

Nuveen AMT-Free Municipal Credit Income Fund
Form N-2
July 12, 2018

As filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on July 12, 2018

1933 Act File No. 333-

1940 Act File No. 811-09475

U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form N-2

(Check appropriate box or boxes)

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Pre-Effective Amendment No.

Post-Effective Amendment No.

and/or

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940

Amendment No. 12

Nuveen AMT-Free Municipal Credit Income Fund

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

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333 West Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Number, Street, City, State, Zip Code)

(Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code): (800) 257-8787

Gifford R. Zimmerman

Vice President and Secretary

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Name and Address (Number, Street, City, State, Zip Code) of Agent for Service

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Approximate Date of Proposed Public Offering:

From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If the securities being registered on this form will be offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box.

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box)

When declared effective pursuant to section 8(c)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

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Title of Securities Being Registered	Amount Being Registered (1)(2)	Proposed	Proposed	Amount of Registration Fee
		Maximum Offering Price per Unit	Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(3)	
Common Shares, \$0.01 par value per share				
MuniFund Preferred Shares, \$0.01 par value per share				
Total			\$1,000,000	\$124.50

- (1) There are being registered hereunder a presently indeterminate number of Common Shares or MuniFund Preferred Shares.
- (2) This Registration Statement also includes an indeterminate amount of MuniFund Preferred Shares that may be transition-remarketed in connection with a Mode change after their initial offering and sale. The Registrant will not receive any proceeds from such remarketings.
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of determining the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933. In no event will the aggregate initial offering price of all securities offered from time to time pursuant to the prospectus included as a part of this Registration Statement exceed \$1,000,000.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment that specifically states this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such dates as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and we are not soliciting offers to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion

Preliminary Prospectus dated July 12, 2018

BASE PROSPECTUS

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Nuveen AMT-Free Municipal Credit Income Fund

COMMON SHARES

MUNIFUND PREFERRED SHARES

The Offerings. Nuveen AMT-Free Municipal Credit Income Fund (the Fund) is offering, on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis, in one or more offerings, common shares (the Common Shares) or MuniFund Preferred Shares (MFP Shares, and the Common Shares and the MFP Shares, collectively, the Securities). The Fund may offer and sell Securities to or through underwriters, through dealers or agents that the Fund designates from time to time, directly to purchasers or through a combination of these methods. In connection with any offering of Securities, the Fund will deliver a prospectus supplement describing such offering, including, as applicable, the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents and information regarding any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangements made with those underwriters, dealers or agents or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. For more information about the manners in which the Fund may offer Securities, see Plan of Distribution.

The Fund. This prospectus, together with any prospectus supplement, sets forth concisely information about the Fund that a prospective investor should know before investing, and should be retained for future reference. The Fund is a diversified, closed-end management investment company. The Fund's primary investment objective is to provide current income exempt from regular federal income tax and federal alternative minimum tax applicable to individuals. The Fund's secondary objective is to enhance portfolio value relative to the municipal bond market by investing in tax-exempt municipal bonds that the Fund's investment adviser believes are underrated or undervalued or that represent municipal market sectors that are undervalued.

Common Shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange (the NYSE) under the symbol NVG. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the MFP Shares will not be listed or traded on any securities exchange. An investment in MFP Shares may be illiquid and there may be no active secondary trading market.

Investing in the Securities involves risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page 8. You should consider carefully these risks together with all of the other information in this prospectus and any related prospectus supplement before making a decision to purchase any of the Securities.

(continued on next page)

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

[], 2018

(continued from previous page)

Investment Objectives and Policies. The Fund's investment objectives are to provide current income exempt from regular federal income tax and federal alternative minimum tax applicable to individuals, and to enhance portfolio value relative to the municipal bond market by investing in tax-exempt municipal bonds that the Fund's investment adviser, Nuveen Fund Advisors, LLC, believes are underrated or undervalued or that represent municipal market sectors that are undervalued. As a fundamental investment policy, under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its Assets (as defined herein) in municipal securities and other related investments, the income from which is exempt from regular federal income taxes. As a non-fundamental investment policy, under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest 100% of its Managed Assets (as defined herein) in municipal securities and other related investments, the income from which is exempt from the federal alternative minimum tax applicable to individuals at the time of purchase. As a non-fundamental investment policy, under normal circumstances, the Fund may invest up to 55% of its Managed Assets in securities rated, at the time of investment, below the three highest grades (Baa or BBB or lower) by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization, which includes below-investment-grade or unrated securities judged to be of comparable quality by the Fund's sub-adviser, Nuveen Asset Management, LLC. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objectives.

Leverage. The Fund uses leverage to pursue its investment objectives. The Fund may use leverage to the extent permitted by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. The Fund may source leverage through a number of methods including the issuance of preferred shares, investments in inverse floating rate securities, entering into reverse repurchase agreements and borrowings (subject to certain investment restrictions). See *Use of Leverage* and *The Fund's Investments*. There is no assurance that the Fund's leveraging strategy will be successful. Leverage involves special risks. See *Risk Factors* *Leverage Risk*.

You should read this prospectus, together with any prospectus supplement, which contains important information about the Fund, before deciding whether to invest in Securities and retain it for future reference. A statement of additional information, dated [], 2018, and as it may be supplemented containing additional information about the Fund (the SAI), has been filed with the SEC and is incorporated by reference in its entirety into this prospectus. You may request a free copy of the SAI, the table of contents of which is on page 61 of this prospectus, annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders when available and other information about the Fund and make shareholder inquiries by calling (800) 257-8787 or by writing to the Fund, or from the Fund's website (www.nuveen.com). The information contained in, or that can be accessed through, the Fund's website is not part of this prospectus, except to the extent specifically incorporated by reference in the SAI. You also may obtain a copy of the SAI (and other information regarding the Fund) from the SEC's website (www.sec.gov).

