# Strategy Overview - First Quarter 2024 Tax-Exempt Fixed Income

The Tax-Exempt Fixed Income strategy is a portfolio of intermediate maturity, investment-grade fixed income securities issued by state and local governments throughout the United States. The strategy focuses on state and local general obligation (GO) and essential-service revenue bonds (REV). Bonds are laddered by maturity with portfolio duration maintained in the short to intermediate range. The strategy offers effective risk management while providing income exempt from federal taxes.

# **Investment Philosophy**

Our long-term, fundamental fixed income philosophy is centered on capital preservation and generating aftertax income

### **Bond Portfolios Provide:**

- Asset diversification
- Volatility control
- Income generation
- Liquidity

#### **Our Process:**

- Based on a consistent, disciplined investment approach
- Effective management of portfolio risk attributes

#### **Portfolio Approach**

- Our clients' assets are positioned in our top selections and effectively diversified
- Acquiring securities of well-established issuers provide consistency and liquidity

# **Strategy Overview**

#### Performance Objective

- Stable, federal tax-free income generated from portfolio of short and intermediate-term bonds
- Maintain a low volatility portfolio consistent with the benchmark index

#### **Investment Approach**

- Market driven, relative value strategy
- Bias toward state and local general obligation and essentialservice revenue bonds
- Focused on strong geographic regions with economic stability and favorable demographics

#### **Portfolio Profile**

- Maintain a liquid portfolio with municipal bonds rated Single-A or higher
- Non-callable bonds or bonds with narrow call windows
- Laddered exposures maturing in 10 years or less
- Diversified by issuers, geographical locations, and revenue sources

Statistics	Tax-Exempt Fixed Income <sup>1</sup>	ICE BofAML 1-10 Year Municipal Index							
Number of Holdings*	1,250	9,815							
Average Yield	3.17	3.16							
Average Duration	3.79	3.40							
Average Coupon	4.18	4.53							
Average Credit Rating	AA+	AA-							
Maturity Distribution*									
0-3 Years	28.99	30.46							
3-5 Years	20.76	24.03							
5-7 Years	17.49	19.86							
7+ Years	32.76	25.65							
Quality Distribution*									
AAA	19.99%	14.06%							
AA	74.74%	50.00%							
Α	4.27%	21.20%							
BBB	0.00%	3.22%							
No Rating	1.00%	11.52%							
Municipal Bond Type*									
General Obligation	83.44%	30.24%							
Revenue Bonds	14.50%	64.46%							
Certificate Participation	0.00%	0.00%							
Pre-Refunded	1.26%	5.30%							
Other	0.80%	0.00%							

Source: Bloomberg, BondEdge. Data as of March 31, 2024.

\*Only evaluated on municipal bond holdings. Does not include mutual funds. <sup>1</sup>Tax-Exempt Fixed Income Composite.

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The benchmark for the Composite is the ICE BofAML 1-10 Year Municipal Index. The index represents unmanaged portfolios whose characteristics differ from the Composite portfolios; however, it tends to represent the investment environment existing during the time period shown. The ICE BofAML 1-10 Year Municipal Index is an unmanaged index that tracks the performance of 1-10 year investment-grade municipal bonds.

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## Tax-Equivalent Bond Yields - Married Filing Jointly (2024)

Municipal Bond Yield	<b>10%</b> Marginal to \$23,200	<b>12%</b> Marginal to \$94,300	<b>22%</b> Marginal to \$201,050	<b>24%</b> Marginal to \$383,900	<b>32%</b> Marginal to \$487,450	<b>35%</b> Marginal to \$731,200	<b>37%</b> Marginal Over \$731,200
2.00%	2.22%	2.27%	2.56%	2.63%	2.94%	3.08%	3.17%
2.50%	2.78%	2.84%	3.21%	3.29%	3.68%	3.85%	3.97%
3.00%	3.33%	3.41%	3.85%	3.95%	4.41%	4.62%	4.76%
3.50%	3.89%	3.98%	4.49%	4.61%	5.15%	5.38%	5.56%
4.00%	4.44%	4.55%	5.13%	5.26%	5.88%	6.15%	6.35%
4.50%	5.00%	5.11%	5.77%	5.92%	6.62%	6.92%	7.14%

Source: Internal Revenue Service Tax Rates

## ICE Municipal Bond Index Performance Matrix

Pricing Date: 3/28/2024 Instantaneous Horizon: 12 mo. Reinvestment Rate: 5.30%	Yield Change	ICE MUNI 1-3 YR	ICE MUNI 1-5 YR	ICE MUNI 1-10 YR	ICE U.S. MUNI SECURITIES
Kenvestment Kate. 5.50%	-200	6.41	7.61	9.92	15.24
Source: CMS BondEdge - ICE BofAML Municipal Index	-175	5.98	7.01	9.01	13.85
	-150	5.55	6.41	8.10	12.46
	-125	5.12	5.81	7.21	11.03
	-100	4.69	5.22	6.32	9.61
	-75	4.27	4.64	5.46	8.14
	-50	3.85	4.06	4.59	6.66
	-25	3.43	3.48	3.74	5.11
	0	3.01	2.91	2.90	3.56
Note: The accompanying chart demonstrates the risk and return attributes of various fixed income benchmarks in specified instantaneous parallel interest rate shifts over a stated time horizon. Index returns will vary based on actual changes in	25	2.59	2.34	2.06	1.92
	50	2.18	1.77	1.23	0.28
	75	1.77	1.21	0.41	-1.43
	100	1.35	0.64	-0.42	-3.14
	125	0.94	0.08	-1.24	-4.87
	150	0.53	-0.48	-2.06	-6.60
interest rates, the yield curve, credit spreads, prepayment factors and other market	175	0.12	-1.04	-2.89	-8.32
elated inputs. This chart is for illustration purposes only.	200	-0.29	-1.60	-3.72	-10.03

