



SYSTEMATIC PURCHASE
REQUEST FORM
CION Ares Management, LLC

Please Print or Type

This form should be used to establish and modify Systematic Purchases for contributions via the Automated Clearing House (ACH) Network.

Forward To: First Trust Retirement, c/o SS&C

Regular Mail
PO Box 219422
Kansas City, MO 64121- 9422
855-387-3847

Overnight Delivery
Mail Stop: CION Ares
430 West 7th Street
Kansas City, MO 64105-1407

Step 1: IRA OWNER INFORMATION

IRA Owner Name Social Security Number Account Number
Address City / State / Zip Phone Number

Step 2: SYSTEMATIC PURCHASE INSTRUCTIONS

Establish New Systematic Purchase Plan Modify Existing Systematic Purchase Plan Delete Existing Systematic Purchase Plan

Step 3: IRA CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION

Traditional IRA Roth IRA SEP IRA
Annual Contribution Year* Annual Contribution Year* Employer Contribution Year*

*Prior year contributions can only be selected for the months of January - March; April - December contributions will reflect as current year.

Step 4: INVESTMENT INSTRUCTIONS

I direct First Trust Retirement, Custodian, to set up my Systematic Purchase Plan as follows:

Investment Option Amount Start Month Frequency Contribution Date(s)
CION Ares Diversified Credit Fund*
Undirected Cash**

Start Month - Month in which Systematic Purchase Plan will begin (Must be at least one month past date form is delivered)

Frequency - Monthly (Jan, Feb, Mar, etc.), Quarterly (Mar, Jun, Sept, Dec), Semi-Annually (Jun, Dec), Annually (Once per year)

Contribution Date(s) - Select a date between 1-28. (If 29, 30, or 31 are chosen, 28 will be used.) Any purchases that occur over a weekend or non-business day will be processed the following business day. If Contribution Date is not provided, it will default to the 15th of designated frequency.

*Please contact product sponsor for potential product sponsor specific requirements or minimums. All systematic investments will follow the admittance guidelines outlined in the prospectus of the investment.

**Undirected Cash minimum \$25.00. Any undirected cash in your IRA will be deposited in an interest bearing Account (Undirected Cash). The interest rate and annual percentage yield may change at any time. Interest will be compounded and credited on the last day of each calendar month. The daily balance method is used to calculate the interest on cash in the account. The bank deposit is insured up to applicable FDIC limits.

Step 5: BANK ACCOUNT INFORMATION (Required if setting up new Systematic Purchase or modifying existing bank instructions)

Account Type: Checking (Voided Check Required) Savings (Letter on Bank Letterhead Required)

Bank Name Routing ABA Number (9-digits) Bank Account Number

Bank Account Registration (Include all registration names)

- Only one bank account may be on file.
Signature of bank account owner must be same as IRA holder.
Temporary and Starter checks are not acceptable.
If voided check is not available, a letter on bank letterhead signed by a branch manager outlining all above information.

Step 6: IRA OWNER AFFIRMATION

I direct First Trust Retirement (the "Custodian"), trade name of Mainstar Trust, to execute, as Custodian, the purchase of the above-named asset for the benefit of my self-directed IRA account. By signing this form, I acknowledge that the IRA account is self-directed and that I am solely responsible for the investment outcomes within the account, and further acknowledge the following:

- I have had the opportunity to review this transaction with tax, legal, financial and/or other advisors of my choice and am satisfied that I meet all suitability requirements imposed by the investment entity and the investment is suitable for the IRA account;
I understand that if the assets are not publicly traded, redemptions may be limited and I have considered these factors along with other IRA requirements, such as required minimum distributions, when determining the suitability of this investment for my IRA account;
I understand that First Trust Retirement does not make any determination with respect to suitability nor does it have a duty to conduct any suitability analysis on my behalf;
I acknowledge that it is my sole responsibility to direct the investment of my account and that First Trust Retirement, acting as Custodian, will not have responsibility, discretion, or involvement in evaluating or selecting any assets or investments, and shall have no liability for any loss, damage, and/or tax (including a prohibited transaction tax) that may result from or be associated with the transaction requested herein;
I certify that no tax advice has been given to me by First Trust Retirement and that all decisions regarding these Additional Investment Instructions are my own;
I agree to indemnify and hold First Trust Retirement harmless from and against any and all claims, liabilities, causes of action, losses and expenses (including, without limitation to, any court costs, attorney's fees and other expenses) asserted against or incurred by First Trust Retirement as a result of, or in any way relating to, any actions requested or directed by me or by my authorized representative, whether in these Additional Investment Instructions or otherwise;
I agree that First Trust Retirement shall have no obligation, other than maintaining custody of the assets, to take any action with respect to the assets acquired for this IRA account pursuant to these Additional Investment Instructions or otherwise;
I understand that First Trust Retirement may condition any action or any further action it may agree to undertake, upon its receipt from me, in form satisfactory to it, of written instruction to undertake such action, together with such further agreement or undertaking of indemnification as First Trust Retirement may reasonably request; and
I understand that the purchase of assets described above or any action requested or directed by me (whether in these Additional Investment Instructions or otherwise) is subject to all terms and conditions of the Account Agreement as amended from time to time.

Step 7: SIGNATURE REQUIRED

I hereby acknowledge that this agreement is between the IRA Owner named in Step 1 and the Custodian and that Product and its affiliates (i) shall have no obligations or liability under this agreement or for any transactions executed in connection herewith; (ii) shall have no responsibility, discretion or involvement in evaluating or selecting assets or investments; and (iii) shall not be deemed to be a "fiduciary" as defined in the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, and/or Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, with respect to any assets or property of the IRA account.

IRA Owner Signature

Date