About this Application

This is an Account Application Form. Please read it carefully, as you select products and services, please advise the best way to communicate with us, and agree to certain provisions that will govern our relationship. Once accepted, this application and all accompanying or supplemental documents form the entire agreement between us for this account.

Unless otherwise indicated in this application, the words “you,” “your,” “yourself,” and “yours” mean the applicant(s). The words “we,” “us,” and “our” mean VLM, White Magnolia Plaza, Dongchangzhi Road, Hongkou District, Shanghai, China, 200080, and our branches, subsidiaries, and affiliates.

Getting Started

Please complete and sign this application and forward along with any required supplemental forms identified through this application process.

In order to complete this application, you will need the following information:

- Identification information, such as a driver’s license, passport, or another type of government-issued identification
- Social Security Number
- W-8BEN Form
- Information about your annual income, debt, expenses, and net worth
- Back-up contact information
- All fields are required unless marked as optional

The above information helps us comply with various securities regulations and rules and the USA PATRIOT Act, a Federal law that requires all securities firms to obtain, verify, and record information that identifies each applicant. The information also helps us more fully understand your investment profile and identify what types of investments or strategies may be suitable for you. Please note: if we cannot verify the information you provide, we may be required to restrict or deny your account. To qualify for tax exemption in the US markets, we require an original copy of the completed Form W-8BEN and Account Application Form within 30 days. If any information on Form W-8BEN becomes incorrect, you must also submit a new form within 30 days.

Please remember to notify us if you experience a significant life change, such as the birth of a child, marriage, divorce, death of a spouse, loss of a job, change in financial situation, etc.

Language Proficiency

On a scale of 1 to 5; 1 being beginner, 3 being intermediate, and 5 being fluent, how proficiently do you speak: ☐ **Chinese** ☐ **English** ☐ **Spanish** ☐ **French**

Your Account

Account Type

What type of investor are you? ☐ Individual ☐ Corporate ☐ Joint ☐ Trust

Do you have other accounts with us? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Initial Transaction Type : ☐ Buy ☐ Sell ☐ ACAT Details: _____ Amount: _____

Your Account Information

Primary Applicant

Title : ☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Dr. ☐ Other: _____ Suffix : ☐ Sr. ☐ Jr. ☐ Other: _____

First name

Last name

Middle name

Address and Contact Information

Apt/Suite No. & Building

Street

City

State

Postal Code (Zip)

Country

Home Phone

Mobile Phone

Work Phone

Email

Corporate Information

Company Name

Company No

Address

City

State

Postal Code (Zip)

Country

Civil Status and Dependents

☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Domestic Partner ☐ Divorced ☐ Widowed Number of Dependents:

Employment Status

☐ Employed ☐ Not Employed ☐ Student

☐ Self-Employed ☐ Retired ☐ Other:

Job Title

Occupation

Employer

Years with this Employer

Mailing Address If Different From Above

Apt/Suite No. & Building

Street

City

State

Postal Code (Zip)

Country

Industry and Other Affiliations

Are you, your spouse, or any other immediate family members, including parents, in-laws, siblings and dependent(s):

1 Employed by or associated with the securities industry (for example, a sole proprietor, partner, officer, director, branch manager, registered representative or other associated person of a broker-dealer firm) or a financial services regulator?

If yes, please specify entity below. If this entity requires its approval for you to open this account, please provide a copy of the required authorization letter (with this Application).

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Broker-Dealer or Municipal Securities Dealer

☐ Investment Adviser

☐ Not Employed FinRa or other Self Regulatory Organization*

☐ State or Federal Securities Regulator

(*Including a national securities exchange, registered securities association, registered clearing agency or the Municipal Securities Rule making Board.)

Name of entity(ies) :

2 An officer, director or 10% (or more) shareholder in a publicly-owned company? Name of company and symbol:

☐ Yes ☐ No

3 A senior military, governmental or political official in a non-US country? Name of country:

☐ Yes ☐ No

Financial Investment Experience

Please provide the following information below in order for us to fully understand your investment experience. We are aware that the information you provide may change overtime as you work with us. Please check the boxes below to best describe your investment experience to date.

