Vanguard Personal Advisor Services Brochure

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Vanguard Personal Advisor Services®, an advisory service offered through Vanguard Advisers, Inc. ("VAI"), (also referred to herein as “we,” “us,” and “our”). This brochure also describes how VAI is compensated for the service provided to you. You should carefully consider this information in your evaluation of the service. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please call us at the phone number above. The information in this brochure hasn’t been approved or verified by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about VAI is available on the SEC’s website at adviserinfo.sec.gov.

VAI is a registered investment advisor with the SEC. Registration doesn’t imply a certain level of skill or training.

Material changes: There have been no material changes that affect the services provided to existing Personal Advisor Services clients since the last published brochure.

This brochure update includes a consideration of our lead advice offering versus single-fund solutions, information about the availability of annuities, and the use of trade aggregation. The update also notes the introduction of a client referral program and a description of all advisory services offered by Vanguard Advisers, Inc.

Advisory business

VAI is a Pennsylvania corporation that provides investment advisory services to a wide variety of clients.

These advisory services include:

- Stable Value: discretionary investment advisory services to separate accounts offered as investment options in state-sponsored education savings plans ("529 Plans");
- Vanguard Institutional Advisory Services: discretionary and nondiscretionary advisory services and administrative services to institutional clients such as endowments, foundations, employee benefit plans and trusts, and family offices;
- Vanguard ETF Strategic Model Portfolios: model portfolios composed of Vanguard Funds and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) (as defined below) accessed by third-party intermediaries through third-party platforms;
- Interactive Advice Tools: Personal Online Advisor ("POA") is a nondiscretionary advisory service previously offered to retail clients. Financial Engines Advisors, LLC ("FE"), an independent investment advisory unaffiliated with VAI, subadvises POA;
- Vanguard Personal Advisor Services ("PAS"): ongoing advised account services for retail clients and point-in-time advice services to participants in eligible employer-sponsored retirement plans;
- Vanguard Digital Advisor®: discretionary advisory service offered to retail clients and eligible employer-sponsored retirement plan participants;
- Vanguard Managed Account Program (“VMAP”) and POA: discretionary advisory service offered to eligible employer-sponsored retirement plan participants. POA is a nondiscretionary advisory service offered to eligible employer-sponsored retirement plan participants. FE subadvises VMAP and POA.

As an SEC-registered advisor, VAI has a fiduciary duty to act in its clients’ best interests and to abide by the duties of care and loyalty. VAI was incorporated in and has been in business since 1995. VAI is 100% owned by Goliath, Inc., a Delaware corporation. Goliath is 100% owned by The Vanguard Group, Inc. ("Vanguard"). As such, VAI is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Vanguard, the sponsor and manager of the family of mutual funds and ETFs composing The Vanguard Group of Investment Companies ("Vanguard® Funds"), which VAI typically recommends as investments. Read the section of this brochure titled “Other financial industry activities and affiliations” for more information.

Vanguard Personal Advisor Services

Vanguard Personal Advisor Services, launched by VAI in 2015, provides both ongoing advised account services for Vanguard Retail Investor Group clients and point-in-time advice services to participants in eligible employer-sponsored retirement plans through an offering branded as Vanguard Financial Planning Services. VAI uses the same methodology to generate financial plans for retail clients enrolled in the Personal Advisor Services ongoing advised account service and the point-in-time advice and financial planning service offered to plan participants through Vanguard Financial Planning Services.

Point-in-time advice and financial planning for plan participants

Participants in eligible employer-sponsored retirement plans can engage Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services to engage in a discussion with a financial planner for point-in-time advice, which includes
addressing specific investment-related questions or topics, or providing nondiscretionary investment strategies for their retirement accounts based on personalized financial plans created by VAI. In choosing to receive a financial plan, you'll provide us with information relating to your financial situation, investment objectives, and willingness and ability to tolerate risk. VAI will then formulate a financial plan for you that will recommend an asset allocation and specific investments you can maintain in your retirement account to meet that allocation. Financial plans generated for participants will recommend an allocation from among the investment options selected by the plan fiduciary that make up the plan’s lineup and will typically recommend a combination of specific Vanguard Funds based on their low cost and broad diversification unless the plan lineup only includes company stock or third-party mutual funds or lacks the necessary Vanguard Funds needed to complete the recommended asset allocation. Your financial plan will also include advice about how to allocate future contributions to your retirement plan. You’ll be able to impose reasonable restrictions on our investment strategy, which may include the ability to accommodate non-Vanguard securities in your financial plan (read the section of this brochure titled “Reasonable restrictions” for more information). Within the financial plan, we’ll also use the information you provided to us to provide goals-based forecasting and recommendations on how to better meet your investing goals, based on your situation and goals at the time you engage the service. Your financial plan will be finalized after consultation with an advisor from Personal Advisor Services. More information about the methodology used to create the financial plan is provided in the sections of this brochure that follow the heading “Methods of analysis, investment strategies, and risk of loss” below.

Keep in mind that if you use Vanguard Financial Planning services, you’ll need to implement transactions and rebalance your retirement account on an ongoing basis in accordance with the financial plan. We won’t monitor your retirement account or financial plan, seek to determine whether you may have experienced material changes to your financial situation, investment objectives, and willingness and ability to take risk, or initiate transactions in your retirement account. You’ll be solely responsible for initiating all transactions and implementing the other recommendations provided in the financial plan.

**Vanguard Personal Advisor Services**

Vanguard Advisers, Inc. (“VAI”), also offers ongoing advised services for Vanguard Retail Investor Group clients through Vanguard Personal Advisor Services. Please note that ongoing advisory services aren’t currently offered to participants with respect to securities held in employer-sponsored retirement plans. By choosing to engage Personal Advisor Services, you’ll provide us with information relating to your financial situation, investment objectives, and willingness and ability to take risk. A financial plan will then be formulated for you that will recommend an asset allocation that will be maintained in your account(s) to meet that allocation.

Our lead recommendations will normally be limited to allocations in certain Vanguard Funds, based on their low cost and broad diversification, and won’t include recommendations to purchase individual securities or bonds, CDs (certificates of deposit), options, derivatives, annuities, third-party mutual funds, closed-end funds, unit investment trusts, partnerships, or other non-Vanguard securities.

In particular, we’ll recommend varying combinations of Vanguard Total Stock Market Fund, Vanguard Total International Stock Market Fund, Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund, and Vanguard Total International Bond Index Fund, or their respective ETF share classes (collectively referred to as the “Four Totals”).

Each of the Four Totals is a share class of mutual funds that are used or are substantially similar to the mutual funds used to meet the allocations underlying certain Vanguard single-fund solutions, such as Vanguard’s Target Retirement Funds. In certain circumstances, the recommended Portfolio will contain identical allocations to the four Total Funds that would’ve been used as the underlying investments in a Vanguard single-fund solution purchased by that investor.

Clients should consider the Personal Advisor Services advisory fees and Vanguard Fund or ETF expense ratios they’ll incur upon enrollment as well as the availability of an advisor, personalized features, and additional services available to Personal Advisor Services clients in comparison to the lower costs and absence of such services of Vanguard single-fund solutions when considering the managed offer.

We recognize, however, that you may experience costs and tax consequences associated with selling your existing securities positions to implement our lead advice recommendations. As such, we’ll weigh the costs of transitioning the securities you hold before enrolling in the ongoing advised service using a breakeven cost analysis. If the securities you hold before enrolling in the ongoing advised service pass our breakeven cost analysis, we’ll recommend that you continue to hold all or a portion of such securities, subject to our portfolio construction guidelines. If they fail the breakeven cost analysis, we’ll recommend that you sell those positions and implement our lead advice recommendations. If you want to retain some or all of those positions that fail the breakeven cost analysis, we may accommodate your requests provided they don’t violate our portfolio construction guidelines. Read the section below titled “Reasonable restrictions” for additional information about imposing restrictions on our investment strategy. Even in situations where your Portfolio (as defined below) contains securities you hold before enrolling in the ongoing advised service, we’ll recommend that any additional purchases in your advised Portfolio (as defined below) be made into Vanguard Funds.

Within the financial plan, we’ll also use the information you provided to us to create goals-based forecasting and recommendations on how to better meet your investing goals, based on your situation at the time you engage the service. More information about the methodology used in creating the financial plan is provided in the sections of this brochure under
the heading “Methods of analysis, investment strategies, and risk of loss” below.

Your financial plan will be finalized after consultation with an advisor from Personal Advisor Services. If eligible, you can choose to forego scheduling an initial or follow-up advisor consultation and instead enroll in the ongoing advised service using our digital enrollment process. If you have any questions throughout the process, you’ll always have the option to speak with an advisor. You’ll also be given the opportunity to preview our initial financial plan to determine whether to enroll in the ongoing advised service. Be aware, however, that we may not have an opportunity to refine and tailor the initial financial plan if you decline to enroll in the ongoing advising service, and the initial financial plan’s suitability to your financial situation may be limited as a result. Within five business days of accepting the terms of the financial plan and enrolling in the ongoing advising service, we’ll initiate steps to begin the necessary transactions to hold the mix of Vanguard Funds or other securities recommended to meet the asset allocation selected for your account(s) designated as part of your financial plan. Changes to the investment strategy set forth in the financial plan will be made only with your input and consent, which makes it extremely important that you immediately notify us of material changes to your financial situation, investment objectives, and willingness and ability to take risk. Collectively, the accounts enrolled in the ongoing advising service where we make recommendations to maintain your target allocation will be referred to herein as the “Portfolio.” Once you’ve agreed to ongoing advisement of the Portfolio, we’ll provide regular monitoring and review of the financial plan, and rebalancing of the Portfolio pursuant to the standing instructions you approve in the financial plan.

