

FOURTH QUARTER 2023

### THE MACKAY ADVANTAGE

#### Mackay Shields

- \$139 Billion AUM<sup>1</sup>
- Experienced boutique investment teams
- Specialty fixed income expertise across global fixed income markets including municipal bonds, structured credit, corporate credit and emerging markets debt
- Acquired by New York Life Insurance Company in 1984

### PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM

#### Municipals

**Robert DiMella, CFA**  
Co-Head Municipal Bond Team/  
Executive Managing Director  
35 Years Experience

**John Loffredo, CFA**  
Vice Chairman and Co-Head  
Municipal Bond Team/  
Executive Managing Director  
37 Years Experience

**Peter Bartlett**  
Senior Managing Director  
46 Years Experience

**Robert Burke, CFA**  
Managing Director  
39 Years Experience

**Mike Petty**  
Senior Managing Director  
38 Years Experience

**David Dowden**  
Managing Director  
35 Years Experience

**Scott Sprauer**  
Senior Managing Director  
32 Years Experience

1. As of December 31, 2023, includes MacKay Shields LLC and its subsidiaries.

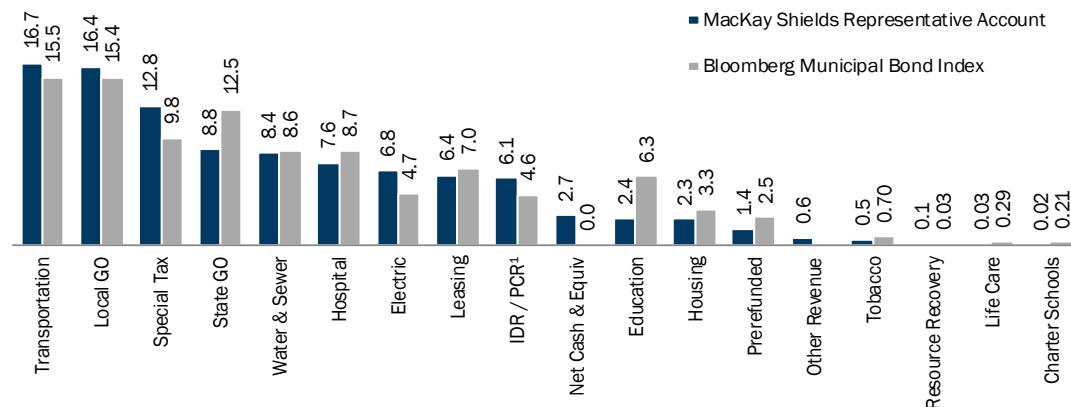
Municipal Investment Grade strategy seeks to generate attractive after-tax returns by investing primarily in investment grade municipal securities.

### Representative Account Characteristics

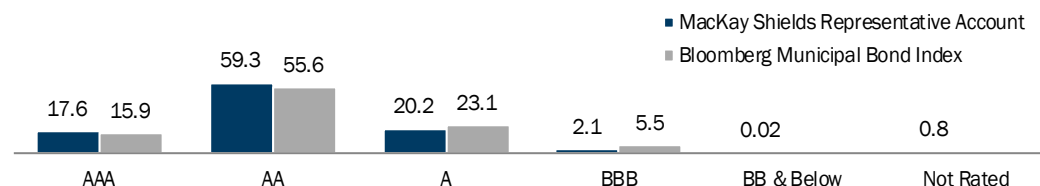
As of December 31, 2023

Characteristics	Mackay Shields Representative Account	Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index
Modified Duration to Worst	5.6 yrs	5.5 yrs
Yield to Worst	3.7%	3.2%
No. of Obligor	507	—

### Mackay Shields Sector Breakdown vs. Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index (% Market Value)



### Quality Breakdown<sup>2</sup> (%)



- ETM: Escrow to maturity; IDR: Industrial Development Revenue; PCR: Pollution Control Revenue
- Quality ratings split high if rated by more than one nationally recognized rating agency. This total may exceed 100% during periods where the portfolio owns Non-Rated (NR) securities. NR securities are allocated an internal rating by MacKay Shields.

Closed End Funds: Represents the portfolio's allocation to closed-end funds. Due to the large number and varying quality of such portfolio's underlying issues, the allocation is not assigned a credit quality rating. Although not assigned a quality rating, the percentage of the portfolio's assets allocated to Closed-End Funds is not included in the NR figure.

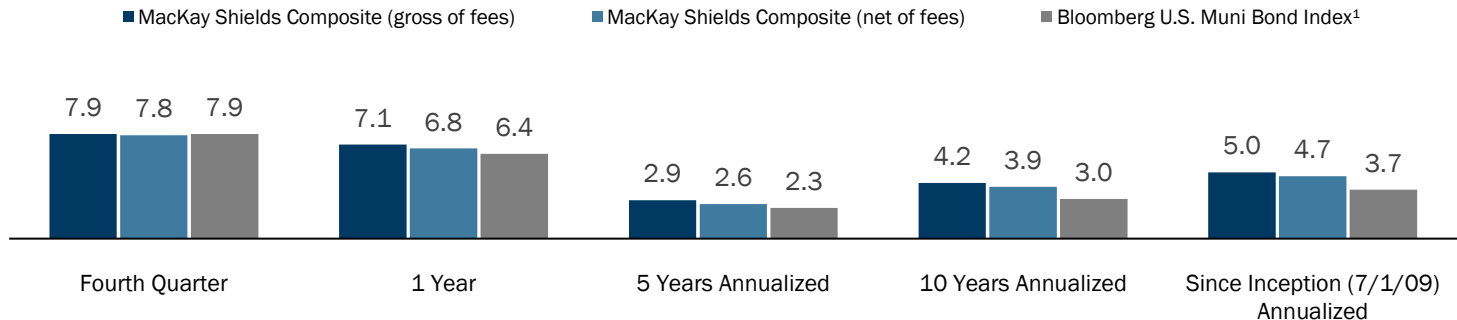
The representative account shown above was selected because it is the oldest account in the composite and not for performance reasons. Due to rounding, items may not sum to 100%. Each client account is individually managed, actual holdings will vary for each client and there is no guarantee that a particular client's account will have the same characteristics. Portfolio holdings are subject to change without notice. Provided as supplemental information to the GIPS reports on the following page.

