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**ADVISORSHARES<sup>®</sup>**  
Actively Managed ETFs



NYSE Arca Ticker: PSIL

Managed by:  
AdvisorShares Investments, LLC

**ADVISORSHARES TRUST**

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Bethesda, Maryland 20814  
[www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com)  
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Prospectus dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

This Prospectus provides important information about the AdvisorShares Plant Medicine 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 PLANT MEDICINE ETF**  
**NYSE Arca Ticker: PSIL**

FUND SUMMARY

**INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

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The AdvisorShares Plant Medicine ETF (the “Fund”) seeks long-term capital appreciation.

**FUND FEES AND EXPENSES**

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This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy, hold and sell shares of the Fund. You may pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, 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	0.xx%
DISTRIBUTION (12b-1) FEES	0.00%
OTHER EXPENSES(a)	0.xx%
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	0.xx%
FEE WAIVER/EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT <sup>(b)</sup>	x.xx%
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES AFTER FEE WAIVER/EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT</b>	0.xx%

- (a) Because the Fund is new, “Other Expenses” are based on estimated amounts for the current fiscal year.
- (b) AdvisorShares Investments, LLC (the “Advisor”) has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse expenses 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 0.xx% 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 it becomes unnecessary for the Advisor to waive fees or reimburse expenses, the Trust’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”) may permit the Advisor to retain the difference between the Fund’s total annual operating expenses and the expense limitation currently in effect, or, if lower, the expense limitation that was in effect at the time of the waiver and/or reimbursement, to recapture all or a portion of its prior fee waivers or expense reimbursements within three years of the date they were waived or reimbursed.

**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 brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries that you may pay when purchasing or selling shares of the Fund. If these fees 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
<b>AdvisorShares Plant Medicine ETF</b>	\$xxx	\$xxx

**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 shares. The Fund is new and does not yet have a portfolio turnover rate.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The Fund is an actively managed exchange-traded fund (“ETF”) that seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in (i) securities of companies that derive at least 50% of their net revenue or have 50% of their assets tied to medicinal treatments or drugs derived from plants or synthetically produced chemical compounds based on plant medicines and (ii) derivatives that have economic characteristics similar to such securities. The Fund primarily invests in publicly listed life sciences companies focused on plant-based psychedelic medicines as well as other companies with business activities in the psychedelics industry. The Fund also may invest in securities of companies in the marijuana and hemp business.

The Fund primarily invests in exchange-listed equity securities, including common and preferred stock, of mid, small and micro-capitalization companies, and in total return swaps intended to provide exposure to such U.S. and foreign companies.

Psychedelic drugs, also known as hallucinogens, are a group of substances, including psilocybin, that are used to change and enhance sensory perceptions, thought processes, and energy levels. Psychedelic medicines, therapeutics, and healthcare treatments may be used in the treatment of illnesses such as depression, addiction, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder. Psychedelic medicine companies include life sciences companies having significant business activities in, or significant exposure to, the psychedelics industry including producers or distributors of psychedelic medicines, biotechnology companies engaged in research and development of psychedelic medicines, and companies that are part of the supply chain for psychedelics.

Cannabis securities may be categorized among a wide variety of sectors and industries, including agriculture, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, real estate, retail, and finance. Medical cannabis refers to the use of parts of the marijuana plant, such as hemp and the plant’s chemicals, for the treatment of a variety of diseases or medical conditions. Hemp is a type of cannabis plant whose stalks and seeds may contain chemicals (such as CBD) or have other properties that researchers are exploring as potential treatments for certain health conditions. CBD is a chemical naturally found in the cannabis plant or synthetically created that gives cannabis products their primary medical properties. These medical cannabis companies include companies that are involved in research and development of CBD; are engaged in the production, supply chain or distribution of medical cannabis and/or medical cannabis-based consumer products; offer agricultural technologies and equipment, including hydroponics; are involved in leasing property to medical-use cannabis growers; and are involved in offering hemp and CBD products with potential medical or therapeutic benefits. The terms “marijuana” and “cannabis” are used interchangeably. Cannabinoids are the chemical compounds secreted by cannabis plants. Cannabinoids can also be synthetically produced chemical compounds and used in lawful research and development of prescription drugs or other products utilizing cannabinoids as an active ingredient. The Advisor believes that continued legislative changes and social acceptance of cannabis in its various formats could lead to significant growth in cannabis-related public corporations.

The Fund will not invest directly in or hold ownership in any companies that engage in psychedelics-related or cannabis-related business unless permitted by national and local laws of the relevant jurisdiction, including U.S. federal and state laws.

The Fund will concentrate at least 25% of its investments in the Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology and Life Sciences Industry Group within the Health Care Sector. The Fund is non-diversified and may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer than a diversified fund.

The Advisor may use a variety of methods for security selection. As the Fund primarily focuses on certain industries, the Advisor intends to select companies with dominant positions in their respective markets, or those in unique positions for growth and expansion. The Advisor will utilize numerous outside analyst ratings and stock selection rating tools. In addition, the Advisor may invest the Fund's assets in lesser-known companies that the Advisor believes have a unique opportunity for growth. At times, the Advisor may aim to buy certain out-of-favor stocks believed to be at prices below their future potential value, as measured by the Advisor or outside analysts. The Fund may sell a security when the Advisor believes that the security is overvalued or better investment opportunities are available, or to limit position size within the Fund's portfolio.