By enrolling in the ongoing advising service, you’re granting us authority to purchase and sell securities on your behalf. Accordingly, we may change the investments used to effect the investment strategy set forth in the financial plan at any time and without prior notice to you, including changing the investments used for purposes of rebalancing the Portfolio or substituting a particular investment for another investment you previously approved. If, however, we recommend such a change with respect to securities held in an individual retirement account as that term is defined in Section 408(a) of the Code (“IRA”), we’ll notify you at least 30 days before the change is implemented. Any notice of a proposed change in investments held in an IRA will include the effective date of the proposed change, instructions you can follow to avoid the proposed change, and a reminder that your failure to respond by a specified date will be deemed your consent to the proposed change in investments.

Your financial plan can include multiple investing goals that meet your particular financial situation, such as planning for college, saving for a home, establishing a rainy-day fund, saving for retirement, or managing your assets in a trust. Your goals may be supported by your Portfolio as well as accounts held outside of the Portfolio.

The ongoing advising service also offers a web experience that includes content based on your goals and provides personalized reporting. The web experience is accessed by logging on to your account at vanguard.com. Certain account registrations, such as irrevocable trusts or supporting entity-type registrations, may preclude clients from a web experience. For clients enrolled in the ongoing advising service, we’ll contact you, at least annually, via digital interface or phone, to validate your financial planning needs and the strategy chosen for the Portfolio for the purposes of determining whether there have been any changes in your financial situation, risk tolerance, tax situation, investment time horizon, investment objectives, or desired reasonable restrictions that may require a new financial plan for your review and approval. Again, it’s critical that you interact with us during these attempts to validate your financial planning needs and the strategy chosen for the Portfolio, or whenever you believe that you may have experienced material changes to your financial situation, investment objectives, and willingness and ability to take risk, to ensure your financial plan is appropriately tailored. If you fail to validate your current investor profile or respond to our attempts to schedule and conduct an annual review, we’ll assume there have been no changes, and we’ll continue in accordance with your approved financial plan.

In connection with the ongoing advising service, you’ll retain the right to: (i) withdraw securities or cash from the Portfolio; (ii) vote on shareholder proposals of beneficially owned securities or delegate the authority to vote on such proposals to another person; (iii) be provided, in a timely manner, with a confirmation or other notification of each securities transaction in the Portfolio and all other documents required by law to be provided to security holders; and (iv) proceed directly as a security holder against the issuer of any security in the Portfolio and not be obligated to join any person involved in the operation of the service, or any other client of the service, as a condition precedent to initiating such proceeding.

Vanguard Personal Advisor Services offers different asset-based service models to clients enrolled in the service. Clients with Portfolio securities ranging in value from $50,000 to $500,000 are assigned to a team of financial advisors. Clients with Portfolio securities of more than $500,000 receive an assigned financial advisor. All Personal Advisor Services clients have the ability to call and schedule an appointment with an advisor at any time. Additional information about fee tiers based on assets under management are included below in the “Fees and compensation” section.

Before enrolling in the ongoing advising service, potential clients should consider paying off high-interest debt.

Estimated capital gains and MinTax cost basis method

We’ll provide an estimate of the capital gains and/or losses you may realize if you implement the recommendations in your financial plan. We’ll use the average cost method for estimating your capital gains and/or losses, unless you’ve opted into the usage of the minimum tax (“MinTax”) cost basis method in connection with your enrollment in the ongoing advising service (please see the following paragraph for more information about the MinTax cost basis method). If the cost
basis of a particular security is unknown, we’ll assume the entire position is held at a gain (meaning we’ll assume your cost basis for that security is zero). Actual capital gains and/or losses may differ from the estimates because they’re based on the price of the security at the time of sale. While the ongoing advised service will weigh the tax effect of potential Portfolio changes, transitioning the Portfolio based on our portfolio construction guidelines could result in realized taxable gains or losses, or the generation of taxable dividend income or tax-preference items that are taxable under the alternative minimum tax. Neither VAI nor any affiliated entity shall have any responsibility to pay these taxes.

This paragraph about the MinTax cost basis method applies to those clients who have enrolled in the ongoing advised service. Our initial financial plan will use average cost as its cost basis method to estimate gains and losses potentially realized due to implementation. Once you’ve accepted the terms of the financial plan and are enrolled in the ongoing advised service, we’ll use the MinTax cost basis method to perform the necessary transactions within your taxable accounts to construct your Portfolio and on an ongoing basis for all securities held in your taxable accounts in the Portfolio unless you affirmatively opt out of such method. If you affirmatively opt out of MinTax, we’ll continue to use average cost as the cost basis method to calculate estimated gains and losses.

The MinTax cost basis method is generally designed to minimize tax impact and lower an individual’s tax burden by identifying selective units or quantities, also referred to as lots, of securities to sell in any sale transaction (including rebalancing) based on specific ordering rules. In many cases, the MinTax cost basis method will minimize the tax impact to you of a transaction but may not do so in every case. For example, if the taxable accounts within your Portfolio have a position held with a small short-term capital loss and a large long-term capital loss, the MinTax cost basis method will choose to sell the position held at a small short-term capital loss first. The method’s effectiveness at minimizing your taxes will vary depending on your individual circumstances. You should consult with your tax advisor to discuss whether the MinTax cost basis method is appropriate for you given your individual circumstances. Please refer to Your Service Agreement for Vanguard Personal Advisor Services for more information about the MinTax cost basis method.

VAI doesn’t provide tax advice, nor does the ongoing advised service’s use of the MinTax cost basis method constitute tax advice. We strongly urge you to consult with your tax advisor to discuss any tax concerns related to the ongoing advised service, including the appropriate cost basis method for you before implementation.

Additional information for participants and Vanguard IRA holders

VAI intends Vanguard Personal Advisor Services to be a level-fee-eligible investment advice arrangement and to comply with the conditions of the statutory exemption for eligible investment advice arrangements under Sections 408(b)(14) and (g) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (the “ERISA”) and Sections 4975(d)(17) and (f)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code (the “Code”). In providing advice for assets held in IRAs, or with respect to assets held in eligible employer-sponsored retirement plans as defined in Section 3(2) of ERISA, VAI will act as a fiduciary advisor as defined under Section 408(g)(11) of ERISA and Section 4975(f)(8)(J) of the Code and, therefore, VAI must act prudently and only with clients’ interests in mind when providing clients recommendations about investment of those assets. Additionally, Personal Advisor Services will be audited annually by an independent auditor for compliance with the requirements of the statutory level-fee exemption and related regulation. Vanguard Retail Investor Group clients who have received our advice with respect to securities held in IRAs during a calendar year will receive a copy of the most recent version of the auditor’s findings published in the next calendar year within 30 days of our receipt of the report. Sponsors of eligible employer-sponsored retirement plans that make Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning available to participants during a calendar year will also receive a copy of the most recent version of the auditor’s findings published in the next calendar year within 60 days of our receipt of the report.

Spending Fund

This section about the Spending Fund applies to those clients who have enrolled in the ongoing advised service. The ongoing advised service will recommend that you establish a new money market fund, or designate an existing money market fund, to facilitate cash flow into and out of the Portfolio, herein defined as a “Spending Fund.” If you’ve established a Spending Fund, any additional cash added will remain in the Spending Fund until the total amount of assets in the Spending Fund exceeds your agreed-upon maximum limit (the “Upper Threshold”). When the Upper Threshold is exceeded, your Spending Fund balance will be reduced to the agreed-upon target amount (the “Target Balance”) and the additional assets will be invested according to the terms of your current financial plan. You can also establish an agreed-upon minimum limit for the Spending Fund (the “Lower Threshold”). When the balance of the Spending Fund falls below the Lower Threshold, an advisor will act in accordance with your current financial plan to rebalance securities among your holdings to meet the Target Balance in the Spending Fund.

Spending Fund processes don’t apply to participants of employer-sponsored retirement plans who engage Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services, or those clients who only receive a financial plan and decide not to enroll in the ongoing advised service.

Transferring cash or securities to and from the Portfolio

This section about transfers of cash and securities to and from the Portfolio applies to those clients who have enrolled in the ongoing advised service. While enrolled in the ongoing advised service, you can transfer cash or securities to and from the Portfolio at any time, and you can add or remove accounts at any time, provided you give us prior notice by contacting us. Clients with Portfolio securities ranging in value from $50,000 to $500,000 can schedule an appointment with an advisor by logging on to their Vanguard Planning Services, or those clients who only receive a financial plan and decide not to enroll in the ongoing advised service.
accounts and selecting “Manage Appointments” to choose a convenient time for an advisor to call them, or by calling us at 800-992-5541. Clients with Portfolio securities in excess of $500,000 can contact their advisor directly by phone or by scheduling an appointment.

Cash transferred to the Portfolio will be deposited into your Spending Fund (as defined below) or an existing money market fund or settlement fund in a Vanguard Brokerage Account where you haven’t established a Spending Fund. If you don’t have a Spending Fund, existing money market fund, or settlement fund in a Vanguard Brokerage Account, you hereby agree to establish, at the time of transfer, an account in Vanguard Federal Money Market Fund for the purpose of accepting your transfer of cash into the Portfolio. When cash is transferred to the Portfolio as a result of automated account services (such as an automatic investment plan) or investment earnings (such as interest or dividend payments), the cash will be allocated in accordance with your financial plan upon your next rebalancing opportunity, or as otherwise agreed upon with an advisor.

