

**BlackRock Balanced Capital Fund, Inc.**

**BlackRock Basic Value Fund, Inc.**

**BlackRock Bond Fund, Inc.**

BlackRock Total Return Fund

**BlackRock California Municipal Series Trust**

BlackRock California Municipal Opportunities Fund

**BlackRock Capital Appreciation Fund, Inc.**

**BlackRock Emerging Markets Fund, Inc.**

**BlackRock Equity Dividend Fund**

**BlackRock EuroFund**

**BlackRock Focus Growth Fund, Inc.**

**BlackRock Funds<sup>SM</sup>**

BlackRock Advantage Small Cap Core Fund  
BlackRock Advantage Small Cap Growth Fund  
BlackRock All-Cap Energy & Resources Portfolio  
BlackRock Alternative Capital Strategies Fund  
BlackRock Commodity Strategies Fund  
BlackRock Emerging Markets Dividend Fund  
BlackRock Emerging Markets Equity Strategies Fund  
BlackRock Emerging Markets Long/Short Equity Fund  
BlackRock Energy & Resources Portfolio  
BlackRock Flexible Equity Fund  
BlackRock Global Long/Short Credit Fund  
BlackRock Global Long/Short Equity Fund  
BlackRock Global Opportunities Portfolio  
BlackRock Health Sciences Opportunities Portfolio  
BlackRock Impact Bond Fund  
BlackRock Impact U.S. Equity Fund  
BlackRock International Opportunities Portfolio  
BlackRock Mid-Cap Growth Equity Portfolio  
BlackRock Multi-Manager Alternative Strategies Fund  
BlackRock Real Estate Securities Fund  
BlackRock Science & Technology Opportunities Portfolio  
BlackRock Tactical Opportunities Fund  
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BlackRock U.S. Opportunities Portfolio

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BlackRock 40/60 Target Allocation Fund  
BlackRock 60/40 Target Allocation Fund  
BlackRock 80/20 Target Allocation Fund  
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BlackRock Credit Strategies Income Fund  
BlackRock Dynamic High Income Portfolio  
BlackRock Emerging Markets Flexible Dynamic Bond Portfolio  
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BlackRock GNMA Portfolio  
BlackRock High Yield Bond Portfolio  
BlackRock Inflation Protected Bond Portfolio  
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BlackRock Multi-Asset Income Portfolio  
BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio  
BlackRock U.S. Government Bond Portfolio

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BlackRock LifePath<sup>®</sup> Dynamic 2020 Fund  
BlackRock LifePath<sup>®</sup> Dynamic 2025 Fund  
BlackRock LifePath<sup>®</sup> Dynamic 2030 Fund  
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BlackRock LifePath<sup>®</sup> Dynamic 2040 Fund  
BlackRock LifePath<sup>®</sup> Dynamic 2045 Fund  
BlackRock LifePath<sup>®</sup> Dynamic 2050 Fund  
BlackRock LifePath<sup>®</sup> Dynamic 2055 Fund

**BlackRock Global Allocation Fund, Inc.**

**BlackRock Global SmallCap Fund, Inc.**

**BlackRock Large Cap Series Funds, Inc.**

BlackRock Event Driven Equity Fund  
BlackRock Large Cap Core Fund  
BlackRock Large Cap Growth Fund  
BlackRock Large Cap Value Fund

**BlackRock Latin America Fund, Inc.**

**BlackRock Long-Horizon Equity Fund**

**BlackRock Mid Cap Value Opportunities Series, Inc.**

BlackRock Mid Cap Value Opportunities Fund

**BlackRock Multi-State Municipal Series Trust**

BlackRock New Jersey Municipal Bond Fund

BlackRock New York Municipal Opportunities Fund  
 BlackRock Pennsylvania Municipal Bond Fund

**BlackRock Series, Inc.**  
 BlackRock International Fund  
 BlackRock Small Cap Growth Fund II

**BlackRock Municipal Bond Fund, Inc.**  
 BlackRock High Yield Municipal Fund  
 BlackRock National Municipal Fund  
 BlackRock Short-Term Municipal Fund

**BlackRock Strategic Global Bond Fund, Inc.**

**BlackRock Value Opportunities Fund, Inc.**

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 BlackRock Strategic Municipal Opportunities Fund

**FDP Series, Inc.**  
 FDP BlackRock CoreAlpha Bond Fund  
 FDP BlackRock Invesco Value Fund  
 FDP BlackRock Janus Growth Fund  
 FDP BlackRock MFS Research International Fund

**BlackRock Natural Resources Trust**

**Managed Account Series**  
 BlackRock U.S. Mortgage Portfolio

**BlackRock Pacific Fund, Inc.**

(each, a “Fund” and collectively, the “Funds”)

Supplement dated May 17, 2017 to the Investor and Institutional Shares Prospectus of each Fund (each, a “Prospectus”)

Effective May 17, 2017, each Prospectus is amended as follows:

In the section of each Prospectus entitled “Fund Overview—Key Facts About [the Fund]—Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares” or “Fund Overview—Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares,” as applicable, the Investor A and Investor C Shares column of the table is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

| Investor A and Investor C Shares     |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Minimum Initial Investment</b>    | \$1,000 for all accounts except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$50, if establishing an Automatic Investment Plan (“AIP”).</li> <li>• There is no investment minimum for employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs).</li> <li>• There is no investment minimum for certain fee-based programs.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Minimum Additional Investment</b> | \$50 for all accounts (with the exception of certain employer-sponsored retirement plans which may have a lower minimum).  |

In the section of each Prospectus entitled “Fund Overview—Key Facts About [the Fund]—Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares” or “Fund Overview—Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares,” as applicable, the Institutional Shares column of the table is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

| <b>Institutional Shares</b>          |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Minimum Initial Investment</b>    | <p>There is no minimum initial investment for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs), state sponsored 529 college savings plans, collective trust funds, investment companies or other pooled investment vehicles, unaffiliated thrifts and unaffiliated banks and trust companies, each of which may purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Fund’s distributor to purchase such shares.</li> <li>• Investors of Financial Intermediaries that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) charge such investors a fee for advisory, investment consulting, or similar services or</li> <li>(ii) have entered into an agreement with the Fund’s distributor to offer Institutional Shares through a no-load program or investment platform.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>\$2 million for individuals and “Institutional Investors,” which include, but are not limited to, endowments, foundations, family offices, local, city, and state governmental institutions, corporations and insurance company separate accounts who may purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Fund’s distributor to purchase such shares.</p> <p>\$1,000 for clients investing through Financial Intermediaries that offer such shares on a platform that charges a transaction based sales commission outside of the Fund.</p> |
| <b>Minimum Additional Investment</b> | No subsequent minimum.   |

**In the section of each Prospectus entitled “Account Information—How to Choose the Share Class that Best Suits Your Needs—Share Classes at a Glance,” the first two rows of the Investor A, Investor C and Institutional Shares columns of the table are deleted in their entirety and replaced with the following:**

|                     | Investor A Shares                                     | Investor C Shares                                     | Institutional Shares   |
|---------------------|---|---|--|
| <b>Availability</b> | Generally available through Financial Intermediaries. | Generally available through Financial Intermediaries. | <p>Limited to certain investors, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals and “Institutional Investors,” which include, but are not limited to, endowments, foundations, family offices, local, city, and state governmental institutions, corporations and insurance company separate accounts, who may purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Distributor to purchase such shares.</li> <li>• Employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs), state sponsored 529 college savings plans, collective trust funds, investment companies or other pooled investment vehicles, unaffiliated thrifts and unaffiliated banks and trust companies, each of which may purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Distributor to purchase such shares.</li> <li>• Employees, officers and directors/ trustees of BlackRock or its affiliates and immediate family members of such persons, if they open an account directly with BlackRock.</li> <li>• Participants in certain programs sponsored by BlackRock or its affiliates or other Financial Intermediaries.</li> <li>• Financial Intermediaries that have entered into an agreement with the Fund’s distributor to offer such shares on a platform that charges a transaction based sales commission outside of the Fund.</li> </ul> |

|                           | Investor A Shares   | Investor C Shares   | Institutional Shares   |
|---------------------------|---|---|--|
| <b>Minimum Investment</b> | <p>\$1,000 for all accounts except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$50, if establishing an Automatic Investment Plan (“AIP”).</li> <li>• There is no investment minimum for employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs).</li> <li>• There is no investment minimum for certain fee-based programs.</li> </ul> | <p>\$1,000 for all accounts except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$50, if establishing an AIP.</li> <li>• There is no investment minimum for employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs).</li> <li>• There is no investment minimum for certain fee-based programs.</li> </ul> | <p>There is no investment minimum for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs), state sponsored 529 college savings plans, collective trust funds, investment companies or other pooled investment vehicles, unaffiliated thrifts and unaffiliated banks and trust companies.</li> <li>• Employees, officers and directors/trustees of BlackRock or its affiliates and immediate family members of such persons, if they open an account directly with BlackRock.</li> <li>• Investors of Financial Intermediaries that: (i) charge such investors a fee for advisory, investment consulting, or similar services or (ii) have entered into an agreement with the Distributor to offer Institutional Shares through a no-load program or investment platform.</li> </ul> <p>\$2 million for individuals and Institutional Investors.</p> <p>\$1,000 for clients investing through Financial Intermediaries that offer such shares on a platform that charges a transaction based sales commission outside of the Fund.</p> |

**Footnote 3 or Footnote 4, as applicable, related to purchase orders for Investor C Shares of the table in the section of each Prospectus entitled “Account Information—How to Choose the Share Class that Best Suits Your Needs—Share Classes at a Glance,” is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:**

<sup>[3]</sup>, <sup>[4]</sup> The Fund will not accept a purchase order of \$500,000 or more for Investor C Shares (may be lower on funds that have set a lower breakpoint for purchasing Investor A Shares without a front-end sales charge). Your Financial Intermediary may set a lower maximum for Investor C Shares.

**The last paragraph in the section of each Prospectus entitled “Account Information—Details About the Share Classes—Other Front-End Sales Charge Waivers” is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:**

In addition, Financial Intermediaries may, in connection with a change in account type or otherwise in accordance with a Financial Intermediary’s policies and procedures, exchange one class of shares for Investor A Shares of the same Fund. In such cases, such exchange would not be subject to an Investor A Shares sales charge. The availability of Investor A Shares sales charge waivers may depend on the policies, procedures and trading platforms of your Financial Intermediary; consult your financial adviser.

**The following is added immediately after the first or second paragraph, as applicable, related to lower initial investment for certain investors in the section of each Prospectus entitled “Account Information—Details About the Share Classes—Institutional Shares”:**

Institutional Shares may also be available on certain brokerage platforms. An investor transacting in Institutional Shares through a broker acting as an agent for the investor may be required to pay a commission and/or other forms of compensation to the broker. Shares of the Fund are available in other share classes that have different fees and expenses.

**The section of each Prospectus entitled “Account Information—Account Services and Privileges—Reinstatement Privilege” is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:**

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Reinstatement Privilege</b> | If you redeem Investor A or Institutional Shares and buy new Investor A Shares of the same or another BlackRock Fund (equal to all or a portion of the redemption amount) within 90 days of such redemption, you will not pay a sales charge on the new purchase amount. This right may be exercised within 90 days of the redemption, provided that the Investor A Share class of that fund is currently open to new investors or the shareholder has a current account in that closed fund. Shares will be purchased at the net asset value calculated at the close of trading on the day the request is received. To exercise this privilege, the Fund must receive written notification from the shareholder of record or the Financial Intermediary of record, at the time of purchase. Investors should consult a tax adviser concerning the tax consequences of exercising this reinstatement privilege. |
|--------------------------------|---|

**Shareholders should retain this Supplement for future reference.**

PROSPECTUS

BLACKROCK®

BlackRock Funds II | Investor and Institutional Shares

► BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio

Investor A: BASIX • Investor C: BSICX • Institutional: BSIIIX

*This Prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference.*

*The Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission have not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.*

**Not FDIC Insured • May Lose Value • No Bank Guarantee**

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# Fund Overview

## Key Facts About BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio

### Investment Objective

The BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio (the “Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio” or the “Fund”) seeks total return as is consistent with preservation of capital.

### Fees and Expenses of the Fund

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund. You may qualify for sales charge discounts if you and your family invest, or agree to invest in the future, at least \$25,000 in the fund complex advised by BlackRock Advisors, LLC (“BlackRock”) or its affiliates. More information about these and other discounts is available from your financial professional or your selected securities dealer, broker, investment adviser, service provider or industry professional (including BlackRock, The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (“PNC”) and their respective affiliates) (each a “Financial Intermediary”) and in the “Details About the Share Classes” section on page 31 of the Fund’s prospectus and in the “Purchase of Shares” section on page II-78 of Part II of the Fund’s Statement of Additional Information.

| <b>Shareholder Fees<br/>(fees paid directly from your investment)</b>   | <b>Investor A<br/>Shares</b> | <b>Investor C<br/>Shares</b> | <b>Institutional<br/>Shares</b> |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases (as percentage of offering price)  | 4.00%                        | None                         | None                            |
| Maximum Deferred Sales Charge (Load) (as percentage of offering price or redemption proceeds, whichever is lower)           | None <sup>1</sup>            | 1.00% <sup>2</sup>           | None                            |
| <b>Annual Fund Operating Expenses<br/>(expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)</b> | <b>Investor A<br/>Shares</b> | <b>Investor C<br/>Shares</b> | <b>Institutional<br/>Shares</b> |
| Management Fee <sup>3,4</sup>   | 0.46%                        | 0.46%                        | 0.46%                           |
| Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees  | 0.25%                        | 1.00%                        | None                            |
| Other Expenses  | 0.36%                        | 0.33%                        | 0.28%                           |
| Interest Expense  | 0.13%                        | 0.13%                        | 0.13%                           |
| Miscellaneous Other Expenses of the Fund  | 0.23%                        | 0.20%                        | 0.15%                           |
| Miscellaneous Other Expenses of the Subsidiary <sup>5</sup>   | —                            | —                            | —                               |
| Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses <sup>6</sup>  | 0.02%                        | 0.02%                        | 0.02%                           |
| <b>Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses<sup>6</sup></b>   | <b>1.09%</b>                 | <b>1.81%</b>                 | <b>0.76%</b>                    |
| Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements <sup>4,7</sup>  | (0.04)%                      | (0.01)%                      | (0.01)%                         |
| <b>Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements<sup>4,7</sup></b>                   | <b>1.05%</b>                 | <b>1.80%</b>                 | <b>0.75%</b>                    |

<sup>1</sup> A contingent deferred sales charge (“CDSC”) of 0.75% is assessed on certain redemptions of Investor A Shares made within 18 months after purchase where no initial sales charge was paid at the time of purchase as part of an investment of \$500,000 or more.

<sup>2</sup> There is no CDSC on Investor C Shares after one year.

<sup>3</sup> The management fee payable by the Fund is based on assets estimated to be attributable to the Fund’s direct investments in fixed income and equity securities and instruments, including exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) advised by BlackRock or other investment advisers, other investments and cash and cash equivalents (including money market funds, whether advised by BlackRock or other investment advisers) and excludes investments in other BlackRock equity and/or fixed income mutual funds (the “Underlying Funds”).

<sup>4</sup> As described in the “Management of the Fund” section of the Fund’s prospectus beginning on page 44, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund’s assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income ETFs managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through April 30, 2018. The contractual agreement may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested trustees of BlackRock Funds II (the “Trust”) or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

<sup>5</sup> The Other Expenses of the BlackRock Cayman Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio I, Ltd. (the “Subsidiary”) were less than 0.01% for the most recent fiscal year.

<sup>6</sup> The Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses do not correlate to the ratio of expenses to average net assets given in the Fund’s most recent annual report which does not include the Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses.

<sup>7</sup> As described in the “Management of the Fund” section of the Fund’s prospectus beginning on page 44, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waivers and/or Expense Reimbursements (excluding Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses) to 0.90% (for Investor A Shares), 1.65% (for Investor C Shares) and 0.65% (for Institutional Shares) of average daily net assets through April 30, 2018. The Fund may have to repay some of these waivers and/or reimbursements to BlackRock in the two years following such waivers and/or reimbursements. The contractual agreement may be terminated upon 90 days’ notice by a majority of the non-interested trustees of the Trust or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

**Example:**

This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

|                      | <b>1 Year</b> | <b>3 Years</b> | <b>5 Years</b> | <b>10 Years</b> |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Investor A Shares    | \$503         | \$729          | \$973          | \$1,672         |
| Investor C Shares    | \$283         | \$568          | \$979          | \$2,126         |
| Institutional Shares | \$ 77         | \$242          | \$421          | \$ 941          |

You would pay the following expenses if you did not redeem your shares:

|                   | <b>1 Year</b> | <b>3 Years</b> | <b>5 Years</b> | <b>10 Years</b> |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Investor C Shares | \$183         | \$568          | \$979          | \$2,126         |

**Portfolio Turnover:**

The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 1,541% of the average value of its portfolio.

**Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund**

Under normal market conditions, the Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio will invest in a combination of fixed-income securities, including, but not limited to: high yield securities, international securities, emerging markets debt and mortgages. Depending on market conditions, the Fund may invest in other market sectors. Fixed-income securities are debt obligations such as bonds and debentures, U.S. Government securities, debt obligations of domestic and non-U.S. corporations, debt obligations of non-U.S. governments and their political subdivisions, asset-backed securities, various mortgage-backed securities (both residential and commercial), other floating or variable rate obligations, convertible securities, municipal obligations and zero coupon debt securities. The Fund may invest in preferred securities, illiquid securities, exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), including affiliated ETFs, and corporate loans. The Fund may engage in short sales for hedging purposes or to enhance total return. In implementing its strategy, the Fund may short up to 15% of the market value of the Fund's total assets. However, the Fund may make short sales of to-be-announced ("TBA") mortgage-backed securities and may make short sales "against-the-box" without regard to this restriction. In a short sale against-the-box, at the time of the sale, the Fund owns or has the immediate and unconditional right to acquire the identical security at no additional cost.

The Fund may invest significantly in non-investment grade bonds (high yield or junk bonds). Non-investment grade bonds acquired by the Fund will generally be in the lower rating categories of the major rating agencies (BB or lower by Standard & Poor's, a division of the McGraw Hill Companies ("S&P"), or Ba or lower by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's")) or will be determined by the management team to be of similar quality. Split rated bonds will be considered to have the higher credit rating. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in collateralized debt obligations ("CDOs"), of which 10% (as a percentage of the Fund's net assets) may be collateralized in loan obligations ("CLOs").

The Fund may also invest significantly in non-dollar denominated bonds and bonds of emerging market issuers. The Fund's investment in non-dollar denominated bonds may be on a currency hedged or unhedged basis.

The management team may, when consistent with the Fund's investment goal, buy or sell indexed and inverse floating rate securities and options or futures on a security or an index of securities, or enter into swap agreements, including total return, interest rate and credit default swaps, or foreign currency transactions (collectively, commonly known as derivatives). The Fund typically uses derivatives as a substitute for taking a position in the underlying asset and/or as part of a strategy designed to reduce exposure to other risks, such as currency risk. The Fund may also use derivatives for leverage, in which case their use would involve leveraging risk. The Fund may seek to obtain market exposure to the securities in which it primarily invests by entering into a series of purchase and sale contracts or by using other investment techniques (such as reverse repurchase agreements or dollar rolls, which involves a sale by the fund of a mortgage-backed or other security concurrently with an agreement by the fund to repurchase a similar security at a later date at an agreed-upon price).

The Fund may seek to provide exposure to the investment returns of real assets that trade in the commodity markets through investment in commodity-linked derivative instruments and investment vehicles that exclusively invest in commodities such as exchange traded funds, which are designed to provide this exposure without direct investment in

physical commodities. The Fund may also gain exposure to commodity markets by investing up to 25% of its total assets in the Subsidiary, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Fund formed in the Cayman Islands, which invests primarily in commodity-related instruments.

The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of portfolio securities to achieve its primary investment strategies.

## ***Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund***

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Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the Fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly from day to day and over time. You may lose part or all of your investment in the Fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. The following is a summary description of principal risks of investing in the Fund.

- ***Collateralized Debt Obligations Risk*** — In addition to the typical risks associated with fixed-income securities and asset-backed securities, CDOs carry additional risks including, but not limited to: (i) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments; (ii) the risk that the collateral may default or decline in value or be downgraded, if rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization; (iii) the Fund may invest in tranches of CDOs that are subordinate to other tranches; (iv) the structure and complexity of the transaction and the legal documents could lead to disputes among investors regarding the characterization of proceeds; (v) the investment return achieved by the Fund could be significantly different than those predicted by financial models; (vi) the lack of a readily available secondary market for CDOs; (vii) the risk of forced “fire sale” liquidation due to technical defaults such as coverage test failures; and (viii) the CDO’s manager may perform poorly. In addition, investments in CDOs may be characterized by the Fund as illiquid securities.
- ***Commodities Related Investments Risk*** — Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative investments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.
- ***Convertible Securities Risk*** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock.
- ***Corporate Loans Risk*** — Commercial banks and other financial institutions or institutional investors make corporate loans to companies that need capital to grow or restructure. Borrowers generally pay interest on corporate loans at rates that change in response to changes in market interest rates such as the London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) or the prime rates of U.S. banks. As a result, the value of corporate loan investments is generally less exposed to the adverse effects of shifts in market interest rates than investments that pay a fixed rate of interest. The market for corporate loans may be subject to irregular trading activity and wide bid/ask spreads. In addition, transactions in corporate loans may settle on a delayed basis. As a result, the proceeds from the sale of corporate loans may not be readily available to make additional investments or to meet the Fund’s redemption obligations. To the extent the extended settlement process gives rise to short-term liquidity needs, the Fund may hold additional cash, sell investments or temporarily borrow from banks and other lenders.
- ***Debt Securities Risk*** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve interest rate risk, credit risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk, among other things.

*Interest Rate Risk* — The market value of bonds and other fixed-income securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the current period of historically low rates. For example, if interest rates increase by 1%, assuming a current portfolio duration of ten years, and all other factors being equal, the value of the Fund’s investments would be expected to decrease by 10%. The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other fixed-income securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund’s investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund’s net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management. To the extent the Fund invests in debt securities that may be prepaid at the option of the obligor (such as mortgage-backed securities), the sensitivity of such securities to changes in interest rates may increase (to the detriment of the Fund) when interest rates rise. Moreover, because rates on certain floating rate debt securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some

fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate debt securities. These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. Government securities. A security backed by the “full faith and credit” of the U.S. Government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other fixed-income securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change. A general rise in interest rates has the potential to cause investors to move out of fixed-income securities on a large scale, which may increase redemptions from funds that hold large amounts of fixed-income securities. Heavy redemptions could cause the Fund to sell assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value and could hurt the Fund’s performance.

*Credit Risk* — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make principal and interest payments when due. Changes in an issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of an issuer’s creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund’s investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on the issuer’s financial condition and on the terms of the securities.

*Extension Risk* — When interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these obligations to fall.

*Prepayment Risk* — When interest rates fall, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more quickly than originally anticipated, and the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields.

■ **Derivatives Risk** — The Fund’s use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund’s returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

*Volatility Risk* — Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund’s use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

*Counterparty Risk* — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will not fulfill its contractual obligation.

*Market and Liquidity Risk* — The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately.

*Valuation Risk* — Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them.

*Hedging Risk* — Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund’s hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences.

*Leverage Risk* — Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

*Tax Risk* — Certain aspects of the tax treatment of derivative instruments, including swap agreements and commodity-linked derivative instruments, are currently unclear and may be affected by changes in legislation, regulations or other legally binding authority. Such treatment may be less favorable than that given to a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments.

*Regulatory Risk* — Derivative contracts, including, without limitation, swaps, currency forwards and non-deliverable forwards, are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (“Dodd-Frank Act”) in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, certain derivatives will become subject to margin requirements and swap dealers will be required to collect margin from the Fund with respect to such derivatives. Implementation of such regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of swaps and other derivatives may increase the costs to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund. In December 2015, the Securities and Exchange Commission proposed a new rule to regulate the use of derivatives by registered investment companies, such as the Fund. If the rule goes into effect, it could limit the ability of the Fund to invest or remain invested in derivatives.

■ **Emerging Markets Risk** — Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging securities markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets.

■ **Foreign Securities Risk** — Foreign investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. These risks include:

- The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories, which may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business and may be subject to only limited or no regulatory oversight.
- Changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund’s portfolio.
- The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position.
- The governments of certain countries may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions on foreign investments in their capital markets or in certain industries.
- Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as does the United States and may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws.
- Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets may result in delays in payment for or delivery of securities not typically associated with settlement and clearance of U.S. investments.
- The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries. These events may spread to other countries in Europe. These events may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund’s investments.

■ **High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance. In addition, investment in mortgage dollar rolls and participation in TBA transactions may significantly increase the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate. A TBA transaction is a method of trading mortgage-backed securities where the buyer and seller agree upon general trade parameters such as agency, settlement date, par amount, and price at the time the contract is entered into but the mortgage-backed securities are delivered in the future, generally 30 days later.

