

EDGA & EDGX STOCK EXCHANGES					
Regulatory Information Circular					
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**Subject:** iShares® Barclays GNMA Bond Fund

#### **Background Information on the Fund**

As more fully explained in the Trust's <u>Registration Statement</u> (Nos. 333-92935 and 811-09729), the iShares® Trust ("Trust") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act") as an investment company and currently consists of separate exchange-traded funds (each, a "Fund" and collectively, the "Funds"). This circular refers only to the Fund listed above. The Fund is an exchange-traded "index fund" ("ETF"). The shares of the Funds are referred to herein as "Shares."

BlackRock Fund Advisors ("BFA") serves as the investment advisor for the Fund. SEI Investments Distribution Co. is the distributor for the Fund ("Distributor"). State Street Bank and Trust Company is the administrator, custodian and transfer agent for the Fund.

# **Description of the Fund**

The iShares Barclays GNMA Bond Fund (the "Fund") seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Barclays Capital U.S. GNMA Bond Index (the "Underlying Index").

The Underlying Index is a market-capitalization weighted index that measures the performance of mortgage-backed pass-through securities issued by the Government National Mortgage Association ("GNMA").

The Underlying Index includes fixed-rate mortgage pass-through securities issued by GNMA that have 30- or 15-year maturities. All securities in the Underlying Index must have a weighted average maturity of at least one year and have \$250 million or more of outstanding face value. The securities in the Underlying Index are updated on the last calendar day of each month.

The Fund generally invests at least 90% of its assets in the securities of the Underlying Index and in investments that provide substantially similar exposure to the securities in the Underlying Index. However, the Fund may at times invest up to 20% of its assets in certain futures, options and swap contracts, cash and cash equivalents, including money market funds advised by BFA or its affiliates, as well as in bonds not included in the Underlying Index, but which BFA believes will help the Fund track the Underlying Index.

BFA uses a "passive" or indexing approach to try to achieve the Fund's investment objective. Unlike many investment companies, the Fund does not try to "beat" the index it tracks and does not seek temporary defensive positions when markets decline or appear overvalued.

BFA uses a representative sampling indexing strategy to manage the Fund. "Representative sampling" is an indexing strategy that involves investing in a representative sample of securities that collectively has an investment profile similar to the Underlying Index. The securities selected are expected to have, in the aggregate, investment characteristics (based on factors such as market capitalization and industry weightings), fundamental characteristics (such as return variability, duration, maturity or credit ratings and yield) and liquidity measures similar to those of the Underlying Index. The Fund may or may not hold all of the securities in the Underlying Index.

The Underlying Index is sponsored by an organization (the "Index Provider") that is independent of the Fund and BFA. The Index Provider determines the composition and relative weightings of the securities in the Underlying Index and publishes information regarding the market value of the Underlying Index. The Fund's Index Provider is Barclays Capital Inc. ("Barclays Capital").

As described more fully in the Fund's <u>prospectus</u> ("Prospectus") and Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"), the Fund will issue (or redeem) shares to certain large institutional investors (typically market makers or other large broker-dealers) known as "Authorized Participants" only in large blocks of shares known as "Creation Units. The Fund will only issue or redeem shares that have been aggregated into blocks of 100,000 shares or multiples thereof ("Creation Units") to authorized participants who have entered into agreements with the Fund's Distributor. The Fund generally will issue or redeem Creation Units in return for a designated portfolio of securities (and an amount of cash) that the Fund specifies each day.

Individual shares of the Fund may only be purchased and sold on an exchange at market prices. Individual shares are not redeemable directly to the Fund. Because Fund shares trade at market prices rather than net asset value ("NAV"), shares may trade at a price that is equal to NAV, greater than NAV (premium) or less than NAV (discount).

Dividends from net investment income, if any, generally are declared and paid monthly by the Fund. Distributions of net realized securities gains, if any, generally are declared and paid once a year, but the Trust may make distributions on a more frequent basis for the Fund. The Trust reserves the right to declare special distributions if, in its reasonable discretion, such action is necessary or advisable to preserve its status as a regulated investment company ("RIC") or to avoid imposition of income or excise taxes on undistributed income or realized gains.

Dividends and other distributions on shares of the Fund are distributed on a *pro rata* basis to beneficial owners of such shares. Dividend payments are made through DTC participants and indirect participants to beneficial owners then of record with proceeds received from the Fund.

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") will serve as securities depository for the Shares, which may be held only in book-entry form; stock certificates will not be issued. DTC, or its nominee, is the record or registered owner of all outstanding Shares.

The NAV per Share of the Fund will be determined as of the close of trading (normally, 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time ("ET")) on each day that the Exchanges are open for business (a "Business Day"). The NAV of the Fund is calculated by dividing the value of the net assets of the Fund (*i.e.*, the value of its total assets less total liabilities) by the total number of outstanding shares of the Fund, generally rounded to the nearest cent. NAV will be available from the Distributor and is also available to National Securities Clearing Corporation ("NSCC") participants through data made available from NSCC.

The Trust's registration statement describes the various fees and expenses for the Fund's Shares. For a more complete description of the Fund and the Underlying Index, visit the Fund's <u>website</u>.

