

# RIGHT TO A DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

## Explanatory note



You don't have a bank account?

Your account has been closed or is being closed?

You can't get an account opened?

**You may apply for the RIGHT TO AN ACCOUNT.**

The Banque de France is authorised to designate a bank that will open a bank account for you.

## FOR WHOM?

- According to the law, any person (individual or professional) who does not have an account is entitled to open a bank account.

## SOME CONDITIONS

### PLEASE NOTE THAT

- If you only have a joint account and a bank refuses to open an individual account;
- Or if your account is in the process of being closed; **You can exercise your right to an account.**

You must:

- reside in France, regardless of nationality, or be French and reside abroad, or be a foreign national and legally reside in a Member State of the European Union other than France;
- have no individual account opened in your own name;
- have been refused the opening of an account by a bank.

## 1. GATHER THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

### PLEASE NOTE THAT

- You are advised to keep proof of the documents submitted to the bank.

- A completed and signed application form available at a Banque de France branch or on the website [www.particuliers.banque-france.fr](http://www.particuliers.banque-france.fr);
- The letter declining your request to open an account, addressed to you by a bank, or, if applicable, the acknowledgement of receipt of the registered letter or proof of hand-delivery of the request to open an account dating back more than fifteen days;
- Valid proof of identity;
- Proof of address less than three months old.

## 2. DESIGNATION OF AN ACCOUNT BY THE BANQUE DE FRANCE

- As soon as the file is complete, the Banque de France designates within 24 hours a bank that will be required to open the account.

### 3. WHAT ARE THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE DESIGNATED BANK?

**PLEASE NOTE THAT**

- You may be asked to provide additional documents.
- Once you have received the designation letter, you have six months to take the necessary steps with the designated bank.

- The designated bank must send you, within three days of receiving the designation, a list of the documents to be provided to open the account, as well as the name and contact details of the branch.
- You must then contact the designated bank to open the account.
- The designated bank is required to open an account for you, within three days, if you have provided all the requested documents.

### 4. HOW DOES THE ACCOUNT WORK?

**PLEASE NOTE THAT**

- These services do not include overdraft authorisations or cheque books.

The designated bank is required to provide you with basic banking services, free of charge, which mainly include:

- A debit card with systematic authorisation (possibility of internet payments and cash withdrawals within the EU);
- Cashing of cheques and transfers;
- Payments by SEPA direct debits, SEPA interbank payment orders and SEPA bank transfers (over the counter or remotely for transfers);
- Means of remotely consulting the account balance and receipt of monthly bank statements;
- Cash deposits and withdrawals at bank counters;
- Two bank cheques per month or equivalent means of payment.

## HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION?



**If you have any questions** you may also contact us by telephone at **34 14 “allô Banque de France”**



The Banque de France  
at your service