Purchases into Vanguard Funds in the Portfolio, other securities transfers, and cash transfers greater than $100, with the exception of automated account services or investment earnings as noted above, will be invested within five business days of the transfer according to the terms of the current financial plan, except for cash transfers deposited into your Spending Fund. Any transfers less than $100, except for cash transfers deposited into your Spending Fund, will be allocated in accordance with your financial plan upon your next rebalancing opportunity. If you’ve established a Spending Fund, read the “Spending Fund” section above for details on how cash transfers will be invested.

If you haven’t established a financial plan, securities will be held in kind until you establish a financial plan for such assets. We reserve the right to reject the transfer of certain securities. You may work with an advisor to establish an alternate timing for the investment of additional cash, Vanguard Funds, or other securities transferred to your Portfolio. The processes regarding the transfer of cash and securities to and from the Portfolio don’t apply to participants of employer-sponsored retirement plans who engage Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services, or those clients who only receive a financial plan and decide not to enroll in the ongoing advised service.

Purchase and sale of securities in a Portfolio
This section about purchases of securities in a Portfolio applies to those clients who have enrolled in the ongoing advised service. If you process a transaction in a Vanguard Brokerage Account enrolled in the ongoing advised service and don’t have sufficient funds to settle the transaction, an advisor will raise settlement proceeds by selling a portion of the largest position in the affected account based on our drawdown hierarchy methodology discussed below. The processes regarding the purchase of securities in a Portfolio don’t apply to participants of employer-sponsored retirement plans who engage Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services, or those clients who only receive a financial plan and decide not to enroll in the ongoing advised service.

When selling securities from the Portfolio during rebalancing or a Spending Fund replenishment, or when raising cash for a onetime withdrawal, securities will be sold according to the following drawdown hierarchy, as applicable: securities held in IRAs subject to required minimum distributions (RMDs), securities held in taxable accounts, securities held in tax-deferred accounts, and then securities held in tax-free (Roth) accounts. You can work with an advisor to customize your drawdown hierarchy when you need to sell securities. The client designated as the “Primary Advice Client” in the Service Agreement for Vanguard Personal Advisor Services can accept or customize the drawdown hierarchy and direct withholding elections for all accounts in the Portfolio, including accounts owned solely by the Secondary Advice Client. The drawdown hierarchy aims for tax efficiency but may not be equitable in relation to the accounts owned by a Primary Advice Client versus those owned by a Secondary Advice Client, meaning that one individual’s account could be depleted before securities are sold from the other’s accounts. Securities can’t be sold and balances can’t be withdrawn proportionately from various accounts when following the drawdown hierarchy.

Restrictions on Portfolio accounts
While enrolled in the ongoing advised service, you shouldn’t purchase or sell securities in your Portfolio without prior assistance from an advisor, and you may be restricted from such activity until you terminate the ongoing advised service. Transactions performed in a Portfolio enrolled in the ongoing advised service without prior notice to us may be reversed or unwound to maintain the recommended allocation for your Portfolio. Other account transactions or services, like automatic trading services (such as automatic investment/withdrawal), will be restricted or unavailable through the web experience but can be processed or enabled with the assistance of an advisor. Other actions requiring advisor assistance include cost basis provisioning, dividend and capital gains distribution elections, and setting RMD payments. You may not receive third-party discretionary advice on securities held in the Portfolio under the ongoing advised service. If you want to receive third-party discretionary advice about certain securities in the Portfolio, we can assist you in transferring those securities to an account outside of the Portfolio, or you can choose to terminate the ongoing advised service. You can arrange separately for the provision of advice by another provider that has no material affiliation with, and receives no compensation in connection with, the securities held in your account(s).

As of December 31, 2018: Vanguard Personal Advisor Services offered under Vanguard Advisers, Inc. (“VAI”), had a total of $83.7 billion in discretionary assets under management.
Fees and compensation

Advisory fee

The annual advisory service fee paid to VAI for clients enrolled in the ongoing advised service will be as follows:

0.30% on Portfolios below $5 million
0.20% on Portfolios from $5 million to below $10 million
0.10% on Portfolios from $10 million to below $25 million
0.05% on Portfolios of $25 million and above

In most cases, Portfolios of $5 million and above will be serviced by Vanguard National Trust Company (“VNTC”), an affiliate of VAI that offers its own version of Vanguard Personal Advisor Services to its client base. Read the section below titled “Other financial industry activities and affiliations” for additional information about VNTC.

Fees will be calculated quarterly and based on your average daily balance in the Portfolio across the entire fee period. A fee period is the prior calendar quarter. The fee will be assessed on the first Monday unless it falls on a U.S. holiday; a list of observed U.S. holidays is available on the New York Stock Exchange’s website, available at nyse.com/markets/nyse/market-info after the completion of a fee period and will generally be deducted within two weeks of assessment. A total fee will be calculated across all securities in the Portfolio, with the exception of money market fund positions. VAI won’t assess a fee on the balance of money market fund securities held within the Portfolio. VAI will select the designated fee account(s) of the Portfolio from which the fee will be deducted and then will systematically determine which securities to sell to raise proceeds sufficient to cover the fee based on a fee withdrawal hierarchy of expected fund volatility from least to most volatile. In situations in which you own Vanguard Funds both in accounts held with The Vanguard Group, Inc. (“Vanguard”), and in Vanguard Brokerage Accounts held with Vanguard Marketing Corporation, we’ll look to sweep the fees from the accounts held with Vanguard first. The fee withdrawal hierarchy prioritizes mutual funds with relatively low volatility and expected tax consequences over funds with higher volatility and potential embedded gains. Unless the only account in the Portfolio is an IRA, we won’t select the IRA as the account from which the fee should be deducted. In the case of multiple IRAs only in the Portfolio, the fee will be taken proportionally from all of the IRAs in the Portfolio. In addition, when sweeping fees from a taxable account with a Spending Fund, we’ll prioritize the Spending Fund first. We reserve the right to charge the annual service fee upon 30 days’ written notice to you. Upon removal of an account, or termination of the ongoing advised service, we’ll require payment of any accrued fees from the time of the last quarterly payment until the termination date. We may offer a negotiated fee schedule to clients solely at our discretion, including fee structures based on combined assets of related clients. The assets of related clients can only be combined for the purposes of determining the appropriate fee tier if they’re contained within a Portfolio at the time the fee is assessed. In these cases, clients will be notified in writing that they qualify for a lower fee tier. Clients using a lower fee tier will still follow the same calculation and fee assessment processes outlined above. The ongoing advised service reserves the right to provide periodic fee waivers when deemed appropriate.

There may be periods when rebalancing isn’t needed because the Portfolio is appropriately allocated. The ongoing advised service will continue to monitor your Portfolio and goals to help keep you on track to meet your investment objectives and will therefore continue to charge all applicable fees during these times of inactivity.

Participants in eligible employer-sponsored retirement plans receiving financial plans from Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services won’t be charged an advisory fee for the financial plan.

Advisory fees for the financial plan or ongoing advised service are in addition to the Vanguard Fund fees, Vanguard Variable Annuity fees, account fees, non-Vanguard fund fees, and retirement plan fees described in the paragraphs below. You should review this information and carefully consider the effect of our advisory fees before you approve your financial plan or implement any recommendations provided through a financial plan or the ongoing advised service.

Vanguard Fund fees

The advice provided by Vanguard Advisers, Inc. (“VAI”), will include recommendations to sell, hold, or purchase Vanguard Funds. Where we transact to implement your financial plan or you act in accordance with our advice and invest in Vanguard Funds, it’ll result in the payment of fees to the Vanguard Funds and to The Vanguard Group, Inc. (“Vanguard”), an affiliate of VAI. A purchase or sale of Vanguard Fund shares isn’t subject to a load, sales charge, or commission. However, each Vanguard Fund incurs advisory, administrative, and custodial fees, as well as other fees and expenses it pays out of its own assets. The advisory, administrative, custodial, and other costs make up the Vanguard Funds’ expense ratios. Also, some Vanguard Funds impose purchase and redemption fees. Clients who invest in Vanguard Funds are subject to the applicable expense ratios and to any purchase and redemption fees. Please consult the prospectus for information about a specific Vanguard Fund’s expense ratio and any fees assessed by that fund.

Vanguard Variable Annuity fees

Certain existing clients of the Service have access to the Vanguard Variable Annuity. Vanguard and the Service will no longer offer the annuity product and will be converting the annuity product to another provider. The Vanguard Variable Annuity isn’t therefore available to new clients nor available for inclusion in a Portfolio.

When a Portfolio contains a Vanguard Variable Annuity, you’ll incur an expense ratio for the annuity, which will vary depending on the annuity’s investment allocation. The expense ratio includes an administrative fee of 0.10% payable to The Vanguard Group, Inc. (“Vanguard”), a mortality and expense risk fee of 0.17% payable to Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company, and the expense ratio of the Vanguard Variable Insurance Fund portfolio comprising the investment allocation of the variable annuity payable.
to Vanguard. The variable annuity expense ratio excludes additional fees that would apply if the Return of Premium death benefit rider or Secure Income™ (Guaranteed Lifetime Withdrawal Benefit) rider is elected. In addition, contracts with balances under $25,000 are subject to a $25 annual maintenance fee payable to The Vanguard Group, Inc.