The Securities do not represent a deposit or obligation of, and are not guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank or other insured depository institution, and are not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency.

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You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any related prospectus supplement. The Fund has not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. The Fund is not making an offer of Securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus and any related prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates on the front covers. The Fund's business, financial condition and prospects may have changed since that date.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Any projections, forecasts and estimates contained or incorporated by reference herein are forward looking statements and are based upon certain assumptions. Projections, forecasts and estimates are necessarily speculative in nature, and it can be expected that some or all of the assumptions underlying any projections, forecasts or estimates will not materialize or will vary significantly from actual results. Actual results may vary from any projections, forecasts and estimates and the variations may be material. Some important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in any forward looking statements include changes in interest rates, market, financial or legal uncertainties, including changes in tax law, and the timing and frequency of defaults on underlying investments. Consequently, the inclusion of any projections, forecasts and estimates herein should not be regarded as a representation by the Fund or any of its affiliates or any other person or entity of the results that will actually be achieved by the Fund. Neither the Fund nor its affiliates has any obligation to update or otherwise revise any projections, forecasts and estimates including any revisions to reflect changes in economic conditions or other circumstances arising after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, even if the underlying assumptions do not come to fruition. The Fund acknowledges that, notwithstanding the foregoing, the safe harbor for forward-looking statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 does not apply to investment companies such as the Fund.

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This is only a summary. You should review the more detailed information contained elsewhere in this prospectus, in any prospectus supplement and in the statement of additional information, dated [], 2018, and as it may be supplemented (the SAI), including the documents incorporated by reference, prior to making an investment in the Fund, especially the information set forth under the heading Risk Factors.

The Fund

Nuveen AMT-Free Municipal Credit Income Fund (the Fund) is a diversified, closed-end management investment company. The Fund's common shares, \$.01 par value per share (the Common Shares), are traded on the New York Stock Exchange (the NYSE) under the symbol NVG. See Description of Securities Common Shares. As of May 31, 2018, the Fund had 202,552,895 Common Shares outstanding and net assets applicable to Common Shares of \$3,275,035,880.

As of the date of this prospectus, the Fund has outstanding one series of MuniFund Preferred Shares (MFP Shares), consisting of 4,054 Series A MFP Shares, and five series of Variable Rate Demand Preferred Shares (VRDP Shares), consisting of 1,790 Series 1 VRDP Shares, 3,854 Series 2 VRDP Shares, 1,800 Series 4 VRDP Shares, 3,405 Series 5 VRDP Shares and 3,267 Series 6 VRDP Shares. See Description of Securities Preferred Shares. MFP Shares, VRDP Shares and any other preferred shares of the Fund as may be outstanding from time to time are collectively referred to as Preferred Shares.

Investment Objectives and Policies

The Fund's investment objectives are to provide current income exempt from regular federal income tax and federal alternative minimum tax applicable to individuals, and to enhance portfolio value relative to the municipal bond market by investing in tax-exempt municipal bonds that the Fund's investment adviser, Nuveen Fund Advisors, LLC (Nuveen Fund Advisors or the Investment Adviser), believes are underrated or undervalued or that represent municipal market sectors that are undervalued.

As a fundamental investment policy, under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its Assets (as defined below) in municipal securities and other related investments, the income from which is exempt from regular federal income taxes.

As a non-fundamental investment policy that may be changed by the Fund's trustees without prior shareholder notice, under

normal circumstances, the Fund will invest 100% of its Managed Assets (as defined below) in municipal securities and other related investments, the income from which is exempt from the federal alternative minimum tax applicable to individuals at the time of purchase. As a non-fundamental investment policy subject to change by the Fund's trustees upon 60 days' notice to shareholders, under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its Assets in municipal securities and other related investments, the income from which is exempt from the federal alternative minimum tax applicable to individuals at the time of purchase.

Assets means net assets of the Fund plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes. Managed Assets means the total assets of the Fund, minus the sum of its accrued liabilities (other than Fund liabilities for the express purpose of creating leverage). Total assets for this purpose shall include assets attributable to the Fund's use of leverage (whether or not those assets are reflected in the Fund's financial statements for purposes of generally accepted accounting principles), and derivatives will be valued at their market value.

As a non-fundamental investment policy that may be changed by the Fund's trustees without prior shareholder notice, under normal circumstances, the Fund may invest up to 55% of its Managed Assets in securities rated, at the time of investment, below the three highest grades (Baa or BBB or lower) by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO), which includes below-investment-grade securities or unrated securities judged to be of comparable quality by the Fund's sub-adviser, Nuveen Asset Management, LLC (NAM) or the Sub-Adviser).

There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objectives. See Risk Factors and The Fund's Investments Investment Objectives and Policies.

Investment Adviser

Nuveen Fund Advisors is the Fund's investment adviser, responsible for overseeing the Fund's overall investment strategy and its implementation.

Nuveen Fund Advisors, a registered investment adviser, offers advisory and investment management services to a broad range of investment company clients. Nuveen Fund Advisors has overall responsibility for management of the Fund, oversees the management of the Fund's portfolio, manages the Fund's business affairs and provides certain clerical, bookkeeping and other administrative services. Nuveen Fund Advisors is located

at 333 West Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606. Nuveen Fund Advisors is an indirect subsidiary of Nuveen, LLC (Nuveen), the investment management arm of Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America (TIAA). TIAA is a life insurance company founded in 1918 by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and is the companion organization of College Retirement Equities Fund. As of March 31, 2018, Nuveen managed approximately \$967 billion in assets, of which approximately \$139 billion was managed by Nuveen Fund Advisors.

