



# Merrill Edge<sup>®</sup> Self-Directed Investing Client Relationship Agreement

## Terms and Conditions

### 1. Introduction

We have prepared the Merrill Edge<sup>®</sup> Self-Directed Investing Client Relationship Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "Merrill Edge Self-Directed CRA" or "this Agreement") in order to help you understand your relationship with Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing. This Client Relationship Agreement ("Agreement"), and the agreements for the various products and services offered by Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing, details the nature of the mutual obligations for services you are about to use and those services you may choose to use in the future.

Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing (also referred to herein as "MESD") is the marketing name for certain brokerage services offered to clients on a self-directed basis through Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("Merrill").

We have provided you with a copy of the Client Relationship Summary ("Form CRS") either online via the Online Account Opening process or as part of the MESD application packet.

You should review the Form CRS to understand the scope of services that we can provide you at Merrill and key information about our brokerage and investment advisory programs.

Merrill offers its products, accounts and services through different service models (e.g., self-directed or full-service). Based on the service model, the same or similar products, accounts and services may vary in their prices or fees charged to a client. The Summary of Programs and Services, as well as the Form CRS, outline these different programs and are included during the Online Account Opening process or as part of the MESD Application Packet.

Future account disclosures may be delivered to you via the internet, including as a message at the Secure Message Center. In certain cases, future account Disclosures may be delivered via statement message, statement insert or stand-alone letter.

When you agree to the terms of this Agreement, you are agreeing that its terms will apply to all of your MESD accounts, transactions and services.

If you have any concerns about the services you receive under these terms and conditions, please contact Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing at **877.653.4732**.

#### What to do if you have a problem

We sincerely hope to service your account in such a manner that problems will never occur. However, errors, misunderstandings or disputes can occur, and we want to resolve them promptly and fairly.

**Reviewing your confirmations and statements**—Please review your confirmations and account statements promptly and let us know if there is any discrepancy in terms of transactions or deposits or withdrawals of either funds or securities.

**Whom to contact**—If your concerns cannot be resolved or have not been properly addressed, you may contact Merrill Compliance at 609.274.4040, or in writing at P.O. Box 1520, Pennington, NJ 08534-1520.

### 2. Overview of Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing

Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing is designed for U.S.-based investors who wish to make their own investment choices in a Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated brokerage account.

Neither Merrill, nor MESD, nor any Merrill or MESD representative, will provide you with investment advice, including any recommendations, or offer any opinion regarding the suitability of any security, order, transaction, or strategy in a Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing Account, or monitor your investment or the appropriateness of your account or service level, or alert you to any recommended change to your investments, investment accounts, or services. Neither Merrill nor MESD, nor any Merrill or MESD representative, will provide any tax or legal advice.

No Merrill Research opinion, Independent Research opinion, the inclusion of a security on any list, or any information provided to you either on the Merrill Edge website or by mail or any other means constitutes a recommendation to you to purchase, hold or sell any investment.

By entering into this Agreement, you agree that any transactions executed through your Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing Account, whether based on information obtained from Merrill or elsewhere, will be solely your own decision and based on your own evaluation of your personal financial situation, needs, and investment objective(s).

In addition to retaining the sole responsibility for investment decisions, you understand and agree that you are responsible for knowing the rights and terms of all securities in your account, specifically including valuable rights that expire unless the holder takes action. This includes, but is not limited to, warrants, stock rights, convertible securities, bonds, and securities subject to a tender or exchange offer. You understand and agree that Merrill accepts no obligation to notify you of any upcoming expiration or redemption dates, or, except as required by applicable law or regulation, to take any action on your behalf without specific instructions from you. You also agree that all dividends and interest payments credited to your account shall accumulate rather than be paid to you upon receipt, but shall be subject to your withdrawal from time to time upon request for a check or other funds transfer.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in its capacity as an investment adviser Merrill may provide investment advice or recommend securities transactions or investment strategies to you within certain investment advisory programs. To enroll in such an investment advisory program, such as the Merrill Guided Investing Program, you may be required to establish and maintain a Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing Account. Merrill acts as an investment adviser and not a broker-dealer for the investment advisory services provided within these investment advisory programs. To the extent that Merrill provides investment advice or recommends any securities transactions or investment strategies to you within any such investment advisory program, you understand and agree that Merrill does so in its capacity as an investment adviser and not as a broker-dealer. You will be required to enter into a separate agreement with Merrill and its affiliates to participate in an investment advisory program. Pursuant to Section 5a of this Merrill Edge Self-Directed CRA, the terms governing any such investment advisory program will control if there are any inconsistencies with

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (also referred to as "MLPF&S" or "Merrill") makes available certain investment products sponsored, managed, distributed or provided by companies that are affiliates of Bank of America Corporation ("BofA Corp."). MLPF&S is a registered broker-dealer, registered investment adviser, Member SIPC and a wholly owned subsidiary of BofA Corp.

Banking products are provided by Bank of America, N.A. and affiliated banks, Members FDIC and wholly owned subsidiaries of Bank of America Corporation.

Investment products:

<b>Are Not FDIC Insured</b>	<b>Are Not Bank Guaranteed</b>	<b>May Lose Value</b>
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the terms of this Merrill Edge Self-Directed CRA. If your account serves as the securities account for a Merrill investment advisory program, certain features of Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing, such as the Margin Lending Program, check writing, and Visa cards, may not be available to you. If your account serves as the securities account for a Merrill investment advisory program and if, for any reason, you terminate from the investment advisory program without transferring the securities and assets out of your account, your account will be a Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing Account without any investment advisory relationship. As such, and as explained more fully in the preceding paragraphs, neither Merrill, nor any Merrill representative, will provide any investment advice or give any advice or offer any opinion regarding the suitability of any security, order or transaction in a Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing Account.