**Account fees**
You may also incur account service fees, commission charges, and other account charges and processing fees in connection with establishing accounts with Vanguard Advisers, Inc. (“VAI”), affiliates. You should review the terms of your account-opening documents or any plan fee disclosure notices for details about fees that may be assessed in connection with these accounts. Vanguard Marketing Corporation (“VMC”), doing business as Vanguard Brokerage Services®, a registered broker-dealer and a wholly owned subsidiary of The Vanguard Group, Inc. (“Vanguard”), and an affiliate of VAI, offers a limited number of commission-free transactions to clients who open Vanguard Brokerage Accounts and are eligible for Vanguard’s Flagship® and Flagship Select® service levels. If you’re currently enrolled in one of these services, transactions performed by the ongoing advised service will be eligible for the commission-free benefit, but any such executed transactions will reduce the number of commission-free transactions available to you in your self-directed accounts held outside of your Portfolio.

**Non-Vanguard fund fees**
Mutual fund trades in a Vanguard Brokerage Account held through VMC are limited to those fund families with which VMC has entered into a selling agreement. VMC receives transaction fees, front- and back-end loads, sales charges, and 12b-1 fees in connection with certain transactions in third-party mutual funds through VMC’s FundAccess® program. VMC will also receive fees for the provisioning of various shareholder services in connection with the participation of certain mutual funds in the FundAccess program. These may be considered revenue sharing and represent a significant source of revenue for VMC. Determined in accordance with an asset-based formula, these payments may equal up to 0.40% of a mutual fund’s assets under management at VMC on an annual basis. VMC will also receive operational payments from mutual funds in the form of networking or per-position fees of up to $20 for each customer position in a mutual fund on an annual basis. These fees are reimbursed to VMC for the work it performs on behalf of the funds, which may include, but isn’t limited to, sub-accounting services, dividend calculation and posting, accounting, reconciliation, client confirmation and statement preparation and mailing, and tax statement preparation and mailing. Certain funds offered through the FundAccess program assess purchase and redemption fees. If the Portfolio transacts in a fund that assesses such fees or pays the aforementioned forms of compensation to VMC, those fees will be imposed on your transaction(s) and the compensation will be paid to VMC separate and apart from the advisory fees we assess.

**Exchange-listed options**
VMC receives compensation for directing options order flow to specific market participants with which it has a relationship (Citadel Execution Services, Citigroup Global Markets, UBS Securities LLC, and KCG Americas LLC). VMC receives payments at an average blended rate below $0.18 per contract. VMC doesn’t receive payment for options orders routed to Pershing LLC. If you transact options in your Portfolio, VMC will receive payment for order flow separate and apart from the advisory fees we assess.

**Retirement plan fees**
Participants in employer-sponsored retirement plans may also directly or indirectly bear the fees assessed by The Vanguard Group, Inc. (“Vanguard”), for recordkeeping services provided by Vanguard to a retirement plan. In connection with its services, Vanguard receives fees separate from, and in addition to, any advisory fees assessed by Vanguard Advisers, Inc. (“VAI”). Thus, retirement plan participants who receive advice from VAI may directly or indirectly bear the fees assessed by Vanguard in connection with its services to the plan, in addition to any advisory fees assessed by VAI. Participants in employer-sponsored retirement plans for which Vanguard provides recordkeeping or investment services may be permitted to invest in collective trusts, company stock funds, or certain customized investment options for which Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company, an affiliate of VAI, provides services and receives compensation. Because advice provided by VAI may include recommendations to hold or purchase these investment options, acting in accordance with such advice may result in the payment of fees to Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company.

Participants in employer-sponsored retirement plans for which Vanguard provides recordkeeping services are often permitted to invest in non-Vanguard mutual funds. Because the advice provided by VAI may include recommendations to transact in non-Vanguard mutual funds, acting in accordance with such advice may result in payments to Vanguard or one of its affiliates or subsidiaries as compensation for participant-level recordkeeping and administrative services provided by Vanguard for such funds. This payment may be made by the fund company sponsoring the non-Vanguard mutual fund or an affiliate, by the plan sponsor, by the participants investing in the non-Vanguard mutual fund, or some combination thereof.

**Advice not affected by fees**
The advice provided by our advisors won’t take into consideration whether Vanguard or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries will receive fees from its recommendation to purchase, hold, or sell Vanguard Funds or non-Vanguard investments. Advisory fees received by VAI and compensation paid to its employees, agents, and registered advisors doesn’t vary on the basis of any investment options selected, and the advisors who deliver advice aren’t compensated for or on the basis of any recommendation or sales of specific securities.
Performance-based fees and side-by-side management

Vanguard Advisers, Inc., and its advisors don’t receive any fees for advisory services provided to you based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of your investments.

Types of clients

The ongoing advised service offered by Personal Advisor Services is made available to clients and prospects of Vanguard Retail Investor Group with a minimum of $50,000 of investable cash or securities in the Portfolio. Eligible clients include those with individual accounts (including IRAs), joint accounts, and trust accounts. Participants in eligible employer-sponsored retirement plans whose employers have approved Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services are also eligible to receive advice. Please note that the ongoing advised service isn’t currently offered to participants with respect to securities held in employer-sponsored retirement plans. Other account types may be considered for purposes of goals forecasting, but Vanguard Advisers, Inc., won’t invest or reallocate assets in those other accounts.

Methods of analysis, investment strategies, and risk of loss

Vanguard Adviser, Inc.’s (“VAI”), investment methodology incorporates our investment philosophies and beliefs, such as the benefits of low costs, diversification, and indexing. Our methodology, which is approved and periodically reviewed by senior Vanguard management, is based on Vanguard’s fundamental research, as well as research obtained from a wide variety of external sources, public and private. Our methodology is driven by long-term financial goals, not by market-timing or short-term investment performance. Rather than attempting to predict which investments will provide superior performance at any given time, VAI believes it can provide the best opportunity for success by maintaining a broadly diversified financial plan or Portfolio—including investments from a variety of market sectors and asset classes. If, as a result of its periodic review, VAI makes material changes to our methodology that affect your financial plan, you’ll be informed of the changes and then given the opportunity to approve them.

Investment strategy for the Portfolio

Vanguard Adviser, Inc.’s (“VAI’s”), investment strategies are designed with a disciplined, long-term approach focused on managing risk through appropriate asset allocation and diversification. Our methodology uses a strategic approach by first focusing on the mix of asset classes (i.e., stocks, bonds, cash) that align with your willingness and ability to take risk and are appropriate to meet your financial goals over time. The methodology is designed then to recommend specific investments for your financial plan or Portfolio.

We rely on information you provide and on certain assumptions based on our analysis about future financial factors, such as rates of return on certain types of investments, inflation rates, client rate of savings, percentage of income needed in retirement, portfolio withdrawals, tax rates, taxable capital gains and losses, college costs, and market returns, to develop an investment strategy for you. All assumptions are estimates based on historical data and proprietary forecasts that, in our opinion, serve as a useful and reasonable foundation on which to develop financial strategies.

Developing an asset allocation

First, we’ll gather information through the use of a questionnaire, an investor profile, and consultation with an advisor (unless you choose to forego scheduling an advisor consultation) to understand your financial objectives, such as your age, risk tolerance, specific financial goals, investment time horizon, current investments, tax status, other assets and sources of income, investment preferences, and planned spending from the Portfolio or accounts covered by the financial plan. A proprietary algorithm uses these data to recommend a particular investing track and corresponding glide path that embodies the risk tolerance, asset allocation, and time horizon suitable for your goals. The investing tracks range from very conservative, conservative, moderate, aggressive, and very aggressive, and the glide paths within each track are designed to change over time to adjust your risk exposure and asset allocation to match the time remaining for each of your specified goals. You have the option to discuss your investing track and glide path with an advisor at any time, and the advisor will have the ability to adjust your investing track to more conservative or aggressive if you both deem such change to be appropriate. Your investment strategy may include separate asset allocation strategies tailored to each of your financial goals. If you use multiple accounts to support a goal, the asset mix of any single account may vary, but collectively the accounts will achieve the target asset allocation for the goal. We’ll rely on the information you provide to formulate the financial plan or the Portfolio. Informational inaccuracies could affect the recommendations and your financial plan or Portfolio.

When recommending, setting, and adjusting your asset allocation, we weigh “shortfall risk”—the possibility that a financial plan or Portfolio will fail to meet longer-term financial goals—against “market risk,” or the chance that a financial plan or Portfolio’s value will fluctuate based on the market’s ups and downs. An investment strategy that’s too conservative takes the risk that inflation will erode the purchasing power of a long-term portfolio. Appropriate asset allocations may range from 100% stock to 100% short-term reserves based on the risk tolerance and remaining investment time horizon for a particular financial goal. Investment strategies for different goals may reflect different trade-offs between shortfall and market risk.

Diversifying the Portfolio asset allocation across a variety of sub-asset classes

We seek to provide adequate diversification within each asset class. We recommend investing across different market segments to ensure sub-asset class diversification. We’ll establish allowable sub-asset class ranges. The ongoing advised service will adjust your Portfolio to position sub-asset classes within our allowable ranges. We may propose the addition, removal, or adjustment of sub-asset class exposures.
based on continuing portfolio construction research performed by Vanguard Investment Strategy Group or based on changes to your financial situation or investment objectives.

Our equity methodology seeks to diversify across different market segments (e.g., domestic and international; large-, mid-, and small-capitalization; and growth and value). While investing in equity securities can help grow your wealth over the long term, stock markets are also volatile and you may lose money in a sharp downturn that can occur without warning. The financial plan and the Portfolio will generally diversify the domestic and international stock positions across market capitalizations within those segments in similar proportion to their long-term market weight. In addition, we seek to balance growth and value investment styles when constructing a Portfolio. We examine the industry segments represented in the Portfolio to ensure the Portfolio isn’t too heavily concentrated in one or more industry sectors, countries, or market segments. Read the “Investment risks” section of this brochure below for further discussion of risks.

