

खुदरा वित्तीय सेवाएँ — व्यापारी श्रेणी  
संहिताएँ  
(पहला पुनरीक्षण)

Retail Financial Services —  
Merchant Category Codes  
( First Revision )

ICS 03.060

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## NATIONAL FOREWORD

This Indian Standard (First Revision) which is identical to ISO 18245 : 2023 'Retail financial services — Merchant category codes' issued by International Organization for Standardization (ISO) was adopted by the Bureau of Indian Standards on the recommendations of Banking and Financial Services Sectional Committee, and approval of the Service Sector Division Council.

This standard was first published in 2014 as an identical adoption of ISO 18245 : 2003 'Retail financial services — Merchant category codes' under dual numbering system. This revision has been undertaken to align the Indian Standard with the latest version of ISO 18245 that is, ISO 18245 : 2023 'Retail financial services — Merchant category codes'.

This revision cancels and replaces the previous edition, of which it constitutes a minor revision. The main changes to the previous edition are as follows:

- a) Restructuring to facilitate maintenance of the code values by a new ISO 18245 maintenance agency (MA).

The text of ISO standard has been approved as suitable for publication as an Indian Standard without deviations. Certain conventions are, however, not identical to those used in Indian Standards. Attention is particularly drawn to the following:

- a) Wherever the words 'International Standard' appear referring to this standard, they should be read as 'Indian Standard'; and
- b) Comma (,) has been used as a decimal marker while in Indian Standards, the current practice is to use a point (.) as the decimal marker.

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*Indian Standard*

# RETAIL FINANCIAL SERVICES — MERCHANT CATEGORY CODES

( *First Revision* )

## 1 Scope

This document defines code values used to enable the classification of merchants into specific categories based on the type of business, trade or services supplied. Values are specified only for those merchant categories that are generally expected to originate retail financial transactions.

It is not within the scope of this document to mandate the use of merchant category codes in any given situation.

## 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

## 3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

## 4 Merchant category codes

Merchant category codes shall be allocated to enable the classification of merchants into specific categories based on the type of business, trade or services supplied.

New businesses, trades or services shall be allocated a code value that is reasonable and substantially different from other code values and that is separate and distinct from other industries.

Each merchant category code assigned or reserved for future assignment is listed in a document that can be found at: [https://www.iso.org/maintenance\\_agencies.html#79450](https://www.iso.org/maintenance_agencies.html#79450).

The name and contact information of the maintenance agency for this document can be found at: [https://www.iso.org/maintenance\\_agencies.html#79450](https://www.iso.org/maintenance_agencies.html#79450).

Code assignments are maintained by the ISO 18245 maintenance agency. The scope and specific responsibilities of the ISO 18245 maintenance agency are specified in the *MA Guidelines for ISO 18245*.<sup>[1]</sup>

## 5 Application procedure for code value additions, changes and deletions

An applicant shall apply to the ISO 18245 maintenance agency to request approval of a merchant category code addition, change or deletion by completing the merchant category code application specified by the ISO 18245 maintenance agency.

## Bibliography

- [1] *MA Guidelines for ISO 18245, Retail Financial services – Merchant category codes*. Available from:  
[https://www.iso.org/maintenance\\_agencies.html#79450](https://www.iso.org/maintenance_agencies.html#79450)



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### Review of Indian Standards

Amendments are issued to standards as the need arises on the basis of comments. Standards are also reviewed periodically; a standard along with amendments is reaffirmed when such review indicates that no changes are needed; if the review indicates that changes are needed, it is taken up for revision. Users of Indian Standards should ascertain that they are in possession of the latest amendments or edition by referring to the website-[www.bis.gov.in](http://www.bis.gov.in) or [www.standardsbis.in](http://www.standardsbis.in).

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### Amendments Issued Since Publication

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