

CARLYLE | GLOBAL  
WEALTH

# Access the Power of Private Credit



# Private Credit

**THE TERM “PRIVATE CREDIT”** generally refers to loans and other debt instruments that are negotiated directly between a borrower and a non-bank lender. Private debt instruments are not traded on public exchanges but rather are typically held to maturity by the lender. Private lenders source these instruments directly and often negotiate terms that may provide substantial downside mitigation. Because private credit is less liquid and more complex than most public market alternatives, private lenders are usually able to demand a yield premium above public market debt.

## MACRO CURRENTS FOR PRIVATE CREDIT

### Demand for Private Loans

Private credit lenders are a compelling complement to traditional fixed income markets. Borrowers that value certainty of execution, speed, and flexible capital solutions continue to move to the private markets.

### Falling Interest Rate Environment

Historically, in a falling interest rate environment private credit has offered higher yields than public credit due to the illiquidity premium.<sup>1</sup>

### Market Uncertainty

During economic downturns, private credit can be a resilient asset class, as it may benefit from distressed situations where traditional lenders withdraw.

## POTENTIAL PORTFOLIO BENEFITS<sup>2</sup>

### Yield Enhancement

Private credit investments often offer higher yields compared to traditional fixed-income securities. These higher yields can potentially provide a significant income boost to a portfolio, helping investors generate more cash flow to meet their financial goals.

### Diversification

Private credit can add potential diversification benefits to a portfolio. Unlike publicly traded assets, which are often correlated with broader market movements, private credit investments may have lower correlation to traditional asset classes. This can help reduce overall portfolio risk and enhance risk-adjusted returns.

### Reduced Market Volatility

Private credit investments are typically illiquid, meaning they cannot easily be sold or exchanged for cash at fair market value. Additionally, private credit investments are typically not traded on public exchanges. This illiquidity can lead to reduced price volatility compared to publicly traded assets.

### Access to Niche Markets

Private credit allows investors to access niche markets and sectors that are not easily accessible through public markets. This can provide exposure to compelling investment opportunities and potentially higher returns.

### Inflation Hedge

Private credit investments, especially those tied to real assets or floating-rate strategies, can serve as a hedge against inflation. Inflation erodes the purchasing power of fixed-income investments, making certain private credit assets potentially more attractive in periods of high inflation.

1. Source: Carlyle Analysis; Blackrock, Cliffwater 2024 Asset Allocation Report, October 2024. There is no guarantee any trends will continue.  
2. There is no assurance that any portfolio construction objectives can be achieved or that any such portfolio will be profitable. Diversification does not eliminate the risk of loss.



## >>>>> At-A-Glance: Private Credit vs. Traditional Bonds

### Private Credit

- More covenants for lenders
- More flexibility for borrowers

Potentially higher

Less liquid

### TERMS

### YIELD

### LIQUIDITY

### Traditional Bonds

- Less covenants for lenders
- Less flexibility for borrowers

Generally lower

More liquid

*For illustrative purposes only.*

## >>>>> Power Grid: The Private Credit Universe

The private credit universe is vast, dynamic, and brimming with potential opportunities across a wide spectrum of sectors and strategies. Private credit spans everything from senior secured loans to more bespoke, opportunistic lending solutions, providing investors with a chance to participate in an array of financing scenarios globally and across sectors. Whether through direct lending, opportunistic credit, hybrid capital, real assets credit, or asset-backed finance, the private credit space offers a multitude of avenues for investors to capture potentially attractive risk-adjusted returns.

PRIVATE CREDIT	Direct Lending	Sponsor-Backed
		Asset-Backed
		Tech Recurring Revenue
	Opportunistic Credit	Non-Sponsor-Backed
		Private Credit Solutions
		Platform Buildups
	Hybrid Capital	Market Dislocations
		Credit-Oriented
		Structured Equity
	Real Assets Credit	Stressed Opportunities
		Infra Debt
		Energy Mezz Debt
		Aviation Finance
	Asset-Backed Finance	CRE Debt
		Corporate Asset Lending
		Real Asset Lending
Intangible Asset Lending		
	Consumer Asset Lending	

## >>>>> How to Access Private Credit

There are several ways to access private credit, depending on an investor's goals, risk tolerance, and liquidity needs. Consider the following three common access points >>



### OVERVIEW

- Closed-end investment companies that provide capital to small and mid-sized businesses as well as distressed companies, often through loans or equity investments.
- BDCs are required to distribute income to shareholders, typically in the form of dividends. While they offer access to private company growth opportunities, BDCs involve unique risks that may differ from traditional investments. These risks include, but are not limited to, illiquid holdings, sensitivity to interest rates, portfolio company credit and investment risk, and leverage risk.

### LIQUIDITY

- **Liquid (typically daily for public BDCs)**
- BDCs are exchange-listed, allowing for a fair amount of liquidity as shares will trade daily

### TYPICAL INVESTOR PROFILE

#### Generally less restrictive net-worth requirements

- Accredited investors
- Since BDCs often involve private investments and may have certain regulatory requirements, accredited investors (those meeting specific income or net worth criteria) are a common demographic.



### OVERVIEW

- A type of investment vehicle that is designed to have a perpetual life with no predetermined end date (eg, interval fund).
- These funds generate returns from interest income or asset growth, with automatic reinvestment unless investors choose otherwise.
- While evergreen funds offer access to private credit markets, they typically involve risks like limited liquidity, and credit exposure, as well as interest rate and leverage risk.
- Notably, evergreen structures often focus on long-term investment strategies and continuously accept new capital.

