

Dreyfus/The Boston Company Small Cap Growth Fund



Prospectus
February 1, 2018

Class	Ticker
I	SSETX
Y	SSYGX

January 2, 2019

SUPPLEMENT TO CURRENT SUMMARY PROSPECTUS AND PROSPECTUS

(funds with BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation as an adviser, subadviser or employer in a dual employment arrangement with Dreyfus, and funds that invest in underlying funds with BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation as an adviser, subadviser or employer in a dual employment arrangement with Dreyfus)

Effective January 2, 2019, BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation changed its name to "Mellon Investments Corporation". All information in the fund's summary prospectus, if applicable, and prospectus relating to "BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation" or "BNY Mellon AMNA" now relates to Mellon Investments Corporation.

DREYFUS FAMILY OF FUNDS

Supplement to Current Prospectus of Funds Offering Class A and/or Class Y Shares

Funds Offering Class Y Shares

The two bullet points below replace the first and second bullet points contained in the section of the fund's Prospectus entitled "Shareholder Guide—Choosing a Share Class—Class Y Shares":

Class Y shares of the fund may be purchased by:

- Institutional investors, acting for themselves or on behalf of their clients, that make an initial investment in Class Y shares of the fund of at least \$1 million
- Retirement Plans, or certain recordkeepers of Retirement Plan platforms that maintain plan level or super-omnibus accounts with the fund, provided that, in each case, they make an initial investment in Class Y shares of the fund of at least \$1 million per Retirement Plan sponsor or per super-omnibus account or have, in the opinion of Dreyfus, adequate intent and availability of assets to reach a future level of investment of \$1 million or more in Class Y shares of the fund

Funds Offering Class A Shares

The following information supplements and supersedes and replaces any contrary information contained in the section of the fund's Prospectus entitled "Shareholder Guide—Choosing a Share Class—Sales Charge Reductions and Waivers":

Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through Ameriprise Financial

Effective June 15, 2018, shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through an Ameriprise Financial platform or account will be eligible only for the following sales charge waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI. Such shareholders may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- Shares purchased by employer-sponsored retirement plans (e.g., 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans). For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs or SAR-SEPs
- Shares purchased through an Ameriprise Financial investment advisory program
- Shares purchased by third party investment advisors on behalf of their advisory clients through Ameriprise Financial's platform
- Shares of the fund purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions of the fund (but not on any other fund in the Dreyfus Family of Funds)
- Shares exchanged from Class C shares of the same fund in the month of or following the 10-year anniversary of the purchase date. To the extent that this prospectus elsewhere provides for a waiver with respect to such shares following a shorter holding period, that waiver will apply to exchanges following such shorter period. To the extent that this prospectus elsewhere provides for a waiver with respect to exchanges of Class C shares for load waived shares, that waiver will also apply to such exchanges

- Shares purchased by employees and registered representatives of Ameriprise Financial or its affiliates and their immediate family members
- Shares purchased by or through qualified accounts (including IRAs, Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, 401(k)s, 403(b) TSCAs subject to ERISA and defined benefit plans) that are held by a covered family member, defined as an Ameriprise Financial advisor and/or the advisor's spouse, advisor's lineal ascendant (mother, father, grandmother, grandfather, great grandmother, great grandfather), advisor's lineal descendant (son, step-son, daughter, step-daughter, grandson, granddaughter, great grandson, great granddaughter) or any spouse of a covered family member who is a lineal descendant
- Shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions of shares of a fund in the Dreyfus Family of Funds, provided (1) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (2) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (3) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end sales charge or CDSC (i.e., Rights of Reinstatement)

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Front-end sales charge waivers on Class A shares purchased through Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

Effective July 1, 2018, shareholders purchasing Class A shares of the fund through a Morgan Stanley Wealth Management transactional brokerage account will be eligible only for the following sales charge waivers, which may differ from those disclosed elsewhere in this prospectus or the SAI. Such shareholders may purchase Class A shares at NAV without payment of a sales charge as follows:

- Shares purchased by employer-sponsored retirement plans (e.g., 401(k) plans, 457 plans, employer-sponsored 403(b) plans, profit sharing and money purchase pension plans and defined benefit plans). For purposes of this provision, employer-sponsored retirement plans do not include SEP IRAs, Simple IRAs, SAR-SEPs or Keogh plans
- Shares purchased by Morgan Stanley employee and employee-related accounts according to Morgan Stanley's account linking rules
- Shares of the fund purchased through reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions of the fund
- Shares purchased through a Morgan Stanley self-directed brokerage account
- Class C shares that are no longer subject to a CDSC and are converted to Class A shares of the same fund pursuant to Morgan Stanley Wealth Management's share class conversion program
- Shares purchased from the proceeds of redemptions from a fund in the Dreyfus Family of Funds, provided (i) the repurchase occurs within 90 days following the redemption, (ii) the redemption and purchase occur in the same account, and (iii) redeemed shares were subject to a front-end sales charge or CDSC.

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For More Information

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Fund Summary

Investment Objective

The fund seeks long-term growth of capital.

Fees and Expenses

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

Annual Fund Operating Expenses (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)		
	Class I	Class Y
Management fees	.80	.80
Other expenses	2.28	2.38
Total annual fund operating expenses	3.08	3.18
Fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement*	(2.08)	(2.18)
Total annual fund operating expenses (after fee waiver and/or expense reimbursement)	1.00	1.00

* The fund's investment adviser, The Dreyfus Corporation, has contractually agreed, until February 1, 2019, to waive receipt of its fees and/or assume the direct expenses of the fund so that the expenses of Class I and Class Y shares (excluding taxes, interest, brokerage commissions, commitment fees on borrowings and extraordinary expenses) do not exceed 1.00%. On or after February 1, 2019, The Dreyfus Corporation may terminate this expense limitation at any time.

Example

The Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the fund for the time periods indicated and then hold or redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the fund's operating expenses remain the same. The one-year example and the first year of the three-, five- and ten-years examples are based on net operating expenses, which reflect the expense limitation agreement by The Dreyfus Corporation. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Class I	\$102	\$755	\$1,433	\$3,246
Class Y	\$102	\$776	\$1,474	\$3,334

Portfolio Turnover

The fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the Example, affect the fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the fund's portfolio turnover rate was 125.73% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategy

To pursue its goal, the fund normally invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of small-cap U.S. companies. The fund currently considers small-cap companies to be those with total market capitalizations that are equal to or less than the total market capitalization of the largest company included in the Russell 2000® Growth Index (the Index), the fund's benchmark index. As of December 31, 2017, the market capitalization of the largest company in the Index was approximately \$9.27 billion. The portfolio managers employ a growth-oriented investment style in managing the fund's portfolio, which means the portfolio managers seek to identify those small-cap companies which are experiencing or are expected to experience rapid earnings or revenue growth. The portfolio managers focus on high quality companies and individual stock selection, instead of trying to predict which industries or sectors will perform best and select stocks by:

- Using fundamental research to identify and follow companies considered to have attractive characteristics, such as strong business and competitive positions, solid cash flows and balance sheets, high quality management and high sustainable growth; and
- Investing in a company when the portfolio managers' research indicates that the company will experience accelerating revenues and expanding operating margins, which may lead to rising estimate trends and favorable earnings surprises.

The fund's investment strategy may lead it to emphasize certain sectors, such as technology, health care, business services and communications.

The fund does not have any limitations regarding portfolio turnover. The fund may engage in short-term trading to try to achieve its objective and may have portfolio turnover rates significantly in excess of 100%. A portfolio turnover of 100% is equivalent to the fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once during the course of a year.

Principal Risks

An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit. It is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or any other government agency. It is not a complete investment program. The fund's share price fluctuates, sometimes dramatically, which means you could lose money.

