

# WHAT IS INITIAL COIN OFFERING?

# WHAT IS ICO?

- Cryptocurrency version of IPO to raise the fund from public.
- An ICO is also called a cryptocurrency crowdsale.
- A tech team comes up with a new Idea around Blockchain Technology.
- To use the newly created technology/product/platform some virtual tokens are required.
- Tokens represent the cost of using the platform.
- These tokens are issued during the ICO in exchange of some cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, Ethereum etc.
- Most of the backers are the Cryptocurrency or Blockchain Enthusiasts.
- Some Investors also invest in token in the hope of increasing the token value in future if the technology/platform/product becomes famous.
- Investors can sell their token in the exchange & take their increased money back.

# EXAMPLES OF ICOS

- [The DAO HUB](#): Has raised \$120 million and counting.
  - [Ethereum](#): Raised \$18 million.
  - [Maidsafecoin](#): Raised \$7 million.
  - [Lisk](#): Raised \$6 million
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- You can check the list of current, past & upcoming ICOs here on this website:  
<https://www.ico-list.com/>

# ARE THEY LIKE IPO

- An initial public offering, or IPO, is the first sale of stock by a company to the public.
- A company can raise money by issuing either [debt](#) or [equity](#).
- If the company has never issued equity to the public, it's known as an IPO.
- It's a general way of raising money from public by selling the company's shares.
- ICOs have been compared to Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) of corporations.
- There are some notable similarities – both of them are used to sell a stake and raise money, and both have investors who see the potential and risk their capital in order to make a potential profit.
- However, there are significant differences as well. ICOs are mostly supported by early enthusiasts and not professional investors.
- ICOs are also not regulated or registered with any government organization and there are usually no investor protections other than what is built into the platform itself.

# ARE THEY SAFE

- A number of crowdsales for cryptocurrencies have turned out to be outright scams, where people promised the launch of a new cryptocurrency but never made good on the promise, absconding with the funds collected during the process.
- Due to not being regulated, it is almost impossible to get the invested fund back.

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