Our bond methodology emphasizes broad diversification across the bond market, both domestic and international, and maintains an interest rate risk exposure in line with the broad bond market. Investments in bonds are subject to multiple risks, including interest rate, credit, and inflation risk. Diversification across the domestic and global bond markets, as well as across market segments, issuers, and the yield curve, helps mitigate these risks. Our lead bond recommendation builds diversified financial plans and Portfolios across short-, intermediate-, and long-maturity bond funds and seeks to maintain an intermediate-term duration. An intermediate-term duration generally means your financial plan or Portfolio stays in the middle of the spectrum when measuring its sensitivity to interest rate changes while maintaining exposure to all areas of the maturity range. We also recommend a broad exposure to investment-grade bond funds (both corporate and Treasury bonds). We’ll seek to build a high-credit-quality financial plan or Portfolio of bond funds, including funds that hold corporate, Treasury, agency, and mortgage-backed bonds. Depending on your tax bracket, we may recommend tax-exempt bond funds for your taxable account(s). Bond portfolios may incorporate a mix of domestic and foreign bond funds. As with equities, we examine bond sector exposure to ensure a financial plan or Portfolio isn’t concentrated in a single segment, which could expose the financial plan or Portfolio to a higher level of risk. Read the “Securities recommendations and risk,” “Risks associated with usage of an algorithm,” and “Investment risks” sections of this brochure below for further discussion of risks.

Diverse investments, primarily consisting of low-cost Vanguard Funds

After determining the overall asset mix and your stock and bond sub-allocations, our algorithm will then recommend appropriate investments for your financial plan or Portfolio. We approach fund selection with a long-term, buy-and-hold approach and discourage switching strategies based solely on recent performance. However, we may recommend reallocating holdings among different Vanguard Funds as we periodically reassess the most appropriate investments to achieve the targeted asset allocation and sub-allocations.

Considering tax efficiency in allocating assets across multiple Portfolio accounts

For Portfolios containing both taxable and tax-advantaged accounts, the financial plan will aim to optimize the tax efficiency of the Portfolio by recommending or allocating investments strategically among taxable and tax-advantaged accounts. The objective of this “asset location” approach is to hold relatively tax-efficient investments, such as broad-market stock index products, in taxable accounts while keeping relatively tax-inefficient investments, such as taxable bonds, in tax-advantaged accounts. This tax-efficient asset location methodology is demonstrated through a tiered approach. First, the ongoing advised service will attempt to construct your Portfolio to fulfill your fixed income allocation in tax-advantaged accounts, unless you already hold individual bond positions that align with our portfolio construction methodology but are held in the wrong asset location. If it becomes necessary to hold bonds in a taxable account, tax-exempt municipal bond funds may be used. Second, the ongoing advised service will recommend holding any active equity funds in your Portfolio in your tax-advantaged accounts, subject to remaining capacity after your Portfolio’s target bond allocation has been fulfilled in those accounts. We’ll modify our approach to tax-efficient investing based on continuing portfolio construction research performed by Vanguard Investment Strategy Group or changes in tax laws.

Reasonable restrictions

When requesting a financial plan, you’ll have the ability to impose reasonable restrictions on the investments recommended for the financial plan or Portfolio. Specifically, you can request that certain alternate Vanguard Funds and certain non-Vanguard securities be held as part of the financial plan or in the Portfolio, provided those securities meet certain standards imposed by VAI, including our portfolio construction and diversification standards established by us for such holdings. You will also have the ability to designate certain securities that shouldn’t be recommended for the financial plan or Portfolio or that shouldn’t be sold if held in the Portfolio.

Additionally, if you’re a Vanguard Retail Investor Group client enrolled in the ongoing advised service offered by Personal Advisor Services, you can consult with an advisor to discuss certain investing preferences you may have. For example, an active versus passive tilt, or limits on certain sub-asset allocation percentages, among other preferences. Specifically, you can request:

- A variance in the percentages of your equity allocation invested in domestic versus international funds (subject to our allowable variance ranges).
- A variance in the percentages of your international equity allocation invested in developed versus emerging markets (subject to our allowable variance ranges).
- An active equity allocation instead of an indexed approach (subject to available shelf space in tax-advantaged accounts, such as IRAs).
• A variance in the percentages of your bond allocation invested in domestic versus international funds (subject to our allowable variance ranges).
• An active domestic bond allocation instead of an indexed approach (subject to available shelf space in tax-advantaged accounts, such as IRAs).
• A variance in the domestic bond sub-asset allocation to accommodate a greater percentage investment in corporate bond funds (subject to available shelf space in tax-advantaged accounts, such as IRAs).

If you request reasonable restrictions in the financial plan or the Portfolio, we’ll analyze whether the requested securities fit into the overall stock or bond allocations recommended for the financial plan or the Portfolio. When analyzing securities, we’ll rely on Vanguard’s asset classification assessments based on information received from third-party data providers to categorize these investments.

Any restriction you want to impose is subject to our review and approval. Restrictions will be allowed as long as they aren’t inconsistent with our methodology. The financial plan or Portfolio will remain diversified by asset class and within each asset class to ensure no single security or class of securities will impose an unreasonable level of risk. We won’t be responsible, however, for performing due diligence on any security included in your financial plan or Portfolio as a result of a requested restriction. If your desired restrictions are unreasonable or if we believe the restrictions are inappropriate for you, we’ll notify you that, unless the instructions are modified, we’ll remove particular securities from the financial plan or the Portfolio, remove particular accounts from the Portfolio of the ongoing advised service, or terminate the ongoing advised service.

Certain investments you may request, such as individual stocks and bonds, stock sector funds, and other Vanguard or non-Vanguard funds, may not offer the same degree of diversification, liquidity, or performance consistency available with the Vanguard Funds we normally recommend.

Adjusting the Portfolio asset allocation
This section about adjustments to the Portfolio asset allocation applies to those clients who have enrolled in the ongoing advised service. Each quarter (with timing determined by your contract anniversary date, or otherwise agreed upon with an advisor), the ongoing advised service will review your target allocation as illustrated in the asset allocation schedule found in your financial plan in relation to your investment time horizon to determine if any changes in the target asset allocation you approved as part of your ongoing financial plan are recommended. If the ongoing advised service recommends changes to the Portfolio’s target allocation, we may also make recommendations with respect to the purchase or sale of securities in the Portfolio to meet the new target asset allocation and reflect your progress along the asset allocation schedule.

If your ability to bear risk, your investment time horizon, your financial situation, or your overall investment objectives change, you should notify an advisor or update your information so the ongoing advised service can take these considerations into account when reviewing your asset allocation target. We won’t change the recommended asset allocation based on current or prevailing market conditions but may recommend a different asset allocation based on changes to your financial situation or investment objectives. If we recommend a different asset allocation, you’ll receive a new financial plan for your review and approval.

This section about adjustments to the Portfolio asset allocation doesn’t apply to participants of employer-sponsored retirement plans who engage Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services, or those clients who only receive a financial plan and decide not to enroll in the ongoing advised service.

Securities recommendations and risk
Our lead advice approach recommends investments in Vanguard Funds. Although we’ll recommend prudent and diversified investment strategies, please remember that all investments, including mutual funds, involve some risk, including possible loss of the money you invest. Be aware that fluctuations in the financial markets and other factors may cause declines in the value of your account(s). There’s no guarantee that any particular asset allocation or mix of funds will meet your investment objectives or provide you with a given level of income. We make investment recommendations using historical information. There’s no guarantee that an investment strategy based on historical information will meet your investment objectives, provide you with a given level of income, or protect against loss, particularly when future market conditions are drastically different from the information used to create your strategy. Diversification doesn’t ensure a profit or protect against a loss. There’s no assurance that you’ll achieve positive investment results by using our service. We can’t guarantee the future performance of your investments. Please consult a fund’s prospectus for more information about fund-specific risks. You should carefully consider all of your options before acting on any advice you receive.

Risks associated with algorithm usage
Our proprietary algorithms are based on Vanguard’s market assumptions and analysis. The algorithms don’t consider prevailing market conditions when making recommendations to you. While we have standards governing the development, testing, and monitoring of our algorithms, there’s a risk the algorithms and associated software may not perform as intended for various reasons, including unintended consequences due to modifying the algorithms or underlying software code. The SEC has provided further information for investors to consider when engaging digital advice services. The guidance can be found at investor.gov/additional-resources/news-alerts/alerts-bulletins/investor-bulletin-robo-advisers.
Goals forecasting

We’ll also provide projections to help you assess your ability to achieve your personalized financial goals. To cover a broad range of outcomes, our forecasts will generate 10,000 scenarios to measure your likelihood of success of reaching your goals. The projections use forecasted index returns for equities, bonds, and cash, which are used to represent the hypothetical returns of the asset classes in your financial plan or Portfolio. These forecasted index returns as well as inflation rates are provided through the Vanguard Capital Markets Model® (“VCMM”), developed by Vanguard Investment Strategy Group, which is discussed in more detail later.

Projections may be based on accounts included within the financial plan or Portfolio or on accounts held outside of the financial plan or Portfolio. Our goals-forecasting model uses the same index returns to represent the returns of the asset classes in all of your accounts supporting your goals in your financial plan or Portfolio. Index returns for fixed income and equity products are reduced by 0.50% annually, and index returns for money market/cash/short-term reserves are reduced by 0.30% annually to account for hypothetical expenses and advisory fees. Inflation is modeled based on historical data from 1960 through the most recent year-end and simulated going forward.