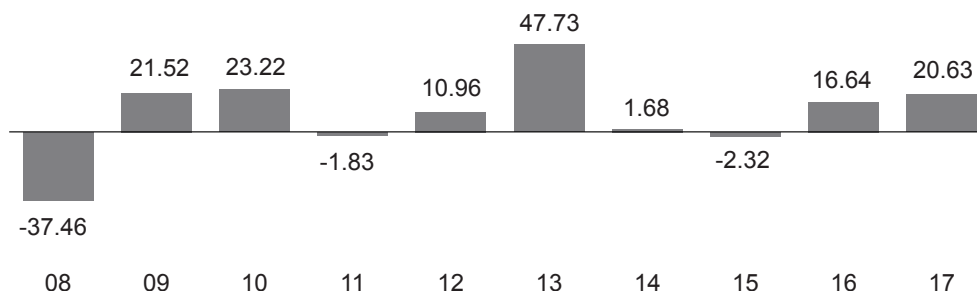
- *Risks of stock investing.* Stocks generally fluctuate more in value than bonds and may decline significantly over short time periods. There is the chance that stock prices overall will decline because stock markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and falling prices. The market value of a stock may decline due to general market conditions or because of factors that affect the particular company or the company's industry.
- *Small and midsize company risk.* Small and midsize companies carry additional risks because the operating histories of these companies tend to be more limited, their earnings and revenues less predictable (and some companies may be experiencing significant losses), and their share prices more volatile than those of larger, more established companies. The shares of smaller companies tend to trade less frequently than those of larger, more established companies, which can adversely affect the pricing of these securities and the fund's ability to sell these securities.
- *Growth stock risk.* Investors often expect growth companies to increase their earnings at a certain rate. If these expectations are not met, investors can punish the stocks inordinately, even if earnings do increase. In addition, growth stocks may lack the dividend yield that may cushion stock prices in market downturns.
- *Market sector risk.* The fund may significantly overweight or underweight certain companies, industries or market sectors, which may cause the fund's performance to be more or less sensitive to developments affecting those companies, industries or sectors.
- *Liquidity risk.* When there is little or no active trading market for specific types of securities, it can become more difficult to sell the securities in a timely manner at or near their perceived value. In such a market, the value of such securities and the fund's share price may fall dramatically. Investments that are illiquid or that trade in lower volumes may be more difficult to value.
- *Portfolio turnover risk.* The fund may engage in short-term trading, which could produce higher transaction costs and taxable distributions, and lower the fund's after-tax performance.

Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the fund. The bar chart shows changes in the performance of the fund's Class I shares from year to year. The table compares the average annual total returns of the fund's shares to those of a broad measure of market performance. The fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the fund will perform in the future. More recent performance information may be available at www.dreyfus.com.

Year-by-Year Total Returns as of 12/31 each year (%)
Class I

Best Quarter
 Q3, 2009: 16.06%
Worst Quarter
 Q4, 2008: -26.46%



After-tax performance is shown only for Class I shares. After-tax performance of the fund's other share class will vary. After-tax returns are calculated using the historical highest individual federal marginal income tax rates, and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Actual after-tax returns depend on the investor's tax situation and may differ from those shown, and the after-tax returns shown are not relevant to investors who hold their shares through U.S. tax-deferred arrangements such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts. Returns after taxes on distributions and sale of fund shares may be higher than returns before taxes or returns after taxes on distributions due to an assumed tax benefit from losses on a sale of the fund's shares at the end of the period.

For the fund's Class Y shares, periods prior to the inception date reflect the performance of the fund's Class I shares. Such performance figures have not been adjusted to reflect applicable class expenses. Each share class is invested in the same portfolio of securities and the annual returns would have differed only to the extent that the classes do not have the same expenses.

Average Annual Total Returns (as of 12/31/17)

Class (Inception Date)	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
Class I returns before taxes	20.63%	15.60%	7.73%
Class I returns after taxes on distributions	16.02%	8.31%	4.09%
Class I returns after taxes on distributions and sale of fund shares	13.73%	10.41%	5.24%
Class Y (7/1/13) returns before taxes	20.77%	15.64%	7.75%
Russell 2000® Growth Index reflects no deductions for fees, expenses or taxes	22.17%	15.21%	9.19%

Portfolio Management

The fund's investment adviser is The Dreyfus Corporation (Dreyfus), the primary mutual fund business of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation (BNY Mellon).

The fund is managed by a team of portfolio managers employed by Dreyfus and BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation (BNY Mellon AMNA), an affiliate of Dreyfus. BNY Mellon AMNA is a specialist multi-asset investment manager formed by the combination of certain BNY Mellon affiliated investment management firms, effective January 31, 2018. The team consists of members of The Boston Company Asset Management (TBCAM) equity investment team; TBCAM was one of the investment management firms that combined to form BNY Mellon AMNA. The team consists of John Porter, the lead portfolio manager, Todd Wakefield, CFA and Robert Zeuthen, CFA. Mr. Porter has been a primary portfolio manager since March 2017 and Messrs. Wakefield and Zeuthen have each been a primary portfolio manager since April 2013. Mr. Porter is the head of the TBCAM U.S. small, small/mid and mid-cap growth equity investment team. Mr. Wakefield is a senior managing director, senior portfolio manager and a member of the TBCAM U.S. small, small/mid and mid-cap growth investment team. Mr. Zeuthen is a senior managing director, senior portfolio manager, senior equity research analyst and a member of the TBCAM U.S. small, small/mid and mid-cap growth equity investment team.

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

In general, the fund's minimum initial investment is \$1,000 for Class I shares and \$1,000,000 for Class Y shares, and the minimum subsequent investment is \$100 for Class I shares with no minimum subsequent investment for Class Y shares. You may sell (redeem) your shares on any business day by calling 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only) or by visiting www.dreyfus.com. If you invested in the fund through a third party, such as a bank, broker-dealer or financial adviser, or through a Retirement Plan (as defined below), you may mail your request to sell shares to Dreyfus Institutional Department, P.O. Box 9882, Providence, Rhode Island 02940-8082. If you invested directly through the fund, you may mail your request to sell shares to Dreyfus Shareholder Services, P.O. Box 9879, Providence, Rhode Island 02940-8079. If you are an Institutional Direct accountholder, please contact your BNY Mellon relationship manager for instructions.

Retirement Plans include qualified or non-qualified employee benefit plans, such as 401(k), 403(b)(7), Keogh, pension, profit-sharing and other deferred compensation plans, whether established by corporations, partnerships, sole proprietorships, non-profit entities, trade or labor unions, or state and local governments, but do not include IRAs (including, without limitation, traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs, Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, IRA "Rollover Accounts" or IRAs set up under Simplified Employee Pension Plans (SEP-IRAs), Salary Reduction Simplified Employee Pension Plans (SARSEPs) or Savings Incentive Match Plans for Employees (SIMPLE IRAs)).

Tax Information

The fund's distributions are taxable as ordinary income or capital gains, except when your investment is through an IRA, Retirement Plan or other U.S. tax-advantaged investment plan (in which case you may be taxed upon withdrawal of your investment from such account).

Payments to Broker-Dealers and Other Financial Intermediaries

If you purchase shares (other than Class Y shares) through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the fund and its related companies may pay the intermediary for the sale of fund shares and related services. To the extent that the intermediary may receive lesser or no payments in connection with the sale of other investments, the payments from the fund and its related companies may create a potential conflict of interest by influencing the broker-dealer or other intermediary and your financial representative to recommend the fund over the other investments. This potential conflict of interest may be addressed by policies, procedures or practices adopted by the financial intermediary. As there may be many different policies, procedures or practices adopted by different intermediaries to address the manner in which compensation is earned through the sale of investments or the provision of related services, the compensation rates and other payment arrangements that may apply to a financial intermediary and its representatives may vary by intermediary. Ask your financial representative or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

Fund Details

Goal and Approach

The fund seeks long-term growth of capital. This objective may be changed by the fund's board, upon 60 days' prior notice to shareholders. To pursue its goal, the fund normally invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of small-cap U.S. companies. The fund currently considers small-cap companies to be those with total market capitalizations that are equal to or less than the total market capitalization of the largest company included in the Russell 2000® Growth Index, the fund's benchmark index. As of December 31, 2017, the market capitalization of the largest company in the Index was approximately \$9.27 billion. This market capitalization measure varies with market changes and reconstitutions of the Index. The Index is an unmanaged index that measures the performance of those Russell 2000 companies (the 2,000 smallest companies in the Russell 3000® Index (which is comprised of the 3,000 largest U.S. companies based on total market capitalization), representing approximately 10% of the total market capitalization of the Russell 3000® Index with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

The portfolio managers employ a growth-oriented investment style in managing the fund's portfolio, which means the portfolio managers seek to identify those small-cap companies which are experiencing or are expected to experience rapid earnings or revenue growth. The portfolio managers focus on high quality companies, especially those with products or services that are believed to be leaders in their market niches.

