

# ADVISORSHARES<sup>TM</sup>

Actively Managed ETFs

# QEH

ADVISORSHARES QAM EQUITY HEDGE ETF

NYSE Arca Ticker: QEH



Sub-advised by:  
Commerce Asset Management, LLC

## ADVISORSHARES TRUST

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Prospectus dated November 1, 2016

This Prospectus provides important information about the AdvisorShares QAM Equity Hedge ETF, a series of AdvisorShares Trust. Before you invest, please read this Prospectus and the Fund's Statement of Additional Information carefully and keep them for future reference.

The shares of the Fund have not been approved or disapproved by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission nor has the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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**ADVISORSHARES QAM EQUITY HEDGE ETF**  
**NYSE Arca Ticker: QEH**

**FUND SUMMARY**

**INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The AdvisorShares QAM Equity Hedge ETF (the “Fund”) seeks investment results that exceed the risk adjusted performance of approximately 50% of the long/short equity hedge fund universe as defined by the HFRI Equity Hedge (Total) Index constituents.

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund. Most investors will incur customary brokerage commissions when buying or selling shares of the Fund, which are not reflected in the table below.

<b>SHAREHOLDER FEES</b> ( <i>fees paid directly from your investment</i> )	None
<b>ANNUAL FUND OPERATING EXPENSES</b> ( <i>expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment</i> )	
MANAGEMENT FEES	1.00%
DISTRIBUTION (12b-1) FEES	0.00%
OTHER EXPENSES	2.15%
Short Interest Expense 0.18%	
Remaining Expenses 1.97%	
ACQUIRED FUND FEES AND EXPENSES <sup>(a)</sup>	0.35%
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>3.50%</b>
FEE WAIVER/EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT <sup>(b)</sup>	-1.47%
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES AFTER FEE WAIVER/EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT</b>	<b>2.03%</b>

(a) *Total Annual Operating Expenses and Total Annual Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver/Expense Reimbursement in this fee table may not correlate to the expense ratios in the Fund’s financial highlights (and the Fund’s financial statements) because the financial highlights include only the Fund’s direct operating expenses and do not include Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses, which represent the Fund’s pro rata share of the fees and expenses of the exchange-traded funds in which it invests.*

(b) *AdvisorShares Investments, LLC (the “Advisor”) has contractually agreed to reduce its fees and/or reimburse expenses in order to keep net expenses (excluding amounts payable pursuant to any plan adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1, interest expense, taxes, brokerage commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses, other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 1.50% of the Fund’s average daily net assets for at least one year from the date of this Prospectus. The expense limitation agreement may be terminated without payment of any penalty (i) by the Trust for any reason and at any time and (ii) by the Advisor, for any reason, upon ninety (90) days’ prior written notice to the Trust, such termination by the Advisor to be effective as of the close of business on the last day of the then-current one-year period.*

**EXAMPLE**

This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the shares of the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This Example does not take into account creation or redemption transaction fees, or the brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling shares of the Fund. If these fees and commissions were included, your costs would be higher.

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then sell all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund’s operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

	1 YEAR	3 YEARS	5 YEARS	10 YEARS
<b>AdvisorShares QAM Equity Hedge ETF</b>	\$206	\$938	\$1,691	\$3,677

## PORTFOLIO TURNOVER

The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Operating Expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund’s performance. This rate excludes the value of portfolio securities received or delivered as a result of in-kind creations or redemptions of the Fund’s capital shares. For the most recent fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 132% of the average value of its portfolio.

## PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

The Fund is a “fund of funds” that seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in both long and short positions in other exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) and exchange-traded notes (“ETNs”) that offer diversified exposure to global regions, countries, investment styles (*i.e.*, value and growth), sectors and industries. Commerce Asset Management, LLC (the “Sub-Advisor”) seeks to achieve the Fund’s investment objective by taking long and short positions in ETFs and ETNs that the Sub-Advisor believes, in the aggregate, will track the performance of a selected universe of long/short equity hedge funds.

Long/short equity hedge funds typically buy stocks, ETFs, ETNs or currencies that the hedge fund managers expect will appreciate, and concurrently either sell short stocks, ETFs, ETNs or currencies that the hedge fund managers expect will decline in value or to hedge market or sector exposures.

In seeking to establish a long or short position in such instruments, the Fund may use swaps based on published indices, including international indices. The Fund also may invest in exchange-traded currency trusts, which are another type of exchange-traded product (collectively, with ETFs and ETNs, “ETPs”). On a day-to-day basis, the Fund may hold money market instruments, cash, other cash equivalents, and ETPs that invest in these and other highly liquid instruments to collateralize its derivative positions.

## PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND

The Fund is subject to a number of risks, as described below, that may affect the value of its shares, including the possible loss of money. As with any fund, there is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

**Allocation Risk.** The Fund’s particular allocations may have a significant effect on the Fund’s performance. Allocation risk is the risk that the selection of ETPs and the allocation of assets among such ETPs will cause the Fund to underperform other funds with a similar investment objective that do not allocate their assets in the same manner or the market as a whole.

**Counterparty Risk.** The Fund may invest in financial instruments involving counterparties that attempt to gain exposure to a particular group of securities, index or asset class without actually purchasing those securities or investments, or to hedge a position. The Fund’s use of such financial instruments, including swap agreements, exposes the Fund to risks that are different than those associated with direct investments in portfolio securities. For example, if a swap agreement counterparty defaults on its payment obligations to the Fund, this default will cause the value of your investment in the Fund to decrease.

**Credit Risk.** The Fund could lose money if the issuer or guarantor of a debt instrument in which the Fund invests becomes unwilling or unable to make timely principal and/or interest payments, or to otherwise meet its obligations.

**Derivatives Risk.** The Fund intends to invest in derivatives to a significant extent. Derivatives may be riskier than other types of investments because they may be more sensitive to changes in economic or market conditions than other types of investments and could result in losses that significantly exceed the Fund's original investment. A derivative is a financial contract the value of which depends on, or is derived from, the value of a financial asset (such as stock, bond or currency), a physical asset (such as gold) or a market index (such as the S&P 500 Index). Many derivatives (including option contracts) create leverage thereby causing the Fund to be more volatile than it would be if it had not invested in derivatives. Derivatives also expose the Fund to counterparty risk (the risk that the derivative counterparty will not fulfill its contractual obligations) and to credit risk.

**Equity Risk.** The prices of equity securities in which the Fund invests rise and fall daily. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual issuers, industries or the securities market as a whole. In addition, equity markets tend to move in cycles which may cause stock prices to fall over short or extended periods of time.

**Exchange-Traded Note Risk.** ETNs are senior, unsecured unsubordinated debt securities issued by an underwriting bank that are designed to provide returns that are linked to a particular reference asset or benchmark less investor fees. ETNs have a maturity date and generally are backed only by the creditworthiness of the issuer. As a result, the value of an ETN may be influenced by time to maturity, level of supply and demand for the ETN, volatility and lack of liquidity in the underlying market (*e.g.*, the commodities market), changes in the applicable interest rates, and changes in the issuer's credit rating and economic, legal, political or geographic events that affect the underlying market. ETNs also may be subject to commodities market risk and credit risk.

**Exchange-Traded Product Risk.** Through its investments in ETPs, the Fund is subject to the risks associated with the ETPs' investments, or reference assets/benchmark components in the case of ETNs, including the possibility that the value of the securities or instruments held by or linked to an ETP could decrease. These risks include any combination of the risks described below, as well as certain of the other risks described in this section. The Fund's exposure to a particular risk will be proportionate to the Fund's overall allocation to the ETPs and the ETPs asset allocation.

- **Commodity Risk.** Because certain ETPs may have a significant portion of their assets exposed directly or indirectly to commodities or commodity-linked securities, developments affecting commodities may have a disproportionate impact on such ETPs. An ETP's investment in commodities or commodity-linked derivative instruments may subject the ETP (and indirectly the Fund) to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities, particularly if the instruments involve leverage. The value of commodities and commodity-linked derivative instruments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, livestock disease, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments.
- **Concentration Risk.** An ETP may, at various times, concentrate in the securities or commodities of a particular industry, group of industries, market sector or geographic region. To the extent an ETP's investments are so concentrated, the Fund may be adversely affected by political, regulatory, and market conditions affecting the particular industry, group of industries, market sector or geographic region.
- **Counterparty Risk.** Commodity-linked derivatives, repurchase agreements, swap agreements and other forms of financial instruments that involve counterparties subject an ETP to the risk that the counterparty could default on its obligations under the agreement, either through the counterparty's bankruptcy or failure to perform its obligations.
- **Credit Risk.** Certain ETPs are subject to the risk that a decline in the credit quality of a portfolio investment or a counterparty to a portfolio investment could cause the ETP's share price to fall. The ETPs could lose money if the issuer or guarantor of a portfolio investment or the counterparty to a derivatives contract fails to make timely principal or interest payments or otherwise honor its obligations.
- **Emerging Markets Risk.** There is an increased risk of price volatility associated with an ETP's investments in, or exposure to, emerging market countries, which may be magnified by currency fluctuations relative to the U.S. dollar.