It is not possible to invest directly into an index.

See last page for additional disclosures, including disclosures related to comparisons to an index.

### Composite Returns (%)

Period Ending December 31, 2023



### Composite Disclosures

Period	MacKay Shields Composite Gross Returns (%)	MacKay Shields Composite Net Returns (%)	Bloomberg U.S. Muni Bond Index <sup>1</sup> Returns (%)	Composite 3-Yr St Dev (%)	Benchmark <sup>1</sup> 3-Yr St Dev (%)	No. of Accts.	Composite Assets (\$Mil)	Firm Assets (\$Mil)	Internal Dispersion (%)
2023	7.1	6.8	6.4	7.9	7.4	8	10,433	139,162	0.1
2022	-9.7	-9.9	-8.5	7.3	6.4	7	8,524	128,584	0.2
2021	2.8	2.5	1.5	4.5	3.9	≤5	10,157	163,646	0.1
2020	6.9	6.7	5.2	4.4	4.0	≤5	8,263	153,995	0.1
2019	8.5	8.2	7.5	2.3	2.4	≤5	5,469	131,978	0.0
2018	2.3	2.0	1.3	3.5	3.4	≤5	3,007	107,467	0.0
2017	6.4	6.2	5.4	3.5	3.3	≤5	2,940	98,098	0.0
2016	1.2	1.0	0.2	3.8	3.4	≤5	2,233	94,540	0.0
2015	4.7	4.4	3.3	4.5	3.4	≤5	1,593	89,196	0.0
2014	13.5	13.2	9.1	5.1	3.7	≤5	979	91,626	0.0

#### 1. Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index

The Municipal Investment Grade Composite includes all discretionary municipal investment grade accounts managed with similar objectives for a full month, including those accounts no longer with the firm. The strategy focuses on municipal bonds that are rated investment grade or, if unrated, that we determine to be of comparable quality. The Municipal Investment Grade Composite was formerly called the Municipal Fund Composite. Gross-of-fees composite performance reflects reinvestment of income and is a market-weighted average of the time-weighted return, before advisory fees and related expenses, of each account for the period since inception. Net-of-fees composite performance is derived by reducing the monthly gross-of-fees composite by 0.0208%, our highest monthly fee. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS reports are available upon request. GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. Performance is expressed in US Dollars. The composite creation and inception date is 7/1/09. All portfolios in the composite are fee-paying portfolios. There can be no assurance that the rate of return for any account within a composite will be the same as that of the composite presented. **Past performance is not indicative of future results.**

MacKay Shields LLC, an SEC-registered investment adviser, claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. The firm has been independently verified from January 1, 1988 through December 31, 2022. The verification report is available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report. A list including composite descriptions, pooled fund descriptions for limited distribution pooled funds, and broad distribution funds is available upon request. Indices do not incur management fees, transaction costs or other operating expenses. Investments cannot be made directly into an index. The Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index is referred to for comparative purposes only and is not intended to parallel the risk or investment style of the portfolio in the MacKay Shields Composite. Internal dispersion is calculated using the equal-weighted standard deviation of annual gross returns of those portfolios that were included in the composite for the entire year. The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite gross returns and the index returns over the preceding 36-month period.

## Disclosures

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## Comparisons to an Index

Comparisons to a financial index are provided for illustrative purposes only. Comparisons to an index are subject to limitations because portfolio holdings, volatility and other portfolio characteristics may differ materially from the index. Unlike an index, portfolios within the composite are actively managed and may also include derivatives. There is no guarantee that any of the securities in an index are contained in any managed portfolio. The performance of an index may assume reinvestment of dividends and income, or follow other index-specific methodologies and criteria, but does not reflect the impact of fees, applicable taxes or trading costs which, unlike an index, may reduce the returns of a managed portfolio. Investors cannot invest in an index. Because of these differences, the performance of an index should not be relied upon as an accurate measure of comparison.

## Index Descriptions

### *Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index*

“A rules-based, market-value-weighted index engineered for the long-term tax-exempt bond market. To be included in the index, bonds must be rated investment-grade (Baa3/BBB- or higher) by at least two of the following ratings agencies: Moody’s, S&P, Fitch. If only two of the three agencies rate the security, the lower rating is used to determine index eligibility. If only one of the three agencies rates a security, the rating must be investment-grade. They must have an outstanding par value of at least \$7 million and be issued as part of a transaction of at least \$75 million. The bonds must be fixed rate, have a dated-date after December 31, 1990, and must be at least one year from their maturity date. Remarketed issues, taxable municipal bonds, bonds with floating rates, and derivatives, are excluded from the benchmark. The index has four main sectors: general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, insured bonds (including all insured bonds with a Aaa/AAA rating), and prerefunded bonds. Most of the index has historical data to January 1980. In addition, sub-indices have been created based on maturity, state, sector, quality, and revenue source, with inception dates later than January 1980.

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