Additionally, to the extent that you maintain other accounts or relationships with Merrill or its affiliates under which you do receive investment advice or management from us or our affiliate, you agree not to implement such advice in the account.

If you do not feel comfortable with self-directing your retirement assets or would otherwise like to learn more about the benefits of our management and advisory services and programs for Retirement Investors, please contact Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing at **877.653.4732**.

### 3. Definitions

For the purpose of this Agreement, "you" and "your" refers to each person who has agreed to the terms in this Agreement. "Merrill," "we," "our" and "us" refer to Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, a registered broker-dealer and a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of America Corporation. "Account" refers to any securities account you open with Merrill.

In the case of an entity, "you" and "your" refers to the entity, and by enrolling the entity agrees that access to Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing shall be restricted to Authorized Representatives (as defined in the account agreement) for such entity and that the entity will be liable for all acts or omissions of such Authorized Representatives.

For the purpose of this Agreement, Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing ("MESD"), which is made available through Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S"), refers to certain brokerage services offered to clients on a self-directed basis through Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("Merrill") and which are the subject of this Agreement.

For purposes of the Margin Lending Program and Liens sections described below, "securities and other properties" means, without limitation, money, securities, financial instruments and commodities of every kind and nature and related contracts and options held in any of your accounts carried or maintained by Merrill or any of its affiliates in which you may have an interest.

### 4. How the Merrill Edge CRA works

This Agreement provides you with access to a range of accounts, Products and Services. When you agree to the terms of this Agreement, you're agreeing that its terms will apply to all of your MESD accounts, transactions and services while you are an MESD client.

In particular, you agree:

- You will resolve any controversies with us through arbitration.
- We have a lien on your non-retirement accounts and assets in those accounts for the payment of any obligation you have with us.
- New York law governs your agreements and transactions, unless we indicate otherwise.
- Merrill has the right to amend this Agreement at any time with advance notice in writing. Any amendments will be effective on the date specified in the notice.
- Merrill may in its sole discretion and without notice to you, to the extent permissible under applicable law and other governing documents applicable to your account, decline, cancel or reverse your orders or instructions, or place trading, disbursement and other restrictions on any of your accounts.
- If you're enrolled in the Margin Lending Program, you agree and understand that:
  - You may borrow money from Merrill secured by a pledge of your eligible securities and other property in your account.
  - You will be charged interest on debit balances at a rate permitted by the laws of the state of New York.

- Certain securities in your account may be loaned to Merrill or others to the extent not prohibited by applicable laws, rules or regulations.
- Limits may be placed on your ability to buy, sell, transfer and hold certain securities, like low-priced securities, as identified by Merrill.
- If you've requested a Visa® Card, you agree that:
  - Merrill is authorized to issue you the Visa® Card you requested for use with eligible accounts, and you understand that Merrill or an affiliate may obtain a credit report due to your request.
- If you're establishing your relationship in a joint capacity, you agree that:
  - Any joint accounts you open in the future held by the same owners will have the same ownership designation you establish on this Agreement, unless you notify us otherwise in writing.

If you are the custodian of an account opened under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act (UTMA) or the Uniform Gifts to Minors Act (UGMA) as adopted by any jurisdiction, you agree to comply with all requirements of the applicable UTMA or UGMA law, including but not limited to the requirements that you (i) expend the UTMA or UGMA account assets only for the use and benefit of the minor named on the account (the "Minor"), and (ii) upon the earlier of the Minor's attainment of the applicable termination age or the Minor's death, transfer the UTMA or UGMA account assets to the Minor or to the Minor's estate. Merrill shall not have any responsibility to make sure that you properly perform your duties as custodian.

You agree that once Merrill has reason to believe that the Minor has reached the termination age under applicable law, Merrill may, but is not obligated to, take any or all of the following actions with respect to the UTMA or UGMA account without further consent from you:

- limit trading in the UTMA or UGMA account to liquidating orders;
- prohibit further deposits into the UTMA or UGMA account;
- restrict withdrawals or transfers from the UTMA or UGMA account other than to the Minor;
- communicate with the Minor or the Minor's legal representative regarding the UTMA or UGMA account including, but not limited to, providing periodic account statements and tax statements to the Minor or Minor's legal representative;
- accept liquidating orders from the Minor; and
- deliver the UTMA or UGMA account assets to the Minor.

### Attention Guardians and Conservators for Minors

If you are a fiduciary such as a guardian or conservator of an account opened for a minor, you agree that you shall (i) expend the account assets only for the use and benefit of the minor named on the account (the "Minor"), as directed by the Court or as provided pursuant to applicable state law, and (ii) within a reasonable time after the Minor's attainment of the age of majority or other age specified by state law or court order, deliver the account assets to the Minor, or as directed by court order. Merrill shall not have any responsibility to ensure that you properly perform your duties as fiduciary, but may request copies of any applicable court orders.

You agree that once Merrill has reason to believe that the Minor has reached the age of majority or other age specified by state law or court order, Merrill may, but is not obligated to, take any or all of the following actions with respect to the account without further consent from you:

- limit trading in the account to liquidating orders;
- prohibit further deposits into the account;
- restrict withdrawals or transfers from the account other than to the Minor;
- seek clarification and/or direction from the appointing court at your expense or the Minor's expense;
- communicate with the Minor or the Minor's legal representative regarding the account including, but not limited to, providing periodic account statements and tax statements to the Minor or Minor's legal representative;
- accept liquidating orders from the Minor; or
- deliver the account assets to the Minor.