Investment	Years Experience	Transactions per year *(excluding automatic investments)*	Current Value *($ approximate)*
☐ Mutual Funds/ Exchange Traded Funds	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ Individual Stocks	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ Bonds	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ Options	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ Securities Futures	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ Annuities	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ Alternative [1]	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ Margin	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
Cryptocurrencies			
☐ BTC	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ USDT	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ ETH	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ BNB	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	
☐ Other:	☐ 0 ☐ 1-5 ☐ > 5	☐ 0-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ > 15	

Financial Situation and Needs, Liquidity Considerations, And Tax Status *(please tell us your estimates)*

ANNUAL INCOME [2] *(from all resources)*

- ☐ $ 25,000 and under
- ☐ $ 25,001 - 50,000
- ☐ $ 50,001 - 100,000
- ☐ $ 100,001 - 250,000
- ☐ $ 250,001 - 500,000
- ☐ Over $ 500,000

ANNUAL EXPENSES [3] *(recurring)*

- ☐ $ 50,000 and under
- ☐ $ 50,001 - 100,000
- ☐ $ 100,001 - 250,000
- ☐ $ 250,001 - 500,000
- ☐ Over $ 500,000

SPECIAL EXPENSES [4] *(future,non-recurring)*

- ☐ $ 50,000 and under
- ☐ $ 50,001 - 100,000
- ☐ $ 100,001 - 250,000
- ☐ $ 250,001 - 500,000
- ☐ Over $ 500,000

Time frame for special expenses:

- ☐ Within 2 years
- ☐ 3 – 5 years
- ☐ 6 – 10 years

TAX RATE *(highest marginal)*

- ☐ 0 – 15%
- ☐ 16 – 25%
- ☐ 26 – 30%
- ☐ 31 – 35%
- ☐ Over 35%

NET WORTH [5] *(excluding your residence)*

- ☐ $ 25,000 and under
- ☐ $ 25,001 - 50,000
- ☐ $ 50,001 - 100,000
- ☐ $ 100,001 - 250,000
- ☐ $ 250,001 - 500,000
- ☐ $ 500,001 – 1,000,000
- ☐ $ 1,000,001 - 3,000,000
- ☐ Over $ 3,000,000

LIQUID NET WORTH [6] *(including cryptocurrencies)*

- ☐ $ 25,000 and under
- ☐ $ 25,001 - 50,000
- ☐ $ 50,001 - 100,000
- ☐ $ 100,001 - 250,000
- ☐ $ 250,001 - 500,000
- ☐ $ 500,001 – 1,000,000
- ☐ $ 1,000,001 - 3,000,000
- ☐ Over $ 3,000,000

LIQUIDITY NEEDS

The ability to quickly and easily convert to cash all or a portion of the investments in this account without experiencing significant loss in value from, for example, the lack of a ready market, or incurring significant costs or penalties is (check one)

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Does not matter

1. May include structured products, hedge funds,etc.
2. Annual income includes income from sources such as employment, alimony, social security, investment income, etc.
3. Annual expenses might include mortgage payments, rent, long-term debts, utilities, alimony or child support payments,etc.
4. Special expenses might include a home purchase, remodelling a home, a car purchase, education, medical expenses, etc.
5. Net worth is the value of your assets minus your liabilities. For purposes of this application, asset include stocks, bonds, mutual funds, other securities, bank accounts,and other personal property. Do not include your primary residence among your assets. For liabilities, include any outstanding loans, credit card balances, taxes, etc. Do not include your mortgage.
6. Liquid net worth is your net worth minus assets that cannot be converted quickly and easily into cash, such as real estate, business equity, personal property and automobiles, expected inheritances, assets earmarked for other purposes, and investments or accounts subject to substantial penalties if they were sold or if assets were withdrawn from them.

Investment Risk Tolerance

Different investment products and strategies will involve different levels of risk. When choosing different products and strategies you must understand that higher expected returns will involve different degrees of risk and therefore it may cause you to lose the majority of your investment. Investments should be chosen based on your objectives, time frame, and tolerance for market fluctuations.

Please select the degree of risk you are willing to take with the assets in this account.

