

This is a reminder that Old Format Checks shall no longer be acceptable for clearing effective May 1, 2024.

If you are issuing checks via BANA Manila, please note that there's no action required from you. BANA Manila has adopted the new check format.

ATTENTION : ALL CICS PARTICIPANT BANKS/INSTITUTIONS
SUBJECT : REMINDER ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW CHECK DESIGN STANDARDS

Dear Colleagues:

Please be reminded that beginning May 1, 2024, Old Format Checks shall no longer be acceptable for clearing except for the following exceptions:

- 1.1. **Post-Dated Checks (PDCs)** accepted and stamped "**Warehoused**" **by banks** prior to May 1, 2024;
- 1.2. **PDCs** without "Warehoused" stamp but bearing or printed with "Unique Identification Code" (UIC) that indicates receipt by banks (for warehousing) prior to February 11, 2019 (date of issuance of CICS OM No. 19-030).
 - 1.2.1. Notwithstanding absence of the stamp, acceptance of such PDCs is allowed because stamping and recapturing of previously accepted PDCs may be tedious and prone to errors;
- 1.3. **Manager's Check/Cashier' Check** issued by the clearing banks bearing the "Waiver Statement" and features required prior to the issuance of CICS OM No. 19-030; and
- 1.4. **Checks dated April 30, 2024 or earlier** and presented for deposit or encashment prior to the 180th day from date of issuance.

Additionally, bank clients and banks issuing Checks should be aware that:

4. Meanwhile that implementation of the New Check Design is not yet in effect, regardless of whether an Old Format or New Design Check is used or presented for deposit, the date of issue on the Check should be written as follows:
 - 4.1. If date of issuance is in **Numeric Format**, it shall be written in **MM-DD-YYYY** sequence.
 - 4.2. If date of issuance is in **Alphanumeric Format**, it may be written in any sequence, i.e. Month-Day-Year or Day-Month-Year or Year-Month-Day; however, alphanumeric Month-Day-Year is preferable for consistency with the prescribed **MM-DD-YYYY** sequence.
5. For banks issuing Checks completed in computer printers for their customers, the attendant check printing applications should be revised to comply with the MM-DD-YYYY issue date format before the May 1, 2024 cutover date.

Old format Checks that do not fall within the exceptions mentioned when presented for clearing starting May 1, 2024 shall be returned with penalty.

Kindly see MC No. 3771 dated August 25, 2023 for reference.