

Guardian Capital Dividend Growth Fund

Inst'l Shares (DIVGX)
Inception 05.01.2019



STERLING
CAPITAL FUNDS

09.30.2026

Overall Morningstar Rating™



Overall rating against 298 Funds in the Morningstar US Fund Global Large-Stock Blend Category as of 09.30.2026, derived from a weighted average of the risk-adjusted performance figures associated with its three-, five- and ten-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. (DIVGX)

Fund Facts

Investment Objective:

The Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation and current income.

Sub-Adviser	Guardian Capital LP
Total Net Assets	\$39,761,094
Holdings Range	30-60 Stocks
Number of Holdings	41
Wtd. Median P/E	28.58x
Wtd. Median P/B	7.07x
Wtd. Avg. Market Cap	\$1183.37B
Active Share	77.96%
Turnover	66%

Annual turnover data is shown as of 09.30.2025, the most recent fiscal year end.

Total Expense Ratio

	Net	Gross
Inst'l Shares (DIVGX)	0.95%	1.01%

The Advisor has contractually agreed to limit certain fees paid by the Fund from February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2027. Performance would have been lower without limitations in effect.

5Y Risk Statistics vs. MSCI World

Alpha	0.80%
Beta	0.82
R-Squared	85.39%
Standard Deviation	13.22%
Sharpe Ratio	0.57
Up Capture Ratio	86.69%
Down Capture Ratio	84.32%

30-Day SEC Yield

	With Waivers	Without Waivers
Inst'l Shares (DIVGX)	0.85%	0.71%

SEC Yield is an annualization of the Fund's total net investment income per share for the 30-day period ended on the last day of the month.

Philosophy & Process

The portfolio management team aims to achieve its investment objective primarily through investment in a portfolio of equity or equity-related securities of issuers with business operations located throughout the world. The team combines artificial and human intelligence to provide a modern approach to portfolio construction, incorporating the advantages of big data with the experience and perspective of the team.

What we look for:

- Strong future dividend growth potential and a low probability of a dividend cut using our proprietary AI algorithms;
- Positive change in fundamentals regardless of geographic domicile;
- Consistent cash flow growth;
- Less dependency on long-term future earnings projections;
- Lower cost of borrowing versus peers.

Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. For a prospectus or summary prospectus with this and other information about the Fund, please call 888.228.1872 or visit our website at www.sterlingcapital.com. Read the prospectus carefully before investing.

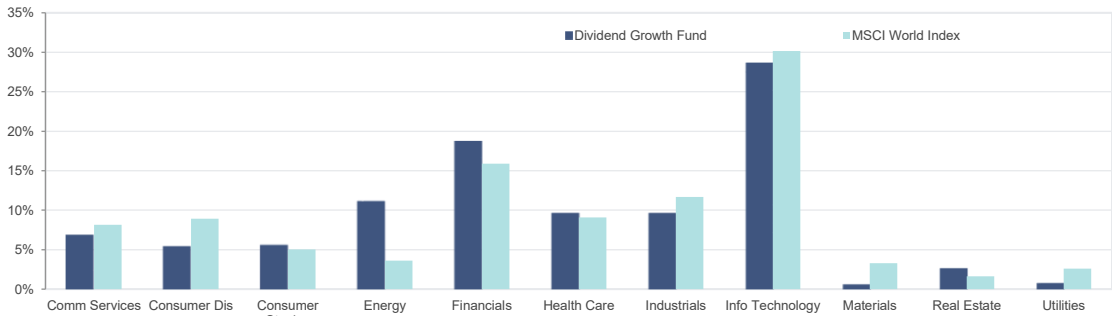
Investing involves risk, including loss of principal. There is no guarantee that dividend-paying stocks will continue to pay dividends. Stocks selected for their growth characteristics may underperform. The use of AI may result in incomplete, inaccurate, or biased information, which could lead to operational errors, investment losses, or other adverse effects on the Fund.