- ☐ **Conservative.** I want to preserve my initial principal in this account, with minimal risk, even if that means this account does not generate significant income or returns and may not keep pace with inflation.
- ☐ **Moderately Conservative.** I am willing to accept low risk to my initial principal, including low volatility, to seek a modest level of portfolio returns.
- ☐ **Moderate.** I am willing to accept some risk to my initial principal and tolerate some volatility to seek higher returns, and understand I could lose a portion of the money invested.
- ☐ **Moderately Aggressive.** I am willing to accept high risk to my initial principal, including high volatility, to seek high returns over time, and understand I could lose a substantial amount of the money invested.
- ☐ **Significant Risk.** I am willing to accept maximum risk to my initial principal to aggressively seek maximum returns, and understand I could lose most, or all, of the money invested.

Decision-Making *(check all that apply)*

- ☐ I consult with my broker, investment adviser, CPA, or other financial professional.
- ☐ I generally make my own decisions.
- ☐ I discuss investment decisions with family and/or friends.

Other Investments *(Optional)*

Please provide us with additional information about your other investments to help us more fully understand your investment profile and identify what types of investments or strategies may be suitable for you.

Investment Type /Description	Firm Holding Investment	Amount (US$)
		$
		$
		$
		$
		$
		$
		$
		$
		$
		$
		$
		$
		$

(Use extra sheet as needed)

Tell Us How You Will Fund This Account

Please tell us how you are funding this account (check all that apply):

- ☐ Income
- ☐ Pension or retirement savings
- ☐ Funds from another account
- ☐ Gift Sale of business or property
- ☐ Cryptocurrencies
- ☐ Insurance payout
- ☐ Inheritance
- ☐ Social Security benefits
- ☐ Home Equity Line of Credit/Reverse Mortgage
- ☐ Other : _____

Tell Us How You Want To Work With Us

Account Features

Please note: You may change your account features and options at any time, with advance written notice to us.

Borrowing Money to Buy Securities (Buying "On Margin") Please Read Carefully

You will have a "cash account," unless you choose to have a "margin loan account" (customarily known as a "margin account"). To help you decide whether a margin loan account is right for you, please read this information, the Margin Loan Agreement and the Margin Disclosure Statement.

You may apply for a margin account at a rate of 10% APR after a period of one (1) year of trading with the firm.

In a cash account, you pay for your securities in full by the settlement date of the purchase (generally three business days from the purchase). In a margin loan account, we may lend you a portion of the purchase price. This is called buying securities "on margin." For example, when you buy equity securities (such as common stock) on margin, you typically must deposit at least 50% of the purchase price, and we would loan you the balance. You are liable for repaying the borrowed funds and the interest incurred.

If you borrow funds in your margin loan account and the value of your holdings declines below the firm's and/or regulatory maintenance margin requirement, you may be subject to a "margin call." This means that we can either (1) require you to deposit additional cash or margin-eligible securities to your account immediately, or (2) sell any of the securities in your account to cover any shortfall, without informing you in advance. We will decide which of your securities to sell. Even if we notify you that you have a certain number of days to cover the shortfall, we may still sell your securities before that time frame expires. Further, we may increase at any time the level of equity that you must maintain in your margin account without triggering a margin call.

We have the right to lend shares held in your margin loan account to others. This should not impede your ability to sell these shares, but may cause you to lose voting rights and the right to preferred tax treatment on certain dividend payments.

Managing Your Cash

Sometimes there is cash in your account that hasn't been invested. For example, you may have just deposited money into your account without giving instructions on how to invest it, or you may have received cash dividends or interest. We will automatically place—or "sweep"—that cash into one of the cash management programs listed below—also called "cash sweep programs." Cash management programs offer different benefits and risks, including different interest rates, customer protections and insurance coverage (namely, FDIC or SIPC coverage). Some may have certain eligibility criteria, such as minimum cash balances and specific account types.

Please choose one of the cash management programs listed below. You may instruct us to change your selected cash management program at any time to another, if you meet the eligibility criteria of the new cash management program. If you do not choose one, we will automatically place your un-invested cash into the default cash management program, which will be Money Market Deposit Account at a rate of 0.88% APR. We will give you advance notice of any change in your choice or of the options generally available to you. We may need your consent for certain changes, but not for others.