Sub-Adviser

NAM serves as the Fund's investment sub-adviser and is an affiliate of Nuveen Fund Advisors. NAM is a registered investment adviser. NAM oversees the day-to-day investment operations of the Fund.

The Offerings

The Fund may offer, on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis, in one or more offerings, up to \$[] of Common Shares or MFP Shares (collectively, the Securities), at prices and on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. The Fund may offer and sell Securities to or through underwriters, through dealers or agents the Fund designates from time to time, directly to one or more purchasers or through a combination of these methods. In connection with any offering of Securities, the Fund will deliver a prospectus supplement describing such offering, including, as applicable, the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in the sale of Securities and the applicable purchase price, fee, commission and/or discount arrangement between the Fund and the underwriters, or among underwriters, dealers or agents or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See Plan of Distribution.

The prospectus supplement for an offering of Common Shares also will include information regarding risk factors specific to an investment in Common Shares, fund expenses, trading and net asset value of the Common Shares, the dividend reinvestment plan for Common Shares and other details concerning the offering. See Description of Securities Common Shares.

The prospectus supplement for an offering of MFP Shares also will include information regarding the risk factors specific to an investment in the MFP Shares, the series designation, redemption terms, the dividend rate, material U.S. federal income tax considerations and other details concerning the offering. The terms and conditions of the MFP Shares of each series will be specified in a Statement Establishing and Fixing

the Rights and Preferences of MuniFund Preferred Shares (the [Statement](#)) and a Supplement to the Statement Establishing and Fixing the Rights and Preferences of MuniFund Preferred Shares (the [Statement Supplement](#)), forms of which are filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. See [Description of Securities](#) Preferred Shares MuniFund Preferred Shares.

Use of Proceeds

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, the Fund will use the net proceeds from any sales of Securities pursuant to this prospectus to make investments in accordance with the Fund's investment objectives and policies or to redeem outstanding Preferred Shares. See [Use of Proceeds](#).

Federal and State Income Taxes

The Fund has elected to be treated, and intends to continue to qualify each year, as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the [Code](#)). As a regulated investment company, the Fund generally does not expect to be subject to U.S. federal income tax. To qualify for the favorable U.S. federal income tax treatment generally accorded to regulated investment companies, among other requirements, the Fund must derive in each taxable year at least 90% of its gross income from certain prescribed sources. Additionally, in order to qualify as a regulated investment company, the Fund must meet certain distribution requirements. The failure to pay distributions could result in the Fund ceasing to qualify as a regulated investment company. Nevertheless, the Fund might not distribute all of its net investment income, and the Fund is not required to distribute any portion of its net capital gains. If for any taxable year the Fund does not qualify as a regulated investment company, all of its taxable income (including its net capital gain) would be subject to tax at regular corporate rates without any deduction for distributions to stockholders, and such distributions would be taxable as ordinary dividends to the extent of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits. The value of Securities may be adversely affected by changes in tax rates and policies.

In addition, the Fund treats the Preferred Shares, including MFP Shares, as equity in the Fund for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the Preferred Shares were treated as debt rather than as equity for such purposes, the timing and character of distributions could be affected.

See [Risk Factors](#) [Tax Risks](#) and [Taxability Risk](#) and [Tax Matters](#).

Use of Leverage

The Fund uses leverage to pursue its investment objectives. The Fund may use leverage to the extent permitted by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The Fund may source leverage through a number of methods including the issuance of Preferred Shares, investments in inverse floating rate securities, entering into reverse repurchase agreements and borrowings (subject to certain investment restrictions). See

The Fund's Investments Portfolio Composition Municipal Securities Inverse Floating Rate Securities, Risk Factors Inverse Floating Rate Securities Risk, Risk Factors Reverse Repurchase Agreement Risk and Risk Factors Borrowing Risks in this prospectus and Investment Restrictions in the SAI. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its Managed Assets in inverse floating rate securities. The Fund may also use certain derivatives that have the economic effect of leverage by creating additional investment exposure. The Fund currently employs leverage primarily through its outstanding Preferred Shares.

The Fund may also borrow for temporary purposes permitted by the 1940 Act. The Fund, along with certain other funds managed by Nuveen Fund Advisors (the "Participating Funds"), are party to a committed unsecured credit facility (the "Facility") provided by a group of lenders, under which Participating Funds may borrow for temporary purposes only. Outstanding balances drawn by the Fund, or a Participating Fund, will bear interest at a variable rate and is the liability of such Fund. The Facility is not intended for sustained levered investment purposes. A large portion of the Facility's capacity (and corresponding annual costs, excluding interest cost) is currently allocated by Nuveen Fund Advisors to a small number of Participating Funds, which does not include the Fund. The Facility has a 364-day term and will expire in July 2018 unless extended or renewed.

The Fund may reduce or increase leverage based upon changes in market conditions and anticipates that its leverage ratio will vary from time to time based upon variations in the value of the Fund's holdings. So long as the rate of net income received on the Fund's investments exceeds the then current expense on any leverage, leverage will generate more net income than if the Fund had not used leverage. If so, the excess net income will be available to pay higher distributions to common shareholders. However, if the rate of net income received from the Fund's portfolio investments is less than the then current expense on outstanding leverage, the Fund may be required to utilize other Fund assets to make expense payments on

outstanding leverage, which may result in a decline in Common Share net asset value and reduced net investment income available for distribution to common shareholders.

