Discover Financial Services Form 11-K June 23, 2014

**UNITED STATES** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

(Mark One)

x ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013

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oTRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to

Commission file number 001-33378

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES 401(k) PLAN

B. Name of the issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES

2500 Lake Cook Road

Riverwoods, Illinois 60015

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#### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Trustees and the Participants of Discover Financial Services 401(k) Plan

Riverwoods, Illinois

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Discover Financial Services 401(k) Plan (the "Plan") as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic 2013 financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic 2013 financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ Crowe Horwath LLP Oak Brook, Illinois June 23, 2014

# DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES 401(k) PLAN STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS As of December 31, 2013 and 2012

|   | December 31, 2013 | 2012          |
|---|-------------------|---------------|
| ASSETS  | 2013              | 2012          |
| Participant-directed investments, at fair value   | \$914,265,617     | \$676,958,058 |
| Receivables:  |                   |               |
| Notes receivable from participants  | 24,611,601        | 21,231,355    |
| Employer contributions  | 22,622,398        | 12,050,618    |
| Participant contributions   | 613               | _             |
| Receivables for securities sold   | 206,464           | 233,700       |
| Accrued investment income   | 81,079            | 132,861       |
| Total receivables   | 47,522,155        | 33,648,534    |
| Total assets  | 961,787,772       | 710,606,592   |
| LIABILITIES   |                   |               |
| Payables for securities purchased   | 114,173           | 95,112        |
| Other accrued liabilities   | 118,188           | 62,223        |
| Total liabilities   | 232,361           | 157,335       |
| NET ASSETS REFLECTING ALL INVESTMENTS AT FAIR VALUE   | 961,555,411       | 710,449,257   |
| Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive stable value fund | (542,468 )        | (1,605,031 )  |
| NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS   | \$961,012,943     | \$708,844,226 |
| See notes to financial statements   |                   |               |
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### DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES 401(k) PLAN STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS For the Years Ended December 31, 2013 and 2012

| ADDITIONS:  | 2013   | 2012   |
|---|--|--|
| Contributions:  |  |  |
| Participant contributions   | \$51,308,415                                       | \$44,017,198                                       |
| Rollover contributions  | 4,484,144  | 5,073,953  |
| Employer contributions  | 47,685,256   | 43,772,254   |
| Total contributions   | 103,477,815  | 92,863,405   |
| Investment income:  |  |  |
| Net appreciation in fair value of investments   | 184,717,518  | 107,038,477  |
| Dividends and interest income   | 5,414,728  | 4,204,245  |
| Net investment income   | 190,132,246  | 111,242,722  |
|   |  |  |
| Total additions   | 293,610,061  | 204,106,127  |
| Total additions  DEDUCTIONS:  | 293,610,061  | 204,106,127  |
|   | 293,610,061<br>41,078,251                          | 204,106,127<br>39,089,544                          |
| DEDUCTIONS:   |  | ,  |
| DEDUCTIONS: Benefits paid to participants   | 41,078,251   | 39,089,544   |
| DEDUCTIONS: Benefits paid to participants Administrative expenses   | 41,078,251<br>363,093                              | 39,089,544<br>189,788                              |
| DEDUCTIONS: Benefits paid to participants Administrative expenses Total deductions  INCREASE IN NET ASSETS NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS: | 41,078,251<br>363,093<br>41,441,344                | 39,089,544<br>189,788<br>39,279,332                |
| DEDUCTIONS: Benefits paid to participants Administrative expenses Total deductions INCREASE IN NET ASSETS                                     | 41,078,251<br>363,093<br>41,441,344<br>252,168,717 | 39,089,544<br>189,788<br>39,279,332<br>164,826,795 |

See notes to financial statements

# DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES 401(k) PLAN NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of and for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012

### 1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The following description of the Discover Financial Services 401(k) Plan (the "Plan") is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan document for more complete information. Terms used in this description have the same meaning as in the Plan document.

