deducted from your cash balance. You can set up disinvestment preferences to ensure that sufficient cash is always available to settle any charges. Alternatively, our auto-disinvestment rules let us sell certain asset types to ensure your payments remain up to date. For more information, please see our Auto-Disinvestment Policy on our website.

## Questions and answers - continued

### What are the modules within the Modular ISA?

#### Core investments

The Modular ISA gives you access to:

- a collection of individual collective investment funds from a wide range of leading fund managers at discounted charges
- adviser and investment manager-led model portfolios
- an integrated stockbroking service.

#### Whole of Market Module

In addition to the above, you can invest in many other types of assets allowed under HMRC ISA rules by accessing the Whole of Market module.

For more information on the investment options available to you under the Modular ISA, please see the **Modular ISA Permitted Investments List** and the relevant **Technical Guide**, which are available on our website [nucleusfinancial.com](https://www.nucleusfinancial.com).

### How can I obtain an illustration?

If you have an adviser, they'll provide you with an illustration before you open your Modular ISA. If not, you can generate one using your online platform account.

### When can I take withdrawals?

You can make withdrawals from your Modular ISA at any time, on a single or regular basis.

Withdrawals are made by CHAPS or Faster Payments to an account in your name that you nominate.

## Questions and answers - continued

### Can I transfer to another ISA manager?

Yes, you can transfer your Modular ISA to another ISA manager at any time. You may transfer all of your current tax year ISA, or part or all of a previous tax year's ISA at any time, provided the transfer is in accordance with the ISA regulations and your new ISA manager agrees to the transfer.

A transfer may be made in cash or by re-registering assets depending on your new ISA manager's agreement.

### What tax will I pay?

The Modular ISA is a tax-exempt product, which means you won't pay tax on any gains you make within your Modular ISA product.

Please note that the tax treatment of ISAs may change in the future. We can't provide you with individual tax advice, and if you need this you should speak to your adviser.

### What correspondence will I receive?

We'll issue:

- a cancellation notice that gives you the right to cancel your Modular ISA (unless you've waived these rights in your application)
- information to allow you to set up your access to our online portal, where you can view and manage your Nucleus products with the help of your adviser
- regular valuation statements for your Modular ISA and underlying assets
- other necessary correspondence depending on the day-to-day operation of your Modular ISA.

We'll speak directly with your adviser in most instances, unless we need to confirm something with you. This may be through the platform's online messaging system or by telephone.

All written correspondence regarding your Nucleus products will be saved in your online account, with a notification sent to you/your adviser. We may also contact you directly, for example when issuing a cancellation notice.

We don't consider standard email to be secure and so we won't normally communicate in this way if the communication includes personal information or instructions relating to your Modular ISA.

## Questions and answers - continued

### What happens to my ISA when I die?

If an ISA account holder dies, the investments remain sheltered from tax as a 'continuing account of a deceased investor', until the earlier of:

- the completion of the administration of the deceased's estate
- the closure of the ISA account, or
- the third anniversary of the ISA account holder's death.

During this period, no new subscriptions can be made to the account, and it normally can't be transferred to another ISA manager.

On receiving appropriate proof of title, such as probate, we'll pay the remaining balance in accordance with the instructions of your personal representatives when we close the Modular ISA.

Please note that the proceeds from your Modular ISA will form part of your estate for inheritance tax purposes.

If on your death you have a surviving spouse or civil partner, they'll normally be able to invest an amount into their ISA in addition to their usual allowance, referred to as Additional Permitted Subscriptions (APS). The APS can be funded from ISA assets, cash that they inherit or cash from their own resources.

The APS limit is the value of the ISA investments either:

- at the date of death of the ISA account holder, or
- at the point when the account ceases to be a continuing deceased's account (i.e. when the ISA is closed after investments are distributed to the estate, or the third anniversary of the ISA account holder's death - whichever is earlier).

The surviving spouse or civil partner can choose which value to use, but once they have done so, they can't change their mind.

### What other documents should I read?

You should also read the:

- **Key Features Illustration** provided to you prior to your application
- relevant **Charges Schedule**
- **Modular ISA Permitted Investments List**
- **Platform Services Terms and Conditions**, and
- relevant **Technical Guide**.

These documents provide you with more detailed information on the Modular ISA, and are available from our document library at [nucleusfinancial.com](https://www.nucleusfinancial.com).

If after reading the documentation you're unclear about any aspect of the Modular ISA, or you're unsure whether it's right for you, we strongly suggest you speak to your adviser.

## Questions and answers - continued

### Can I change my mind?

You have the right to cancel your Modular ISA. On receipt of your Modular ISA application, we'll send you a cancellation notice.

You'll then have 30 days from receipt of this notice to tell us that you have changed your mind and wish to cancel your application. For more details, please see the cancellation section of the **Platform Services Terms and Conditions**.

## Other information

### Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS)

The FSCS is the compensation scheme for customers of UK authorised financial services firms. It provides protection to customers if these firms fail or go bust, and can compensate them if a firm ceases trading or can't pay claims made against it.

The Modular ISA is covered by the FSCS in the event that we're unable to meet our obligations to you regarding administration of the product. The product bank account is also separately covered by the FSCS in the event of the failure of the relevant bank.

Similarly, the underlying assets within your ISA may be subject to their own FSCS protection in the event of the failure of the relevant investment provider. However, this will depend on the investments you select and you should seek further clarification from the investment provider or your adviser regarding the cover applicable to your chosen assets before investing.

For details on how we hold any money and investments, and the level of protection available, please read our guide on our website called **How your Money and Investments are held**.

For further information on the FSCS, please visit their website at [www.fscs.org.uk](http://www.fscs.org.uk).

### Law

The information in this document is based on our current understanding of financial services regulations, and can be subject to change as tax laws and legislation may change over time.

In the event of a dispute, the law of England and Wales will apply, and by completing a Modular ISA application you will be agreeing to this.

### Making a complaint

If you wish to complain about an aspect of our service, please contact the Complaints Manager using the 'How to contact us' section on the following page.

Complaints about this product that we can't address may be referred to the Financial Ombudsman Service.

For details of our formal complaints procedure or contact information for the organisation named above, please see the **Guide to our Complaint Procedure**, a copy of which can be obtained from our website [nucleusfinancial.com](http://nucleusfinancial.com).

Making a complaint won't affect your right to take legal proceedings.

## How to contact us

We can't provide financial advice, and so your adviser will normally be your first point of contact.

However, if you need help or information regarding the administration or features of your Modular ISA, you can contact us via the following:



**Nucleus**  
Dunn's House  
St Paul's Road  
Salisbury  
SP2 7BF



Website: [nucleusfinancial.com](https://nucleusfinancial.com)



Telephone: 03455 212 414  
Lines are open from 8:30am to 5:30pm  
To help us improve our service, we may record or monitor calls.

For literature in alternative formats, such as Braille, large print, audio or E-text, please call us on 03455 212 414, or via the Typetalk service on 18001 03455 212 414.

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