■ **Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market risk and, for non-index strategies, selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ETFs advised by BlackRock or other investment advisers, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (including management and advisory fees). If the Fund acquires shares of one or more BlackRock mutual funds (the “Underlying Funds”), shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (excluding management and advisory fees attributable to those assets of the Fund invested in the Underlying Funds) and, indirectly, the expenses of the Underlying Funds (including management and advisory fees). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.

Investing in an ETF will give the Fund exposure to the securities comprising the index on which the ETF is based. Shares of ETFs are traded on an exchange throughout a trading day, and bought and sold based on market values and not at the ETF’s net asset value. For this reason, shares of an ETF could trade at either a premium or discount to its net asset value. However, the trading prices of index-based ETFs tend to closely track the actual net asset value of the ETF. The Fund will pay brokerage commissions in connection with the purchase and sale of shares of ETFs, in addition to a spread (i.e., the difference between what professional investors are willing to pay for ETF shares (the “bid” price) and the price at which they are willing to sell ETF shares (the “ask” price)).

■ **Junk Bonds Risk** — Although junk bonds generally pay higher rates of interest than investment grade bonds, junk bonds are high risk investments that are considered speculative and may cause income and principal losses for the Fund.

■ **Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet any required asset segregation requirements. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund’s portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

■ **Liquidity Risk** — Liquidity risk exists when particular investments are difficult to purchase or sell. The Fund’s investments in illiquid securities may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid securities at an advantageous time or price. To the extent that the Fund’s principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure

to liquidity risk. Liquidity risk may be the result of, among other things, the reduced number and capacity of traditional market participants to make a market in fixed-income securities or the lack of an active market. Liquid investments may become illiquid or less liquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. Illiquid and relatively less liquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. This may be magnified in a rising interest rate environment or other circumstances where investor redemptions from fixed-income mutual funds may be higher than normal. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.

■ **Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

■ **Mortgage- and Asset-Backed Securities Risks** — Mortgage- and asset-backed securities represent interests in “pools” of mortgages or other assets, including consumer loans or receivables held in trust. Mortgage- and asset-backed securities are subject to credit, interest rate, prepayment and extension risks. These securities also are subject to risk of default on the underlying mortgage or asset, particularly during periods of economic downturn. Small movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain mortgage-backed securities.

■ **Municipal Securities Risk** — Municipal securities risks include the ability of the issuer to repay the obligation, the relative lack of information about certain issuers of municipal securities, and the possibility of future legislative changes which could affect the market for and value of municipal securities. These risks include:

*General Obligation Bonds Risk* — Timely payments depend on the issuer’s credit quality, ability to raise tax revenues and ability to maintain an adequate tax base.

*Revenue Bonds Risk* — These payments depend on the money earned by the particular facility or class of facilities, or the amount of revenues derived from another source.

*Private Activity Bonds Risk* — Municipalities and other public authorities issue private activity bonds to finance development of industrial facilities for use by a private enterprise. The private enterprise pays the principal and interest on the bond, and the issuer does not pledge its faith, credit and taxing power for repayment.

*Moral Obligation Bonds Risk* — Moral obligation bonds are generally issued by special purpose public authorities of a state or municipality. If the issuer is unable to meet its obligations, repayment of these bonds becomes a moral commitment, but not a legal obligation, of the state or municipality.

*Municipal Notes Risk* — Municipal notes are shorter term municipal debt obligations. If there is a shortfall in the anticipated proceeds, the notes may not be fully repaid and a Fund may lose money.

*Municipal Lease Obligations Risk* — In a municipal lease obligation, the issuer agrees to make payments when due on the lease obligation. Although the issuer does not pledge its unlimited taxing power for payment of the lease obligation, the lease obligation is secured by the leased property.

*Tax-Exempt Status Risk* — The Fund and its investment manager will rely on the opinion of issuers’ bond counsel and, in the case of derivative securities, sponsors’ counsel, on the tax-exempt status of interest on municipal bonds and payments under derivative securities. Neither the Fund nor its investment manager will independently review the bases for those tax opinions, which may ultimately be determined to be incorrect and subject the Fund and its shareholders to substantial tax liabilities.

■ **Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company’s preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company’s financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred stock of larger companies.

■ **Real Estate Related Securities Risk** — The main risk of real estate related securities is that the value of the underlying real estate may go down. Many factors may affect real estate values. These factors include both the general and local economies, the amount of new construction in a particular area, the laws and regulations (including zoning and tax laws) affecting real estate and the costs of owning, maintaining and improving real estate. The availability of mortgages and changes in interest rates may also affect real estate values. If the Fund’s real estate related investments are concentrated in one geographic area or in one property type, the Fund will be particularly subject to the risks associated with that area or property type.

■ **Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.

■ **Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk** — Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund with an agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price, date and interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party may fail to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Fund, including the value of the investments made with cash collateral, is less than the value of securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences to the Fund.

■ **Short Sales Risk** — Because making short sales in securities that it does not own exposes the Fund to the risks associated with those securities, such short sales involve speculative exposure risk. The Fund may incur a loss as a result of a short sale if the price of the security increases between the date of the short sale and the date on which the Fund replaces the security sold short.

■ **Small Cap and Emerging Growth Securities Risk** — Small cap or emerging growth companies may have limited product lines or markets. They may be less financially secure than larger, more established companies. They may depend on a more limited management group than larger capitalized companies.

■ **Subsidiary Risk** — By investing in the Subsidiary, the Fund is indirectly exposed to the risks associated with the Subsidiary's investments. The commodity-related instruments held by the Subsidiary are generally similar to those that are permitted to be held by the Fund and are subject to the same risks that apply to similar investments if held directly by the Fund (see "Commodities Related Investments Risk" above). There can be no assurance that the investment objective of the Subsidiary will be achieved. The Subsidiary is not registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), and, unless otherwise noted in this prospectus, is not subject to all the investor protections of the Investment Company Act. However, the Fund wholly owns and controls the Subsidiary, and the Fund and the Subsidiary are both managed by BlackRock, making it unlikely that the Subsidiary will take action contrary to the interests of the Fund and its shareholders. The Board has oversight responsibility for the investment activities of the Fund, including its investment in the Subsidiary, and the Fund's role as sole shareholder of the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary is subject to the same investment restrictions and limitations, and follows the same compliance policies and procedures, as the Fund. Changes in the laws of the United States and/or the Cayman Islands could result in the inability of the Fund and/or the Subsidiary to operate as described in this prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information and could adversely affect the Fund.

In order to qualify as a regulated investment company, at least 90% of the Fund's gross income for the taxable year must be "qualifying income." The Fund anticipates treating the income and gain generated from investments in controlled foreign subsidiaries that invest in physical commodities and/or commodity-linked derivative instruments as "qualifying income" for regulated investment company qualification purposes. However, there can be no assurance that the IRS will agree with treating such income and gain as "qualifying income." If the IRS makes an adverse determination relating to the treatment of such income and gain, the Fund would likely need to change its investment strategies, which could adversely affect the Fund. The IRS has proposed regulations that, if finalized in current form, would specify that a subpart F income inclusion for U.S. federal income tax purposes will be treated as qualifying income only to the extent that the Subsidiary makes distributions out of its earnings and profits in the same taxable year.

■ **Treasury Obligations Risk** — Treasury obligations may differ in their interest rates, maturities, times of issuance and other characteristics. Obligations of U.S. Government agencies and authorities are supported by varying degrees of credit but generally are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. No assurance can be given that the U.S. Government will provide financial support to its agencies and authorities if it is not obligated by law to do so.

■ **U.S. Government Mortgage-Related Securities Risk** — There are a number of important differences among the agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. Government that issue mortgage-related securities and among the securities that they issue. Mortgage-related securities guaranteed by the Government National Mortgage Association ("GNMA" or "Ginnie Mae") are guaranteed as to the timely payment of principal and interest by GNMA and such guarantee is backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. GNMA securities also are supported by the right of GNMA to borrow funds from the U.S. Treasury to make payments under its guarantee. Mortgage-related securities issued by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac are solely the obligations of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, as the case may be, and are not backed by or entitled to the full faith and credit of the United States but are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the Treasury.

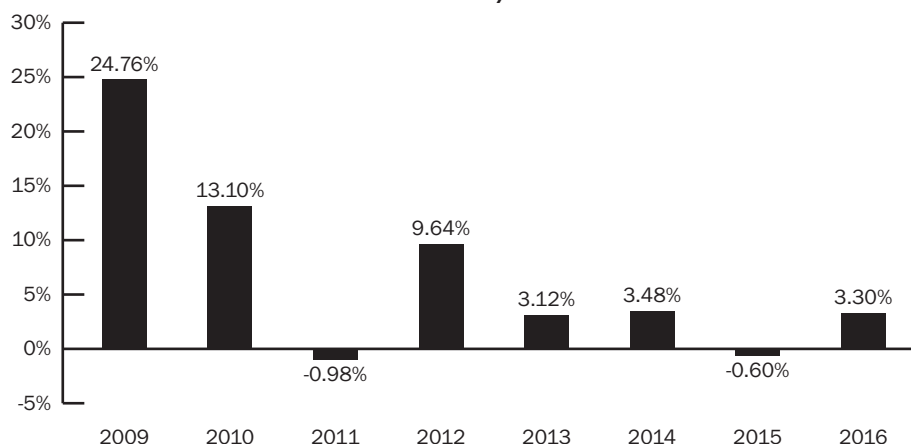
■ **Zero Coupon Securities Risk** — While interest payments are not made on such securities, holders of such securities are deemed to have received income ("phantom income") annually, notwithstanding that cash may not be received currently. The effect of owning instruments that do not make current interest payments is that a fixed yield is earned not only on the original investment but also, in effect, on all discount accretion during the life of the obligations. This implicit reinvestment of earnings at a fixed rate eliminates the risk of being unable to invest distributions at a rate as high as the implicit yield on the zero coupon bond, but at the same time eliminates the

holder's ability to reinvest at higher rates in the future. For this reason, some of these securities may be subject to substantially greater price fluctuations during periods of changing market interest rates than are comparable securities that pay interest currently. Longer term zero coupon bonds are more exposed to interest rate risk than shorter term zero coupon bonds. These investments benefit the issuer by mitigating its need for cash to meet debt service, but also require a higher rate of return to attract investors who are willing to defer receipt of cash.

## Performance Information

The information shows you how the Fund's performance has varied year by year and provides some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The table compares the Fund's performance to that of the BofA Merrill Lynch 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index and the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Universal Index. To the extent that dividends and distributions have been paid by the Fund, the performance information for the Fund in the chart and table assumes reinvestment of the dividends and distributions. As with all such investments, past performance (before and after taxes) is not an indication of future results. Sales charges are not reflected in the bar chart. If they were, returns would be less than those shown. However, the table includes all applicable fees and sales charges. If the Fund's investment manager and its affiliates had not waived or reimbursed certain Fund expenses during these periods, the Fund's returns would have been lower. Updated information on the Fund's performance, including its current net asset value, can be obtained by visiting <http://www.blackrock.com> or can be obtained by phone at 800-882-0052.

### Investor A Shares ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio As of 12/31



During the periods shown in the bar chart, the highest return for a quarter was 8.67% (quarter ended September 30, 2009) and the lowest return for a quarter was -2.53% (quarter ended September 30, 2011).

#### As of 12/31/16

#### Average Annual Total Returns

|   | 1 Year  | 5 Years | Since Inception<br>(February 5, 2008) |
|---|---------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio — Investor A Shares                                  |         |         |                                       |
| Return Before Taxes   | (0.83)% | 2.89%   | 3.58%                                 |
| Return After Taxes on Distributions   | (1.78)% | 1.66%   | 2.00%                                 |
| Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares   | (0.48)% | 1.68%   | 2.10%                                 |
| BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio — Investor C Shares                                  |         |         |                                       |
| Return Before Taxes   | 1.53%   | 2.96%   | 3.27%                                 |
| BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio — Institutional Shares                               |         |         |                                       |
| Return Before Taxes   | 3.61%   | 4.03%   | 4.33%                                 |
| BofA Merrill Lynch 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | 0.33%   | 0.12%   | 0.29%                                 |
| Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Universal Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)             | 3.91%   | 2.78%   | 4.20%                                 |

After-tax returns are calculated using the historical highest individual Federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Actual after-tax returns depend on the investor's tax situation and may differ from those shown, and the after-tax returns shown are not relevant to investors who hold their shares through tax-deferred arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts. After-tax returns are shown for Investor A Shares only, and the after-tax returns for Investor C and Institutional Shares will vary.



## Investment Manager

The Fund's investment manager is BlackRock Advisors, LLC (previously defined as "BlackRock"). The Fund's sub-advisers are BlackRock International Limited and BlackRock (Singapore) Limited. Where applicable, the use of the term BlackRock also refers to the Fund's sub-advisers.

## Portfolio Managers

| Name        | Portfolio Manager of the Fund Since | Title   |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Rick Rieder | 2010                                | Chief Investment Officer of Fixed Income, Fundamental Portfolios of BlackRock, Inc. |
| Bob Miller  | 2011                                | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc.  |
| David Rogal | 2017                                | Director of BlackRock, Inc.   |

## Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

You may purchase or redeem shares of the Fund each day the New York Stock Exchange is open. To purchase or sell shares you should contact your Financial Intermediary, or, if you hold your shares through the Fund, you should contact the Fund by phone at (800) 441-7762, by mail (c/o BlackRock Funds, P.O. Box 9819, Providence, Rhode Island 02940-8019), or by the Internet at [www.blackrock.com](http://www.blackrock.com). The Fund's initial and subsequent investment minimums generally are as follows, although the Fund may reduce or waive the minimums in some cases:

|                                      | Investor A and Investor C Shares   | Institutional Shares  |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Minimum Initial Investment</b>    | <p>\$1,000 for all accounts except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$250 for certain fee-based programs.</li> <li>• \$100 for certain employer-sponsored retirement plans.</li> <li>• \$50, if establishing an Automatic Investment Plan.</li> </ul> | <p>There is no minimum initial investment for employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs), state sponsored 529 college savings plans, collective trust funds, investment companies or other pooled investment vehicles, unaffiliated thrifts and unaffiliated banks and trust companies, each of which may purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Fund's distributor to purchase such shares.</p> <p>\$2 million for individuals and "Institutional Investors," which include, but are not limited to, endowments, foundations, family offices, local, city, and state governmental institutions, corporations and insurance company separate accounts who may purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Fund's distributor to purchase such shares.</p> <p>\$1,000 for investors of Financial Intermediaries that: (i) charge such investors a fee for advisory, investment consulting, or similar services or (ii) have entered into an agreement with the Fund's distributor to offer Institutional Shares through a no-load program or investment platform.</p> |
| <b>Minimum Additional Investment</b> | \$50 for all accounts (with the exception of certain employer-sponsored retirement plans which may have a lower minimum).  | No subsequent minimum.  |

## Tax Information

The Fund's dividends and distributions may be subject to Federal income taxes and may be taxed as ordinary income or capital gains, unless you are a tax-exempt investor or are investing through a retirement plan, in which case you may be subject to Federal income tax upon withdrawal from such tax-deferred arrangements.

## ***Payments to Broker/Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries***

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If you purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary, the Fund and BlackRock Investments, LLC, the Fund's distributor, or its affiliates may pay the Financial Intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the Financial Intermediary and your individual financial professional to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your individual financial professional or visit your Financial Intermediary's website for more information.

# Details About the Fund

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Included in this prospectus are sections that tell you about buying and selling shares, management information, shareholder features of the BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio (the “Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio” or the “Fund”) and your rights as a shareholder.

## **How the Fund Invests**

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### **Investment Objective**

The Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio seeks total return as is consistent with preservation of capital.

This investment objective is a non-fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without 30 days’ prior notice to shareholders.

### **Investment Process**

The Fund is an unconstrained fund (i.e., has the flexibility to invest across all fixed income asset classes) that is managed within a risk controlled framework.

The portfolio managers evaluate portfolio risk in light of the available investment opportunities and prevailing risks in the fixed income market with the goal of delivering attractive risk-adjusted returns. In doing so, the portfolio managers seek to find the appropriate balance between risk mitigation and opportunism.

The portfolio managers do not manage the Fund specific to a benchmark, which provides the portfolio managers with flexibility to allocate to and rotate across any sector in the fixed income universe. This strategy provides exposure to areas of the fixed income market which the portfolio managers anticipate will provide value while attempting to minimize exposure to those areas that they anticipate will not provide value. Similarly, the portfolio managers have full duration flexibility with the ability to move (minus) 2 to positive 7 years in duration.

The portfolio managers can institute hedging on a macro level to manage the overall portfolio risk from a duration and credit risk perspective when appropriate.

### **Principal Investment Strategies**

Under normal market conditions, the Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio will invest in a combination of fixed income securities, including, but not limited to: high yield securities, international securities, emerging markets debt and mortgages. Depending on market conditions, the Fund may invest in other market sectors. Fixed income securities are debt obligations such as bonds and debentures, U.S. Government securities, debt obligations of domestic and non-U.S. corporations, debt obligations of non-U.S. governments and their political subdivisions, asset-backed securities, various mortgage-backed securities (both residential and commercial), other floating or variable rate obligations, convertible securities, municipal obligations and zero coupon debt securities. The Fund may invest in preferred securities, illiquid securities, exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), including affiliated ETFs, and corporate loans. The Fund may engage in short sales for hedging purposes or to enhance total return. In implementing its strategy, the Fund may short up to 15% of the market value of the Fund’s total assets. However, the Fund may make short sales of to-be-announced (“TBA”) mortgage-backed securities and may make short sales “against-the-box” without regard to this restriction. In a short sale against-the-box, at the time of the sale, the Fund owns or has the immediate and unconditional right to acquire the identical security at no additional cost.

The Fund may invest significantly in non-investment grade bonds (high yield or junk bonds). Non-investment grade bonds acquired by the Fund will generally be in the lower rating categories of the major rating agencies (BB or lower by Standard & Poor’s, a division of the McGraw Hill Companies (“S&P”), or Ba or lower by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”)) or will be determined by the management team to be of similar quality. Split rated bonds will be considered to have the higher credit rating.

The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in collateralized debt obligations (“CDOs”), of which 10% (as a percentage of the Fund’s net assets) may be in collateralized loan obligations (“CLOs”). CDOs are types of asset-backed securities. CLOs are ordinarily issued by a trust or other special purpose entity and are typically collateralized by a pool of loans, which may include, among others, domestic and non-U.S. senior secured loans, senior unsecured loans, and subordinate corporate loans, including loans that may be rated below investment grade or equivalent unrated loans, held by such issuer.

The Fund may also invest significantly in non-dollar denominated bonds and bonds of emerging market issuers. The Fund’s investment in non-dollar denominated bonds may be on a currency hedged or unhedged basis.

The management team may, when consistent with the Fund's investment goal, buy or sell indexed and inverse floating rate securities and options or futures on a security or an index of securities, or enter into swap agreements including total return, interest rate and credit default swaps, or foreign currency transactions (collectively, commonly known as derivatives). An option is the right to buy or sell an instrument (which can be a security, an index of securities, a futures contract, a currency, or a basket of currencies) at a specific price on or before a specific date. A future is an agreement to buy or sell a security or an index of securities at a specific price on a specific date. A total return swap is a contract in which one party agrees to make periodic payments to another party based on the change in market value of the assets underlying the contract, which may include a specified security, basket of securities or securities indices, during the specified period, in return for periodic payments. The Fund typically uses derivatives as a substitute for taking a position in the underlying asset and/or as part of a strategy designed to reduce exposure to other risks, such as currency risk. The Fund may also use derivatives for leverage, in which case their use would involve leveraging risk. The Fund may seek to obtain market exposure to the securities in which it primarily invests by entering into a series of purchase and sale contracts or by using other investment techniques (such as reverse repurchase agreements or dollar rolls, which involves a sale by a fund of a mortgage-backed or other security concurrently with an agreement by the fund to repurchase a similar security at a later date at an agreed-upon price).

The Fund may seek to provide exposure to the investment returns of real assets that trade in the commodity markets through investment in commodity-linked derivative instruments and investment vehicles that exclusively invest in precious metals, which are designed to provide this exposure without direct investment in physical commodities. The Fund may also gain exposure to commodity markets by investing in BlackRock Cayman Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio I, Ltd. (the "Subsidiary"). The Subsidiary invests primarily in commodity-related instruments. BlackRock is the manager of the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary (unlike the Fund) may invest without limitation in commodity-related instruments. However, the Subsidiary is otherwise subject to the same fundamental, non-fundamental and certain other investment restrictions as the Fund. The Fund will limit its investments in the Subsidiary to 25% of its total assets.

The Subsidiary is managed pursuant to compliance policies and procedures that are the same, in all material respects, as the policies and procedures adopted by BlackRock Funds II (the "Trust"). As a result, BlackRock, in managing the Subsidiary's portfolio, is subject to the same investment policies and restrictions that apply to the management of the Fund, and, in particular, to the requirements relating to portfolio leverage, liquidity, brokerage, and the timing and method of the valuation of the Subsidiary's portfolio investments and shares of the Subsidiary. These policies and restrictions are described in detail in the Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"). The Chief Compliance Officer of the Trust oversees implementation of the Subsidiary's policies and procedures, and makes periodic reports to the Board of Trustees (the "Board") regarding the Subsidiary's compliance with its policies and procedures. The Fund and Subsidiary test for compliance with certain investment restrictions on a consolidated basis, except that with respect to its investments in certain securities that may involve leverage, the Subsidiary complies with asset segregation requirements to the same extent as the Fund.

BlackRock provides investment management and other services to the Subsidiary. BlackRock does not receive separate compensation from the Subsidiary for providing it with investment management or administrative services. However, the Fund pays BlackRock based on the Fund's assets, including the assets invested in the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary will also enter into separate contracts for the provision of advisory, sub-advisory, custody, and audit services with the same or with affiliates of the same service providers that provide those services to the Fund.

The financial statements of the Subsidiary will be consolidated with the Fund's financial statements in the Fund's Annual and Semi-Annual Reports. The Fund's Annual and Semi-Annual Reports are distributed to shareholders, and copies of the reports are provided without charge upon request as indicated on the back cover of this prospectus. Please refer to the SAI for additional information about the organization and management of the Subsidiary.

The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of portfolio securities to achieve its primary investment strategies.

### **Other Strategies of the Fund**

In addition to the principal strategies discussed above, the Fund may also invest or engage in the following investments/strategies:

- **Borrowing** — The Fund may borrow from banks (as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act")) in amounts up to 33⅓% of its total assets (including the amount borrowed) and borrow up to an additional 5% of its total assets for temporary purposes.
- **Equity Securities** — The Fund may invest in common stocks or other equity securities. In addition, the Fund may acquire and hold such securities (or rights to acquire such securities) in unit offerings with fixed-income securities, in connection with an amendment, waiver, conversion or exchange of fixed income securities, in connection with the bankruptcy or workout of a distressed fixed income security, or upon the exercise of a right or warrant obtained on account of a fixed income security.
- **Investment Companies** — In addition to ETFs, the Fund has the ability to invest in other investment companies, such as open-end and closed-end funds. The Fund may invest in affiliated investment companies, including affiliated money market funds.

■ **Real Estate Investment Trusts (“REITs”)** — The Fund may invest in REITs. REITs are companies that own interests in real estate or in real estate related loans or other interests, and have revenue primarily consisting of rent derived from owned, income producing real estate properties and capital gains from the sale of such properties. REITs can generally be classified as equity REITs, mortgage REITs and hybrid REITs. Equity REITs invest the majority of their assets directly in real property and derive their income primarily from rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value. Mortgage REITs invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages and derive their income primarily from interest payments. Hybrid REITs combine the characteristics of both equity REITs and mortgage REITs. REITs are not taxed on income distributed to shareholders provided they comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

■ **Temporary Defensive Strategies** — For temporary defensive purposes, the Fund may restrict the markets in which it invests and may invest without limitation in cash, cash equivalents, money market securities, such as U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, other U.S. Government securities, short-term debt obligations of corporate issuers, certificates of deposit, bankers acceptances, commercial paper (short term, unsecured, negotiable promissory notes of a domestic or foreign issuer) or other high quality fixed income securities. Temporary defensive positions may affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.

#### ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Rick Rieder, Bob Miller and David Rogal are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund. Please see “Management of the Fund — Portfolio Manager Information” for additional information about the portfolio management team.

### Investment Risks

This section contains a discussion of the general risks of investing in the Fund. The “Investment Objectives and Policies” section in the SAI also includes more information about the Fund, its investments and the related risks. As with any fund, there can be no guarantee that the Fund will meet its investment objective or that the Fund’s performance will be positive for any period of time. An investment in the Fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or governmental agency.

#### Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund:

**Collateralized Debt Obligations Risk** — In addition to the typical risks associated with fixed income securities and asset-backed securities, CDOs carry additional risks including, but not limited to: (i) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments; (ii) the risk that the collateral may default or decline in value or be downgraded, if rated by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization; (iii) the Fund may invest in tranches of CDOs that are subordinate to other tranches; (iv) the structure and complexity of the transaction and the legal documents could lead to disputes among investors regarding the characterization of proceeds; (v) the investment return achieved by the Fund could be significantly different than those predicted by financial models; (vi) the lack of a readily available secondary market for CDOs; (vii) risk of forced “fire sale” liquidation due to technical defaults such as coverage test failures; and (viii) the CDO’s manager may perform poorly. In addition, investments in CDOs may be characterized by the Fund as illiquid securities.

