

Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. Information Circular 20-086 Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc. Information Circular 20-086 Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc. Information Circular 20-086 Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. Information Circular 20-086

**Date:** July 14, 2020

**Re:** American Century ETF Trust

Pursuant to the Rules of Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc., Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc., Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc. and Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. (together referred to hereafter as the "Exchanges"), this Information Circular is being issued to advise you that the following securities have been approved for trading pursuant to unlisted trading privileges ("UTP") on the Exchanges as UTP Derivative Securities pursuant to Chapter XIV of the Exchanges' Rules.

Securities (the "Funds")	<u>Symbol</u>
American Century Mid Cap Growth Impact ETF	MID
American Century Sustainable Equity ETF	ESGA

**Commencement of Trading on the Exchanges:** July 15, 2020

Issuer/Trust: American Century ETF Trust

**Issuer/Trust Website:** https://www.americancentury.com/content/direct/en.html

**Primary Listing Exchange:** NYSE Arca

Compliance and supervisory personnel should note that, among other things, this Information Circular discusses the need to deliver a prospectus to customers purchasing shares of the Funds ("Shares") issued by American Century ETF Trust ("Trust"). Please forward this Information Circular to other interested persons within your organization.

The purpose of this information circular is to outline various rules and policies that will be applicable to trading in these new products pursuant to the Exchanges' unlisted trading privileges, as well as to provide certain characteristics and features of the Shares. For a more complete description of the Issuer, the Shares and the underlying market instruments or indexes, visit the Issuer Website, consult the Prospectus available on the Issuer Website or examine the Issuer Registration Statement or review the most current information bulletin issued by the Primary Listing Exchange. The Issuer Website, the Prospectus and the Issuer Registration Statement are hereafter collectively referred to as the "Issuer Disclosure Materials."



# **Background Information on the Securities**

American Century Mid Cap Growth Impact ETF (MID): The fund seeks long-term capital growth.

The portfolio managers look for stocks of medium capitalization companies they believe will increase in value over time, using proprietary fundamental research. The initial research process begins by analyzing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to identify companies that generate, or could generate, social and environmental impact alongside a financial return. SDGs are a collection of global goals set by the United Nations General Assembly—examples include: affordable and clean energy; decent work and economic growth; industry, innovation, and infrastructure; and responsible consumption and production. The portfolio managers make their investment decisions based primarily on their analysis of individual companies, rather than on broad economic forecasts. They generate an impact thesis to explain current or projected SDG alignment in combination with each security's fundamental growth profile.

The portfolio managers may use commercial third party mapping tools, frameworks provided by sustainable investing platforms, or internal research, which may include engaging with a company's leadership, to create each security's SDG impact thesis. To decide whether a security aligns with an SDG, the portfolio managers place the most emphasis on the impact created by the product or service its issuing company produces. This helps the portfolio managers to avoid impact washing—investing in a company that is not truly advancing any of the SDGs, but is attempting to present itself as though it is (i.e. a company with a poor environmental track record touting that it will convert all of its delivery vehicles to clean burning natural gas, or a company with documented human rights abuses publicizing the diversity of its board of directors). While some securities in the fund's portfolio may align with more than one SDG, to be eligible for selection by the portfolio managers, it is only necessary that a security aligns with one SDG. The fund does not prioritize any SDG over another, and so long as each security maps to at least one SDG, there is no minimum number of SDGs that must be represented in the portfolio.

When evaluating a security's potential for financial return, portfolio managers seek companies with attractive returns on invested capital that are demonstrating or expected to demonstrate long-term business improvement. Analytical indicators helping to identify or forecast signs of business improvement could include accelerating earnings or revenue growth rates, increasing cash flows, or other indications of the relative strength of a company's business. This analysis supports the portfolio managers' decisions to buy or hold the stocks of companies that meet their selection criteria and sell the stocks of companies whose characteristics no longer meet their criteria.

The fund will invest principally in exchange-traded common stocks. Under normal market conditions, the portfolio managers will invest at least 80% of the fund's assets in securities of medium capitalization companies that the portfolio managers believe will create impact by aligning with at least one of the SDGs, as described above. The portfolio managers consider medium capitalization



companies to include those whose market capitalizations at the time of purchase are within the total capitalization range of the Russell Mid-Cap Growth Index. Though market capitalizations will change from time to time, as of April 30, 2020, the fund considers companies with market capitalizations between \$562 million–\$69 billion to be medium capitalization companies. The fund may purchase securities of small and large capitalization companies as well. The fund is nondiversified and normally invests in a relatively limited number of companies, generally 20–40 securities.

