

Sterling Capital Core Fixed Income Collective Investment Fund

Class R (HCOREX)
Inception 10.26.2021
CUSIP 41023L316

Class R1 (HSCMCX)
Inception 10.26.2021
CUSIP 41023L290



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03.31.2025

About the Fund

The Sterling Capital Core Fixed Income Collective Investment Fund is a collective investment fund ("CIF") sponsored by Hand Benefits & Trust Company, a BPAS company that invests in the strategies of Sterling Capital Management LLC (SCM), which serves as the advisor to the CIF.

Investment Objective:

The CIF seeks a competitive total return to the benchmark.

Advisor Sterling Capital Management LLC
Location Charlotte, NC
Benchmark Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond
Investment Category Intermediate Term Core Bond
CIF Assets¹ \$47MM
Firm AUM + AUA² \$75B
Trustee Hand Benefits & Trust Co.
Custodian BNY
Total Expense Ratio³ Class R: 0.25%
Class R1: 0.29%
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Portfolio Characteristics⁴

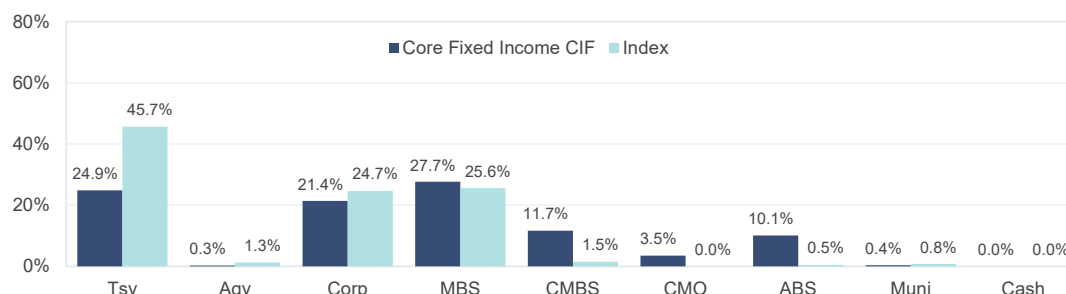
	CIF	Index
Effective Duration	6.08 Yrs	6 Yrs
Average Maturity	8.38 Yrs	8.36 Yrs
Yield to Maturity	4.89%	4.60%
Annual Turnover ⁴	52%	---

Duration Composition⁴

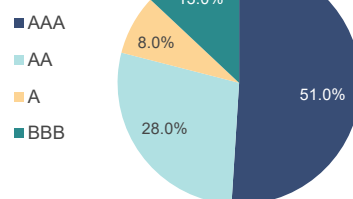
	CIF	Index
0-2 Years	14.43%	14.57%
2-4 Years	2.15%	24.55%
4-6 Years	21.46%	21.07%
6-8 Years	22.03%	21.94%
8-10 Years	29.44%	1.77%
10+ Years	10.50%	16.10%
Total	100.00%	100.00%

Core Fixed Income CIF Performance as of 03.31.2025 ⁵	1M	3M	YTD	1Y	3Y	ITD
Sterling Capital Core Fixed Income CIF Class R (Net)	-0.10%	2.42%	2.42%	5.18%	0.94%	-0.76%
Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	0.04%	2.78%	2.78%	4.88%	0.52%	-1.23%

Sector Composition⁶



Credit Quality⁶



Top Ten Holdings⁶

U.S. Government 2.625% 15-Feb-2029	6.71%
U.S. Government 2.5% 15-Feb-2045	5.52%
U.S. Government 4.125% 15-Nov-2032	4.69%
U.S. Government 4.25% 15-Aug-2054	3.24%
U.S. Government 1.375% 15-Aug-2050	2.49%
U.S. Government 4.0% 15-Feb-2034	2.22%
FNMA 30Y bq0538 2.500% 01-Sep-2050	1.98%
FHLMC 30Y qf8052 5.500% 01-Feb-2053	1.76%
FNMA 30Y fs5233 6.000% 01-Jul-2053	1.72%
FHLMC 30Y sd1692 5.000% 01-Oct-2052	1.58%
Total	31.91%

Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. ¹CIF assets represent the net asset value of the Sterling Capital Core Fixed Income Collective Investment Fund ("CIF") as of 03.31.2025. ²SCM's AUM+AUA is as of 03.31.2025. SCM's Assets Under Advisement ("AUA") differs from our regulatory Assets Under Management ("AUM") for which we provide continuous and regular investment management services as disclosed in our ADV. AUA generally refers to non-discretionary assets for which SCM provides advice or consultation for which SCM does not have authority to effectuate transactions. Such services include Model portfolios and assets SCM advises as an outsourced Chief Investment Officer on a non-discretionary basis. ³The effect of this Total Expense Ratio per \$1,000 investment is \$2.50 per year for class R and \$2.90 per year for class R1. ⁴Annual turnover is as of 12.31.2024. Source: Hand Benefits & Trust Company. ⁵Performance data is as of 03.31.2025. Source: Hand Benefits & Trust Company; Bloomberg L.P. ⁶All portfolio characteristics data is as of 03.31.2025. Portfolio characteristics totals may not equal 100% due to rounding. Credit rating methodology is Bloomberg. Sources: Bloomberg L.P.; FactSet; Sterling Capital Management Analytics. The **Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index** is an unmanaged index composed of securities that are SEC-registered, taxable, and dollar denominated. The index covers the U.S. investment grade fixed rate bond market, with index components for government and corporate securities, mortgage pass-through securities, and asset-backed securities. It is not possible to invest in the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, which is unmanaged and does not incur fees and charges. All indices are unmanaged and it is not possible to invest directly in an index. Bloomberg L.P. Information: "Bloomberg®" and the Bloomberg indices are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates, including Bloomberg Index Services Limited ("BISL"), the administrator of the index (collectively, "Bloomberg") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes by SCM and its affiliates. Bloomberg is not affiliated with SCM or its affiliates, and Bloomberg does not approve, endorse, review, or recommend the product(s) presented herein. Bloomberg does not guarantee the timeliness, accurateness, or completeness of any data or information relating to the product(s) presented herein.

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Portfolio Management

Mark Montgomery, CFA®

Senior Managing Director, Co-Portfolio Manager
Mark joined SCM in 1997 and has co-managed the fund since inception. He has investment experience since 1990. He is a graduate of West Chester University where he received a BS in Marketing and a Minor in Public Administration and a MBA from Drexel University, and he holds the Chartered Financial Analyst® designation.

Pete Brown, CFA®

Managing Director, Co-Portfolio Manager
Pete joined SCM in 2004 and has co-managed the fund since inception. He has investment experience since 2000. Pete received a BS in Statistics with minors in Business Management, Marketing and Communications from Cornell University and a MBA from Wake Forest University, and he holds the Chartered Financial Analyst® designation.

Michael Sun, CFA®

Executive Director, Co-Portfolio Manager
Michael joined SCM in 2009 and has co-managed the fund since inception. He has investment experience since 1998. Michael is a graduate of Bowling Green State University where he received his MA in Economics. He received his MS in Urban & Regional Study at Beijing University, and he received his BS in Geography at Nanjing University, and he holds the Chartered Financial Analyst® designation.

Gregory Zage, CFA®

Executive Director, Co-Portfolio Manager
Gregory joined SCM in 2007 and has co-managed the fund since inception. He has investment experience since 2007. He received his B.A. in Economics with a minor in Spanish from Davidson College, and he holds the Chartered Financial Analyst® designation.

Firm Overview

Sterling Capital Management LLC (SCM), founded in 1970, is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Guardian Capital Group Limited. Headquartered in Charlotte, SCM provides investment advisory services through mutual funds, separately managed accounts, model portfolios, and other commingled vehicles offered through a variety of intermediary and managed account platforms. SCM's five distinct investment teams provide a full complement of fixed income, active equity, and multi-asset solutions.

Investment Goals & Guidelines

The Fund seeks a competitive total return relative to the benchmark and parameters as defined herein. In managing the CIF, the Advisor employs a multi-faceted approach to generate excess return and uses a combination of top-down and bottom-up analysis, quantitative vs. qualitative analysis and fundamentals vs. valuation. Emphasis is placed on risk management through asymmetric risk/return profiles, quantifying risk and assessing return (return potential secondary to risk assessment) and analyzing investment risk within the context of the portfolio and on a stand-alone basis.