The portfolio managers focus on individual stock selection instead of trying to predict which industries or sectors will perform best and select stocks by:

- Using fundamental research to identify and follow companies considered to have attractive characteristics, such as strong business and competitive positions, solid cash flows and balance sheets, high quality management and high sustainable growth; and
- Investing in a company when the portfolio managers' research indicates that the company will experience accelerating revenues and expanding operating margins, which may lead to rising estimate trends and favorable earnings surprises.

The fund's investment strategy may lead it to emphasize certain sectors, such as technology, health care, business services and communications.

The portfolio managers monitor the securities in the fund's portfolio, and will consider selling a security if an event occurs that contradicts the portfolio managers' rationale for owning it, such as deterioration in the company's financial fundamentals. In addition, the portfolio managers may sell a security if better investment opportunities emerge elsewhere.

The fund invests principally in common stocks, but its equity investments also may include preferred stocks, convertible securities and warrants, including those purchased in initial public offerings (IPOs) or shortly thereafter. The fund also may invest in exchange-traded funds (ETFs) in order to provide exposure to certain equity markets.

The fund invests principally in U.S.-based companies, but it also may invest up to 15% of its assets in foreign companies (i.e., organized under the laws of countries other than the U.S.), including up to 10% of its assets in issuers located in emerging market countries, and up to 3% of its assets in issuers of any one specific emerging market country. The fund also may invest up to 20% of its assets in high grade fixed-income securities (i.e., rated A or better or the unrated equivalent) with remaining maturities of three years or less, and may invest up to 5% of its assets in fixed-income securities in the lowest long-term investment grade category (i.e., rated Baa-/BBB- or the unrated equivalent).

Although not a principal investment strategy, the fund may, but is not required to, use derivatives, such as options, futures and options on futures (including those relating to securities, indexes, foreign currencies and interest rates) and forward contracts, as a substitute for investing directly in an underlying asset, to increase returns, or as part of a hedging strategy. Generally, the fund would enter into equity index futures contracts based primarily on the Index. Derivatives may be entered into on established exchanges or through privately negotiated transactions referred to as over-the-counter derivatives. A derivatives contract will obligate or entitle the fund to deliver or receive an asset or cash payment based on the change in value of the underlying asset. When the fund enters into derivatives transactions, it may be

required to segregate liquid assets or enter into offsetting positions or otherwise cover its obligations, in accordance with applicable regulations, while the positions are open.

The fund does not have any limitations regarding portfolio turnover. The fund may engage in short-term trading to try to achieve its objective and may have portfolio turnover rates significantly in excess of 100%. A portfolio turnover of 100% is equivalent to the fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once during the course of a year.

Investment Risks

An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit. It is not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any other government agency. It is not a complete investment program. The value of your investment in the fund will fluctuate, sometimes dramatically, which means you could lose money.

- *Risks of stock investing.* Stocks generally fluctuate more in value than bonds and may decline significantly over short time periods. There is the chance that stock prices overall will decline because stock markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and falling prices. The market value of a stock may decline due to general market conditions that are not related to the particular company, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in interest or currency rates or adverse investor sentiment generally. A security's market value also may decline because of factors that affect the particular company, such as management performance, financial leverage and reduced demand for the company's products or services, or factors that affect the company's industry, such as labor shortages or increased production costs and competitive conditions within an industry.
- *Small and midsize company risk.* Small and midsize companies carry additional risks because the operating histories of these companies tend to be more limited, their earnings and revenues less predictable (and some companies may be experiencing significant losses), and their share prices more volatile than those of larger, more established companies. These companies may have limited product lines, markets or financial resources, or may depend on a limited management group. Other investments are made in anticipation of future products, services or events whose delay or cancellation could cause the stock price to drop. The shares of smaller companies tend to trade less frequently than those of larger, more established companies, which can adversely affect the pricing of these securities and the fund's ability to sell these securities. Some of the fund's investments will rise and fall based on investor perception rather than economic factors.
- *Growth stock risk.* Investors often expect growth companies to increase their earnings at a certain rate. If these expectations are not met, investors can punish the stocks inordinately, even if earnings do increase. In addition, growth stocks may lack the dividend yield that may cushion stock prices in market downturns.
- *Market sector risk.* The fund may significantly overweight or underweight certain companies, industries or market sectors, which may cause the fund's performance to be more or less sensitive to developments affecting those companies, industries or sectors.
- *Liquidity risk.* When there is little or no active trading market for specific types of securities, it can become more difficult to sell the securities in a timely manner at or near their perceived value. In such a market, the value of such securities and the fund's share price may fall dramatically. Investments that are illiquid or that trade in lower volumes may be more difficult to value. Investments in foreign securities, particularly those of issuers located in emerging markets, tend to have greater exposure to liquidity risk than domestic securities.
- *Portfolio turnover risk.* The fund may engage in short-term trading, which could produce higher transaction costs and taxable distributions, and lower the fund's after-tax performance.

In addition to the principal risks described above, the fund is subject to the following additional risks that are not anticipated to be principal risks of investing in the fund:

- *Fixed-income securities risk.* To the extent the fund invests in fixed-income securities, such investments will be subject primarily to interest rate and credit risks. The fixed-income securities market also can be susceptible to increases in volatility and decreases in liquidity. Prices of bonds and other fixed-income securities tend to move inversely with changes in interest rates. Typically, a rise in rates will adversely affect fixed rate fixed-income securities and, accordingly, will cause the value of the fund's investments in these securities to decline. The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of fixed-income securities is generally greater for securities with longer effective maturities and durations because such instruments do not mature, reset interest rates or become callable for longer periods of time. Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of the security will fail to make timely interest or principal payments, which can cause the security's price to fall, lowering the value of the fund's investment in such security. The lower a security's credit rating, the greater the chance that the issuer of the security will default or fail to meet its payment obligations. Liquidity of fixed-income securities can decline unpredictably in response to overall economic

conditions or credit tightening. Increases in volatility and decreases in liquidity may be caused by a rise in interest rates (or the expectation of a rise in interest rates). Liquidity risk also may refer to the risk that the fund will not be able to pay redemption proceeds within the allowable time period stated in this prospectus because of unusual market conditions, an unusually high volume of redemption requests, or other reasons. To meet redemption requests, the fund may be forced to sell securities at an unfavorable time and/or under unfavorable conditions, which may adversely affect the fund's share price.