#### General

The Plan was adopted by Discover Financial Services (the "Company") effective July 1, 2007 for its eligible employees and the eligible employees of its participating affiliated employers. The Plan is a profit-sharing plan for purposes of section 401(a)(27) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"). The Plan is also an eligible individual account plan within the meaning of Section 407(d)(3) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"). The Plan provides for the acquisition and holding of "qualifying employer securities" as defined in ERISA section 407(d)(5). Up to 100% of the Plan's assets may be invested in qualifying employer securities. The portion of the Plan's assets invested in qualifying employer securities is designated as an "employee stock ownership plan" ("ESOP") under Code section 4975(e)(7).

All of the Plan's investments are held in a trust account at The Bank of New York Mellon (the "Custodian"). The general administration of the Plan is placed in the "Plan Administrator" defined under the Plan as the Employee Benefits Committee.

#### Eligibility

Full-time and part-time (regularly scheduled to work 20 hours or more a week) employees of the Company, and of participating employers electing to participate in the Plan, are eligible to participate in the Plan upon hire. Other employees of the Company including those regularly scheduled to work less than 20 hours per week and temporary employees are eligible to participate after completing one year of service, as defined in the Plan, and attaining age 21. The Plan provides for automatic enrollment and automatic escalation of pre-tax contributions of participants who do not elect to opt out of participation.

#### **Participant Contributions**

Each year, participants may contribute up to 30% of pre-tax annual compensation, as defined in the Plan and subject to certain limitations. A Non-Highly Compensated Employee may make After-Tax Contributions to the Plan for any year equal to any whole percentage from 1% to 10% of the Participant's Earnings as defined in the Plan and subject to certain limitations. Participants may also contribute amounts representing pre-tax distributions from other qualified defined benefit or defined contribution plans. Participants age 50 and over can make catch-up contributions subject to limitations. Different limits apply in the case of Puerto Rico residents and participants returning from a qualified military service leave.

#### **Employer Contributions**

The Company contributes a fixed 3% of eligible pay and matches 100% on the first 2% of eligible pay (as defined in the Plan) employees contribute on a pre-tax basis, plus 50% on the next 4% of eligible pay employees contribute on a pre-tax basis, subject to certain limitations. All participating employees who have made pre-tax contributions of at least 6% of annual earnings are eligible for an adjustment match at year end. The adjustment match will be equal to the difference between the maximum company match the participant is eligible to receive and the matching contributions credited to the participant's account during the plan year, whether or not a plan limit was reached during the year. Additional transitional credit contributions of 1.5% or 3.0% of eligible pay will be made by the Company to participants who have reached specified age, service and points requirements for up to five years if such participants remain employed with the Company. Transitional credit contributions ceased at December 31, 2013. Effective January 1, 2013, the Company matching contributions are made as soon as is administratively practicable following the end of the payroll period, generally bi-weekly, based on employee pre-tax contributions. Effective January 1, 2013, the Company fixed contributions are made annually based on eligible pay. The Company transitional

credit contributions are made on a quarterly basis based on eligible pay.

#### Participant Accounts

Individual accounts are maintained for each Plan participant. Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions, allocations of the Company's contribution and Plan earnings, and charged with the participant's withdrawals, an allocation of Plan losses and administrative expenses not otherwise paid by the Company. Allocations are based on the participant's balance or earnings, other than participant-directed transactions that may have individual fees. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

#### Retirement, Death and Disability

A participant, or beneficiary, is entitled to 100% of his or her account balance upon retirement, death, disability or certain reductions in force as provided in the Plan.

#### Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the remainder of their accounts, plus earnings thereon, is based on years of service. A participant is 100% vested after two years of service, as defined in the Plan.

