

A unit of AllianceBernstein L.P.

# Sanford C. Bernstein Fund, Inc. U.S. Government Short Duration Portfolio

Ticker: U.S. Government Short Duration Class-SNGSX

Before you invest, you may want to review the Portfolio's Prospectus, which contains more information about the Portfolio and its risks. The Portfolio's Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, both dated January 31, 2013 and as may be amended or further supplemented, are incorporated by reference into this Summary Prospectus. For free paper or electronic copies of the Portfolio's Prospectus and other information about the Portfolio, go to <u>http://www.alliancebernstein.com/links/pcmf</u>, email a request to prorequest@alliancebernstein.com, or call (collect) (212) 486-5800.

#### PRO-0119-USGSD-0113

## **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE:**

The Portfolio's investment objective is to provide safety of principal and a moderate rate of income that is generally exempt from state and local taxes.

### FEES AND EXPENSES OF THE PORTFOLIO:

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Portfolio.

Shareholder Fees (fees paid directly from your investment)

	U.S. Government Short Duration Class
Maximum Sales Charge (Load) Imposed on Purchases (as a percentage of offering price)	None
Maximum Deferred Sales Charge (Load) (as a percentage of offering price or redemption proceeds, whichever is lower)	None
Redemption Fee (as a percentage of amount redeemed)	None
Exchange Fee	None
Maximum Account Fee	None

Annual Portfolio Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	U.S. Government Short Duration Class
Management Fees	0.45%
Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees	None
Other Expenses: Shareholder Servicing Transfer Agent Other Expenses	0.10% 0.02% 0.11%
Total Other Expenses	0.23%
Total Portfolio Operating Expenses	0.68%

#### Examples

The Examples are intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Portfolio with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Examples assume that you invest \$10,000 in the Portfolio for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Examples also assume that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Portfolio's operating expenses stay the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs as reflected in the Examples would be:

	U.S. Government Short Duration Class
After 1 Year	\$ 69
After 3 Years	\$218
After 5 Years	\$379
After 10 Years	\$847

## **Portfolio Turnover**

The Portfolio pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys or sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when shares are held in a taxable account.

These transaction costs, which are not reflected in the Annual Portfolio Operating Expenses or in the Examples, affect the Portfolio's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Portfolio's portfolio turnover rate was 95% of the average value of its portfolio.

## **PRINCIPAL STRATEGIES:**

The Portfolio invests, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets in U.S. Government and agency securities. For purposes of this policy, net assets include any borrowings for investment purposes. You will be notified at least 60 days prior to any change to the Portfolio's 80% investment policy. The Portfolio may also invest in high-quality money-market securities, which are securities that have remaining maturities of one year or less and are rated A-1 or better by Standard & Poor's Corporation ("S&P"), F-1 by Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch") or P-1 or better by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") or the comparable long-term ratings (or, if unrated, determined by AllianceBernstein L.P., the Portfolio's investment manager (the "Manager"), to be of comparable quality). Additionally, up to 10% of the Portfolio's total assets may be invested in other securities rated A or better by national rating agencies and comparably rated commercial paper and notes.

Many types of securities may be purchased by the Portfolio, including bills, notes, corporate bonds, inflation-protected securities, mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities, as well as others. The Portfolio may use derivatives, such as options, futures, forwards and swaps.

The income earned by the Portfolio is generally exempt from state and local taxes; however, states have different requirements for tax-exempt distributions and there is no assurance that your distributions from the Portfolio's income will not be subject to the state and local taxes of your state. Please consult your tax advisor with respect to the tax treatment of such distributions in your state.

In managing the Portfolio, the Manager may use interest rate forecasting to determine the best level of interest rate risk at a given time. The Manager may moderately shorten the average duration of the Portfolio when it expects interest rates to rise and modestly lengthen average duration when it anticipates that interest rates will fall.

The Portfolio seeks to maintain an effective duration of one to three years under normal market conditions. Duration is a measure that relates the expected price volatility of a security to changes in interest rates. The duration of a debt security is the weighted average term to maturity, expressed in years, of the present value of all future cash flows, including coupon payments and principal repayments.

The Manager selects securities for purchase or sale based on its assessment of the securities' risk and return characteristics as well as the securities' impact on the overall risk and return characteristics of the Portfolio. In making this assessment, the Manager takes into account various factors including the credit quality and sensitivity to interest rates of the securities under consideration and of the Portfolio's other holdings.

