

# **GRADIENT INVESTMENTS DESIGNED INCOME PORTFOLIO**

CUSTOMIZED OFFERINGS FOR STRUCTURED INCOME

The objective of the Gradient Investments Designed Income Portfolio is to create recurring income for investors. Investors in the Designed Income Portfolio generate recurring income through cash coupon payments. These coupon payments are subject to a pre-defined set of parameters intended to provide a stated income objective while also setting a pre-defined level of principal protection at maturity.

### STRUCTURED NOTES

The Gradient Designed Income Portfolio invests clients in structured notes to provide a pre-determined and defined set of outcomes. Structured Notes are:

- Issued by financial institutions
- Backed by the credit of the underwriter
- Subject to potential investment loss
- Linked to the performance of a reference asset/index
- Typically issued with a fixed maturity date
- Not actively traded on security exchanges

Source: SEC.gov

The Gradient Investments Designed Income Portfolio utilizes structured notes to design and customize offerings that provide a stated coupon yield. Annualized coupon yield will be dependent on a number of parameters, including:

- Index or indices used
- Length to maturity

Coupon contingencies

- Call features
- Payment frequency

- Level and type of protection
- The Designed Income Portfolio is built for investors who want a recurring income stream based on a pre-defined set of parameters. Offerings in the Designed Income Portfolio will typically provide premium income compared to traditional bonds but will carry incremental risks including potential loss of principal at maturity. Coupon payments will be contingent on the performance of the pre-determined index, or indices, used. Gradient Investments will offer notes that state the annualized coupon yield while clearly defining the contingencies around coupon payments and principal protection levels at maturity.

## EXAMPLE OF A DESIGNED INCOME OFFERING

Below is a hypothetical scenario of parameters for a Designed Income offering:

Index	S&P 500	Principal Barrier	25% principal barrier
Maturity	3 years	Coupon Barrier	25% coupon barrier
Call Provision	Non-callable	Underwriter	Competitive Bid
Coupon Frequency	Quarterly	Coupon	5% annualized

Determination of Coupon Payments:

- Coupons are paid periodically in cash according to the payment frequency
- Coupon payments are **paid** if the specified index is at or above the coupon barrier level on the payment date
- Coupon payments are **forfeited** if the value of the index is below the coupon barrier level on the payment date
- Each coupon payment is an independent event. Payments are made or forfeited each payment date based upon the pre-defined parameters

Determination of Return of Principal at maturity:

- If the index value is **at or above** the buffer or barrier level, full principal is returned to the investor
- If the index value **ends below** the buffer or barrier level:
  - o **Buffer offering**: the investor participates one for one in loss beyond the buffer level
  - o **Barrier offering**: the investor experiences the full amount of performance loss of the index

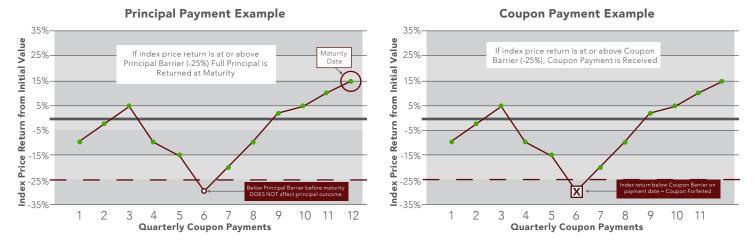
Call features: The Designed Income Portfolio offerings may be called prior to maturity.

- This can be automatic (auto callable) or at the discretion of the underwriter (issuer callable)
- Offerings can be called on coupon payment dates after a pre-determined period
- If called, investors are paid the current cash coupon and full principal is returned

Upon either maturity or an offering being called, proceeds will go to cash and placed in the investor account. Proceeds will NOT be automatically reinvested as market conditions are subject to change.

Index	S&P 500	
Maturity	3 years	
Call Provision	Non-callable	
Coupon Frequency	Quarterly	

Principal Barrier	25% principal barrier	
Coupon Barrier	25% coupon barrier	
lssuer	Competitive Bid	
Coupon	5% Annualized	



For illustration purposes only. Illustration returns are gross of all advisor and investment management fees. Terms and outcomes subject to change. These numbers are not meant to predict your individual results which could be better or worse. Investing involves risk including the possible loss of principal, and past performance is no guarantee of future returns. This information should not be used as the sole basis for making an investment decision.

#### RISKS

The Designed Income Portfolio offerings carry three types of risk to the investor. These are:

- Coupon payment risk: the potential for loss of cash payments due to index values falling below pre-determined levels
- Principal return risk: At maturity only, the risk of principal loss may occur due to index values falling below pre-determined levels
- Underwriter credit risk: Offerings are backed by the credit of the issuing financial institution. Failure to satisfy contractual obligations could lead to loss of principal

#### **SUMMARY**

The Gradient Investments Designed Income Portfolio is a customized set of investment offerings intended to deliver a recurring income stream. These portfolio offerings are issued by investment grade underwriters who are some of the world's largest financial institutions. Cash coupons are paid periodically based upon pre-determined parameters and taxed as ordinary income in taxable accounts. Portfolio offerings are constructed as a point to point solution but can be liquidated intra-period if necessary. Offerings that mature (or are called) will return principal based on pre-determined criteria and will be paid in cash and placed in the investor account.

Please consult your independent investment advisor before making any investment decisions. The information herein is for informational purposes only and should not be used as the sole basis for making an investment decision. Investing involves risk including the potential loss of principal. For more information, please request a copy of Gradient Investments' ADV Part 2A. Gradient Investments, LLC is an SEC Registered Investment Advisor.



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