#### Forfeitures

Any nonvested matching contributions or Company fixed contributions credited to a participant's account shall be forfeited as of the end of the month in which the participant terminates employment. These forfeitures are used to offset future employer contributions of the Plan or to pay Plan expenses. During the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, employer contributions were reduced by \$2,434,822 and \$2,156,000, respectively, from forfeited nonvested accounts. At December 31, 2013 and 2012, forfeited nonvested accounts totaled \$1,816,630 and \$2,103,780, respectively. These accounts will be used to reduce future employer contributions.

#### Investments

The Retirement Plan Investment Committee of the Company is responsible for the selection and monitoring of the Plan's investment options, other than the Company Stock Fund, which is maintained pursuant to the terms of the Plan. In addition to the Company Stock Fund, the investment options of the Plan include Collective Trusts and Mutual Funds. Plan participants direct the investment of their account balances into the various investment options offered by the Plan. Company matching contributions for the 2013 and 2012 Plan years were made in cash and invested in accordance with the participant's investment direction on file, or if none, in the T. Rowe Price target year fund closest to the year in which the participant will reach age 65. Company contributions may be made in cash or in the common stock of the Company, at the Company's discretion.

#### Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants would become 100% vested in their employer contributions and earnings thereon. Loans to Participants

Generally, participants may borrow from their Plan accounts up to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and have varying maturities through 2028 with rates between 4.25% and 10.50%. Currently, loan interest rates are set at prime interest rate plus 1% under the Plan's loan guidelines. With the exception of certain transferred loans, a participant may only have one outstanding loan in his or her Plan account at any time. Interest income is recognized over the life of the loan.

#### Payment of Benefits

Participants may elect to receive all or a portion of their vested Plan account balance following termination of employment.

#### Non-hardship Withdrawals

While a participant is employed by the Company, they may withdraw any or all vested portions of their Plan account upon attaining age 59 <sup>1</sup>/2. Participants may also withdraw their after-tax contributions at any time. Withdrawals are limited to two per calendar year.

#### Hardship Withdrawals

Participants may withdraw any or all vested portions of their Plan account, other than any portions related to fixed Company contributions or qualified non-elective employer contributions, in the event of a hardship, as defined in the Plan.

Payments of benefits from the Plan are generally made in cash. A participant may elect to receive his or her interest in the Company Stock Fund in the form of stock certificates. A participant has the option to reinvest dividends from the Company Stock Fund in additional shares of Company stock or receive a cash payout.

Included in net assets available for benefits are amounts allocated to individuals who have elected to withdraw from the Plan, but who have not yet been paid. Plan assets allocated to these participants and elected to be withdrawn were \$428,755 and \$600,364 at December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

#### Administrative Expenses

Administrative expenses of the Plan are paid by either the Plan or the Company as provided in the Plan document. In 2013 and 2012, the majority of administrative expenses were paid directly by the Company.

#### Plan Amendments

The Plan was amended, effective January 1, 2013, to change the timing of matching and fixed contributions made by the Company. Also, following the acquisition of the Home Loan Center, Inc. by the Company, the Plan was amended, effective June 7, 2012, to add DFS Escrow, Inc., Discover Home Loans, Inc. and HLC Settlement Services, Inc. as participating employers.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires Plan management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of net assets available for benefits and changes therein and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from the estimates and assumptions used.

#### Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan utilizes various investment options. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate risk, credit risk and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the financial statements.

#### **Investment Valuation**

The Plan's investments are stated at fair value. Fair value of a financial instrument is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The following provides a description of methodologies used in valuing the Plan's assets at fair value:

#### Common Stock of the Company

The Company stock is valued at the closing price reported on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Listing on the last business day of the Plan year.

#### **Mutual Funds**

These investments are public investment vehicles valued using the Net Asset Value ("NAV") provided by the administrator of the fund. The NAV is based on the value of the underlying assets owned by the fund, minus its liabilities, and then divided by the number of shares outstanding. The NAV is a quoted price in an active market.