## **PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND**

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The Fund is subject to a number of risks, 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.

**Psychedelics Companies Risk.** Psychedelics companies are subject to various laws and regulations that may differ at the state/local and federal level. These laws and regulations may significantly affect a psychedelics company's ability to secure financing, impact the market for psychedelics business sales and services, and set limitations on psychedelics use, production, transportation, and storage. There can be no guarantees that such approvals or administrative actions will happen or be favorable for psychedelics companies, and such actions may be subject to lengthy delays, and may require length and expensive clinical trials. Additionally, therapies containing controlled substances may generate public controversy. Political and social pressures and adverse publicity could lead to delays in approval of, and increased expenses for, psychedelics companies and any future therapeutic candidates they may develop. All of these factors and others may prevent psychedelics companies from becoming profitable, which may materially affect the value of certain Fund investments. In addition, psychedelics companies are subject to the risks associated with the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries.

In Canada, certain psychedelic drugs, including psilocybin, are classified as Schedule III drugs under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act ("CDSA") and, as such, medical and recreational use is illegal under Canadian federal laws. In the United States, certain psychedelic drugs, including psilocybin, are classified as Schedule I drugs under the Controlled Substances Act ("CSA") and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (the "CSIEA") and, as such, medical and recreational use is illegal under the U.S. federal laws. There is no guarantee that psychedelic drugs or psychedelic-inspired drugs will ever be approved as medicines in either jurisdiction.

In the United States, scheduling determinations by the Drug Enforcement Agency ("DEA") are dependent on Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") approval of a substance or a specific formulation of a substance. Unless and until psilocybin, psilocin, or other psychedelics-based products receive FDA approval, such products may be prohibited from sale, which could limit the growth opportunities for certain portfolio companies of the Fund. Even if approved by the FDA, the manufacture, importation, exportation, domestic distribution, storage, sale, and legitimate use of such products will continue to be subject to a significant degree of regulation by the DEA.

**Cannabis-Related Company Risk.** Like psychedelics companies, cannabis-related companies are subject to various laws and regulations that may differ at the state/local and federal level. These laws and regulations may significantly affect a cannabis-related company's ability to secure financing, impact the market for marijuana business sales and services, and set limitations on marijuana use, production, transportation, and storage. In addition to regulatory action, litigation initiated by private citizens or companies could have a negative impact on the financial and/or operational status of cannabis-related companies. Cannabis-related companies may also be required to secure permits and authorizations from government agencies to cultivate or research marijuana. In addition, cannabis-related companies are subject to the risks associated with the agricultural, biotechnology, and pharmaceutical industries.

**U.S. Regulation of Marijuana.** Although the medical use of marijuana is legal in more than half of the states, as well as the District of Columbia, and non-medical use of marijuana is legal in an increasing number

of states and the District of Columbia, the possession and use of marijuana remains illegal under U.S. federal law. Actions by federal regulatory agencies, such as increased enforcement of federal marijuana laws and the prosecution of nonviolent federal drug crimes by the U.S. Department of Justice (“DOJ”), could produce a chilling effect on the industry’s growth and discourage banks from expanding their services to cannabis-related companies where such services are currently limited. This conflict between the regulation of marijuana under federal and state law creates volatility and risk for all cannabis-related companies. Because marijuana is a Schedule I controlled substance, no drug product containing cannabis or cannabis extracts has been approved for use by the FDA or obtained registrations for commercial production from the DEA, and there is no guarantee that such products will ever be legally produced or sold in the U.S. Cannabis-related companies in the U.S. that engage in medical or pharmaceutical research or the production and distribution of controlled substances such as marijuana must be registered with the DEA to perform such activities and have the security, control, recordkeeping, reporting and inventory mechanisms required by the DEA to prevent drug loss and diversion. With respect to cannabis-related companies and vendors servicing such companies, the Fund will not make direct investments in the securities of companies that grow, sell, distribute, transport, or handle cannabis unless they are registered with the DEA or otherwise in compliance with U.S. federal regulations, thus allowing them to legally handle the product. In addition, because cannabis is a Schedule I controlled substance, Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (“Internal Revenue Code”) applies by its terms to the purchase and sale of medical-use cannabis products and provides that no deduction or credit is allowed for expenses incurred during a taxable year “in carrying on any trade or business if such trade or business (or the activities which comprise such trade or business) consists of trafficking in controlled substances (within the meaning of Schedules I and II of the CSA) which is prohibited by federal law or the law of any state in which such trade or business is conducted.” The disallowance of such tax deductions will likely affect the value of cannabis-related companies.

**Non-U.S. Regulation of Marijuana.** Laws and regulations related to the possession, use (medical or recreational), sale, transport and cultivation of marijuana vary throughout the world, and the Fund will only invest in non-U.S. cannabis-related companies if such companies are operating legally in the relevant jurisdiction. These laws and regulations are subject to change and may have a significant impact on the operations of a cannabis-related company. Such operations may be legal under current law but may be illegal in the future if the applicable law changes to prohibit marijuana-related activities vital to the company’s business.