- *Foreign investment risk.* To the extent the fund invests in foreign securities, the fund's performance will be influenced by political, social and economic factors affecting investments in foreign issuers. Special risks associated with investments in foreign issuers include exposure to currency fluctuations, less liquidity, less developed or less efficient trading markets, lack of comprehensive company information, political and economic instability and differing auditing and legal standards. Investments denominated in foreign currencies are subject to the risk that such currencies will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar and affect the value of these investments held by the fund.
- *Emerging market risk.* The securities of issuers located or doing substantial business in emerging market countries tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the securities of issuers located in countries with more mature economies, potentially making prompt liquidation at an attractive price difficult. The economies of countries with emerging markets may be based predominantly on only a few industries, may be highly vulnerable to changes in local or global trade conditions, and may suffer from extreme debt burdens or volatile inflation rates. Transaction settlement and dividend collection procedures also may be less reliable in emerging markets than in developed markets. Emerging markets generally have less diverse and less mature economic structures and less stable political systems than those of developed countries. Investments in these countries may be subject to political, economic, legal, market and currency risks. The risks may include less protection of property rights and uncertain political and economic policies, the imposition of capital controls and/or foreign investment limitations by a country, nationalization of businesses and the imposition of sanctions by other countries, such as the United States.
- *Derivatives risk.* A small investment in derivatives could have a potentially large impact on the fund's performance. The use of derivatives involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in the underlying assets, and the fund's use of derivatives may result in losses to the fund. Derivatives in which the fund may invest can be highly volatile, illiquid and difficult to value, and there is the risk that changes in the value of a derivative held by the fund will not correlate with the underlying assets or the fund's other investments in the manner intended. Certain derivatives have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment. Certain types of derivatives, including over-the-counter transactions, involve greater risks than the underlying assets because, in addition to general market risks, they are subject to liquidity risk, credit and counterparty risk (failure of the counterparty to the derivatives transaction to honor its obligation) and pricing risk (risk that the derivative cannot or will not be accurately valued). Future rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) may require the fund to alter, perhaps materially, its use of derivatives.
- *Leverage risk.* The use of leverage, such as lending portfolio securities, entering into futures contracts or forward currency contracts and engaging in forward commitment transactions, may magnify the fund's gains or losses. Because many derivatives have a leverage component, adverse changes in the value or level of the underlying asset or reference rate can result in a loss substantially greater than the amount invested in the derivative itself.
- *Preferred stock risk.* Preferred stock is a class of a capital stock that typically pays dividends at a specified rate. Preferred stock is generally senior to common stock, but subordinate to debt securities, with respect to the payment of dividends and on liquidation of the issuer. The market value of preferred stock generally decreases when interest rates rise and is also affected by the issuer's ability to make payments on the preferred stock.
- *Convertible securities risk.* Convertible securities may be converted at either a stated price or stated rate into underlying shares of common stock. Convertible securities generally are subordinated to other similar but non-convertible securities of the same issuer. Although to a lesser extent than with fixed-income securities, the market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase. In addition, because of the conversion feature, the market value of convertible securities tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying common stock. Although convertible securities provide for a stable stream of income, they are subject to the risk that their issuers may default on their obligations. Convertible securities also offer the potential for capital appreciation through the conversion feature, although there can be no assurance of capital appreciation because securities prices fluctuate. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality because of the potential for capital appreciation.
- *Warrants risk.* Warrants are subject to the same market risk as stocks, but may be more volatile in price. An investment in warrants would not entitle the fund to receive dividends or exercise voting rights and will become worthless if the warrants cannot be profitably exercised before the expiration dates.

- *IPO risk.* The prices of securities purchased in IPOs can be very volatile. The effect of IPOs on the fund's performance depends on a variety of factors, including the number of IPOs the fund invests in relative to the size of the fund and whether and to what extent a security purchased in an IPO appreciates or depreciates in value. As a fund's asset base increases, IPOs often have a diminished effect on such fund's performance.
- *ETF and other investment company risk.* To the extent the fund invests in pooled investment vehicles, such as ETFs and other investment companies, the fund will be affected by the investment policies, practices and performance of such entities in direct proportion to the amount of assets the fund has invested therein. The risks of investing in other investment companies, including ETFs, typically reflect the risks associated with the types of instruments in which the investment companies invest. When the fund invests in an ETF or other investment company, shareholders of the fund will bear indirectly their proportionate share of the expenses of the ETF or other investment company (including management fees) in addition to the expenses of the fund. ETFs are exchange-traded investment companies that are, in many cases, designed to provide investment results corresponding to an index. The value of the underlying securities can fluctuate in response to activities of individual companies or in response to general market and/or economic conditions. Additional risks of investments in ETFs include: (i) the market price of an ETF's shares may trade at a discount to its net asset value; (ii) an active trading market for an ETF's shares may not develop or be maintained; or (iii) trading may be halted if the listing exchanges' officials deem such action appropriate, the shares are delisted from the exchange, or the activation of market-wide "circuit breakers" (which are tied to large decreases in stock prices) halts trading generally. The fund will incur brokerage costs when purchasing and selling shares of ETFs.
- *Securities lending risk.* The fund may lend its portfolio securities to brokers, dealers and other financial institutions. In connection with such loans, the fund will receive collateral from the borrower equal to at least 100% of the value of the loaned securities. If the borrower of the securities fails financially, there could be delays in recovering the loaned securities or exercising rights to the collateral.
- *Other potential risks.* Under adverse market conditions, the fund could invest some or all of its assets in U.S. Treasury securities and money market securities. Although the fund would do this for temporary defensive purposes, it could reduce the benefit from any upswing in the market. During such periods, the fund's investments may not be consistent with its principal investment strategies, and the fund may not achieve its investment objective.

Management

The investment adviser for the fund is The Dreyfus Corporation, 200 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10166. Founded in 1947, Dreyfus manages approximately \$267 billion in 152 mutual fund portfolios. For the past fiscal year, the fund did not pay Dreyfus an investment advisory fee pursuant to an undertaking in effect. A discussion regarding the basis for the board's approving the fund's investment advisory agreement with Dreyfus is available in the fund's semiannual report for the six-month period ended March 31, 2017. Dreyfus is the primary mutual fund business of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation (BNY Mellon), a global financial services company focused on helping clients manage and service their financial assets, operating in 35 countries and serving more than 100 markets. BNY Mellon is a leading investment management and investment services company, uniquely focused to help clients manage and move their financial assets in the rapidly changing global marketplace. BNY Mellon has \$32.2 trillion in assets under custody and administration and \$1.8 trillion in assets under management. BNY Mellon is the corporate brand of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation. BNY Mellon Investment Management is one of the world's leading investment management organizations, and one of the top U.S. wealth managers, encompassing BNY Mellon's affiliated investment management firms, wealth management services and global distribution companies. Additional information is available at www.bnymellon.com.

The Dreyfus asset management philosophy is based on the belief that discipline and consistency are important to investment success. For each fund, Dreyfus seeks to establish clear guidelines for portfolio management and to be systematic in making decisions. This approach is designed to provide each fund with a distinct, stable identity.

The fund is managed by a team of portfolio managers employed by Dreyfus and BNY Mellon Asset Management North America Corporation, an affiliate of Dreyfus. BNY Mellon AMNA is a specialist multi-asset investment manager formed by the combination of certain BNY Mellon affiliated investment management firms, effective January 31, 2018. The team consists of members of The Boston Company Asset Management equity investment team; TBCAM was one of the investment management firms that combined to form BNY Mellon AMNA. The team consists of John Porter, the lead portfolio manager, Todd Wakefield, CFA and Robert Zeuthen, CFA. Mr. Porter has been a primary portfolio manager since March 2017 and Messrs. Wakefield and Zeuthen have each been a primary portfolio manager since April 2013. Mr. Porter is the head of the TBCAM U.S. small, small/mid and mid-cap growth equity investment team. Prior to joining TBCAM in August 2016, Mr. Porter was employed from September 2013 to August 2016 at Seaward Management and was the founder and Chief Investment Officer for JP3 Capital Management LLC from January 2010 to June 2013. Mr. Wakefield is a senior managing director, senior portfolio manager and a member of the TBCAM U.S.

small, small/mid and mid-cap growth investment team. He joined TBCAM in 2003. Mr. Zeuthen is a senior managing director, senior portfolio manager, senior equity research analyst and a member of the TBCAM U.S. small, small/mid and mid-cap growth equity investment team. He joined TBCAM in 2006. Messrs. Wakefield, Zeuthen and Porter also have been employed by Dreyfus since November 2008, March 2010 and March 2017, respectively, and manage the fund in their capacity as employees of Dreyfus.

The fund's Statement of Additional Information (SAI) provides additional portfolio manager information, including compensation, other accounts managed and ownership of fund shares.

