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Calamos Autocallable Income ETF (CAIE) Wins Fund Innovation of the Year at the Mutual Fund & ETF Awards 2026

Metro Chicago, Illinois, February 12, 2026 -- [John Koudounis](#), President and CEO of [Calamos](#), a leading alternatives manager, today announced the [Calamos Autocallable Income ETF \(CAIE\)](#) has been named “Fund Innovation of the Year” at the [Mutual Fund & ETF Awards 2026](#) from With Intelligence. Built to seek high, stable, tax-efficient income, this recognition underscores CAIE’s role in establishing the autocallable strategy in the ETF industry.

The award recognizes CAIE for translating a sophisticated autocallable structured note strategy—traditionally available only through over-the-counter markets to institutions and the high-net worth—into an ETF vehicle offering daily liquidity, transparency, and tax-efficient distributions. Since launch, CAIE has grown to **\$690 million** in assets under management, reflecting strong advisor and investor adoption with attractive **monthly distributions averaging 14%** (as of 1/31/26). [19a Notice](#)

In addition to winning **Fund Innovation of the Year**, CAIE was also shortlisted for **Newcomer Active ETF of the Year** and **PR Campaign of the Year**, distinguishing it as one of the most recognized funds across categories at the 2026 awards show.

CAIE’s recognition from With Intelligence’s independent judging panel follows earlier industry validation. In 2025, CAIE was awarded “**Deal of the Year**” at the Structured Products Industry (SPI) Awards and “**Most Innovative Product**” at the SRP Americas Awards. CAIE became the first ETF, and Calamos the first asset manager, to ever win at both the SPI and SRP Awards shows—honors traditionally reserved for bank-issued structured notes.

The With Intelligence award also comes as Calamos continues to expand its Autocallable ETF suite in response to investor demand. Following the success of CAIE, Calamos launched the **Calamos Nasdaq® Autocallable Income ETF (CAIQ)**, extending the same tax-efficient laddered autocallable framework to Nasdaq-100-linked exposure. CAIQ has attracted **\$91.8 million in total net assets**, reinforcing the compelling nature of the income opportunity and Calamos’ first-mover leadership in autocallable ETFs.

Beyond the awards, CAIE's innovation has been a topic of interest amongst leading ETF analysts. In a year of record ETF launches, **CFRA** placed CAIE first in a list of [five ETFs to watch in 2026](#). **Bloomberg Intelligence** analysts Eric Balchunas and Andre Yapp stated: "The Calamos Autocallable Income ETF (CAIE) is on the bleeding edge of ETF innovation and the leader in a new sub-category of derivative income ETFs." In "[A Next-Generation Income ETF](#)", Morningstar's review of CAIE, fund researcher Zachary Evens notes the vast majority of "monthly distributions from CAIE are classified as a return of capital, which can receive more favorable tax treatment than interest or options income. ROCs are

not taxed immediately: Instead, tax liability is deferred until the ETF is sold."ⁱⁱ Additionally, CAIE received an honorable mention in Morningstar's "[The Best and Worst New ETFs of 2025](#)".

The **With Intelligence Mutual Fund & ETF Awards**, now operating under S&P Global, are determined through a two-stage process, beginning with editorial review and shortlist selection, followed by evaluation from an [independent judging panel](#) of senior asset management and ETF industry executives.

Why invest in a laddered autocallable income strategy in an ETF?

- Seeks high, stable income potential
- Intraday liquidity and fully transparent
- Tax-efficient distributions
- Model portfolio Implementation: One-click access to high, stable yield of autocallables
- Income and principal tied to equity markets rather than duration and credit

To learn more about CAIE, visit [Calamos.com/autocall](https://calamos.com/autocall).

About Calamos

Calamos is a diversified global investment firm, headquartered in the Chicago metropolitan area, offering innovative investment strategies, including Bitcoin, alternatives, multi-asset, convertible, fixed income, private credit, equity, and sustainable equity. With more than \$49 billion in AUM, including more than \$20 billion in liquid alternatives assets as of January 31, 2026, the firm offers strategies through ETFs, mutual funds, closed-end funds, interval funds, UCITS funds and separately managed portfolios. Clients include financial advisors, wealth management platforms, pension funds, foundations & endowments, and individuals, globally. For more information, visit us on LinkedIn, Twitter (@Calamos), Instagram (@calamos_investments), or at www.calamos.com.

Before investing, carefully consider each fund's investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses. Please see the prospectus and summary prospectus containing this and other information which can be obtained by calling 1-866-363-9219. Read it carefully before investing.

Calamos Investments LLC, referred to herein Calamos is a financial services company offering such services through its subsidiaries: Calamos Advisors LLC, Calamos Wealth Management LLC, Calamos Investments LLP, and Calamos Financial Services LLC.

CAIE enters into swap agreements with J.P. Morgan to obtain exposure to the MerQube US Large Cap Vol Advantage Autocallable Index. J.P. Morgan is not an advisor, promoter, in any way affiliated with the Fund and has no responsibility for the Fund's performance, marketing, or trading, or any responsibility regarding the suitability of the Fund as an investment.

