**Unlock India's Elite Investment Frontier: SEBI's Accredited Investor Framework**

**Purpose:** SEBI's Accredited Investor (AI) framework creates a premium investment ecosystem for sophisticated investors, offering exclusive access to high-potential opportunities and fostering capital market growth.

### **Why Become an Accredited Investor? (Key Benefits)**

* **Exclusive Access:** Gain entry to specialized investments unavailable to the general public.
* **Enhanced Diversification:** Expand your portfolio beyond traditional assets.
* **Higher Return Potential:** Explore high-risk, high-reward avenues.
* **Customized Terms:** Benefit from tailored products and flexible tenures.
* **Regulation-Light Framework:** Enjoy certain regulatory concessions.
* **Lower Minimums:** Access some products (e.g., SIFs) with reduced entry thresholds.

### **Who Qualifies? (Eligibility Criteria - *Excludes Primary Residence Value*)**

**Individuals, HUFs, Family Trusts, Sole Proprietorships & Partnerships:**

* Annual Income: **≥ ₹2 Crores** OR
* Net Worth: **≥ ₹7.5 Crores** (with ≥ ₹3.75 Crores in financial assets) OR
* Combined: Annual Income **≥ ₹1 Crore** AND Net Worth **≥ ₹5 Crores** (with ≥ ₹2.5 Crores in financial assets)

**Body Corporates (Domestic Co./LLP) & Trusts (other than Family Trust):**

* Net Worth: **≥ ₹50 Crores**

### **Accreditation Process: Seamless & Digital Future**

**Current Landscape:**

* Only 2 operational agencies: CDSL Ventures Ltd (CVL) & NSDL Data Management Ltd (NDML).
* 649 accredited investors as of May 29, 2025.

**Upcoming Enhancements:**

* **Expansion of Agencies:** All 5 SEBI-registered Know Your Client Registration Agencies (KRAs) will soon function as accreditation bodies.
  + Reduces bottlenecks.
  + Leverages existing KYC infrastructure.
  + Fosters competitive pricing & faster service.
* **DigiLocker Integration:**
  + Secure digital repository for verified documents (Aadhaar, PAN, ITRs).
  + Enables seamless retrieval and verification of investor documents with consent.
  + Aids digital KYC updates.
* **Provisional Onboarding by AIF Managers:**
  + Allows early execution of contribution agreements.
  + Funds received *only after* formal accreditation certificate is obtained.

### **Exclusive Investment Avenues for Accredited Investors**

* **Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs):** Access private equity, venture capital, hedge funds, and "Large Value Funds" with flexible tenures.
* **Co-Investment Schemes (CIVs):** Facilitated for AIs in Category I & II AIFs with regulatory relaxations.
* **Angel Funds:** Now *exclusively* for Accredited Investors. Features relaxed investment limits, no concentration cap, and increased investor limits.
* **Specialized Investment Funds (SIFs):** A new asset class (effective April 1, 2025) bridging Mutual Funds and PMS. Minimum investment of ₹10 lakhs, offering advanced strategies (e.g., long-short equity) and higher allocation limits.
* **Other Avenues:** Portfolio Management Services (PMS), Private Placements, High-Grade Corporate Bonds, Private Equity/Venture Capital, and other Alternative Assets.

### **How to Get Started**

1. **Confirm Eligibility:** Use SEBI's criteria to assess your financial standing.
2. **Prepare Documents:** Gather ITRs, Net Worth Certificate from a CA, PAN, and Aadhaar.
3. **Apply:** Submit your application through SEBI-approved Accreditation Agencies (e.g., NDML, CVL, and soon all KRAs).
4. **Leverage DigiLocker:** Utilize DigiLocker for seamless and secure document submission.

### **Supporting India's Growth**

Accredited Investors play a vital role in India's economic ascent by fueling high-growth startups and alternative sectors, aligning with the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' vision and positioning India as a pre-eminent fund management hub.