**Commodities Related Investments Risk** — Exposure to the commodities markets may subject the Fund to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. The value of commodity-linked derivative investments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.

**Convertible Securities Risk** — The market value of a convertible security performs like that of a regular debt security; that is, if market interest rates rise, the value of a convertible security usually falls. In addition, convertible securities are subject to the risk that the issuer will not be able to pay interest or dividends when due, and their market value may change based on changes in the issuer’s credit rating or the market’s perception of the issuer’s creditworthiness. Since it derives a portion of its value from the common stock into which it may be converted, a convertible security is also subject to the same types of market and issuer risks that apply to the underlying common stock.

**Corporate Loans Risk** — Commercial banks and other financial institutions or institutional investors make corporate loans to companies that need capital to grow or restructure. Borrowers generally pay interest on corporate loans at rates that change in response to changes in market interest rates such as the London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) or the prime rates of U.S. banks. As a result, the value of corporate loan investments is generally less exposed to the adverse effects of shifts in market interest rates than investments that pay a fixed rate of interest. However, because the trading market for certain corporate loans may be less developed than the secondary market for bonds and notes, the Fund may experience difficulties in selling its corporate loans. Transactions in corporate loans may settle on a delayed basis. As a result, the proceeds from the sale of corporate loans may not be readily available

to make additional investments or to meet the Fund's redemption obligations. To the extent the extended settlement process gives rise to short-term liquidity needs, the Fund may hold additional cash, sell investments or temporarily borrow from banks and other lenders. Leading financial institutions often act as agent for a broader group of lenders, generally referred to as a syndicate. The syndicate's agent arranges the corporate loans, holds collateral and accepts payments of principal and interest. If the agent develops financial problems, the Fund may not recover its investment or recovery may be delayed. By investing in a corporate loan, the Fund may become a member of the syndicate.

The market for corporate loans may be subject to irregular trading activity and wide bid/ask spreads.

The corporate loans in which the Fund invests are subject to the risk of loss of principal and income. Although borrowers frequently provide collateral to secure repayment of these obligations they do not always do so. If they do provide collateral, the value of the collateral may not completely cover the borrower's obligations at the time of a default. If a borrower files for protection from its creditors under the U.S. bankruptcy laws, these laws may limit the Fund's rights to its collateral. In addition, the value of collateral may erode during a bankruptcy case. In the event of a bankruptcy, the holder of a corporate loan may not recover its principal, may experience a long delay in recovering its investment and may not receive interest during the delay.

**Debt Securities Risk** — Debt securities, such as bonds, involve interest rate risk, credit risk, extension risk, and prepayment risk, among other things.

*Interest Rate Risk* — The market value of bonds and other fixed-income securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. The Fund may be subject to a greater risk of rising interest rates due to the current period of historically low rates. For example, if interest rates increase by 1%, assuming a current portfolio duration of ten years, and all other factors being equal, the value of the Fund's investments would be expected to decrease by 10%. The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other fixed-income securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund's investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund's net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management. To the extent the Fund invests in debt securities that may be prepaid at the option of the obligor (such as mortgage-backed securities), the sensitivity of such securities to changes in interest rates may increase (to the detriment of the Fund) when interest rates rise. Moreover, because rates on certain floating rate debt securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate debt securities. These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. Government securities. A security backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. Government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other fixed-income securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change.

Following the financial crisis that began in 2007, the Federal Reserve has attempted to stabilize the economy and support the economic recovery by keeping the federal funds rate (the interest rate at which depository institutions lend reserve balances to other depository institutions overnight) at or near zero percent. In addition, as part of its monetary stimulus program known as quantitative easing, the Federal Reserve has purchased on the open market large quantities of securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities. As the Federal Reserve "tapers" or reduces the amount of securities it purchases pursuant to quantitative easing, and/or if the Federal Reserve raises the federal funds rate, there is a risk that interest rates will rise. A general rise in interest rates has the potential to cause investors to move out of fixed-income securities on a large scale, which may increase redemptions from mutual funds that hold large amounts of fixed-income securities. Heavy redemptions could cause the Fund to sell assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value and could hurt the Fund's performance.

During periods of very low or negative interest rates, the Fund may be unable to maintain positive returns. Certain countries have recently experienced negative interest rates on certain fixed-income instruments. Very low or negative interest rates may magnify interest rate risk. Changing interest rates, including rates that fall below zero, may have unpredictable effects on markets, may result in heightened market volatility and may detract from Fund performance to the extent the Fund is exposed to such interest rates.

*Credit Risk* — Credit risk refers to the possibility that the issuer of a debt security (i.e., the borrower) will not be able to make principal and interest payments when due. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may also affect the value of the Fund's investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on the issuer's financial condition and on the terms of the securities.

*Extension Risk* — When interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these obligations to fall. Rising interest rates tend to extend the duration of securities, making them more sensitive to changes in interest rates. The value of longer-term securities generally changes more in response to changes in interest rates than shorter-term securities. As a result, in a period of rising interest rates, securities may exhibit additional volatility and may lose value.

*Prepayment Risk* — When interest rates fall, certain obligations will be paid off by the obligor more quickly than originally anticipated, and the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in securities with lower yields. In periods of falling interest rates, the rate of prepayments tends to increase (as does price fluctuation) as borrowers are motivated to pay off debt and refinance at new lower rates. During such periods, reinvestment of the prepayment proceeds by the management team will generally be at lower rates of return than the return on the assets that were prepaid. Prepayment reduces the yield to maturity and the average life of the security.

**Derivatives Risk** — The Fund's use of derivatives may increase its costs, reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Derivatives involve significant risks, including:

*Volatility Risk* — The Fund's use of derivatives may reduce the Fund's returns and/or increase volatility. Volatility is defined as the characteristic of a security, an index or a market to fluctuate significantly in price within a short time period. A risk of the Fund's use of derivatives is that the fluctuations in their values may not correlate with the overall securities markets.

*Counterparty Risk* — Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will not fulfill its contractual obligation.

*Market and Liquidity Risk* — Some derivatives are more sensitive to interest rate changes and market price fluctuations than other securities. The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for derivatives and the resulting inability of the Fund to sell or otherwise close a derivatives position could expose the Fund to losses and could make derivatives more difficult for the Fund to value accurately. The Fund could also suffer losses related to its derivatives positions as a result of unanticipated market movements, which losses are potentially unlimited. Finally, BlackRock may not be able to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates and other economic factors, which could cause the Fund's derivatives positions to lose value.

*Valuation Risk* — Valuation may be more difficult in times of market turmoil since many investors and market makers may be reluctant to purchase complex instruments or quote prices for them. Derivatives may also expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Certain transactions in derivatives involve substantial leverage risk and may expose the Fund to potential losses that exceed the amount originally invested by the Fund.

*Hedging Risk* — When a derivative is used as a hedge against a position that the Fund holds, any loss generated by the derivative generally should be substantially offset by gains on the hedged investment, and vice versa. While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The use of hedging may result in certain adverse tax consequences noted below.

*Tax Risk* — The federal income tax treatment of a derivative may not be as favorable as a direct investment in an underlying asset and may adversely affect the timing, character and amount of income the Fund realizes from its investments. As a result, a larger portion of the Fund's distributions may be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gains. In addition, certain derivatives are subject to mark-to-market or straddle provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). If such provisions are applicable, there could be an increase (or decrease) in the amount of taxable dividends paid by the Fund. In addition, the tax treatment of certain derivatives, such as swaps, is unsettled and may be subject to future legislation, regulation or administrative pronouncements issued by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS").

*Regulatory Risk* — Derivative contracts, including, without limitation, swaps, currency forwards and non-deliverable forwards, are subject to regulation under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ("Dodd-Frank Act") in the United States and under comparable regimes in Europe, Asia and other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Under the Dodd-Frank Act, certain derivatives will become subject to margin requirements and swap dealers will be required to collect margin from the Fund with respect to such derivatives. Implementation of such regulations under the Dodd-Frank Act regarding clearing, mandatory trading and margining of swaps and other derivatives may increase the costs to the Fund of trading in these instruments and, as a result, may affect returns to investors in the Fund.

In December 2015, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") proposed a new rule to regulate the use of derivatives by registered investment companies, such as the Fund. If the rule goes into effect, it could limit the ability of the Fund to invest or remain invested in derivatives. In addition, other future regulatory developments may impact the Fund's ability to invest or remain invested in certain derivatives. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. BlackRock cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented on the ability of the Fund to use swaps or any other financial derivative product, and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

#### *Risks Specific to Certain Derivatives Used by the Fund*

*Swaps* — Swap agreements are two-party contracts entered into for periods ranging from a few weeks to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) earned or realized on particular predetermined investments or instruments, which can be adjusted for an

interest factor. Swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom the Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay the Fund and the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement.

*Credit Default Swaps* — Credit default swaps may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not currently held by the Fund. The protection “buyer” may be obligated to pay the protection “seller” an up-front payment or a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract, provided generally that no credit event on a reference obligation has occurred. Credit default swaps involve special risks in addition to those mentioned above because they are difficult to value, are highly susceptible to liquidity and credit risk, and generally pay a return to the party that has paid the premium only in the event of an actual default by the issuer of the underlying obligation (as opposed to a credit downgrade or other indication of financial difficulty).

*Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts* — Forward foreign currency exchange transactions are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts do not eliminate fluctuations in the value of non-U.S. securities but rather allow the Fund to establish a fixed rate of exchange for a future point in time. This strategy can have the effect of reducing returns and minimizing opportunities for gain.

*Indexed and Inverse Securities* — Indexed and inverse securities provide a potential return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. The Fund’s return on these securities will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index. These securities are subject to leverage risk and correlation risk. Certain indexed and inverse securities have greater sensitivity to changes in interest rates or index levels than other securities, and the Fund’s investment in such instruments may decline significantly in value if interest rates or index levels move in a way Fund management does not anticipate.

*Futures* — Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are: (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) the possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser’s inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

*Options* — An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the purchaser) the right but not the obligation to buy (a “call option”) or sell (a “put option”) the underlying asset (or settle for cash in an amount based on an underlying asset, rate, or index) at a specified price (the “exercise price”) during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. When the Fund purchases an option, it may lose the total premium paid for it if the price of the underlying security or other assets decreased, remained the same or failed to increase to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a call option) or increased, remained the same or failed to decrease to a level at or beyond the exercise price (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by the Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. To the extent that the Fund writes or sells an option, if the decline or increase in the underlying asset is significantly below or above the exercise price of the written option, the Fund could experience a substantial loss.

*Commodity-Linked Derivatives* — The value of a commodity-linked derivative investment typically is based upon the price movements of a commodity, a commodity futures contract or commodity index, or some other readily measurable economic variable. The value of commodity-linked derivative instruments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, volatility of the underlying benchmark, changes in interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, livestock disease, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments. The value of commodity-linked derivatives will rise or fall in response to changes in the underlying commodity or related index. Investments in commodity-linked derivatives may be subject to greater volatility than non-derivative based investments. A highly liquid secondary market may not exist for certain commodity-linked derivatives, and there can be no assurance that one will develop.

Commodity-linked derivatives also may be subject to credit and interest rate risks that in general affect the values of fixed-income securities. Therefore, at maturity, the Fund may receive more or less principal than it originally invested. The Fund might receive interest payments that are more or less than the stated coupon interest payments.

In connection with the Fund’s direct and indirect investments in commodity-linked derivatives, the Fund will attempt to manage its counterparty exposure so as to limit its exposure to any one counterparty. However, due to the limited number of entities that may serve as counterparties (and which the Fund believes are creditworthy) at any one time the Fund may enter into swap agreements with a limited number of counterparties and may invest in commodity-linked notes issued by a limited number of issuers that will act as counterparties, which may increase the Fund’s exposure to counterparty credit risk. There can be no assurance that the Fund will be able to limit exposure to any one counterparty at all times.



**Emerging Markets Risk** — The risks of foreign investments are usually much greater for emerging markets. Investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative. Emerging markets may include those in countries considered emerging or developing by the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation or the United Nations. Emerging markets are riskier than more developed markets because they tend to develop unevenly and may never fully develop. They are more likely to experience hyperinflation and currency devaluations, which adversely affect returns to U.S. investors. In addition, many emerging markets have far lower trading volumes and less liquidity than developed markets. Since these markets are often small, they may be more likely to suffer sharp and frequent price changes or long-term price depression because of adverse publicity, investor perceptions or the actions of a few large investors. In addition, traditional measures of investment value used in the United States, such as price to earnings ratios, may not apply to certain small markets. Also, there may be less publicly available information about issuers in emerging markets than would be available about issuers in more developed capital markets, and such issuers may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those to which U.S. companies are subject.

Many emerging markets have histories of political instability and abrupt changes in policies. As a result, their governments are more likely to take actions that are hostile or detrimental to private enterprise or foreign investment than those of more developed countries, including expropriation of assets, confiscatory taxation, high rates of inflation or unfavorable diplomatic developments. In the past, governments of such nations have expropriated substantial amounts of private property, and most claims of the property owners have never been fully settled. There is no assurance that such expropriations will not reoccur. In such an event, it is possible that the Fund could lose the entire value of its investments in the affected market. Some countries have pervasiveness of corruption and crime that may hinder investments. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks, including the risk of war, and ethnic, religious and racial conflicts. In addition, governments in many emerging market countries participate to a significant degree in their economies and securities markets, which may impair investment and economic growth. National policies that may limit the Fund's investment opportunities include restrictions on investment in issuers or industries deemed sensitive to national interests.

Emerging markets may also have differing legal systems and the existence or possible imposition of exchange controls, custodial restrictions or other foreign or U.S. governmental laws or restrictions applicable to such investments. Sometimes, they may lack or be in the relatively early development of legal structures governing private and foreign investments and private property. Many emerging markets do not have income tax treaties with the United States, and as a result, investments by the Fund may be subject to higher withholding taxes in such countries. In addition, some countries with emerging markets may impose differential capital gains taxes on foreign investors.

Practices in relation to settlement of securities transactions in emerging markets involve higher risks than those in developed markets, in part because the Fund will need to use brokers and counterparties that are less well capitalized, and custody and registration of assets in some countries may be unreliable. The possibility of fraud, negligence, undue influence being exerted by the issuer or refusal to recognize ownership exists in some emerging markets, and, along with other factors, could result in ownership registration being completely lost. The Fund would absorb any loss resulting from such registration problems and may have no successful claim for compensation. In addition, communications between the United States and emerging market countries may be unreliable, increasing the risk of delayed settlements or losses of security certificates.

**Foreign Securities Risk** — Securities traded in foreign markets have often (though not always) performed differently from securities traded in the United States. However, such investments often involve special risks not present in U.S. investments that can increase the chances that the Fund will lose money. In particular, the Fund is subject to the risk that because there may be fewer investors on foreign exchanges and a smaller number of securities traded each day, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell securities on those exchanges. In addition, prices of foreign securities may go up and down more than prices of securities traded in the United States.

*Certain Risks of Holding Fund Assets Outside the United States* — The Fund generally holds its foreign securities and cash in foreign banks and securities depositories. Some foreign banks and securities depositories may be recently organized or new to the foreign custody business. In addition, there may be limited or no regulatory oversight of their operations. Also, the laws of certain countries limit the Fund's ability to recover its assets if a foreign bank, depository or issuer of a security, or any of their agents, goes bankrupt. In addition, it is often more expensive for the Fund to buy, sell and hold securities in certain foreign markets than in the United States. The increased expense of investing in foreign markets reduces the amount the Fund can earn on its investments and typically results in a higher operating expense ratio for the Fund than for investment companies invested only in the United States.

*Currency Risk* — Securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests may be denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. For this reason, changes in foreign currency exchange rates can affect the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Generally, when the U.S. dollar rises in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency loses value because the currency is worth fewer U.S. dollars. Conversely, when the U.S. dollar decreases in value against a foreign currency, a security denominated in that currency gains value because the currency is worth more

U.S. dollars. This risk, generally known as “currency risk,” means that a strong U.S. dollar will reduce returns for U.S. investors while a weak U.S. dollar will increase those returns.

*Foreign Economy Risk* — The economies of certain foreign markets may not compare favorably with the economy of the United States with respect to such issues as growth of gross national product, reinvestment of capital, resources and balance of payments position. Certain foreign economies may rely heavily on particular industries or foreign capital and are more vulnerable to diplomatic developments, the imposition of economic sanctions against a particular country or countries, changes in international trading patterns, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Investments in foreign markets may also be adversely affected by governmental actions such as the imposition of capital controls, nationalization of companies or industries, expropriation of assets or the imposition of punitive taxes. In addition, the governments of certain countries may prohibit or impose substantial restrictions on foreign investments in their capital markets or in certain industries. Any of these actions could severely affect securities prices or impair the Fund’s ability to purchase or sell foreign securities or transfer the Fund’s assets or income back into the United States, or otherwise adversely affect the Fund’s operations.

Other potential foreign market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on foreign government securities, difficulties in enforcing legal judgments in foreign courts and political and social instability. Diplomatic and political developments, including rapid and adverse political changes, social instability, regional conflicts, terrorism and war, could affect the economies, industries and securities and currency markets, and the value of the Fund’s investments, in non-U.S. countries. These factors are extremely difficult, if not impossible, to predict and take into account with respect to the Fund’s investments.

*Governmental Supervision and Regulation/Accounting Standards* — Many foreign governments do not supervise and regulate stock exchanges, brokers and the sale of securities to the same extent as such regulations exist in the United States. They also may not have laws to protect investors that are comparable to U.S. securities laws. For example, some foreign countries may have no laws or rules against insider trading. Insider trading occurs when a person buys or sells a company’s securities based on material non-public information about that company. In addition, some countries may have legal systems that may make it difficult for the Fund to vote proxies, exercise shareholder rights, and pursue legal remedies with respect to its foreign investments. Accounting standards in other countries are not necessarily the same as in the United States. If the accounting standards in another country do not require as much detail as U.S. accounting standards, it may be harder for Fund management to completely and accurately determine a company’s financial condition.

*Settlement Risk* — Settlement and clearance procedures in certain foreign markets differ significantly from those in the United States. Foreign settlement and clearance procedures and trade regulations also may involve certain risks (such as delays in payment for or delivery of securities) not typically associated with the settlement of U.S. investments. At times, settlements in certain foreign countries have not kept pace with the number of securities transactions. These problems may make it difficult for the Fund to carry out transactions. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a purchase of securities, it may miss attractive investment opportunities and certain of its assets may be uninvested with no return earned thereon for some period. If the Fund cannot settle or is delayed in settling a sale of securities, it may lose money if the value of the security then declines or, if it has contracted to sell the security to another party, the Fund could be liable for any losses incurred.

*European Economic Risk* — The European financial markets have recently experienced volatility and adverse trends due to concerns about economic downturns in, or rising government debt levels of, several European countries. These events may spread to other countries in Europe. These events may affect the value and liquidity of certain of the Fund’s investments.

Responses to the financial problems by European governments, central banks and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and others of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world. In addition, the United Kingdom has voted to withdraw from the European Union and one or more other countries may withdraw from the European Union and/or abandon the Euro, the common currency of the European Union. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far reaching.

**High Portfolio Turnover Risk** — The Fund may engage in active and frequent trading of its portfolio securities. High portfolio turnover (more than 100%) may result in increased transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of the securities and on reinvestment in other securities. The sale of Fund portfolio securities may result in the realization and/or distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains or losses as compared to a fund with less active trading policies. These effects of higher than normal portfolio turnover may adversely affect Fund performance. In addition, investment in mortgage dollar rolls and participation in TBA transactions may significantly increase the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate. A TBA transaction is a method of trading mortgage-backed securities where the buyer and seller agree upon general trade parameters such

as agency, settlement date, par amount, and price at the time the contract is entered into but the mortgage-backed securities are delivered in the future, generally 30 days later.

**Investment in Other Investment Companies Risk** — As with other investments, investments in other investment companies, including ETFs, are subject to market risk and, for non-index strategies, selection risk. In addition, if the Fund acquires shares of investment companies, including ETFs advised by BlackRock or other investment advisers, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including management and advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of the investment companies (including management and advisory fees). If the Fund acquires shares of one or more Underlying Funds, shareholders bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (excluding management and advisory fees attributable to those assets of the Fund invested in Underlying Funds) and, indirectly, the expenses of the Underlying Funds (including management and advisory fees). To the extent the Fund is held by an affiliated fund, the ability of the Fund itself to hold other investment companies may be limited.

Investing in an ETF will give the Fund exposure to the securities comprising the index on which the ETF is based. Shares of ETFs are traded on an exchange throughout a trading day, and bought and sold based on market values and not at the ETF's net asset value. For this reason, shares of an ETF could trade at either a premium or discount to its net asset value. However, the trading prices of index-based ETFs tend to closely track the actual net asset value of the ETF. The Fund will pay brokerage commissions in connection with the purchase and sale of shares of ETFs, in addition to a spread (i.e., the difference between what professional investors are willing to pay for ETF shares (the "bid" price) and the price at which they are willing to sell ETF shares (the "ask" price)).

**Junk Bonds Risk** — Although junk bonds generally pay higher rates of interest than investment grade bonds, junk bonds are high risk investments that are considered speculative and may cause income and principal losses for the Fund. The major risks of junk bond investments include:

- Junk bonds may be issued by less creditworthy issuers. Issuers of junk bonds may have a larger amount of outstanding debt relative to their assets than issuers of investment grade bonds. In the event of an issuer's bankruptcy, claims of other creditors may have priority over the claims of junk bond holders, leaving few or no assets available to repay junk bond holders.
- Prices of junk bonds are subject to extreme price fluctuations. Adverse changes in an issuer's industry and general economic conditions may have a greater impact on the prices of junk bonds than on other higher rated fixed-income securities.
- Issuers of junk bonds may be unable to meet their interest or principal payment obligations because of an economic downturn, specific issuer developments, or the unavailability of additional financing.
- Junk bonds frequently have redemption features that permit an issuer to repurchase the security from the Fund before it matures. If the issuer redeems junk bonds, the Fund may have to invest the proceeds in bonds with lower yields and may lose income.
- Junk bonds may be less liquid than higher rated fixed-income securities, even under normal economic conditions. There are fewer dealers in the junk bond market, and there may be significant differences in the prices quoted for junk bonds by the dealers. Because they are less liquid, judgment may play a greater role in valuing certain of the Fund's securities than is the case with securities trading in a more liquid market.
- The Fund may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting issuer.

The credit rating of a high yield security does not necessarily address its market value risk. Ratings and market value may change from time to time, positively or negatively, to reflect new developments regarding the issuer.

**Leverage Risk** — Some transactions may give rise to a form of economic leverage. These transactions may include, among others, derivatives, and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. As an open-end investment company registered with the SEC, the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act, the rules thereunder, and various SEC and SEC staff interpretive positions. In accordance with these laws, rules and positions, the Fund must "set aside" liquid assets (often referred to as "asset segregation"), or engage in other SEC- or staff-approved measures, to "cover" open positions with respect to certain kinds of instruments. The use of leverage may cause the Fund to liquidate portfolio positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations or to meet any required asset segregation requirements. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified when the Fund uses leverage.

**Liquidity Risk** — Liquidity risk exists when particular investments are difficult to purchase or sell. The Fund's investments in illiquid securities may reduce the returns of the Fund because it may be difficult to sell the illiquid securities at an advantageous time or price. To the extent that the Fund's principal investment strategies involve derivatives or securities with substantial market and/or credit risk, the Fund will tend to have the greatest exposure to liquidity risk. Liquidity risk may be the result of, among other things, the reduced number and capacity of traditional

market participants to make a market in fixed-income securities or the lack of an active market. Liquid investments may become illiquid or less liquid after purchase by the Fund, particularly during periods of market turmoil. Illiquid and relatively less liquid investments may be harder to value, especially in changing markets, and if the Fund is forced to sell these investments to meet redemption requests or for other cash needs, the Fund may suffer a loss. This may be magnified in a rising interest rate environment or other circumstances where investor redemptions from fixed-income mutual funds may be higher than normal. In addition, when there is illiquidity in the market for certain securities, the Fund, due to limitations on illiquid investments, may be subject to purchase and sale restrictions.

**Market Risk and Selection Risk** — Market risk is the risk that one or more markets in which the Fund invests will go down in value, including the possibility that the markets will go down sharply and unpredictably. Selection risk is the risk that the securities selected by Fund management will underperform the markets, the relevant indices or the securities selected by other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies. This means you may lose money.

**Mortgage- and Asset-Backed Securities Risks** — Mortgage-backed securities (residential and commercial) and asset-backed securities represent interests in “pools” of mortgages or other assets, including consumer loans or receivables held in trust. Although asset-backed and commercial mortgage-backed securities (“CMBS”) generally experience less prepayment than residential mortgage-backed securities, mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities, like traditional fixed-income securities, are subject to credit, interest rate, prepayment and extension risks.

