# Franklin U.S. Government Ladder 1-10 Year SMA



Separately Managed Accounts | Fact Sheet as of September 30, 2025

#### Investment overview

The Franklin Fixed Income team manages portfolios composed of laddered U.S. government securities. We seek to provide current income with principal stability. At least every other year in the ladder will have a bond position with a corresponding maturity in that year for the complete maturity range of the strategy

# Investment objective

#### Seeks:

- Current income consistent with preservation of capital.
- Active management with a goal towards security selection

# **Investment principles:**

## Seeking to deliver consistent, maximum risk-adjusted performance for clients.

We believe marrying quantitative science with fundamentals-based active management provides us the insights and competitive edge to navigate challenging investment environments, generate consistent alpha, and serve our clients better.

- **Bridge:** Multi-disciplinary collaboration (economists, portfolio managers, fundamental analysts, quant analysts, traders) results in a systematic process that integrates and synthesizes data in a manner that translates and communicates information in a consistent manner.
- Complement: Quantitative analysis serves as the starting point for discussion and debate, not the end
  point, and provides breadth while fundamental analysis provides depth. Quantitative approaches can
  identify patterns in enormous amounts of data and cover the entire investable universe while active
  fundamental analysis provides a deep understanding of the complexity individual issuers and securities.
- Guide: Embedded quantitative processes makes results more consistent, reproduceable, and amenable
  to analysis and improvement.

## **Mechanics of Laddered Portfolio**

As bonds on each rung of the ladder mature, the principal plus interest (if desired) are typically reinvested into longer-dated, higher-yielding securities:



# Investment management team

Thomas Runkel, CFA Portfolio Manager Industry since 1983

Jacob K. Chu Portfolio Manager Industry since 1996

# **Investment process**

STEP 1

#### **Identify ladder structure**

Current holdings are reviewed, and a comprehensive analysis is provided of how they would be transitioned into a Franklin Laddered Portfolio. For new accounts incepting with cash, we will construct a portfolio, equally weighted across the rungs of the chosen ladder with different issuers. The ladder rungs are determined by the account size at either 1- or 2-year rungs.



# Uncover attractive yield opportunities

We source opportunities in both the primary and secondary markets. Our presence as a leader in the space allows for institutional access to primary market supply as well as institutional-level execution when both buying and selling.



# Build a high-quality portfolio

The team implements the investment strategy using a disciplined conservative approach, focusing on high-quality U.S. Treasury and U.S. Agency securities.



# Ongoing Portfolio and credit monitoring

We regularly monitor each client's portfolio as well as the bond market to help ensure the portfolio continues to be appropriately positioned. A member of the team is available to review account holdings and performance upon request.

The investment process may change over time. The characteristics set forth above are intended as a general illustration of some of the criteria the strategy team considers in selecting securities for client portfolios. There is no quarantee that investment objectives will be achieved.

### Portfolio Information<sup>‡</sup>

As of September 30, 2025

#### **Characteristics**

	Portfolio
Effective Duration	4.40 Years
Average Weighted Maturity	4.98 Years
Yield to Maturity	3.83%
Yield to Worst	3.83%
Weighted Average Coupon	2.60%
Weighted Average Price	96.58

## Sector Weightings (%)

	Portfolio
U.S. Treasury	95.42
U.S. Government Agency	3.25
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1.33

## Credit Quality (%)

	Portfolio
AA	98.67
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1.33

#### Average Maturity (%)

Portfolio
24.02
15.42
19.38
20.05
21.14

<sup>‡</sup> Source: Franklin Templeton. Portfolio characteristics and sector weightings are based on representative accounts within the composite. Portfolio characteristics and sector weightings of individual client portfolios in the program may differ, sometimes significantly, from those shown above. Assumes no client-imposed restrictions. This information does not constitute, and should not be construed as, investment advice or recommendations with respect to the sectors listed and should not be used as a sole basis to make any investment decisions. Yield figures quoted should not be used as an indication of the income that has or will be received. Yield figures are based on the portfolio's underlying holdings and do not represent a payout of the portfolio. Past performance is not an indicator or a guarantee of future performance.