The likelihood of success projections forecast for your goals don’t attempt to predict or portray the future performance of any securities held in accounts supporting your goals. The forecasts are hypothetical projections based on statistical modeling of current and historical data. They aren’t a guarantee of future results or a guarantee of the success rate of the simulated outcomes. Although we believe the forecasts may reasonably project your likelihood of reaching your goals as supported by accounts invested in a diversified portfolio of Vanguard Funds, such projections may not correlate well to other assets you hold in any accounts that are not invested in accordance with our lead advice methodology. Accordingly, your actual investment results may vary significantly from our projections.

Outside accounts and cost assumptions used in goals forecasting

For any accounts held outside of the financial plan or Portfolio, we’ll assume the asset allocation held in those outside accounts is the same as in the accounts held within the financial plan or Portfolio. Accordingly, we’ll use the same index returns noted in the section above titled “Goals forecasting” for the forecasting model to project your likelihood of success based on both outside accounts and accounts held in the financial plan or Portfolio. If your outside accounts aren’t invested in a similar manner as the accounts in your financial plan or Portfolio, your actual investment results may vary significantly from our likelihood-of-success projections. A variance in the actual asset allocation of your accounts held outside of the financial plan or Portfolio could significantly affect your likelihood of reaching a goal within the indicated time frame.

Any forecasted goals using accounts held outside of the financial plan or Portfolio (including other Vanguard accounts) are calculated based solely on the information you provide us with respect to the dollar amount of securities held in those accounts and your rate of contributions to those accounts. You may provide us with such information manually or through the usage of certain third-party financial data aggregation services. We’ll continue to rely on the information you provide for as long as your goals are supported by such accounts. We won’t independently verify or update this information. You can update the dollar amount of securities in accounts held outside of the financial plan or Portfolio and your rate of contributions by contacting us or by authorizing a third-party financial data aggregation service to refresh the data.

Index benchmarks used in the calculations

The returns used in the simulations for each type of goal are based on the following:

- For U.S. bond market returns, we use the Standard & Poor’s High Grade Corporate Index from 1960 through 1968; the Citigroup High Grade Index from 1973 through 1975; and the Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index thereafter.
- For international bond market returns, we use the Citigroup High Grade Index from 1969 through 1972; the Lehman Brothers U.S. Long Credit AA Index from 1973 through 1975; and the Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index thereafter.
- For U.S. stock market returns, we use the S&P 90 Index from 1926 through March 3, 1957; the S&P 500 Index from March 4, 1957, through 1974; the Wilshire 5000 Index from 1975 through April 22, 2005; and the MSCI US Broad Market Index thereafter. For international stock market returns, we use the MSCI EAFE Index from 1970 through 1988 and a blend of 75% MSCI EAFE Index/25% MSCI Emerging Markets Index thereafter.

Retirement goals forecasting for near-retirees and retirees

One of the biggest challenges investors nearing or in retirement face is ensuring that savings and income will cover future expenses throughout their lifetime. We seek to reduce the uncertainties surrounding this key financial concern. We project your lifetime cash flows—inflows from investment income and other sources and outflows from spending—to assess whether your investments can adequately support your retirement income needs over your lifetime. We evaluate many factors in assessing your current and future cash flows, including:

- Projected and known expenses, including annual living expenses and other periodic expenses you identify.
- The effect of adjusting your annual living expenses based on inflation or our Dynamic Spending model (discussed below).
- Projected income, including employment, Social Security, pension, and income from investments.
- The effect of variables, such as inflation and income taxes.
- The effect of different market scenarios on the rates of return used to project the likelihood of success of reaching your retirement goal.
It’s important that the accounts supporting your retirement goal be able to endure a variety of market conditions. To assess your ability to meet your expenses throughout retirement and through variable market conditions, our cash flow analysis shows how your accounts supporting this goal would perform under various hypothetical scenarios.

We simulate your expected inflows and outflows each year through your expected planning horizon, and using each individual scenario’s unique forecasted return and inflation assumptions, we project your likelihood of reaching your retirement goal.

As part of your outflows, your annual expenses are projected each year using either a “dollar plus inflation” approach or our Dynamic Spending model. “Dollar plus inflation” means that each year we’ll take your projected annual expenses in dollars and adjust that value to account for expected inflation in each year. Dynamic Spending considers hypothetical fluctuations in the three-year annualized balance of the accounts supporting your retirement goal and is bound by annual increase and decrease thresholds you establish with an advisor. Dynamic Spending is one factor in determining your forecast and doesn’t cause an advisor to take any action in your Portfolio. If you elect to use Dynamic Spending, we assume you’ll adjust your spending to match the new annual living expense allowance you’ll be provided with at the beginning of each year.

The overall likelihood-of-success measure for your retirement goal represents the percentage of the 10,000 hypothetical scenarios in which the balance in your retirement accounts is above zero at the end of your planning horizon, which is usually set to age 100 as our default.

Goals forecasting for accumulator goals
An accumulator goal is one in which you’re currently saving for a future event. Accumulator goals can focus on saving for a single lump-sum distribution (such as saving for a home) or on saving a sum to draw down over an extended period (such as saving for retirement). We’ll illustrate the process using an accumulator goal with an extended drawdown.

The first step involves estimating the amount of assets you’ll need to accumulate at the beginning of the spending phase. To do so, you’ll need to inform us of the annual amount you expect to spend, the year in which you expect spending to begin, the number of years during which you expect to spend, and any sources of income you have during the spending phase. After adjusting for inflation, we’ll arrive at the estimated sum needed at the beginning of the spending phase by running the VCM Monte Carlo simulations using the underlying asset allocation assumption for the goal. Read the section below titled “Vanguard Capital Markets Model” for more information about the Monte Carlo simulations. The calculations will be performed with the aim of estimating a sum that will allow you to meet your spending needs in 85% of the Monte Carlo simulations (meaning we estimate that, in 85% of the hypothetical scenarios projected, you’ll have at least $1 left at the end of the spending phase). The second step involves determining whether you’re on track in the accumulation phase to meet your overall goal of arriving at the sum needed at the outset of the drawdown phase. To model the accumulation phase, you must provide us with the current amount of assets you have in support of the goal and the amount you intend to save annually until the start of the drawdown phase. Using the underlying asset allocation for the goal, we’ll run the VCMM Monte Carlo simulations and calculate what percentage of scenarios had an ending balance, without considering any taxes, greater than or equal to your target amount at the outset of the spending phase. We’ll quantify the ability to meet a goal using a success rate. A successful outcome is defined as one in which the projected ending account balance, without considering any taxes, either meets or exceeds the Target Balance by the target goal year. For example, if a goal has a success rate of 80%, then 80% of the simulations resulted in a projected ending balance that met or exceeded the target goal amount.

Trust goals forecasting
We can provide investment recommendations and ongoing management for certain trust accounts. We’ll collect information concerning current and future income and distributions from the trust. We consider future inflows and distributions throughout the projected duration of the trust planning horizon. We’ll assess cash flows—inflows from investment income and other sources and outflows from distributions—to assess whether the trust investments can adequately support the trust needs over the intended duration.

We evaluate many factors to assess the trust’s current cash flow and to create future cash flow projections, including:

- Projected and known distributions from the trust, as a percentage of the income of a Portfolio, or a fixed dollar amount, as provided by the trustee(s).
- Projected inflows to the trust from investment and noninvestment income sources, identified by the trustee(s).
- The effect of variables, such as inflation and income taxes. The trust cash flow model will factor in trust-specific income tax considerations.
- The effect of different market scenarios on the rates of return of trust assets.

The validity of these assumptions is based exclusively on the information the trustee(s) has provided.

It’s important the accounts supporting the trust’s goal can endure a variety of market conditions. To assess the ability of the trust to meet future distribution goals through a variety of market conditions, our cash flow analysis projects how the trust assets would perform under various hypothetical scenarios.

We simulate the trust’s expected inflows and outflows each year through its expected planning horizon, and using each individual scenario’s unique forecasted return and inflation assumptions, we project the trust Portfolio’s ending balance. The trust’s estimated success rate is simply the percentage
of these scenarios in which the trust balance is above zero at the end of its planning horizon.

Vanguard Capital Markets Model ("VCMM")
VCMM is a proprietary, state-of-the-art financial simulation tool developed and maintained by Vanguard Investment Strategy Group. The VCMM uses a statistical analysis of historical data for interest rates, inflation, and other risk factors for global equities, fixed income, and commodity markets to generate forward-looking distributions of expected long-term returns. The asset return distributions used in the goals-forecasting models are drawn from 10,000 VCMM simulations based on market data from 1926 for the equity markets and from 1960 for the fixed income markets through the most recent year-end. The VCMM forecasts are updated annually to incorporate the most recent market data, though we may update the data more frequently in cases of major market events.

The VCMM is grounded on the empirical view that the returns of various asset classes reflect the compensation investors receive for bearing different types of systematic risk, a measure of the volatility of a security or a portfolio relative to a benchmark, also known as beta. Using a long span of historical monthly data, the VCMM estimates a dynamic statistical relationship among global risk factors and asset returns. Based on these calculations, the model uses regression-based Monte Carlo simulation methods to project relationships in the future. A regression-based Monte Carlo framework incorporates the uncertainty of any asset class produced by basic Monte Carlo simulation and also captures the dynamic relationships among certain assets and risk factors. By incorporating a variety of macroeconomic and financial risk factors into the return-generating process, a regression-based Monte Carlo framework generates financial simulations that are responsive to changes in the economy. By explicitly accounting for important initial market conditions when generating its return distributions, the VCMM framework departs fundamentally from more basic Monte Carlo simulation techniques.