CAIQ enters into swap agreements with J.P. Morgan to obtain exposure to the MerQube Nasdaq-100® Vol Advantage Autocallable Index. CAIE enters into swap agreements with J.P. Morgan to obtain exposure to the MerQube Large Cap Vol Advantage Autocallable Index. J.P. Morgan is not an advisor, promoter, in any way affiliated with either Fund and has no responsibility for either Fund's performance, marketing, or trading, or any responsibility regarding the suitability of either Fund as an investment.

Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. The principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that your shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Returns at NAV reflect the deduction of the Fund's management fee and other expenses, which can be found on the fund fees and expenses tab. You can purchase or sell common shares daily. Like any other stock, market price will fluctuate with the market. Upon sale, your shares may have a market price that is above or below net asset value and may be worth more or less than your original investment.

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Structured Products Intelligence "Deal of the Year" award cation methodology is as follows: The jury recognized the Calamos Autocallable Income ETF (CAIE) as Deal of the Year for its innovative approach to income generation and risk management. By combining autocallable yield notes with the accessibility of an ETF, Calamos created a product that offers high monthly income, structured downside protection, and enhanced diversification. The jury highlighted Calamos role in bringing institutional-style strategies to a wider investor base, marking a significant advancement in the evolution of structured income investing.

SRP Americas Awards Methodology: SRP typically conducts a comprehensive market survey involving institutions active in the structured products space. Industry professionals-including issuers, distributors, and service providers-are invited to vote on various award categories. For the "Most Innovative Product" award, the evaluation likely focuses on: product design originality, client-centric innovation, market impact and adoption, risk-return profile enhancements and integration of new technologies or strategies. Finalists are often reviewed by a panel of SRP editors and industry experts who assess the submissions based on qualitative and quantitative factors.

An investment in the Funds is subject to risks, and you could lose money on your investment in the Funds. There can be no assurance that the Funds will achieve their investment objective. Your investment in either Fund is not a deposit in a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or any other government agency. The risks associated with an investment in the Funds can increase during times of significant market volatility. The Funds also have specific principal risks, which are described below. More detailed information regarding these risks can be found in each Fund's prospectus.

Investing involves risks. Loss of principal is possible. The Funds face numerous market trading risks, including authorized participation concentration risk, cap change risk, capital protection risk, capped upside risk, cash holdings risk, clearing member default risk, correlation risk, derivatives risk, equity securities risk, investment timing risk, large-capitalization investing risk, liquidity risk, market maker risk, market risk, non-diversification risk, options risk, premium-discount risk, secondary market trading risk, sector risk, tax risk, trading issues risk, underlying ETF risk and valuation risk. For a detailed list of fund risks see each prospectus.

The principal risks of investing in both Funds include: autocallable structure risk, contingent income risk, early redemption risk, barrier risk, authorized participant concentration risk, calculation methodology risk, cash holdings risk, correlation risk, costs of buying and selling fund shares, counterparty risk, credit risk, derivatives risk, equity securities risk, index risk, interest rate risk, investment in a subsidiary, ladder portfolio risk, liquidity risk, market maker risk, market risk, new fund risk, non-diversification risk, premium-discount risk, secondary market trading risk, swap agreement risk, tax risk, trading issues risk, valuation risk, and volatility target index risk.

Autocallable Structure Risk--Each Fund's returns are correlated to the performance of a synthetic portfolio of autocallable notes tracked by the Autocallable Index. Autocallable notes have specific structural features that may be unfamiliar to many investors:

--Contingent Income Risk: Coupon payments from the Autocalls are not guaranteed and will not be made if either Underlying Reference Index falls below the Coupon Barrier on observation dates. This means the Funds may generate significantly less income than anticipated during market downturns.

--Early Redemption Risk: Autocalls in each Portfolio may be called before their scheduled maturity if either Underlying Reference Index reaches or exceeds the Autocall Barrier on observation dates. This automatic early redemption could force reinvestment of that portion of the portfolio at lower rates if market yields have declined.

--Barrier Risk: If either Underlying Reference Index falls below the corresponding Protection Level Barrier at the maturity of an Autocall in the Portfolio, that portion of the Portfolio will be fully exposed to the negative performance of the Underlying Reference

Index from its initial level. This conditional protection creates a binary outcome that can result in sudden, significant losses if barriers are breached.

Calamos and its representatives do not provide tax or legal advice. Each individual's tax and financial situation is unique. Individuals should consult their tax and/or legal advisor for advice and information concerning their particular situation.

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ⁱ Per Bloomberg Intelligence research note "Autocallable ETFs" from January 2026.

ⁱⁱ Article updated October 29, 2025. **[A Next Generation Income ETF | Morningstar](#)** Morningstar's footnote over this statement: "CAIE may distribute a portion of its income as ordinary income, but these distributions should be small and are the result of holding US Treasuries as collateral for total return swaps. The ETF doesn't technically hold any notes in its portfolio; instead, it buys swaps that mimic the return of the MerQube US Large-Cap Vol Advantage Autocallable Index, an index full of autocallable yield notes. J.P. Morgan is the swap counterparty."