**U.S. Regulation of Hemp.** Hemp, as defined in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (the “Farm Bill”), refers to cannabis plants with a tetrahydrocannabinol (“THC”) concentration of not more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis. The Farm Bill effectively removes hemp, its extracts, derivatives, and cannabinoids (including CBD) from the CSA’s list of controlled substances and allows states to regulate its production, commerce, and research with approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (“USDA”). Certain portfolio holdings may sell dietary supplements and/or foods containing CBD within the United States.

While the Farm Bill removes hemp and hemp-derived products from the controlled substances list under the CSA, it does not legalize CBD in every circumstance. CBD, depending on the source from which it was derived, can still be classified as a Schedule I substance under the CSA’s definition of “marihuana.” The exception for CBD from the definition of “marihuana” only applies if the CBD is derived from “hemp”. U.S. federal law also requires that: (i) the hemp is produced by a licensed producer; and (ii) in a manner consistent with the applicable federal and state regulations. CBD and other cannabinoids produced from marijuana as defined by the CSA remain an illegal Schedule I substance under federal law. In addition, many state laws include all CBD within definitions of marijuana and some states have policies or laws that otherwise prohibit or restrict CBD sales.

Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the “FD&C”), if a substance (such as CBD) is an active ingredient in a drug product that has been approved by the FDA, then the substance cannot be sold in dietary supplements or foods without FDA approval, unless the substance was marketed as a dietary supplement or as a conventional food before the drug was approved or before the new drug investigations were authorized. The FDA has publicly taken the position that CBD cannot be sold in dietary supplements or foods because CBD is an active ingredient in an FDA-approved drug, while companies that sell CBD in dietary supplements and foods have taken the contrary position. Because the FDA has not brought enforcement

action against such companies, this question of fact has not yet been adjudicated. In the absence of a conclusive legal determination to the contrary, as of the date of this prospectus, it has not been determined that the sale of dietary supplements and/or foods containing CBD within the United States would cause a company's securities to be ineligible for inclusion in the Fund's portfolio. It is possible that such a legal determination or future federal and/or state laws or regulations could materially curtail permissible uses of hemp, which could have an adverse effect on the value of the Fund's investments in companies with business interests in hemp and hemp-based products.

**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 and structured notes, involves risks that are different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. 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.

**Derivatives Risk.** 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 create leverage thereby causing the Fund to be more volatile than it would be if it had not invested in derivatives. Derivatives, such as total return swaps, 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 rise and fall daily. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual issuers, industries or the stock 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.

**ETF Market Risk.** In stressed market conditions, the market for ETF shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the ETF's underlying portfolio holdings. This adverse effect on liquidity for the ETF's shares in turn can lead to differences between the market price of the ETF's shares and the underlying value of those shares. In addition, there are a limited number of institutions that act as authorized participants. If these institutions exit the business or are, for any reason, unable to process creation and/or redemption orders with respect to the Fund, or purchase and sell securities in connection with creation and/or redemption orders, as applicable, and no other authorized participant steps forward to create or redeem, or purchase or sell securities, as applicable, Fund shares may trade at a premium or discount to NAV and possibly face operational issues such as trading halts and/or delisting. The absence of an active market in the Fund's shares could lead to a heightened risk of differences between the market price of the Fund's shares and the underlying value of those shares.

**Foreign Investment Risk.** The Fund's investments in securities of foreign issuers, may 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; changes in currency exchange rates or exchange control regulations (including limitations on currency movements and exchanges); differing accounting, auditing, financial reporting and legal standards and practices; differing securities market structures; and higher transaction costs. In addition, the securities of some foreign companies may be less liquid and, at times, more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. companies.

**Canada Risk.** The Canadian economy is susceptible to adverse changes in certain commodities markets, including those related to the agricultural and mining industries. It is also heavily dependent on trading with key partners. Any reduction in this trading may adversely affect the Canadian economy.

**Growth Investing Risk.** Growth stocks can be volatile for several reasons. Since those companies usually invest a high portion of earnings in their businesses, they may lack the dividends of value stocks that can cushion stock prices in a falling market. The prices of growth stocks are based largely on projections of the issuer's future earnings and revenues. If a company's earnings or revenues fall short of expectations, its stock price may fall dramatically.

**Health Care Sector Risk.** Companies in the Health Care Sector are subject to extensive government regulation and their profitability can be significantly affected by restrictions on government reimbursement for medical expenses, rising costs of medical products and services, pricing pressure (including price discounting), limited product lines, litigation, obsolescence of technology and an increased emphasis on the delivery of health care through outpatient services.

**Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology & Life Sciences Industry Group Risk.** The Fund will concentrate at least 25% of its investments in the Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology and Life Sciences Industry Group within the Health Care Sector. Companies in the Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology & Life Sciences Industry Group can be significantly affected by, among other things, government approval of products and services, government regulation and reimbursement rates, product liability claims, patent expirations and protection, and intense competition.

**Management Risk.** The Advisor continuously evaluates the Fund's holdings, purchases and sales with a view to achieving the Fund's investment objective. However, achievement of the stated investment objective cannot be guaranteed. The Advisor's judgment about the markets, the economy, or companies may not anticipate actual market movements, economic conditions or company performance, and these factors 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. Local, regional, or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the market generally and on specific securities. The market value of a security may also decline because of factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or increased production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. 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.