Small movements in interest rates (both increases and decreases) may quickly and significantly reduce the value of certain mortgage-backed securities. The Fund’s investments in asset-backed securities are subject to risks similar to those associated with mortgage-related securities, as well as additional risks associated with the nature of the assets and the servicing of those assets. These securities also are subject to the risk of default on the underlying mortgage or assets, particularly during periods of economic downturn. Certain CMBS are issued in several classes with different levels of yield and credit protection. The Fund’s investments in CMBS with several classes may be in the lower classes that have greater risks than the higher classes, including greater interest rate, credit and prepayment risks.

Mortgage-backed securities may be either pass-through securities or collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”). Pass-through securities represent a right to receive principal and interest payments collected on a pool of mortgages, which are passed through to security holders. CMOs are created by dividing the principal and interest payments collected on a pool of mortgages into several revenue streams (tranches) with different priority rights to portions of the underlying mortgage payments. Certain CMO tranches may represent a right to receive interest only (“IOs”), principal only (“POs”) or an amount that remains after floating-rate tranches are paid (an inverse floater). These securities are frequently referred to as “mortgage derivatives” and may be extremely sensitive to changes in interest rates. Interest rates on inverse floaters, for example, vary inversely with a short-term floating rate (which may be reset periodically). Interest rates on inverse floaters will decrease when short-term rates increase, and will increase when short-term rates decrease. These securities have the effect of providing a degree of investment leverage. In response to changes in market interest rates or other market conditions, the value of an inverse floater may increase or decrease at a multiple of the increase or decrease in the value of the underlying securities. If the Fund invests in CMO tranches (including CMO tranches issued by government agencies) and interest rates move in a manner not anticipated by Fund management, it is possible that the Fund could lose all or substantially all of its investment. Certain mortgage-backed securities in which the Fund may invest may also provide a degree of investment leverage, which could cause the Fund to lose all or substantially all of its investment.

The mortgage market in the United States has experienced difficulties that may adversely affect the performance and market value of certain of the Fund’s mortgage-related investments. Delinquencies and losses on mortgage loans (including subprime and second-lien mortgage loans) generally have increased and may continue to increase, and a decline in or flattening of real-estate values (as has been experienced and may continue to be experienced in many housing markets) may exacerbate such delinquencies and losses. Also, a number of mortgage loan originators have experienced serious financial difficulties or bankruptcy. Reduced investor demand for mortgage loans and mortgage-related securities and increased investor yield requirements have caused limited liquidity in the secondary market for mortgage-related securities, which can adversely affect the market value of mortgage-related securities. It is possible that such limited liquidity in such secondary markets could continue or worsen.

Asset-backed securities entail certain risks not presented by mortgage-backed securities, including the risk that in certain states it may be difficult to perfect the liens securing the collateral backing certain asset-backed securities. In addition, certain asset-backed securities are based on loans that are unsecured, which means that there is no collateral to seize if the underlying borrower defaults.

**Municipal Securities Risk** — Municipal securities risks include the ability of the issuer to repay the obligation, the relative lack of information about certain issuers of municipal securities, and the possibility of future legislative changes which could affect the market for and value of municipal securities. These risks include:

*General Obligation Bonds Risk* — The full faith, credit and taxing power of the municipality that issues a general obligation bond secures payment of interest and repayment of principal. Timely payments depend on the issuer’s credit quality, ability to raise tax revenues and ability to maintain an adequate tax base.

**Revenue Bonds Risk** — Payments of interest and principal on revenue bonds are made only from the revenues generated by a particular facility, class of facilities or the proceeds of a special tax or other revenue source. These payments depend on the money earned by the particular facility or class of facilities, or the amount of revenues derived from another source.

**Private Activity Bonds Risk** — Municipalities and other public authorities issue private activity bonds to finance development of industrial facilities for use by a private enterprise. The private enterprise pays the principal and interest on the bond, and the issuer does not pledge its full faith, credit and taxing power for repayment. If the private enterprise defaults on its payments, the Fund may not receive any income or get its money back from the investment.

**Moral Obligation Bonds Risk** — Moral obligation bonds are generally issued by special purpose public authorities of a state or municipality. If the issuer is unable to meet its obligations, repayment of these bonds becomes a moral commitment, but not a legal obligation, of the state or municipality.

**Municipal Notes Risk** — Municipal notes are shorter term municipal debt obligations. They may provide interim financing in anticipation of, and are secured by, tax collection, bond sales or revenue receipts. If there is a shortfall in the anticipated proceeds, the notes may not be fully repaid and the Fund may lose money.

**Municipal Lease Obligations Risk** — In a municipal lease obligation, the issuer agrees to make payments when due on the lease obligation. The issuer will generally appropriate municipal funds for that purpose, but is not obligated to do so. Although the issuer does not pledge its unlimited taxing power for payment of the lease obligation, the lease obligation is secured by the leased property. However, if the issuer does not fulfill its payment obligation it may be difficult to sell the property and the proceeds of a sale may not cover the Fund's loss.

**Tax-Exempt Status Risk** — In making investments, the Fund and its investment manager will rely on the opinion of issuers' bond counsel and, in the case of derivative securities, sponsors' counsel, on the tax-exempt status of interest on municipal obligations and payments under tax-exempt derivative securities. Neither the Fund nor its investment manager will independently review the bases for those tax opinions. If any of those tax opinions are ultimately determined to be incorrect or if events occur after the security is acquired that impact the security's tax-exempt status, the Fund and its shareholders could be subject to substantial tax liabilities. The Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") has generally not ruled on the taxability of the securities. An assertion by the IRS that a portfolio security is not exempt from federal income tax (contrary to indications from the issuer) could affect the Fund's and its shareholders' income tax liability for the current or past years and could create liability for information reporting penalties. In addition, an IRS assertion of taxability may impair the liquidity and the fair market value of the securities.

**Preferred Securities Risk** — Preferred securities may pay fixed or adjustable rates of return. Preferred securities are subject to issuer-specific and market risks applicable generally to equity securities. In addition, a company's preferred securities generally pay dividends only after the company makes required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt. For this reason, the value of preferred securities will usually react more strongly than bonds and other debt to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Preferred securities of smaller companies may be more vulnerable to adverse developments than preferred stock of larger companies.

**Real Estate Related Securities Risk** — The main risk of real estate related securities is that the value of the underlying real estate may go down. Many factors may affect real estate values. These factors include both the general and local economies, the amount of new construction in a particular area, the laws and regulations (including zoning and tax laws) affecting real estate and the costs of owning, maintaining and improving real estate. The availability of mortgages and changes in interest rates may also affect real estate values. If the Fund's real estate related investments are concentrated in one geographic area or in one property type, the Fund will be particularly subject to the risks associated with that area or property type.

**Repurchase Agreements and Purchase and Sale Contracts Risk** — If the other party to a repurchase agreement or purchase and sale contract defaults on its obligation under the agreement, the Fund may suffer delays and incur costs or lose money in exercising its rights under the agreement. If the seller fails to repurchase the security in either situation and the market value of the security declines, the Fund may lose money.

**Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk** — Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund with an agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price, date and interest payment. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the other party may fail to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The Fund could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Fund, including the value of the investments made with cash collateral, is less than the value of securities. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences to the Fund.

**Short Sales Risk** — Because making short sales in securities that it does not own exposes the Fund to the risks associated with those securities, such short sales involve speculative exposure risk. The Fund will incur a loss as a result of a short sale if the price of the security increases between the date of the short sale and the date on which the Fund replaces the security sold short. The Fund will realize a gain if the security declines in price between those dates. As a result, if the Fund makes short sales in securities that increase in value, it will likely underperform similar

funds that do not make short sales in securities they do not own. There can be no assurance that the Fund will be able to close out a short sale position at any particular time or at an acceptable price. Although the Fund's gain is limited to the amount at which it sold a security short, its potential loss is limited only by the maximum attainable price of the security, less the price at which the security was sold. The Fund may also pay transaction costs and borrowing fees in connection with short sales.

**Small Cap and Emerging Growth Securities Risk** — Small cap or emerging growth companies may have limited product lines or markets. They may be less financially secure than larger, more established companies. They may depend on a small number of key personnel. If a product fails or there are other adverse developments, or if management changes, the Fund's investment in a small cap or emerging growth company may lose substantial value.

In addition, it is more difficult to get information on smaller companies, which tend to be less well known, have shorter operating histories, do not have significant ownership by large investors and are followed by relatively few securities analysts.

The securities of small cap and emerging growth companies generally trade in lower volumes and are subject to greater and more unpredictable price changes than larger cap securities or the market as a whole. In addition, small cap and emerging growth securities may be particularly sensitive to changes in interest rates, borrowing costs and earnings. Investing in small cap and emerging growth securities requires a longer term view.

**Subsidiary Risk** — By investing in the Subsidiary, the Fund is indirectly exposed to the risks associated with the Subsidiary's investments. The commodity-related instruments held by the Subsidiary are generally similar to those that are permitted to be held by the Fund and are subject to the same risks that apply to similar investments if held directly by the Fund (see "Commodities Related Investments Risk" above). There can be no assurance that the investment objective of the Subsidiary will be achieved. The Subsidiary is not registered under the Investment Company Act, and, unless otherwise noted in this prospectus, is not subject to all the investor protections of the Investment Company Act. However, the Fund wholly owns and controls the Subsidiary, and the Fund and the Subsidiary are both managed by BlackRock, making it unlikely that the Subsidiary will take action contrary to the interests of the Fund and its shareholders. The Board has oversight responsibility for the investment activities of the Fund, including its investment in the Subsidiary, and the Fund's role as sole shareholder of the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary is subject to the same investment restrictions and limitations, and follows the same compliance policies and procedures, as the Fund. Changes in the laws of the United States and/or the Cayman Islands could result in the inability of the Fund and/or the Subsidiary to operate as described in this prospectus and the SAI and could adversely affect the Fund.

In order to qualify as a regulated investment company, at least 90% of the Fund's gross income for the taxable year must be "qualifying income." The Fund anticipates treating the income and gain generated from investments in controlled foreign subsidiaries that invest in physical commodities and/or commodity-linked derivative instruments as "qualifying income" for regulated investment company qualification purposes. However, there can be no assurance that the IRS will agree with treating such income and gain as "qualifying income." If the IRS makes an adverse determination relating to the treatment of such income and gain, the Fund would likely need to change its investment strategies, which could adversely affect the Fund. The IRS has proposed regulations that, if finalized in current form, would specify that a subpart F income inclusion for U.S. federal income tax purposes will be treated as qualifying income only to the extent that the Subsidiary makes distributions out of its earnings and profits in the same taxable year.

**Treasury Obligations Risk** — Treasury obligations may differ in their interest rates, maturities, times of issuance and other characteristics. Obligations of U.S. Government agencies and authorities are supported by varying degrees of credit but generally are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. No assurance can be given that the U.S. Government will provide financial support to its agencies and authorities if it is not obligated by law to do so.

**U.S. Government Mortgage-Related Securities Risk** — There are a number of important differences among the agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. Government that issue mortgage-related securities and among the securities that they issue. Mortgage-related securities guaranteed by the Government National Mortgage Association ("GNMA" or "Ginnie Mae") are guaranteed as to the timely payment of principal and interest by GNMA and such guarantee is backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. GNMA securities also are supported by the right of GNMA to borrow funds from the U.S. Treasury to make payments under its guarantee. Mortgage-related securities issued by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac are solely the obligations of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, as the case may be, and are not backed by or entitled to the full faith and credit of the United States but are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the Treasury.

**Zero Coupon Securities Risk** — While interest payments are not made on such securities, holders of such securities are deemed to have received income ("phantom income") annually, notwithstanding that cash may not be received currently. The effect of owning instruments that do not make current interest payments is that a fixed yield is earned not only on the original investment but also, in effect, on all discount accretion during the life of the obligations. This implicit reinvestment of earnings at a fixed rate eliminates the risk of being unable to invest distributions at a rate as high as the implicit yield on the zero coupon bond, but at the same time eliminates the holder's ability to reinvest at higher rates in the future. For this reason, some of these securities may be subject to substantially greater price fluctuations during periods of changing market interest rates than are comparable securities that pay interest currently.

Longer term zero coupon bonds are more exposed to interest rate risk than shorter term zero coupon bonds. These investments benefit the issuer by mitigating its need for cash to meet debt service, but also require a higher rate of return to attract investors who are willing to defer receipt of cash.

The Fund may also be subject to certain other risks associated with its investments and investment strategies, including:

**Borrowing Risk** — Borrowing may exaggerate changes in the net asset value of Fund shares and in the return on the Fund's portfolio. Borrowing will cost the Fund interest expense and other fees. The costs of borrowing may reduce the Fund's return. Borrowing may cause the Fund to liquidate positions when it may not be advantageous to do so to satisfy its obligations.

**Equity Securities Risk** — Common and preferred stocks represent equity ownership in a company. Stock markets are volatile. The price of equity securities will fluctuate and can decline and reduce the value of a portfolio investing in equities. The value of equity securities purchased by the Fund could decline if the financial condition of the companies the Fund invests in declines or if overall market and economic conditions deteriorate. The value of equity securities may also decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or an increase in production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. In addition, the value may decline due to general market conditions that are not specifically related to a company or industry, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment.

**Expense Risk** — Fund expenses are subject to a variety of factors, including fluctuations in the Fund's net assets. Accordingly, actual expenses may be greater or less than those indicated. For example, to the extent that the Fund's net assets decrease due to market declines or redemptions, the Fund's expenses will increase as a percentage of Fund net assets. During periods of high market volatility, these increases in the Fund's expense ratio could be significant.

**Inflation-Indexed Bonds Risk** — The principal value of an investment is not protected or otherwise guaranteed by virtue of the Fund's investments in inflation-indexed bonds.

Inflation-indexed bonds are fixed-income securities whose principal value is periodically adjusted according to the rate of inflation. If the index measuring inflation falls, the principal value of inflation-indexed bonds will be adjusted downward, and consequently the interest payable on these securities (calculated with respect to a smaller principal amount) will be reduced. Repayment of the original bond principal upon maturity (as adjusted for inflation) is guaranteed in the case of U.S. Treasury inflation-indexed bonds. For bonds that do not provide a similar guarantee, the adjusted principal value of the bond repaid at maturity may be less than the original principal value.

The value of inflation-indexed bonds is expected to change in response to changes in real interest rates. Real interest rates are tied to the relationship between nominal interest rates and the rate of inflation. If nominal interest rates increase at a faster rate than inflation, real interest rates may rise, leading to a decrease in value of inflation-indexed bonds. Short-term increases in inflation may lead to a decline in value. Any increase in the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond will be considered taxable ordinary income, even though investors do not receive their principal until maturity.

Periodic adjustments for inflation to the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond may give rise to original issue discount, which will be includable in the Fund's gross income. Due to original issue discount, the Fund may be required to make annual distributions to shareholders that exceed the cash received, which may cause the Fund to liquidate certain investments when it is not advantageous to do so. Also, if the principal value of an inflation-indexed bond is adjusted downward due to deflation, amounts previously distributed in the taxable year may be characterized in some circumstances as a return of capital.

**REIT Investment Risk** — In addition to the risks facing real estate related securities, such as a decline in property values due to increasing vacancies, a decline in rents resulting from unanticipated economic, legal or technological developments or a decline in the price of securities of real estate companies due to a failure of borrowers to pay their loans or poor management, investments in REITs involve unique risks. REITs may have limited financial resources, may trade less frequently and in limited volume and may be more volatile than other securities.

**U.S. Companies that Generate Revenue Abroad Risk** — Many U.S. companies in which the Fund may invest generate significant revenues and earnings from abroad. As a result, these companies and the prices of their securities may be affected by weaknesses in global and regional economies and the relative value of foreign currencies to the U.S. dollar. These factors, taken as a whole, could adversely affect the price of Fund shares.

**Valuation Risk** — The price the Fund could receive upon the sale of any particular portfolio investment may differ from the Fund's valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair valuation methodology or a price provided by an independent pricing service. As a result, the price received upon the sale of an investment may be less than the value ascribed by the Fund, and the Fund could realize a greater than expected loss or lesser than expected gain upon the sale of the investment. Pricing services that value

fixed-income securities generally utilize a range of market-based and security-specific inputs and assumptions, as well as considerations about general market conditions, to establish a price. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of an institutional round lot size, but may be held or transactions may be conducted in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots often trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. The Fund's ability to value its investments may also be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third-party service providers.

## **Investments in a Particular Geographic Region or Country**

**Asia-Pacific Countries** — In addition to the risks of investing in non-U.S. securities and the risks of investing in emerging markets, the developing market Asia-Pacific countries are subject to certain additional or specific risks. In many of these markets, there is a high concentration of market capitalization and trading volume in a small number of issuers representing a limited number of industries, as well as a high concentration of investors and financial intermediaries. Many of these markets also may be affected by developments with respect to more established markets in the region such as in Japan and Hong Kong. Brokers in developing market Asia-Pacific countries typically are fewer in number and less well capitalized than brokers in the United States.

Many of the developing market Asia-Pacific countries may be subject to a greater degree of economic, political and social instability than is the case in the United States and Western European countries. Such instability may result from, among other things: (i) authoritarian governments or military involvement in political and economic decision-making, including changes in government through extra-constitutional means; (ii) popular unrest associated with demands for improved political, economic and social conditions; (iii) internal insurgencies; (iv) hostile relations with neighboring countries; and (v) ethnic, religious and racial disaffection. In addition, the governments of many of such countries, such as Indonesia, have a substantial role in regulating and supervising the economy.

Another risk common to most such countries is that the economy is heavily export oriented and, accordingly, is dependent upon international trade. The existence of overburdened infrastructure and obsolete financial systems also presents risks in certain countries, as do environmental problems. Certain economies also depend to a significant degree upon exports of primary commodities and, therefore, are vulnerable to changes in commodity prices that, in turn, may be affected by a variety of factors.

The rights of investors in developing market Asia-Pacific companies may be more limited than those of shareholders of U.S. corporations. It may be difficult or impossible to obtain and/or enforce a judgment in a developing market Asia-Pacific country.

Some developing Asia-Pacific countries prohibit or impose substantial restrictions on investments in their capital markets, particularly their equity markets, by foreign entities. For example, certain countries may require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons or limit the amount of investment by foreign persons in a particular company.

**Europe** — Any adverse developments in connection with the ongoing development of the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) could potentially destabilize the EMU and/or could adversely affect the Fund's European investments.

**Japan** — There are special risks associated with investments in Japan. Because the Fund invests in Japan, the value of the Fund's shares may vary widely in response to political and economic factors affecting companies in Japan. Political, social or economic disruptions in Japan or in other countries in the region may adversely affect the values of Japanese securities and thus the Fund's holdings. Additionally, since securities in Japan are denominated and quoted in yen, the value of the Fund's Japanese securities as measured in U.S. dollars may be affected by fluctuations in the value of the Japanese yen relative to the U.S. dollar. Japanese securities are also subject to the more general risks associated with foreign securities, which are discussed above.

**Latin America** — The economies of Latin American countries have in the past experienced considerable difficulties, including high inflation rates and high interest rates. The emergence of the Latin American economies and securities markets will require continued economic and fiscal discipline that has been lacking at times in the past, as well as stable political and social conditions. International economic conditions, particularly those in the United States, as well as world prices for oil and other commodities may also influence the development of the Latin American economies.

Some Latin American currencies have experienced steady devaluations relative to the U.S. dollar and certain Latin American countries have had to make major adjustments in their currencies from time to time. In addition, governments of many Latin American countries have exercised and continue to exercise substantial influence over many aspects of the private sector. Governmental actions in the future could have a significant effect on economic conditions in Latin American countries, which could affect the companies in which the Fund invests and, therefore, the value of Fund shares. As noted, in the past, many Latin American countries have experienced substantial, and in some periods extremely high, rates of inflation for many years. For companies that keep accounting records in the local currency, inflation accounting rules in some Latin American countries require, for both tax and accounting purposes, that certain assets and liabilities be restated on the company's balance sheet in order to express items in terms of currency of constant purchasing power. Inflation accounting may indirectly generate losses or profits for certain Latin



American companies. Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had, and could, in the future, have very negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain Latin American countries.

Substantial limitations may exist in certain countries with respect to the Fund's ability to repatriate investment income, capital or the proceeds of sales of securities. The Fund could be adversely affected by delays in, or a refusal to grant, any required governmental approval for repatriation of capital, as well as by the application to the Fund of any restrictions on investments.

Certain Latin American countries have entered into regional trade agreements that are designed to, among other things, reduce barriers between countries, increase competition among companies and reduce government subsidies in certain industries. No assurance can be given that these changes will be successful in the long-term, or that these changes will result in the economic stability intended. There is a possibility that these trade arrangements will not be fully implemented, or will be partially or completely unwound. It is also possible that a significant participant could choose to abandon a trade agreement, which could diminish its credibility and influence. Any of these occurrences could have adverse effects on the markets of both participating and non-participating countries, including sharp appreciation or depreciation of participants' national currencies and a significant increase in exchange rate volatility, a resurgence in economic protectionism, an undermining of confidence in the Latin American markets, an undermining of Latin American economic stability, the collapse or slowdown of the drive towards Latin American economic unity, and/or reversion of the attempts to lower government debt and inflation rates that were introduced in anticipation of such trade agreements. Such developments could have an adverse impact on the Fund's investments in Latin America generally or in specific countries participating in such trade agreements.

Other Latin American market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on sovereign debt, difficulties in enforcing favorable legal judgments in local courts and political and social instability. Legal remedies available to investors in certain Latin American countries may be less extensive than those available to investors in the United States or other foreign countries.

**Russia** — Because of the recent formation of the Russian securities markets, the underdeveloped state of Russia's banking and telecommunication system and the legal and regulatory framework in Russia, settlement, clearing and registration of securities transactions are subject to additional risks. Prior to 2013, there was no central registration system for equity share registration in Russia and registration was carried out either by the issuers themselves or by registrars located throughout Russia. These registrars may not have been subject to effective state supervision or licensed with any governmental entity. In 2013, Russia established the National Settlement Depository ("NSD") as a recognized central securities depository, and title to Russian equities is now based on the records of the NSD and not on the records of the local registrars. The implementation of the NSD is generally expected to decrease the risk of loss in connection with recording and transferring title to securities; however, loss may still occur. Additionally, issuers and registrars remain prominent in the validation and approval of documentation requirements for corporate action processing in Russia, and there remain inconsistent market standards in the Russian market with respect to the completion and submission of corporate action elections. To the extent that a Fund suffers a loss relating to title or corporate actions relating to its portfolio securities, it may be difficult for the Fund to enforce its rights or otherwise remedy the loss. In addition, Russia also may attempt to assert its influence in the region through economic or even military measures, as it did with Georgia in the summer of 2008 and the Ukraine in 2014. Such measures may have an adverse effect on the Russian economy, which may, in turn, negatively impact the Fund.

The United States and the European Union have imposed economic sanctions on certain Russian individuals and a financial institution. The United States or the European Union could also institute broader sanctions on Russia. These sanctions, or even the threat of further sanctions, may result in the decline of the value and liquidity of Russian securities, a weakening of the ruble or other adverse consequences to the Russian economy. These sanctions could also result in the immediate freeze of Russian securities, impairing the ability of a Fund to buy, sell, receive or deliver those securities. Sanctions could also result in Russia taking counter measures or retaliatory actions which may further impair the value and liquidity of Russian securities.

## **Investments in a Particular Market Segment**

**Energy and Natural Resources Risk** — The Fund's investments in energy and natural resources companies are especially affected by variations in the commodities markets (that may be due to market events, regulatory developments or other factors that the Fund cannot control) and these companies may lack the resources and the broad business lines to weather hard times. Energy companies can be significantly affected by the supply of and demand for specific products and services, the supply of and demand for oil and gas, the price of oil and gas, exploration and production spending, government regulation, world events and economic conditions. Natural resources companies can be significantly affected by events relating to international political developments, energy conservation, the success of exploration projects, commodity prices, and tax and government regulations.

**Financial Services Industry Risk** — When interest rates go up, the value of securities issued by many types of financial services companies generally goes down. In many countries, financial services and the companies that provide them are regulated by governmental entities, which can increase costs for new services or products and make

it difficult to pass increased costs on to consumers. In certain areas, deregulation of financial services companies has resulted in increased competition and reduced profitability for certain companies. The profitability of many types of financial services companies may be adversely affected in certain market cycles, including periods of rising interest rates, which may restrict the availability and increase the cost of capital, and declining economic conditions, which may cause credit losses due to financial difficulties of borrowers. Because many types of financial services companies are vulnerable to these economic cycles, the Fund's investments may lose value during such periods.

**Health Sciences and Healthcare Companies Risk** — The Fund's investments in health sciences companies are subject to a number of risks, including the adverse impact of legislative actions and government regulations. These actions and regulations can affect the approval process for patents, medical devices and drugs, the funding of research and medical care programs, and the operation and licensing of facilities and personnel. The goods and services of health sciences companies are subject to risks of rapid technological change and obsolescence, product liability litigation, and intense price and other competitive pressures.

**Science and Technology Risk** — The Fund's investments in science and technology companies exposes the Fund to special risks. For example, rapid advances in science and technology might cause existing products to become obsolete, and the Fund's returns could suffer to the extent it holds an affected company's shares. Companies in a number of science and technology industries are also subject to more government regulations and approval processes than many other industries. This fact may affect a company's overall profitability and cause its stock price to be more volatile. Additionally, science and technology companies are dependent upon consumer and business acceptance as new technologies evolve.