- **Equity Risk.** The prices of equity securities in which an ETP invests or is exposed to rise and fall daily. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual companies, industries or the securities market as a whole.
- **Foreign Currency Risk.** Currency movements may negatively impact the value of an ETP portfolio security even when there is no change in the value of the security in the issuer's home country. Certain ETPs may not hedge against the risk of currency exchange rate fluctuations, while other ETPs may if there is volatility in currency exchange rates.
- **Foreign Securities Risk.** An ETP's investments in, or exposure to, foreign issuers involve certain risks including, but not limited to, risks of adverse changes in foreign economic, political, regulatory and other conditions, or changes in currency exchange rates or exchange control regulations (including limitations on currency movements and exchanges). In certain countries, legal remedies available to investors may be more limited than those available with respect to investments in the United States. In addition, the securities of some foreign companies may be less liquid and, at times, more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. companies.
- **Large-Capitalization Risk.** Returns on investments in stocks of large U.S. companies could trail the returns on investments in stocks of small- and mid- cap companies or the market as a whole.
- **Mid-Capitalization Risk.** Mid-cap companies may be more volatile and more likely than large-cap companies to have limited product lines, markets or financial resources, or depend on a few key employees. Returns on investments in stocks of mid- cap companies could trail the returns on investments in stocks of large- or small-cap companies or the market as a whole.
- **Small-Capitalization Risk.** Small-cap companies may be more vulnerable than larger, more established organizations to adverse business or economic developments. In particular, small-cap companies may have limited product lines, markets, and financial resources and may be dependent upon a relatively small management group. These securities may be listed on an exchange or trade over-the-counter, and may or may not pay dividends. During a period when the performance of small-cap stocks falls behind that of other types of investments, such as large-cap stocks, the ETP's performance could be adversely affected.
- **Tracking Error Risk.** Tracking error can arise due to factors such as the effect of transaction fees and expenses incurred by an ETP, changes in composition of the ETP's benchmark, and the ability of the ETP manager or sponsor to successfully implement his or her investment strategy.

**Liquidity Risk.** Liquidity risk exists when particular Fund investments are difficult to purchase or sell. This can reduce the Fund's returns because the Fund may be unable to transact at advantageous times or prices.

**Management Risk.** The Sub-Advisor continuously evaluates the Fund's holdings, purchases and sales with a view to achieving the Fund's investment objective. However, the achievement of the stated investment objective cannot be guaranteed over short- or long-term market cycles. The Sub-Advisor's judgments about the markets, the economy, or companies may not anticipate actual market movements, economic conditions or company performance, and these judgments may affect the return on your investment.

**Market Risk.** Due to market conditions, the value of the Fund's investments may fluctuate significantly from day to day. Price fluctuations may be temporary or may last for extended periods. This volatility may cause the value of your investment in the Fund to decrease.

**Portfolio Turnover Risk.** The Fund may experience relatively high portfolio turnover, which may result in increased transaction costs and Fund performance that is lower than expected.

**Short Sales Risk.** Short sales are transactions in which the Fund sells a security it does not own. To complete the transaction, the Fund must borrow the security to make delivery to the buyer. The Fund is then obligated to replace the security borrowed by purchasing the security at the market price at the time of replacement. The price at such time may be higher or lower than the price at which the security was sold by the Fund. If the underlying security goes down in price between the time the Fund sells the security and buys it back, the Fund will realize a gain on the transaction. Conversely, if the underlying security goes up in price during the period, the Fund will

realize a loss on the transaction. Any such loss is increased by the amount of premium or interest the Fund must pay to the lender of the security. Likewise, any gain will be decreased by the amount of premium or interest the Fund must pay to the lender of the security. Because a short position loses value as the security's price increases, the loss on a short sale is theoretically unlimited. Short sales involve leverage because the Fund borrows securities and then sells them, effectively leveraging its assets. The use of leverage may magnify gains or losses for the Fund.

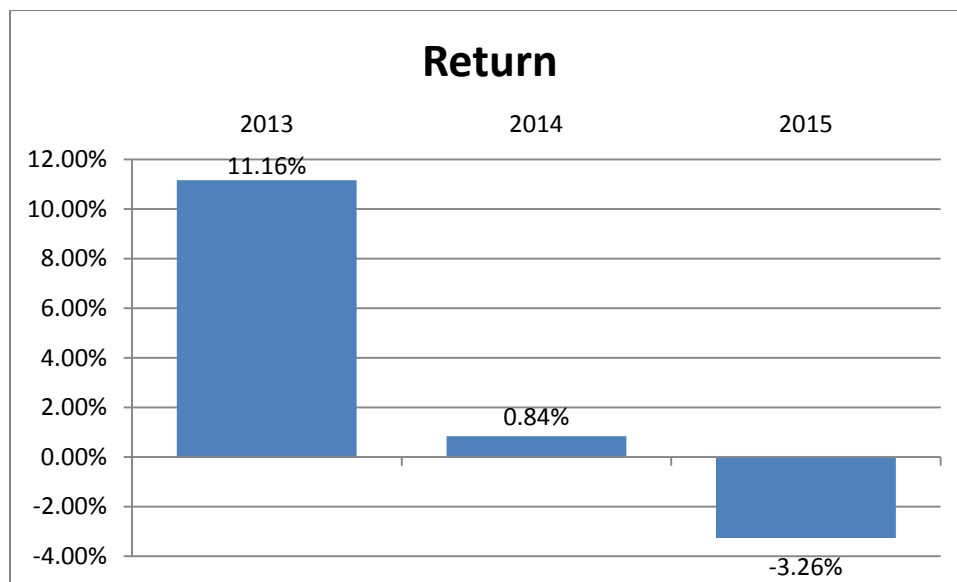
**Tax Risk.** In order to qualify for the favorable U.S. federal income tax treatment accorded to regulated investment companies ("RICs"), the Fund must derive at least 90% of its gross income in each taxable year from certain categories of income ("qualifying income") and must satisfy certain asset diversification requirements. Certain of the Fund's investments may generate income that is not qualifying income. If the Fund were to fail to meet the qualifying income test or asset diversification requirements and fail to qualify as a RIC, it would be taxed in the same manner as an ordinary corporation, and distributions to its shareholders would not be deductible by the Fund in computing its taxable income.

**Trading Risk.** Shares of the Fund may trade above or below their net asset value ("NAV"). The trading price of the Fund's shares may deviate significantly from their NAV during periods of market volatility. There can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Fund's shares will develop or be maintained. In addition, trading in shares of the Fund may be halted because of market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange"), make trading in shares inadvisable.

## FUND PERFORMANCE

The bar chart and table that follow show how the Fund has performed on a calendar year basis and provide an indication of the risks of investing in the Fund. The table also shows how the Fund's performance compares to the HFRI Equity Hedge (Total) Index, which is a fund-weighted index of select hedge funds focusing on Equity Hedge strategies. Both the bar chart and the table assume the reinvestment of all dividends and distributions. Past performance (before and after taxes) does not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future.

Updated performance information is available on the Fund's website at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com).



The Fund's year-to-date total return as of September 30, 2016 was 3.18%.

### Best and Worst Quarter Returns (for the period reflected in the bar chart above)

	Return	Quarter/Year
Highest Return	4.32%	Q4/2013
Lowest Return	-7.25%	Q3/2015

## AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS FOR THE PERIODS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

AdvisorShares QAM Equity Hedge ETF	1 Year	Since Inception <sup>2</sup>
Return Before Taxes Based on NAV	-3.26%	3.35%
Return After Taxes on Distributions <sup>1</sup>	-3.66%	2.92%
Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares <sup>1</sup>	-1.74%	2.46%
HFRI Equity Hedge (Total) Index (Reflects no deduction for fees, expenses, or taxes) <sup>2</sup>	-0.97%	0.86%

<sup>1</sup> After-tax returns are calculated using the highest historical individual federal marginal income tax rates and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Actual after-tax returns depend on your tax situation and may differ from those shown and are not relevant if you hold your shares through tax-advantaged arrangements, such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts. In some cases the return after taxes may exceed the return before taxes due to an assumed tax benefit from any losses on a sale of Fund shares at the end of the measurement period.

