

HOW TO DEPOSIT & TRADE YOUR REG-A+ SHARES

A Step-by-Step Guide

Congratulations!

You've just purchased *Units* of a publicly traded company, **Home Bistro (OTCMKTS:HBIS)**, via a private Regulation-A+ offering.

Each Unit you've purchased consists of one (1) share of common stock (the

VHOME BISTRO

- Company: Home Bistro
- Ticker: HBIS (OTCQB)
- Website: <u>www.homebistro.com</u>
- Contact: ir@homebistro.com

"*Share*") and one (1) warrant to purchase a share of common stock at a price of \$1.50 per share (the "*Warrant*").

But before you can trade any of these shares in the public markets, you'll need to deposit your shares into your brokerage account.

In this guide, we'll walk you through the entire process – step-by-step – to make sure you know exactly what to do to deposit your shares into your brokerage account so you can trade them if you wish.

But before we get into that...

A Quick Recap on the Terms & Conditions of the Offering:

All Shares purchased under this agreement are subject to a <u>six (6) month</u> <u>"lock up."</u> This means you may not sell your Shares to any party until this lock up period has expired.

The six-month clock **does not start** the day you complete your subscription agreement. It also **does not start** the day your money is received in escrow.

The clock starts the day your transaction has been settled – which means your capital has cleared escrow, the issuer has executed their portion of the subscription agreement, and your transaction has been recorded in *"Book Entry"* with the transfer agent.

What is Book Entry?

Book entry is a method of tracking ownership of securities where no physically engraved certificate is given to investors. Securities are tracked electronically, rather than in paper form, allowing investors to trade or transfer securities without having to present a paper certificate as proof of ownership.

When an investor purchases a security, they receive a receipt and the information is stored electronically.

Book-entry securities are settled by the Depository Trust Company (DTC), which is the Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation's (DTCC) central securities depository.

Here's the Entire Process, From Beginning to End:

 Subscription Agreement Signed – The investor signs (and submits) all required documentation, which includes Personal Identification Information (PII) required for all "Know Your Customer" (KYC) and "Anti-Money Laundering" compliance protocols.

If the information provided doesn't match the information on file in the KYC/AML database, you will be contacted by customer service who will ask you for additional documentation.

For the purposes of this verification process, Equifund, LLC charges a non-refundable \$24 transaction fee to cover the baseline costs associated with KYC/AML.

We understand this \$24 fee might be inconvenient for smaller-dollar investors to pay versus a percentage-based fee. However, a percent-age-based fee unfairly penalizes larger investors.

2. Funds Cleared – Equifund, LLC does not assume custody of your funds at any point in time, nor do we assume custody of the shares. Instead, your funds will be held in escrow once they have been received and cleared.

The investor may remit payment for shares via ACH, Wire, or by mail via check/money order.

Please be advised that different payment methods take different amounts of time to clear.

■ Wires – 24 hours (one business day) following receipt of funds

- Checks 10 days following deposit of funds to the Escrow Account
- ACH 10 days following receipt of funds
- Credit and Debit Cards 24 hours (one business day) following receipt of funds.

Please be advised that this could have an impact on when your Subscription Agreement can be executed.

3. Roll Close – Issuer requests funds and executes the Subscription Agreement

At the issuer's discretion, they may request the funds held in escrow to be transferred to them. In doing so, they will execute their portion of the Subscription Agreement. Once this happens...

4. Settlement – Issuer receives the money in escrow. The investor will receive the Executed Subscription Agreement and Executed Form of Warrant from Equifund via the email specified in the original Subscription Agreement. The transfer agent records your shares in "Book Entry."

Please make sure to keep your digital records of the *Executed Subscription Agreement* and *Executed Form of Warrant*. You will need both documents going forward

WARNING: Once your transaction has been settled, it is final and can not be refunded for any reason!

After your shares have been recorded in Book Entry, you will receive an email from the transfer agent – **The Nevada Agency and Trust Company (NATCO)** – with a statement. Your account ID# is listed on this document (and you will need this number later).

5. The Lock Up Period Begins – The shares are not tradable for six(6) months following Trade Settlement.

This means you may not sell any of your issued shares to any party until this lock up period has expired. However, when you execute the Warrant, *those shares will <u>not</u> have any restrictions attached to them.*

This means that you could exercise your Warrant within the six (6) month lock up period, deposit those shares, and trade them.