The use of leverage creates additional risks for common shareholders, including increased variability of the Fund's net asset value, net income and distributions in relation to market changes. The prospectus supplement for an offering of Common Shares will describe those risks in more detail.

The Fund pays a management fee to Nuveen Fund Advisors (which in turn pays a portion of its fee to the Fund's sub-advisor, NAM) based on a percentage of Managed Assets. Managed Assets for this purpose includes the proceeds realized and managed from the Fund's use of leverage as set forth in the Fund's investment management agreement. Nuveen Fund Advisors will be responsible for using leverage to pursue the Fund's investment objectives, and will base its decision regarding whether and how much leverage to use for the Fund based on its assessment of whether such use of leverage will advance the Fund's investment objectives. However, a decision to increase the Fund's leverage will have the effect, all other things being equal, of increasing Managed Assets and therefore Nuveen Fund Advisors' and NAM's management fees. Thus, Nuveen Fund Advisors and NAM may have a conflict of interest in determining whether to increase the Fund's use of leverage. Nuveen Fund Advisors will seek to manage that potential conflict by only increasing the Fund's use of leverage when it determines that such increase is in the best interest of the Fund and is consistent with the Fund's investment objectives, and by periodically reviewing the Fund's performance and use of leverage with the Board of Trustees of the Fund (the Board).

There is no assurance that the Fund will continue to use leverage or that the Fund's use of leverage will work as planned or achieve its goals.

Exchange Listing

Common Shares: The Common Shares are listed on the NYSE under the symbol NVG.

MFP Shares: Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the MFP Shares will not be listed or traded on any securities exchange.

Custodian and Transfer Agent; Tender and Paying Agent

State Street Bank and Trust Company (State Street or the Custodian) serves as custodian of the Fund's assets and

transfer agent for the Common Shares. See Custodian, Transfer Agent, Dividend Disbursing Agent and Redemption and Paying Agent.

[] (the Tender and Paying Agent) will serve as tender and paying agent and as the calculation agent, transfer agent and registrar, dividend disbursing agent, and paying agent and redemption price disbursing agent for the MFP Shares. See Custodian, Transfer Agent, Dividend Disbursing Agent and Redemption and Paying Agent.

Risk Factors

Investment in the Fund involves risk. The Fund is designed as a long-term investment and not as a trading vehicle. The Fund is not intended to be a complete investment program. See Risk Factors in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement for a more complete discussion of the risks you should consider before making an investment in the Fund. The specific risks applicable to a particular offering of Securities will be set forth in the related prospectus supplement.

Governing Law

The Fund's Declaration of Trust (the Declaration of Trust) is, and each Statement and Statement Supplement for MFP Shares will be, governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in the Securities involves risk, including the risk that you may receive little or no return on your investment or that you may lose part or all of your investment. The following discussion summarizes some of the risks that a potential investor should carefully consider before deciding whether to invest in the Securities offered hereby. For additional information about the risks associated with investing in the Securities, see The Fund's Investments in the SAI, as well as any risk factors included in the applicable prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement for an offering of Common Shares or MFP Shares will describe the additional specific risks applicable to the Securities being offered.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one or more municipal securities in the Fund's portfolio will decline in price, or the issuer thereof will fail to pay interest or principal when due, because the issuer of the security experiences a decline in its financial status. In general, lower-rated municipal securities carry a greater degree of risk that the issuer will lose its ability to make interest and principal payments, which could have a negative impact on the Fund's net asset value or dividends. Credit risk is increased when a portfolio security is downgraded or the perceived creditworthiness of the issuer deteriorates. If a municipal security satisfies the rating requirements described under The Fund's Investments at the time of investment and is subsequently downgraded below that rating, the Fund will not be required to dispose of the security. If a downgrade occurs, NAM will consider what action, including the sale of the security, is in the best interests of the Fund and its shareholders. This means that the Fund may be invested in municipal securities that have become involved in bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings; and may invest in municipal securities that are experiencing other financial difficulties at the time of acquisition (such securities are commonly referred to as distressed securities).

Below Investment Grade Risk

Municipal securities of below investment grade quality, commonly referred to as junk bonds, are regarded as having predominately speculative characteristics with respect to capacity to pay interest and repay principal when due, and are susceptible to default or decline in market value due to adverse economic and business developments. Also, to the extent that the rating assigned to a municipal security in the Fund's portfolio is downgraded by any NRSRO, the market price and liquidity of such security may be adversely affected. The market values for municipal securities of below investment grade quality tend to be volatile, and these securities are less liquid than investment grade municipal securities. For these reasons, an investment in the Fund, compared with a portfolio consisting solely of investment grade securities, may experience the following:

increased price sensitivity resulting from changing interest rates and/or a deteriorating economic environment;

greater risk of loss due to default or declining credit quality;

adverse issuer specific events that are more likely to render the issuer unable to make interest and/or principal payments; and

the possibility that a negative perception of the below investment grade market develops, resulting in the price and liquidity of below investment grade securities becoming depressed, and this negative perception could last for a significant period of time.