<sup>2</sup> Performance numbers for the Fund are calculated from August 7, 2012, the Fund's inception date. Performance numbers for the HFRI Equity Hedge (Total) Index are calculated from August 31, 2012.

## MANAGEMENT

Name	Title
AdvisorShares Investments, LLC	Advisor
Commerce Asset Management, LLC	Sub-Advisor

## PORTFOLIO MANAGER

Name and Title	Length of Service with Sub-Advisor
<b>Kurt Voldeng, CAIA, Chief Investment Officer and Portfolio Manager</b>	since 2011

## PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

The Fund issues and redeems shares on a continuous basis at NAV only in a large specified number of shares called a "Creation Unit." The shares of the Fund that trade on the Exchange are "created" at their NAV by market makers, large investors and institutions only in block-size Creation Units of at least 25,000 shares. A "creator" enters into an authorized participant agreement ("Participant Agreement") with the Distributor or uses a Depository Trust Company ("DTC") participant who has executed a Participant Agreement (an "Authorized Participant"), and deposits into the Fund a portfolio of securities closely approximating the holdings of the Fund and a specified amount of cash, together totaling the NAV of the Creation Unit(s), in exchange for at least 25,000 shares of the Fund (or multiples thereof).

Individual Fund shares may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. The shares of the Fund are listed on the Exchange, and because shares trade at market prices rather than at NAV, shares may trade at a value greater than or less than their NAV.

## TAX INFORMATION

The Fund intends to make distributions that may be taxed as ordinary income, qualified dividend income or capital gains (or a combination thereof), unless you are investing through a tax-advantaged arrangement such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account ("IRA"), which may be taxed upon withdrawal.



## **PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

Investors purchasing shares in the secondary market through a brokerage account or with the assistance of a broker may be subject to brokerage commissions and charges. If you purchase Fund shares through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Fund, the Advisor or the Sub-Advisor may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing broker-dealers or other intermediaries and your salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## **MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRUST AND THE FUND**

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AdvisorShares Trust (the “Trust”) is a Delaware statutory trust offering a number of professionally managed investment portfolios or funds.

Section 12(d)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”) restricts investments by investment companies in the securities of other investment companies, including shares of the Fund or another ETF. However, under certain circumstances and subject to certain terms and conditions, registered investment companies may invest in other investment companies (“underlying investment companies”) beyond the limits set forth in Section 12(d)(1). In particular, if an underlying investment company has obtained a Section 12(d)(1) exemptive order from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), the Fund may enter into an agreement with the underlying investment company pursuant to which the Fund may invest in the underlying investment company beyond the Section 12(d)(1) limits subject to the terms and conditions of the underlying investment company’s exemptive order. The Fund may enter into such agreements with certain ETFs to permit the Fund to invest in ETFs to an unlimited extent.

Creation Units of the Fund are issued and redeemed principally in-kind for shares of specific ETPs.

**EXCEPT WHEN AGGREGATED IN CREATION UNITS, SHARES OF THE FUND ARE NOT REDEEMABLE SECURITIES.**

## **MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUND’S INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

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The investment objective of the Fund is non-fundamental and may be changed by the Trust’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”) without a shareholder vote.

## **MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUND’S PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

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The Fund is an actively managed ETF and, thus, does not seek to replicate the performance of a specified passive index of securities. Instead, it uses an active investment strategy in seeking to meet its investment objective. The Sub-Advisor, subject to the oversight of the Advisor and the Board, has discretion on a daily basis to manage the Fund’s portfolio in accordance with the Fund’s investment objective and investment policies.

The Sub-Advisor seeks to achieve the Fund’s investment objective by investing in long and short positions in ETPs that the Sub-Advisor believes, in the aggregate, will track the performance of a selected universe of long/short equity hedge funds. In managing the Fund’s portfolio, among other proprietary analytics, the Sub-Advisor utilizes proprietary quantitative techniques, including different time dependent factor approximations, to help select the Fund’s investments and determine the allocation among such investments.

The Sub-Advisor will identify approximately 100 market factors that track the aggregated exposure and approximate the returns of the selected universe of long/short equity hedge funds. The Sub-Advisor uses quantitative analysis, including proprietary analytics, to define and track the various market factors and relative exposures and to adjust the Fund’s portfolio as necessary. At any given time, such market factors may include country exposure, sector exposure, industry exposure, and currency exposure. In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Fund seeks to remain invested at all times in securities or derivatives that provide the desired exposures to market factors.

Under normal circumstances, the Fund may hold up to 60% of its portfolio in money market instruments, cash, other cash equivalents, and ETPs that invest in these and other highly liquid instruments at a given time based on the Sub-Advisor’s current analysis. The Fund’s portfolio typically will consist of between 40 and 80 ETFs and other securities. Under normal circumstances, the Fund’s largest or maximum investment in any single issuer will range between 5% and 10% of the Fund’s portfolio.

The ETFs in which the Fund invests are themselves investment companies registered under the 1940 Act, the shares of which trade on a national securities exchange. The ETFs primarily will track the performance of securities indices the performance of which corresponds generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of specific indices representing countries or regions. However, the Advisor also may invest in ETFs that are actively managed to achieve similar exposure. The ETFs may be managed by a third-party investment advisor not affiliated with the Advisor or Sub-Advisor or by the Advisor, Sub-Advisor or an affiliated party of either.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund will purchase shares of ETPs in the secondary market. When the Fund invests in an ETP (except an ETN), in addition to directly bearing the expenses associated with its own operations, it also will bear a pro rata portion of the ETP's expenses (including operating costs and management fees). Because ETNs are debt securities and not pools of securities, the Fund pays a specific investor fee for its investments in ETNs. Consequently, an investment in the Fund entails more direct and indirect expenses than a direct investment in an ETP.

## **MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

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The Fund is subject to a number of risks that may affect the value of its shares. This section provides additional information about the Fund's principal risks. The degree to which the risks described below apply to the Fund varies according to its investment allocation. Through its investments in ETPs, the Fund will be subject to the risks associated with the ETPs. Please see "Overview of the Principal Risks of ETPs" for a description of these risks. Each investor should review the complete description of the principal risks before investing in the Fund. As with investing in other securities whose prices increase and decrease in market value, you may lose money by investing in the Fund.

**Allocation Risk.** The Fund's particular allocations may have a significant effect on the Fund's performance. Allocation risk is the risk that the selection of ETPs and the allocation of assets among such ETPs will cause the Fund to underperform other funds with a similar investment objective that seek to achieve their investment objectives by investing directly in the securities or instruments held by ETPs, by investing in a different selection of ETPs, or by pursuing a different allocation of assets among such ETPs. Because the risks and returns of different ETPs can vary widely over any given time period, the Fund's performance could suffer if a particular ETP does not perform as expected.

**Counterparty Risk.** The Fund may invest in financial instruments involving counterparties for the purpose of attempting to gain exposure to a particular group of securities, index or asset class without actually purchasing those securities or investments, or to hedge a position. Such financial instruments may include, among others, total return, index, interest rate, and credit default swap agreements. The use of swap agreements and similar instruments exposes the Fund to risks that are different than those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. For example, the Fund bears the risk of loss of the amount expected to be received under a swap agreement in the event of the default or bankruptcy of a swap agreement counterparty. If a counterparty defaults on its payment obligations to the Fund, this default will cause the value of your investment in the Fund to decrease. In addition, the Fund may enter into swap agreements with a limited number of counterparties, which may increase the Fund's exposure to counterparty credit risk. Similarly, if the credit quality of an issuer or guarantor of a debt instrument improves, this change may adversely affect the value of the Fund's investment.

**Credit Risk.** Credit risk is the risk that the Fund could lose money if the issuer or guarantor of a debt instrument becomes unwilling or unable to make timely principal and/or interest payments, or to otherwise meet its obligations. Securities are subject to varying degrees of credit risk, which are sometimes reflected in credit ratings.