**Utilities and Telecommunications Risk** — When interest rates go up, the value of securities issued by utilities companies, such as electric, water and gas companies, and telecommunications companies historically has gone down. Although the average dividend yield of utilities and telecommunications industry stocks has been higher than those of other companies, the total return of utilities and telecommunications securities has historically underperformed those of industrial companies. In most countries and localities, the utilities and telecommunications industry is regulated by governmental entities, which can increase costs and delays for new projects and make it difficult to pass increased costs on to consumers. In certain areas, deregulation of utilities and telecommunications companies has resulted in increased competition and reduced profitability for certain companies, and increased the risk that a particular company will become bankrupt or fail completely. Reduced profitability, as well as new uses for or additional need of funds (such as for expansion, operations or stock buybacks), could result in reduced dividend payout rates for utilities and telecommunications companies. In addition, utilities and telecommunications companies face the risk of increases in the cost and reduced availability of fuel (such as oil, coal, natural gas or nuclear energy) and potentially high interest costs for borrowing to finance new projects.

# Account Information

## How to Choose the Share Class that Best Suits Your Needs

The Fund currently offers multiple share classes (Investor A, Investor C and Institutional Shares in this prospectus), each with its own sales charge and expense structure, allowing you to invest in the way that best suits your needs. Each share class represents an ownership interest in the same investment portfolio. When you choose your class of shares, you should consider the size of your investment and how long you plan to hold your shares. Either your financial professional or your selected securities dealer, broker, investment adviser, service provider or industry professional (including BlackRock, The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (“PNC”) and their respective affiliates) (each a “Financial Intermediary”) can help you determine which share class is best suited to your personal financial goals. Investor A Shares and Investor C Shares are sometimes referred to herein collectively as “Investor Shares.”

For example, if you select Institutional Shares, you will not pay any sales charge. However, only certain investors may buy Institutional Shares. If you select Investor A Shares, you generally pay a sales charge at the time of purchase and an ongoing service fee of 0.25% per year. You may be eligible for a sales charge reduction or waiver.

If you select Investor C Shares, you will invest the full amount of your purchase price, but you will be subject to a distribution fee of 0.75% per year and a service fee of 0.25% per year under a plan adopted pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act. Because these fees are paid out of the Fund’s assets on an ongoing basis, over time these fees increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges. In addition, you may be subject to a deferred sales charge when you sell Investor C Shares within one year. Classes with lower expenses will have higher net asset values and dividends relative to other share classes.

The Fund’s shares are distributed by BlackRock Investments, LLC (the “Distributor”), an affiliate of BlackRock.

The table below summarizes key features of each of the share classes of the Fund.

### Share Classes at a Glance<sup>1</sup>

|                     | Investor A  | Investor C <sup>2,3</sup>                             | Institutional  |
|---------------------|---|---|--|
| <b>Availability</b> | Generally available through Financial Intermediaries. | Generally available through Financial Intermediaries. | Limited to certain investors, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals and “Institutional Investors,” which include, but are not limited to, endowments, foundations, family offices, local, city, and state governmental institutions, corporations and insurance company separate accounts, who may purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Distributor to purchase such shares.</li> <li>• Employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs), state sponsored 529 college savings plans, collective trust funds, investment companies or other pooled investment vehicles, unaffiliated thrifts and unaffiliated banks and trust companies, each of which may purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Distributor to purchase such shares.</li> <li>• Employees, officers and directors/trustees of BlackRock or its affiliates.</li> <li>• Participants in certain programs sponsored by BlackRock or its affiliates or other Financial Intermediaries.</li> </ul> |

## Share Classes at a Glance<sup>1</sup>

|   | Investor A  | Investor C <sup>2,3</sup>   | Institutional   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Minimum Investment</b>                     | \$1,000 for all accounts except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$250 for certain fee-based programs.</li> <li>• \$100 for certain employer-sponsored retirement plans.</li> <li>• \$50, if establishing an Automatic Investment Plan (“AIP”).</li> </ul> | \$1,000 for all accounts except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$250 for certain fee-based programs.</li> <li>• \$100 for certain employer-sponsored retirement plans.</li> <li>• \$50, if establishing an AIP.</li> </ul> | There is no investment minimum for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs), state sponsored 529 college savings plans, collective trust funds, investment companies or other pooled investment vehicles, unaffiliated thrifts and unaffiliated banks and trust companies.</li> <li>• Employees, officers and directors/trustees of BlackRock or its affiliates.</li> </ul> \$2 million for individuals and Institutional Investors.<br>\$1,000 for investors of Financial Intermediaries that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) charge such investors a fee for advisory, investment consulting, or similar services or</li> <li>(ii) have entered into an agreement with the Distributor to offer Institutional Shares through a no-load program or investment platform.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Initial Sales Charge?</b>                  | Yes. Payable at time of purchase. Lower sales charges are available for larger investments.   | No. Entire purchase price is invested in shares of the Fund.  | No. Entire purchase price is invested in shares of the Fund.  |
| <b>Deferred Sales Charge?</b>                 | No. (May be charged for purchases of \$500,000 or more that are redeemed within 18 months).   | Yes. Payable if you redeem within one year of purchase.   | No.   |
| <b>Distribution and Service (12b-1) Fees?</b> | No Distribution Fee.<br>0.25% Annual Service Fee.   | 0.75% Annual Distribution Fee.<br>0.25% Annual Service Fee.   | No.   |
| <b>Redemption Fees?</b>                       | No.   | No.   | No.   |
| <b>Conversion to Investor A Shares?</b>       | N/A   | No.   | No.   |
| <b>Advantage</b>                              | Makes sense for investors who are eligible to have the sales charge reduced or eliminated or who have a long-term investment horizon because there are no ongoing distribution fees.  | No up-front sales charge so you start off owning more shares. These shares may make sense for investors who have a shorter investment horizon relative to Investor A Shares.  | No up-front sales charge so you start off owning more shares. No distribution or service fees.  |
| <b>Disadvantage</b>                           | You pay a sales charge up-front, and therefore you start off owning fewer shares.   | You pay ongoing distribution fees each year you own Investor C Shares, which means that over the long term you can expect higher total fees per share than Investor A Shares and, as a result, lower total performance.               | Limited availability.   |

<sup>1</sup> Please see “Details About the Share Classes” for more information about each share class.

<sup>2</sup> If you establish a new account directly with the Fund and do not have a Financial Intermediary associated with your account, you may only invest in Investor A Shares. Applications without a Financial Intermediary that select Investor C Shares will not be accepted.

<sup>3</sup> The Fund will not accept a purchase order of \$500,000 or more for Investor C Shares. Your Financial Intermediary may set a lower maximum for Investor C Shares.

The following pages will cover the additional details of each share class, including the Institutional Shares requirements, the sales charge table for Investor A Shares, reduced sales charge information, Investor C Share CDSC information, and sales charge waivers.

The availability of certain sales charge waivers and reductions will depend on whether you purchase your shares directly from the Fund or through a Financial Intermediary. Financial Intermediaries may have different policies and procedures regarding the availability of front-end sales charge waivers or deferred sales charge waivers, which are discussed below. In all instances, it is your responsibility to notify the Fund or your Financial Intermediary at the time of purchase of any relationship or other facts qualifying you for sales charge waivers or reductions. More information about existing sales charge reductions and waivers is available free of charge in a clear and prominent format via hyperlink at [www.blackrock.com](http://www.blackrock.com) and in the SAI, which is available on the website or on request.

**For waivers and discounts not available through a particular Financial Intermediary, shareholders will have to purchase Fund shares directly from the Fund or through another Financial Intermediary to receive these waivers or reductions. Please see the “Intermediary-Defined Sales Charge Waiver Policies” section to determine any sales charge waivers and reductions that may be available to you through your Financial Intermediary.**

## Details About the Share Classes

### Investor A Shares — Initial Sales Charge Option

The following table shows the front-end sales charges that you may pay if you buy Investor A Shares. The offering price for Investor A Shares includes any front-end sales charge. The front-end sales charge expressed as a percentage of the offering price may be higher or lower than the charge described below due to rounding. Similarly, any contingent deferred sales charge paid upon certain redemptions of Investor A Shares expressed as a percentage of the applicable redemption amount may be higher or lower than the charge described below due to rounding. You may qualify for a reduced front-end sales charge. Purchases of Investor A Shares at certain fixed dollar levels, known as “breakpoints,” cause a reduction in the front-end sales charge. Once you achieve a breakpoint, you pay that sales charge on your entire purchase amount (and not just the portion above the breakpoint). If you select Investor A Shares, you will pay a sales charge at the time of purchase as shown in the following table.

| Your Investment                   | Sales Charge as a % of Offering Price | Sales Charge as a % of Your Investment <sup>1</sup> | Dealer Compensation as a % of Offering Price |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Less than \$25,000                | 4.00%                                 | 4.17%   | 3.75%  |
| \$25,000 but less than \$100,000  | 3.75%                                 | 3.90%   | 3.50%  |
| \$100,000 but less than \$250,000 | 3.50%                                 | 3.63%   | 3.25%  |
| \$250,000 but less than \$500,000 | 2.50%                                 | 2.56%   | 2.25%  |
| \$500,000 and over <sup>2</sup>   | 0.00%                                 | 0.00%   | — <sup>2</sup>                               |

<sup>1</sup> Rounded to the nearest one-hundredth percent.

<sup>2</sup> If you invest \$500,000 or more in Investor A Shares, you will not pay an initial sales charge. In that case, BlackRock compensates the Financial Intermediary from its own resources. However, if you redeem your shares within 18 months after purchase, you may be charged a deferred sales charge of 0.75% of the lesser of the original cost of the shares being redeemed or your redemption proceeds. Such deferred sales charge may be waived in connection with certain fee-based programs.

No initial sales charge applies to Investor A Shares that you buy through reinvestment of Fund dividends or capital gains.

### Sales Charges Reduced or Eliminated for Investor A Shares

There are several ways in which the sales charge can be reduced or eliminated. Purchases of Investor A Shares at certain fixed dollar levels, known as “breakpoints,” cause a reduction in the front-end sales charge (as described above in the “Investor A Shares — Initial Sales Charge Option” section). Additionally, the front-end sales charge can be reduced or eliminated through one or a combination of the following: a Letter of Intent, the right of accumulation, the reinstatement privilege (described under “Account Services and Privileges”), or a waiver of the sales charge (described below).

Reductions or eliminations through a Letter of Intent or right of accumulation will apply to the value of all qualifying holdings in shares of mutual funds sponsored and advised by BlackRock or its affiliates (“BlackRock Funds”) owned by (a) the investor, or (b) the investor’s spouse and any children and a trust, custodial account or fiduciary account for the benefit of any such individuals. For this purpose, the value of an investor’s holdings means the offering price of the newly purchased shares (including any applicable sales charge) plus the current value (including any sales charges paid) of all other shares the investor already holds taken together.

See the “Intermediary-Defined Sales Charge Waiver Policies” section for sales charge reductions and waivers that may be available to customers of certain Financial Intermediaries.

**Qualifying Holdings** — Investor Shares, Institutional Shares (in most BlackRock Funds) and investments in the BlackRock CollegeAdvantage 529 Program

Qualifying Holdings may include shares held in accounts held at a Financial Intermediary, including personal accounts, certain retirement accounts, UGMA/UTMA accounts, Joint Tenancy accounts, trust accounts and Transfer on Death accounts, as well as shares purchased by a trust of which the investor is a beneficiary. For purposes of the Letter of Intent and right of accumulation, the investor may not combine with the investor's other holdings shares held in pension, profit sharing or other employer-sponsored retirement plans if those shares are held in the name of a nominee or custodian.

In order to receive a reduced sales charge, at the time an investor purchases shares of the Fund, the investor should inform the Financial Intermediary and/or BlackRock Funds of any other shares of the Fund or any other BlackRock Fund that qualify for a reduced sales charge. Failure by the investor to notify the Financial Intermediary or BlackRock Funds may result in the investor not receiving the sales charge reduction to which the investor is otherwise entitled.

The Financial Intermediary or BlackRock Funds may request documentation — including account statements and records of the original cost of the shares owned by the investor, the investor's spouse and/or children showing that the investor qualifies for a reduced sales charge. The investor should retain these records because — depending on where an account is held or the type of account — the Fund and/or the Financial Intermediary or BlackRock Funds may not be able to maintain this information.

For more information, see the SAI or contact your Financial Intermediary.

### **Letter of Intent**

An investor may qualify for a reduced front-end sales charge immediately by signing a "Letter of Intent" stating the investor's intention to buy a specified amount of Investor A, Investor C and/or Institutional Shares and/or make an investment through the BlackRock CollegeAdvantage 529 Program in one or more BlackRock Funds within the next 13 months that would, if bought all at once, qualify the investor for a reduced sales charge. The initial investment must meet the minimum initial purchase requirement. The 13-month Letter of Intent period commences on the day that the Letter of Intent is received by the Fund.

The market value of current holdings in the BlackRock Funds (including Investor A, Investor B, Investor C and Institutional Shares and the BlackRock CollegeAdvantage 529 Program Class A and Class C Units) as of the date of commencement that are eligible under the Right of Accumulation may be counted towards the sales charge reduction.

The investor must notify the Fund of (i) any current holdings in the BlackRock Funds and/or the BlackRock CollegeAdvantage 529 Program that should be counted towards the sales charge reduction and (ii) any subsequent purchases that should be counted towards the Letter of Intent.

During the term of the Letter of Intent, the Fund will hold Investor A Shares representing up to 5% of the indicated amount in an escrow account for payment of a higher sales load if the full amount indicated in the Letter of Intent is not purchased. If the full amount indicated is not purchased within the 13-month period, and the investor does not pay the higher sales load within 20 days, the Fund will redeem enough of the Investor A Shares held in escrow to pay the difference.

### **Right of Accumulation**

Investors have a "right of accumulation" under which the current value of an investor's existing Investor A and A1, Investor B and B1, Investor C, C1, C2 and C3, and Institutional Shares in most BlackRock Funds and the investment in the BlackRock CollegeAdvantage 529 Program by the investor or by or on behalf of the investor's spouse and children may be combined with the amount of the current purchase in determining whether an investor qualifies for a breakpoint and a reduced front-end sales charge. Financial Intermediaries may value current holdings of their customers differently for purposes of determining whether an investor qualifies for a breakpoint and a reduced front-end sales charge, although customers of the same Financial Intermediary will be treated similarly. In order to use this right, the investor must alert BlackRock to the existence of any previously purchased shares.

### **Other Front-End Sales Charge Waivers**

The following persons may also buy Investor A Shares without paying a sales charge:

- Certain employer-sponsored retirement plans. For purposes of this waiver, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs;
- Rollovers of current investments through certain employer-sponsored retirement plans provided the shares are transferred to the same BlackRock Fund as either a direct rollover, or subsequent to distribution, the rolled-over proceeds are contributed to a BlackRock IRA through an account directly with the Fund; or purchases by IRA programs that are sponsored by Financial Intermediary firms provided the Financial Intermediary firm has entered into a Class A Net Asset Value agreement with respect to such program with the Distributor;
- Insurance company separate accounts;

- Registered investment advisers, trust companies and bank trust departments exercising discretionary investment authority with respect to amounts to be invested in the Fund;
- Persons participating in a fee-based program (such as a wrap account) under which they pay advisory fees to a broker-dealer or other financial institution;
- Financial Intermediaries who have entered into an agreement with the Distributor and have been approved by the Distributor to offer Fund shares to self-directed investment brokerage accounts that may or may not charge a transaction fee;
- Persons associated with the Fund, the Fund's manager, the Fund's sub-adviser, transfer agent, Distributor, fund accounting agents, Barclays PLC ("Barclays") and their respective affiliates (to the extent permitted by these firms) including: (a) officers, directors and partners; (b) employees and retirees; (c) employees of firms who have entered into selling agreements to distribute shares of BlackRock Funds; (d) immediate family members of such persons; and (e) any trust, pension, profit-sharing or other benefit plan for any of the persons set forth in (a) through (d); and
- State sponsored 529 college savings plans.

See the "Intermediary-Defined Sales Charge Waiver Policies" section for sales charge reductions and waivers that may be available to customers of certain Financial Intermediaries. The availability of Investor A Shares sales charge waivers may depend on the policies, procedures and trading platforms of your Financial Intermediary; consult your financial adviser.

### **Investor A Shares at Net Asset Value**

If you invest \$500,000 or more in Investor A Shares, you will not pay any initial sales charge. However, if you redeem your Investor A Shares within 18 months after purchase, you may be charged a deferred sales charge of 0.75% of the lesser of the original cost of the shares being redeemed or your redemption proceeds. For a discussion on waivers, see "Contingent Deferred Sales Charge Waivers."

If you are eligible to buy both Investor A and Institutional Shares, you should buy Institutional Shares since Investor A Shares are subject to a front end sales charge and an annual 0.25% service fee, while Institutional Shares are not. The Distributor normally pays the annual Investor A Shares service fee to dealers as a shareholder servicing fee on a monthly basis.

### **Investor C Shares — Deferred Sales Charge Option**

If you select Investor C Shares, you do not pay an initial sales charge at the time of purchase. However, if you redeem your Investor C Shares within one year after purchase, you may be required to pay a deferred sales charge of 1.00%. The charge will apply to the lesser of the original cost of shares being redeemed or the proceeds of your redemption. When you redeem Investor C Shares, the redemption order is processed so that the lowest deferred sales charge is charged. Investor C Shares that are not subject to the deferred sales charge are redeemed first. In addition, you will not be charged a deferred sales charge when you redeem shares that you acquire through reinvestment of Fund dividends or capital gains. Any CDSC paid on the redemptions of Investor C Shares expressed as a percentage of the applicable redemption amount may be higher or lower than the charge described due to rounding.

Investor C Shares do not offer a conversion privilege.

You will also pay distribution fees of 0.75% and service fees of 0.25% for Investor C Shares each year. Because these fees are paid out of the Fund's assets on an ongoing basis, over time these fees increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges. The Distributor uses the money that it receives from the deferred sales charges and the distribution fees to cover the costs of marketing, advertising and compensating the Financial Intermediary who assists you in purchasing Fund shares.

The Distributor currently pays dealers a sales concession of 1.00% of the purchase price of Investor C Shares from its own resources at the time of sale. The Distributor pays the annual Investor C Shares distribution fee and the annual Investor C Shares service fee as an ongoing concession and as a shareholder servicing fee, respectively, to dealers for Investor C Shares held for over a year and normally retains the Investor C Shares distribution fee and service fee during the first year after purchase. For certain employer-sponsored retirement plans, the Distributor will pay the full Investor C Shares distribution fee and service fee to dealers beginning in the first year after purchase in lieu of paying the sales concession. This may depend on the policies, procedures and trading platforms of your Financial Intermediary; consult your financial adviser.

### **Contingent Deferred Sales Charge Waivers**

The deferred sales charge relating to Investor A and Investor C Shares may be reduced or waived in certain circumstances, such as:

- Redemptions of shares purchased through certain employer-sponsored retirement plans and rollovers of current investments in the Fund through such plans;

- Exchanges pursuant to the exchange privilege, as described in “How to Buy, Sell, Exchange and Transfer Shares — How to Exchange Shares or Transfer Your Account”;
- Redemptions made in connection with minimum required distributions from IRA or 403(b)(7) accounts due to the shareholder reaching the age of 70½;
- Certain post-retirement withdrawals from an IRA or other retirement plan if you are over 59½ years old and you purchased your shares prior to October 2, 2006;
- Redemptions made with respect to certain retirement plans sponsored by the Fund, BlackRock or an affiliate;
- Redemptions resulting from shareholder death as long as the waiver request is made within one year of death or, if later, reasonably promptly following completion of probate (including in connection with the distribution of account assets to a beneficiary of the decedent);
- Withdrawals resulting from shareholder disability (as defined in the Internal Revenue Code) as long as the disability arose subsequent to the purchase of the shares;
- Involuntary redemptions made of shares in accounts with low balances;
- Certain redemptions made through the Systematic Withdrawal Plan offered by the Fund, BlackRock or an affiliate;
- Redemptions related to the payment of BNY Mellon Investment Servicing Trust Company custodial IRA fees; and
- Redemptions when a shareholder can demonstrate hardship, in the absolute discretion of the Fund.

See the “Intermediary-Defined Sales Charge Waiver Policies” section for sales charge reductions and waivers that may be available to customers of certain Financial Intermediaries. More information about existing sales charge reductions and waivers is available free of charge in a clear and prominent format via hyperlink at [www.blackrock.com](http://www.blackrock.com) and in the SAI, which is available on the website or on request.

### **Institutional Shares**

Institutional Shares are not subject to any sales charge. Only certain investors are eligible to buy Institutional Shares. Your Financial Intermediary can help you determine whether you are eligible to buy Institutional Shares. The Fund may permit a lower initial investment for certain investors if their purchase, combined with purchases by other investors received together by the Fund, meets the minimum investment requirement.

Eligible Institutional investors include the following:

- Individuals and “Institutional Investors” with a minimum initial investment of \$2 million who may purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Distributor to purchase such shares;
- Investors of Financial Intermediaries that: (i) charge such investors a fee for advisory, investment consulting, or similar services or (ii) have entered into an agreement with the Distributor to offer Institutional Shares through a no-load program or investment platform, in each case, with a minimum initial investment of \$1,000;
- Employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs or SARSEPs), state sponsored 529 college savings plans, collective trust funds, investment companies or other pooled investment vehicles, unaffiliated thrifts and unaffiliated banks and trust companies, each of which is not subject to any minimum initial investment and may purchase shares of the Fund through a Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Distributor to purchase such shares;
- Trust department clients of PNC Bank and Bank of America, N.A. and their affiliates for whom they (i) act in a fiduciary capacity (excluding participant directed employee benefit plans); (ii) otherwise have investment discretion; or (iii) act as custodian for at least \$2 million in assets, who are not subject to any minimum initial investment;
- Holders of certain BofA Corp. sponsored UITs who reinvest dividends received from such UITs in shares of the Fund, who are not subject to any minimum initial investment; and
- Employees, officers and directors/trustees of BlackRock, Inc., BlackRock Funds, BofA Corp., PNC, Barclays or their respective affiliates, who are not subject to any minimum initial investment.

The Fund reserves the right to modify or waive the above-stated policies at any time.

### ***Distribution and Shareholder Servicing Payments***

The Trust, on behalf of the Fund, has adopted a plan (the “Plan”) pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act with respect to the Investor Shares that allows the Fund to pay distribution fees for the sale of its shares and/or shareholder servicing fees for certain services provided to its shareholders.



Under the Plan, Investor C Shares pay a distribution fee to the Distributor and/or its affiliates, including PNC and its affiliates, for distribution and sales support services. The distribution fees may be used to pay the Distributor for distribution and sales support services and to pay the Distributor and BlackRock, PNC and their respective affiliates for sales support services provided and related expenses incurred in connection with the sale of Investor C Shares. The distribution fees may also be used to pay Financial Intermediaries for sales support services and related expenses. All Investor C Shares pay a maximum distribution fee per year that is a percentage of the average daily net asset value of the Investor C Shares of the Fund. Institutional and Investor A Shares do not pay distribution fees.

Under the Plan, the Fund also pays shareholder servicing fees (also referred to as general shareholder liaison services fees) to Financial Intermediaries for providing support services to their customers who own Investor Shares of the Fund. The shareholder servicing fee payment is calculated as a percentage of the average daily net asset value of Investor Shares of the Fund. All Investor Shares pay this shareholder servicing fee. Institutional Shares do not pay a shareholder servicing fee.

In return for the shareholder servicing fee, Financial Intermediaries (including BlackRock) may provide one or more of the following services to their customers who own Investor Shares:

- Answering customer inquiries regarding account status and history, the manner in which purchases, exchanges and redemptions or repurchases of shares may be effected and certain other matters pertaining to the customers' investments;
- Assisting customers in designating and changing dividend options, account designations and addresses; and
- Providing other similar shareholder liaison services.

The shareholder servicing fees payable pursuant to the Plan are paid to compensate Financial Intermediaries for the administration and servicing of shareholder accounts and are not costs which are primarily intended to result in the sale of the Fund's shares.

Because the fees paid by the Fund under the Plan are paid out of Fund assets on an ongoing basis, over time these fees will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges. In addition, the distribution fees paid by Investor C Shares may over time cost investors more than the front-end sales charge on Investor A Shares. For more information on the Plan, including a complete list of services provided thereunder, see the SAI.

### **Other Payments by the Fund**

In addition to fees that the Fund may pay to a Financial Intermediary pursuant to the Plan and fees the Fund pays to its transfer agent, BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc. (the "Transfer Agent"), BlackRock, on behalf of the Fund, may enter into non-Plan agreements with affiliated and unaffiliated Financial Intermediaries pursuant to which the Fund will pay a Financial Intermediary for administrative, networking, recordkeeping, sub-transfer agency, sub-accounting and/or shareholder services. These non-Plan payments are generally based on either (1) a percentage of the average daily net assets of Fund shareholders serviced by a Financial Intermediary or (2) a fixed dollar amount for each account serviced by a Financial Intermediary. The aggregate amount of these payments may be substantial.