**Non-Diversification Risk.** As a non-diversified fund under the federal securities laws, the Fund may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer and hold a smaller number of portfolio securities; therefore, the value of the Fund's shares may be more volatile than the value of shares of more diversified funds.

**Small-Capitalization Risk.** Security prices of small cap companies may be more volatile than those of larger companies and therefore the Fund's share price may be more volatile than those of funds that invest a larger percentage of their assets in securities issued by larger-cap companies. These risks are even greater for micro-cap companies.

**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 and, in such instances, you may pay significantly more or receive significantly less than the underlying value of the Fund's shares. 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.

**Value Investing Risk.** Because the Fund may utilize a value style of investing, the Fund could suffer losses or produce poor results relative to other funds, even in a rising market, if the Advisor's assessment of a company's value or prospects for exceeding earnings expectations or market conditions is wrong.

## **FUND PERFORMANCE**

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A comparison of the Fund's performance with that of a broad measure of market performance may give some indication of the risks of an investment in the Fund; however, the Fund is new and, therefore, does not have a performance history for a full calendar year. Of course, once the Fund has performance, this 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).



## MANAGEMENT

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Name	Title
AdvisorShares Investments, LLC	Advisor

## PORTFOLIO MANAGER

Name and Title	Length of Service with the Advisor
<b>Dan S. Ahrens</b> , <i>Managing Director, Chief Operating Officer &amp; Portfolio Manager</i>	since November 2008

## PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

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The Fund issues and redeems shares on a continuous basis at NAV only in a large specified number of shares called a "Creation Unit." Only institutional investors that are acting as the Fund's authorized participants (typically broker-dealers) may purchase or redeem Creation Units. A Creation Unit transaction generally is conducted in exchange for a basket of securities closely approximating the holdings of the Fund along with a specified amount of cash.

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 price rather than at NAV, shares may trade at a value greater than (premium) or less than (discount) NAV. When buying or selling shares in the secondary market, you may incur costs attributable to the difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase shares of the Fund (bid) and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for shares of the Fund (ask) (the "bid-ask spread"). Recent information regarding the Fund's NAV, market price, premiums and discounts, and bid-ask spreads will be available on the Fund's website at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com).

## TAX INFORMATION

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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

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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 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.

Creation Units of the Fund are issued and redeemed principally in-kind for portfolio securities along with a specified cash payment.

**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 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 Fund will invest directly in companies that list their securities on exchanges that require compliance with all laws, rules and regulations applicable to their business, including U.S. federal laws. The current exchanges identified by the Fund that meet these requirements are the New York Stock Exchange (the “NYSE”), Nasdaq Stock Market, TSX Exchange, and TSX Venture Exchange. The Advisor, subject to the oversight of 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 Fund will not change the 80% investment policy included in its principal investment strategy without providing 60 days’ notice to shareholders.

## **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 a risk applies to the Fund varies according to its investment allocation. Each investor should review the complete description of the principal risks before investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund may not be appropriate for all investors. As with investing in other securities whose prices increase and decrease in market value, you may lose money by investing in the Fund.

**Psychedelics Companies Risk.** Psychedelics companies are subject to various laws and regulations that may differ at the state/local and federal level. These laws and regulations may significantly affect a psychedelics company’s ability to secure financing, impact the market for psychedelics business sales and services, and set limitations on psychedelics use, production, transportation, and storage. There can be no guarantees that such approvals or administrative actions will happen or be favorable for psychedelics companies, and such actions may be subject to lengthy delays, and may require length and expensive clinical trials. Additionally, therapies containing controlled substances may generate public controversy. Political and social pressures and adverse publicity could lead to delays in approval of, and increased expenses for, psychedelics companies and any future therapeutic candidates they may develop. All of these factors and others may prevent psychedelics companies from becoming profitable, which may materially affect the value of certain Fund investments. In addition, psychedelics companies are subject to the risks associated with the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries.

In Canada, certain psychedelic drugs, including psilocybin, are classified as Schedule III drugs under the CDSA and as such, medical and recreational use is illegal under Canadian federal laws. In the United States, certain psychedelic drugs, including psilocybin, are classified as Schedule I drugs under the CSA and the CSIEA and as such, medical and recreational use is illegal under the U.S. federal laws. There is no guarantee that psychedelic drugs or psychedelic inspired drugs will ever be approved as medicines in either jurisdiction.

In the United States, scheduling determinations by the DEA are dependent on FDA approval of a substance or a specific formulation of a substance. Unless and until psilocybin, psilocin, or other psychedelics-based products receive FDA approval, such products may be prohibited from sale, which could limit the growth opportunities for certain portfolio companies of the Fund. Even if approved by the FDA, the manufacture, importation, exportation, domestic

distribution, storage, sale, and legitimate use of such products will continue to be subject to a significant degree of regulation by the DEA.

