#### ABOUT APPLETON

Seeks to capture incremental yield and total return across the intermediate to longer maturity areas of the

yield curve by

opportunities.

capitalizing on market

inefficiencies and credit

- Founded in 1986 and located in Boston, MA
- 100% employee owned and operated
- Collaborative, team-oriented culture marked by personnel continuity
- Consistent investment philosophy and process emphasizes quality, liquidity and tax efficiency
- Commitment to separate account management
- Assets Under Management of \$11.9 billion as of 6.30.2023

#### STRATEGY OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVE

- Investment grade tax-exempt municipal bonds
- Maturity range of 1 17 years
- Research intensive strategy designed to pursue value across the intermediate to longer end of the yield curve, and among investment grade credits and bond structures.
- Accounts typically hold 20 30 positions with average annual turnover of 15 25%
- State preference or state specific portfolios are available for certain states of residence\*

#### INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY & PROCESS

 Investment Committee sets market strategy based on interest rates, yield curve structure, economic trends, sector, and technical analysis

 Portfolio structure and guidelines are developed accordingly

In-depth issuer

specific research

In-house credit risk

Macro/ Thematic Inputs



Rigorous Fundamental Analysis

metrics drive proprietary ratings
Internal research identifies

 Internal research identifies potential upgrades and flags credit risk  Focus on larger, liquid investment grade credits

 Flexibility to find value across a wide range of issuers and structures





- Customize based on strategy and client specific objectives
- Broad diversification mitigates issuer specific and structural risk
- Duration targeting minimizes interest rate risk in context of rate cycle
- Vast broker-dealer network facilitates new issue and secondary market trading

#### **INVESTMENT GUIDELINES**

Maturity Range	1 – 17 Years
Duration Range	5.5 – 7.5 Years
Credit Quality	Investment Grade
Geographic Diversification	20 – 50% in-state exposure for clients in select taxable states*
Issuer Diversification	2 - 5% single position target; 15% exposure to any one obligor
Benchmark	Bloomberg U.S. Municipal Index**

<sup>\*%</sup> of state exposure dependent on availability of bonds in state of residence.

# DYNAMIC MANAGEMENT & OVERSIGHT

#### ACCOUNT REVIEW:

- Integrated portfolio systems help ensure adherence to client and strategy guidelines
- Proprietary technology links trading, settlement, reconciliation and compliance processes
- Sustained engagement with financial advisors and investors

## PORTFOLIO OPTIMIZATION:

- Discipline and flexibility in changing markets
- Rebalance based on evolving client objectives, security specific outlooks, investment markets and global economies
- Sell discipline triggered by credit and relative value changes, yield curve shifts and sector rotation opportunities

<sup>\*\*</sup>The benchmark for the strategy was updated to the Bloomberg U.S. Municipal Index on 1/1/2023. Prior to 1/1/2023, the benchmark was the Bloomberg Barclays Managed Money Intermediate. The Bloomberg U.S. Municipal Index more accurately aligns with how the Long strategy has evolved, in particular with regards to weightings in A and BBB credits

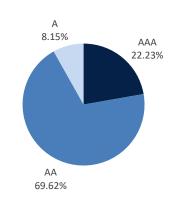




#### COMPOSITE CHARACTERISTICS\*

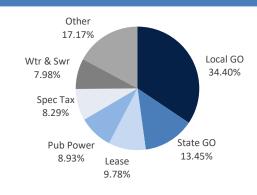
#### API BENCHMARK Maturity 11.29 Years 13.06 Years Duration 5.99 Years 5.88 Years 4.49% Coupon 4.93% Price 112.952 101.490 Yield to Worst 2.91% 3.52% 3.51% N/A Yield to Maturity **Current Yield** 4.35% 4.42%

## CREDIT PROFILE\*\*

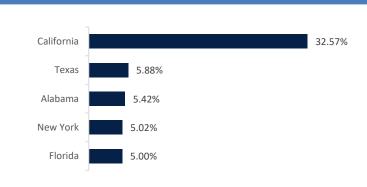


Source: Appleton Partners, Inc.

## TOP SECTOR PROFILE

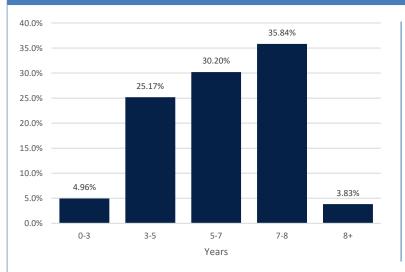


#### TOP STATE EXPOSURE

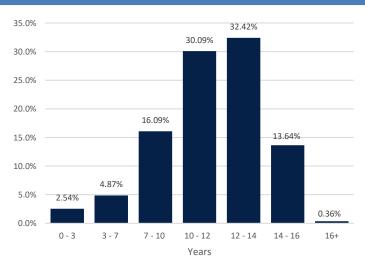


Source: Appleton Partners, Inc.

# DURATION PROFILE



## MATURITY PROFILE



Source: Appleton Partners, Inc.

The composites used to calculate strategy characteristics ("Characteristic Composites") are subsets of the account groups used to calculate strategy performance ("Performance Composites"). Characteristic Composites excludes any account in the Performance Composite where cash exceeds 10% of the portfolio. Therefore, Characteristic Composites can be a smaller subset of accounts than Performance Composites. Inclusion of the additional accounts in the Characteristic Composites would likely alter the characteristics displayed above by the excess cash. Please contact us if you would like to see characteristics of Appleton's Performance Composites.



Source: Appleton Partners, Investortools: Perform, and/or Bloomberg Finance L.P. Evaluations and market averages subject to change based on market conditions. This piece is intended for informational purposes only, and not to suggest any specific performance or results, nor should it be considered investment, financial, tax or other professional advice. Investors should be aware that the referenced benchmark funds may have a different composition, volatility, risk, investment philosophy, holding times, and/or other investment-related factors that may affect the benchmark funds' ultimate performance results. Investment process, strategies, philosophies, allocations, performance composition, target characteristics and other parameters are current as of the date indicated and are subject to change without prior notice. Investments in securities are not insured, protected or guaranteed and may result in loss of income and/or principal.

<sup>\*</sup>Composite data and characteristics as of 6.30.23

<sup>\*\*</sup>Credit Profile: AAA includes cash and pre-refunded bonds