Further, if the Minor dies prior to attaining the age of majority, you agree to deliver the account assets as set forth pursuant to applicable state law or as directed pursuant to court order.

The specific provisions on these topics are set forth in detail below. If you trade and hold non-U.S. issued securities, you agree and acknowledge that:

- Merrill or its affiliates may be required to disclose customer names and other identifying information, including but not limited to Social Security number or tax identification number, to regulators (including taxing authorities) and/or issuers to comply with local law and/or customs and practice. For example, we may be required to provide personal information in order to meet local regulations that require the submission of investor names to the local stock exchange, or an issuer may request residence and taxpayer identification information in order to obtain favorable tax treatment, such as lower withholding rates, for shareholders.
- For clients who trade and hold shares of Italian companies whose equity securities are traded in any regulated market:
  - If you hold shares of Italian companies whose equity securities are traded in any regulated market, you hereby represent that you only hold “Non-Qualified Equity Investments” (Partecipazioni Non Qualificate). You agree, and acknowledge that it is your responsibility, to immediately inform Merrill if this representation is inaccurate or untrue or if it becomes inaccurate or untrue.

#### a) Read and understand English

You acknowledge that (i) you can read and fully understand English; (ii) that written documents, agreements, and information (collectively referred to as “Materials”) concerning your relationship with Merrill, including but not limited to products, services, transactions, and other account details, will typically be provided to you in English; and (iii) on occasion we may provide certain Materials to you in Chinese, Spanish, or Portuguese, as applicable.

#### 關注客戶

#### 變化的通知在其自己的與MLPF &S的關係

您承認 (i) 你可以閱讀並完全理解英語; (ii) 有關與美林 (Merrill Lynch) 的關係的書面文件、協議、以及信息 (統稱為“材料”), 包括但不限於產品、服務、交易、和其他帳戶細節, 通常會以英語向您提供; (iii) 有時出于尊重, 我們可能會向您提供某些非英文的翻譯材料。

#### Atención a Nuestros Clientes:

#### Notificación de cambios en la relación de su cuenta con MLPF&S

Ud. reconoce que (i) puede leer y entender el idioma inglés a cabalidad; (ii) que, en general, todos los documentos escritos, contratos y demás información (denominada, en conjunto, como “Materiales”), que tengan que ver con la relación que sostiene con Merrill, incluyendo pero sin limitarse a los productos, servicios, transacciones y demás detalles relacionados con su cuenta le serán entregados en el idioma inglés; y (iii) en ocasiones, podremos entregarle traducciones de ciertos materiales a otros idiomas distintos al inglés, como un gesto de cortesía hacia Ud.

#### Atenção, todos os clientes: Notificação das mudanças realizadas nos contratos de suas contas com MLPF&S:

Você declara que (i) pode ler e compreender o idioma inglês perfeitamente; (ii) que aceita que, em geral, todos os documentos escritos, os contratos e as outras informações (juntamente designados “Materiais”), que tenham a ver com a relação que você mantém com a Merrill, inclusive, mas sem se limitar a, os produtos, serviços, transações e outros detalhes relacionados a sua conta sejam entregues em idioma inglês; e que (iii), em ocasiões, poderemos entregar traduções de alguns materiais em outros idiomas diferentes do inglês, como gesto de cortesia para você.

#### b) New accounts and services

When you open a new account or enroll in a service, or convert all or part of an existing Merrill account to MESD, we will provide you with the agreement and any disclosures for that account or service and confirm your enrollment in that account or service in writing. Those agreements and disclosures are incorporated by reference. This means that your initial signature acts as your agreement to the terms of the new account or service. As a result, in many cases, you will not need to sign an additional account agreement or other form.

For example, if you enroll in the Merrill Edge® Self-Directed Investing Cash Management Account® (CMA® account) financial service, the disclosures and account agreement for that service are incorporated in this Agreement. We will provide those documents to you when you enroll.

The terms governing a specific account or service will control if there are any inconsistencies with the terms of this Merrill Edge CRA. If you are establishing a joint account with this Agreement, you must designate how the account is to be held by the owners of the account.

Eligible joint account designations include:

- JTWROS—Joint Tenancy With Right of Survivorship;
- TIC—Joint Tenancy Without Right of Survivorship, also known as Tenants in Common;
- ATBE—As Tenants by Entirety (for married persons, only in states where applicable);
- COMMPROP—Community Property for married persons, only in states where applicable;
- CPWROS - Community Property With Right of Survivorship for married persons, only in states where applicable;
- WI MAR PROP—Wisconsin Marital Property, for married residents of Wisconsin only; and
- WI SURV MAR PROP—Wisconsin Survivorship Marital Property, for married residents of Wisconsin only.

You hereby agree that, unless you notify us otherwise in writing, all subsequent joint accounts opened with Merrill by the same owners shall be held by such owners with the same ownership designation. All joint accounts are subject to the specific provisions pertaining to joint accounts contained in the applicable account agreements. Joint ownership of property is an important element of estate planning and entails important legal and tax consequences. Joint ownership laws vary from state to state. You are responsible for verifying that the joint registration that you select for your account(s) is valid in your state. In addition, state laws regarding community property vary. Please consult your attorney if you have any questions regarding the joint ownership or community property laws that may be applicable to your account(s).

