

August 18, 2015

BlackRock MRO # 5882 Alpha Code: PG

Re: Enforcement of Low Account Balance Policy

Dear Distribution Partner:

Following is BlackRock's revised low account balance policy which is effective on September 1, 2015 (as stated in a prospectus supplement dated July 1, 2015).

Because of the high cost of maintaining smaller shareholder accounts, BlackRock has set a minimum balance of \$500 in each Fund position you hold within your account ("Fund Minimum"), and may redeem the shares in your account if the net asset value of those shares in your account falls below \$500 for any reason, including market fluctuation.

You will be notified that the value of your account is less than the Fund Minimum before the Fund makes any involuntary redemption. This notification will provide you with a 90 calendar day period to make an additional investment in order to bring the value of your account to at least \$500 before the Fund makes an involuntary redemption. This involuntary redemption will not charge any deferred sales charge, and may not apply to accounts of certain employer-sponsored retirement plans, qualified state tuition plan (529 Plan) accounts, and select fee-based programs at your Financial Intermediary.

In order to enforce this policy, accounts that fall under the Fund Minimum will be redeemed on or around November 19, 2015 (90 days from the date of this notice).

There are exclusions to the policy including:

- Certain account types, including UGMA/UTMA, 529, certain employer-sponsored retirement plans, employee accounts and accounts in selected fee-based-programs.
- Accounts with automatic investment plans, money markets with check writing, accounts with outstanding certificates, etc.
- Accounts with a combined balance of share classes within the same Fund above \$500 (i.e. \$300 in Investor A and \$250 in Investor C), or with a global account value greater than \$100,000.
- Certain funds, such as the BlackRock Exchange Portfolio, BlackRock Series Funds, BlackRock Variable Series Funds, BlackRock Liquidity Funds and other funds with operational restrictions.
- Accounts that have been opened for less than two years.

Please note that <u>IRAs are eligible</u> and will be redeemed if they are under the Fund Minimum. Also, firms that have an omnibus account are expected to review positions of their underlying sub accounts and redeem accounts that are under the Fund Minimum per the policy.

Distribution Partners with accounts that fall under the Fund Minimum will receive a follow-up communication along with a list of accounts to be reviewed. Feedback regarding the file should be provided to BlackRock prior to October 30, 2015. If no response is received, accounts on the file will be redeemed on or around November 19, 2015. Redemption proceeds will be sent through the NSCC and settle T+2.

Should you have any questions about this update, please contact BlackRock Dealer Services at 1-800-882-3302.