ClearBridge

A Legg Mason Company

Summary Prospectus | April 29, 2019

Share class (Symbol): I (QLMSIX), II (QLMSTX)

CLEARBRIDGE VARIABLE SMALL CAP GROWTH PORTFOLIO

Shares of the fund are offered only to insurance company separate accounts that fund certain variable annuity and variable life insurance contracts and to qualified retirement and pension plans. This Summary Prospectus should be read together with the prospectus for those contracts and information for those plans.

Before you invest, you may want to review the fund's Prospectus, which contains more information about the fund and its risks. You can find the fund's Prospectus and other information about the fund, including the fund's statement of additional information and shareholder reports, online at www.leggmason.com/variablefundsliterature. You can also get this information at no cost by calling the fund at 1-877-721-1926 or 1-203-703-6002 or by sending an e-mail request to prospectus@leggmason.com, or from your financial intermediary. The fund's Prospectus and statement of additional information, each dated April 29, 2019 (as may be amended or supplemented from time to time), and the independent registered public accounting firm's report and financial statements in the fund's annual report to shareholders, dated December 31, 2018, are incorporated by reference into this Summary Prospectus. Beginning in January 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, your insurance company may no longer send you paper copies of the fund's shareholder reports by mail, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports from the insurance company. Instead, the shareholder reports will be made available on a website, and you will be notified by mail each time a report is posted and provided with a website link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. If your insurance company offers electronic delivery, you may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from them electronically by following the instructions provided by the insurance company. You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge. You can inform the insurance

You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge. You can inform the insurance company that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of shareholder reports by following the instructions provided by them. Your election will apply to all funds available under your contract with the insurance company.

Investment objective



The fund seeks long-term growth of capital.

Fees and expenses of the fund

Shareholder fees

The accompanying table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the fund. The fee table and expense example do not reflect expenses incurred from investing through a separate account or qualified plan and do not reflect variable annuity or life insurance contract charges. *If they did, the overall fees and expenses would be higher than those shown.* Detailed information about the cost of investing in this fund through a separate account or qualified plan is presented in the contract prospectus through which the fund's shares are offered to you or in the information provided by your plan.

| (fees paid directly from your investment) | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| | Class I | Class II |
| Maximum sales charge (load) imposed on purchases | N/A | N/A |
| Maximum deferred sales charge (load) | N/A | N/A |
| Annual fund operating expenses (%) | | |
| expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment) | | |
| | Class I | Class II |

| | Class I | Class II |
|---|---------|----------|
| Management fees | 0.75 | 0.75 |
| Distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees | None | 0.25 |
| Other expenses | 0.08 | 0.08 |
| Total annual fund operating expenses ¹ | 0.83 | 1.08 |

¹ Total annual fund operating expenses do not correlate with the ratios of expenses to average net assets reported in the financial highlights tables in the fund's Prospectus and in the fund's shareholder reports, which reflect the fund's operating expenses and do not include acquired fund fees and expenses.

Example

This 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 does not include expenses incurred from investing through a separate account or qualified plan. If the example included these expenses, the figures shown would be higher. The example assumes:

- You invest \$10,000 in the fund for the time periods indicated
- Your investment has a 5% return each year and the fund's operating expenses remain the same
- You reinvest all distributions and dividends without a sales charge

Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

² ClearBridge Variable Small Cap Growth Portfolio

Number of years you own your shares (\$)

| | 1 year | 3 years | 5 years | 10 years |
|--|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| Class I (with or without redemption at end of period) | 85 | 265 | 461 | 1,025 |
| Class II (with or without redemption at end of period) | 110 | 343 | 595 | 1,317 |

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 rate may indicate higher transaction costs. 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 25% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal investment strategies

Under normal circumstances, the fund invests at least 80% of its assets in equity securities of companies with small market capitalizations and related investments. The portfolio managers use a growth-oriented investment style that emphasizes small U.S. companies.

Principal risks

Risk is inherent in all investing. The value of your investment in the fund, as well as the amount of return you receive on your investment, may fluctuate significantly. You may lose part or all of your investment in the fund or your investment may not perform as well as other similar investments. An investment in the fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by any bank or government agency. The following is a summary description of certain risks of investing in the fund.

Stock market and equity securities risk. The stock markets are volatile and the market prices of the fund's equity securities may decline generally. Equity securities may have greater price volatility than other asset classes, such as fixed income securities, and may fluctuate in price based on actual or perceived changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions and perceptions. If the market prices of the equity securities owned by the fund fall, the value of your investment in the fund will decline.