#### c) Additional signatures

You may need to sign more than one Merrill Edge Self-Directed CRA. This will be required if you want to open an account in a capacity other than as an “individual,” including as a:

- Trustee of a trust;
- Personal representative or executor of an estate; or
- Guardian.

We may also require you to sign additional agreements or other documents for certain services or instructions, including:

- Selecting beneficiaries for an individual retirement account;
- Selecting the ownership of a joint account;
- Selecting beneficiaries of an account with the transfer on death service;
- Options trading;
- Financial planning;
- Managed money services; and
- Services involving the transfers of money or securities.

#### d) Retirement account beneficiaries

Your signature is required to designate or change beneficiaries to receive the balance of your account upon your death. If you do not do so, your account balance will be paid to your spouse, if he or she survives or, if not, to your estate.

#### e) Amendments

You agree that Merrill has the right to amend this Merrill Edge Self-Directed CRA at any time by providing notice of the amendment to you. The amendment will be effective on the date contained in the notice.

## 5. Customer information and due diligence

Merrill, like all U.S. financial institutions, is required to follow federal regulations to assist the government in its efforts to fight money laundering and other

financial crimes, and to counter terrorist financing efforts in the U.S. and globally. Merrill obtains specific personal information from you in order to verify your identity; and you may be required to present documentary evidence of your identity in the form of government-issued identification. Merrill also uses third-party vendors to verify customer information. Foreign nationals who are permanent legal residents of the U.S. may be required to present a Permanent Resident Card (i.e., "green card") and a Social Security number to open an account in a U.S.-based Merrill office. Non-individuals (e.g., a business, trust or estate) must submit sufficient evidence of legal status.

In addition to verifying the identity of our customers, Merrill captures personal information on all customers and related authorized parties who have the ability to transact, control, influence or manage an account, whether directly or indirectly. Merrill, at its discretion, may elect not to accept an account, or to terminate the account agreement and the account agreements of any related parties.

## 6. Margin lending

If any account is established with the Margin Lending Program, you understand and agree that:

- You may borrow money from Merrill secured by a pledge of your eligible securities and other property in your account;
- You will be charged interest on debit balances at a rate permitted by the laws of the state of New York;
- Certain of your securities may be loaned to Merrill or loaned out to others; and
- You are bound by the terms of the agreement for the Margin Lending service.

Further, in return for extending credit to you under the Margin Lending Program, you acknowledge and agree that we may lend, either to Merrill or to others, the securities in your account (along with all attendant rights of ownership), to the extent not prohibited by applicable laws, rules and regulations. Please refer to the terms for the Margin Lending Program in the Merrill Edge Self-Directed Cash Management Account Disclosures and Account Agreement for more detail.

## 7. Liens

All of your securities and other property in any account—margin or cash—in which you have an interest, or which at any time are in your possession or under your control other than retirement accounts, such as IRAs, shall be subject to a lien for the discharge of any and all indebtedness or any other obligations you may have to Merrill. Securities and other property held in retirement accounts, such as IRAs, are not subject to this lien, and are not used as security for the payment of your obligations or indebtedness for other non-retirement accounts—cash or margin—you maintain with Merrill. You agree that Merrill holds all of your securities and other property in margin or cash accounts, other than retirement accounts, as security for the payment of any such obligations or indebtedness to Merrill in any account in which you have an interest. Merrill, subject to applicable laws, may at any time and without giving you prior notice, use and/or transfer any or all securities and other property in any account in which you have an interest other than retirement accounts, without regard to Merrill having made any advances in connection with such securities and other property and without regard to the number of accounts you may have with Merrill. In enforcing the lien, Merrill, at its sole discretion, may determine which securities and other property are to be sold or which contracts are to be closed.

## 8. Governing law

Unless otherwise specified, your agreements and transactions with Merrill will be governed by and interpreted under the laws of the State of New York.

You may not use your account or relationship to the firm to process transactions that are prohibited by law, including, but not limited to, restricted transactions prohibited by the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006.

## 9. Compliance with applicable laws

You represent that you and any beneficial owner(s), if acting in a representative capacity, have complied, and you agree that you and any such beneficial owner(s) will comply for so long as your account(s) remain(s) open, with all applicable laws (including obligations related to tax payments and reporting and to currency exchange controls) related to (i) the assets deposited, acquired or otherwise held in any securities account held at Merrill now or in the future,

or (ii) any other transaction you enter into with Merrill or its affiliates. You further agree and acknowledge that you and any beneficial owner(s) if acting in a representative capacity are responsible for timely paying any taxes owed to any tax authority, and for timely filing all relevant tax returns in relation to assets held in any securities account held at Merrill now or in the future, or any other transaction you enter into with Merrill or its affiliates.

## 10. Special Provisions for FDIC Deposit Insurance Coverage

If you have opened a Merrill account that holds bank deposits on your behalf or on behalf of the beneficial owners of the assets in the account, you, as the account holder or representative, must be able to provide information, in the event of adverse circumstances, about your ownership of the deposits or information regarding the interests of the beneficial owner(s) or beneficiaries to Merrill in accordance with the FDIC's requirements.

In the event of adverse circumstances, you agree to:

- Cooperate fully with us and the FDIC in connection with determining the insured status of funds in such accounts at any time;
- Provide promptly the necessary data in the required format.

In the event of bank failure, the FDIC would be appointed as receiver and a hold would be placed on your account so that the FDIC can conduct the deposit insurance determination; that hold will not be released until the FDIC obtains the necessary data to enable the FDIC to calculate the deposit insurance. You understand and agree if you do not provide the necessary data to Merrill in a timely manner, it may result in a delay in receipt of insured funds and your ability to transact with these funds.