6. Restriction Removal – Once the lock up period ends, the investor must now get the "Legend" removed.

A *Legend* is a label or statement on a stock certificate that explains any restrictions on the sale or transfer of the stock

Only a transfer agent can remove a restrictive legend. However, the transfer agent won't remove the legend unless the issuer consents – usually in the form of an *"Opinion Letter"* from the issuer's counsel to the transfer agent.

For this offering, Home Bistro has provided the transfer agent with what's called a **"Blanket Opinion Letter"** and is held on file with the Transfer Agent.

WARNING: In circumstances where the issuer has not provided a *"Blanket Opinion Letter,"* you – the investor – must assume the legal fees required to obtain the *Opinion Letter*.

<u>According to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)</u>, "If a dispute arises about whether a restrictive Legend can be removed, the SEC will not

normally intervene. The removal of a Legend is a matter solely in the discretion of the issuer. State law, not federal law, covers disputes about the removal of Legends."

To get the legend removed, you will now have to submit the required paperwork to the Transfer Agent and pay a nominal fee.

<u>At the end of this document, you will find step-by-step instructions –</u> <u>along with templated emails – to complete this step.</u>

In order to prevent unnecessary delays in the process, please follow these instructions as listed.

7. Initiate Direct Registration System (DRS) Deposit – To deposit your shares with any broker, your shares will need to be held in "Street Name"

There are two types of shareholders: *registered* and *beneficial*. Transfer agents maintain a record of ownership, including contact information, of an issuer's registered shareholders. Brokers maintain the records of beneficial shareholders.

 Registered Shareholders, also known as "shareholders of record," are people, groups or entities that hold shares directly in their own name on the company register.

The issuer, or its transfer agent, then keeps the records of ownership for the shareholder and provides services such as transferring shares, paying dividends, coordinating shareholder communications and more, as described below.

• Beneficial Shareholders have their stock held in the name of an inter-

mediary such as a broker. The broker then is able to facilitate trading shares and other services for the shareholders.

When shares are kept in this manner, it is often referred to as keeping the shares in "street name."

As part of this Regulation-A+ offering, the Units purchased will be held in your name, and you will become a registered shareholder.

However, in order to deposit your shares into a brokerage account, they will need to be held in "street name" in order for the broker to facilitate the trading of shares. The DRS requests initiates this change, and you will become a Beneficial Shareholder once the transaction is complete.

8. Shares Cleared and Deposited

There isn't a standard time frame with regards to how long it takes to fully clear and deposit shares.

Please contact your broker for more information about what to expect. You may also be subject to additional fees or conditions at the discretion of the broker you're using.

ACTION STEPS FOR DEPOSITING SHARES:

Step 1) Confirm with your broker they will accept Home Bistro shares (*ticker*: *HBIS on the OTC*)

Chances are, you have a brokerage firm you currently use to buy and sell securities. However, some of the popular trading apps – like Robinhood and WeBull – typically do not accept deposits for OTC shares.

Before starting this process, please contact your broker to confirm if they will (or will not) deposit shares of Home Bistro (and if they do, what the associated fees are).

If your broker doesn't not accept OTC shares, here is a short list of brokers that we know have accepted OTC shares for other investors in the past.

[Note: This is not a recommendation or endorsement of any Broker. Please do your own independent research and due diligence before entering into a business relationship]

- CANACCORD GENUITY LLC.
- Citadel Securities
- Glendale Securities
- Interactive Brokers LLC
- Maxim Group LLC
- Wilson-Davis & Co., Inc.

For a complete list of OTC Markets Broker-Dealer Directory, go here: <u>https://www.otcmarkets.com/</u> <u>otc-link/broker-dealer-directory</u>

Step 2) Locate your NATCO account number

You should have received an email from the transfer agent – **The Nevada Agency and Trust Company (NATCO)** – with an statement when your shares were recorded into book entry. On this statement, you will find your account number.

If you cannot locate this email, please email NATCO at info@natco.com and request an updated statement. You should also request your Web Access Code that may be used to create a login to their online client portal.

Once you have the access code, <u>go here to this page to create your</u> <u>account</u>.

Please be advised that should you call their office directly, you will be asked to send in your request via email, as they will not release account information over the phone.

Here is a templated email for your convenience: All you need to do is fill in the correct information where you see the [yellow highlighted brackets].

Send to: info@natco.com

Subject: Request for updated statement + Web Access Code

Body Copy: I am a shareholder of Home Bistro, Inc. I would like to request an updated statement along with my Web Access Code.

All shares were purchased under the name <mark>[Insert the exact name you used when signing the subscription agreement]</mark> using the email address <mark>[insert the exact email address you used when signing the subscription agreement]</code></mark>

If you need any additional information to fulfill this request, you can reach me by replying to this email.