## **PRINCIPAL RISKS:**

The share price of the Portfolio will fluctuate and you may lose money. There is no guarantee that the Portfolio will achieve its investment objective.

- Interest Rate Risk: This is the risk that changes in interest rates will affect the value of the Portfolio's investments in fixed-income debt securities such as bonds and notes. Interest rates in the United States have recently been historically low. Increases in interest rates may cause the value of the Portfolio's investments to decline and this decrease in value may not be offset by higher income from new investments. Interest rate risk is generally greater for fixed-income securities with longer maturities or durations.
- **Credit Risk:** This is the risk that the issuer or the guarantor of a debt security, or the counterparty to a derivatives or other contract, will be unable or unwilling to make timely principal and/or interest payments, or to otherwise honor its obligations. The issuer or guarantor may default, causing a loss of the full principal amount of a security. The degree of risk for a particular security may be reflected in its credit rating. There is the possibility that the credit rating of a fixed-income security may be downgraded after purchase, which may adversely affect the value of the security. Investments in fixed-income securities with lower ratings tend to have a higher probability that an issuer will default or fail to meet its payment obligations.
- **Duration Risk**: The duration of a fixed-income security may be shorter than or equal to full maturity of a fixed-income security. Fixed-income securities with longer durations have more risk and will decrease in price as interest rates rise. For example, a fixed-income security with a duration of three years will decrease in value by approximately 3% if interest rates increase by 1%.
- No Government Guarantee: Investments in the Portfolio are not insured by the U.S. Government.
- **Riskier than a Money-Market Fund:** The Portfolio is invested in securities with longer maturities and in some cases lower quality than the assets of the type of mutual fund known as a money-market fund. The risk of a decline in the market value of the Portfolio is greater than for a money-market fund since the credit quality of the Portfolio's securities may be lower and the effective duration of the Portfolio will be longer.

- Inflation Risk: This is the risk that the value of assets or income from investments will be less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the value of the Portfolio's assets can decline as can the value of the Portfolio's distributions. This risk is significantly greater for fixed-income securities with longer maturities.
- Inflation-Protected Securities Risk: The terms of inflation-protected securities provide for the coupon and/or maturity value to be adjusted based on changes in inflation. Decreases in the inflation rate or in investors' expectations about inflation could cause these securities to underperform non-inflation-adjusted securities on a total-return basis. In addition, these securities may have limited liquidity in the secondary market.
- Derivatives Risk: The Portfolio may use derivatives as direct investments to earn income, enhance return and broaden portfolio diversification, which entail greater risk than if used solely for hedging purposes. In addition to other risks such as the credit risk of the counterparty, derivatives involve the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate with relevant assets, rates or indices. Derivatives may be illiquid and difficult to price or unwind, and small changes may produce disproportionate losses for the Portfolio. Assets required to be set aside or posted to cover or secure derivatives positions may themselves go down in value, and these collateral and other requirements may limit investment flexibility. Some derivatives involve leverage, which can make the Portfolio more volatile and can compound other risks. Recent legislation calls for new regulation of the derivatives markets. The extent and impact of the regulation are not yet fully known and may not be for some time. The regulation may make derivatives more costly, may limit their availability, or may otherwise adversely affect their value or performance.
- Mortgage-Related Securities Risk: In the case of investments in mortgage-related securities, a loss could be incurred if the collateral backing these securities is insufficient.
- **Prepayment and Extension Risk:** Prepayment risk is the risk that a loan, bond or other security might be called or otherwise converted, prepaid or redeemed before maturity. If this happens, particularly during a time of declining interest rates or credit spreads, the Portfolio may not be able to invest the proceeds in securities providing as much income, resulting in a lower yield to the Portfolio. Conversely, extension risk is the risk that as interest rates rise or spreads widen, payments of securities may occur more slowly than anticipated by the market. When this happens, the values of these securities may go down because their interest rates are lower than current market rates and they remain outstanding longer than anticipated.
- Subordination Risk: The Portfolio may invest in securities that are subordinated to more senior securities of an issuer, or which represent interests in pools of such subordinated securities. Subordinated securities will be disproportionately affected by a default or even a perceived decline in creditworthiness of the issuer. Subordinated securities are more likely to suffer a credit loss than non-subordinated securities of the same issuer, any loss incurred by the subordinated securities is likely to be proportion-ately greater, and any recovery of interest or principal may take more time.
- Management Risk: The Portfolio is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed investment portfolio. The Manager will apply its investment techniques and risk analyses in making investment decisions for the Portfolio, but its decisions may not produce the desired results. In some cases, derivative and other investment techniques may be unavailable or the Manager may determine not to use them, possibly even under market conditions where their use could benefit the Portfolio.
- Market Risk: The Portfolio is subject to market risk, which is the risk that bond prices in general may decline over short or extended periods. Equity and debt markets around the world have experienced unprecedented volatility, including as a result of the recent European sovereign debt crisis, and these market conditions may continue or get worse. This financial environment has caused a significant decline in the value and liquidity of many investments, and could make identifying investment risks and opportunities especially difficult. High public debt in the United States and other countries creates ongoing systemic and market risks and policy making uncertainty. In addition, policy and legislative changes in the United States and in other countries are affecting many aspects of financial regulation. The impact of these changes, and the practical implications for market participants, may not be fully known for some time.