## 11. Fees

You agree to pay your account fees, service fees, processing and other fees for the transactions and other services you receive from Merrill. You understand that these fees will be charged to your accounts. Current information about the fees that apply to your account is available under the "Online investing and trading" tab at: [www.merrilledge.com/pricing](http://www.merrilledge.com/pricing). You agree that Merrill may satisfy any amounts you owe to Merrill from available free credit balances and assets in your account. If necessary, Merrill is permitted to sell assets in your accounts to pay those amounts due. You agree that you have reviewed the schedule of fees applicable to your MESD Account, including account fees, service fees, processing and other fees for the transactions and services applicable to your account, and believe them, in addition to any third-party compensation that we may receive with respect to your account or transactions engaged in by your account discussed more fully below, to be reasonable compensation to us in light of the totality of services we may provide with respect to the account.

### a) Securities transactions

When you purchase or sell securities, you may pay for each securities transaction on a per trade basis. This is called transaction-based pricing. Under this type of pricing, you are charged a commission or other compensation for each transaction. This compensation varies based on a number of factors, such as your relationship with Merrill and Bank of America, the type of security and how often you trade. Commission rates are subject to change. Our current standard commission schedule is available under the "Online investing and trading" tab at: [www.merrilledge.com/pricing](http://www.merrilledge.com/pricing).

The amount of commissions you may pay varies from product to product. Where commissions apply, the more transactions you enter into, the more compensation we receive. When you pay commissions with respect to particular investments, we benefit from you buying and selling more frequently, rather than holding investments, and from you purchasing investments that result in higher commissions and compensation to us and our affiliates.

Merrill and its affiliates also receive compensation from third parties (including from the investment products in which you invest, and their manufacturers, distributors, managers, and their respective affiliates) in connection with your investment transactions. The amount of this third-party compensation generally varies from product to product. Merrill has an incentive for you to engage in investment transactions that result in more compensation from third parties to Merrill and its affiliates. The costs of this third-party compensation generally represent an expense embedded in the investment that is ultimately borne by investors such as you. The specific types of third-party compensation we may receive with respect to a particular investment are typically disclosed in the relevant investment product prospectus or other offering document. Examples of the types of third-party compensation we can receive are listed

hereafter, but note that not all types of compensation apply to all investments, and we may receive other compensation that is not listed here. The examples of third-party compensation include: Rule 12b-1 and other distribution and servicing fees; revenue sharing payments; exchange-traded fund index licensing fees; event payments; gifts, gratuities, and other non-monetary compensation; payment for order flow; securities lending fees; valuation fees; redemption fees; and underwriting fees.

#### **b) Visa® cards issued by Bank of America, N.A.**

There is no annual fee for the Merrill CMA Access® Visa® card. However, transaction charges apply with respect to particular transactions as disclosed in the Merrill CMA Access Visa card terms and conditions.

This information is subject to change. You may call Merrill Edge Self-Directed at **877.653.4732** to verify current fees.

You authorize Merrill to issue the Visa card that you have requested for use with eligible accounts, and you understand that Merrill or an affiliate may obtain a credit report in connection with your request.

### **12. Agreement to arbitrate controversies**

**This Agreement contains a predispute arbitration clause. By signing an arbitration agreement the parties agree as follows:**

- **All parties to this Agreement are giving up the right to sue each other in court, including the right to a trial by jury, except as provided by the rules of the arbitration forum in which a claim is filed.**
- **Arbitration awards are generally final and binding; a party's ability to have a court reverse or modify an arbitration award is very limited.**
- **The ability of the parties to obtain documents, witness statements and other discovery is generally more limited in arbitration than in court proceedings.**
- **The arbitrators do not have to explain the reason(s) for their award unless, in an eligible case, a joint request for an explained decision has been submitted by all parties to the panel at least 20 days prior to the first scheduled hearing date.**
- **The panel of arbitrators may include a minority of arbitrators who were or are affiliated with the securities industry.**
- **The rules of some arbitration forums may impose time limits for bringing a claim in arbitration. In some cases, a claim that is ineligible for arbitration may be brought in court.**
- **The rules of the arbitration forum in which the claim is filed, and any amendments thereto, shall be incorporated into this Agreement.**

You agree that all controversies that may arise between us shall be determined by arbitration. Such controversies include, but are not limited to, those involving any transaction in any of your accounts with Merrill, or the construction, performance or breach of any agreement between us, whether entered into or occurring prior, on or subsequent to the date hereof.

Any arbitration pursuant to this provision shall be conducted only before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Inc. ("FINRA") or an arbitration facility provided by any other exchange of which Merrill is a member, and in accordance with the respective arbitration rules then in effect at FINRA or such other exchange.

You may elect in the first instance whether arbitration shall be conducted before FINRA or another exchange of which Merrill is a member, but if you fail to make such election by registered letter addressed to Merrill at the office where you maintain your account before the expiration of five (5) days after receipt of a written request from Merrill to make such election, then Merrill may make such election.

Judgment upon the award of the arbitrators may be entered in any court, state or federal, having jurisdiction.