**Cannabis-Related Company Risk.** Cannabis-related companies are subject to various laws and regulations that may differ at the state/local and federal level. These laws and regulations may (i) significantly affect a cannabis-related company's ability to secure financing, (ii) impact the market for marijuana business sales and services, and (iii) set limitations on marijuana use, production, transportation, and storage. Cannabis-related companies may also be required to secure permits and authorizations from government agencies to cultivate or research marijuana. In addition, cannabis-related companies are subject to the risks associated with the greater agricultural industry, including changes to or trends that affect commodity prices, labor costs, weather conditions, and laws and regulations related to environmental protection, health and safety. Cannabis-related companies may also be subject to risks associated with the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries. These risks include increased government regulation, the use and enforcement of intellectual property rights and patents, technological change and obsolescence, product liability lawsuits, and the risk that research and development may not necessarily lead to commercially successful products.

**U.S. Regulation of Marijuana.** Although the medical use of marijuana is legal in more than half of the states as well as the District of Columbia and non-medical use of marijuana is legal in an increasing number of states and the District of Columbia, the possession and use of marijuana remains illegal under U.S. federal law. Actions by federal regulatory agencies, such as increased enforcement of federal marijuana laws and the prosecution of nonviolent federal drug crimes by the DOJ, could produce a chilling effect on the industry's growth and discourage banks from expanding their services to cannabis-related companies. This conflict between the regulation of marijuana under federal and state law creates volatility and risk for all cannabis-related companies. Because marijuana is currently classified as a Schedule I controlled substance, no drug product containing cannabis or cannabis extracts has been approved for use by the FDA or obtained registrations for commercial production from the DEA. A Schedule I controlled substance is defined as a drug with no currently accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse. There is no guarantee that such products will ever be legally produced or sold in the U.S. and, even if a drug product containing cannabis or cannabis extracts were to receive the required government approvals for use in commercial production, the drug product may be subject to significant government regulation regarding manufacture, importation, exportation, domestic distribution, storage, sale, and legitimate use. Cannabis-related companies in the U.S. that engage in medical or pharmaceutical research or the production and distribution of controlled substances such as marijuana must be registered with the DEA to perform such activities and have the security, control, recordkeeping, reporting and inventory mechanisms required by the DEA to prevent drug loss and diversion. With respect to cannabis-related companies and vendors servicing such companies, the Fund will not invest directly in the securities of companies that grow, sell, distribute, transport, or handle cannabis unless they are registered with the DEA or otherwise in compliance with U.S. federal regulations, thus allowing them to legally handle the product. Compliance failures related to these regulatory requirements may substantially harm a cannabis-related company's ability to conduct marijuana research. In addition, because cannabis is a Schedule I controlled substance, Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code applies by its terms to the purchase and sale of medical-use cannabis products and provides that no deduction or credit is allowed for expenses incurred during a taxable year "in carrying on any trade or business if such trade or business (or the activities which comprise such trade or business) consists of trafficking in controlled substances (within the meaning of Schedules I and II of the Controlled Substances Act) which is prohibited by federal law or the law of any state in which such trade or business is conducted." The disallowance of such tax deductions will likely affect the value of cannabis related companies.

**Non-U.S. Regulation of Marijuana.** Laws and regulations related to the possession, use (medical or recreational), sale, transport and cultivation of marijuana vary throughout the world, and the Fund will only invest in non-U.S. cannabis-related companies if such companies are operating legally in the relevant jurisdiction. These laws and regulations are subject to change and may have a significant impact on the operations of a cannabis-related company. Such operations may be legal under current law, but may be illegal in the future if the applicable law changes to prohibit marijuana-related activities vital to the company's business.

**U.S. Regulation of Hemp.** Hemp, as defined in the Farm Bill, refers to cannabis plants with a THC concentration of not more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis. The Farm Bill effectively removes hemp, its

extracts, derivatives, and cannabinoids (including CBD) from the CSA's list of controlled substances and allows states to regulate its production, commerce, and research with approval from the USDA. Certain portfolio holdings may sell dietary supplements and/or foods containing CBD within the United States.

While the Farm Bill removes hemp and hemp-derived products from the controlled substances list under the CSA, it does not legalize CBD in every circumstance. CBD, depending on the source from which it was derived, can still be classified as a Schedule I substance under the CSA's definition of "marihuana." The exception for CBD from the definition of "marihuana" only applies if the CBD is derived from "hemp". U.S. federal law also requires that: (i) the hemp is produced by a licensed producer; and (ii) in a manner consistent with the applicable federal and state regulations. CBD and other cannabinoids produced from marijuana as defined by the CSA remain an illegal Schedule I substance under federal law. In addition, many state laws include all CBD within definitions of marijuana and some states have policies or laws that otherwise prohibit or restrict CBD sales.

Under the FD&C, if a substance (such as CBD) is an active ingredient in a drug product that has been approved by the FDA, then the substance cannot be sold in dietary supplements or foods without FDA approval, unless the substance was marketed as a dietary supplement or as a conventional food before the drug was approved or before the new drug investigations were authorized. The FDA has publicly taken the position that CBD cannot be sold in dietary supplements or foods because CBD is an active ingredient in an FDA-approved drug, while companies that sell CBD in dietary supplements and foods have taken the contrary position. Because the FDA has not brought enforcement action against such companies, this question of fact has not yet been adjudicated. In the absence of a conclusive legal determination to the contrary, as of the date of this prospectus, it has not been determined that the sale of dietary supplements and/or foods containing CBD within the United States would cause a company's securities to be ineligible for inclusion in the Fund's portfolio. It is possible that such a legal determination or future federal and/or state laws or regulations could materially curtail permissible uses of hemp, which could have an adverse effect of the value of the Fund's investments in companies with business interests in hemp and hemp-based products.