Adverse changes in economic conditions are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of a below investment grade issuer to make principal payments and interest payments compared to an investment grade issuer. The principal amount of below investment grade securities outstanding has proliferated in the past decade as an increasing number of issuers have used below investment grade securities for financing. An economic downturn may severely affect the ability of highly leveraged issuers to service their debt obligations or to repay their obligations upon maturity. In the event of an economic downturn, with decreased tax and other revenue streams of municipal issuers, or in the event interest rates rise sharply, increasing the interest cost on variable rate instruments and negatively impacting economic activity, the number of defaults by below investment grade municipal issuers will likely increase. Similarly, downturns in profitability in specific industries could adversely affect private activity bonds. The market values of lower quality debt securities tend to reflect individual developments of the issuer to a greater extent than do higher quality securities, which react primarily to fluctuations in the general level of interest rates. Factors having an adverse impact on the market value of lower quality securities may have an adverse impact on the Fund's net asset value and the market value of its Common Shares. In addition, the Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek recovery upon a default in payment of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings. In certain circumstances, the Fund may be required to foreclose on an issuer's assets and take possession of its property or operations. In such circumstances, the Fund would incur additional costs in disposing of such assets and potential liabilities from operating any business acquired.

The secondary market for below investment grade securities may not be as liquid as the secondary market for more highly rated securities, a factor that may have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to dispose of a particular security. There are fewer dealers in the market for below investment grade municipal securities than the market for investment grade municipal securities. The prices quoted by different dealers for below investment grade municipal securities may vary significantly, and the spread between the bid and ask price is generally much larger for below investment grade municipal securities than for higher quality instruments. Under adverse market or economic conditions, the secondary market for below investment grade securities could contract, independent of any specific adverse changes in the condition of a particular issuer, and these instruments may become illiquid. As a result, the Fund could find it more difficult to sell these securities or may be able to sell the securities only at prices lower than if such securities were widely traded. Prices realized upon the sale of such lower rated or unrated securities, under these circumstances, may be less than the prices used in calculating the Fund's net asset value.

Issuers of such below investment grade securities are typically highly leveraged and may not have available to them more traditional methods of financing. Therefore, the risk associated with acquiring the securities of such issuers generally is greater than is the case with higher rated securities. For example, during an economic downturn or a sustained period of rising interest rates, highly leveraged issuers of below investment grade securities may experience financial stress. During such periods, such issuers may not have sufficient revenues to meet their interest payment obligations. The issuer's ability to service its debt obligations also may be adversely affected by specific developments, the issuer's inability to meet specific projected forecasts or the unavailability of additional financing. The risk of loss from default by the issuer is significantly greater for the holders of below investment grade securities because such securities are generally unsecured and are often subordinated to other creditors of the issuer. Prices and yields of below investment grade securities will fluctuate over time and, during periods of economic uncertainty, volatility of below investment grade securities may adversely affect the Fund's net asset value. In addition, investments in below investment grade zero

coupon bonds rather than income-bearing below investment grade securities, may be more speculative and may be subject to greater fluctuations in value due to changes in interest rates.

The Fund may invest in distressed securities, which are securities issued by issuers that are involved in bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings or are experiencing other financial difficulties at the time of acquisition by the Fund. The issuers of such securities may be in transition, out of favor, financially leveraged or troubled, or potentially troubled, and may be or have recently been involved in major strategic actions, restructurings, bankruptcy, reorganization or liquidation. These characteristics of these issuers can cause their securities to be particularly risky, although they also may offer the potential for high returns. These issuers' securities may be considered speculative, and the ability of the issuers to pay their debts on schedule could be affected by adverse interest rate movements, changes in the general economic climate, economic factors affecting a particular industry or specific developments within the issuers. Distressed securities frequently do not produce income while they are outstanding and may require the Fund to bear certain extraordinary expenses in order to protect and recover its investment.

Investments in lower rated or unrated securities may present special tax issues for the Fund to the extent that the issuers of these securities default on their obligations pertaining thereto, and the U.S. federal income tax consequences to the Fund as a holder of such distressed securities may not be clear.

Economic and Political Events Risk

The Fund may be more sensitive to adverse economic, business or political developments if it invests a substantial portion of its assets in the bonds of similar projects (such as those relating to the education, health care, housing, transportation, or utilities industries), industrial development bonds, or in particular types of municipal securities (such as general obligation bonds, private activity bonds or moral obligation bonds). Such developments may adversely affect a specific industry or local political and economic conditions, and thus may lead to declines in the bonds' creditworthiness and value.

Recent Market Circumstances

Since the financial crisis that started in 2008, the U.S. and many foreign economies continue to experience its after-effects. Conditions in the U.S. and many foreign economies have resulted, and may continue to result, in certain instruments experiencing unusual liquidity issues, increased price volatility and, in some cases, credit downgrades and increased likelihood of default. These events have reduced the willingness and ability of some lenders to extend credit, and have made it more difficult for some borrowers to obtain financing on attractive terms, if at all. In some cases, traditional market participants have been less willing to make a market in some types of debt instruments, which has affected the liquidity of those instruments. During times of market turmoil, investors tend to look to the safety of securities issued or backed by the U.S. Treasury, causing the prices of these securities to rise and the yields to decline. Reduced liquidity in fixed income and credit markets may negatively affect many issuers worldwide. In addition, global economies and financial markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, which increases the possibilities that conditions in one country or region might adversely impact issuers in a different country or region. A rise in protectionist trade policies, and the possibility of changes to some international trade agreements, could affect the economies of many nations in ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen at the present time.