## **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the Fund's <u>Prospectus</u> for a description of risks associated with an investment in the Fund. These risks include Asset Class Risk; Call Risk; Concentration Risk; Credit Risk; GNMA Mortgage-Backed Securities Risk; High Portfolio Turnover Risk; Income Risk; Interest Rate Risk; Issuer Risk; Liquidity Risk; Management Risk; Market Risk; Market Trading Risk; Risk of Secondary Listings; Secondary Market Trading Risk; Non-Diversification Risk; Passive Investment Risk; Securities Lending Risk; and Tracking Error Risk. In addition, as noted in the Fund's Prospectus, the Shares may trade at market prices that may differ from their NAV. The NAV of the Shares will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Fund holdings. The market prices of the Shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV as well as the supply and demand for the Shares.

## **Exchange Rules Applicable to Trading in the Shares**

The Shares are considered equity securities, thus rendering trading in the Shares subject to the Exchange's existing rules governing the trading of equity securities.

## **Trading Hours**

Trading in the Shares on EDGA and EDGX Exchanges (the "Exchanges") is on a UTP basis and is subject to the Exchanges equity trading rules. The Shares will trade from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Members trading the Shares during the Extended Market Sessions (Preopening and Post-closing sessions) are exposed to the risk of the lack of the calculation or dissemination of underlying index value or intraday indicative value ("IIV"). For certain derivative securities products, an updated underlying index value or IIV may not be calculated or publicly disseminated in the Extended Market hours. Since the underlying index value and IIV are not calculated or widely disseminated during Extended Market hours, an investor who is unable to calculate implied values for certain derivative securities products during Extended Market hours may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

## **Trading Halts**

The Exchanges will halt trading in the Shares in accordance with Exchange Rules 14.1(c)(4). The grounds for a halt under this Rule include a halt by the primary market because it stops trading the Shares and/or a halt because dissemination of the IIV or applicable currency spot price has ceased, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, the Exchanges will stop trading the Shares if the primary market de-lists the Shares.

## **Suitability**

Trading in the Shares on the Exchanges will be subject to the provisions of EDGA and EDGX Exchange Rules 3.7. Members recommending transactions in the Shares to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer. In addition, Members must possess sufficient information to satisfy the "know your customer" obligation that is embedded in Exchange Rules 3.7.

Members also should review FINRA Notice to Members 03-71 for guidance on trading these products. The Notice reminds Members of their obligations to: (1) conduct adequate due diligence to understand the features of the product; (2) perform a reasonable-basis suitability analysis; (3) perform customer-specific suitability analysis in connection with any recommended transactions; (4) provide a balanced disclosure of both the risks and rewards associated with the particular product, especially when selling to retail investors; (5) implement appropriate internal controls; and (6) train registered persons regarding the features, risk and suitability of these products.

## **Delivery of a Prospectus**

Pursuant to federal securities laws, investors purchasing Shares must receive a prospectus prior to or concurrently with the confirmation of a transaction. Investors purchasing Shares directly from the Fund (by delivery of the Deposit Amount) must also receive a prospectus.

Prospectuses may be obtained through the Distributor or on the Fund's <u>website</u>. The Prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement (including the exhibits to the registration statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about the Fund, please refer to the Trust's registration statement.

## **Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations**

The Commission has issued letters dated October 24, 3006 and November 21, 2005 (together, the No-Action Letters") granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of and rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for exchange-traded funds listed and traded on a registered national securities exchange that meet certain criteria. Members should refer to the No-Action Letters available at <a href="www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a> for additional information.

## **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, Rules 101 and 102 of Regulation M prohibit any "distribution participant" and its "affiliated purchasers" from bidding for, purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase any security which is the subject of a distribution until after the applicable restricted period, except as specifically permitted in Regulation M. The provisions of the Rules apply to underwriters, prospective underwriters, brokers, dealers, and other persons who have agreed to participate or are participating in a distribution of securities.

In the Staff's April 9, 2007 No-Action Letter, the Staff confirmed that Fixed Income ETFs meeting the requirements set forth in such No-Action Letter will be excepted under paragraph (c)(4) of Rule 101 of Regulation M, which provides an exception for redeemable securities issued by an open-end management investment company, thus permitting persons who may be deemed to be participating in a distribution of Shares to bid for or purchase Shares during their participation in such distribution.

The Staff also confirmed the interpretation of Rule 101 of Regulation M that the redemption of Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares and the receipt of Component Securities in exchange therefor by a participant in a distribution of Shares would not constitute an "attempt to induce any person to bid for or purchase a covered security, during the applicable restricted period" within the meaning of Regulation M, and therefore would not violate Regulation M.

In the Staff's April 9, 2007 No-Action Letter, the Staff also confirmed that Fixed Income ETFs are excepted under paragraph (d)(4) of Rule 102 of Regulation M, thus permitting Fixed Income ETFs to redeem Shares during the continuous offering of the Shares where the Fixed Income ETF meets conditions set forth in such No-Action Letter.

#### **Rule 10b-17**

The Commission has granted an exemption from the requirements of Rule 10b-17 with respect to transactions in ETF shares, for ETFs registered as open-end management investment companies.

## **SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6**

The Commission has issued a No-Action letter with respect to Rule 15c1-5 and Rule 15c1-6 as to the required disclosure of control by a broker or dealer with respect to creations and redemptions of fund shares and secondary market transactions therein.

This Regulatory Information Circular is not a statutory Prospectus. Members should consult the Trust's <u>Registration Statement</u>, SAI, <u>Prospectus</u> and the Fund's <u>website</u> for relevant information.

# Appendix A

Ticker	Fund Name	CUSIP
GNMA	iShares® Barclays GNMA Bond Fund	46429B333