### **Other Payments by BlackRock**

From time to time, BlackRock, the Distributor or their affiliates also may pay a portion of the fees for administrative, networking, recordkeeping, sub-transfer agency, sub-accounting and shareholder services described above at its or their own expense and out of its or their profits. BlackRock, the Distributor and their affiliates may also compensate affiliated and unaffiliated Financial Intermediaries for the sale and distribution of shares of the Fund. These payments would be in addition to the Fund payments described in this prospectus and may be a fixed dollar amount, may be based on the number of customer accounts maintained by the Financial Intermediary, may be based on a percentage of the value of shares sold to, or held by, customers of the Financial Intermediary or may be calculated on another basis. The aggregate amount of these payments by BlackRock, the Distributor and their affiliates may be substantial and, in some circumstances, may create an incentive for a Financial Intermediary, its employees or associated persons to recommend or sell shares of the Fund to you. Please contact your Financial Intermediary for details about payments it may receive from the Fund or from BlackRock, the Distributor or their affiliates. For more information, see the SAI.

## ***How to Buy, Sell, Exchange and Transfer Shares***

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The chart on the following pages summarizes how to buy, sell, exchange and transfer shares through your Financial Intermediary. You may also buy, sell, exchange and transfer shares through BlackRock if your account is held directly with BlackRock. To learn more about buying, selling, exchanging or transferring shares through BlackRock, call (800) 441-7762. Because the selection of a mutual fund involves many considerations, your Financial Intermediary may help you with this decision.

With certain limited exceptions, the Fund is generally available only to investors residing in the United States and may not be distributed by a foreign Financial Intermediary. Under this policy, in order to accept new accounts or additional investments (including by way of exchange from another BlackRock Fund) into existing accounts, the Fund generally requires that (i) a shareholder that is a natural person be a U.S. citizen or resident alien, in each case residing within the United States or a U.S. territory (including APO/FPO/DPO addresses), and have a valid U.S. taxpayer identification number, and (ii) a Financial Intermediary or a shareholder that is an entity be domiciled in the United States and have a valid U.S. taxpayer identification number or be domiciled in a U.S. territory and have a valid U.S. taxpayer identification number or IRS Form W-8. Any existing account that is updated to reflect a non-U.S. address will also be restricted from making additional investments.

The Fund may reject any purchase order, modify or waive the minimum initial or subsequent investment requirements for any shareholders and suspend and resume the sale of any share class of the Fund at any time for any reason. In addition, the Fund may waive certain requirements regarding the purchase, sale, exchange or transfer of shares described below.

Under certain circumstances, if no activity occurs in an account within a time period specified by state law, a shareholder's shares in the Fund may be transferred to that state.

## How to Buy Shares

|                               | Your Choices   | Important Information for You to Know   |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Initial Purchase</b>       | First, select the share class appropriate for you                | Refer to the "Share Classes at a Glance" table in this prospectus (be sure to read this prospectus carefully). When you place your initial order, you must indicate which share class you select (if you do not specify a share class and do not qualify to purchase Institutional Shares, you will receive Investor A Shares).<br><br>Certain factors, such as the amount of your investment, your time frame for investing, and your financial goals, may affect which share class you choose. Your Financial Intermediary can help you determine which share class is appropriate for you.   |
|                               | Next, determine the amount of your investment                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to the minimum initial investment in the "Share Classes at a Glance" table of this prospectus. Be sure to note the maximum investment amounts in Investor C Shares.</li> <li>See "Account Information — Details About the Share Classes" for information on a lower initial investment requirement for certain Fund investors if their purchase, combined with purchases by other investors received together by the Fund, meets the minimum investment requirement.</li> </ul>  |
|                               | Have your Financial Intermediary submit your purchase order      | The price of your shares is based on the next calculation of the Fund's net asset value after your order is placed. Any purchase orders placed prior to the close of business on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") (generally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) will be priced at the net asset value determined that day. Certain Financial Intermediaries, however, may require submission of orders prior to that time. Purchase orders placed after that time will be priced at the net asset value determined on the next business day. A broker-dealer or financial institution maintaining the account in which you hold shares may charge a separate account, service or transaction fee on the purchase or sale of Fund shares that would be in addition to the fees and expenses shown in the Fund's "Fees and Expenses" table.<br><br>The Fund may reject any order to buy shares and may suspend the sale of shares at any time. Certain Financial Intermediaries may charge a processing fee to confirm a purchase. |
|                               | Or contact BlackRock (for accounts held directly with BlackRock) | To purchase shares directly from BlackRock, call (800) 441-7762 and request a new account application. Mail the completed application along with a check payable to "BlackRock Funds" to the Transfer Agent at the address on the application.  |
| <b>Add to Your Investment</b> | Purchase additional shares                                       | For Investor A and Investor C Shares, the minimum investment for additional purchases is generally \$50 for all accounts (with the exception of certain employer-sponsored retirement plans which may have a lower minimum for additional purchases). The minimums for additional purchases may be waived under certain circumstances. Institutional Shares have no minimum for additional purchases.   |

## How to Buy Shares (continued)

|   | Your Choices  | Important Information for You to Know   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Add to Your Investment (continued)</b> | Have your Financial Intermediary submit your purchase order for additional shares | To purchase additional shares you may contact your Financial Intermediary. For more details on purchasing by Internet see below.  |
|   | Or contact BlackRock (for accounts held directly with BlackRock)                  | <p><b>Purchase by Telephone:</b> Call (800) 441-7762 and speak with one of our representatives. The Fund has the right to reject any telephone request for any reason.</p> <p><b>Purchase in Writing:</b> You may send a written request to BlackRock at the address on the back cover of this prospectus.</p>  |
|   | Or contact BlackRock (for accounts held directly with BlackRock) (continued)      | <p><b>Purchase by VRU:</b> Investor Shares may also be purchased by use of the Fund's automated voice response unit service ("VRU") at (800) 441-7762.</p> <p><b>Purchase by Internet:</b> You may purchase your shares and view activity in your account by logging onto the BlackRock website at <a href="http://www.blackrock.com">www.blackrock.com</a>. Purchases made on the Internet using the Automated Clearing House ("ACH") will have a trade date that is the day after the purchase is made.</p> <p>Certain institutional clients' purchase orders of Institutional Shares placed by wire prior to the close of business on the NYSE will be priced at the net asset value determined that day. Contact your Financial Intermediary or BlackRock for further information. The Fund limits Internet purchases in shares of the Fund to \$25,000 per trade.</p> <p>Different maximums may apply to certain institutional investors. Please read the On-Line Services Disclosure Statement and User Agreement, the Terms and Conditions page and the Consent to Electronic Delivery Agreement (if you consent to electronic delivery), before attempting to transact online.</p> <p>The Fund employs reasonable procedures to confirm that transactions entered over the Internet are genuine. By entering into the User Agreement with the Fund in order to open an account through the website, the shareholder waives any right to reclaim any losses from the Fund or any of its affiliates incurred through fraudulent activity.</p> |
|   | Acquire additional shares by reinvesting dividends and capital gains              | All dividends and capital gains distributions are automatically reinvested without a sales charge. To make any changes to your dividend and/or capital gains distributions options, please call (800) 441-7762 or contact your Financial Intermediary (if your account is not held directly with BlackRock).  |
|   | Participate in the Automatic Investment Plan ("AIP")                              | <p>BlackRock's AIP allows you to invest a specific amount on a periodic basis from your checking or savings account into your investment account.</p> <p>Refer to the "Account Services and Privileges" section of this prospectus for additional information.</p>  |
|   | <b>How to Pay for Shares</b>  | Making payment for purchases  |

## How to Sell Shares

|  | Your Choices  | Important Information for You to Know  |
|--|---|--|
| <p><b>Full or Partial Redemption of Shares</b></p> | <p>Have your Financial Intermediary submit your sales order</p> | <p>You can make redemption requests through your Financial Intermediary. Shareholders should indicate whether they are redeeming Investor A, Investor C or Institutional Shares. The price of your shares is based on the next calculation of the Fund's net asset value after your order is placed. For your redemption request to be priced at the net asset value on the day of your request, you must submit your request to your Financial Intermediary prior to that day's close of business on the NYSE (generally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time). Certain Financial Intermediaries, however, may require submission of orders prior to that time. Any redemption request placed after that time will be priced at the net asset value at the close of business on the next business day.</p> <p>Certain Financial Intermediaries may charge a fee to process a redemption of shares.</p> <p>The Fund may reject an order to sell shares under certain circumstances.</p>  |
|  | <p>Selling shares held directly with BlackRock</p>              | <p><b>Methods of Redeeming</b></p> <p><b>Redeem by Telephone:</b> You may redeem Investor Shares held directly with BlackRock by telephone request if certain conditions are met and if the amount being sold is less than (i) \$100,000 for payments by check or (ii) \$250,000 for payments through ACH or wire transfer. Certain redemption requests, such as those in excess of these amounts, must be in writing with a medallion signature guarantee. For Institutional Shares, certain redemption requests may require written instructions with a medallion signature guarantee. Call (800) 441-7762 for details.</p> <p>You can obtain a medallion signature guarantee stamp from a bank, securities dealer, securities broker, credit union, savings and loan association, national securities exchange or registered securities association. A notary public seal will not be acceptable.</p> <p>The Fund, its administrators and the Distributor will employ reasonable procedures to confirm that instructions communicated by telephone are genuine. The Fund and its service providers will not be liable for any loss, liability, cost or expense for acting upon telephone instructions that are reasonably believed to be genuine in accordance with such procedures. The Fund may refuse a telephone redemption request if it believes it is advisable to do so.</p> <p>During periods of substantial economic or market change, telephone redemptions may be difficult to complete. Please find alternative redemption methods below.</p> <p><b>Redeem by VRU:</b> Investor Shares may also be redeemed by use of the Fund's automated VRU service. Payment for Investor Shares redeemed by the VRU service may be made for non-retirement accounts in amounts up to \$25,000, either through check, ACH or wire.</p> <p><b>Redeem by Internet:</b> You may redeem in your account, by logging onto the BlackRock website at <a href="http://www.blackrock.com">www.blackrock.com</a>. Proceeds from Internet redemptions may be sent via check, ACH or wire to the bank account of record. Payment for Investor Shares redeemed by Internet may be made for non-retirement accounts in amounts up to \$25,000, either through check, ACH or wire. Different maximums may apply to investors in Institutional Shares.</p> <p><b>Redeem in Writing:</b> You may sell shares held with BlackRock by writing to BlackRock, P.O. Box 9819, Providence, Rhode Island 02940-8019 or for overnight delivery, 4400 Computer Drive, Westborough, Massachusetts 01588. All shareholders on the account must sign the letter. A medallion signature guarantee will generally be required but may be waived in certain limited circumstances. You can obtain a medallion signature guarantee stamp from a bank, securities dealer, securities broker, credit union, savings and loan association, national securities exchange or registered securities association. A notary public seal will not be acceptable. If you hold stock certificates, return the certificates with the letter. Proceeds from redemptions may be sent via check, ACH or wire to the bank account of record.</p> |

## How to Sell Shares (continued)

| Your Choices  | Important Information for You to Know   |
|---|---|
| <b>Full or Partial Redemption of Shares (continued)</b> | <p data-bbox="336 167 702 238">Selling shares held directly with BlackRock (continued)</p> <p data-bbox="734 167 1495 259"><b>Payment of Redemption Proceeds:</b> Redemption proceeds may be paid by check or, if the Fund has verified banking information on file, through ACH or by wire transfer.</p> <p data-bbox="734 269 1495 466"><b>Payment by Check:</b> BlackRock will normally mail redemption proceeds within seven days following receipt of a properly completed request. Shares can be redeemed by telephone and the proceeds sent by check to the shareholder at the address on record. Shareholders will pay \$15 for redemption proceeds sent by check via overnight mail. You are responsible for any additional charges imposed by your bank for this service.</p> <p data-bbox="734 476 1495 818">The Fund reserves the right to reinvest any dividend or distribution amounts (e.g., income dividends or capital gains) which you have elected to receive by check should your check be returned as undeliverable or remain uncashed for more than 6 months. No interest will accrue on amounts represented by uncashed checks. Your check will be reinvested in your account at the net asset value next calculated, on the day of the investment. When reinvested, those amounts are subject to the risk of loss like any Fund investment. If you elect to receive distributions in cash and a check remains undeliverable or uncashed for more than 6 months, your cash election may also be changed automatically to reinvest and your future dividend and capital gains distributions will be reinvested in the Fund at the net asset value as of the date of payment of the distribution.</p> <p data-bbox="734 828 1495 1129"><b>Payment by Wire Transfer:</b> Payment for redeemed shares for which a redemption order is received before 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time) on a business day is normally made in Federal funds wired to the redeeming shareholder on the next business day, provided that the Fund's custodian is also open for business. Payment for redemption orders received after 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time) or on a day when the Fund's custodian is closed is normally wired in Federal funds on the next business day following redemption on which the Fund's custodian is open for business. The Fund reserves the right to wire redemption proceeds within seven days after receiving a redemption order if, in the judgment of the Fund, an earlier payment could adversely affect the Fund.</p> <p data-bbox="734 1139 1495 1326">If a shareholder has given authorization for expedited redemption, shares can be redeemed by Federal wire transfer to a single previously designated bank account. Shareholders will pay \$7.50 for redemption proceeds sent by Federal wire transfer. You are responsible for any additional charges imposed by your bank for this service. No charge for wiring redemption payments with respect to Institutional Shares is imposed by the Fund.</p> <p data-bbox="734 1336 1495 1471">The Fund is not responsible for the efficiency of the Federal wire system or the shareholder's firm or bank. To change the name of the single, designated bank account to receive wire redemption proceeds, it is necessary to send a written request to the Fund at the address on the back cover of this prospectus.</p> <p data-bbox="734 1481 1495 1750"><b>Payment by ACH:</b> Redemption proceeds may be sent to the shareholder's bank account (checking or savings) via ACH. Payment for redeemed shares for which a redemption order is received before 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time) on a business day is normally sent to the redeeming shareholder the next business day, with receipt at the receiving bank within the next two business days (48-72 hours), provided that the Fund's custodian is also open for business. Payment for redemption orders received after 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time) or on a day when the Fund's custodian is closed is normally sent on the next business day following redemption on which the Fund's custodian is open for business.</p> <p data-bbox="734 1761 1495 1864">The Fund reserves the right to send redemption proceeds within seven days after receiving a redemption order if, in the judgment of the Fund, an earlier payment could adversely affect the Fund. No charge for sending redemption payments via ACH is imposed by the Fund.</p> <p data-bbox="1085 1875 1149 1906">* * *</p> |

## How to Sell Shares (continued)

|   | Your Choices  | Important Information for You to Know   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Full or Partial Redemption of Shares (continued)</b> | Selling shares held directly with BlackRock (continued) | If you make a redemption request before the Fund has collected payment for the purchase of shares, the Fund may delay mailing your proceeds. This delay will usually not exceed ten days. |

## How to Exchange Shares or Transfer Your Account

|  | Your Choices   | Important Information for You to Know  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Exchange Privilege</b>                                | Selling shares of one fund to purchase shares of another BlackRock Fund (“exchanging”) | <p>Investor or Institutional Shares of the Fund are generally exchangeable for shares of the same class of another BlackRock Fund.</p> <p>You can exchange \$1,000 or more of Investor Shares from one fund into the same class of another fund which offers that class of shares (you can exchange less than \$1,000 of Investor Shares if you already have an account in the fund into which you are exchanging). Investors who currently own Institutional Shares of the Fund may make exchanges into Institutional Shares of other BlackRock Funds except for investors holding shares through certain client accounts at Financial Intermediaries that are omnibus with the Fund and do not meet applicable minimums. There is no required minimum amount with respect to exchanges of Institutional Shares.</p> <p>You may only exchange into a share class and fund that are open to new investors or in which you have a current account if the fund is closed to new investors.</p> <p>Some of the BlackRock Funds impose a different initial or deferred sales charge schedule. The CDSC will continue to be measured from the date of the original purchase. The CDSC schedule applicable to your original purchase will apply to the shares you receive in the exchange and any subsequent exchange.</p> <p>To exercise the exchange privilege, you may contact your Financial Intermediary. Alternatively, if your account is held directly with BlackRock, you may: (i) call (800) 441-7762 and speak with one of our representatives, (ii) make the exchange via the Internet by accessing your account online at <a href="http://www.blackrock.com">www.blackrock.com</a>, or (iii) send a written request to the Fund at the address on the back cover of this prospectus. Please note, if you indicated on your New Account Application that you did not want the Telephone Exchange Privilege, you will not be able to place exchanges via the telephone until you update this option either in writing or by calling (800) 441-7762. The Fund has the right to reject any telephone request for any reason.</p> <p>Although there is currently no limit on the number of exchanges that you can make, the exchange privilege may be modified or terminated at any time in the future. The Fund may suspend or terminate your exchange privilege at any time for any reason, including if the Fund believes, in its sole discretion, that you are engaging in market timing activities. See “Short-Term Trading Policy” below. For Federal income tax purposes a share exchange is a taxable event and a capital gain or loss may be realized. Please consult your tax adviser or other Financial Intermediary before making an exchange request.</p> |
| <b>Transfer Shares to Another Financial Intermediary</b> | Transfer to a participating Financial Intermediary                                     | <p>You may transfer your shares of the Fund only to another Financial Intermediary that has entered into an agreement with the Distributor. Certain shareholder services may not be available for the transferred shares. All future trading of these assets must be coordinated by the receiving firm.</p> <p>If your account is held directly with BlackRock, you may call (800) 441-7762 with any questions; otherwise please contact your Financial Intermediary to accomplish the transfer of shares.</p> <p>You must either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer your shares to an account with the Fund; or</li> <li>• Sell your shares, paying any applicable deferred sales charge.</li> </ul> <p>If your account is held directly with BlackRock, you may call (800) 441-7762 with any questions; otherwise please contact your Financial Intermediary to accomplish the transfer of shares.</p>   |

## Account Services and Privileges

The following table provides examples of account services and privileges available in your BlackRock account. Certain of these account services and privileges are only available to shareholders of Investor Shares whose accounts are held directly with BlackRock. If your account is held directly with BlackRock, please call (800) 441-7762 or visit [www.blackrock.com](http://www.blackrock.com) for additional information as well as forms and applications. Otherwise, please contact your Financial Intermediary for assistance in requesting one or more of the following services and privileges.

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Automatic Investment Plan</b>          | Allows systematic investments on a periodic basis from your checking or savings account.  | BlackRock's AIP allows you to invest a specific amount on a periodic basis from your checking or savings account into your investment account. You may apply for this option upon account opening or by completing the Automatic Investment Plan application. The minimum investment amount for an automatic investment is \$50 per portfolio.  |
| <b>Dividend Allocation Plan</b>           | Automatically invests your distributions into another BlackRock Fund of your choice pursuant to your instructions, without any fees or sales charges. | Dividend and capital gains distributions may be reinvested in your account to purchase additional shares or paid in cash. Using the Dividend Allocation Plan, you can direct your distributions to your bank account (checking or savings), to purchase shares of another fund at BlackRock without any fees or sales charges, or by check to a special payee. Please call (800) 441-7762 for details. If investing in another fund at BlackRock, the receiving fund must be open to new purchases.   |
| <b>EZ Trader</b>                          | Allows an investor to purchase or sell Investor Shares by telephone or over the Internet through ACH.   | <p>(NOTE: This option is offered to shareholders whose accounts are held directly with BlackRock. Please speak with your Financial Intermediary if your account is held elsewhere.)</p> <p>Prior to establishing an EZ Trader account, please contact your bank to confirm that it is a member of the ACH system. Once confirmed, complete an application, making sure to include the appropriate bank information, and return the application to the address listed on the form.</p> <p>Prior to placing a telephone or Internet purchase or sale order, please call (800) 441-7762 to confirm that your bank information has been updated on your account. Once this is established, you may place your request to sell shares with the Fund by telephone or Internet. Proceeds will be sent to your pre-designated bank account.</p>   |
| <b>Systematic Exchange Plan</b>           | This feature can be used by investors to systematically exchange money from one fund to up to four other funds.                                       | A minimum of \$10,000 in the initial BlackRock Fund is required, and investments in any additional funds must meet minimum initial investment requirements.   |
| <b>Systematic Withdrawal Plan ("SWP")</b> | This feature can be used by investors who want to receive regular distributions from their accounts.  | <p>To start an SWP a shareholder must have a current investment of \$10,000 or more in a BlackRock Fund.</p> <p>Shareholders can elect to receive cash payments of \$50 or more at any interval they choose. Shareholders may sign up by completing the SWP Application Form, which may be obtained from BlackRock. Shareholders should realize that if withdrawals exceed income the invested principal in their account will be depleted.</p> <p>To participate in the SWP, shareholders must have their dividends reinvested. Shareholders may change or cancel the SWP at any time, with a minimum of 24 hours' notice. If a shareholder purchases additional Investor A Shares of a fund at the same time he or she redeems shares through the SWP, that investor may lose money because of the sales charge involved. No CDSC will be assessed on redemptions of Investor Shares made through the SWP that do not exceed 12% of the account's net asset value on an annualized basis. For example, monthly, quarterly, and semi-annual SWP redemptions of Investor Shares will not be subject to the CDSC if they do not exceed 1%, 3% and 6%, respectively, of an account's net asset value on the redemption date. SWP redemptions of Investor Shares in excess of this limit will still pay any applicable CDSC.</p> <p>Ask your Financial Intermediary for details.</p> |

|                                |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Reinstatement Privilege</b> |  | <p>If you redeem Investor A or Institutional Shares, and within 60 days buy new Investor A Shares of the same or another BlackRock Fund (equal to all or a portion of the redemption amount), you will not pay a sales charge on the new purchase amount. This right may be exercised once a year and within 60 days of the redemption, provided that the Investor A Share class of that fund is currently open to new investors or the shareholder has a current account in that closed fund. Shares will be purchased at the net asset value calculated at the close of trading on the day the request is received. To exercise this privilege, the Fund must receive written notification from the shareholder of record or the Financial Intermediary of record, at the time of purchase. Investors should consult a tax adviser concerning the tax consequences of exercising this reinstatement privilege.</p> |
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## ***Fund's Rights***

The Fund may:

- Suspend the right of redemption if trading is halted or restricted on the NYSE or under other emergency conditions described in the Investment Company Act;
- Postpone the date of payment upon redemption if trading is halted or restricted on the NYSE or under other emergency conditions described in the Investment Company Act or if a redemption request is made before the Fund has collected payment for the purchase of shares;
- Redeem shares for property other than cash as may be permitted under the Investment Company Act; and
- Redeem shares involuntarily in certain cases, such as when the value of a shareholder account falls below a specified level.

**Note on Low Balance Accounts.** Because of the high cost of maintaining smaller shareholder accounts, BlackRock has set a minimum balance of \$500 in each Fund position you hold within your account (“Fund Minimum”), and may redeem the shares in your account if the net asset value of those shares in your account falls below \$500 for any reason, including market fluctuation.

You will be notified that the value of your account is less than the Fund Minimum before the Fund makes any involuntary redemption. This notification will provide you with a 90 calendar day period to make an additional investment in order to bring the value of your account to at least \$500 before the Fund makes an involuntary redemption. This involuntary redemption will not charge any deferred sales charge, and may not apply to accounts of certain employer-sponsored retirement plans (not including IRAs), qualified state tuition plan (529 Plan) accounts, and select fee-based programs at your Financial Intermediary.

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## ***Participation in Fee-Based Programs***

If you participate in certain fee-based programs offered by BlackRock or an affiliate of BlackRock, or by Financial Intermediaries that have agreements with the Distributor, you may be able to buy Institutional Shares, including by exchange from other share classes. Sales charges on the shares being exchanged may be reduced or waived under certain circumstances. You generally cannot transfer shares held through a fee-based program into another account. Instead, you will have to redeem your shares held through the program and purchase shares of another class, which may be subject to distribution and service fees. This may be a taxable event and you will pay any applicable sales charges or redemption fees.

Shareholders that participate in a fee-based program generally have two options at termination. The program can be terminated and the shares liquidated, or the program can be terminated and the shares held in an account. In general, when a shareholder chooses to continue to hold the shares, whatever share class was held in the program can be held after termination. Shares that have been held for less than specified periods within the program may be subject to a fee upon redemption. Shareholders that held Investor A or Institutional Shares in the program are eligible to purchase additional shares of the respective share class of the Fund, but may be subject to upfront sales charges with respect to Investor A Shares. Additional purchases of Institutional Shares are permitted only if you have an existing position at the time of purchase or are otherwise eligible to purchase Institutional Shares.

Details about these features and the relevant charges are included in the client agreement for each fee-based program and are available from your Financial Intermediary.



## **Short-Term Trading Policy**

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The Board of Trustees (the “Board”) has determined that the interests of long-term shareholders and the Fund’s ability to manage its investments may be adversely affected when shares are repeatedly bought, sold or exchanged in response to short-term market fluctuations — also known as “market timing.” The Fund is not designed for market timing organizations or other entities using programmed or frequent purchases and sales or exchanges. The exchange privilege for Investor Shares and Institutional Shares is not intended as a vehicle for short-term trading. Excessive purchase and sale or exchange activity may interfere with portfolio management, increase expenses and taxes and may have an adverse effect on the performance of the Fund and its returns to shareholders. For example, large flows of cash into and out of the Fund may require the management team to allocate a significant amount of assets to cash or other short-term investments or sell securities, rather than maintaining such assets in securities selected to achieve the Fund’s investment objective. Frequent trading may cause the Fund to sell securities at less favorable prices, and transaction costs, such as brokerage commissions, can reduce the Fund’s performance.