Credit quality is a measure of a bond issuer's ability to repay interest and principal in a timely manner. The credit ratings shown are assigned by one or more Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations ('NRSRO'), such as Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch. The ratings are an indication of an issuer's creditworthiness and typically range from AAA or Aaa (highest) to D (lowest). For non-municipal portfolios, when ratings from all three agencies are available, the middle rating is used; when two are available, the lowest rating is used; and when only one is available, that rating is used. For municipal portfolios, when ratings from multiple agencies are available, the highest is used, consistent with the portfolio investment process. Foreign government bonds without a specific rating are assigned the country rating provided by an NRSRO, if available. The Refunded category consists of refunded bonds secured by U.S. government or other high-quality securities. The Not Rated category consists of ratable securities that have not been rated by an NRSRO. The For non-municipal portfolios, Not Applicable category consists of non-ratable securities that only have a short-term rating and are not cash equivalents. Where cash is included in the breakdown, it includes equivalents, which may be rated.

#### **Performance**

# Annualized Rates of Return – Pure Gross and Net of Fees (%) as of September 30, 2025 – PRELIMINARY – (Inception Date: 06/30/2020)

							Since
	YTD*	1 Mth*	3 Mths*	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Incept
Franklin U.S. Government Ladder 1-10 Year SMA-Pure Gross of Fees—(USD)	5.57	0.34	1.37	3.45	4.39	0.20	0.24
Franklin U.S. Government Ladder 1-10 Year SMA-Net of Fees—(USD)	4.40	0.22	0.99	1.93	2.85	-1.28	-1.25
Bloomberg U.S. Intermediate Treasury Index—(USD)	5.29	0.29	1.26	3.50	4.34	0.34	0.36

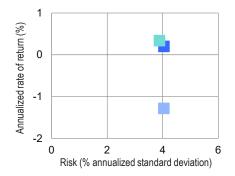
## Calendar-Year Total Returns - Pure Gross and Net of Fees (%) ending December 31

	YID	2024	2023	2022	2021
Franklin US Govt Ladder 1-10 Yr-Pure Gross of Fees—(USD)	5.57	2.02	4.41	-7.91	-2.09
Franklin US Govt Ladder 1-10 Yr-Net of Fees—(USD)	4.40	0.51	2.87	-9.28	-3.54
Bloomberg Interm Treas Index—(USD)	5.29	2.42	4.28	-7.77	-1.72

The strategy returns shown are preliminary composite returns, subject to future revision (downward or upward). Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. An investment in this strategy can lose value. Please visit www.franklintempleton.com for the latest performance figures. Investors cannot invest directly in an index, and unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses or sales charges.

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# Performance Statistics 1 Preliminary (based on 5-year period ending September 30, 2025) Risk/Return profile (%)



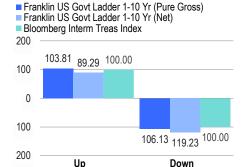


## Growth of \$100,000\*



Franklin US Govt Ladder 1-10 Yr (Net) Bloomberg Interm Treas Index

## Up/Down market capture ratios (%)



## Modern portfolio statistics

	Portfolio (Pure gross)	Portfolio (Net)	ВМ
Sharpe Ratio	-0.69	-1.06	-0.68
Beta	1.04	1.04	N/A
Alpha (%)	-0.04	-1.51	N/A
R-Squared	0.99	0.99	N/A

	(+) Months	(-) Months
Pure Gross:	31	29
Net:	31	29

Performance results are for the composite which includes all actual, fully discretionary accounts with substantially similar investment policies and objectives managed to the composite's investment strategy. Composite returns are stated in U.S. dollars and assume reinvestment of any dividends, interest income, capital gains, or other earnings. The composite may include account(s) that are gross of fees and pure gross of fees. "Pure" gross-of-fee returns do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including transaction costs. A traditional (or "true") gross-of-fee return reflects performance after the reduction of transaction costs but before the reduction of the investment advisory fee. The gross-of-fee return may include a blend of "true" gross-of-fee returns for non-wrap accounts and "pure" gross-of-fee returns for wrap accounts. Net-of-fee returns is reduced by a model "wrap fee" (1.5% is the maximum anticipated wrap fee for fixed income portfolios) which includes trading expenses as well as investment management, administrative and custodial fees. The model wrap fee used represents the highest anticipated wrap fee applicable to the strategy. Actual fees and account minimums may vary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Fees: Periods less than one year are not annualized. Performance results are for the composite which includes all actual, fully discretionary accounts with substantially similar investment policies and objectives managed to the composite's investment strategy. Composite returns are stated in U.S. dollars and assume reinvestment of any dividends, interest income, capital gains, or other earnings. The composite may include account(s) that are gross of fees and pure gross of fees. "Pure" gross-of-fee returns do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including transaction costs. A traditional (or "true") gross-of-fee return reflects performance after the reduction of transaction costs but before the reduction of the investment advisory fee. The gross-of-fee return may include a blend of "true") gross-of-fee returns for non-wrap accounts and "pure" gross-of-fee returns for wrap accounts. Net-of-fee returns is reduced by a model "wrap fee" (1.5% is the maximum anticipated wrap fee for equity and balanced portfolios) which includes trading expenses as well as investment management, administrative and custodial fees. The model wrap fee used represents the highest anticipated wrap fee applicable to the strategy. Actual fees and account minimums may vary.