Market events risk. In the past decade financial markets throughout the world have experienced increased volatility, depressed valuations, decreased liquidity and heightened uncertainty. Governmental and non-governmental issuers have defaulted on, or been forced to restructure, their debts. These conditions may continue, recur, worsen or spread. Events that have contributed to these market conditions include, but are not limited to, major cybersecurity events; geopolitical events (including wars and terror attacks); measures to address budget deficits; downgrading of sovereign debt; changes in oil and commodity prices; dramatic changes in currency exchange rates; and public sentiment.

U.S. and non-U.S. governments and central banks have provided significant support to financial markets, including by keeping interest rates at historically low levels. The U.S. Federal Reserve is reducing its market support activities and has begun raising interest rates. Certain non-U.S. governments and central banks have implemented or may implement so-called negative rates (e.g., charging depositors who keep their cash at a bank) to spur economic growth. Further Federal Reserve or other U.S. or non-U.S. governmental or central bank actions, including

interest rate increases or contrary actions by different governments, could negatively affect financial markets generally, increase market volatility and reduce the value and liquidity of securities in which the fund invests

Policy and legislative changes in the United States and in other countries and other events affecting global markets, such as the United Kingdom's expected exit from the European Union (or Brexit), are affecting many aspects of financial regulation and may in some instances contribute to decreased liquidity and increased volatility in the financial markets. The impact of these changes on the markets, and the practical implications for market participants, may not be fully known for some time.

Economies and financial markets throughout the world are increasingly interconnected. Economic, financial or political events, trading and tariff arrangements, terrorism, natural disasters and other circumstances in one country or region could have profound impacts on global economies or markets. As a result, whether or not the fund invests in securities of issuers located in or with significant exposure to the countries directly affected, the value and liquidity of the fund's investments may be negatively affected.

Small capitalization company risk. The fund will be exposed to additional risks as a result of its investments in the securities of small capitalization companies. Small capitalization companies may fall out of favor with investors; may have limited product lines, operating histories, markets or financial resources; or may be dependent upon a limited management group. The prices of securities of small capitalization companies generally are more volatile than those of large capitalization companies and are more likely to be adversely affected than large capitalization companies by changes in earnings results and investor expectations or poor economic or market conditions, including those experienced during a recession. Securities of small capitalization companies may underperform large capitalization companies, may be harder to sell at times or at prices the portfolio managers believe appropriate and may have greater potential for losses.

Growth investing risk. The fund's growth-oriented investment style may increase the risks of investing in the fund. Growth securities typically are very sensitive to market movements because their market prices tend to reflect future expectations. When it appears those expectations will not be met, the prices of growth securities typically fall. Growth securities may also be more volatile than other investments because they often do not pay dividends. Growth stocks as a group may be out of favor and underperform the overall equity market while the market concentrates on value stocks.

Foreign investments risk. The fund's investments in securities of foreign issuers or issuers with significant exposure to foreign markets involve additional risk. Foreign countries in which the fund may invest may have markets that are less liquid, less regulated and more volatile than U.S. markets. The value of the fund's investments may decline because of factors affecting the particular issuer as well as foreign markets and issuers generally, such as unfavorable or unsuccessful government actions, reduction of government or central bank support and political or financial instability. Lack of information may also affect the value of these securities. The risks of foreign investments are heightened when investing in issuers in emerging market countries.

Currency risk. The value of investments in securities denominated in foreign currencies increases or decreases as the rates of exchange between those currencies and the U.S. dollar

change. Currency conversion costs and currency fluctuations could erase investment gains or add to investment losses. Currency exchange rates can be volatile, and are affected by factors such as general economic conditions, the actions of the U.S. and foreign governments or central banks, the imposition of currency controls and speculation.

Liquidity risk. Some assets held by the fund may be impossible or difficult to sell, particularly during times of market turmoil. These illiquid assets may also be difficult to value. Markets may become illiquid when, for instance, there are few, if any, interested buyers or sellers or when dealers are unwilling or unable to make a market for certain securities. As a general matter, dealers recently have been less willing to make markets for fixed income securities. If the fund is forced to sell an illiquid asset to meet redemption requests or other cash needs, the fund may be forced to sell at a loss.

Portfolio management risk. The value of your investment may decrease if the subadviser's judgment about the attractiveness or value of, or market trends affecting a particular security, industry, sector or region, or about market movements, is incorrect or does not produce the desired results, or if there are imperfections, errors or limitations in the models, tools and data used by the subadviser. In addition, the fund's investment strategies or policies may change from time to time. Those changes may not lead to the results intended by the subadviser and could have an adverse effect on the value or performance of the fund.