**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.

**Derivatives Risk.** The Fund may invest in total return swaps to gain market exposure. 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) the risk of mispricing or improper valuation; (iii) the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate or index; and (iv) the credit risk of the underlying asset, rate, or index. 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. These risks could cause the Fund to lose more than the principal amount invested.

**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.

**ETF Market Risk.** In stressed market conditions, the market for ETF shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the ETF's underlying portfolio holdings. This adverse effect on liquidity for the ETF's shares in turn can lead to a difference between the market price of the ETF's shares and the underlying value of those shares. This difference can be reflected as a spread between the bid and ask prices quoted during the day or a premium or discount in the closing price from the Fund's NAV. Because the Fund's shares trade in the secondary market, a broker may charge a commission to execute a transaction in shares and an investor may incur the cost of the spread between the price at which a dealer will buy shares (bid) and the somewhat higher price at which a dealer will sell shares (ask). In addition, not only are there a limited number of institutions that act as authorized participants, direct trading by authorized participants is critical to ensuring that the Fund's shares trade at or close to NAV. However, market makers are not obligated to make a market in the Fund's shares nor are authorized participants obligated to execute purchase or redemption orders for Creation Units and, in times of market stress, circumstances could develop that could cause them to refrain from these activities or reduce their role. Any absence of an active market could lead to a heightened risk of differences between the market price of the Fund's shares and the underlying value of those shares.

**Foreign Investment Risk.** The Fund may have significant exposure to securities or obligations of foreign companies through its investments in financial instruments, which are indirectly linked to the performance of foreign issuers. Foreign markets can be more volatile than the U.S. market due to increased risks of adverse issuer, political, regulatory, market, or economic developments and can perform differently from the U.S. market. Investing in financial instruments that are indirectly linked to the performance of foreign issuers may involve risks not typically associated with investing in U.S. issuers. The value of financial instruments denominated in foreign currencies, and of distributions from such financial instruments, can change significantly when foreign currencies strengthen or weaken relative to the U.S. dollar. Foreign markets generally have less trading volume and less liquidity than U.S. markets, and prices in some foreign markets may fluctuate more than those of financial instruments traded on U.S. markets. Many foreign countries lack accounting and disclosure standards comparable to those that apply to U.S. companies, and it may be more difficult to obtain reliable information regarding a foreign issuer's financial condition and operations. In certain countries, legal remedies available to investors may be more limited than those available with respect to investments in the United States. Transaction costs and costs associated with custody services are generally higher for foreign securities than they are for U.S. securities. Some foreign governments levy withholding taxes against dividend and interest income. Although in some countries portions of these taxes are recoverable, the non-recovered portion will reduce the income received by the Fund.

**Canada Risk.** Canada is a significant exporter of natural resources, such as oil, natural gas and agricultural products. As a result, the Canadian economy is susceptible to adverse changes in certain commodities markets. It is also heavily dependent on trading with key partners, including the United States, Mexico, and China. Any reduction in trading with these key partners may adversely affect the Canadian economy. Canada's dependency on the economy of the United States, in particular, makes Canada's economy vulnerable to political and regulatory changes affecting the United States economy.

**Growth Investing Risk.** Growth stocks can be volatile for several reasons. Since those companies usually invest a high portion of earnings in their businesses, they may lack the dividends of value stocks that can cushion stock prices in a falling market. The prices of growth stocks are based largely on projections of the issuer's future earnings and revenues. If a company's earnings or revenues fall short of expectations, its stock price may fall dramatically. Growth stocks may be more expensive relative to their earnings or assets compared to value or other stocks.

**Health Care Sector Risk.** Companies in the Health Care Sector are subject to extensive government regulation and their profitability can be significantly affected by restrictions on government reimbursement for medical expenses, rising costs of medical products and services, pricing pressure (including price discounting), limited product lines and an increased emphasis on the delivery of health care through outpatient services. Companies in the Health Care Sector are heavily dependent on obtaining and defending patents, which may be time consuming and costly, and the expiration of patents may also adversely affect the profitability of these companies. Health care companies are also subject to extensive litigation based on product liability and similar claims. In addition, their products can become obsolete due to industry innovation, changes in technologies or other market developments. Many new products in the health care sector require significant research and development and may be subject to regulatory approvals, all of which may be time consuming and costly with no guarantee that any product will come to market.

**Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology & Life Sciences Industry Group Risk.** The Fund will concentrate at least 25% of its investments in the Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology and Life Sciences Industry Group within the Health Care Sector. Companies in the Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology & Life Sciences Industry Group can be significantly affected by, among other things, government approval of products and services, government regulation and reimbursement rates, product liability claims, patent expirations and protection, and intense competition.