MBSC Securities Corporation (MBSC), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dreyfus, serves as distributor of the fund and of the other funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds. Any Rule 12b-1 fees and shareholder services fees, as applicable, are paid to MBSC for financing the sale and distribution of fund shares and for providing shareholder account service and maintenance, respectively. Dreyfus or MBSC may provide cash payments out of its own resources to financial intermediaries that sell shares of funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds (except Class Y shares) or provide other services. Such payments are separate from any sales charges, 12b-1 fees and/or shareholder services fees or other expenses that may be paid by a fund to those financial intermediaries. Because those payments are not made by fund shareholders or the fund, the fund's total expense ratio will not be affected by any such payments. These payments may be made to financial intermediaries, including affiliates, that provide shareholder servicing, sub-administration, recordkeeping and/or sub-transfer agency services, marketing support and/or access to sales meetings, sales representatives and management representatives of the financial intermediary. Cash compensation also may be paid from Dreyfus' or MBSC's own resources to financial intermediaries for inclusion of a fund on a sales list, including a preferred or select sales list or in other sales programs. These payments sometimes are referred to as "revenue sharing." From time to time, Dreyfus or MBSC also may provide cash or non-cash compensation to financial intermediaries or their representatives in the form of occasional gifts; occasional meals, tickets or other entertainment; support for due diligence trips; educational conference sponsorships; support for recognition programs; technology or infrastructure support; and other forms of cash or non-cash compensation permissible under broker-dealer regulations. In some cases, these payments or compensation may create an incentive for a financial intermediary or its employees to recommend or sell shares of the fund to you. This potential conflict of interest may be addressed by policies, procedures or practices that are adopted by the financial intermediary. As there may be many different policies, procedures or practices adopted by different intermediaries to address the manner in which compensation is earned through the sale of investments or the provision of related services, the compensation rates and other payment arrangements that may apply to a financial intermediary and its representatives may vary by intermediary. Please contact your financial representative for details about any payments they or their firm may receive in connection with the sale of fund shares or the provision of services to the fund.

The fund, Dreyfus and MBSC have each adopted a code of ethics that permits its personnel, subject to such code, to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the fund. Each code of ethics restricts the personal securities transactions of employees, and requires portfolio managers and other investment personnel to comply with the code's preclearance and disclosure procedures. The primary purpose of the respective codes is to ensure that personal trading by employees does not disadvantage any fund managed by Dreyfus or its affiliates.

Shareholder Guide

Choosing a Share Class

The fund is designed primarily for people who are investing through third party intermediaries that have entered into selling agreements with the fund's distributor, such as banks, brokers, dealers or financial advisers (collectively, financial intermediaries), or in Retirement Plans. Financial intermediaries with whom you open a fund account may have different policies and procedures than those described in this prospectus or the SAI. Accordingly, the availability of certain share classes and/or shareholder privileges or services described in this prospectus or the SAI will depend on the policies, procedures and trading platforms of the financial intermediary or Retirement Plan recordkeeper. To be eligible for the share classes and/or shareholder privileges or services described in this prospectus or the SAI, you may need to open a fund account directly with the fund's distributor or a financial intermediary that offers such classes and/or privileges or services. Consult a representative of your financial intermediary or Retirement Plan for further information.

This prospectus offers Class I and Y shares of the fund. Your financial intermediary may receive different compensation for selling one class of shares than for selling another class, and may impose its own account fees and methods for purchasing and selling fund shares, which may depend on, among other things, the type of investor account and the policies, procedures and practices adopted by your financial intermediary. The classes differ in their expenses, eligibility and minimum purchase requirements, and the services they offer to shareholders. Financial intermediaries purchasing fund shares on behalf of their clients determine the share classes available for their clients. You should review these arrangements with your financial representative before determining which class to invest in.

A complete description of these classes follows.

Buying and Selling Shares

Class I Shares

Class I shares are not subject to an initial sales charge or any service of distribution fees. There also is no contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC) imposed on redemptions of Class I shares. Class I shares of the fund are available only to limited types of investors, and may be purchased by:

- bank trust departments, trust companies and insurance companies that have entered into agreements with the fund's distributor to offer Class I shares to their clients
- institutional investors acting in a fiduciary, advisory, agency, custodial or similar capacity for Retirement Plans and SEP-IRAs that have entered into agreements with the fund's distributor to offer Class I shares to such plans and are not eligible to purchase Class Y shares
- law firms or attorneys acting as trustees or executors/administrators
- foundations and endowments that make an initial investment in the fund of at least \$1 million and are not eligible to purchase Class Y shares
- sponsors of college savings plans that qualify for tax-exempt treatment under Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code, that maintain an omnibus account with the fund and do not require shareholder tax reporting or 529 account support responsibilities from the fund's distributor
- advisory fee-based accounts offered through financial intermediaries who, depending on the structure of the selected advisory platform, make Class I shares available
- certain institutional clients of a BNY Mellon investment advisory subsidiary, provided that such clients are approved by Dreyfus and are not eligible to purchase Class Y shares
- U.S.-based employees of BNY Mellon, board members of Dreyfus, board members of funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds, and the spouse, domestic partner or minor child of any of the foregoing, subject to certain conditions described in the SAI, and provided that such Class I shares are purchased directly through the fund's distributor
- unaffiliated investment companies approved by the fund's distributor

Institutions purchasing fund shares on behalf of their clients determine whether Class I shares will be available for their clients. Accordingly, the availability of Class I shares of the fund will depend on the policies, procedures and trading platforms of the institutional investor.

Class Y Shares

Class Y shares are not subject to an initial sales charge or any service or distribution fees. There also is no CDSC imposed on redemptions of Class Y shares. The fund, Dreyfus or the fund's distributor or their affiliates will not make any shareholder servicing, sub-transfer agency, administrative or recordkeeping payments, nor will Dreyfus or the fund's distributor or their affiliates provide any "revenue sharing" payments, with respect to Class Y shares.

Class Y shares of the fund may be purchased by:

- institutional investors, acting for themselves or on behalf of their clients, that have entered into an agreement with the fund's distributor and make an initial investment in Class Y shares of the fund of at least \$1 million
- Retirement Plans, or certain recordkeepers of Retirement Plan platforms that maintain a super-omnibus account with the fund, provided that, in each case, they have entered into an agreement with the fund's distributor and make an initial investment in Class Y shares of the fund of at least \$1 million or have, in the opinion of Dreyfus, adequate intent and availability of assets to reach a future level of investment of \$1 million or more in Class Y shares of the fund
- certain institutional clients of a BNY Mellon investment advisory subsidiary, provided that such clients are approved by Dreyfus and make an initial investment in Class Y shares of the fund of at least \$1 million
- certain funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds and series of BNY Mellon Funds Trust

Generally, each institutional investor will be required to open and maintain a single master account with the fund for all purposes. With respect to recordkeepers of Retirement Plan platforms, the fund considers a super-omnibus account to be one single master account maintained by the Retirement Plan recordkeeper on behalf of multiple Retirement Plans. Certain holders of Class I shares of the fund who meet the eligibility requirements for the purchase of Class Y shares of the fund and who do not require the fund, Dreyfus or the fund's distributor or their affiliates to make any shareholder servicing, sub-transfer agency, administrative or recordkeeping payments may have all of their Class I shares of the fund converted into Class Y shares of the fund. Dreyfus, the fund's distributor or their affiliates will not provide any "revenue sharing" payments with respect to Class I shares converted into Class Y shares.

Institutions purchasing fund shares on behalf of their clients determine whether Class Y shares will be available for their clients. Accordingly, the availability of Class Y shares of the fund will depend on the policies, procedures and trading platforms of the institutional investor.

You pay no sales charges to invest in shares of the fund. There is also no contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC) imposed on redemptions of Class I or Y shares, and you do not pay any ongoing service or distribution fees. Your price for shares is the net asset value (NAV) per share, which is calculated as of the scheduled close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) (usually 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) on days the NYSE is scheduled to be open for regular business.