Source: Franklin Templeton.

<sup>\*</sup>For illustrative purposes only. Assumes no withdrawals or contributions. These statistics are based on pure gross and net-of-fees quarterly composite returns, were calculated assuming reinvestment of dividends and income, and take into account both realized and unrealized capital gains and losses.

## Terms and definitions:

Weighted Average Life: An estimate of the number of years to maturity, taking the possibility of early payments into account, for the underlying holdings.

**Effective Duration** is a duration calculation for bonds with embedded options. Effective duration takes into account that expected cash flows will fluctuate as interest rates change.

**Duration** measures the sensitivity of price (the value of principal) of a fixed-income investment to a change in interest rates. The higher the duration number, the more sensitive a fixed-income investment will be to interest rate changes.

Yield to worst (YTW) is based on a portfolio's current holdings on one specific day, is gross of all portfolio expenses, and is calculated based on assumptions that prepayment occurs if the bond has called or put provisions and the issuer can offer a lower coupon rate based on current market rates. If market rates are higher than the current yield of a bond, the YTW calculation will assume no prepayments are made, and YTW will equal the yield to maturity. The YTW will be the lowest of yield to maturity or yield to call (if the bond has prepayment provisions). The YTW of a bond portfolio is the market-weighted average of the YTWs of all the bonds in the portfolio.

**Standard deviation** measures the risk or volatility of an investment's return over a particular time period; the greater the number, the greater the risk.

The **up-capture ratio** measures the manager's overall performance to the benchmark's overall performance, considering only quarters that are positive in the benchmark. An upcapture ratio of more than 100 indicates a manager who outperforms the relative benchmark in the benchmark's positive quarters.

The **down-capture ratio** is the ratio of the manager's overall performance to the benchmark's overall performance, considering only quarters that are negative in the benchmark. A down-capture ratio of less than 100 indicates a manager who outperforms the relative benchmark in the benchmark's negative quarters and protects more of a portfolio's value during down markets.

**Alpha** is a measure of performance vs. a benchmark on a risk-adjusted basis. A positive alpha of 1.0 means the portfolio has outperformed its benchmark index by 1%. Correspondingly, a similar negative alpha would indicate an underperformance of 1%. Alpha is a measure of the difference between actual returns and expected performance measuring sensitivity to index movements.

**Beta** measures the sensitivity of an investment to the movement of its benchmark. A beta higher than 1.0 indicates the investment has been more volatile than the benchmark and a beta of less than 1.0 indicates that the investment has been less volatile than the benchmark.

**Sharpe ratio** is a risk-adjusted measure, calculated using standard deviation and excess return to determine reward per unit of risk. The higher the Sharpe ratio, the better a portfolio's historical risk-adjusted performance.

**R-squared** measures the strength of the linear relationship between a fund and its benchmark. R-squared at 1.00 implies perfect linear relationship and zero implies no relationship exists.

The **Bloomberg U.S. Intermediate Treasury Index** measures the performance of the U.S. Treasury debentures with maturities of 1-10 years. Source: Bloomberg Indices.

## What are the risks?

All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. To the extent the portfolio invests in a concentration of certain securities, regions or industries, it is subject to increased volatility. Fixed income securities involve interest rate, credit, inflation and reinvestment risks, and possible loss of principal. As interest rates rise, the value of fixed income securities falls. Liquidity risk exists when securities or other investments become more difficult to sell, or are unable to be sold, at the price at which they have been valued. Active management does not ensure gains or protect against market declines. The portfolio is non-diversified and may invest in a relatively small number of issuers, which may negatively impact the performance and result in greater fluctuation in value. The manager may consider environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria in the research or investment process; however, ESG considerations may not be a determinative factor in security selection. In addition, the manager may not assess every investment for ESG criteria, and not every ESG factor may be identified or evaluated.

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