**Management Risk.** The Advisor continuously evaluates the Fund's holdings, purchases and sales with a view to achieving the Fund's investment objective. However, achievement of the stated investment objective cannot be guaranteed. The Advisor's judgment about the markets, the economy, or companies may not anticipate actual market movements, economic conditions or company performance, and these factors may affect the return on your investment. In fact, no matter how good a job the Advisor does, you could lose money on your investment in the Fund, just as you could with other investments. If the 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 investments may decline in value due to factors affecting securities 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. Local, regional, or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the market generally and on specific securities. For example, since December 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus has spread globally, which has resulted in the temporary closure of many corporate offices, retail stores, manufacturing facilities and factories, and other businesses across the world. As the extent of the impact on global markets from the coronavirus is difficult to predict, the extent to which the coronavirus may negatively affect the Fund's performance or the duration of any potential business disruption is uncertain. Any potential impact on performance will depend to a large extent on future developments and new information that may emerge regarding the duration and severity of the coronavirus and the actions taken by authorities and other entities to contain the coronavirus or treat its impact. Changes in market conditions and interest rates generally do not have the same impact on all types of securities and instruments. Fluctuations in the value of securities and financial instruments in which the Fund invests will cause the NAV of the Fund to fluctuate. Historically, the markets have moved in cycles, and the value of the Fund's securities 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.

**Non-Diversification Risk.** As a non-diversified fund under the federal securities laws, the Fund may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a particular issuer and hold a smaller number of portfolio securities than a diversified fund. To the extent the Fund invests in a relatively small number of issuers, a decline in the market value of a particular security held by the Fund may affect its value more than if it invested in a larger number of issuers. The value of the Fund's shares may be more volatile than the value of shares of more diversified funds.

**Small-Capitalization Risk.** Security prices of small cap companies may be more volatile than those of larger companies. Security prices of small-cap companies are generally more vulnerable than those of large-cap companies to adverse business and economic developments. The securities of small-cap companies may be thinly traded, making it difficult for the Fund to buy and sell them. In addition, small-cap companies are typically less stable financially than larger, more established companies and may depend on a small number of essential personnel, making them more vulnerable to loss of personnel. Small-cap companies also normally have less diverse product lines than larger cap companies and are more susceptible to adverse developments concerning their products. These risks are even greater for micro-cap companies. Micro-cap companies are followed by relatively few securities analysts and there tends to be less 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 to adverse business and market developments.

**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. When the market price of the Fund's shares deviates

significantly from NAV, you may pay significantly more or receive significantly less than the underlying value of the Fund's shares. 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.

**Value Investing Risk.** Because the Fund may utilize a value style of investing, the Fund could suffer losses or produce poor results relative to other funds, even in a rising market, if the Advisor's assessment of a company's value or prospects for exceeding earnings expectations or market conditions is wrong.

## **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 cash, high-quality, short-term debt securities and money market instruments. The Fund may be invested in this manner for extended periods, depending on the 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 would bear its pro rata portion of each such money market fund's advisory fees and operational expenses.

**Lending of Portfolio Securities.** The Fund may lend portfolio securities to brokers, dealers and other financial organizations that meet capital and other credit requirements or other criteria established by the Fund's Board. These loans, if and when made, may not exceed 331/3% of the total asset value of the Fund (including the loan collateral). Such loans may be terminated at any time. Any such loans must be continuously secured by collateral maintained on a current basis in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned by the Fund. In a loan transaction, as compensation for lending its securities, the Fund will receive a portion of the dividends or interest accrued on the securities held as collateral or, in the case of cash collateral, a portion of the income from the investment of such cash. In addition, the Fund will receive the amount of all dividends, interest and other distributions on the loaned securities. However, the borrower has the right to vote the loaned securities. The Fund will call loans to vote proxies if a material issue affecting the investment is to be voted upon. Loans are made only to borrowers that are deemed by the securities lending agent to be of good financial standing. Should the borrower of the securities fail financially, the Fund may experience delays in recovering the securities or exercising its rights in the collateral. In a loan transaction, the Fund will also bear the risk of any decline in value of securities acquired with cash collateral. The Fund will attempt to minimize this risk by limiting the investment of cash collateral to high quality instruments of short maturity.

Please see the Fund's Statement of Additional Information (the "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 at [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com). The Fund's daily portfolio holdings information also will be available on the Trust's website.

## **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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, the Advisor had approximately \$\_\_\_\_\_ billion in assets under management.

The Advisor, subject to the supervision of the Board, provides an investment management program for the Fund and manages the investment of the Fund's assets. Pursuant to an investment advisory agreement between the Trust and

the Advisor, the Advisor is entitled to receive an annual advisory fee of 0.xx% based on the average daily net assets of the Fund.

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 waive 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 0.99% 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 waive fees or reimburse expenses, the Board may permit the Advisor to retain the difference between the Fund's total annual operating expenses and the expense limitation currently in effect, or, if lower, the expense limitation that was in effect at the time of the waiver and/or reimbursement, to recapture all or a portion of its prior fee waivers or expense reimbursements within three years of the date they were waived or reimbursed.

The Advisor may hire one or more sub-advisors to oversee the day-to-day portfolio management activities of the Fund. The sub-advisors would be subject to oversight by the Advisor. Pursuant to an exemptive order from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (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 approval of the Fund's investment advisory agreement will be available in the Trust's first Annual or Semi-Annual Report to Shareholders following the Fund's commencement of operations.