In response to the financial crisis, the U.S. and other governments and the Federal Reserve and certain foreign central banks have taken steps to support financial markets. In some countries where

economic conditions are recovering, such countries are nevertheless perceived as still fragile. Withdrawal of government support, failure of efforts in response to the crisis, or investor perception that such efforts are not succeeding, could adversely impact the value and liquidity of certain securities. The severity or duration of adverse economic conditions may also be affected by policy changes made by governments or quasi-governmental organizations, including changes in tax laws. The impact of new financial regulation legislation on the markets and the practical implications for market participants may not be fully known for some time. Regulatory changes are causing some financial services companies to exit long-standing lines of business, resulting in dislocations for other market participants. In addition, the contentious domestic political environment, as well as political and diplomatic events within the United States and abroad, such as the U.S. government's inability at times to agree on a long-term budget and deficit reduction plan, the threat of a federal government shutdown and threats not to increase the federal government's debt limit, may affect investor and consumer confidence and may adversely impact financial markets and the broader economy, perhaps suddenly and to a significant degree. The U.S. government has recently reduced federal corporate income tax rates, and future legislative, regulatory and policy changes may result in more restrictions on international trade, less stringent prudential regulation of certain players in the financial markets, and significant new investments in infrastructure and national defense. Markets may react strongly to expectations about the changes in these policies, which could increase volatility, especially if the markets' expectations for changes in government policies are not borne out.

Changes in market conditions will not have the same impact on all types of securities. Interest rates have been unusually low in recent years in the United States and abroad. Because there is little precedent for this situation, it is difficult to predict the impact of a significant rate increase on various markets. For example, because investors may buy securities or other investments with borrowed money, a significant increase in interest rates may cause a decline in the markets for those investments. Because of the sharp decline in the worldwide price of oil, there is a concern that oil producing nations may withdraw significant assets now held in U.S. Treasuries, which could force a substantial increase in interest rates. Regulators have expressed concern that rate increases may cause investors to sell fixed income securities faster than the market can absorb them, contributing to price volatility. In addition, there is a risk that the prices of goods and services in the U.S. and many foreign economies may decline over time, known as deflation (the opposite of inflation). Deflation may have an adverse effect on stock prices and creditworthiness and may make defaults on debt more likely. If a country's economy slips into a deflationary pattern, it could last for a prolonged period and may be difficult to reverse. The precise details and the resulting impact of the United Kingdom's vote to leave the European Union (EU), commonly referred to as Brexit, are not yet known. The effect on the United Kingdom's economy will likely depend on the nature of trade relations with the EU and other major economies following its exit, which are matters to be negotiated. The outcomes may cause increased volatility and have a significant adverse impact on world financial markets, other international trade agreements, and the United Kingdom and European economies, as well as the broader global economy for some time.

The impact of these developments in the near- and long-term is unknown and could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets and asset valuations around the world.

Market Disruption and Geopolitical Risk

The aftermath of the war in Iraq, instability in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Egypt, Libya, Syria, Russia, Ukraine and the Middle East, possible terrorist attacks in the United States and around the

world, growing social and political discord in the United States, the European debt crisis, the response of the international community through economic sanctions and otherwise to Russia's recent annexation of the Crimea region of Ukraine and posture vis-a-vis Ukraine, further downgrade of U.S. Government securities and other similar events, may have long-term effects on the U.S. and worldwide financial markets and may cause further economic uncertainties in the United States and worldwide. The Fund does not know and cannot predict how long the securities markets may be affected by these events and the effects of these and similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and securities markets. The Fund may be adversely affected by abrogation of international agreements and national laws which have created the market instruments in which the Fund may invest, failure of the designated national and international authorities to enforce compliance with the same laws and agreements, failure of local, national and international organization to carry out their duties prescribed to them under the relevant agreements, revisions of these laws and agreements which dilute their effectiveness or conflicting interpretation of provisions of the same laws and agreements. The Fund may be adversely affected by uncertainties such as terrorism, international political developments, and changes in government policies, taxation, restrictions on foreign investment and currency repatriation, currency fluctuations and other developments in the laws and regulations of the countries in which it is invested.

Legislation and Regulatory Risk

At any time after the date of this prospectus, legislation or additional regulations may be enacted that could negatively affect the assets of the Fund, securities held by the Fund or the issuers of such securities. Changing approaches to regulation may have a negative impact on the entities and/or securities in which the Fund invests. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. Fund shareholders may incur increased costs resulting from such legislation or additional regulation. There can be no assurance that future legislation, regulation or deregulation will not have a material adverse effect on the Fund or will not impair the ability of the Fund to achieve its investment objectives.

For example, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the Dodd-Frank Act) is designed to impose stringent regulation on the over-the-counter derivatives market in an attempt to increase transparency and accountability and provides for, among other things, new clearing, execution, margin, reporting, recordkeeping, business conduct, disclosure, position limit, minimum net capital and registration requirements. Although the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the CFTC) has released final rules under the Dodd-Frank Act, many of the provisions are subject to further final rulemaking, and thus the Dodd-Frank Act's ultimate impact remains unclear.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) also indicated that it may adopt new policies on the use of derivatives by registered investment companies. Such policies could affect the nature and extent of derivatives use by the Fund. While the nature of any such regulations, if adopted, is uncertain at this time, it is possible that such regulations could limit the implementation of the Fund's use of derivatives, which could have an adverse effect on the Fund.

Additionally, the Fund is operated by persons who have claimed an exclusion, granted to operators of registered investment companies like the Fund, from registration as a commodity pool operator under Rule 4.5 promulgated by the CFTC pursuant to its authority under the Commodity Exchange Act of 1936, as amended (the CEA), and, therefore, is not subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator. As a result, the Fund is limited in its ability to use

commodity futures (which include futures on broad-based securities indexes and interest rate futures) or options on commodity futures, engage in swaps transactions or make certain other investments (whether directly or indirectly through investments in other investment vehicles) for purposes other than bona fide hedging. With respect to transactions other than for bona fide hedging purposes, either: (1) the aggregate initial margin and premiums required to establish the Fund's positions in such investments may not exceed 5% of the liquidation value of the Fund's portfolio (after accounting for unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such investments); or (2) the aggregate net notional value of such instruments, determined at the time the most recent position was established, may not exceed 100% of the liquidation value of the Fund's portfolio (after accounting for unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such positions). In addition to meeting one of the foregoing trading limitations, the Fund may not market itself as a commodity pool or otherwise as a vehicle for trading in the futures, options or swaps markets. If the Fund does not continue to claim the exclusion, it would likely become subject to registration and regulation as a commodity pool operator. The Fund may incur additional expenses as a result of the CFTC's registration and regulatory requirements.

