## DOLLAR COST AVERAGING

Take Advantage of the Market's Ups and Downs

## How Do the Ups and Downs of the Market Affect You?

The market's ups and downs are a double-edged sword. When we let emotions influence our investment decisions, market ups and downs may result in many people buying high and selling low.

When we let the time-tested strategy of Dollar Cost Averaging (DCA) guide our investment decisions, emotions are often overridden by consistent and regular investing. In doing so, market ups and downs result in buying more shares when prices are low and buying fewer shares when prices are high, which could lead to a lower average cost per share over time.

## Dollar Cost Averaging in Action*

The chart below shows how DCA works. In this example, the client invests $\$ 100$ in a mutual fund each month for 12 months.

## Lump Sum:

A single investment
of $\$ 1,200$ buys 120
shares at $\$ 10 /$ share.

DCA:
Monthly investments of $\$ 100$
for 12 months buys shares
at various prices each month.
\$13/8 sh.
\$12/8 sh. \$10/10 sh.

In the hypothetical example, the dollar cost averaging strategy ended up with a greater amount of total shares, and hence more money (greater current value), at the end of the 12 months. An important note to remember is that the value of your investment is based on the number of shares you have and DCA may help you maximize the number of shares you own.

|  | Total Investment | Average Cost per Share | Total Shares | Current Value |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Lump Sum | $\$ 1,200$ | $\$ 10$ | 120 | $\$ 1,200$ |
| DCA | $\$ 1,200$ | $\$ 9.16$ | 131 | $\$ 1,310$ |

* Dollar Cost Averaging does not assure a profit or protect against loss in declining markets. Investors should consider their ability to make regular investments during all market conditions. This is a hypothetical example for illustrative purposes only. Please note that this hypothetical investment does not take into account federal, state or municipal taxes. If taxes were taken into account, the hypothetical values shown would have been lower.
All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal.