The Advisor focuses on macro trends in the economy to establish a duration target that reflects the outlook for the future direction of interest rates. For yield curve management, in addition to the trend in interest rates, other factors such as future inflation expectations, supply factors and future interest rate expectations are considered. Sector weightings are driven by a combination of the Advisor's macro view on interest rates and volatility as well as relative spread analysis (a comparison of current and historical valuation relationships between various sectors). Utilizing fundamental analysis the Advisor then selects individual securities consistent with the target by looking for the best relative values within particular sectors. The analysis includes an attempt to understand the structure and embedded features of potential securities. Features that are analyzed include puts, calls, sinking fund requirements (scheduled early retirements of the specific debt instrument), prepayment and extension risk, and individual company financial data for potential corporate holdings. Scenario analysis is the primary tool employed for these assessments.

The Advisor may consider selling a security owned by the CIF to reduce exposure to a particular sector, if the Advisor sees a deterioration in the underlying fundamentals of an issuer or if the actions of the issuer violate the investment thesis of owning the security (or, in another words, the original reasoning for purchasing the security), when the Advisor finds other attractive securities that the Advisor believes are less expensive and offer relatively greater income or growth potential, and in response to macro level adjustments to duration and yield curve contributions (which are changes made to portfolio duration or yield curve positioning due to changes in the Advisor's macroeconomic outlook).

The **Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA)** charter is a graduate-level investment credential awarded by CFA Institute — the largest global association of investment professionals. To earn the CFA charter, candidates must: 1) pass three sequential, six-hour examinations; 2) have at least four years of qualified professional investment experience; 3) join CFA Institute as members; and 4) commit to abide by, and annually reaffirm, their adherence to the CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct.

Eligible Investor Disclosure: This collective investment fund is available for investment by eligible qualified retirement plan trusts only.

The CIF is not a mutual fund. Its shares are not deposits of Hand Benefits & Trust Company, a BPAS company, or SCM, and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other agency. The CIF has not been registered under the Securities Act of 1933 and is exempt from investment company registration under the Investment Act of 1940. The Sterling Capital Core Fixed Income Collective Investment Fund is new and does not have actual performance data to report.

The performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current returns may be lower or higher. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. Diversification may not protect against market risk.

Principle Risk Disclosures: An investor should carefully decide whether an investment in the CIF is suitable based on their investment objectives, time horizon and tolerance to the risks involved including the possible loss of principal. **Active Management Risk:** The CIF is actively managed and subject to the risk that the advisor's usage of investment techniques and risk analyses to make investment decisions fails to perform as expected, which may cause the portfolio to lose value or underperform.

Fixed-Income Securities Risk: The value of fixed-income or debt securities may be susceptible to general movements in the bond market and are subject to interest-rate and credit risk. As interest rates rise, the value of bond prices will decline. **Below-Investment-Grade Securities Risk:** Investments in below investment-grade or high-yield debt securities that are rated below investment grade by primary ratings agencies may lack the capacity to pay principal and interest compared with higher-rated securities and may be subject to increased credit risk. These securities are considered speculative and involve greater risk of loss than investment grade debt securities.

Mortgage-Backed and Asset-Backed Securities Risk: Investments in mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities may be subject to increased price volatility because of changes in interest rates, issuer information availability, credit quality of the underlying assets, market perception of the issuer, availability of credit enhancement, and prepayment of principal. The value of ABS and MBS may be adversely affected if the underlying borrower fails to pay the loan included in the security. **U.S. Government**

Obligations Risk: Investments in U.S. government obligations are subject to varying levels of government support. In the event of default, some U.S. government securities, including U.S. Treasury obligations and Ginnie Mae securities, are issued and guaranteed as to principal and interest by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. Other securities are obligations of U.S. government-sponsored entities but are neither issued nor guaranteed by the U.S. government. **New Fund Risk:** Investments with a limited history of operations may be subject to the risk that they do not grow to an economically viable size in order to continue operations. *Source: Hand Benefits & Trust Company.*

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