The fund may engage in active and frequent trading of portfolio securities to achieve its principal investment strategies. This may cause higher transaction costs and may affect performance. It may also result in the realization and distribution of capital gains.

The fund is an actively managed, nontransparent exchange-traded fund (ETF) that does not seek to replicate the performance of a specified index. In lieu of publishing its portfolio contents (Actual Portfolio) daily, the fund publishes a proxy portfolio (Proxy Portfolio) each day and on its website. There is no minimum overlap required between the Actual Portfolio and the Proxy Portfolio.

American Century Sustainable Equity ETF (ESGA): The fund seeks long-term capital growth.

The fund will generally invest in large capitalization companies it believes show sustainable business improvement using a proprietary multi-factor model that combines fundamental measures of a stock's value and growth potential with environmental, social, and governance (ESG) metrics. The model assigns each security a financial metrics score and an ESG score that are combined to create an overall score.

To measure value, the portfolio managers may use ratios of stock price-to-earnings and stock priceto-cash flow. To measure growth, the managers may use the rate of growth of a company's earnings and cash flow and changes in its earnings estimates. The model also considers price momentum. The team arrives at an ESG score by evaluating multiple metrics of each ESG characteristic environmental, social, and governance. The portfolio managers utilize internal data and research, as well as third party commercial data sources and scoring systems, to evaluate each security's ESG characteristics. For example, portfolio managers will consider, among others, a company's carbon emission profile (environmental), a company's employee turnover rates and digital privacy (social), and a company's corporate leadership, including board chair independence and the independence of audit and compensation committees (governance). If information on a specific metric is unavailable, the security may still be selected for the portfolio if the portfolio managers believe they can evaluate the security qualitatively, or if the financial metrics and remaining ESG scores merit investment. Final scores for each security are evaluated on a sector-specific basis, and the fund seeks to hold securities with the strongest scores in their respective sectors. Using this process, the portfolio managers attempt to build a portfolio of stocks that has sustainable competitive advantages, provides better returns without taking on significant additional risk, and maintains a stronger ESG profile than the S&P 500° Index.



Under normal market conditions, the fund will invest at least 80% of its assets in sustainable equity securities. For this purpose, the advisor defines sustainable securities as those to which the advisor's proprietary model assigns an ESG score that is in the top three quartiles of the ESG scores the model assigns to all of the securities in the fund's benchmark, the S&P 500° Index. The fund will invest principally in exchange-traded common stocks. The fund defines large capitalization companies as companies with capitalizations in the capitalization range of the S&P 500° Index.

When determining whether to sell a security, the portfolio managers consider among other things, a security's price, whether a security's risk parameters outweigh its return opportunities, general market conditions, and whether the security meets their ESG criteria.

The fund is not permitted to invest in securities issued by companies assigned the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) or the Bloomberg Industry Classification Standard (BICS) for the tobacco industry.

The fund is an actively managed, nontransparent exchange-traded fund (ETF) that does not seek to replicate the performance of a specified index. In lieu of publishing its portfolio contents (Actual Portfolio) daily, the fund publishes a proxy portfolio (Proxy Portfolio) each day and on its website. There is no minimum overlap required between the Actual Portfolio and the Proxy Portfolio.

For more information regarding each Fund's investment strategy, please read the Trust's prospectus for the Funds.

As described more fully in the Issuer's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, each Fund will issue and redeem Shares on a continuous basis at their net asset value ("NAV") only in large blocks of 50,000. Each Fund will issue or redeem shares that have been aggregated into blocks of shares and or multiples thereof ("Creation Units") to authorized participants who have entered into agreements with the Funds' distributor. The Funds generally will issue or redeem Creation Units in return for a designated portfolio of securities (and an amount of cash) that the Funds specify each day.

Shares are held in book-entry form, which means that no share certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding Shares and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

The NAV per Share for each Fund is computed 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 Shares outstanding. Expenses and fees are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining NAV. The NAV of each Fund is determined each business day after the close of trading (ordinarily 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time or "ET") of the New York Stock Exchange. Any assets or liabilities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are converted into U.S. dollars at the current market rates on the date of valuation as quoted by one or more sources.



The registration statement for the Funds describes the various fees and expenses for the Funds' Shares. For a more complete description of the Funds, visit the Issuer Website.

## **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the Funds' Registration Statement for a description of risks associated with an investment in each Fund. These may include, but are not limited to, equity investing risk, asset class risk, concentration risk, industry/sector risk, issuer risk, liquidity risk, index risk, market risk, asset class risk, interest rate risk, tax risk and valuation risk.

