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# Reporting Responsibilities **Checklist for** Australian FinTechs

According to the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (AML/CFT) Act, entities that provide designated services in Australia must enroll with AUSTRAC and comply with reporting obligations. To remain compliant and avoid financial penalties, FinTechs must know and understand the parameters of their reporting responsibilities and how to submit their reports to the satisfaction of AUSTRAC.

This infographic provides a checklist of the reporting obligations FinTechs must meet under Australian AML/CFT legislation and regulation. It also explores some "best practice" recommendations for before, during, and after report submission.







**Operational Obligations** 

FinTechs must submit the following reports online through the firm's AUSTRAC account:

# What





Cross-Border Movements (CBM)

Transfer Instruction

reports (IFTIs)



Reports (SMRs)

Suspicious Matter

When

Required within ten business days of a transaction when there have been fund transfers of AUD 10,000 or more in cash or a foreign currency equivalent.

Required within ten business days of any transaction of any value, into or out of Australia, in whatever form.

Required when suspicion has

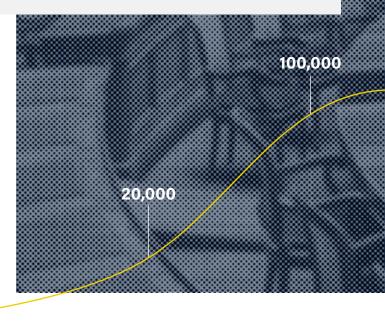
in Australian or foreign currency must be reported to AUSTRAC if the combined value is AUD 10,000 or more.

Movements of monetary instruments

formed that a transaction is linked to criminal activity; this needs to be done within three business days for illegal activity and 24 hours for terrorist-linked concerns.

can be significant. For example, failing to submit an appropriate SMR, or doing it late, can lead to a fine of 20,000 penalty units in a federal court for a single business and up to 100,000 for a corporate group. One unit is currently worth AUD 222, so fines can be substantial.

The penalties imposed on FinTechs for failing to meet these expectations



# **Suspicious Activity**

# Although each of these reports is vital, the one that often proves the most

taxing for FinTechs is SMRs, especially

**Submission requirements** 

regarding the grounds on which to report. The report should be made only when the AML/CTF Compliance Officer is satisfied that the concerns are not spurious. The report should detail:

Who or which organization(s)

identifying data such as names, addresses, and contact details and further supporting material such as physical descriptions if an individual is unknown The nature of the suspicious activity in a sequential narrative,

were involved in the activity, with

- including transactional details Why the activity aroused suspicion, often best provided as a
- list of crucial reasons for suspicion

# and Follow-Up Once an SMR is submitted, it will go

**Investigations** 

through internal triaging at AUSTRAC, with an investigation following if it is a high-priority case.

for further information about a particular case. When this happens, firms are expected to respond swiftly.

FinTechs should be aware

that they will likely be asked

Uncover the Guide to AML for Australian FinTechs

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