## **PORTFOLIO MANAGER**

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

### **Dan S. Ahrens, *Managing Director, Chief Operating Officer & Portfolio Manager***

Dan S. Ahrens is a Managing Director and the Chief Operating Officer of the Advisor. He joined the Advisor in 2008. Prior to joining the Advisor in 2008, Mr. Ahrens founded Ahrens Advisors, L.P., an SEC-registered investment advisor, where he was portfolio manager of the Ladenburg Thalmann Gaming and Casino Fund from 2006 to 2008. Before forming Ahrens Advisors, he was President of the MUTUALS.com Funds. He served as portfolio manager of the Vice Fund (VICEX), which he started in 2002, and the Generation Wave Growth Fund. During that time, he also was President and Chief Compliance Officer of Mutuals Advisors, Inc. and acted as President, Treasurer and Financial & Operations Officer of an affiliated Broker Dealer firm. He is the author of *Investing in Vice* (St. Martin's Press, 2004) and *Investing in Cannabis* (Wiley, 2020) and has appeared on numerous financial programs, including CNBC, CNN, ABC News and Bloomberg, to discuss "Vice Stocks." He has been featured, along with funds under his management, in major national and trade publications including The Economist, New York Times, Financial Times, and The Wall Street Journal. He earned a Bachelor in Business Administration in Finance from Texas Tech University.

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. The Distributor's 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, \_\_\_\_\_ or any of their respective affiliates.

\_\_\_\_\_, 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.

\_\_\_\_\_, 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.

## **SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION**

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### **CALCULATING NET ASSET VALUE**

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 (“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 portfolio investments at market prices. 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. With respect to U.S.-traded securities with readily available pricing, it is expected that there would be limited circumstances in which the Fund would use fair value pricing – for example, if the exchange on which a portfolio security is principally traded closed early or if trading in a particular security was halted during the day and did not resume prior to the time the Fund calculated its NAV.

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.

### **PREMIUM/DISCOUNT AND BID-ASK SPREAD INFORMATION**

The price of the Fund’s 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. 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). Also available on the Fund’s website is information about bid-ask spreads.

### **DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

The Fund pays out dividends and distributes its net capital gains, if any, to shareholders at least 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, such as 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. 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. Depository Trust Company ("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 Investment Company Act of 1940 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 elect and qualify for the special tax treatment afforded to a regulated investment company ("RIC") under 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.

Unless you are a tax-exempt entity or your investment in Fund shares is made through a tax-deferred retirement account, such as an IRA, you need to be aware of the possible tax consequences when:

- the Fund makes distributions;
- you sell Fund shares; and
- you purchase or redeem Creation Units (institutional investors only).

### **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. 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.
- 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 from U.S. corporations, subject to certain limitations.
- 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 (or your broker) 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.

### **Investment in Foreign Securities**

The Fund may be subject to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries on dividends, interest, and other income it 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 to a reduced rate of, or exemption from, foreign taxes on certain income it receives. 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 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 Fund's assets is represented by stock or securities of foreign corporations, the Fund intends to elect to permit shareholders to claim a foreign tax credit or deduction (but not both) on their U.S. income tax returns for their pro rata portion of qualified taxes paid by the Fund to foreign countries in respect of foreign securities the Fund has held for at least the minimum period specified in the Internal Revenue Code. For the purposes of the foreign tax credit, each such shareholder would include in gross income from foreign sources its pro rata share of such taxes. Certain limitations imposed by the Internal Revenue Code may prevent shareholders from receiving a full foreign tax credit or deduction for their allocable amount of such taxes.

### **Derivatives and Complex Securities**

The Fund may invest in complex securities and derivatives such as total return swaps. These investments may be subject to numerous special and complex tax rules. These rules could affect the Fund's ability to qualify as a RIC, affect whether gains and losses recognized by the Fund are treated as ordinary income or loss or capital gain or loss, accelerate the recognition of income to the Fund, cause income or gain to be recognized even though corresponding cash is not received by the Fund and/or defer the Fund's 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 investments in complex securities and derivatives can be found in the Fund's SAI.

### **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.

### **Backup Withholding**

The Fund (or financial intermediaries, such as brokers, through which shareholders own Fund shares) 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 24%. 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 upon an exchange of securities for Creation

Units may not be currently deducted under the rules governing “wash sales” by an Authorized Participant that does not mark-to-market its holdings 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.

The Fund may include cash when paying the redemption price for Creation Units in addition to, or in place of, the delivery of a basket of securities. The Fund may be required to sell portfolio securities in order to obtain the cash needed to distribute redemption proceeds. This may cause the Fund to recognize investment income and/or capital gains or losses that it might not have recognized if it had completely satisfied the redemption in-kind. As a result, the Fund may be less tax efficient if it includes such a cash payment than if the in-kind redemption process was used.

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 Fund’s financial information is not yet available because the Fund has not commenced operations.

## ADVISORSHARES PLANT MEDICINE ETF

Advisor	<b>AdvisorShares Investments, LLC</b> 4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 150 Bethesda, Maryland 20814
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, NW Washington, DC 20004
Administrator, Custodian & Transfer Agent	

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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*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 about the Fund. You may request documents from the SEC, upon payment of a duplication fee, 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, when available, 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 will be 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.