**Derivatives Risk.** The Fund may invest in derivatives to gain market exposure, enhance returns or hedge against market declines. Examples of derivatives are options, futures, options on futures and swaps. The Fund's use of derivative instruments involves risks different from or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. These risks include: (i) the risk that the counterparty to a derivative transaction may not fulfill its contractual obligations, (ii) risk of mispricing or improper valuation, and (iii) the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate or index. These risks could cause the Fund to lose more than the principal amount invested. In addition, investments in derivatives may involve leverage, which means a small percentage of assets invested in derivatives can have a disproportionately larger impact on the Fund.

**Equity Risk.** The prices of equity securities in which the Fund invests rise and fall daily. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual companies, industries or the securities market as a whole. Individual companies may report poor results or be negatively affected by industry and/or economic trends and developments. The prices of securities issued by such companies may decline in response. In addition, the equity market tends to move in cycles which may cause stock prices to fall over short or extended periods of time.

**Exchange-Traded Note Risk.** The value of an ETN may be influenced by time to maturity, level of supply and demand for the ETN, volatility and lack of liquidity in the underlying market, changes in the applicable interest rates, and changes in the issuer's credit rating, and economic, legal, political or geographic events that affect the underlying market. It is expected that the issuer's credit rating will be investment-grade at the time of investment, however, the credit rating may be revised or withdrawn at any time and there is no assurance that a credit rating will remain in effect for any given time period. If a rating agency lowers the issuer's credit rating or there is a decline in the perceived creditworthiness of the issuer, the value of the ETN will decline as a lower credit rating reflects a greater risk that the issuer will default on its obligation to ETN investors. The Fund must pay an investor fee when investing in an ETN, which will reduce the amount of return on investment at maturity or upon redemption. There may be restrictions on the Fund's right to redeem its investment in an ETN, which is meant to be held until maturity. There are no periodic interest payments for ETNs and principal typically is not protected. As is the case with other ETPs, an investor could lose some of or the entire amount invested in ETNs. The Fund's decision to sell its ETN holdings may be limited by the availability of a secondary market.

**Investment Risk.** An investment in the Fund is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Shareholders of the Fund may experience losses with respect to their investment in the Fund. Further, there is no guarantee that the Fund will be able to achieve its objective.

**Liquidity Risk.** In certain circumstances, it may be difficult for the Fund to purchase and sell particular portfolio investments due to infrequent trading in such investments. The prices of such securities may experience significant volatility, make it more difficult for the Fund to transact significant amounts of such securities without an unfavorable impact on prevailing market prices, or make it difficult for the Sub-Advisor to dispose of such securities at a fair price at the time the Sub-Advisor believes it is desirable to do so. In addition, the Fund's investments in ETNs and certain other ETPs may be subject to restrictions on the amount and timing of any redemptions. The Fund's investments in such securities may restrict the Fund's ability to take advantage of other market opportunities and adversely affect the value of the Fund's portfolio holdings. The Fund's investments in certain ETPs also may be subject to trading halts caused by extraordinary market volatility pursuant to "circuit breaker" rules.

**Management Risk.** The Sub-Advisor continuously evaluates the Fund's holdings, purchases and sales with a view to achieving the Fund's investment objective. However, the achievement of the stated investment objective cannot be guaranteed. The Sub-Advisor's judgments about the markets, the economy, or companies may not anticipate actual market movements, economic conditions or company performance, and these judgments may affect the return on your investment. In fact, no matter how good a job the Sub-Advisor does, you could lose money on your investment in the Fund, just as you could with other investments. If the Sub-Advisor is incorrect in its assessment of the income, growth or price realization potential of the Fund's holdings or incorrect in its assessment of general market or economic conditions, then the value of the Fund's shares may decline.

**Market Risk.** Investments in securities in general are subject to market risks that may cause their prices to fluctuate over time. The Fund's and an ETP's investments may decline in value due to factors affecting securities or commodities markets generally, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions or changes in interest or currency rates, or particular countries, segments, economic sectors, industries or companies within those markets. The value of securities convertible into equity securities, such as warrants or convertible debt, is also affected by prevailing interest rates, the credit quality of the issuer and any call provision. Fluctuations in the value of securities and financial instruments in which the Fund or an ETP invests will cause the NAV of the Fund and the ETP to fluctuate. Historically, the markets have moved in cycles, and the value of the Fund's and an ETP's investments may fluctuate drastically from day to day. Because of its link to the markets, an investment in the Fund may be more suitable for long-term investors who can bear the risk of short-term principal fluctuations, which at times may be significant.

**Portfolio Turnover Risk.** The Fund's strategy may frequently involve buying and selling securities, which may lead to relatively high portfolio turnover. Higher portfolio turnover may result in the Fund paying increased transaction costs and generating greater tax liabilities for shareholders. Portfolio turnover also may cause the Fund's performance to be less than expected.

**Short Sales Risk.** Short sales involve the sale of a security the Fund has borrowed, with the expectation that the security will underperform the market. Short sales create a risk that the Fund will be required to close the short position by buying the security at a time when the security has appreciated in value, thus resulting in a loss to the

Fund. A short position in a security poses more risk than holding the same security long. Because a short position loses value as the security's price increases, the loss on a short sale is theoretically unlimited. The loss on a long position is limited to what the Fund originally paid for the security together with any transaction costs. The Fund may not always be able to borrow a security the Fund seeks to sell short at a particular time or at an acceptable price. As a result, the Fund may be unable to fully implement its investment strategy due to a lack of available stocks or for other reasons. It is possible that the market value of the securities the Fund holds in long positions will decline at the same time that the market value of the securities the Fund has sold short increases, thereby increasing the Fund's potential volatility. The Fund will incur transaction costs, including interest expenses, in connection with opening, maintaining, and closing short sales. Regulatory bans on certain short selling activities may prevent the Fund from fully implementing its strategy. Assets segregated to cover these transactions may decline in value and are not available to meet redemptions.

**Tax Risk.** In order to qualify for the favorable U.S. federal income tax treatment accorded to RICs, the Fund must derive at least 90% of its gross income in each taxable year from certain categories of income ("qualifying income"). The Fund's investments in ETPs are generally expected to generate qualifying income. Certain of the Fund's investments, however, may generate income that is not qualifying income. The Fund might generate more non-qualifying income than anticipated, might not be able to generate qualifying income in a particular taxable year at levels sufficient to meet the qualifying income test, or might not be able to determine the percentage of qualifying income it derives for a taxable year until after year-end. In addition, the Fund must satisfy a quarterly asset diversification test. If the Fund were to fail to meet the qualifying income or the asset diversification test and fail to qualify as a RIC, it would be taxed in the same manner as an ordinary corporation, and distributions to its shareholders would not be deductible by the Fund in computing its taxable income. Under certain circumstances, the Fund may be able to cure a failure to meet the qualifying income test or the asset diversification test if such failure was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, but in order to do so the Fund may incur significant fund-level taxes, which would effectively reduce (and could eliminate) the Fund's returns.

**Trading Risk.** Shares of the Fund may trade above or below their NAV. The NAV of shares will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Fund's holdings. The trading prices of shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV, as well as market supply and demand. However, given that shares can be created and redeemed only in Creation Units at NAV, the Advisor does not believe that large discounts or premiums to NAV will exist for extended periods of time. Although the Fund's shares are currently listed on the Exchange, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for shares will develop or be maintained. In addition, trading in shares of the Fund may be halted because of market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in shares inadvisable.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE PRINCIPAL RISKS OF ETPs**

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The value of your investment in the Fund is based primarily on the value of its investments in ETPs. In turn, the price of each ETP is based on the value of its holdings or, in the case of an ETN, its reference assets/benchmark components. The prices of these investments change daily and each ETP's performance reflects the risks of investing in a particular asset class or classes. ETPs also may trade below their NAV or at a discount, which may adversely affect the Fund's performance. An overview of certain of the principal risks of ETPs is provided below. ETPs also may be subject to certain of the risks described above. The degree to which the risks described below apply to the Fund varies according to its asset allocation. A complete list of each ETP in which the Fund invests can be found daily on the Trust's website. Each investor should review the complete description of the principal risks of ETPs prior to investing in the Fund.