Inflation Risk

Inflation is the reduction in the purchasing power of money resulting from the increase in the price of goods and services. Inflation risk is the risk that the inflation-adjusted (or real) value of an investment in shares of the Fund or the income from that investment will be worth less in the future. As inflation occurs, the real value of the Fund's shares and dividends on the Fund's shares may decline.

Deflation Risk

Deflation risk is the risk that prices throughout the economy decline over time, which may have an adverse effect on the market valuation of companies, their assets and revenues. In addition, deflation may have an adverse effect on the creditworthiness of issuers and may make issuer default more likely, which may result in a decline in the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Inverse Floating Rate Securities Risk

The Fund may invest in inverse floating rate securities. Typically, inverse floating rate securities represent beneficial interests in a special purpose trust (sometimes called a tender option bond trust) formed by a third party sponsor for the purpose of holding municipal bonds. See The Fund's Investments Portfolio Composition Municipal Securities Inverse Floating Rate Securities. In general, income on inverse floating rate securities will decrease when interest rates increase and increase when interest rates decrease. Thus, distributions paid to the Fund on its inverse floaters will be reduced or even eliminated as short-term municipal interest rates rise and will increase when short-term municipal rates fall. Inverse floating rate securities generally will underperform the market for fixed rate municipal bonds in a rising interest rate environment. Investments in inverse floating rate securities may subject the Fund to the risks of reduced or eliminated interest payments and losses of principal. In addition, because of the leveraged nature of such investments, inverse floating rate securities will increase or decrease in value at a greater rate than the underlying fixed rate municipal bonds held by the tender option bond. As a result, the market value of such securities generally is more volatile than that of fixed rate securities.

The Fund may invest in inverse floating rate securities issued by special purpose trusts that have recourse to the Fund. In the Investment Adviser's discretion, the Fund may enter into a separate

shortfall and forbearance agreement with the third party granting liquidity to the floating rate security holders of a special purpose trust. The Fund may enter into such recourse agreements (i) when the liquidity provider to the special purpose trust requires such an agreement because the level of leverage in the special purpose trust exceeds the level that the liquidity provider is willing to support absent such an agreement; and/or (ii) to seek to prevent the liquidity provider from collapsing the special purpose trust in the event that the municipal obligation held in the trust has declined in value. Such an agreement would require the Fund to reimburse the third-party granting liquidity to the floating rate security holders the special purpose trust, upon termination of the trust issuing the inverse floater, the difference between the liquidation value of the bonds held in the trust and the principal amount due to the holders of floating rate interests. In such instances, the Fund may be at risk of loss that exceeds its investment in the inverse floating rate securities.

The Fund's investments in inverse floating rate securities issued by special purpose trusts that have recourse to the Fund may be highly leveraged. The structure and degree to which the Fund's inverse floating rate securities are highly leveraged will vary based upon a number of factors, including the size of the trust itself and the terms of the underlying municipal security. In the event of a significant decline in the value of an underlying security, the Fund may suffer losses in excess of the amount of its investment (up to an amount equal to the value of the municipal securities underlying the inverse floating rate securities) as a result of liquidating special purpose trusts or other collateral required to maintain the Fund's anticipated effective leverage ratio.

The Fund's investment in inverse floating rate securities creates leverage that provides an opportunity for increased Common Share net income and returns, but also creates the risk that Common Share long-term returns will be reduced if the cost of leverage exceeds the net return on the Fund's investment portfolio.

Inverse floating rate securities have varying degrees of liquidity based upon the liquidity of the underlying securities deposited in a tender option bond trust. The market price of inverse floating rate securities is more volatile than the underlying securities due to leverage. The leverage attributable to such inverse floating rate securities may be called away on relatively short notice and therefore may be less permanent than more traditional forms of leverage. The Fund may be required to sell its inverse floating rate securities at less than favorable prices, or liquidate other Fund portfolio holdings in certain circumstances, including, but not limited to, the following:

If the Fund has a need for cash and the securities in a special purpose trust are not actively trading due to adverse market conditions;

If special purpose trust sponsors (as a collective group or individually) experience financial hardship and consequently seek to terminate their respective outstanding special purpose trusts; and

If the value of an underlying security declines significantly (to a level below the notional value of the floating rate securities issued by the trust) and if additional collateral has not been posted by the Fund.

Reverse Repurchase Agreement Risk

Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund with an agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed-upon price and date, thereby establishing an effective interest rate. The Fund's use of reverse repurchase agreements, in economic essence, constitute a securitized borrowing by the Fund from the security purchaser. The Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements for the purpose of creating a leveraged investment exposure and, as such, their usage involves essentially the same risks associated with a leveraging strategy generally since the proceeds from these agreements may be invested in additional securities. However, the effective borrowing rate paid by the Fund to the reverse repurchase agreement counterparty will be treated as taxable income, unlike the effective borrowing rate paid by the Fund on Preferred Shares or on inverse floating rate securities, which is generally tax-exempt to the recipient, meaning that the effective borrowing rate paid by the Fund on a reverse repurchase agreement would, all other things being equal, tend to be higher than those other forms of leverage. Reverse repurchase agreements tend to be short-term in tenor, and there can be no assurances that the purchaser (lender) will commit to extend or roll a given agreement upon its agreed-upon repurchase date if such roll is requested by the Fund or an alternative purchaser can be identified on similar terms. Reverse repurchase agreements also involve the risk that the purchaser (lender) fails to return the securities as agreed upon, files for bankruptcy or becomes insolvent. The Fund may be restricted from taking normal portfolio actions during such time, could be subject to loss to the extent that the proceeds of the agreement are less than the value of securities subject to the agreement and may experience adverse tax consequences.