Your order will be priced at the next NAV calculated after your order is received in proper form by the fund's transfer agent or other authorized entity. "Proper form" refers to completion of an account application (if applicable), satisfaction of requirements in this section (subject to "Shareholder Guide – General Policies") and any applicable conditions in "Additional Information About How to Redeem Shares" in the SAI. Authorized entities other than the fund's transfer agent may apply different conditions for the satisfaction of "proper form" requirements. For more information, consult a representative of your financial intermediary. When calculating NAVs, Dreyfus values equity investments on the basis of market quotations or official closing prices. Dreyfus generally values fixed-income investments based on values supplied by an independent pricing service approved by the fund's board. The pricing service's procedures are reviewed under the general supervision of the board. If market quotations or official closing prices or valuations from a pricing service are not readily available, or are determined not to reflect accurately fair value, the fund may value those investments at fair value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the fund's board. Fair value of investments may be determined by the fund's board, its pricing committee or its valuation committee in good faith using such information as it deems appropriate under the circumstances. Under certain circumstances, the fair value of foreign equity securities will be provided by an independent pricing service. Using fair value to price investments may result in a value that is different from a security's most recent closing price and from the prices used by other mutual funds to calculate their net asset values. Over-the-counter derivative instruments generally will be valued based on values supplied by an independent pricing service approved by the fund's board. Futures contracts will be valued at the most recent settlement price. Forward currency contracts will be valued using the forward rate obtained from an independent pricing service approved by the fund's board. ETFs will be valued at their market

price. Foreign securities held by the fund may trade on days when the fund does not calculate its NAV and thus may affect the fund's NAV on days when investors will not be able to purchase or sell (redeem) fund shares.

Investments in certain types of thinly traded securities may provide short-term traders arbitrage opportunities with respect to the fund's shares. For example, arbitrage opportunities may exist when trading in a portfolio security or securities is halted and does not resume, or the market on which such securities are traded closes before the fund calculates its NAV. If short-term investors in the fund were able to take advantage of these arbitrage opportunities, they could dilute the NAV of fund shares held by long-term investors. Portfolio valuation policies can serve to reduce arbitrage opportunities available to short-term traders, but there is no assurance that such valuation policies will prevent dilution of the fund's NAV by short-term traders. While the fund has a policy regarding frequent trading, it too may not be completely effective to prevent short-term NAV arbitrage trading, particularly in regard to omnibus accounts. Please see "Shareholder Guide — General Policies" for further information about the fund's frequent trading policy.

Orders to buy and sell shares received by an authorized entity (such as a bank, broker-dealer or financial adviser, or Retirement Plan that has entered into an agreement with the fund's distributor) by the time as of which the fund calculates its NAV and transmitted to the fund's distributor or its designee by the close of its business day (usually 5:15 p.m. Eastern time) will be based on the NAV determined that day.

How to Buy Shares

By Mail.

To open an account, complete an application and mail it, together with a check payable to The Dreyfus Family of Funds, to the appropriate address below. To purchase additional shares in a regular account, mail a check payable to The Dreyfus Family of Funds (with your account number on your check), together with an investment slip, to the appropriate address below.

Mailing Address. If you are investing directly through the fund, mail to:

Dreyfus Shareholder Services
P.O. Box 9879
Providence, Rhode Island 02940-8079

If you are investing through a third party, such as a bank, broker-dealer or financial adviser, or in a Retirement Plan, mail to:

Dreyfus Institutional Department
P.O. Box 9882
Providence, Rhode Island 02940-8082

If you are applying for an Institutional Direct account, please contact your BNY Mellon relationship manager for mailing instructions.

Electronic Check or Wire. To purchase shares by wire or electronic check, please call 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only) for more information.

Telephone or Online. To purchase additional shares by telephone or online, you can call 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only) or visit www.dreyfus.com to request your transaction. In order to do so, you must have elected the Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege on your account application or a Shareholder Services Form. See "Services for Fund Investors — Wire Redemption and Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privileges" for more information. Institutional Direct accounts are not eligible for online services.

Except as set forth below, the minimum initial investment is \$1,000 for Class I shares and \$1,000,000 for Class Y shares and the minimum subsequent investment is \$100 for Class I shares with no minimum subsequent investment for Class Y shares. The minimum initial investment for Dreyfus-sponsored Retirement Plans is \$750, with no minimum subsequent investment. Subsequent investments made through Dreyfus TeleTransfer are subject to a \$100 minimum and a \$150,000 maximum. All investments must be in U.S. dollars. Third-party checks, cash, travelers' checks or money orders will not be accepted. You may be charged a fee for any check that does not clear.

How to Sell Shares

You may sell (redeem) shares at any time. Your shares will be sold at the next NAV calculated after your order is received in proper form by the fund's transfer agent or other authorized entity, less any applicable CDSC. Any certificates representing fund shares being sold must be returned with your redemption request. Your order will be processed promptly.

If you request the fund to transmit your redemption proceeds to you by check, the fund expects that your redemption proceeds normally will be sent within two business days after your request is received in proper form. If you request the fund to transmit your redemption proceeds to you by wire via the Wire Redemption Privilege (\$1,000 minimum) or electronic check via the Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege (\$500 minimum), and the fund has your bank account information on file, the fund expects that your redemption proceeds normally will be wired within one business day or sent by electronic check within two business days, as applicable, to your bank account after your request is received in proper form. See "Services for Fund Investors — Wire Redemption and Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privileges" for more information. Payment of redemption proceeds may take longer than the number of days the fund typically expects and may take up to seven days after your order is received in proper form by the fund's transfer agent or other authorized entity, particularly during periods of stressed market conditions or very large redemptions or excessive trading.

The processing of redemptions may be suspended, and the delivery of redemption proceeds may be delayed beyond seven days, depending on the circumstances, for any period: (i) during which the NYSE is closed (other than on holidays or weekends), or during which trading on the NYSE is restricted; (ii) when an emergency exists that makes the disposal of securities owned by the fund or the determination of the fair value of the fund's net assets not reasonably practicable; or (iii) as permitted by order of the Securities and Exchange Commission for the protection of fund shareholders. For these purposes, the Securities and Exchange Commission determines the conditions under which trading shall be deemed to be restricted and an emergency shall be deemed to exist.

Before selling shares recently purchased by check, Dreyfus TeleTransfer or Automatic Asset Builder, please note that:

- if you send a written request to sell such shares, the fund may delay sending the proceeds for up to eight business days following the purchase of those shares or until the fund receives verification of clearance of the funds used to purchase such shares
- the fund will not process wire, telephone, online or Dreyfus TeleTransfer redemption requests for up to eight business days following the purchase of those shares or until the fund receives verification of clearance of the funds used to purchase such shares

Under normal circumstances, the fund expects to meet redemption requests by using cash it holds in its portfolio or selling portfolio securities to generate cash. In addition, the fund, and certain other funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds, may draw upon an unsecured credit facility for temporary or emergency purposes to meet redemption requests. The fund also reserves the right to pay redemption proceeds in securities rather than cash (i.e., "redeem in kind"), to the extent the composition of the fund's investment portfolio enables it to do so, if the amount redeemed is large enough to affect fund operations (for example, if it exceeds 1% of the fund's assets) or the redemption request is during stressed market conditions. Securities distributed in connection with any such redemption in-kind are expected to generally represent your pro rata portion of assets held by the fund immediately prior to the redemption, with adjustments as may be necessary in connection with, for example, certain derivatives, restricted securities, odd lots or fractional shares. Any securities distributed in-kind will remain exposed to market risk until sold, and you may incur transaction costs and taxable gain when selling the securities.

By Mail.

To redeem shares by mail, send a letter of instruction that includes your name, your account number, the name of the fund, the share class, the dollar amount to be redeemed and how and where to send the proceeds. Mail your request to the appropriate address below.

Mailing Address. If you invested directly through the fund, mail to:

Dreyfus Shareholder Services
P.O. Box 9879
Providence, Rhode Island 02940-8079

If you invested through a third party, such as a bank, broker-dealer or financial adviser, or in a Retirement Plan, mail to:

Dreyfus Institutional Department
P.O. Box 9882
Providence, Rhode Island 02940-8082

If you are an Institutional Direct accountholder, please contact your BNY Mellon relationship manager for mailing instructions.

A medallion signature guarantee is required for some written sell orders. These include:

- amounts of \$10,000 or more on accounts whose address has been changed within the last 30 days
- requests to send the proceeds to a different payee or address

- amounts of \$100,000 or more

A medallion signature guarantee helps protect against fraud. You can obtain one from most banks or securities dealers, but not from a notary public. For joint accounts, each signature must be guaranteed. Please call to ensure that your medallion signature guarantee will be processed correctly.