Limitations of the quantitative analysis
Projections generated by the VCMM are based both on estimated historical relationships and on assumptions about the risk characteristics of various asset classes. As a result, the accuracy of VCMM forecasts depends on the relevance of the historical sample in simulating future events. The projections are hypothetical in nature, don’t reflect actual investment results, and aren’t guarantees of future results.

Disciplinary information
VAI has no material legal or disciplinary information to disclose.

Other financial industry activities and affiliations
The Vanguard Group, Inc.
Vanguard Advisers, Inc. ("VAI"), is 100% owned by Goliath, Inc., a Delaware corporation, which is wholly owned by The Vanguard Group, Inc. ("Vanguard"). Vanguard, also a registered investment advisor, provides a range of investment advisory and administrative services to the Vanguard Funds.

When giving advice to clients, we’ll recommend the purchase of Vanguard Funds serviced by our corporate parent, Vanguard. We address the competing interests that arise between us and our clients as a result of recommending proprietary funds by relying on our time-tested investment philosophies and beliefs, such as the benefits of low costs, diversification, and indexing, when formulating target allocations for clients. We disclose to prospective clients that we recommend Vanguard Funds prior to, or at the establishment of, the advisory relationship. Acting in accordance with our advice to purchase Vanguard’s proprietary funds will result in the payment of fees to the Vanguard Funds that are separate from, and in addition to, any advisory fees assessed by us.

Vanguard Marketing Corporation
Shares of the Vanguard Funds are marketed and distributed by Vanguard Marketing Corporation ("VMC"). VMC’s marketing and distribution services are conducted in accordance with the terms and conditions of a 1981 exemptive order from the SEC, which permits Vanguard Funds to internalize and jointly finance such activities. Each Vanguard Fund (other than a fund of funds) or each share class of a fund (in the case of a fund with multiple share classes) pays its allocated share of VMC’s marketing costs. VMC doesn’t receive transaction-based compensation in connection with the distribution of the Vanguard Funds.

When giving advice to clients, we’ll recommend the purchase of Vanguard Funds distributed by our affiliate, VMC. Since VMC doesn’t receive transaction-based compensation in connection with the distribution of the Vanguard Funds, the competing interests that arise from our affiliation with VMC in its role as distributor of the Vanguard Funds and ETFs are mitigated. However, to the extent that you maintain a brokerage account with VMC as part of the Portfolio, VMC may receive compensation from you that’s separate from, and in addition to, the advisory fees payable to us. Read the section titled “Brokerage practices” for more information about brokerage charges and other fees and expenses you may pay as a result of enrolling your Vanguard Brokerage Account in our service.

Certain members of our management and our advisors are registered representatives of, or are affiliated with, VMC. Please refer to the Supplement to the Vanguard Personal Advisor Services Brochure for further information.

Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company
We’re also affiliated with Vanguard Fiduciary Trust Company ("VFTC"), a limited-purpose trust company incorporated under the banking laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a wholly owned subsidiary of Vanguard. VFTC serves as trustee and investment advisor for certain collective investment trusts offered by Vanguard as eligible investment options by some retirement plans. We may recommend the purchase of Vanguard collective investment trusts serviced by VFTC. Additionally, VFTC serves as directed trustee for certain employer-sponsored retirement plans covering participants.
in a Vanguard Brokerage Account will be subject to VMC’s usual and customary fees, markups, commissions, and charges, as well as bid-ask spreads, separate and apart from the advisory fees we assess. For manually processed brokerage trading, it’s our practice to transmit orders to the secondary markets beginning at 9:30 a.m., Eastern time, through the close of trading on any business day that the markets are open for trading.

For automated brokerage trading, it’s our practice to transmit orders to the secondary markets beginning at 10:00 a.m., Eastern time, through the close of trading on any business day the markets are open for trading. To limit the adverse price effects you could experience if we submitted our automated brokerage trades in bulk to the secondary markets at a single point in time, we’ve designed a fair and equitable system for handling automated brokerage trades that doesn’t not systematically disadvantage any client. Automated trades we complete between the hours of 3:45 p.m., Eastern time, on a business day through 10:00 a.m., Eastern time, on the next business day are sent out to the secondary markets in timed batches during that second business day, and certain of those trades may be aggregated. This means the individual trades of certain clients may be combined for execution in the secondary market. We aggregate trades for the purpose of minimizing transaction costs while seeking best execution on behalf of our clients. Where we aggregate trades, we’ll calculate an average price for all of the securities bought or sold together, and clients who participated in the aggregated trade will receive that average price for the securities traded for them. The average price we assign to individual trades may be greater or less than the price the order would’ve received if traded on an individual basis.

Where VAI is selling your entire position in stocks or ETFs and the position includes fractional shares, the fractional shares liquidate automatically on the settlement date at no cost to you. VMC will purchase the fractional shares from you on a principal basis at the same price at which the whole shares executed.

Periodically, we conduct due diligence to review the execution quality of any transaction services VMC provides for clients’ Portfolios, primarily to oversee VMC’s compliance with its best execution practices. VMC routes equity and options orders to various markets. VMC uses a top-down approach to select market participants with which VMC will establish a relationship. This approach includes a review of system availability and service quality, as well as financial and regulatory standing. The designated market participants to which orders are routed are selected based on the consistently high quality of their executions in one or more market segments. In analyzing quality of executions, VMC considers factors such as liquidity enhancement, price improvement, execution speed, and overall effective price compared with the national best bid or offer ("NBBO"). VMC regularly conducts analysis and reviews reports to evaluate execution quality.
Other investment advisors may not require you to direct brokerage transactions through a specified broker-dealer. By directing brokerage transactions to VMC, we may be unable to achieve most favorable execution of your transactions, and this practice may cost you more money.

**Review of accounts**

This section about the review of accounts applies to those clients who have enrolled in the ongoing advised service. Clients of the ongoing advised service will have continuous access to their Portfolio information through our online web experience. We’ll periodically evaluate and monitor the Portfolio through investment reviews and analyses. Each quarter, with timing determined by your contract anniversary date, or otherwise agreed upon with an advisor, we’ll check your Portfolio to make sure it’s in line with your target allocation.

We don’t perform ongoing account monitoring or offer account reviews for participants of employer-sponsored retirement plans who engage Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services, or those clients who only receive a financial plan and decide not to enroll in the ongoing advised service.

**Adjusting the asset allocation**

This section about adjustments to your asset allocation applies to those clients who have enrolled in the ongoing advised service. We may recommend adjusting your asset allocation as your ability to bear risk changes or to account for changes to your investment time horizon, but it won’t change the asset allocation based on market conditions. Quarterly, we’ll review your target allocation in relation to your investment time horizon to determine if changes to the allocation are necessary. The Portfolio’s target allocation may also change based on changes to your financial situation and investment objectives. Changes in your asset allocation may cause us to recommend and effect the purchase or sale of securities in your Portfolio to meet the new target asset allocation.

We don’t monitor for adjustments to the asset allocation of employer-sponsored retirement plan participants who engage Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services, or those clients who only receive a financial plan and decide not to enroll in the ongoing advised service.

**Rebalancing the Portfolio**

This section about periodic rebalancing applies to those clients who have enrolled in the ongoing advised service. If during a quarterly review your Portfolio is found to deviate from the target asset allocation by more than 5% in any asset class, we’ll rebalance your Portfolio within the five-day review period using investment methodologies and strategies consistent with those employed during your Portfolio’s implementation. Securities contributing to overweighted sub-asset classes will be sold and the proceeds invested in underweighted sub-asset classes in accordance with your financial plan.

We’ll attempt to minimize the tax costs associated with rebalancing your Portfolio. If the Portfolio consists of both taxable and tax-advantaged registrations, we’ll first attempt to rebalance within the tax-advantaged accounts to attempt to limit tax costs. In addition, we’ll follow a tax-efficient “asset location” strategy to consider the tax implications of repositioning investments within the taxable accounts and among the taxable and tax-advantaged accounts. This strategy will follow similar practices as those used during implementation of your Portfolio to hold relatively tax-efficient investments, such as broad-market stock index products, in taxable accounts while keeping relatively tax-inefficient investments, such as taxable bonds, in tax-advantaged accounts. If your Portfolio deviates from the target asset allocation by 5% or less in all asset classes, individual investments may still be reviewed and sold, unless a client-directed hold exists, if determined appropriate.

Additionally, we’ll use cash flows as an opportunity to adjust your holdings to your target allocation. That is, we’ll invest your contributions or liquidate your withdrawals to adjust your overall allocation back to your target allocation, to minimize transaction and tax costs. If your contribution or additional proceeds are designated to purchase a new fund and the amount is less than 0.50% of your Portfolio, not to exceed $10,000. Then the money will be added to the largest position in the account as long as it’s consistent with our investment methodology. If you have residual cash in your Vanguard Brokerage Account at your next rebalancing and it’s not enough to purchase greater than 0.001 shares of the recommended mutual fund, then the cash will continue to be held until the next rebalancing opportunity. In addition, if the residual cash is enough to purchase .001 shares, but is less than $1, your advisor will determine if it’s appropriate to invest at that time. Notwithstanding the ability to place reasonable restrictions on your Portfolio, individual investments will be evaluated during a quarterly review and sold in certain cases if we deem it appropriate. For example, individual securities retained in taxable accounts to avoid generating a taxable gain may be sold if that sale would result in a loss. Additionally, individual securities that may initially satisfy our portfolio construction and diversification standards and be held pursuant to your financial plan may thereafter violate those standards, which could cause us to sell the individual security. If we recommend a full liquidation with respect to securities held in a Vanguard IRA® and the security being liquidated isn’t held in any other account, we’ll notify you at least 30 days before the change is implemented.

