Firm Overview

Strategic Investment Group (Strategic)

Strategic has been partnering with Indiana Biosciences Research Institute (IBRI) since September 2016. Strategic offers a comprehensive service platform for managing customized endowment portfolios designed to deliver sustainable net-of-fee excess returns. Its proprietary process combines active portfolio management, rigorous risk management, and open-architecture manager selection. Strategic functions as an investment partner and co-fiduciary for clients, effectively becoming an extension of their resources. IBRI is free to focus on its core missions, while Strategic focuses on providing the highly specialized portfolio management expertise needed to meet investment goals.

Quick Facts about Strategic

- Pioneer in dedicated Outsourced Chief Investment Office (OCIO) Solutions since 1987
- Based in Arlington, Virginia
- SEC-registered investment adviser
- $28.6 billion in discretionary assets under management
- 27 discretionary OCIO relationships
- $10.8 billion assets under management from not-for-profits similar to IBRI

What Strategic’s OCIO Solutions Deliver

- **Performance:** Long-term outperformance for real clients, with a robust and repeatable investment process. Strategic is compliant with GIPS, the performance reporting standards established by the CFA Institute.
- **Experience:** The depth and stability of a team of 103, including 43 investment professionals. Strategic’s senior investment professionals have an average of 31 years of experience and 20 years of collaboration.
- **Access:** Size and experience enable access to what Strategic believes to be the most compelling investment opportunities, often on advantageous terms.
- **Risk Management:** A dedicated independent team integrates comprehensive investment, legal, and operational risk management into the investment process.
- **Accountability:** Strategic becomes co-fiduciaries with its clients, crafting comprehensive and customized portfolio solutions for their unique needs and enabling Staff and Trustees to focus on their core missions.

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**Investment Process**

Strategic has a team of highly qualified and experienced investment professionals with specialist expertise within and across asset classes. Investment decisions are made with reference to the full range of opportunities available across the global investment universe. Strategic utilizes a risk-aware, price-sensitive investment process and believes that asset prices are determined by the fundamental factors of valuation and risk.

**Design. Develop. Implement.**

Strategic’s investment process comprises three key steps:

1. **Design the investment policy:** Strategic’s client-centric process focuses on designing an optimal long-term strategy that is customized to each client’s unique objectives, risk appetite, and mission. It collaborates with clients to set an investment policy that defines financial objectives and risk parameters and provides the framework—including asset allocation guidelines, benchmarks, and risk control ranges—for achieving those goals.

   For endowments and foundations, the most critical issue regarding investment policy is to invest in a manner which maximizes wealth creation while meeting targeted spending requirements and realizing an appropriate level of volatility. However, circumstances impacting the endowment can be dynamic. A well-constructed investment policy developed with these key considerations provides a valuable framework focused on the long horizon, but sensitive to shorter-term and ongoing needs.

   In constructing a target policy for endowment clients, Strategic works with the various stakeholders to ensure an understanding of the spending policy and that all parties understand the implications of the spending policy on investment goals. Governance considerations, as well as regulatory, legal, and tax issues are also key elements to incorporate. Finally, for endowments that seek to express SRI, ESG, or mission-related objectives in their portfolios, understanding these concerns is an important area of discussion.

2. **Develop the portfolio structure:** Once the investment policy is set, Strategic develops the active portfolio structure relative to that policy. Active asset allocation decisions integrate quantitative and qualitative insights to assess the relative attractiveness of asset classes. Using these insights, Strategic actively manages asset allocations in light of changing economic conditions and relative valuations. Its structuring tilts within asset classes seek to exploit valuation anomalies across different market segments. It uses proprietary analytical tools to disentangle the underlying factor exposures of each asset class, assess their relative valuations, and actively manage the exposure to each factor.

3. **Implement the portfolio:** Strategic is comprised of portfolio managers, not just manager selectors. It strives to construct optimal portfolios of diversified market and active exposures. Its proprietary analytics and seasoned team bring experienced insight to structuring portfolios and selecting and monitoring what it believes to be top-tier managers. Strategic uses active managers to seek alpha and help achieve the targeted portfolio structure. Its direct trading capacity—using Treasuries, futures, swaps, and ETFs—complements active managers while enhancing liquidity, lowering costs, and increasing agility.

**Managing Risk and Liquidity**

Strategic’s comprehensive, proprietary risk management system evaluates and seeks to calibrate the macro-level risks that arise from asset allocation and structuring decisions, as well as the security-specific risks produced by the active management activities of specialist investment managers. These sophisticated analytics disentangle the underlying risk factors embedded in a portfolio. Strategic’s analytics allow it to manage the exposure to each risk factor as a means of managing absolute and relative risk.
Indiana Biosciences Research Institute Endowment Asset Allocation and Performance

The IBRI Endowment exists to support the operations of the Institute and its mission over the long term.

IBRI’s mission is to become the leading industry-inspired applied research institute in the discovery and development of innovative solutions to improve health, initially targeting diabetes, metabolic disease, and poor nutrition. Our goals are to:

- Speed discovery by removing traditional barriers to research in favor of a creative, visionary environment that encourages collaboration across industries and scientific disciplines;
- Foster innovation by enabling researchers to participate and contribute toward the translation of their ideas, treatments, therapies, and products;
- Support collaboration by leveraging and sharing assets and resources to more effectively overcome the challenges of frontier science;
- Leverage a flexible business model based on multiple sources of public, private, and philanthropic funding in order to combine resources toward a shared mission; and
- Attract world-class talent and provide them with the support to pursue breakthrough science.

IBRI Endowment Asset Allocation
As of December 31, 2020

IBRI Endowment Performance
As of December 31, 2020

2. Percentages may not add to 100.0% due to rounding.
3. Returns are net of both Strategic and sub-manager fees. Strategic reports performance on a “trade date” basis. Market values and returns are subject to revisions due to updated valuations of the underlying investments.
Strategic Investment Group

Strategic, a pioneer in dedicated Outsourced CIO (OCIO) solutions since 1987, offers a comprehensive service platform for managing customized portfolios for institutional investors. Strategic’s proprietary process combines active portfolio management, rigorous risk management, and open architecture manager selection.

Strategic functions as its clients’ investment partner and co-fiduciary, effectively becoming an extension of their resources. Clients are then free to focus on their core missions, while Strategic focuses on providing the highly specialized portfolio management expertise that clients need to meet their investment goals. Depending on a client’s needs and preferences, Strategic can orchestrate the management of an entire portfolio comprising multiple asset classes, focus on specific asset classes, such as alternatives (e.g., hedge funds, real estate, and/or private equity) or international investments, or manage strategies with high potential for adding value (e.g., portable alpha through investor-friendly turnkey structures). Customized liability-driven investing (LDI) solutions, whether through an integrated total portfolio approach or a targeted long-duration strategy, are also available, as are solutions that address mission-related investment objectives.

Strategic strives to build enduring partnerships with its clients by strengthening their investment programs through a dynamic, value-enhancing investment process, sound governance framework, and world class client service. Strategic’s mission is to empower investors through experience, innovation, and excellence.

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