Telephone or Online. To redeem shares by telephone or online, call 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only) or visit www.dreyfus.com to request your transaction. Institutional Direct accounts are not eligible for online services.

By calling 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only), you may speak to a Dreyfus representative and request that redemption proceeds be paid by check and mailed to your address of record (maximum \$250,000 per day). For redemption requests made online through www.dreyfus.com or through Dreyfus Express® automated account access system, there is a \$100,000 per day limit.

General Policies

The fund and the fund's transfer agent are authorized to act on telephone or online instructions from any person representing himself or herself to be you and reasonably believed by the fund or the transfer agent to be genuine. You may be responsible for any fraudulent telephone or online order as long as the fund or the fund's transfer agent (as applicable) takes reasonable measures to confirm that the instructions are genuine.

The fund reserves the right to reject any purchase or exchange request in whole or in part. All shareholder services and privileges offered to shareholders may be modified or terminated at any time, except as otherwise stated in the fund's SAI. Please see the fund's SAI for additional information on buying and selling shares, privileges and other shareholder services.

If you invest through a financial intermediary (rather than directly through the fund), the policies may be different than those described herein. For example, banks, brokers, Retirement Plans, financial advisers and financial supermarkets may charge transaction fees and may set different minimum investments or limitations on buying or selling shares. Please consult your financial representative.

The fund is designed for long-term investors. Frequent purchases, redemptions and exchanges may disrupt portfolio management strategies and harm fund performance by diluting the value of fund shares and increasing brokerage and administrative costs. As a result, Dreyfus and the fund's board have adopted a policy of discouraging excessive trading, short-term market timing and other abusive trading practices (frequent trading) that could adversely affect the fund or its operations. Dreyfus and the fund will not enter into arrangements with any person or group to permit frequent trading.

The fund also reserves the right to:

- refuse any purchase or exchange request, including those from any individual or group who, in Dreyfus' view, is likely to engage in frequent trading
- change or discontinue fund exchanges, or temporarily suspend exchanges during unusual market conditions
- change its minimum investment amount

More than four roundtrips within a rolling 12-month period generally is considered to be frequent trading. A roundtrip consists of an investment that is substantially liquidated within 60 days. Based on the facts and circumstances of the trades, the fund may also view as frequent trading a pattern of investments that are partially liquidated within 60 days.

Transactions made through automatic withdrawal plans, automatic investment plans, automatic non-discretionary rebalancing programs and minimum required retirement distributions generally are not considered to be frequent trading. For Retirement Plans, generally only participant-initiated exchange transactions are subject to the roundtrip limit.

Dreyfus monitors selected transactions to identify frequent trading. When its surveillance systems identify multiple roundtrips, Dreyfus evaluates trading activity in the account for evidence of frequent trading. Dreyfus considers the investor's trading history in other accounts under common ownership or control, in other Dreyfus Funds and BNY Mellon Funds and, if known, in non-affiliated mutual funds and accounts under common control. These evaluations involve judgments that are inherently subjective, and while Dreyfus seeks to apply the policy and procedures uniformly, it is possible that similar transactions may be treated differently. In all instances, Dreyfus seeks to make these judgments to the best of its abilities in a manner that it believes is consistent with shareholder interests. If Dreyfus concludes the account is likely to engage in frequent trading, Dreyfus may cancel or revoke the purchase or exchange on the following business day. Dreyfus may also temporarily or permanently bar such investor's future purchases into the fund in lieu of,

or in addition to, canceling or revoking the trade. At its discretion, Dreyfus may apply these restrictions across all accounts under common ownership, control or perceived affiliation.

Fund shares often are held through omnibus accounts maintained by financial intermediaries, such as brokers and Retirement Plan administrators, where the holdings of multiple shareholders, such as all the clients of a particular broker, are aggregated. Dreyfus' ability to monitor the trading activity of investors whose shares are held in omnibus accounts is limited. However, the agreements between the distributor and financial intermediaries include obligations to comply with the terms of this prospectus and to provide Dreyfus, upon request, with information concerning the trading activity of investors whose shares are held in omnibus accounts. If Dreyfus determines that any such investor has engaged in frequent trading of fund shares, Dreyfus may require the financial intermediary to restrict or prohibit future purchases or exchanges of fund shares by that investor.

Certain Retirement Plans and intermediaries that maintain omnibus accounts with the fund may have developed policies designed to control frequent trading that may differ from the fund's policy. At its sole discretion, the fund may permit such intermediaries to apply their own frequent trading policy. If you are investing in fund shares through a financial intermediary (or in the case of a Retirement Plan, your plan sponsor), please contact the financial intermediary for information on the frequent trading policies applicable to your account.

To the extent the fund significantly invests in foreign securities traded on markets that close before the fund calculates its NAV, events that influence the value of these foreign securities may occur after the close of these foreign markets and before the fund calculates its NAV. As a result, certain investors may seek to trade fund shares in an effort to benefit from their understanding of the value of these foreign securities at the time the fund calculates its NAV (referred to as price arbitrage). This type of frequent trading may dilute the value of fund shares held by other shareholders. The fund has adopted procedures designed to adjust closing market prices of foreign equity securities under certain circumstances to reflect what it believes to be their fair value.

To the extent the fund significantly invests in thinly traded securities, certain investors may seek to trade fund shares in an effort to benefit from their understanding of the value of these securities (referred to as price arbitrage). Any such frequent trading strategies may interfere with efficient management of the fund's portfolio to a greater degree than funds that invest in highly liquid securities, in part because the fund may have difficulty selling these portfolio securities at advantageous times or prices to satisfy large and/or frequent redemption requests. Any successful price arbitrage may also cause dilution in the value of fund shares held by other shareholders.

Although the fund's frequent trading and fair valuation policies and procedures are designed to discourage market timing and excessive trading, none of these tools alone, nor all of them together, completely eliminates the potential for frequent trading.

Small Account Policy

If your account falls below \$500, the fund may ask you to increase your balance. If it is still below \$500 after 30 days, the fund may close your account and send you the proceeds.

Escheatment

If your account is deemed "abandoned" or "unclaimed" under state law, the fund may be required to "escheat" or transfer the assets in your account to the applicable state's unclaimed property administration. The state may sell escheated shares and, if you subsequently seek to reclaim your proceeds of liquidation from the state, you may only be able to recover the amount received when the shares were sold. It is your responsibility to ensure that you maintain a correct address for your account, keep your account active by contacting the fund's transfer agent or distributor by mail or telephone or accessing your account through the fund's website at least once a year, and promptly cash all checks for dividends, capital gains and redemptions. The fund, the fund's transfer agent and Dreyfus and its affiliates will not be liable to shareholders or their representatives for good faith compliance with state escheatment laws.

Distributions and Taxes

Each share class will generate a different dividend because each has different expenses. The fund earns dividends, interest and other income from its investments, and distributes this income (less expenses) to shareholders as dividends. The fund also realizes capital gains from its investments, and distributes these gains (less any losses) to shareholders as capital gain distributions. The fund normally pays dividends and capital gain distributions annually. Fund dividends and capital gain distributions will be reinvested in the fund unless you or your financial intermediary instruct the fund otherwise. There are no fees or sales charges imposed by the fund on reinvestments.

Distributions paid by the fund are subject to federal income taxes, and also may be subject to state or local taxes (unless you are investing through a Retirement Plan or other U.S. tax-advantaged investment plan). For federal tax purposes, in

general, certain fund distributions, including distributions of short-term capital gains, are taxable as ordinary income. Other fund distributions, including dividends from certain U.S. companies and certain foreign companies and distributions of long-term capital gains, generally are taxable as qualified dividends and capital gains, respectively.

High portfolio turnover and more volatile markets can result in significant taxable distributions to shareholders, regardless of whether their shares have increased in value. The tax status of any distribution generally is the same regardless of how long you have been in the fund and whether you reinvest your distributions or take them in cash.

If you buy shares of the fund when the fund has realized but not yet distributed income or capital gains, you will be "buying a dividend" by paying the full price for the shares and then receiving a portion back in the form of a taxable distribution.

Your sale of shares, including exchanges into other funds, may result in a capital gain or loss for tax purposes. A capital gain or loss on your investment in the fund generally is the difference between the cost of your shares and the amount you receive when you sell them.