We don’t perform rebalancing services for employer-sponsored retirement plan participants who engage Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services, or those clients who only receive a financial plan and decide not to enroll in the ongoing advised service.

As owners of Vanguard Funds, Vanguard Advisers, Inc. ("VAI"), clients will receive or have access to communications with respect to those securities. These communications include transaction confirmations, quarterly account...
Client referrals and other compensation

We don’t receive compensation or other economic benefits from persons other than clients for providing investment advice or advisory services to our clients. We’ll run prospecting and promotional campaigns from time to time to attract new clients to the Service (“Referral Programs”). These Referral Programs may include compensating affiliates, strategic partners, or third-party solicitors for referring the Service to prospects. Compensation will include flat fees or payments based on certain performance triggers, like scheduling an appointment with an advisor or enrolling in the Service. Clients aren’t charged any fee nor do they incur any additional costs for us running these Referral Programs. We have oversight of third parties involved in the Referral Programs, and prospects will be informed of any such Referral Programs receiving compensation prior to becoming a Client. Note that Vanguard affiliates will also receive compensation in the form of expense ratios from Vanguard Funds and revenue sharing with third party funds as discussed in the “Fees and Compensation” section above.

Custody

The Vanguard Group, Inc. (“Vanguard”), the transfer agent of the Vanguard Funds, acts in the capacity of a qualified custodian for those funds and sends quarterly or more frequent account statements directly to you. Vanguard will also transmit transaction confirmations to you in connection with purchases and sales made in your Vanguard mutual fund accounts.

Vanguard Marketing Corporation (“VMC”), a registered broker-dealer, serves as qualified custodian for our clients holding securities in Vanguard Brokerage Accounts. VMC sends quarterly or more frequent account statements directly to you. VMC will also transmit transaction confirmations to you in connection with purchases and sales made in your Vanguard Brokerage Account (provided that VMC may furnish periodic statements of account activity in lieu of transaction confirmations in compliance with Rule 10b-10 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934). You should carefully review and compare all account statements and reports from Vanguard and VMC with account information we make available and contact the appropriate entity with questions.

Investment discretion

This section about investment discretion applies to those clients who have enrolled in the ongoing advised service. In connection with the ongoing advised service, you must approve your financial plan and direct us to implement the recommended investment strategy for your Portfolio either verbally or in writing (including email and similar electronic communications). We’ll construct and invest your Portfolio according to your approved financial plan, including any reasonable restrictions you may want to impose on our investment of the Portfolio. Changes to the investment strategy set forth in the financial plan will be made only with your consent. Until you approve the financial plan and direct its implementation, we’ll take no action with respect to the assets held in the Portfolio. Within five business days after you approve the financial plan, we’ll initiate steps to begin implementing your investment strategy as specified in the financial plan, unless you direct us to implement the financial plan over time.

By implementing the financial plan, we’ll have the authority, on your behalf, to purchase, sell, exchange, or transfer assets; rebalance and reallocate assets; and execute other necessary and appropriate transactions, including transmitting verbal, written, or online instructions to effect transactions, at the times and according to the terms established in the financial plan. We may change the investments used to effect the investment strategy set forth in the financial plan at any time and without prior notice to you, including changing the investments used for purposes of rebalancing the Portfolio or substituting a particular investment for another investment you previously approved. If, however, we recommend such a change with respect to securities held in an IRA, we’ll notify you at least 30 days before the change is implemented. Any notice of a proposed change in investments will include the effective date of the proposed change, instructions you can follow to avoid the proposed change, and a reminder that your failure to respond by a specified date will be deemed your consent to the proposed change in investments. Your financial plan will also contain a standing instruction to reassess your asset allocation or rebalance the Portfolio on a predetermined basis if and to the extent set forth in the financial plan.

In your agreement with us, you’ll grant us the authority to open new accounts, except for new brokerage accounts, with our affiliates for you with identical registrations to transfer and segregate securities in the Portfolio. We’ll exercise this authority to fulfill your stated needs for the Portfolio or your goals-based reporting, such as when you only want to enroll a portion of your funds or securities in the ongoing advised service or if we need to segregate your investments to support various goals you selected.

We don’t exercise any investment discretion with respect to the accounts of employer-sponsored retirement plans participants who engage Vanguard Personal Advisor Services through Vanguard Financial Planning Services, or those clients who only receive a financial plan and decide not to enroll in the ongoing advised service.

Voting client securities

Upon request, an advisor may provide additional information about proxy votes and corporate actions for clients enrolled in the ongoing advised service. The information may include details on the security itself, effect on the client’s Portfolio, recommended voting by Vanguard or third parties, and the advisor’s recommendation.
We won’t vote or exercise similar rights for your securities. The exercise of all voting rights associated with any security or other property you hold shall be your responsibility. We won’t advise or act for you in any legal proceedings, including bankruptcies or class actions, involving securities you hold or previously held or the issuers of those securities. Proxies will be delivered directly by the security’s issuer, the custodian, or its agent.

Financial information
We aren’t aware of any financial condition reasonably likely to impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to you.

Requirements for state-registered advisors
VAl is a federally registered investment advisor.

Investment risks
Equity-specific risks:
Stock market risk is the chance that stock prices overall will decline. Stock markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and periods of falling prices.

Nondiversification risk is the chance that a fund’s performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of relatively few securities. A fund is considered nondiversified if it may invest a greater percentage of its assets in the securities of particular issuers as compared with other mutual funds.

Industry concentration risk is the chance that there will be overall problems affecting a particular industry.

Manager risk is the chance that poor security selection or focus on securities in a particular sector, category, or group of companies will cause a fund to underperform relevant benchmarks or other funds with a similar investment objective.

Sector risk is the chance that significant problems will affect a particular sector or that returns from that sector will trail returns from the overall stock market. Daily fluctuations in specific market sectors are often more extreme than fluctuations in the overall market. Because a fund invests all, or substantially all, of its assets in a particular sector, the fund’s performance largely depends—for better or for worse—on the general condition of that sector.

Funds of funds are also subject to manager risk, which is the chance that poor security selection or focus on securities in a particular sector, category, or group of companies will cause one or more of the fund’s underlying funds—and, thus, the fund itself—to underperform relevant benchmarks or other funds with a similar investment objective.

Company stock funds concentrate on a single stock and are therefore considered riskier than diversified stock funds.

Index sampling risk is the chance that the securities selected for a fund, in the aggregate, won’t provide investment performance matching the fund’s target index.

Investment-style risk is the chance that:
- Returns from large-capitalization stocks will trail returns from the overall stock market. Large-cap stocks tend to go through cycles of doing better—or worse—than other segments of the stock market or the stock market in general.
- Returns from small- and mid-capitalization stocks will trail returns from the overall stock market. Historically, small- and mid-cap stocks have been more volatile in price than the large-cap stocks that dominate the overall market, and they often perform quite differently.

International risk or country/regional risk is the chance that world events—such as political upheaval, financial troubles, or natural disasters—will adversely affect the value of securities issued by companies in foreign countries or regions. Because a fund may invest a large portion of its assets in securities of companies located in any one country or region, including emerging markets, its performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of its investments in that area. Country/Regional risk is especially high in emerging markets.

Emerging markets risk is the chance that the stocks of companies located in emerging markets will be substantially more volatile, and substantially less liquid, than the stocks of companies located in more developed foreign markets.

Currency risk is the chance that the value of a foreign investment, measured in U.S. dollars, will decrease because of unfavorable changes in currency exchange rates. Currency risk is especially high in emerging markets.

Bond-specific risks:
Call risk is the chance that during periods of falling interest rates, issuers of callable bonds may call (redeem) securities with higher coupons or interest rates before their maturity dates. The fund would then lose any potential price appreciation above the bond’s call price and would be forced to reinvest the unanticipated proceeds at lower interest rates, resulting in a decline in the fund’s income. Call risk is generally low for short-term bond funds, moderate for intermediate-term bond funds, high for long-term bond funds, and high for high-yield bond funds.

Prepayment risk is the chance that during periods of falling interest rates, homeowners will refinance their mortgages before their maturity dates, resulting in prepayment of mortgage-backed securities held by the fund. The fund would then lose any price appreciation above the mortgage’s principal and would be forced to reinvest the unanticipated proceeds at lower interest rates, resulting in a decline in the fund’s income.

Manager risk is the chance that poor security selection will cause a fund to underperform relevant benchmarks or other funds with a similar investment objective.
Credit risk is the chance that the issuer of a convertible security will fail to pay interest or dividends and principal in a timely manner or that negative perceptions of the issuer’s ability to make such payments will cause the price of that security to decline.

Income risk is the chance that the fund’s income will decline because of falling interest rates. Income risk is generally high for short-term bond funds, low for long-term bond funds, and high for limited-term bond funds.

Interest rate risk is the chance that bond and loan prices overall will decline because of rising interest rates.

State-specific risk is the chance that developments in specific states will adversely affect the securities held by the fund. Because the fund invests primarily in securities issued by the state and its municipalities, it’s more vulnerable to unfavorable developments in the state than are funds that invest in municipal securities of many states. Unfavorable developments in any economic sector may have far-reaching ramifications on the overall state municipal market.

Liquidity risk is the chance that the fund may not be able to sell a security in a timely manner at a desired price. Liquidity risk is generally low for short-term bond funds, moderate for intermediate-term bond funds, and high for long-term bond funds.

Currency hedging risk is the risk that the currency hedging transactions entered into by a fund may not perfectly offset the fund’s foreign currency exposure.