Sales Proceeds
(check one)

- ☐ Mail a cheque to the address of record
- ☐ Send directly to your bank account. Please provide bank name and account number:
- ☐ Sweep into Money-Market Fund
- ☐ Sweep into cryptocurrency wallet
- ☐ Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC7)Protected
- ☐ Sweep into Money-Market Deposit Account
- ☐ Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC8)Insured
- ☐ Other : _____

Dividends/Interest
(check one)

- ☐ Mail a cheque to the address of record
- ☐ Send directly to your bank account. Please provide bank name and account number:
- ☐ Sweep into same investment as indicated at left
- ☐ Sweep into cryptocurrency wallet
- ☐ Reinvest in the same security

Account Details *(optional)*

Please provide details of the bank account or cryptocurrency wallet that you will be using for withdrawals:

Account Number

Bank Name

SWIFT/BIC

Bank Location (Country)

Cryptocurrency Wallet

Exchange

Coinbase ☐ Kraken ☐

Binance ☐ Other: ☐

Currency (e.g. BTC, ETH) ☐☐☐☐☐☐

Designated Beneficiary (1)

Payable Upon Death

Relationship to Primary Applicant

Title : ☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Dr. ☐ Other: _____ Suffix : ☐ Sr. ☐ Jr. ☐ Other: _____

First name

Last name

Residential Address

Nationality

Email Address

Home Phone

Work Phone

Designated Beneficiary (2)

Payable Upon Death

Relationship to Primary Applicant

Title : ☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Dr. ☐ Other: _____ Suffix : ☐ Sr. ☐ Jr. ☐ Other: _____

First name

Last name

Residential Address

Nationality

Email Address

Home Phone

Work Phone

Communications Options

Unless you choose otherwise, we will use email to send you any communications. As an alternative, you may choose to be notified by postal mail when certain communications are available. If you wish to be notified by postal mail instead of receiving communications by email, please select one of the options below:

☐ **All communications** – I wish to be notified by email about the postal mail availability of any communications, including trade confirmations, prospectuses, account statements, proxy materials, tax-related documents, and marketing and sales documents.

☐ **All communications except trade confirmations, account statements, and tax-related documents** – I wish to be notified by postal mail about the availability of all communications except trade confirmations, account statements, and tax-related documents, which I still wish to receive by email.

☐ **All communications except tax-related documents** – I wish to be notified by postal mail about the availability of all communications except tax-related documents, which I still wish to receive by email.

Please tell us the email address we should use :

_____

Postal Mail Options *(if you requested postal mail delivery in the previous section)*

By checking the boxes below, you request that all communications for the applicants listed on this application be delivered to the following single postal mailing address:

☐ Primary Applicant's Mailing Address

☐ Other. Please specify: _____

Duplicate Copies *(optional)*

Please send duplicate copies of the following documents to the person listed below :
All Communications Trade Confirmations, Account Statements, and Tax-Related Documents Only

Title : ☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Dr. ☐ Other: _____ Suffix : ☐ Sr. ☐ Jr. ☐ Other: _____

First name

Middle name

Last name

Apt/Suite No. & Building

Street

City

State

Postal Code (Zip)

Country

Relationship to Primary Applicant

Review and Submit This Application

Confirmations and Signatures *(Please Read Carefully)*

By signing this application, you affirm that you have received and read this application and any supplemental documents governing this relationship. You affirm that the information you have provided is accurate and you agree to notify us of any changes in the information provided.

Primary Applicant

☐ **Non-Resident Alien** : I certify that I am not a U.S. citizen, U.S. resident alien, or other U.S. person for U.S. tax purposes, and I am submitting the applicable Form W-8 with this form to certify my foreign status and, if applicable, claim tax treaty benefits.

The Internal Revenue Service does not require your consent to any provision of this document other than the certifications required to avoid backup withholding.

Signatures

Name of Primary Applicant *(please print)*	Signature of Applicant	Date

Please email your completed application to accounts@vlmgroup.com

DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this application form is provided for general informational purposes only and should not be interpreted as a guarantee or prediction of future investment results. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future outcomes, as the value of investments can fluctuate in response to market conditions, economic changes, and currency movements. There is no assurance that your investments will generate returns consistent with historical performance. Before making any investment decisions, you should carefully evaluate all associated risks and seek advice from a qualified financial professional to ensure that your choices are appropriate for your financial objectives and personal circumstances.