If for any reason you don't remember what name/email you used when signing the subscription agreement, please log into your Equifund dashboard and click on the **"My Investments"** tab (<u>or go to this link here</u>).

You will find a link to your signed subscription agreement that will have all of that information on the final page of the document.

Step 3) Visit the NATCO website and pay the \$50 "Legend Removal Fee" to the Transfer Agent via the "Pay Now" Button

Before you can deposit your shares, you will need to visit the website of the transfer agent (<u>www.natco.com</u>) to pay the \$50 legend removal fee.

To do this, go to their website, scroll to the bottom of the page, and click the "Pay Now" button.



Once you do that you will be taken to a page that looks like this:

Nevada Ag	ency and Transfer Company
Please enter the	amount you wish to pay:
Amount	
	USD
Submit	
« Return to Ne	vada Agency and Transfer Company

Please enter "50" into the box, then hit "Submit."

Once you do this, you'll be taken to a checkout page where you can complete your order.



Please fill out all the required information, and then click the "Pay With Your Credit Card" button.

Step 4) Email the transfer agent to remove your restrictions and deposit your shares into a brokerage account of your choice.

Please use the template below to submit your request to the transfer agent.

Here is the information for the email:

Send to: info@natco.com

Subject: Home Bistro, Inc. – Reg A Restriction Removal Request

Body Copy: My account ID is [Insert NATCO Account ID Number Here].

Please accept this as my request to remove the restriction from [Insert # of shares you'd like to deposit] shares of Home Bistro, Inc. currently held in book entry form with your firm.

After removing the restriction, please deliver my shares to my broker using the below information:

[Insert Brokerage Firm Name]

[Insert Account Number]

I understand it is my responsibility to contact my broker and instruct them to initiate a DRS deposit in the Direct Registration System. I also understand that NATCO cannot deliver shares until the request has been submitted by my broker.

I have utilized the Pay Now button on your website (www.natco.com) to pay the \$50 legend removal fee.

Thank you.

Step 5) Contact your Broker and initiate a DRS deposit in the Direct Registration System.

Every broker has a different process for transferring shares via DRS. Please contact them and ask about their requirements.

ACTION STEPS FOR EXERCISING WARRANTS: -

The investor can exercise the warrant at any time, and the shares issued as a result of exercising the Warrant do not carry any restrictions.

To deposit the shares, please refer to the previous section for depositing instructions.

Step 1) Contact Home Bistro and notify them of your intent to execute the Warrant.

To do this, you will need to present the Issuer with the **Executed Subscription Agreement** and the **Executed Form of Warrant**. Please send your requests to **IR@homebistro.com**.

The Issuer will email you with a Notice of Exercise Form along with the company's wire transfer information.

Next, you will need to remit payment to the Issuer via wire transfer.

Once you do this, you will receive a receipt from your bank confirming the payment.

Take the receipt of wire – along with **Executed Subscription Agreement**, **Executed Form of Warrant**, and the completed Notice of Exercise Form – and submit to the transfer agent via email in the next step.

Step 2) Contact Home Bistro and notify them of your intent to execute the Warrant.

Send to:

info@natco.com

Subject:

Home Bistro, Inc. – Warrant Exercise Request

Body Copy:

My account ID is [Insert NATCO Account ID Number Here].

I would like to exercise [Insert # of warrants] into shares of common stock.

Attached are the Executed Subscription Agreement, Executed Form of



Warrant, the *completed Notice of Exercise Form*, and *confirmation of payment for the exercise price*.

Thank you.

And that concludes your step-by-step guide on on how to deposit your Home Bistro shares and exercise your warrants.

If you have more questions, you contact Home Bistro's investor relations at **IR@homebistro.com**.

For more information on private investing and vetted opportunities, please visit: <u>https://equifund.com/</u>



IMPORTANT LEGAL NOTICE: This is not a offer to buy or sell securities. Investing in private or early-stage offerings (such as Reg A, Reg S, Reg-D, or Reg CF) involves a high degree of risk. Securities sold through these offerings are not publicly traded and, therefore, are illiquid. Additionally, investors will receive restricted stock that is subject to holding period requirements. Companies seeking capital through these offerings tend to be in earlier stages of development and have not yet been fully tested in the public marketplace. Investing in private or early-stage offerings requires a tolerance for high risk, low liquidity, and a long-term commitment. Investors must be able to afford to lose their entire investment. Such investment products are not FDIC insured, may lose value, and have no bank guarantee.