

# 10.4 Settlement Instructions

## Go up to Relationship to Cost Recovery, Compensation, and Settlement

Settlement Instructions express the settlement treatment that follows recognised governed work, validated compensation eligibility, applicable [Cost Rules](#), and supporting evidence.

The Governed Node Service Market does not define the payment rail, payment method, accounting system, legal payment obligation, tax treatment, or FX settlement mechanism. The market identifies the assigned work, the eligible [qualified\\_node](#), the accountable [\[\[qualified\\_service\\_provider](#), the applicable Cost Rule, the supporting evidence, and the compensation treatment. The [cost\\_recovery\\_compensation\\_and\\_settlement\\_plane](#) uses those records to produce [Settlement Instructions](#).

Settlement Instructions support traceability between governed work and economic recognition. They identify the compensation treatment associated with a [compensation\\_claim](#) after review against the applicable assignment record, [work\\_performed\\_event](#), [evidence\\_reference](#), [qualification\\_profile](#), [cost\\_rule](#), policy constraint, service-level expectation, and market integrity rule.

[Settlement Instructions](#) also preserve the separation between transaction settlement and service compensation. In an FX context, the settlement of the underlying FX transaction remains distinct from compensation for governed services performed by Qualified Nodes. A Qualified Node receives service compensation for governed work, such as validation, screening, evidence recording, policy evaluation, or settlement-support processing, not for the value of the FX transaction itself.

Settlement Instructions may support payment, accounting, reconciliation, dispute handling, adjustment, rejection, or non-performance treatment in accordance with the applicable governance and settlement rules.

## Example

A Qualified Node performs policy evaluation for an FX transaction and records the required Work Performed Event and Evidence Reference. The accountable Qualified Service Provider submits a Compensation Claim. After applying the relevant Cost Rule and reviewing the supporting evidence, the Cost Recovery, Compensation, and Settlement Plane produces a Settlement Instruction that identifies the compensation treatment for the governed service work. The instruction does not represent the settlement of the underlying FX transaction.

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