**Commodity Risk.** Because certain ETPs may have a significant portion of their assets concentrated in or exposed to commodities and commodity-linked securities, developments affecting the commodities market may have a disproportionate impact on such ETPs. An ETP's investment in commodities or commodity-linked derivative instruments may subject the ETP (and, indirectly, the Fund) to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities, particularly if the instruments involve leverage. The value of commodities and commodity-linked derivative instruments may be affected by changes in overall market movements, commodity index volatility, changes in interest rates, or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity, such as drought, floods, weather, livestock disease, embargoes, tariffs and international economic, political and regulatory developments. Use of leveraged commodity-linked derivatives creates an opportunity for increased return but, at the same time, creates the possibility for greater loss (including the likelihood of greater volatility of the ETP's net asset value), and there can be no assurance that the ETP's use of leverage will be successful.

**Concentration Risk.** An ETP may, at various times, concentrate in the securities or commodities of a particular industry, group of industries, market sector or geographic region. When an ETP is concentrated in an industry, group of industries, market sector or geographic region, it may be more sensitive to any single economic, business, political, or regulatory occurrence than would a fund that is not concentrated in an industry, group of industries, market sector or geographic region.

**Counterparty Risk.** Commodity-linked derivatives, repurchase agreements, swap agreements and other forms of financial instruments that involve counterparties subject an ETP to the risk that the counterparty could default on its obligations under the agreement, either through the counterparty's bankruptcy or failure to perform its obligations. In the event of default, the ETP could experience lengthy delays in recovering some or all of its assets or no recovery at all.

**Credit Risk.** Certain ETPs are subject to the risk that a decline in the credit quality of a portfolio investment could cause the ETP's share price to fall. ETPs could lose money if the issuer or guarantor of a portfolio investment or the counterparty to a derivatives contract fails to make timely principal or interest payments or otherwise honor its obligations. Below investment-grade bonds (junk bonds) involve greater risks of default or downgrade and are more volatile than investment-grade bonds. Below investment-grade bonds also involve greater risk of price declines than investment-grade securities due to actual or perceived changes in an issuer's creditworthiness. In addition, issuers of below investment-grade bonds may be more susceptible than other issuers to economic downturns. Such bonds are subject to the risk that the issuer may not be able to pay interest or dividends and ultimately to repay principal upon maturity. Discontinuation of these payments could substantially adversely affect the market value of the bonds.

**Emerging Markets Risk.** An ETP's investments in or exposure to emerging markets may be more likely to experience political turmoil or rapid changes in market or economic conditions than more developed countries. Emerging market countries often have less uniformity in accounting and reporting requirements and unreliable securities valuation. It is sometimes difficult to obtain and enforce court judgments in such countries and there is often a greater potential for nationalization and/or expropriation of assets by the government of an emerging market country. In addition, the financial stability of issuers (including governments) in emerging market countries may be more precarious than in other countries. As a result, there will tend to be an increased risk of price volatility associated with an ETP's investments in emerging market countries, which may be magnified by currency fluctuations relative to the U.S. dollar.

**Equity Risk.** The prices of equity securities in which the ETPs invest rise and fall daily. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual companies, industries or the securities market as a whole. Individual companies may report poor results or be negatively affected by industry and/or economic trends and developments. The prices of securities issued by such companies may decline in response. In addition, the equity market tends to move in cycles, which may cause stock prices to fall over short or extended periods of time.

**Foreign Currency Risk.** The Fund may invest in ETPs that invest in foreign currencies or securities denominated in a foreign currency. The value of such currencies or securities denominated such currencies can change when foreign currencies strengthen or weaken relative to the value of the U.S. dollar. These currency movements may negatively affect the value of the Fund's investment in an ETP even when there is no change in the value of the security or currency in the issuer's home country. Certain ETPs may not hedge against the risk of currency exchange rate fluctuations.

**Foreign Securities Risk.** An ETP's investments in or exposure to securities of foreign issuers involve certain risks that are greater than those associated with investments in securities of U.S. issuers. These include risks of adverse changes in foreign economic, political, regulatory and other conditions, or changes in currency exchange rates or exchange control regulations (including limitations on currency movements and exchanges). In certain countries, legal remedies available to investors may be more limited than those available with respect to investments in the United States. The securities of some foreign companies may be less liquid and, at times, more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. companies. An ETP with exposure to foreign investments may also experience more rapid or extreme changes in value than a fund that invests solely in securities of U.S. companies because the securities markets of many foreign countries are relatively small, with a limited number of companies representing a small number of industries. Foreign withholding taxes may be imposed on income earned by an ETP's investment in or exposure to foreign securities, which may reduce the return on such investments. There also is a

risk that the cost of buying, selling, and holding foreign securities, including brokerage, tax, and custody costs, may be higher than those involved in domestic transactions.

**Large-Capitalization Risk.** Large-cap stocks tend to go in and out of favor based on market and economic conditions. During a period when the performance of large-cap stocks falls behind that of other types of investments, such as small-cap stocks or the market as a whole, the ETP's performance could be adversely affected.

**Mid-Capitalization Risk.** Historically, mid-cap stocks have been riskier than large-cap stocks. Stock prices of mid-cap companies may be based in substantial part on future expectations rather than current achievements and may move sharply, especially during market upturns and downturns. Mid-cap companies themselves may be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic events than larger, more established companies. During a period when the performance of mid-cap stocks falls behind that of other types of investments, such as large-cap stocks or the market as a whole, the ETP's performance could be reduced.

**Small-Capitalization Risk.** Historically, small-capitalization stocks have been riskier than large- and mid-cap stocks. Accordingly, ETPs that invest in or have exposure to small-cap securities may be more volatile than ETPs that invest in large- and mid-cap securities. Stock prices of small-cap companies may be based in substantial part on future expectations rather than current achievements and may move sharply, especially during market upturns and downturns. Small-cap companies themselves may be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic events than larger, more established companies. In addition, small-cap companies may have limited financial resources, product lines and markets, and their securities may trade less frequently and in more limited volumes than the securities of larger companies. Further, small-cap companies may have less publicly available information and, when available, it may be inaccurate or incomplete. These risks are even greater for the micro-cap companies to which the ETPs may have exposure. Micro-cap companies are followed by relatively few securities analysts and there tends to be less available information about them. Their securities generally have limited trading volumes and are subject to even more abrupt, erratic price movements. Micro-cap companies are even more vulnerable than small-cap companies to adverse business and market developments. During a period when the performance of small-cap stocks falls behind that of other types of investments, such as large-cap stocks or the market as a whole, the ETP's performance could be reduced.

**Tracking Error Risk.** Tracking error refers to the disparity in performance between an ETP and its benchmark. Tracking error can arise due to factors such as the effect of transaction fees and expenses incurred by the ETP, changes in composition of the benchmark, and the ability of the ETP manager or sponsor to successfully implement his or her investment strategy.

## **OTHER INVESTMENT PRACTICES AND STRATEGIES**

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**Temporary Defensive Positions.** To respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, the Fund may invest up to 100% of its total assets, without limitation, in high-quality debt securities and money market instruments either directly or through ETPs. The Fund may be invested in this manner for extended periods depending on the Sub-Advisor's assessment of market conditions. Debt securities and money market instruments include shares of other mutual funds, commercial paper, certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances, U.S. government securities, repurchase agreements, and bonds that are rated BBB or higher. While the Fund is in a defensive position, the Fund may not achieve its investment objective. Furthermore, to the extent that the Fund invests in money market funds, the Fund will bear its pro rata portion of each such money market fund's advisory fees and operational expenses.

Please see the Fund's Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") for a more complete list of portfolio investment strategies, permitted investments and related risks.

## **PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS**

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A description of the Fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of Fund portfolio securities is available (i) in the SAI and (ii) on the Trust's website. The Fund's portfolio holdings will be disclosed on the Trust's website daily after the close of trading on the Exchange and prior to the opening of trading on the Exchange the following day.

## **MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND**

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### **INVESTMENT ADVISOR**

AdvisorShares Investments, LLC, located at 4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 150, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, serves as investment advisor of the Fund. As of September 30, 2016, the Advisor had approximately \$1.17 billion in assets under management.

The Advisor continuously reviews, supervises, and administers the Fund's investment program. In particular, the Advisor provides investment and operational oversight of the Sub-Advisor. The Board supervises the Advisor and establishes policies that the Advisor must follow in its day-to-day management activities. Pursuant to an investment advisory agreement between the Trust and the Advisor, the Advisor is entitled to receive an annual advisory fee of 1.00% based on the average daily net assets of the Fund. The Advisor pays the Sub-Advisor out of the advisory fee it receives from the Fund. The investment advisory agreement may be terminated (i) by the Board for any reason at any time, (ii) with respect to the Fund, upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund, or (iii) by the Advisor upon thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the Trust.

