

## QUARTERLY FUND REVIEW | As of December 31, 2023

# **MTBA** | Simplify MBS ETF

### **FUND OVERVIEW**

**The Simplify MBS ETF (MTBA)** seeks to provide total return, consistent with the preservation of capital and prudent investment management. The fund will invest in mortgage-backed securities (MBS), which provide attractive yields versus comparable US Treasuries while carrying little to no credit risk.

MTBA will focus on buying newer MBS, which have provided higher coupons as well as higher yield to maturity compared to the MBS which comprise the Bloomberg U.S. MBS Index.

### PERFORMANCE REVIEW

MTBA's total return, from inception on 11/7/2023 to the quarter end, was 3.67%, trailing the Bloomberg U.S. MBS index return of 7.13% by 3.46%. During the period from the fund's inception to the quarter end, mortgage rates declined sharply with the 30-year Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA) 30-day commitment rate decreasing by 0.95%. The fund's lagging performance is largely attributable to the benchmark's higher sensitivity to movements in rates. In particular, MTBA is exposed to the current production of at-the-money mortgages while the benchmark includes the entire set of outstanding conforming U.S. mortgages.

Currently, outstanding mortgages include a high proportion of mortgages issued at very low rates. In the current rate environment, these low-rate mortgages display very little prepayment response to changes in rates. As such, they behave more like risk-free bonds than current production mortgages which have a much more valuable and rate-sensitive prepayment option. During a large rate move, this prepayment option will result in current production mortgages displaying much greater negative convexity and lower effective duration. Attribution of performance within the fund can be broken out as follows: roughly 2.95% can be attributed to appreciation in the fund's To-Be-Announced (TBA) futures position and 0.72% to its holdings of treasuries and cash, net of fees.

	CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN				ANNUALIZED TOTAL RETURN	
	3 Mo	6 Mo	YTD	Since Inception	1 Year	Since Inception
NAV	_	—	—	3.67%		
Market Price	_	_	_	3.63%	_	
Bloomberg U.S. MBS Index	_	_	_	7.13%	_	_

## Performance as of 12/31/23 | Inception Date: 11/06/23

The performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. In addition, investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. For performance data current to the most recent month-end, please call (855) 772-8488 or go to https://www.simplify.us/etfs.

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## FUND DETAILS as of 12/31/23

#### **CURRENT HOLDINGS\***

POSITION	ALLOCATION
B 04/02/24 Govt	93.85%
FNCL 5 1/24 Mtge	54.86%
FNCL 6 1/24 Mtge	36.85%
FNCL 5.5 1/24 Mtge	5.30%
Cash	6.15%

Gross Expense Ratio	0.25%
Net Expense Ratio**	0.15%
SEC 30-Day Yield	4.90%
SEC 30-Day Yield Unsubsidized	4.80%

\*\*The Fund's adviser has contractually agreed, through at least October 31, 2024, to waive its management fees to 0.15% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

\*Holdings are subject to change without notice.

## DEFINITIONS

**Coupon:** The annual interest rate paid on a bond, expressed as a percentage of the face value and paid from the issue date until maturity.

**Duration:** A measure of the sensitivity of the price of a bond or other debt instrument to a change in interest rates.

**Market Price:** The current price at which shares are bought and sold. Market returns are based upon the last trade price.

**Moneyness:** Describes the intrinsic value of an option's premium in the market. A contract is either "in the money", "out of the money", or "at the money". A call option is said to be "in the money" when the future contract price is above the strike price. A call option is "out of the money" when the future contract price is below the strike price.

**Mortgage-Backed Securities (MBS):** Investment products similar to bonds. Each MBS consists of a bundle of home loans and other real estate debt bought from the banks that issued them. Investors in mortgagebacked securities receive periodic payments similar to bond coupon payments. **NAV:** The dollar value of a single share, based on the value of the underlying assets of the fund minus its liabilities, divided by the number of shares outstanding. Calculated at the end of each business day.

**SEC 30-Day Yield:** The yield is calculated with a standardized formula and represents net investment income earned by a fund over a 30-day period, expressed as an annual percentage rate based on the fund's share price. The yield includes the effect of any fee waivers and/or reimbursements. Without waivers, yields would be reduced. This is also referred to as the "standardized yield", "30-Day Yield" and "Current Yield". The unsubsidized SEC 30-Day Yield does not reflect the effect of any fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements.

**To-Be-Announced (TBA):** A term that describes the forward-settling of mortgage-backed securities (MBS) trades.



#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) before investing. To obtain an ETF's prospectus containing this and other important information, please call (855) 772-8488, or visit SimplifyETFs.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

#### An investment in the fund involves risk, including possible loss of principal.

The fund is actively-managed is subject to the risk that the strategy may not produce the intended results. The fund is new and has

a limited operating history to evaluate.

The use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. These risks include (i) the risk that the counterparty to a derivative transaction may not fulfill its contractual obligations; (ii) risk of mispricing or improper valuation; and (iii) the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate, or index. Derivative prices are highly volatile and may fluctuate substantially during a short period of time. The use of leverage by the Fund, such as borrowing money to purchase securities or the use of options, will cause the Fund to incur additional expenses and magnify the Fund's gains or losses. The earnings and prospects of small and medium sized companies are more volatile than larger companies and may experience higher failure rates than larger companies. Small and medium sized companies normally have a lower trading volume than larger companies, which may tend to make their market price fall more disproportionately than larger companies in response to selling pressures and may have limited markets, product lines, or financial resources and lack management experience.

The Fund invests in ETFs (Exchange-Traded Funds) and is therefore subject to the same risks as the underlying securities in which the ETF invests as well as entails higher expenses than if invested into the underlying ETF directly.

While the option overlay is intended to improve the Fund's performance, there is no guarantee that it will do so. Utilizing an option overlay strategy involves the risk that as the buyer of a put or call option, the Fund risks losing the entire premium invested in the option if the Fund does not exercise the option. Also, securities and options traded in over-the-counter markets may trade less frequently and in limited volumes and thus exhibit more volatility and liquidity risk.

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