Fund Performance For the period ended 09.30.2026	QTR	YTD	1Y	3Y	5Y	Since Inception
Institutional Shares	0.56%	10.09%	11.27%	17.37%	11.31%	11.79%
MSCI World Index (NR)	1.88%	11.75%	15.24%	21.40%	11.89%	13.32%
MSCI World High Dividend Yield Index (NR)	1.07%	10.01%	14.26%	14.66%	9.40%	8.80%
Lipper Global Equity Income Median	-0.03%	9.92%	13.65%	17.21%	10.44%	---

Year-End Performance	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Institutional Shares	0%	9.48%	27.43%	-14.64%	19.48%	16.20%	13.45%
MSCI World Index (NR)	27.67%	15.90%	21.82%	-18.14%	23.79%	18.67%	21.09%
MSCI World High Dividend Yield Index (NR)	23.15%	-0.03%	15.83%	-4.74%	9.12%	7.95%	18.64%

Past performance does not guarantee future results. The performance data quoted represents past performance and current returns may be lower or higher. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. To obtain performance information current to the most recent month end and information on other share classes, please visit www.sterlingcapital.com. Performance is annualized for periods greater than one year.

Sector Allocation

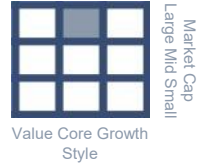


Allocations are based on the current weight to funds in the cited Sector. The composition of the Fund's holdings is subject to change.



Guardian Capital Dividend Growth Fund

Morningstar Style Box



09.30.2026

Portfolio Management

Srikanth (Sri) Iyer

Managing Director | Co-Portfolio Manager
Sri joined GCLP in 2001 and has co-managed the Fund since inception. He is also Head of i³ Investments®. He has over 25 years of investment experience. He received a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Bombay and an MBA in Applied Finance and Statistics from Rutgers Graduate School of Management. He holds the Chartered Cost and Works Accountant (India) designation.

Fiona Wilson, CFA®

Co-Portfolio Manager |
Fiona joined GCLP in 2011 and has co-managed the Fund since inception. She has investment experience since 1989. She received a B.A. from the University of Western Ontario and an Honours Bachelor of Commerce and MBA from the University of Windsor. She holds the CFA® designation.

The Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA) charter is a graduate-level investment credential awarded by CFA Institute, the largest global association of investment professionals. To earn the CFA charter, candidates must: 1) pass three sequential, six-hour examinations; 2) have at least four years of qualified professional investment experience; 3) join CFA Institute as members; and 4) commit to abide by, and annually reaffirm, their adherence to the CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct.

Growth of \$10,000



The Growth of \$10,000 chart is hypothetical based upon the performance of A Shares without sales charge for the period ended 09.30.2026. It includes the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains.

Top Ten Equity Holdings

Apple Inc.	6.56%
Microsoft Corporation	5.80%
ASML Holding NV Sponsored ADR	5.46%
Broadcom Inc.	5.43%
AXA SA	4.65%
Allianz SE	4.64%
Alphabet Inc. Class A	4.51%
Williams Companies, Inc.	4.36%
Royal Bank of Canada	4.30%
Costco Wholesale Corporation	4.13%

Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to change and risk. Based on Market Value of securities.

Lipper Global Equity Income Category Based on Total Return as of 09.30.2026

	1Y	3Y	5Y	10Y
Lipper Ranking/Number of Funds in Category	67/104	45/97	29/94	/78
Lipper Quartile (Percentile)	3rd (65%)	2nd (47%)	2nd (31%)	N/A (0%)

Morningstar U.S. Global Large-Stock Blend Category For the Period Ended 09.30.2026

	Overall Rating	1Y	3Y	5Y	10Y
Institutional Shares Morningstar Rating™	★★★★	--	★★★	★★★★	
Morningstar Ranking/Number of Funds in Category	298	221/326	193/298	74/290	0/219
Morningstar Quartile (Percentile)		3rd (69%)	3rd (65%)	2nd (31%)	1st (0%)

Note: Morningstar Ratings are based on risk-adjusted returns. Morningstar Rankings are based on total return.