The Advisor bears all of its own costs associated with providing these advisory services and the expenses of the members of the Board who are affiliated with the Advisor. The Advisor may make payments from its own resources to broker-dealers and other financial institutions in connection with the sale of Fund shares.

The Advisor has contractually agreed to reduce its fees and/or reimburse expense in order to keep net expenses (excluding amounts payable pursuant to any plan adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1, interest expense, taxes, brokerage commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses, other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 1.50% of the Fund's average daily net assets for at least one year from the date of this Prospectus. The expense limitation agreement may be terminated, without payment of any penalty (i) by the Trust for any reason and at any time and (ii) by the Advisor for any reason, upon ninety (90) days' prior written notice to the Trust, such termination to be effective as of the close of business on the last day of the then-current one-year period. If at any point it becomes unnecessary for the Advisor to reduce fees or make expense reimbursements, the Board may permit the Advisor to retain the difference between the Fund's total annual operating expenses and 1.50% to recapture all or a portion of its prior fee reductions or expense reimbursements made during the preceding three-year period.

Pursuant to an exemptive order from the SEC, the Advisor, subject to certain conditions, has the right, without shareholder approval, to hire a new unaffiliated sub-advisor or materially amend the terms of a sub-advisory agreement with an unaffiliated sub-advisor when the Board and the Advisor believe that a change would benefit the Fund. The Prospectus will be supplemented when there is a significant change in the Fund's sub-advisory arrangement.

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's most recent approval of the Fund's investment advisory agreement is available in the Trust's Annual Report to Shareholders dated June 30, 2016.

### **INVESTMENT SUB-ADVISOR**

Commerce Asset Management, LLC, located at 5050 Poplar Avenue, Suite 2020, Memphis, Tennessee 38157, serves as investment sub-advisor to the Fund. The Sub-Advisor is responsible for selecting the Fund's investments in accordance with the Fund's investment objective, policies and restrictions. The Sub-Advisor was established in 2009 and, prior to 2011, was known as CSG Fund Management. The Sub-Advisor offers discretionary alternative investment management services to institutional investors and high net worth families through fund of funds vehicles, separately managed accounts and customized alternative solutions. Additionally, the Sub-Advisor owns 85% of Quantitative Alternative Management, LLC ("QAM"), an entity formed to research and develop various types of alternative investment replication strategies, specifically the QAM Equity Hedge Liquid Strategy. As of September 30, 2016, the Sub-Advisor had approximately \$7.45 million in assets under management.

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's most recent approval of the investment sub-advisory agreement is available in the Trust's Semi-Annual Report to Shareholders dated December 31, 2015.

### **PORTFOLIO MANAGER**

The following portfolio manager is primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund.



**Kurt Voldeng, CAIA, Chief Investment Officer and Portfolio Manager**

Mr. Voldeng is the Chief Investment Officer and Portfolio Manager of the Sub-Advisor. Mr. Voldeng's responsibilities include structuring, evaluating, monitoring and servicing non-traditional investment assets for both institutional and individual clients. Prior to joining the Sub-Advisor in 2011, Mr. Voldeng began his career with Consulting Services Group, LLC as an analyst in 1990. From 1999 to 2011, he served as an executive vice president and senior consultant focusing on alternative investments. During Mr. Voldeng's tenure, he managed over \$1 billion in discretionary customized hedge fund portfolio assets and consulted on over \$6 billion in hedge fund assets. Mr. Voldeng earned both a B.B.A. and an M.B.A. from the University of Memphis, and is a Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst. Mr. Voldeng serves as treasurer and member of the Vision Preparatory Charter School in Memphis.

Additional information about the portfolio manager's compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio manager, and the portfolio manager's ownership of securities in the Fund is available in the SAI.

**OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Forside Fund Services, LLC (the "Distributor") is the principal underwriter and distributor of the Fund's shares. Its principal address is Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, Maine 04101. The Distributor will not distribute shares in less than whole Creation Units, and it does not maintain a secondary market in the shares. The Distributor is a broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA"). The Distributor is not affiliated with the Advisor, Sub-Advisor, The Bank of New York Mellon, or any of their respective affiliates.

The Bank of New York Mellon, located at 101 Barclay Street, New York, New York 10286, serves as the administrator, custodian, transfer agent and fund accounting agent for the Fund.

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, located at 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004, serves as legal counsel to the Trust.

Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, located at 1818 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, serves as the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm. The independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for auditing the annual financial statements of the Fund.

**INDEX PROVIDER INFORMATION**

The HFRI Equity Hedge (Total) Index and HFR are the trademarks and service marks of Hedge Fund Research, Inc. ("HFR") and are used under license from HFR. HFR is in no way related or connected to or affiliated with the Sub-Advisor, the Advisor or the Fund. HFR has not participated in the formation of the Fund, and HFR does not endorse, approve or recommend investing in the Fund.

**SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION**

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**CALCULATING NET ASSET VALUE (NAV)**

The Fund calculates NAV by (i) taking the current market value of its total assets, (ii) subtracting any liabilities, and (iii) dividing that amount by the total number of shares owned by shareholders.

The Fund calculates NAV once each business day as of the regularly scheduled close of normal trading on the New York Stock Exchange, LLC ("NYSE") (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time). The NYSE is typically closed on weekends and most national holidays.

In calculating NAV, the Fund generally values its investment portfolio at market price. If market prices are unavailable or the Fund thinks that they are unreliable, or when the value of a security has been materially affected by events occurring after the relevant market closes, the Fund will price those securities at fair value as determined in good faith using methods approved by the Board.

The use of fair valuation in pricing a security involves the consideration of a number of subjective factors and, therefore, is susceptible to the unavoidable risk that the valuation may be higher or lower than the price at which the security might actually trade if a reliable market price were readily available.

More information about the valuation of the Fund's holdings can be found in the SAI.

### **SHARE TRADING PRICES**

The price of Fund shares is based on market price, which may differ from the Fund's daily NAV per share and can be affected by market forces of supply and demand, economic conditions and other factors. The Exchange intends to disseminate the approximate value of the portfolio underlying a share of the Fund every fifteen seconds. This approximate value should not be viewed as a "real-time" update of the NAV per share of the Fund because the approximate value may not be calculated in the same manner as the NAV per share, which is computed once a day. The Fund is not involved in, or responsible for, the calculation or dissemination of such values and makes no warranty as to their accuracy.

### **PREMIUM/DISCOUNT INFORMATION**

Information showing the number of days that the market price of the Fund's shares was greater than the Fund's NAV per share (*i.e.*, at a premium) and the number of days it was less than the Fund's NAV per share (*i.e.*, at a discount) for various time periods is available by visiting the Fund's website at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com).

### **DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

The Fund pays out dividends, if any, to shareholders at least annually. The Fund distributes its net capital gains, if any, to shareholders annually.

### **ACTIVE INVESTORS AND MARKET TIMING**

Shares of the Fund are listed for trading on the Exchange, which allows retail investors to purchase and sell individual shares at market prices throughout the trading day similar to other publicly traded securities. Because these secondary market trades do not involve the Fund directly, it is unlikely that secondary market trading would cause any harmful effects of market timing for example: dilution, disruption of portfolio management, increases in the Fund's trading costs or realization of capital gains. The Board has determined not to adopt policies and procedures designed to prevent or monitor for frequent purchases and redemptions of the Fund's shares because the Fund sells and redeems its shares at NAV only in Creation Units pursuant to the terms of a Participant Agreement between the Distributor and an Authorized Participant, principally in exchange for a basket of securities that mirrors the composition of the Fund's portfolio and a specified amount of cash. Direct trading by Authorized Participants is critical to ensuring that the Fund's shares trade at or close to NAV. The Fund also imposes transaction fees on such Creation Unit transactions that are designed to offset the Fund's transfer and other transaction costs associated with the issuance and redemption of the Creation Unit shares.

### **BOOK-ENTRY**

Shares of the Fund are held in book-entry form, which means that no stock certificates are issued. DTC or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding shares of the Fund and is recognized as the owner of all shares.