In addition, the market prices of the Shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV as well as the supply and demand for the Shares. As a result, the Shares may trade at market prices that may differ from their NAV. The NAV of the Shares of each Fund will fluctuate with changes in the market value of such Fund's holdings.

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

Trading in the Shares on the Exchanges is subject to the Exchanges' equity trading rules.

## **Trading Hours**

The Shares will trade on the Exchanges between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. ET. Please note that trading in the Shares during the Exchanges' Pre-Opening and After Hours/Post-Closing Trading Sessions ("Extended Market Sessions") may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) that the current underlying indicative value may not be updated during the Extended Market Sessions, (2) lower liquidity in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (3) higher volatility in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (4) wider spreads may occur in the Extended Markets Sessions, and (5) because the indicative value is not calculated or widely disseminated during the Extended Market Sessions, an investor who is unable to calculate an implied value for the Shares in those sessions may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

### **Dissemination of Data**

The Consolidated Tape Association will disseminate real time trade and quote information for the Shares to Tape B.

Name	Trading Symbol	NAV Symbol
American Century Mid Cap Growth Impact ETF	MID	MID.NV



American Century Sustainable Equity ETF	ESGA	ESGA.NV

## **Delivery of a Prospectus**

Exchange Members should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Fund. Prospectuses may be obtained through the Fund's website. The Prospectus for the Fund does not contain all of the information set forth in the Funds 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 its Registration Statement.

In the event that the Fund relies upon an order by the SEC exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act and in the future make available a written product description, Exchange Rules require that Exchange Members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Issuer of the Fund, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, Exchange Members shall include such a written description with any sales material relating to the Shares that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by an Exchange member to customers or the public making specific reference to the Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [the UTP Derivative Securities] has been prepared by the [open-ended management investment company name] and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [the UTP Derivative Securities]."

An Exchange member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to such Exchange member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, Exchange Members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

#### **Suitability**

Trading in the securities on the Exchanges will be subject to the provisions of Exchange Rule 3.7. Members recommending transactions in the securities to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer.



# **Trading Halts**

The Exchanges will halt trading in the Shares of a security in accordance with Exchange Rules. The grounds for a halt include a halt because the intraday indicative value of the security and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, a halt for other regulatory reasons or due to other conditions or circumstances deemed to be detrimental to the maintenance of a free and orderly market.

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

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") has issued letters granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for exchange-traded securities listed and traded on a registered national securities exchange that meet certain criteria.

AS WHAT FOLLOWS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE RELIEF OUTLINED IN THE NO-ACTION LETTERS REFERENCED ABOVE, THE EXCHANGE ADVISES INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONSULT THE NO-ACTION LETTERS FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MATTERS COVERED THEREIN AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RELIEF GRANTED IN RESPECT OF TRADING IN SECURITIES. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD ALSO CONSULT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS.

### Section 11(d)(1); Rules 11d1-1 and 11d1-2

Section 11(d)(1) of the Act generally prohibits a person who is both a broker and a dealer from effecting any transaction in which the broker-dealer extends credit to a customer on any security which was part of a new issue in the distribution of which he participated as a member of a selling syndicate or group within thirty days prior to such transaction. The SEC has clarified that Section 11(d)(1) does not apply to broker-dealers that are not Authorized Participants (and, therefore, do not create Creation Unit Aggregations) that engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in Shares of a Fund in the secondary market, and for broker-dealer Authorized Participants that engage in creations of Creation Unit Aggregations. This relief is subject to specific conditions, including the condition that such broker-dealer (whether or not an Authorized Participant) does not, directly or indirectly, receive from the Fund complex any payment, compensation or other economic incentive to promote or sell the Shares of a Fund to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830(I)(5)(A), (B) or (C). (See letter from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.) The SEC also has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) of the Act that broker-dealers may treat Shares of a Fund, for purposes of Rule 11d1-2, as "securities issued by a registered open-end investment company as defined in the Investment Company Act" and thereby extend credit or maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days, in reliance on the exemption contained in the rule.



#### **Rule 14e-5**

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of the Fund (1) to redeem Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations from the issuer that may include a security subject to such tender offer and (2) to purchase Fund Shares during such tender offer. In addition, a no-action position has been taken under Rule 14e-5 if a broker-dealer acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a security of the Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares, if made in conformance with the following:

- such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchase; or
- 2) purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
- 3) such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. Members should consult the Prospectus for a security and the security's website for relevant information.

Please contact Listings Services at 913.815.7024 with any inquiries regarding this Information Circular.