Interest Rate Risk

Generally, when market interest rates rise, bond prices fall, and vice versa. Interest rate risk is the risk that the municipal securities in the Fund's portfolio will decline in value because of increases in market interest rates. As interest rates decline, issuers of municipal securities may prepay principal earlier than scheduled, forcing the Fund to reinvest in lower-yielding securities and potentially reducing the Fund's income. As interest rates increase, slower than expected principal payments may extend the average life of securities, potentially locking in a below-market interest rate and reducing the Fund's value. In typical market interest rate environments, the prices of longer-term municipal securities generally fluctuate more than prices of shorter-term municipal securities as interest rates change. In comparison to maturity (which is the date on which a debt instrument ceases and the issuer is obligated to repay the principal amount), duration is a measure of the price volatility of a debt instrument as a result of changes in market rates of interest, based on the weighted average timing of the instrument's expected principal and interest payments. Duration differs from maturity in that it considers a security's yield, coupon payments, principal payments and call features, in addition to the amount of time until the security finally matures. As the value of a security changes over time, so will its duration. Prices of securities with longer durations tend to be more sensitive to interest rate changes than securities with shorter durations. In general, a portfolio of securities with a longer duration can be expected to be more sensitive to interest rate changes than a portfolio with a shorter duration. For example, the price of a bond with an effective duration of two years will rise (fall) two percent for every one percent decrease (increase) in its yield, and the price of a five-year duration bond will rise (fall) five percent for a one percent decrease (increase) in its yield. Greater sensitivity to interest rates typically corresponds to higher volatility and higher risk. Yield curve risk is the risk associated with either a flattening or steepening of the yield curve, which is a result of changing yields among comparable bonds with different maturities. When market interest rates, or yields, increase, the price of a bond will decrease and vice versa. When the yield curve shifts, the price of the bond, which was

initially priced based on the initial yield curve, will change in price. If the yield curve flattens, then the yield spread between long- and short-term interest rates narrows, and the price of the bond will change accordingly. If the bond is short-term and the yield decreases, the price of this bond will increase. If the yield curve steepens, this means that the spread between long- and short-term interest rates increases. Therefore, long-term bond prices, like the ones held by the Fund, will decrease relative to short-term bonds. Changes in the yield curve are based on bond risk premiums and expectations of future interest rates. Because the Fund will invest generally in longer-term municipal securities, the Common Share net asset value and market price per share will fluctuate more in response to changes in market interest rates than if the Fund invested generally in shorter-term municipal securities. Because the values of lower-rated and comparable unrated debt securities are affected both by credit risk and interest rate risk, the price movements of such lower grade securities typically have not been highly correlated to the fluctuations of the prices of investment grade quality securities in response to changes in market interest rates. The Fund's use of leverage, as described herein, will tend to increase Common Share interest rate risk.

Leverage Risk

The use of leverage creates special risks for common shareholders, including the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of, and distributions on, the Common Shares than a comparable portfolio without leverage. The use of leverage in a declining market will likely cause a greater decline in Common Share net asset value, which may result in a greater decline of the Common Share price, than if the Fund were not to have used leverage.

The Fund will pay (and common shareholders will bear) any costs and expenses relating to the Fund's use of leverage, which will result in a reduction in the net asset value of and net income payable with respect to the Common Shares. Because of the costs of leverage, the Fund may incur losses even if the Fund has positive returns if they are not sufficient to cover the costs of leverage. Nuveen Fund Advisors, based on its assessment of market conditions, may increase or decrease the Fund's level of leverage. Such changes may impact the Fund's distributions and the valuation of the Common Shares in the secondary market. There is no assurance that the Fund will continue to utilize leverage or that the Fund's use of leverage will be successful. Furthermore, the amount of fees paid to Nuveen Fund Advisors and NAM for investment advisory services will be higher if the Fund uses leverage because the fees will be calculated based on the Fund's Managed Assets, which may create an incentive for Nuveen Fund Advisors to leverage the Fund or increase the Fund's leverage. Certain types of leverage used by the Fund may result in the Fund being subject to certain covenants, asset coverage or other portfolio composition limits by its lenders, Preferred Share purchasers, liquidity providers, rating agencies that may rate the preferred securities, or reverse repurchase counterparties. Such limitations may be more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act and may affect whether the Fund is able to maintain its desired amount of leverage. At this time, Nuveen Fund Advisors does not believe that any such potential investment limitations will impede it from managing the Fund's portfolio in accordance with its investment objectives and policies. See [Use of Leverage](#). The Fund may invest in the securities of other investment companies, which may themselves be leveraged and therefore present similar risks to those described above and magnify the Fund's leverage risk. The risk of loss attributable to the Fund's use of leverage is borne by common shareholders.

Municipal Securities Market Risk

Investing in the municipal securities market involves certain risks. The municipal market is one in which dealer firms make markets in bonds on a principal basis using their proprietary capital, and during the 2008-2009 market turmoil these firms' capital was severely constrained. As a result, some firms were unwill