Investors owning shares of the Fund are beneficial owners as shown on the records of DTC or its participants. DTC serves as the securities depository for all shares. Participants in DTC include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other institutions that directly or indirectly maintain a custodial relationship with DTC. As a beneficial owner of shares, you are not entitled to receive physical delivery of stock certificates or to have shares registered in your name, and you are not considered a registered owner of shares. Therefore, to exercise any right as an owner of shares, you must rely upon the procedures of DTC and its participants (*e.g.*, broker-dealers, banks, trust companies, or clearing companies). These procedures are the same as those that apply to any stocks that you hold in book entry or "street name" through your brokerage account.

### **INVESTING IN THE FUND**

For more information on how to buy and sell shares of the Fund, call the Trust at 877.843.3831 or visit the Fund's website at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com).

### **DISTRIBUTION PLAN**

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The Fund has adopted a Distribution Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act that allows the Fund to pay distribution fees to the Distributor and other firms that provide distribution services. The Fund will pay distribution fees to the Distributor at an annual rate not to exceed 0.25% of its average daily net assets. If a service provider provides distribution services, the Distributor will pay the service provider out of its distribution fees.

No distribution fees are currently charged to the Fund; there are no plans to impose distribution fees, and no distribution fees will be charged for at least one year from the date of this Prospectus. However, to the extent distribution fees are charged in the future, because the Fund would pay these fees out of assets on an ongoing basis, over time these fees may cost you more than other types of sales charges and would increase the cost of your investment. At such time as distribution fees are charged, the Fund will notify investors by adding disclosure to the Fund's website and in the Fund's Prospectus. Any distribution fees will be approved by the Board.

## **ADDITIONAL TAX INFORMATION**

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The following is a summary of some important tax issues that affect the Fund and its shareholders. The summary is based on current tax law, which may be changed by legislative, judicial or administrative action. The summary is very general, and does not address investors subject to special rules, such as investors who hold shares through an IRA, 401(k) or other tax-advantaged account. More information about taxes is located in the SAI. You are urged to consult your tax advisor regarding specific questions as to U.S. federal, state and local income taxes.

### **Tax Status of the Fund**

The Fund is treated as a separate entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes and intends to qualify for the special tax treatment afforded to RICs under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). As long as the Fund qualifies for treatment as a RIC, it pays no federal income tax on the earnings it timely distributes to shareholders. However, the Fund's failure to qualify as a RIC or to meet minimum distribution requirements would result (if certain relief provisions were not available) in fund-level taxation and, consequently, a reduction in income available for distribution to shareholders.

### **Tax Status of Distributions**

- The Fund intends to distribute, at least annually, substantially all of its net investment income and net capital gains income.
- The Fund's distributions from income and net short-term capital gains will generally be taxed to you as ordinary income or qualified dividend income. For non-corporate shareholders, dividends reported by the Fund as qualified dividend income are generally eligible for reduced tax rates applicable to long-term capital gains, provided holding period and other requirements are met. Qualified dividend income generally is income derived from dividends paid by U.S. corporations or certain foreign corporations. In general, dividends received by the Fund from an ETP taxable as a RIC may be distributed and reported as qualified dividend income by the Fund to the extent the dividend distributions are distributed and reported as qualified dividend income by the ETP. The Fund's trading strategies may limit its ability to distribute dividends eligible for treatment as qualified dividend income.
- Corporate shareholders may be entitled to a dividends-received deduction for the portion of dividends they receive that are attributable to dividends received by the Fund (directly or in some cases indirectly) from U.S. corporations, subject to certain limitations. The Fund's trading strategies may limit its ability to distribute dividends eligible for the dividends-received deduction for corporate shareholders.
- Any distributions of net capital gain (the excess of the Fund's net long-term capital gains over its net short-term capital losses) that you receive from the Fund generally are taxable as long-term capital gains regardless of how long you have owned your shares. Long-term capital gains are taxed to non-corporate shareholders at reduced tax rates.
- Dividends and distributions are generally taxable to you whether you receive them in cash or reinvest them in additional shares.
- Distributions paid in January but declared by the Fund in October, November or December of the previous year may be taxable to you in the previous year.
- Shortly after the close of each calendar year, the Fund will inform you of the amount of your ordinary income dividends, qualified dividend income, foreign tax credits, and net capital gain distributions received from the Fund.

- You may wish to avoid investing in the Fund shortly before a dividend or other distribution, because such a distribution will generally be taxable even though it may economically represent a return of a portion of your investment.

### **Taxes on Exchange-Listed Share Sales**

Any capital gain or loss realized upon a sale of shares is generally treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the shares have been held for more than one year and as short-term capital gain or loss if the shares have been held for one year or less, except that any capital loss on the sale of shares held for six months or less is treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of amounts treated as distributions of long-term capital gains to the shareholder with respect to such shares.

### **Derivatives and Complex Securities**

The Fund and the ETPs in which the Fund invests may invest in complex securities such as equity options, index options, repurchase agreements, foreign currency contracts, hedges and swaps, transactions treated as straddles for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and futures contracts. These investments may be subject to numerous special and complex tax rules. These rules could affect the Fund's or the ETPs in which the Fund invests that are taxed as RICs ability to qualify as a RIC, affect whether gains and losses recognized by the Fund or the ETPs are treated as ordinary income or loss or capital gain or loss, accelerate the recognition of income to the Fund or the ETPs, cause income or gain to be recognized even though corresponding cash is not received by the Fund or the ETPs and/or defer the Fund's or the ETPs' ability to recognize losses. In turn, those rules may affect the amount, timing or character of the income distributed by the Fund. Additional information regarding the Fund's and the ETPs' investments in complex securities can be found in the Fund's SAI.

### **Investment in Foreign Securities**

The Fund and the ETPs in which the Fund invests may be subject to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries on dividends, interest, and other income they may earn from investing in foreign securities which may reduce the return on such investments. The U.S. has entered into tax treaties with certain foreign countries that may entitle the Fund or the ETPs in which the Fund invests to a reduced rate of, or exemption from, foreign taxes on certain income. The Fund may need to file special claims for refunds to secure the benefits of a reduced rate. The effective rate of foreign tax cannot be determined in advance because the amount of the Fund's assets to be invested within various countries is not known. In addition, the Fund's or an ETP's investments in foreign currencies may increase or accelerate the Fund's recognition of ordinary income and may affect the timing or amount of the Fund's distributions. If as of the close of a taxable year more than 50% of the total assets of the Fund consist of stock or securities of foreign corporations the Fund may elect to "pass through" to investors the amount of foreign income and similar taxes (including withholding taxes) paid by the Fund during that taxable year. If the Fund elects to "pass through" such foreign taxes, then investors will be considered to have received as additional income their respective shares of such foreign taxes, but may be entitled to either a corresponding tax deduction in calculating taxable income, or, subject to certain limitations, a credit in calculating federal income tax.

### **Medicare Tax**

U.S. individuals with income exceeding certain thresholds are subject to a 3.8% Medicare contribution tax on all or a portion of their "net investment income," including interest, dividends, and certain capital gains (generally including capital gain distributions and capital gains realized on the sale or exchange of shares). This 3.8% tax also applies to all or a portion of the undistributed net investment income of certain shareholders that are estates and trusts.

### **Non-U.S. Investors**

If you are not a citizen or permanent resident of the United States, the Fund's ordinary income dividends will generally be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax, unless a lower treaty rate applies or unless such income is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business. The 30% withholding tax generally will not apply to distributions of net capital gain. The Fund may, under certain circumstances, report all or a portion of a dividend as an "interest-related dividend" or a "short-term capital gain dividend," which would generally be exempt from this 30% U.S. withholding tax, provided certain other requirements are met. Short-term capital gain dividends received by a nonresident alien individual who is present in the U.S. for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the taxable year are not exempt from this 30% withholding tax.

Distributions paid after June 30, 2014 (or, in certain cases, after later dates) and sale and redemption proceeds and certain capital gain dividends paid after December 31, 2018 to a shareholder that is a foreign entity may be subject to withholding tax at a 30% rate unless certain certification requirements regarding persons investing in or holding accounts with you are met. Distributions paid after June 30, 2014 (or, in certain cases, after later dates) and sale proceeds and certain capital gain dividends paid after December 31, 2018 to a non-U.S. shareholder that is not a foreign financial institution will generally be subject to such withholding tax if the shareholder fails to make certain required certifications. A non-U.S. shareholder may be exempt from the withholding described in this paragraph under an applicable intergovernmental agreement between the U.S. and a foreign government, provided that the shareholder and the applicable foreign government comply with the terms of such agreement.