A Note on Indices: The volatility of an index varies greatly. All indices are unmanaged and investments cannot be made directly in an index.

The **MSCI World Index** captures large and mid-cap representation across 23 Developed Markets (DM) countries. With 1,601 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

The **MSCI World High Dividend Yield Index** aims to capture the high dividend yield equity opportunity set within the MSCI World Index by including only securities that offer a higher than average dividend yield relative to that of the parent index and that pass dividend sustainability and persistence screens.

The **Lipper Global Equity Income Index** reflects the average time-weighted rate of return of a representative group of global equity income funds over time. Refinitiv™ Lipper® defines a global equity income fund as a fund that, by portfolio practice, invests at least 65% of their portfolio in dividend-paying equity securities of domestic and foreign companies. Lipper ensures that no restricted track record extensions are permitted, meaning only real histories represent the independently collected data. Source: Refinitiv Lipper.

Ratings and Rankings would have been lower for Class A shares due to fees and expenses. Lipper and Morningstar rankings are based on total return, including the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains but do not include sales charges for the periods indicated. Rankings shown are for Class I Shares and may be lower for Class A Shares due to higher fees and expenses. Mutual funds are assigned a rank within a universe of funds, relative to a peer group and similar in investment objective as determined by Lipper and Morningstar. The lower the number rank, the better the fund performed compared to other funds in the classification group. Lipper and Morningstar also calculate a percentile measure for each fund ranging from 1% (best) to 100% (worst).

The Morningstar Rating™ for funds, or "star rating", is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open-ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a managed product's monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars, and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Rating for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the risk-adjusted performance figures associated with its three-, five-, and 10-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. The weights are: 100% three-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% five-year rating/40% three-year rating for 60-119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% five-year rating/20% three-year rating for 120 or more months of risk-adjusted returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent three-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods.

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Alpha: Measures an investment's performance relative to a benchmark, adjusted for its level of market risk. A positive alpha indicates outperformance relative to expected returns, while a negative alpha indicates underperformance. **Beta:** Measures an investment's volatility or systematic risk relative to the overall market or a benchmark. A beta of 1.0 indicates the investment tends to move in line with the market, while a beta greater than 1.0 indicates higher sensitivity to market movements. **Down Capture Ratio:** Measures how an investment performs relative to its benchmark during periods when the benchmark generates negative returns. A ratio below 100% generally indicates the investment experienced smaller losses than the benchmark.

Portfolio Turnover Rate: Measures a fund's annual trading activity, expressed as the percentage of portfolio holdings replaced during the year. **R-Squared:** Measures the percentage of an investment's movements that can be explained by movements in its benchmark index. Values range from 0 to 100, with higher values indicating a stronger relationship to the benchmark.

Sharpe Ratio: Measures an investment's risk-adjusted return by dividing its excess return above the risk-free rate by its standard deviation. A higher Sharpe ratio generally indicates better risk-adjusted performance. **Standard Deviation:** Measures how much an investment's returns fluctuate around its average return over a given period. A higher standard deviation indicates greater return variability and volatility. **Up Capture Ratio:** Measures how an investment performs relative to its benchmark during periods when the benchmark generates positive returns. A ratio above 100% indicates the investment outperformed the benchmark during those periods. **Weighted Average P/B:** Compares the book value of a fund's stocks with their market value. The price-to-book ratio indicates how much an investor is paying for a company's assets based on historical valuations and does not reflect the current market value of those assets.

Weighted Median P/E: Compares the price of a fund's stocks with their per-share earnings, with a higher ratio indicating that the market expects a company to increase its earnings. (Sources: Corporate Finance Institute; Investopedia.)

Sterling Capital Management LLC, an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Desjardins Global Asset Management Inc., which is part of the Desjardins Group, serves as investment adviser to the Sterling Capital Funds and is paid a fee for its services. Guardian Capital LP is the Fund's Sub-Adviser. The Funds are not insured by the FDIC or any other government agency. The Funds are distributed by Sterling Capital Distributors LLC.