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# Authorisation timescales

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MiFID II comes into force on 3 January 2017, and in advance of this date it will be necessary for all firms to have been authorised in line with the MiFID II regulations.

To provide firms with sufficient time to submit applications we are aiming to open the authorisation gateway for draft applications (such as an application to be an OTF operator). From early 2016, firms will be able to request pre-application meetings to take place in April 2016. We expect all firms to have submitted their applications by 3 July 2016.

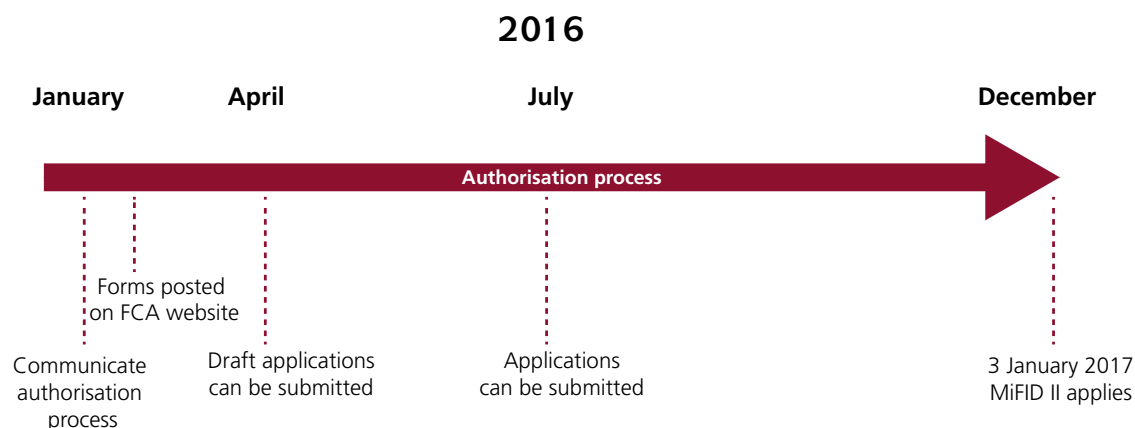
Please be aware that we have a statutory deadline of six months to determine a complete application. Therefore, if you submit a complete application by 3 July 2016, we will endeavour to determine your application by 3 January 2017.

## I want to apply for authorisation – what do I need to do?

You need to send us an application, which we will assess to see if you meet the standards we set. In your application we will ask you to demonstrate your firm is set up in a way that will allow you to meet our requirements.

## When should I apply?

The expected authorisation timeline is set out below:



## Where do I get the application forms?

The MiFID II draft forms will be posted on the FCA website in Q1 2016.

## Help with your application

To help you with the application process we will be issuing further information in early 2016.

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