

To Lock-in/Debit freeze your Mutual Fund Folio(s), please login to [MF Central](#) platform. For more details, kindly refer to the information provided below:

Common SOP for voluntary Lock-in/Debit freeze facility to Mutual Fund Folios

References:

SEBI Circular Ref. No. [HO/24/12/12\(5\)2026-IMD-SEC-1/1/6373/2026](#) dated March 06, 2026

AMFI Best Practices Guidelines Circular No. 124/2026-27 (135/BP/124/2026-27) dated April 10, 2026

Background:

To enhance the security of Mutual Fund investors' holdings and mitigate the risk of unauthorized debit transactions, SEBI, in consultation with AMFI, has introduced a voluntary Debit Freeze facility.

This facility is applicable across both demat and non-demat (Statement of Account) folio(s), enabling investors to place a restriction on debit transactions, including redemptions, switches, or transfers of units. Once the debit freeze is activated, no units shall be debited from the folio until such time the investor initiates an unlock request.

The introduction of this facility aims to strengthen investor protection by providing an additional control mechanism over transaction activity in Mutual Fund folios.

A. Applicability:

The facility is available for investors:

- Folios held in Demat & Non-Demat modes
- Investor Type: Resident and Non-Resident Individual Investors including Minor Folio held through a Guardian
- Folios with:
 - **Single holding**, or
 - **Anyone or Survivor** holding mode (applicable to the first holder)

Note: The folio must be **KYC-compliant (Registered/Validated)** with a **valid Indian mobile number and email address** registered in the folio (both are mandatory).

B. Platform:

- For **Non-Demat mode**, the facility will be available through the [MF Central](#) platform.
- For **Demat mode**, MF Central will provide an option to lock holdings by redirecting investors to the online services of the respective depositories.

C. About MF Central Platform:

An Inter-operable RTA platform was introduced for enhancing investor experience in Mutual Fund Transactions / service requests by SEBI as per Para 16.6 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds.

D. Options for locking/freezing- Investor will have option to lock any/all the following transactions in the folios selected for locking:

- Lock only debit transactions (investor initiated)
- Lock debit and non-financial transactions (investor initiated)

E. Process of locking/ freezing the folio/s - Non-Demat Mode:

1. Investor need to sign-up an account with [MF Central](#) platform.
2. If already signed-up, sign-in to [MF Central](#) using PAN and OTP-based authentication.
3. System displays all MF holdings including investor profile, MF names, scheme details, units and valuation.
4. Investor selects MF name and specific folio(s) for locking.
5. OTP authentication is triggered to registered email address / mobile number and to be validated.
6. Upon successful validation
 - a. Selected Fund name and folios would be pushed by MF Central to the respective MFRTAs.
 - b. Folio Lock is made instantly and confirmation sent to the registered email address / mobile number.
7. Lock remains active until explicitly revoked.

F. Process of unlocking/ de-freezing the folio/s - Non-Demat Mode:

1. Investor logs into [MF Central](#) using PAN and OTP authentication.
2. All the holding including the locked ones are displayed.
3. Investor selects fund name and folio(s) for unlocking.
4. Two-factor authentication is mandatory:
 - a. Different OTPs sent to the registered email address and mobile number.
 - b. Both OTPs must be successfully validated
5. Upon successful validation:
 - a. The unlock request is sent to the respective RTA(s) for processing and confirmation is sent to the registered email address / mobile number.

G. Financial and Non-Financial Transactions that are NOT ALLOWED when folio is LOCKED:

Financial Transactions	Non-Financial transaction	Non-Financial transaction (contd.)
Redemption	Change/ Addition of Bank Mandate	Lien Marking
Registration of DTP	Change of Broker Code	Change in Signature
Registration of SWP	Change of Email ID and/or Mobile number	Consolidation of folios
Registration of STP	Nominee Registration/ Cancellation	Transfer of units
Switches	Change in IDCW option	Change of Tax Status

H. Financial and Non-Financial Transactions that are ALLOWED when folio is LOCKED:

Financial Transactions	Non-Financial transaction
Fresh or Additional Purchases	Address updation via KRA feeds.
Existing SIP/SWP/STP/DTP Instalments	Request from SEBI or LEAs.
IDCW Payouts or Reinvestments	Cancellation of SIP/STP/SWP/DTP registration.
Payments to SEBI or Law Enforcement Authorities (LEAs)	Lien invocation / removal

I. Information to Distributors or Intermediaries:

Information regarding locked/unlocked folios will be shared with the respective MFDs, RIAs, and source channels (including exchanges and MFU) to enable corresponding controls and restrict future debit transactions.



J. Lock Validity:

Lock will remain active “until revoked” or “Minor becoming Major” or “Demise of first / sole holder”.

K. Transactions during the lock period:

Any transactions for the locked units will be restricted / rejected and appropriate message will be displayed. If a physical request is placed, transaction will be accepted and rejected later.

L. Other Important Points:

- a. No cooling period applicable as of now between Folio Lock or Unlock or for transaction submission before or after such lock/unlock.
- b. Lock/unlock can be done any number of times as of now subject to all applicable validations.
- c. OTP will NOT be sent to international mobile numbers. For NRIs, It is mandatory to have Indian Registered Mobile Number.
- d. No financial impact during lock-in period.
- e. In the event of demise of the First / Sole Holder, the debit freeze (lock) shall stand void. The registered Nominee(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Claimant(s) may initiate a transmission request by submitting the requisite supporting documents.
- f. In case a minor attains majority, the debit freeze (lock) registered by the Guardian shall automatically become void on the date of attaining majority. The erstwhile minor is required to submit the necessary documents to convert the folio status to an individual holding.

For more details, please refer to our [FAQs](#) or for any further assistance, please feel free to write to us at service@dspim.com or call us on 1800 208 4499 / 1800 200 4499.