A fund’s investment in non-U.S. securities is subject to the risk that an investor may seek to take advantage of a delay between the change in value of the fund’s portfolio securities and the determination of the fund’s net asset value as a result of different closing times of U.S. and non-U.S. markets by buying or selling fund shares at a price that does not reflect their true value. A similar risk exists for funds that invest in securities of small capitalization companies, securities of issuers located in emerging markets or high yield securities (junk bonds) that are thinly traded and therefore may have actual values that differ from their market prices. This short-term arbitrage activity can reduce the return received by long-term shareholders. The Fund will seek to eliminate these opportunities by using fair value pricing, as described in “Management of the Fund — Valuation of Fund Investments” below.

The Fund discourages market timing and seeks to prevent frequent purchases and sales or exchanges of Fund shares that it determines may be detrimental to the Fund or long-term shareholders. The Board has approved the policies discussed below to seek to deter market timing activity. The Board has not adopted any specific numerical restrictions on purchases, sales and exchanges of Fund shares because certain legitimate strategies will not result in harm to the Fund or its shareholders.

If as a result of its own investigation, information provided by a Financial Intermediary or other third party, or otherwise, the Fund believes, in its sole discretion, that your short-term trading is excessive or that you are engaging in market timing activity, it reserves the right to reject any specific purchase or exchange order. If the Fund rejects your purchase or exchange order, you will not be able to execute that transaction, and the Fund will not be responsible for any losses you therefore may suffer. For transactions placed directly with the Fund, the Fund may consider the trading history of accounts under common ownership or control for the purpose of enforcing these policies. Transactions placed through the same Financial Intermediary on an omnibus basis may be deemed part of a group for the purpose of this policy and may be rejected in whole or in part by the Fund. Certain accounts, such as omnibus accounts and accounts at Financial Intermediaries, however, include multiple investors and such accounts typically provide the Fund with net purchase or redemption and exchange requests on any given day where purchases, redemptions and exchanges of shares are netted against one another and the identity of individual purchasers, redeemers and exchangers whose orders are aggregated may not be known by the Fund. While the Fund monitors for market timing activity, the Fund may be unable to identify such activities because the netting effect in omnibus accounts often makes it more difficult to locate and eliminate market timers from the Fund. The Distributor has entered into agreements with respect to Financial Intermediaries that maintain omnibus accounts with the Transfer Agent pursuant to which such Financial Intermediaries undertake to cooperate with the Distributor in monitoring purchase, exchange and redemption orders by their customers in order to detect and prevent short-term or excessive trading in the Fund’s shares through such accounts. Identification of market timers may also be limited by operational systems and technical limitations. In the event that a Financial Intermediary is determined by the Fund to be engaged in market timing or other improper trading activity, the Fund’s Distributor may terminate such Financial Intermediary’s agreement with the Distributor, suspend such Financial Intermediary’s trading privileges or take other appropriate actions.

There is no assurance that the methods described above will prevent market timing or other trading that may be deemed abusive.

The Fund may from time to time use other methods that it believes are appropriate to deter market timing or other trading activity that may be detrimental to the Fund or long-term shareholders.

# Management of the Fund

## **BlackRock**

BlackRock, the Fund's investment adviser, manages the Fund's investments and its business operations subject to the oversight of the Board of the Trust. While BlackRock is ultimately responsible for the management of the Fund, it is able to draw upon the trading, research and expertise of its asset management affiliates for portfolio decisions and management with respect to certain portfolio securities. BlackRock is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of BlackRock, Inc.

BlackRock, a registered investment adviser, was organized in 1994 to perform advisory services for investment companies. BlackRock International Limited ("BIL") and BlackRock (Singapore) Limited ("BRS"), the Fund's sub-advisers (the "Sub-Advisers"), are registered investment advisers organized in 1995 and 2000, respectively. BlackRock and its affiliates had approximately \$5.421 trillion in investment company and other portfolio assets under management as of March 31, 2017.

The Fund has entered into a management agreement (the "Management Agreement") with BlackRock. Under the Management Agreement, BlackRock receives for its services to the Fund a fee as a percentage of the Fund's average daily net assets that is attributable to the Fund's direct investments in fixed income and equity securities and instruments, including ETFs advised by BlackRock or other investment advisers, other investments and cash and cash equivalents (including money market funds, whether advised by BlackRock or other investment advisers) and excludes investments in the Underlying Funds. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, BlackRock received a fee, net of any applicable waivers, at the annual rate of 0.45% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

Effective June 15, 2016, the annual management fees payable to BlackRock (as a percentage of average daily net assets) are calculated as follows:

| <b>Average Daily Net Assets</b>                         | <b>Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio</b> |
|---|---|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion                               | 0.550%  |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not more than \$2 billion  | 0.500%  |
| In excess of \$2 billion but not more than \$3 billion  | 0.475%  |
| In excess of \$3 billion but not more than \$35 billion | 0.450%  |
| In excess of \$35 billion                               | 0.430%  |

Prior to June 15, 2016, the annual management fees payable to BlackRock (as a percentage of average daily net assets) were calculated as follows:

| <b>Average Daily Net Assets</b>                        | <b>Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio</b> |
|--|---|
| Not exceeding \$1 billion                              | 0.550%  |
| In excess of \$1 billion but not more than \$2 billion | 0.500%  |
| In excess of \$2 billion but not more than \$3 billion | 0.475%  |
| In excess of \$3 billion                               | 0.450%  |

BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive the management fee with respect to any portion of the Fund's assets estimated to be attributable to investments in other equity and fixed-income ETFs managed by BlackRock or its affiliates that have a contractual management fee, through April 30, 2018. The contractual agreement may be terminated upon 90 days' notice by a majority of the non-interested trustees of the Trust or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

BlackRock has voluntarily agreed to waive its management fees by the amount of advisory fees the Fund pays to BlackRock indirectly through its investment in affiliated money market funds (the "affiliated money market fund waiver").

BlackRock has entered into sub-advisory agreements with the Sub-Advisers, affiliates of BlackRock. Under the sub-advisory agreements, BlackRock pays the Sub-Advisers for services they provide a fee equal to a percentage of the management fee paid to BlackRock under the Management Agreement. The Sub-Advisers are responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio.

BlackRock has agreed to cap net expenses (excluding (i) interest, taxes, dividends tied to short sales, brokerage commissions, and other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting

principles; (ii) expenses incurred directly or indirectly by the Fund as a result of investments in other investment companies and pooled investment vehicles; (iii) other expenses attributable to, and incurred as a result of, the Fund's investments; and (iv) other extraordinary expenses (including litigation expenses) not incurred in the ordinary course of the Fund's business, if any) of each share class of the Fund at the levels shown below in the Fund's fees and expenses table in the "Fund Overview" section of this prospectus. Items (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) in the preceding sentence are referred to in this prospectus as "Dividend Expense, Interest Expense, Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses and certain other Fund expenses." To achieve these expense caps, BlackRock has agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses if these operating expenses exceed a certain limit.

With respect to the Fund, BlackRock has contractually agreed to waive and/or reimburse fees or expenses in order to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses to the amounts noted in the table below.

|                      | <b>Contractual Caps<sup>1</sup> on<br/>Total Annual Fund<br/>Operating Expenses*<br/>(excluding Dividend<br/>Expense, Interest<br/>Expense, Acquired Fund<br/>Fees and Expenses and<br/>certain other Fund expenses)</b> |
|----------------------|--|
| Investor A Shares    | 0.90%  |
| Investor C Shares    | 1.65%  |
| Institutional Shares | 0.65%  |

\* As a percentage of average daily net assets.

<sup>1</sup> The contractual caps are in effect through April 30, 2018. The contractual agreement may be terminated upon 90 days' notice by a majority of the non-interested trustees of the Trust or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund.

The amount of the contractual waivers and/or reimbursements of fees and expenses made pursuant to the contractual caps on net expenses will be reduced by the amount of the affiliated money market fund waiver.

With respect to the contractual agreements to cap net expenses described above, if during the Fund's fiscal year the operating expenses of a share class, that at any time during the prior two fiscal years received a waiver and/or reimbursement from BlackRock, are less than the expense limit for that share class, the share class is required to repay BlackRock up to the lesser of (a) the amount of fees waived or expenses reimbursed during those prior two fiscal years under the agreement and (b) the amount by which the expense limit for that share class exceeds the operating expenses of the share class for the current fiscal year, provided that: (1) the Fund of which the share class is a part has more than \$50 million in assets and (2) BlackRock or an affiliate serves as the Fund's manager or administrator. This repayment applies only to the contractual caps on net expenses and does not apply to the contractual management fee waiver described above or any voluntary waivers that may be in effect from time to time.

As stated above, the waivers and reimbursements made pursuant to the contractual expense caps and described in the table above do not include Interest Expense. A Fund's Interest Expense is required to be reported as part of operating expenses in such Fund's expense table for accounting purposes. The Fund incurs Interest Expense when making certain investments (e.g., tender option bonds) to seek to enhance the yield and total return of the portfolio. The amount of Interest Expense (if any) will fluctuate with the Fund's use of those investments.

\* \* \*

A discussion of the basis for the Board's approval of the Management Agreement with BlackRock and the sub-advisory agreement between BlackRock and the Sub-Advisers is included in the Fund's semi-annual shareholder report for the fiscal period ended June 30, 2016.

From time to time, a manager, analyst, or other employee of BlackRock or its affiliates may express views regarding a particular asset class, company, security, industry, or market sector. The views expressed by any such person are the views of only that individual as of the time expressed and do not necessarily represent the views of BlackRock or any other person within the BlackRock organization. Any such views are subject to change at any time based upon market or other conditions and BlackRock disclaims any responsibility to update such views. These views may not be relied on as investment advice and, because investment decisions for the Fund are based on numerous factors, may not be relied on as an indication of trading intent on behalf of the Fund.

As discussed above, the Fund intends to gain exposure to commodities markets by investing in the Subsidiary. BlackRock provides investment management and other services to the Subsidiary. BlackRock does not receive separate compensation from the Subsidiary for providing it with investment management or administrative services. However, the Fund pays BlackRock based on the Fund's assets, including the assets in the Subsidiary.

**Legal Proceedings.** On May 27, 2014, certain purported investors in the BlackRock Global Allocation Fund, Inc. (“Global Allocation”) and the BlackRock Equity Dividend Fund (“Equity Dividend”) filed a consolidated complaint (the “Consolidated Complaint”) in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey against BlackRock, BlackRock Investment Management, LLC and BlackRock International Limited (collectively, the “Defendants”) under the caption *In re BlackRock Mutual Funds Advisory Fee Litigation*. The Consolidated Complaint, which purports to be brought derivatively on behalf of Global Allocation and Equity Dividend, alleges that the Defendants violated Section 36(b) of the Investment Company Act by receiving allegedly excessive investment advisory fees from Global Allocation and Equity Dividend. The Consolidated Complaint seeks, among other things, to recover on behalf of Global Allocation and Equity Dividend all allegedly excessive advisory fees received by the Defendants in the period beginning one year prior to the filing of the lawsuit and ending on the date of judgment along with purported lost investment returns on those amounts, plus interest. The Defendants believe the claims in the Consolidated Complaint are without merit and intend to vigorously defend the action.

## **Portfolio Manager Information**

Information regarding the portfolio managers of the Fund is set forth below. Further information regarding the portfolio managers, including other accounts managed, compensation, ownership of Fund shares, and possible conflicts of interest, is available in the Fund’s SAI.

The Fund is managed by a team of financial professionals. Rick Rieder, Bob Miller and David Rogal are the portfolio managers and are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund.

| <b>Portfolio Manager</b> | <b>Primary Role</b>   | <b>Since</b> | <b>Title and Recent Biography</b>   |
|--------------------------|---|--------------|---|
| Rick Rieder              | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund’s portfolio including setting the Fund’s overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2010         | Global Chief Investment Officer of Fixed Income, Co-head of BlackRock’s Global Fixed Income platform, member of Global Operating Committee and Chairman of the BlackRock firm-wide Investment Council. Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2009. President and Chief Executive Officer of R3 Capital Partners from 2008 to 2009; Managing Director of Lehman Brothers from 1994 to 2008. |
| Bob Miller               | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund’s portfolio including setting the Fund’s overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2011         | Managing Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2011; Co-Founder and Partner of Round Table Investment Management Company from 2007 to 2009; Managing Director of Bank of America from 1999 to 2007.   |
| David Rogal              | Jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund’s portfolio including setting the Fund’s overall investment strategy and overseeing the management of the Fund. | 2017         | Director of BlackRock, Inc. since 2014; Vice President of BlackRock, Inc. from 2011 to 2013.  |

## **Conflicts of Interest**

The investment activities of BlackRock and its affiliates (including BlackRock, Inc. and PNC and their affiliates, directors, partners, trustees, managing members, officers and employees (collectively, the “Affiliates”)) in the management of, or their interest in, their own accounts and other accounts they manage, may present conflicts of interest that could disadvantage the Fund and its shareholders.

BlackRock and its Affiliates provide investment management services to other funds and discretionary managed accounts that follow investment programs similar to that of the Fund. BlackRock and its Affiliates are involved worldwide with a broad spectrum of financial services and asset management activities and may engage in the ordinary course of business in activities in which their interests or the interests of their clients may conflict with those of the Fund. One or more Affiliates act or may act as an investor, investment banker, research provider, investment manager, commodity pool operator, commodity trading advisor, financier, underwriter, adviser, market maker, trader, prime broker, lender, agent and principal, and have other direct and indirect interests in securities, currencies, commodities, derivatives and other instruments in which the Fund may directly or indirectly invest. Thus, it is likely that the Fund will have multiple business relationships with and will invest in, engage in transactions with, make voting decisions with respect to, or obtain services from, entities for which an Affiliate performs or seeks to perform investment banking or other services. Specifically, the Fund may invest in securities of, or engage in other transactions with, companies with

which an Affiliate has developed or is trying to develop investment banking relationships or in which an Affiliate has significant debt or equity investments or other interests. The Fund also may invest in securities of, or engage in other transactions with, companies for which an Affiliate provides or may in the future provide research coverage. An Affiliate may have business relationships with, and purchase, or distribute or sell services or products from or to, distributors, consultants or others who recommend the Fund or who engage in transactions with or for the Fund, and may receive compensation for such services. The Fund may also make brokerage and other payments to Affiliates in connection with the Fund's portfolio investment transactions. An Affiliate may engage in proprietary trading and advise accounts and funds that have investment objectives similar to those of the Fund and/or that engage in and compete for transactions in the same types of securities, currencies and other instruments as the Fund. This may include transactions in securities issued by other open-end and closed-end investment companies (which may include investment companies that are affiliated with the Fund and BlackRock, to the extent permitted under the Investment Company Act). The trading activities of these Affiliates are carried out without reference to positions held directly or indirectly by the Fund and may result in an Affiliate having positions in certain securities that are senior or junior to, or have interests different from or adverse to, the securities that are owned by the Fund.

No Affiliate is under any obligation to share any investment opportunity, idea or strategy with the Fund. As a result, an Affiliate may compete with the Fund for appropriate investment opportunities. The results of the Fund's investment activities, therefore, may differ from those of an Affiliate and of other accounts managed by an Affiliate, and it is possible that the Fund could sustain losses during periods in which one or more Affiliates and other accounts achieve profits on their trading for proprietary or other accounts. The opposite result is also possible.

In addition, the Fund may, from time to time, enter into transactions in which an Affiliate or its other clients have an adverse interest. Furthermore, transactions undertaken by Affiliate-advised clients may adversely impact the Fund. Transactions by one or more Affiliate-advised clients or BlackRock may have the effect of diluting or otherwise disadvantaging the values, prices or investment strategies of the Fund. The Fund's activities may be limited because of regulatory restrictions applicable to one or more Affiliates and/or their internal policies designed to comply with such restrictions.

Under a securities lending program approved by the Board, the Trust, on behalf of the Fund has retained BlackRock Investment Management, LLC ("BIM"), an Affiliate of BlackRock, to serve as the securities lending agent for the Fund to the extent that the Fund participates in the securities lending program. For these services, the lending agent will receive a fee from the Fund, including a fee based on the returns earned on the Fund's investment of the cash received as collateral for the loaned securities. In addition, one or more Affiliates may be among the entities to which the Fund may lend its portfolio securities under the securities lending program.

The activities of Affiliates may give rise to other conflicts of interest that could disadvantage the Fund and its shareholders. BlackRock has adopted policies and procedures designed to address these potential conflicts of interest. See the SAI for further information.

## ***Valuation of Fund Investments***

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When you buy shares, you pay the net asset value, plus any applicable sales charge. This is the offering price. Shares are also redeemed at their net asset value, minus any applicable deferred sales charge or redemption fee. The Fund calculates the net asset value of each class of its shares each day the NYSE is open, generally as of the close of regular trading hours on the NYSE, based on prices at the time of closing. The NYSE generally closes at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time). The net asset value used in determining your share price is the next one calculated after your purchase or redemption order is received.

Generally, Institutional Shares will have the highest net asset value because that class has the lowest expenses. Investor A Shares will have a higher net asset value than Investor C Shares. Also, dividends paid on Investor A and Institutional Shares will generally be higher than dividends paid on Investor C Shares because Investor A and Institutional Shares have lower expenses.

Equity securities and other instruments for which market quotations are readily available are valued at market value, which is generally determined using the last reported closing price or, if a reported closing price is not available, the last traded price on the exchange or market on which the security or instrument is primarily traded at the time of valuation. The Fund values fixed-income portfolio securities and non-exchange traded derivatives using last available bid prices or current market quotations provided by dealers or prices (including evaluated prices) supplied by the Fund's approved independent third-party pricing services, each in accordance with valuation procedures approved by the Board. Pricing services may use matrix pricing or valuation models that utilize certain inputs and assumptions to derive values. Pricing services generally value fixed-income securities assuming orderly transactions of institutional round lot size, but the Fund may hold or transact in such securities in smaller, odd lot sizes. Odd lots often trade at lower prices than institutional round lots. Short-term debt securities with remaining maturities of 60 days or less may be valued on the basis of amortized cost.

Foreign currency exchange rates are generally determined as of the close of business on the NYSE. Foreign securities owned by the Fund may trade on weekends or other days when the Fund does not price its shares. As a result, the Fund's net asset value may change on days when you will not be able to purchase or redeem the Fund's shares.

Generally, trading in foreign securities, U.S. Government securities, money market instruments and certain fixed-income securities is substantially completed each day at various times prior to the close of business on the NYSE. The values of such securities used in computing the net asset value of the Fund's shares are determined as of such times.

When market quotations are not readily available or are not believed by BlackRock to be reliable, the Fund's investments are valued at fair value. Fair value determinations are made by BlackRock in accordance with procedures approved by the Board. BlackRock may conclude that a market quotation is not readily available or is unreliable if a security or other asset or liability does not have a price source due to its lack of liquidity, if BlackRock believes a market quotation from a broker-dealer or other source is unreliable, where the security or other asset or other liability is thinly traded (e.g., municipal securities, certain small cap and emerging growth companies and certain non-U.S. securities) or where there is a significant event subsequent to the most recent market quotation. For this purpose, a "significant event" is deemed to occur if BlackRock determines, in its business judgment prior to or at the time of pricing the Fund's assets or liabilities, that it is likely that the event will cause a material change to the last closing market price of one or more assets or liabilities held by the Fund. For instance, significant events may occur between the foreign market close and the close of business on the NYSE that may not be reflected in the computation of the Fund's net assets. If such event occurs, those instruments may be fair valued. Similarly, foreign securities whose values are affected by volatility that occurs in U.S. markets on a trading day after the close of foreign securities markets may be fair valued.

For certain foreign securities, a third-party vendor supplies evaluated, systematic fair value pricing based upon the movement of a proprietary multi-factor model after the relevant foreign markets have closed. This systematic fair value pricing methodology is designed to correlate the prices of foreign securities following the close of the local markets to the price that might have prevailed as of the Fund's pricing time.

Fair value represents a good faith approximation of the value of a security. The fair value of one or more securities may not, in retrospect, be the price at which those assets could have been sold during the period in which the particular fair values were used in determining the Fund's net asset value.

The Fund may accept orders from certain authorized Financial Intermediaries or their designees. The Fund will be deemed to receive an order when accepted by the Financial Intermediary or designee, and the order will receive the net asset value next computed by the Fund after such acceptance. If the payment for a purchase order is not made by a designated later time, the order will be canceled and the Financial Intermediary could be held liable for any losses.

## ***Dividends, Distributions and Taxes***

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### **BUYING A DIVIDEND**

Unless your investment is in a tax deferred account, you may want to avoid buying shares shortly before the Fund pays a dividend. The reason? If you buy shares when the Fund has declared but not yet distributed ordinary income or capital gains, you will pay the full price for the shares and then receive a portion of the price back in the form of a taxable dividend. Before investing you may want to consult your tax adviser.

The Fund makes two kinds of distributions to shareholders: net investment income and net realized capital gains.

Distributions of net investment income derived by the Fund are paid within 10 days after the end of each month. The Board may change the timing of such dividend payments.

Net realized capital gains (including net short-term capital gains), if any, will be distributed by the Fund at least annually at a date determined by the Board. The Fund may also pay a special distribution at the end of the calendar year to comply with Federal tax requirements.

Your distributions will be reinvested at net asset value in new shares of the same class of the Fund unless you instruct the Transfer Agent in writing to pay them in cash. There are no sales charges on these reinvestments. You will pay tax on dividends from the Fund whether you receive them in cash or additional shares.

Distributions that are declared in October, November or December, but paid in January are taxable as if they were paid in December.

When you sell your shares of the Fund, you may realize a capital gain or loss. Use of the exchange privilege also will be treated as a taxable event because it will be deemed a redemption and subsequent purchase of the shares involved. Therefore, use of the exchange privilege may be subject to federal, state and local income tax.

Distributions reported for tax purposes by the Fund as capital gain dividends will be eligible for reduced capital gain tax rates. Gains and losses realized on the sale of foreign bonds will be treated as ordinary income and loss to the extent attributable to changes in exchange rates.

If more than half of the total asset value of the Fund is invested in non-U.S. securities or Underlying Funds, the Fund may elect to “pass through” to its shareholders the amount of non-U.S. income taxes paid by it or by Underlying Funds. In such case, you would be required to include your proportionate share of such taxes in your income and may be entitled to deduct or credit such taxes when computing your taxable income.

You will pay tax on dividends from the Fund whether you receive them in cash or additional shares. If you redeem Fund shares or exchange them for shares of another fund, you generally will be treated as having sold your shares and any gain on the transaction may be subject to tax. Certain dividend income received by the Fund, including dividends received from qualifying foreign corporations, and long-term capital gains are eligible for taxation at a maximum rate of 15% for individuals with incomes below approximately \$418,000 (\$471,000 if married filing jointly), amounts adjusted annually for inflation, and 20% for individuals with any income in excess of those amounts that is long-term capital gain or qualified dividend income. To the extent the Fund makes any distributions derived from long-term capital gains and qualifying dividend income, such distributions will be eligible for taxation at the reduced rates.

A 3.8% Medicare tax is imposed on the net investment income (which includes, but is not limited to, interest, dividends and net gain from investments) of U.S. individuals with income exceeding \$200,000, or \$250,000 if married filing jointly, and of trusts and estates.

By law, your dividends and redemption proceeds will be subject to a 28% withholding tax if you have not provided a taxpayer identification number or social security number or the number you have provided is incorrect.

If you are neither a tax resident nor a citizen of the United States or if you are a foreign entity, the Fund’s ordinary income dividends (which include distributions of net short-term capital gain) will generally be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax, unless a lower treaty rate applies. However, certain distributions reported by the Fund as either interest related dividends or short-term capital gain dividends and paid to a foreign shareholder may be eligible for an exemption from U.S. withholding tax.

A 30% withholding tax is currently imposed on U.S.-source dividends, interest and other income items and will be imposed on proceeds from the sale of property producing U.S.-source dividends and interest paid after December 31, 2018, to (i) certain foreign financial institutions and investment funds, and (ii) certain other foreign entities. To avoid withholding, foreign financial institutions and investment funds will generally either need to (a) collect and report to the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) detailed information identifying their U.S. accounts and U.S. account holders, comply with due diligence procedures for identifying U.S. accounts and withhold tax on certain payments made to noncomplying foreign entities and account holders or (b) if an intergovernmental agreement is entered into and implementing legislation is adopted, comply with the agreement and legislation. Other foreign entities will generally either need to provide detailed information identifying each substantial U.S. owner or certify there are no such owners.

The Subsidiary will not be subject to Federal income tax. It will, however, be considered a controlled foreign corporation, and the Fund will be required to include as income annually amounts earned by the Subsidiary during that year. Gains from the sales of investments by the Subsidiary will not be eligible for capital gains treatment but instead will be treated as ordinary income when included in income by the Fund. Furthermore, the Fund will distribute net investment income, if any, and net realized capital gain, if any, at least annually, on such Subsidiary income, whether or not the Subsidiary makes a distribution to the Fund during the taxable year.