**No person shall bring a putative or certified class action to arbitration, nor seek to enforce any pre-dispute arbitration agreement against any person who has initiated in court a putative class action or who is a member of a putative class who has not opted out of the class with respect to any claims encompassed by the putative class action until: (i) the class certification is denied; or (ii) the class is decertified; or (iii) the customer is excluded from the class by the court. Such forbearance to enforce an agreement to arbitrate shall not constitute**

**a waiver of any rights under this Agreement except to the extent stated herein.**

### **13. Important disclosures**

Merrill is a registered broker-dealer and a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of America Corporation. Unless otherwise disclosed, investments through Merrill are not FDIC Insured, and are not Bank guaranteed, and may lose value. Investing in securities involves the risk of loss, and you should be prepared to bear this risk.

Merrill offers its products, accounts and services through different service models (e.g., self-directed, full-service). Based on the service model, the same or similar products, accounts and services may vary in their price or fee charged to a client.

A Merrill financial advisor, Merrill Financial Solutions Advisor or other Merrill employee (collectively referred to herein as an "Associate") is eligible to receive compensation if the Associate informs you about MESD and you thereafter open a MESD account and/or add more assets to your existing MESD account. The details of the compensation will depend on the Associate's employment agreements and arrangements with Merrill, and the types of compensation for which the Associate is eligible. In general, the compensation the Associate receives will vary based on the amount of assets you invest in an MESD account at a specific time or over a specific period (e.g., upon account opening or during a given quarter). The Associate's activity with respect to other Merrill clients and the amount of assets other clients invest in MESD accounts or other accounts with Merrill or its affiliates will also affect the compensation for which the Associate may be eligible. Merrill's compensation arrangements with Associates generally include thresholds regarding the amount of compensation to be paid to Associates. Associate compensation varies and is based on, among other things, the amount clients invest in accounts, the number of accounts clients open and/or close, and qualitative factors such as client satisfaction. A Merrill financial advisor is eligible to receive ongoing compensation for a limited period of time if the total amount invested in an MESD account exceeds a certain threshold.

You can research Merrill and our representatives using FINRA's BrokerCheck database.

Vesting age for UTMA (Uniform Transfer to Minor account) and UGMA accounts (Uniform Gift to Minor account) defaults to the minimum age defined by individual state laws.

### **14. Sweep Program**

The deposit of checks, the sale of securities, and other activity will periodically generate cash in your account. You have the option to have cash balances in your account automatically deposited into Bank of America, N.A. ("BANA") and/or Bank of America California, N.A. ("BA-CA") under the Merrill Lynch Direct Deposit Program ("MLDD Program"). Alternatively, you may elect that cash balances do not sweep. If you choose to not sweep your cash balances, they will not earn interest. These balances will be covered by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC") up to \$250,000 per customer and by our excess-SIPC coverage, as described in your account agreement, but they are not insured by the FDIC. For IRA Accounts, cash balances will be automatically deposited into Bank of America, N.A. ("BANA") and/or Bank of America California, N.A. ("BA-CA") under the Retirement Asset Savings Program (the "RASP Program"). The MLDD and RASP Programs are collectively referred to as the "Sweep Program." For details contact Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing at **877.653.4732**, or view your account agreement. Please note that if your account is enrolled in a Merrill investment advisory program, such as Merrill Guided Investing, and you choose to not sweep your cash balances, you should understand that Merrill may charge an asset-based advisory fee on the cash in the account even though you are not earning any interest or dividends on that cash.

#### **Conflicts of interest Bank deposit programs**

There are conflicts of interest relating to the Sweep Program. Deposits held at BANA and/or BA-CA (collectively, the "Merrill Lynch Affiliated Banks") are financially beneficial to Merrill and its affiliates. If you hold cash balances in your account, both the Merrill Lynch Affiliated Banks and Merrill benefit financially when your cash is "swept" to and held in deposit with them under our sweep programs. The Merrill Lynch Affiliated Banks benefit from their use of the deposits, and Merrill receives compensation from the Merrill Lynch Bank Affiliates for its services relating to the cash sweep program.

The participating Merrill Lynch Affiliated Banks use bank deposits to fund current and new lending, investment and other business activities. This is a

conflict of interest because, like other depository institutions, their profitability is determined in large part by the difference between the interest paid and other costs incurred by them on bank deposits and the interest or other income earned on their loans, investments and other assets, which may be funded in part by bank deposits. The deposits provide a stable source of funding, and borrowing costs incurred to fund their business activities have been reduced by the use of deposits from Merrill clients.

In addition, the Merrill Lynch Affiliated Banks determine the interest rate paid to depositors in the cash sweep program.

The deposits will bear a rate of interest that has been established for, and in light of the features of, the cash sweep program. Generally, this rate will likely be lower than (1) the interest rates available on non-sweep deposit accounts with Merrill Lynch Affiliated Banks and other banking institutions and (2) yields on cash alternatives, such as money market funds. The features of these non-sweep deposit accounts and cash alternatives are different from bank deposit accounts affiliated with the cash sweep program.

Merrill receives:

- Up to \$100 per year from BANA and BA-CA for each account that sweeps to the Merrill Lynch Bank Deposit Program, Merrill Lynch Business Deposit Program and Merrill Lynch Direct Deposit Program
- Up to \$85 per year for each account that sweeps to the Retirement Asset Savings Program
- A fee of up to 2% per annum of the average daily balances from the ISA banks

This compensation is subject to change from time to time, and Merrill may waive all or part of it.

The greater the amount of the cash balance maintained in your Account that is swept into a cash sweep program bank deposit account and the lower the interest rate paid on the deposit, the more our bank affiliates benefit.