### **Backup Withholding**

The Fund will be required in certain cases to withhold (as “backup withholding”) on amounts payable to any shareholder who (1) has provided the Fund either an incorrect tax identification number or no number at all, (2) is subject to backup withholding by the Internal Revenue Service for failure to properly report payments of interest or dividends, (3) has failed to certify to the Fund that such shareholder is not subject to backup withholding, or (4) has not certified that such shareholder is a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien). The backup withholding rate is 28%. Backup withholding will not, however, be applied to payments that have been subject to the 30% withholding tax applicable to shareholders who are neither citizens nor residents of the United States.

### **Taxes on Creation and Redemption of Creation Units**

An Authorized Participant who purchases a Creation Unit by exchanging securities in-kind generally will recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between (a) the sum of the market value of the Creation Units at the time and any net cash received, and (b) the sum of the purchaser’s aggregate basis in the securities surrendered and any net cash paid for the Creation Units. An Authorized Participant who redeems Creation Units will generally recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between (x) the sum of the redeemer’s basis in the Creation Units and any net cash paid, and (y) the sum of the aggregate market value of the securities received and any net cash received. The Internal Revenue Service, however, may assert that a loss that is realized, by an Authorized Participant that does not mark-to-market its holdings, upon an exchange of securities for Creation Units may not be currently deducted under the rules governing “wash sales,” or on the basis that there has been no significant change in economic position.

The Fund has the right to reject an order for Creation Units if the purchaser (or a group of purchasers) would, upon obtaining the shares so ordered, own 80% or more of the outstanding shares of the Fund and if, pursuant to section 351 of the Internal Revenue Code, the Fund would have a basis in the deposit securities different from the market value of such securities on the date of deposit. The Fund also has the right to require information necessary to determine beneficial share ownership for purposes of the 80% determination. If the Fund does issue Creation Units to a purchaser (or a group of purchasers) that would, upon obtaining the Creation Units so ordered, own 80% or more of the outstanding shares of the Fund, the purchaser (or a group of purchasers) will not recognize gain or loss upon the exchange of securities for Creation Units.

Persons exchanging securities or non-U.S. currency for Creation Units should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax treatment of any creation or redemption transaction. If you purchase or redeem Creation Units, you will be sent a confirmation statement showing how many Fund shares you purchased or redeemed and at what price.

The foregoing discussion summarizes some of the consequences under current federal tax law of an investment in the Fund. It is not a substitute for personal tax advice. Consult your personal tax advisor about the potential tax consequences to you of an investment in the Fund under all tax laws applicable to you.

### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

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The financial highlights table is intended to help you understand the Fund’s financial performance since the Fund commenced operations. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost, on an investment in the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends on distributions). This information has been derived from the financial statements audited by Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with the Fund’s financial statements, are included in the Fund’s Annual Report, which is available upon request.

ADVISORSHARES TRUST — ADVISORSHARES QAM EQUITY HEDGE ETF

**Financial Highlights**

	<b>Year ended June 30, 2016</b>	<b>Year ended June 30, 2015</b>	<b>Year ended June 30, 2014</b>	<b>For the period August 7, 2012* to June 30, 2013</b>
<b>Selected Data for a Share of Capital Stock Outstanding</b>				
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Year/Period	<u>\$28.68</u>	<u>\$28.48</u>	<u>\$26.21</u>	<u>\$25.00</u>
<b>Investment Operations</b>				
Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.16)	(0.13)	(0.20)	(0.12)
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)	(1.51)	0.54	2.95	1.51
Distribution of Net Realized Gains by other investment companies	<u>0.02</u>	<u>0.01</u>	---	---
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Investment Operations <sup>(2)</sup>	<u>(1.65)</u>	<u>0.42</u>	<u>2.75</u>	<u>1.39</u>
Distributions from Net Investment Income	---	---	---	(0.08)
Distributions from Realized Capital Gains	<u>(0.33)</u>	<u>(0.22)</u>	<u>(0.48)</u>	<u>(0.10)</u>
Total Distributions	<u>(0.33)</u>	<u>(0.22)</u>	<u>(0.48)</u>	<u>(0.18)</u>
Net Asset Value, End of Year/Period	<u>\$26.70</u>	<u>\$28.68</u>	<u>\$28.48</u>	<u>\$26.21</u>
Market Value, End of Year/Period	<u>\$26.71</u>	<u>\$28.68</u>	<u>\$28.45</u>	<u>\$26.16</u>
<b>Total Return</b>				
Total Investment Return Based on Net Asset Value <sup>(3)</sup>	(5.76)%	1.48%	10.52%	5.57%
Total Investment Return Based on Market <sup>(3)</sup>	(5.72)%	1.60%	10.62%	5.36%
<b>Ratios/ Supplemental Data</b>				
Net Assets, End of Year/Period (000's omitted)	\$5,340	\$7,171	\$8,543	\$3,932
Ratio to Average Net Assets of:				
Expenses, net of expense waivers and reimbursements <sup>(4)</sup>	1.68% <sup>(6)</sup>	1.65% <sup>(6)</sup>	1.70% <sup>(6)</sup>	1.56% <sup>(6)</sup>
Expenses, prior to expense waivers and reimbursements <sup>(4)</sup>	3.15% <sup>(6)</sup>	2.83% <sup>(6)</sup>	2.66% <sup>(6)</sup>	4.61% <sup>(6)</sup>
Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(4)</sup>	(0.59)%	(0.46)%	(0.71)%	(0.50)%
Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>(5)</sup>	132%	131%	179%	114%

\* Commencement of operations.

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> The amount shown for a share distribution throughout the period may not correlate with the Statement of Operations for the period due to the timing of sales and repurchases of Fund Shares in relation to income earned and/or fluctuating fair value of the investments of the Fund.

<sup>(3)</sup> Net asset value total investment return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions on ex-date, if any, at net asset value during the period, and redemption on the last day of the period. Periods less than one year are not annualized. Market value total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the market value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at market value during the period on pay date, and sale at the market value on the last day of the period.

<sup>(4)</sup> Ratios of periods of less than one year have been annualized.

<sup>(5)</sup> Portfolio turnover rate is not annualized and excludes the value of portfolio securities received or delivered as in-kind creations or redemptions of the Fund's capital shares.

<sup>(6)</sup> The expense ratio includes interest and dividend expenses on short sales of 0.18%, 0.15%, 0.20% and 0.06% for the periods ended June 30, 2016, June 30, 2015, June 30, 2014 and June 30, 2013, respectively.

## ADVISORSHARES QAM EQUITY HEDGE ETF

Advisor	<b>AdvisorShares Investments, LLC</b> 4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 150 Bethesda, Maryland 20814
Sub-Advisor	<b>Commerce Asset Management, LLC</b> 5050 Poplar Avenue, Suite 2020 Memphis, Tennessee 38157
Distributor	<b>Foreside Fund Services, LLC</b> Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100 Portland, Maine 04101
Legal Counsel	<b>Morgan, Lewis &amp; Bockius LLP</b> 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004
Administrator, Custodian & Transfer Agent	<b>The Bank of New York Mellon</b> 101 Barclay Street New York, New York 10286

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*Additional and more detailed information about the Fund is included in the Fund's SAI. The SAI has been filed with the SEC and is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus and, therefore, legally forms a part of this Prospectus. The SEC maintains the EDGAR database on its website (<http://www.sec.gov>), which contains the SAI, material incorporated by reference, and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the SEC. You may also review and copy documents at the SEC Public Reference room in Washington, D.C. (for information on the operation of the Public Reference Room, call 202.551.8090). You may request documents from the SEC by mail, upon payment of a duplication fee, by writing to U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-1520 or by emailing the SEC at [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov).*

*You may obtain a copy of the SAI and the Annual and Semi-Annual Reports without charge by calling 877.843.3831, visiting the website at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com), or writing to the Trust at 4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 150, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Additional information about the Fund's investments will be available in the Fund's Annual and Semi-Annual Reports. Also, in the Fund's Annual Report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during the last fiscal year.*

***No one has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations not contained in this Prospectus or in the SAI in connection with the offering of Fund shares. Do not rely on any such information or representations as having been authorized by the Fund. This Prospectus does not constitute an offering by the Fund in any jurisdiction where such an offering is not lawful.***

The Trust's SEC Investment Company Act File Number is 811-22110.