- This structure can provide flexibility to both investors and fund managers, allowing for ongoing capital deployment while still maintaining a long-term focus.

### LIQUIDITY

#### - Semi-Liquid (periodic)

- Investors can typically redeem their shares and generate liquidity during quarterly or monthly redemption periods.

### TYPICAL INVESTOR PROFILE

#### Generally less restrictive net-worth requirements

- Accredited investors
- These funds may attract accredited investors, including high-net-worth individuals and institutions, due to their potential for higher returns and the complexity of the investments.



### OVERVIEW

- Investment vehicles that commit capital to private investments, such as private equity or credit, by calling funds from investors over time as opportunities arise.
- These funds generate returns through income and capital appreciation, with profits distributed to investors as the fund matures.
- While drawdown funds provide access to private market opportunities, they require long-term commitments and present liquidity risks not typically found in more conventional investments, in addition to typical credit investment risks.

### LIQUIDITY

#### - Illiquid (~5-10 year time horizon)

- Once capital is committed, investors cannot easily withdraw or access their money until the fund reaches specific milestones or exits its investments. These funds typically have a long investment horizon, often lasting 7 to 10 years or more, with the majority of liquidity occurring during the harvest phase when the fund begins selling or exiting investments.
- Throughout the investment period, investors may receive distributions (such as dividends or interest), but they have limited to no ability to redeem their capital at will. This lack of liquidity can be a key risk for investors, as they are locked into the investment for the duration of the fund, making it unsuitable for those who might need quick access to their capital.

### TYPICAL INVESTOR PROFILE

#### Generally higher net-worth requirements

- Qualified investors
- Institutional investors

## »»»»» Is Due Diligence More Important in Private Markets?

Unlike public markets, where transparency is generally higher, private investments require thorough research into the borrower's financial health, market conditions, and deal structure to help mitigate risk. This research is called due diligence, and it is crucial when investing in private markets. Given the importance of due diligence, accessing private markets through an experienced investment firm is essential to managing risk.

## »»»»» Charge Forward with Carlyle

At Carlyle, we seek to provide creative solutions and scale to borrowers we believe to be quality and well-performing, resulting in differentiated opportunities for investors to capture value across the credit spectrum. Once we invest in a company, we put our full resources behind it, leveraging Carlyle's Global Credit platform, as well as the resources of the Carlyle network to accelerate business objectives.

# \$194BN

*in assets under management<sup>3</sup>*

# 200+

*Global Investment Professionals<sup>4</sup>*

# ~1,000

*Borrower Relationships*



To learn more about private credit and other private market opportunities, visit our Carlyle ConnectED. Here, you'll find resources, case studies, and expert insights to help you advance on your investment journey.

**Reach out to our financial representative for more information on private credit investing at Carlyle.**

<sup>3</sup>. As of 9/30/2024. Carlyle Global Credit AUM includes \$79.3 billion of insurance related assets.  
<sup>4</sup>. As of September 30, 2024.

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**Speculative Investment.** Carlyle cannot provide any assurance that it will be able to choose, make or realize any particular investment, asset, or portfolio on behalf of a Fund. There can be no assurance that investments made by a Fund will be able to generate returns or that the returns will be commensurate with the risks of investing in the type of transactions described herein. The activity of identifying, completing and realizing upon attractive investments is highly competitive and involves a high degree of uncertainty. A Fund must compete for investments with other private market investors having similar investment objectives. The portfolio companies in which a Fund may invest (directly or indirectly) are speculative investments and will be subject to significant business and financial risks.

**Highly Illiquid and Difficult to Value.** A Fund is intended for long-term investment by investors that can accept the risks associated with making highly speculative, primarily illiquid investments in privately negotiated transactions. There is no organized secondary market for investors' interests in a Fund nor is there an organized market for which to sell a Fund's underlying investments, and none is expected to develop. Withdrawal and transfer of interests in a Fund are subject to various restrictions, and similar restrictions will apply in respect of the Fund's underlying investments. Further, the valuation of a Fund's investments will be difficult, may be based on imperfect information and is subject to inherent uncertainties, and the resulting values may differ from values that would have been determined had a ready market existed for such investments, from values placed on such investments by other investors and from prices at which such investments may ultimately be sold.

**Investors in a Fund will bear multiple layers of fees and expenses.** In general, a Fund's investors will bear the fees, expenses and carried interest of the Fund and will indirectly bear any fees, expenses and carried interest (if any) of the Fund's investments. Such amounts are expected to be material. This will result in greater expense to a Fund's investors than if such fees, expenses and carried interest were not charged by both a Fund and its underlying investments.

**Investors Must Fulfill Capital Drawdown Obligations.** Capital calls will be issued by a Fund from time to time. To satisfy such capital calls, investors may need to maintain a substantial portion of their capital commitment to the Fund in assets that can be readily converted to cash. An investor's obligation to satisfy capital calls will be unconditional and at its sole expense. Failure to satisfy a capital call to a Fund can result in adverse consequences in the discretion of the Fund's general partner, including complete forfeiture of the investor's interest in a Fund. If a limited partner of a Fund defaults on or is excused from its obligation to contribute capital to the Fund, other limited partners thereof may be required to make additional contributions to the Fund to replace such shortfall.

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