Interest rates paid on deposits are determined at the discretion of the Merrill Affiliated Bank based on economic and business conditions. Rates may change daily. The current yield on any deposits held under the MLDD Program or the RASP Program will be included on your account statement. *Note: The MLDD Program is the Sweep Program available to MESD Cash Management Accounts (CMAs), and the RASP Program is the Sweep Program available to Traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs, Rollover IRAs, BASIC, SEP and SIMPLE accounts.* You can also access current yield information on our website (see the "Deposit Account & Money Fund Rates" link at the bottom of each page of [merrilledge.com](http://merrilledge.com)), or by contacting Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing at **877.653.4732**. The interest paid on retirement account assets will be at no less than a reasonable rate.

Your cash in the MLDD Program and the RASP Program is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") up to a total of the Standard Maximum Deposit Insurance Amount ("SMDIA") per depositor at the Merrill Affiliated Bank. The SMDIA is \$250,000 per depositor, per ownership category. Each individual depositor receives up to the SMDIA of FDIC insurance and each joint account with two depositors up to two times the SMDIA of FDIC insurance. It is your responsibility to monitor the total amount of your deposits with the Merrill Affiliated Bank to determine the extent of insurance coverage available on your deposits. It is important to note that uninvested cash held in more than one Merrill account (such as a CMA) may be deposited to the same Merrill Affiliated Bank. Also, amounts in excess of the applicable FDIC insurance limit may be deposited to the Merrill Affiliated Bank from the same Merrill account. Any certificates of deposit that you own issued by a Merrill Affiliated Bank will also count towards the FDIC insurance limits.

The Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC") does not cover cash on deposit at the Merrill Affiliated Bank. You may obtain further information about SIPC, including the SIPC Brochure, via SIPC's website at [www.sipc.org](http://www.sipc.org) or by calling SIPC at **202.371.8300**.

Merrill reserves the right to offer different Sweep Programs for different accounts or clients. Merrill, may, with 30 days prior written notice, (i) make changes to the terms and conditions of our Sweep Program; (ii) make changes to the terms and conditions of any money account; (iii) change, add or remove the money account available as sweep product; (iv) transfer your money account from one sweep product to another. Available cash balances are automatically swept into the primary money account. You affirmatively consent to having your available cash balances sweep to MLDDP and/or RASP.

#### **Additional Money accounts**

Under the Sweep Program, you may only establish one primary money account for the automatic deposit of cash balances in your account. However, you

may establish multiple additional money accounts and make deposits at any time by speaking to your financial advisor. If you have established money accounts in addition to your primary money account, and you do not have sufficient balances in your primary money account, your additional money account balances will be withdrawn to satisfy securities and cash management transactions, including check writing and Visa® Card activity, in or through your account. Ask for the applicable deposit account program disclosures for details on deposits.

Various deposit accounts are available as additional money accounts based on account type. Please contact Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing at **877.653.4732** to determine if a particular option is available to you to determine applicable rules and minimums (if any).

#### **Confirmations and statements**

In general, when we execute a transaction, we will send you a confirmation summarizing the details. We will not send you a confirmation for certain pre-authorized transactions in securities, including mutual funds, Sweep Program transactions (whether for your primary money market account or any additional money accounts) and any transaction in a money market mutual fund ("Exempt Transactions"). We will send you an account statement (monthly or quarterly, based in part on account type and/or activity) as a record of the securities, cash and other assets held by us and the activity in your account for the time period covered by the statement. Your statement will serve as a confirmation of any Exempt Transactions. The statement will also give you year-to-date information on dividends and interest received, as well as market prices of the securities in your account, if available.

#### **Automatic Liquidation of Additional Money accounts**

If you have a retirement account and the funds within your primary money account are depleted, we will automatically liquidate your Additional Money accounts in the following order to satisfy obligations to your account(s): Retirement Reserves I, Retirement Reserves II, Ready Asset Trust.

If you have a CMA Account and the funds within your primary money account are depleted, you may select the order in which your Additional Money accounts are automatically liquidated to satisfy obligations to your account(s) by speaking with Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing at **877.653.4732**, or view your account agreement.

### **15. Representations as to account ownership and capacity to enter into agreement**

You represent that no one except the person(s) signing this Agreement, or the beneficial owner(s) if signed in a representative capacity, has an interest in this account or any additional accounts opened in the future for you or for such beneficial owner(s). If this account is beneficially owned by any person who is U.S. Securities and Exchange Act Section 16 reporting person of a U.S. public company, you represent that no funds or assets belonging to such U.S. public company, or any entity affiliate of such U.S. public company, will be invested through this account. If this is an individual account, you represent that you are of legal age to contract in your jurisdiction of residence and that you are not employed by a broker-dealer or other employer whose consent is required to open and maintain this account by regulation or otherwise, unless such consent has been provided to you. If any of the foregoing representations is inaccurate or becomes inaccurate, you will promptly so advise.

You acknowledge that you fully understand English and that written documents, agreements and information concerning your relationship with Merrill, including but not limited to products, services, transactions and your accounts will be provided to you in English.

### **16. Electronic fund transfers**

If you maintain more than one account with Merrill with the same ownership type, you may transfer funds to and from each account through Merrill's electronic funds transfer services.

You authorize Merrill to accept your telephonic or electronic instructions for those transfers.

If you open any account as the trustee for a grantor revocable living trust, you represent and warrant to Merrill that:

- The trust permits the funds transfers you are authorizing; or
- If applicable, such funds transfers represent valid partial or total revocations by you and Merrill may conclusively rely on this representation.

## 17. Third-party research

Merrill may offer you access to third-party research on certain U.S. and non-U.S. equity and fixed income securities. You agree that neither Merrill nor any of its affiliates bears any responsibility or liability for third-party research or its content that may be made available to you.