## BAR CHART AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION:

The bar chart and performance information provide an indication of the historical risk of an investment in the Portfolio by showing:

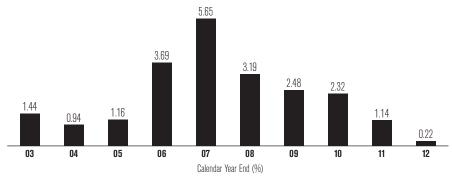
- · how the Portfolio's performance changed from year to year over ten years; and
- how the Portfolio's average annual returns for one, five and ten years compare to those of a broad-based securities market index.

You may obtain updated performance information for the Portfolio at <u>www.bernstein.com</u> (click on "Investments," then "Stocks," then "Mutual Fund Performance at a Glance").

The Portfolio's past performance before and after taxes, of course, does not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future. As with all investments, you may lose money by investing in the Portfolio.

#### **Bar Chart**

The annual returns in the bar chart are for the U.S. Government Short Duration Class shares.



During the period shown in the bar chart, the Portfolio's:

Best Quarter was up 2.07%, 1st quarter, 2008; and Worst Quarter was down -1.29%, 2nd quarter, 2004.

#### Performance Table Average Annual Total Returns

(For the periods ended December 31, 2012)

		1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
U.S. Government Short Duration Class	Return Before Taxes	0.22%	1.87%	2.21%
	Return After Taxes on Distributions	-0.02%	1.29%	1.34%
	Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Portfolio Shares	0.20%	1.27%	1.38%
BofA Merrill Lynch	1-3 Year Treasury Index			
(reflects no deducti	on for fees, expenses, or taxes)	0.43%	2.32%	2.72%

After-tax returns are an estimate, which is based on the highest historical individual federal marginal income-tax rates, and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes; actual after-tax returns depend on an individual investor's tax situation and are likely to differ from those shown, and are not relevant to investors who hold Portfolio shares through tax-deferred arrangements such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.

## **INVESTMENT MANAGER:**

AllianceBernstein L.P. is the investment manager for the Portfolio.

## **PORTFOLIO MANAGERS:**

The following table lists the persons responsible for day-to-day management of the Portfolio:

Employee	Length of Service	Title
Jon P. Denfeld	Since 2008	Vice President of the Manager
Shawn E. Keegan	Since 2005	Vice President of the Manager
Alison M. Martier	Since 2009	Senior Vice President of the Manager
Douglas J. Peebles	Since 2009	Senior Vice President of the Manager
Greg J. Wilensky	Since 2009	Senior Vice President of the Manager

## PURCHASE AND SALE OF PORTFOLIO SHARES:

The minimum initial investment in the Portfolio is \$25,000. There is no minimum amount for subsequent investments in the same Portfolio. You may sell (redeem) your shares each day the New York Stock Exchange is open. You may sell your shares by sending a request to Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., LLC ("Bernstein LLC").

#### TAX INFORMATION:

The Portfolio anticipates distributing primarily ordinary income dividends (*i.e.*, distributions out of net short-term capital gains, dividends and non-exempt interest).

#### PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES:

Shares of the Portfolio are offered primarily through the Manager's private client and institutional channels but may also be sold through intermediaries. If you purchase shares of the Portfolio through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Portfolio and its related companies may pay the intermediary for the sale of Portfolio shares and related services. These payments may provide a financial incentive for the broker-dealer or other financial intermediary and your salesperson to recommend the Portfolio over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.



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