The tax status of your distributions will be detailed in your annual tax statement from the fund. Because everyone's tax situation is unique, please consult your tax adviser before investing.

Annual year-end distribution estimates, if any, are expected to be available beginning in early October, and may be updated from time to time, at www.dreyfus.com/accounts-services/tax-center or by calling 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only) or your financial representative.

Services for Fund Investors

The following services may be available to fund investors. If you purchase shares through a third party financial intermediary or in a Retirement Plan, the financial intermediary or Retirement Plan recordkeeper may impose different restrictions on these services and privileges, or may not make them available at all. Consult a representative of your financial intermediary or Retirement Plan for further information.

Fund Exchanges

Generally, you can exchange shares worth \$500 or more (no minimum for Dreyfus-sponsored Retirement Plans) into shares of the same class, or another class in which you are eligible to invest, of another fund in the Dreyfus Family of Funds. However, if you hold fund shares through financial intermediary brokerage platforms, you may only exchange fund shares for shares of the same class of another fund in the Dreyfus Family of Funds. You can request your exchange by calling 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only) or your financial representative. If you are an Institutional Direct account holder, please contact your BNY Mellon relationship manager for instructions. Be sure to read the current prospectus for any fund into which you are exchanging before investing. Any new account established through an exchange generally will have the same privileges as your original account (as long as they are available). There is currently no fee for exchanges, although you may be charged a sales load when exchanging into any fund that has one.

Your exchange request will be processed on the same business day it is received in proper form, provided that each fund is open at the time of the request (i.e., the request is received by the latest time each fund calculates its NAV for that business day). If the exchange is accepted at a time of day after one or both of the funds is closed (i.e., at a time after the NAV for the fund has been calculated for that business day), the exchange will be processed on the next business day. See the SAI for more information regarding exchanges.

Conversion Feature

Shares of one class of the fund may be converted into shares of another class of the fund, provided you meet the eligibility requirements for investing in the new share class. The fund reserves the right to refuse any conversion request.

Wire Redemption and Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privileges

To redeem shares from your Dreyfus Fund account with a phone call or online, use the Wire Redemption Privilege or the Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege. To purchase additional shares of your Dreyfus Fund account with a phone call or online, use the Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege. You can set up the Wire Redemption Privilege and Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege on your account by providing bank account information and following the instructions on your application or, if your account has already been established, a Shareholder Services Form which you can obtain by calling 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only), visiting www.dreyfus.com or by contacting your financial representative. Shares held in a Coverdell Education Savings Account may not be redeemed through the Wire Redemption or Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privileges. Institutional Direct accounts are not eligible for the Wire Redemption or Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privileges initiated online.

Account Statements

Every Dreyfus Fund investor automatically receives regular account statements. You will also be sent a yearly statement detailing the tax characteristics of any dividends and distributions you have received.

Dreyfus Express[®] Voice-Activated Account Access

You can check your Dreyfus account balances, get fund price and performance information, order documents and much more, by calling 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only) and using the Dreyfus Express[®] Voice-Activated System. You may also be able to purchase fund shares and/or transfer money between your Dreyfus Funds using Dreyfus Express[®]. Certain requests require the services of a representative.

Financial Highlights

These financial highlights describe the performance of the fund's shares for the fiscal periods indicated. "Total return" shows how much your investment in the fund would have increased (or decreased) during each period, assuming you had reinvested all dividends and distributions. These financial highlights have been derived from the fund's financial statements, which have been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with the fund's financial statements, is included in the annual report, which is available upon request.

Class I Shares	<i>Year Ended September 30,</i>				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Per Share Data (\$):					
Net asset value, beginning of period	30.32	35.16	52.76	70.83	60.57
Investment Operations:					
Investment (loss)--net ^a	(.07)	(.08)	(.17)	(.30)	(.13)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	5.52	4.08	3.48	1.98	16.26
Total from Investment Operations	5.45	4.00	3.31	1.68	16.13
Distributions:					
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(4.12)	(8.84)	(20.91)	(19.75)	(5.87)
Net asset value, end of period	31.65	30.32	35.16	52.76	70.83
Total Return (%)	19.75	13.83	6.50	1.46	30.20
Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):					
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	3.08	2.06	1.40	1.15	1.04
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	1.00	.98	.95	.95	.98
Ratio of net investment (loss) to average net assets	(.23)	(.26)	(.41)	(.52)	(.22)
Portfolio Turnover Rate	125.73	197.34	169.20	138.15	121.73
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	5,377	6,441	23,034	46,290	101,043

^a Based on average shares outstanding.

	<i>Year Ended September 30,</i>				
Class Y Shares	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013^a
Per Share Data (\$):					
Net asset value, beginning of period	30.35	35.18	52.76	70.83	64.04
Investment Operations:					
Investment (loss)--net ^b	(.21)	(.07)	(.15)	(.19)	(.10)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	5.68	4.08	3.48	1.87	6.89
Total from Investment Operations	5.47	4.01	3.33	1.68	6.79
Distributions:					
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(4.12)	(8.84)	(20.91)	(19.75)	-
Net asset value, end of period	31.70	30.35	35.18	52.76	70.83
Total Return (%)	19.81	13.85	6.56	1.48	10.59^c
Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):					
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	3.18	2.17	1.40	1.11	1.07 ^d
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	1.00	.97	.90	.95	.95 ^d
Ratio of net investment (loss) to average net assets	(.69)	(.23)	(.35)	(.38)	(.57) ^d
Portfolio Turnover Rate	125.73	197.34	169.20	138.15	121.73
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	1,541	70	81	156	1

^aFrom July 1, 2013 (commencement of initial offering) to September 30, 2013.

^bBased on average shares outstanding.

^cNot annualized.

^dAnnualized.

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For More Information

Dreyfus/The Boston Company Small Cap Growth Fund

A series of Dreyfus Investment Funds

More information on this fund is available free upon request, including the following:

Annual/Semiannual Report

The fund's annual and semiannual reports describe the fund's performance, list portfolio holdings and contain a letter from the fund's manager discussing recent market conditions, economic trends and fund strategies that significantly affected the fund's performance during the period covered by the report. The fund's most recent annual and semiannual reports are available at www.dreyfus.com.

Statement of Additional Information (SAI)

The SAI provides more details about the fund and its policies. A current SAI is available at www.dreyfus.com and is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The SAI is incorporated by reference (and is legally considered part of this prospectus).

Portfolio Holdings

Dreyfus funds generally disclose, at www.dreyfus.com under Products, (1) complete portfolio holdings as of each month-end with a one month lag and as of each calendar quarter end with a 15-day lag; (2) top 10 holdings as of each month-end with a 10-day lag; and (3) from time to time, certain security-specific performance attribution data as of a month-end, with a 10-day lag. From time to time a fund may make available certain portfolio characteristics, such as allocations, performance- and risk-related statistics, portfolio-level statistics and non-security specific attribution analyses, on request. Dreyfus money market funds generally disclose, also at www.dreyfus.com under Products, their complete schedule of holdings daily. A fund's portfolio holdings and any security-specific performance attribution data will remain on the website at least until the fund files its Form N-Q or Form N-CSR for the period that includes the dates of the posted holdings.

A complete description of the fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the fund's portfolio securities is available in the fund's SAI and at www.dreyfus.com.

To Obtain Information

By telephone. Call 1-800-DREYFUS (inside the U.S. only)

By mail.

The Dreyfus Family of Funds
144 Glenn Curtiss Boulevard
Uniondale, NY 11556-0144

By E-mail. Send your request to info@dreyfus.com

On the Internet. Certain fund documents can be viewed online or downloaded from:

SEC: <http://www.sec.gov>

Dreyfus: <http://www.dreyfus.com>

You can also obtain copies, after paying a duplicating fee, by visiting the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC (for information, call 1-202-551-8090) or by E-mail request to publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, DC 20549-1520.

This prospectus does not constitute an offer or solicitation in any state or jurisdiction in which, or to any person to whom, such offering or solicitation may not lawfully be made.

SEC file number: 811-04813