You assume full responsibility for any trading decision you make based on third-party research. Access to third-party research is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute investment advice. Merrill does not endorse or otherwise adopt third-party research reports or ratings.

## 18. Custody of securities

Merrill will hold all securities for the Securities account in a control location acceptable to the Securities and Exchange Commission, which may include, but is not limited to: (i) a securities depository, such as the federally regulated Depository Trust Company for U.S. issuers and Euroclear for European issuers, (ii) a Federal Reserve member bank, or (iii) a mutual fund's Transfer Agent. Securities are commingled in a Merrill book-entry account, generally held in nominee name at the control location, along with securities belonging to other Merrill customers. Your securities will at all times be separately identified on the books and records of Merrill as belonging to you, and Merrill will provide you with account statements that reflect your holdings. This method of custody, which has significantly increased efficiencies and reduced the risks associated with holding customer securities, is used by all major banks, trust companies and brokerage firms and has been recognized as providing unsurpassed safety for holders of securities. With regard to the custody of your securities, Merrill acts as your agent and transmits your instructions through the appropriate control location.

Where securities are not held in nominee name, the issuer or control location, as appropriate, recognizes Merrill as your agent and honors instructions provided by Merrill on your behalf.

## 19. Referral Policy

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S") is an affiliate of Bank of America, N.A. and other subsidiaries of Bank of America Corporation (collectively, "Merrill"). Merrill is one of the world's largest financial institutions, serving individual consumers, small- and middle-market businesses, institutional investors, large corporations and governments with a full range of banking, investing, asset management and other financial and risk management products and services. In the event Merrill refers your business among its affiliates to provide you with certain products or services, Merrill (or its employees or representatives) may receive financial or other benefits for such referrals.

## 20. Freezing Accounts

If at any time Merrill believes that your account may be subject to irregular, unauthorized, fraudulent or illegal activity, we may, in our discretion, freeze the assets in the account and in other accounts you maintain with us until such time as we are able to complete our investigation of the account and transactions. If we do freeze your account assets, we will provide notice to you as soon as reasonably possible. Notice may be made by mail or verbally or provided by other means such as via [www.merrilledge.com](http://www.merrilledge.com), where applicable. We may not provide this notice to you prior to freezing the account if we believe that such notice could result in a security risk to us or to the owner of the funds in the account.

## 21. Unclaimed property—accounts presumed abandoned

State and federal law and Merrill policy govern when accounts are considered abandoned. The applicable state law is generally the state listed as the primary mailing address for your account. Your account could be considered abandoned after one piece of mail is returned to us by the U.S. Postal Service. For accounts with electronic statement delivery preferences, if the Firm attempts to deliver your correspondence electronically and we receive notice that your

email address is no longer valid, Merrill will mail via U.S. Postal Service a notice to the primary mailing address on your account asking that you update your email address. If your mailing address is invalid and the mailed notice is returned by the post office, your account may be considered abandoned. Also, your account may be considered abandoned if there has not been any client-initiated activity for a period of three to five years. Client-initiated activity includes, but is not limited to, reviewing account activity online, calling a Merrill call center, transacting in your account, or voting proxies.

Merrill is required by the unclaimed property laws to turn over accounts considered abandoned to the applicable state. Before Merrill turns over an abandoned account, the Firm may send a notice to the primary mailing address on the account. Merrill may also utilize a third-party search vendor to locate a better address to notify you of your abandoned account prior to turning your account over to the state of last known address. After Merrill turns the funds over to the state, Merrill has no further liability to you for the funds and/or securities. You must apply to the appropriate state agency to claim your funds. The state may liquidate any securities once your shares are remitted to them.

If Merrill considers your account abandoned, then (unless prohibited by federal or state law) we may:

- Stop sending correspondence.
- Refuse to pay items drawn on or payable out of the account.
- Charge regular account fees according to the type of account you maintain with us.

If you re-establish contact with Merrill, we do not have to reimburse you for these fees.

## 22. Account owners with Texas mailing address

Clients with a mailing address in the state of Texas may appoint a designee who can respond to abandoned property notifications on the client's behalf and prevent an account from being classified as abandoned and turned over to the state of Texas. Please contact Merrill Edge Self-Directed Investing at 877.653.4732 or the Abandoned Property Department at 800.581.5858 for additional information.

## 23. Rejection of Payment Orders

Merrill and/or Bank of America may reject payment orders (e.g., wire transfers, checks, etc.). We will notify you of any rejection orally, electronically or in writing. If we send written notices by mail, we will do so by the end of the next business day. We are not liable to you for the rejection or obligated to pay you interest for the period before you receive timely notice of rejection.

## 24. Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act

In connection with the Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act ("RUFADAA") and applicable state enabling statutes, Merrill will provide an authorized fiduciary for a Merrill client, as determined by Merrill, with "read-only" online access to such client's account(s) provided that the client's fiduciary creates his/her own user name and password, complies with the terms and conditions set forth in the Brokerage Website Terms and Conditions, as appropriate and provides Merrill with any additional requested documentation. Online access is at all times subject to the terms, conditions and requirement applicable to websites and/or mobile applications, including any requirements for access. If Merrill determines that online access cannot be reasonably granted to such authorized fiduciary, hard copies of the information/documents requested by the authorized fiduciary may be provided.

Merrill, its affiliates and financial advisors do not provide legal, tax or accounting advice. You should consult your legal and/or tax advisors before making any financial decisions.

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