Issuer risk. The market price of a security can go up or down more than the market as a whole and can perform differently from the value of the market as a whole, due to factors specifically relating to the security's issuer, such as disappointing earnings reports by the issuer, unsuccessful products or services, loss of major customers, changes in management, corporate actions, negative perception in the marketplace, major litigation against the issuer or changes in government regulations affecting the issuer or the competitive environment. The fund may experience a substantial or complete loss on an individual security.

Market sector risk. The fund may be significantly overweight or underweight in certain companies, industries or market sectors, which (when overweight) may cause the fund's performance to be more sensitive to developments affecting those companies, industries or market sectors.

Valuation risk. The sales price the fund could receive for any particular portfolio investment may differ from the fund's valuation of the investment, particularly for securities that trade in thin or volatile markets or that are valued using a fair value methodology. Investors who purchase or redeem fund shares on days when the fund is holding fair-valued securities may receive fewer or more shares or lower or higher redemption proceeds than they would have received if the fund had not fair-valued securities or had used a different valuation methodology. The fund's ability to value its investments may be impacted by technological issues and/or errors by pricing services or other third party service providers.

Cybersecurity risk. Cybersecurity incidents, both intentional and unintentional, may allow an unauthorized party to gain access to fund assets, fund or customer data (including private shareholder information), or proprietary information, cause the fund, the manager, the subadvisers and/or their service providers (including, but not limited to, fund accountants, custodians, sub-custodians, transfer agents and financial intermediaries) to suffer data breaches, data corruption or loss of operational functionality or prevent fund investors from purchasing,

redeeming or exchanging shares or receiving distributions. The fund, the manager, and the subadvisers have limited ability to prevent or mitigate cybersecurity incidents affecting third party service providers. Cybersecurity incidents may result in financial losses to the fund and its shareholders, and substantial costs may be incurred in order to prevent any future cybersecurity incidents.

These and other risks are discussed in more detail in the Prospectus or in the Statement of Additional Information

Performance

The accompanying bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the fund. The bar chart shows changes in the fund's performance from year to year of Class I shares. The table shows the average annual total returns of each class of the fund and also compares the fund's performance with the average annual total returns of an index or other benchmark. Performance for classes other than those shown may vary from the performance shown to the extent the expenses for those classes differ. The fund makes updated performance information, including its current net asset value, available at www.leggmason.com/variablefunds (select fund and share class), or by calling the fund at 1-877-721-1926.

The fund's past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the fund will perform in the future.

Fees paid by the separate accounts or qualified plans through which shares of the fund are sold are not reflected in the accompanying bar chart and table. *If they were, the returns would be lower than those shown.* Please refer to the separate account prospectus or information provided by your qualified plan for a description of the expenses associated with the account or plan.

Total returns (%)



Best Quarter (06/30/2009): 21.37 **Worst Quarter** (12/31/2018): (21.15)

| Average annual total returns (%) | | | |
|---|--------|---------|-------|
| (for periods ended December 31, 2018) | | | 10 |
| | 1 vear | 5 years | vears |
| Class I | 3.44 | | 15.72 |
| Class II | 3.21 | 5.97 | 15.37 |
| Russell 2000 Growth Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes) | (9.31) | 5.13 | 13.52 |

Management

Investment manager: Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC ("LMPFA")

Subadviser: ClearBridge Investments, LLC ("ClearBridge")

Portfolio managers: Jeffrey J. Russell, CFA, and Aram E. Green, Mr. Russell (a Managing Director and Portfolio Manager of ClearBridge) and Mr. Green (a Managing Director and Portfolio Manager of ClearBridge) have co-managed the fund since 2007.

Purchase and sale of fund shares

Shares of the fund may only be purchased or redeemed through variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies offered by the separate accounts of participating life insurance companies or through eligible pension or other qualified plans. Shares of the fund may be purchased and redeemed each day the New York Stock Exchange is open, at the fund's net asset value determined after receipt of a request in good order.

The fund does not have any initial or subsequent investment minimums. However, your insurance company, pension plan or retirement plan may impose investment minimums.

Tax information

Distributions made by the fund to an insurance company separate account, and exchanges and redemptions of fund shares made by a separate account, ordinarily do not cause the corresponding contract holder to recognize income or gain for federal income tax purposes. See the accompanying contract prospectus for information regarding the federal income tax treatment of the distributions to separate accounts and the holders of the contracts.

Payments to broker/dealers and other financial intermediaries

The fund's related companies may pay Service Agents for the sale of fund shares, shareholder services and other purposes. These payments create a conflict of interest by influencing your Service Agent or its employees or associated persons to recommend the fund over another investment. Ask your financial adviser or salesperson or visit your Service Agent's or salesperson's website for more information.