Dividends and interest received by the Fund and capital gains recognized by the Fund may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes. You may be able to claim a credit or take a deduction for foreign taxes paid by the Fund if certain requirements are met.

This section summarizes some of the consequences under current Federal tax law of an investment in the Fund. It is not a substitute for personal tax advice. Consult your personal tax adviser about the potential tax consequences of an investment in the Fund under all applicable tax laws.

## Financial Highlights

The Financial Highlights table is intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects the financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and/or distributions). The information has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

|   | Institutional                        |                    |                    |                    |             |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
|   | Year Ended December 31, <sup>1</sup> |                    |                    |                    |             |
|   | 2016                                 | 2015               | 2014               | 2013               | 2012        |
| <b>Per Share Operating Performance</b>  |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Net asset value, beginning of year  | \$ 9.77                              | \$ 10.11           | \$ 10.17           | \$ 10.10           | \$ 9.51     |
| Net investment income <sup>2</sup>  | 0.26                                 | 0.21               | 0.24               | 0.27               | 0.36        |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)   | 0.09                                 | (0.24)             | 0.15               | 0.07               | 0.57        |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations  | 0.35                                 | (0.03)             | 0.39               | 0.34               | 0.93        |
| Distributions: <sup>3</sup>   |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| From net investment income  | (0.25)                               | (0.29)             | (0.41)             | (0.25)             | (0.32)      |
| From net realized gain  | —                                    | (0.02)             | (0.04)             | (0.02)             | —           |
| From return of capital  | (0.04)                               | —                  | —                  | —                  | (0.02)      |
| Total distributions   | (0.29)                               | (0.31)             | (0.45)             | (0.27)             | (0.34)      |
| Net asset value, end of year  | \$ 9.83                              | \$ 9.77            | \$ 10.11           | \$ 10.17           | \$ 10.10    |
| <b>Total Return<sup>4</sup></b>   |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Based on net asset value  | 3.61%                                | (0.30)%            | 3.79%              | 3.38%              | 9.91%       |
| <b>Ratios to Average Net Assets<sup>5</sup></b>   |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Total expenses  | 0.74% <sup>6</sup>                   | 0.77% <sup>6</sup> | 0.78% <sup>6</sup> | 0.89% <sup>6</sup> | 0.89%       |
| Total expenses after fees waived, reimbursed and paid indirectly                                | 0.73%                                | 0.75%              | 0.77%              | 0.87%              | 0.84%       |
| Total expenses after fees waived, reimbursed and paid indirectly and excluding interest expense | 0.60%                                | 0.59%              | 0.60%              | 0.65%              | 0.65%       |
| Net investment income   | 2.66%                                | 2.09%              | 2.34%              | 2.62%              | 3.62%       |
| <b>Supplemental Data</b>  |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Net assets, end of year (000)   | \$17,994,587                         | \$24,173,415       | \$20,070,188       | \$7,294,601        | \$2,180,663 |
| Portfolio turnover rate <sup>7</sup>  | 1,541%                               | 1,856%             | 1,396%             | 1,413%             | 807%        |

<sup>1</sup> Consolidated Financial Highlights.

<sup>2</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>3</sup> Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations.

<sup>4</sup> Where applicable, assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds as follows:

|                                 | Year Ended December 31, |       |       |       |       |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                                 | 2016                    | 2015  | 2014  | 2013  | 2012  |
| Investments in underlying funds | 0.02%                   | 0.03% | 0.02% | 0.03% | 0.04% |

<sup>6</sup> Includes recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees. Excluding the recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees as follows:

|                | Year Ended December 31, |       |       |       |      |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|
|                | 2016                    | 2015  | 2014  | 2013  | 2012 |
| Expense ratios | 0.73%                   | 0.77% | 0.77% | 0.88% | N/A  |

<sup>7</sup> Includes mortgage dollar roll transactions. Additional information regarding portfolio turnover rate is as follows:

|  | Year Ended December 31, |        |        |      |        |
|--|-------------------------|--------|--------|------|--------|
|  | 2016                    | 2015   | 2014   | 2013 | 2012   |
| Portfolio turnover rate (excluding mortgage dollar roll transactions)                          | 1,098%                  | 1,242% | 1,067% | 894% | 461%   |
| Portfolio turnover rate including TBA Sale Commitments, to conform to the current presentation | —                       | —      | —      | —    | 1,778% |
| Portfolio turnover rate including TBA Sale Commitments and excluding mortgage dollar rolls     | —                       | —      | —      | —    | 1,105% |



**Financial Highlights** (continued)

|  | <b>Investor A</b>                          |                    |                    |                    |             |
|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
|  | <b>Year Ended December 31,<sup>1</sup></b> |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>2016</b>                                | <b>2015</b>        | <b>2014</b>        | <b>2013</b>        | <b>2012</b> |
| <b>Per Share Operating Performance</b>   |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Net asset value, beginning of year   | \$ 9.77                                    | \$ 10.11           | \$ 10.17           | \$ 10.10           | \$ 9.51     |
| Net investment income <sup>2</sup>   | 0.23                                       | 0.18               | 0.22               | 0.24               | 0.33        |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)  | 0.09                                       | (0.24)             | 0.14               | 0.07               | 0.58        |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations   | 0.32                                       | (0.06)             | 0.36               | 0.31               | 0.91        |
| Distributions: <sup>3</sup>  |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
| From net investment income   | (0.22)                                     | (0.26)             | (0.38)             | (0.22)             | (0.30)      |
| From net realized gain   | —  | (0.02)             | (0.04)             | (0.02)             | —           |
| From return of capital   | (0.04)                                     | —                  | —                  | —                  | (0.02)      |
| Total distributions  | (0.26)                                     | (0.28)             | (0.42)             | (0.24)             | (0.32)      |
| Redemption fees added to paid-in capital   | —  | —                  | —                  | —                  | —           |
| Net asset value, end of year   | \$ 9.83                                    | \$ 9.77            | \$ 10.11           | \$ 10.17           | \$ 10.10    |
| <b>Total Return<sup>4</sup></b>  |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Based on net asset value   | 3.30%                                      | (0.60)%            | 3.48%              | 3.12%              | 9.64%       |
| <b>Ratios to Average Net Assets</b>  |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Total expenses <sup>5</sup>  | 1.07%                                      | 1.12% <sup>6</sup> | 1.09% <sup>6</sup> | 1.15% <sup>6</sup> | 1.15%       |
| Total expenses after fees waived, reimbursed and paid indirectly <sup>5</sup>  | 1.03%                                      | 1.06%              | 1.06%              | 1.12%              | 1.09%       |
| Total expenses after fees waived, reimbursed and paid indirectly and excluding interest expense <sup>5</sup>                                       | 0.90%                                      | 0.90%              | 0.90%              | 0.90%              | 0.90%       |
| Net investment income <sup>5</sup>   | 2.38%                                      | 1.77%              | 2.10%              | 2.39%              | 3.38%       |
| <b>Supplemental Data</b>   |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Net assets, end of year (000)  | \$4,380,500                                | \$5,632,067        | \$4,047,716        | \$3,186,806        | \$1,077,279 |
| Portfolio turnover rate <sup>7</sup>   | 1,541%                                     | 1,856%             | 1,396%             | 1,413%             | 807%        |
| <sup>1</sup> Consolidated Financial Highlights.  |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
| <sup>2</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.  |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
| <sup>3</sup> Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations.  |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
| <sup>4</sup> Where applicable, excludes the effects of any sales charges and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.                            |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
| <sup>5</sup> Excludes expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds as follows:                                      |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>Year Ended December 31,</b>             |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>2016</b>                                | <b>2015</b>        | <b>2014</b>        | <b>2013</b>        | <b>2012</b> |
| Investments in underlying funds  | 0.02%                                      | 0.03%              | 0.02%              | 0.03%              | 0.04%       |
| <sup>6</sup> Includes recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees. Excluding the recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees as follows: |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>Year Ended December 31,</b>             |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>2016</b>                                | <b>2015</b>        | <b>2014</b>        | <b>2013</b>        | <b>2012</b> |
| Expense ratios   | N/A  | 1.10%              | 1.08%              | 1.15%              | N/A         |
| <sup>7</sup> Includes mortgage dollar roll transactions. Additional information regarding portfolio turnover rate is as follows:                   |  |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>Year Ended December 31,</b>             |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>2016</b>                                | <b>2015</b>        | <b>2014</b>        | <b>2013</b>        | <b>2012</b> |
| Portfolio turnover rate (excluding mortgage dollar roll transactions)  | 1,098%                                     | 1,242%             | 1,067%             | 894%               | 461%        |
| Portfolio turnover rate including TBA Sale Commitments, to conform to the current presentation   | —  | —                  | —                  | —                  | 1,778%      |
| Portfolio turnover rate including TBA Sale Commitments and excluding mortgage dollar rolls   | —  | —                  | —                  | —                  | 1,105%      |

## Financial Highlights (concluded)

|  | Investor C                           |                    |                    |                    |             |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
|  | Year Ended December 31, <sup>1</sup> |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | 2016                                 | 2015               | 2014               | 2013               | 2012        |
| <b>Per Share Operating Performance</b>   |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Net asset value, beginning of year   | \$ 9.76                              | \$ 10.10           | \$ 10.16           | \$ 10.09           | \$ 9.50     |
| Net investment income <sup>2</sup>   | 0.16                                 | 0.10               | 0.14               | 0.17               | 0.26        |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)  | 0.08                                 | (0.24)             | 0.14               | 0.06               | 0.57        |
| Net increase (decrease) from investment operations.  | 0.24                                 | (0.14)             | 0.28               | 0.23               | 0.83        |
| Distributions: <sup>3</sup>  |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| From net investment income   | (0.15)                               | (0.18)             | (0.30)             | (0.15)             | (0.22)      |
| From net realized gain   | —                                    | (0.02)             | (0.04)             | (0.01)             | —           |
| From return of capital   | (0.03)                               | —                  | —                  | —                  | (0.02)      |
| Total distributions  | (0.18)                               | (0.20)             | (0.34)             | (0.16)             | (0.24)      |
| Redemption fees added to paid-in capital   | —                                    | —                  | —                  | —                  | —           |
| Net asset value, end of year   | \$ 9.82                              | \$ 9.76            | \$ 10.10           | \$ 10.16           | \$ 10.09    |
| <b>Total Return<sup>4</sup></b>  |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Based on net asset value   | 2.53%                                | (1.34)%            | 2.70%              | 2.34%              | 8.84%       |
| <b>Ratios to Average Net Assets</b>  |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Total expenses <sup>5</sup>  | 1.79% <sup>6</sup>                   | 1.83% <sup>6</sup> | 1.83% <sup>6</sup> | 1.93% <sup>6</sup> | 1.95%       |
| Total expenses after fees waived, reimbursed and paid indirectly <sup>5</sup>  | 1.78%                                | 1.81%              | 1.81%              | 1.87%              | 1.84%       |
| Total expenses after fees waived, reimbursed and paid indirectly and excluding interest expense <sup>5</sup>                                       | 1.65%                                | 1.65%              | 1.65%              | 1.65%              | 1.65%       |
| Net investment income <sup>5</sup>   | 1.63%                                | 1.03%              | 1.33%              | 1.73%              | 2.66%       |
| <b>Supplemental Data</b>   |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| Net assets, end of year (000)  | \$872,501                            | \$1,119,341        | \$1,085,448        | \$797,540          | \$478,775   |
| Portfolio turnover rate <sup>7</sup>   | 1,541%                               | 1,856%             | 1,396%             | 1,413%             | 807%        |
| <sup>1</sup> Consolidated Financial Highlights.  |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| <sup>2</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.  |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| <sup>3</sup> Distributions for annual periods determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations.  |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| <sup>4</sup> Where applicable, excludes the effects of any sales charges and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.                            |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
| <sup>5</sup> Excludes expenses incurred indirectly as a result of investments in underlying funds as follows:                                      |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>Year Ended December 31,</b>       |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>2016</b>                          | <b>2015</b>        | <b>2014</b>        | <b>2013</b>        | <b>2012</b> |
| Investments in underlying funds  | 0.02%                                | 0.03%              | 0.02%              | 0.03%              | 0.04%       |
| <sup>6</sup> Includes recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees. Excluding the recoupment of past waived and/or reimbursed fees as follows: |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>Year Ended December 31,</b>       |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>2016</b>                          | <b>2015</b>        | <b>2014</b>        | <b>2013</b>        | <b>2012</b> |
| Expense ratios   | 1.78%                                | 1.81%              | 1.83%              | 1.93%              | N/A         |
| <sup>7</sup> Includes mortgage dollar roll transactions. Additional information regarding portfolio turnover rate is as follows:                   |                                      |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>Year Ended December 31,</b>       |                    |                    |                    |             |
|  | <b>2016</b>                          | <b>2015</b>        | <b>2014</b>        | <b>2013</b>        | <b>2012</b> |
| Portfolio turnover rate (excluding mortgage dollar roll transactions)  | 1,098%                               | 1,242%             | 1,067%             | 894%               | 461%        |
| Portfolio turnover rate including TBA Sale Commitments, to conform to the current presentation   | —                                    | —                  | —                  | —                  | 1,778%      |
| Portfolio turnover rate including TBA Sale Commitments and excluding mortgage dollar rolls   | —                                    | —                  | —                  | —                  | 1,105%      |

# General Information

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## **Shareholder Documents**

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### **Electronic Access to Annual Reports, Semi-Annual Reports and Prospectuses**

Electronic copies of most financial reports and prospectuses are available on BlackRock's website. Shareholders can sign up for e-mail notifications of annual and semi-annual reports and prospectuses by enrolling in the Fund's electronic delivery program. To enroll:

**Shareholders Who Hold Accounts with Investment Advisers, Banks or Brokerages:** Please contact your Financial Intermediary. Please note that not all investment advisers, banks or brokerages may offer this service.

### **Shareholders Who Hold Accounts Directly With BlackRock:**

■ Access the BlackRock website at <http://www.blackrock.com/edelivery>; and

■ Log into your account

### **Delivery of Shareholder Documents**

The Fund delivers only one copy of shareholder documents, including prospectuses, shareholder reports and proxy statements, to shareholders with multiple accounts at the same address. This practice is known as "householding" and is intended to eliminate duplicate mailings and reduce expenses. Mailings of your shareholder documents may be househanded indefinitely unless you instruct us otherwise. If you do not want the mailing of these documents to be combined with those for other members of your household, please contact the Fund at (800) 441-7762.

## **Certain Fund Policies**

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### **Anti-Money Laundering Requirements**

The Fund is subject to the USA PATRIOT Act (the "Patriot Act"). The Patriot Act is intended to prevent the use of the U.S. financial system in furtherance of money laundering, terrorism or other illicit activities. Pursuant to requirements under the Patriot Act, the Fund is required to obtain sufficient information from shareholders to enable it to form a reasonable belief that it knows the true identity of its shareholders. This information will be used to verify the identity of investors or, in some cases, the status of Financial Intermediaries. Such information may be verified using third-party sources. This information will be used only for compliance with the Patriot Act or other applicable laws, regulations and rules in connection with money laundering, terrorism or economic sanctions.

The Fund reserves the right to reject purchase orders from persons who have not submitted information sufficient to allow the Fund to verify their identity. The Fund also reserves the right to redeem any amounts in the Fund from persons whose identity it is unable to verify on a timely basis. It is the Fund's policy to cooperate fully with appropriate regulators in any investigations conducted with respect to potential money laundering, terrorism or other illicit activities.

### **BlackRock Privacy Principles**

BlackRock is committed to maintaining the privacy of its current and former fund investors and individual clients (collectively, "Clients") and to safeguarding their non-public personal information. The following information is provided to help you understand what personal information BlackRock collects, how we protect that information and why in certain cases we share such information with select parties.

If you are located in a jurisdiction where specific laws, rules or regulations require BlackRock to provide you with additional or different privacy-related rights beyond what is set forth below, then BlackRock will comply with those specific laws, rules or regulations.

BlackRock obtains or verifies personal non-public information from and about you from different sources, including the following: (i) information we receive from you or, if applicable, your Financial Intermediary, on applications, forms or other documents; (ii) information about your transactions with us, our affiliates, or others; (iii) information we receive from a consumer reporting agency; and (iv) from visits to our website.

BlackRock does not sell or disclose to non-affiliated third parties any non-public personal information about its Clients, except as permitted by law, or as is necessary to respond to regulatory requests or to service Client accounts. These non-affiliated third parties are required to protect the confidentiality and security of this information and to use it only for its intended purpose.

We may share information with our affiliates to service your account or to provide you with information about other BlackRock products or services that may be of interest to you. In addition, BlackRock restricts access to non-public personal information about its Clients to those BlackRock employees with a legitimate business need for the information. BlackRock maintains physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that are designed to protect the non-public personal information of its Clients, including procedures relating to the proper storage and disposal of such information.

### ***Statement of Additional Information***

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If you would like further information about the Fund, including how it invests, please see the SAI.

For a discussion of the Fund's policies and procedures regarding the selective disclosure of its portfolio holdings, please see the SAI. The Fund makes its top ten holdings available on a monthly basis at [www.blackrock.com](http://www.blackrock.com) generally within 5 business days after the end of the month to which the information applies.

# Glossary

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This glossary contains an explanation of some of the common terms used in this prospectus. For additional information about the Fund, please see the SAI.

**Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses** — fees and expenses charged by other investment companies in which the Fund invests a portion of its assets.

**Annual Fund Operating Expenses** — expenses that cover the costs of operating the Fund.

**Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Universal Index** — an unmanaged, market value weighted index of fixed income securities issued in U.S. dollars, including U.S. government and investment grade debt, non-investment grade debt, asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities, Eurobonds, 144A securities and emerging market debt with maturities of at least one year.

**BofA Merrill Lynch 3-Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index** — an unmanaged index that tracks 3-month U.S. Treasury securities.

**Distribution Fees** — fees used to support the Fund's marketing and distribution efforts, such as compensating Financial Intermediaries, advertising and promotion.

**Management Fee** — a fee paid to BlackRock for managing the Fund.

**Other Expenses** — include accounting, transfer agency, custody, professional fees and registration fees.

**Service Fees** — fees used to compensate Financial Intermediaries for certain shareholder servicing activities.

**Shareholder Fees** — these fees include sales charges that you may pay when you buy or sell shares of the Fund.

# Intermediary-Defined Sales Charge Waiver Policies

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## ***Intermediary-Defined Sales Charge Waiver Policies***

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### **Merrill Lynch:**

Effective April 10, 2017, shareholders purchasing Fund shares through a Merrill Lynch platform or account (excluding shares purchased from or through the Fund, the Fund's distributor or any non-Merrill Lynch platform or account, even if Merrill Lynch serves as broker-dealer of record for such shares) will be eligible only for the following sales charge waivers (front-end sales charge waivers and CDSC waivers) and reductions, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in the prospectus or SAI.

### ***Front-End Sales Charge Waivers for Investor A Shares available at Merrill Lynch***

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- Shares purchased by employer-sponsored retirement, deferred compensation and employee benefit plans (including health savings accounts) and trusts used to fund those plans, provided that the shares are not held in a commission-based brokerage account and shares are held for the benefit of the plan/plan participants
- Shares purchased by or through a 529 Plan
- Shares purchased through a Merrill Lynch affiliated investment advisory program
- Shares purchased by third party investment advisors on behalf of their advisory clients through Merrill Lynch's platform
- Shares of funds purchased through the Merrill Edge Self-Directed platform
- Shares purchased through reinvestment of capital gains distributions and dividend reinvestment when purchasing shares of the same fund (but not any other BlackRock Fund)
- Shares exchanged from Investor C (i.e. level-load) Shares of the same Fund in the month of or following the 10-year anniversary of the purchase date
- Shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of Merrill Lynch or its affiliates and their family members
- Shares purchased by directors of the Fund, and employees of BlackRock or any of its affiliates, as described in the prospectus
- Shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions from another BlackRock Fund, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end or deferred sales charge (known as Rights of Reinstatement)

### ***CDSC Waivers on Investor A, B and C Shares available at Merrill Lynch***

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- Shares sold due to death or disability of the shareholder
- Shares sold as part of a systematic withdrawal plan as described in the prospectus
- Shares bought due to return of excess contributions from an IRA Account
- Shares sold as part of a required minimum distribution for IRA and retirement accounts due to the shareholder reaching age 70½
- Shares sold to pay Merrill Lynch fees but only if the transaction is initiated by Merrill Lynch
- Shares acquired through a Right of Reinstatement
- Investor A and C Shares of the Fund held in the following IRA or other retirement brokerage accounts: Traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs, Rollover IRAs, Inherited IRAs, SEP IRAs, SIMPLE IRAs, BASIC Plans, Educational Savings Accounts and Medical Savings Accounts, that are exchanged for Institutional Shares of the Fund due to transfer to certain fee based accounts or platforms

## ***Front-End Sales Charge Discounts Available at Merrill Lynch: Breakpoints, Rights of Accumulation & Letters of Intent***

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- Breakpoints as described in the prospectus
- Rights of Accumulation (ROA) entitle shareholders to breakpoint discounts that will be automatically calculated based on the aggregated holding of BlackRock Fund assets held by accounts within the purchaser's household at Merrill Lynch. Eligible BlackRock Fund assets not held at Merrill Lynch may be included in the ROA calculation only if the shareholder notifies his or her financial advisor about such assets
- Letters of Intent (LOI) allow for breakpoint discounts based on anticipated purchases of BlackRock Funds, through Merrill Lynch, over a 13-month period of time

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# For More Information

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## ***Fund and Service Providers***

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### **FUND**

BlackRock Funds II  
Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio  
100 Bellevue Parkway  
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

#### *Written Correspondence:*

P.O. Box 9819  
Providence, Rhode Island 02940-8019

#### *Overnight Mail:*

4400 Computer Drive  
Westborough, Massachusetts 01588  
(800) 441-7762

### **MANAGER**

BlackRock Advisors, LLC  
100 Bellevue Parkway  
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

### **SUB-ADVISERS**

BlackRock International Limited  
Exchange Place One  
1 Semple Street  
Edinburgh, EH3 8BL  
United Kingdom

BlackRock (Singapore) Limited  
20 Anson Road #18-01  
079912 Singapore

### **TRANSFER AGENT**

BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc.  
301 Bellevue Parkway  
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

### **INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

Deloitte & Touche LLP  
1700 Market Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

### **ACCOUNTING SERVICES PROVIDER**

BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc.  
301 Bellevue Parkway  
Wilmington, Delaware 19809

### **DISTRIBUTOR**

BlackRock Investments, LLC  
40 East 52nd Street  
New York, New York 10022

### **CUSTODIAN**

The Bank of New York Mellon  
One Wall Street  
New York, New York 10286

### **COUNSEL**

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP  
787 Seventh Avenue  
New York, New York 10019-6099

## ***Additional Information***

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### **For more information**

This prospectus contains important information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference. More information about the Fund is available at no charge upon request. This information includes:

### **Annual/Semi-Annual Reports**

These reports contain additional information about each of the Fund's investments. The annual report describes the Fund's performance, lists portfolio holdings, and discusses recent market conditions, economic trends and Fund investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance for the last fiscal year.

### **Statement of Additional Information**

A Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"), dated April 28, 2017, has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). The SAI, which includes additional information about the Fund, may be obtained free of charge, along with the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports, by calling (800) 441-7762. The SAI, as supplemented from time to time, is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

### **BlackRock Investor Services**

Representatives are available to discuss account balance information, mutual fund prospectuses, literature, programs and services available. Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Eastern time), on any business day. Call: (800) 441-7762.

### **Purchases and Redemptions**

Call your Financial Intermediary or BlackRock Investor Services at (800) 441-7762.

### **World Wide Web**

General Fund information and specific Fund performance, including the SAI and annual/semi-annual reports, can be accessed free of charge at [www.blackrock.com/prospectus](http://www.blackrock.com/prospectus). Mutual fund prospectuses and literature can also be requested via this website.

### **Written Correspondence**

BlackRock Funds II  
BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio  
P.O. Box 9819  
Providence, Rhode Island 02940-8019

### **Overnight Mail**

BlackRock Funds II  
BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Portfolio  
4400 Computer Drive  
Westborough, Massachusetts 01588

### **Internal Wholesalers/Broker Dealer Support**

Available on any business day to support investment professionals. Call: (800) 882-0052.

### **Portfolio Characteristics and Holdings**

A description of the Fund's policies and procedures related to disclosure of portfolio characteristics and holdings is available in the SAI.

For information about portfolio holdings and characteristics, BlackRock fund shareholders and prospective investors may call (800) 882-0052.

### **Securities and Exchange Commission**

You may also view and copy public information about the Fund, including the SAI, by visiting the EDGAR database on the SEC's website (<http://www.sec.gov>) or the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Copies of this information can be obtained, for a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following e-mail address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov), or by writing to the Public Reference Room of the SEC, Washington, D.C. 20549. Information about obtaining documents on the SEC's website without charge may be obtained by calling (800) SEC-0330.

**You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. No one is authorized to provide you with information that is different from information contained in this prospectus.**

The SEC and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission have not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

BLACKROCK FUNDS II:  
INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT FILE # 811-22061  
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