#### Collective Trusts

These investments are not traded on an active market, but instead are valued using the NAV provided by the administrator of the fund. The unit price is based on underlying investments which are traded on an active market. Stable Value Fund

In accordance with Accounting Standard Codification ("ASC") Topic 962 Plan Accounting - Defined Contribution Pension Plans, the statements of net assets available for benefits presents the fair value of the fully benefit-responsive stable value funds in the caption for participant-directed investments, at fair value, as well as an additional line item showing an adjustment to the fully benefit-responsive stable value fund from fair value to contract value.

The statement of changes in net assets available for benefit is presented on a contract value basis and is not affected by ASC Topic 946 Financial Services - Investment Companies. The fair values of the Plan's interest in stable value funds is based upon the net asset value of the funds, after adjustments to reflect all underlying investments of the funds at fair value.

**Investment Income** 

Realized and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) in the fair value of investments is based on the difference between the average cost of the assets at the beginning of the year, or at time of purchase of assets purchased during the year, and the related average cost on the day investments are sold with respect to realized appreciation (depreciation), or on the last day of the year for unrealized appreciation (depreciation).

Purchases and sales of investments are recorded on a trade-date basis. The Plan records dividends on the ex-dividend date.

Management fees and operating expenses charged to the Plan for investments in the mutual funds and collective trusts are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are not separately reflected. Consequently, management fees and operating expenses are reflected as a reduction of investment return for such investments.

Receivables

Contributions receivable

The carrying amount of the contributions receivable approximate fair value due to their short-term maturities.

Receivables for securities sold

Represent pending sales of investments that have not yet settled.

Accrued investment income

Represents dividend and interest income that have been earned but have not yet been received. Dividends are accrued on their ex-dividend dates, while interest income is recorded when earned.

Notes receivable from participants

Represent outstanding principal and interest balance on loans receivable from participants and are recorded when participants take out a loan.

Payables for securities purchased

Represent pending purchases of investments that have not yet settled.

Benefits paid to participants

Benefits are recorded upon distribution.

Reclassifications

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation.

#### 3. INVESTMENTS

The Plan's investments that represented 5% or more of the Plan's net assets available for benefits are as follows:

| 1   | For the Year Ended |               |
|---|--------------------|---------------|
|   | December 31,       |               |
|   | 2013               | 2012          |
| Discover Financial Services common stock <sup>(1)</sup> | \$137,099,992      | \$102,372,224 |
| Mellon S&P 500 Index Fund <sup>(1)</sup>                | \$97,366,683       | \$64,963,928  |
| Dodge & Cox International Stock Fund                    | \$86,018,854       | \$58,753,324  |
| Wells Fargo Stable Return Fund C <sup>(2)</sup>         | \$67,646,827       | \$56,950,922  |
| Dodge & Cox Stock Fund                                  | \$67,419,540       | \$42,385,354  |
| PIMCO Total Return Fund                                 | \$62,382,165       | \$62,487,939  |
| MSIF Inc. U.S. Large Cap Growth Portfolio               | \$60,927,969       | \$41,778,610  |
| T. Rowe Price Retirement Fund 2035                      | \$51,354,297       | \$39,873,704  |

#### (1) Party-in-interest

Amount in the table represents the fair value at December 31, 2013 and 2012. The contract value of the Wells Fargo Stable Return Fund C was \$67,104,359 and \$55,345,891 at December 31, 2013 and 2012.

The Plan's investments (including gains and losses on investments bought and sold, as well as held during the period) appreciated (depreciated) in value as follows:

|   | For the Year Ended |               |
|---|--------------------|---------------|
|   | December 31,       |               |
|   | 2013               | 2012          |
| Common stock                                  | \$44,773,558       | \$42,200,027  |
| Mutual Funds:                                 |                    |               |
| Domestic Stock Funds                          | 44,335,969         | 14,548,133    |
| International Stock Funds                     | 15,634,906         | 8,239,159     |
| Fixed Income Funds                            | (1,279,653)        | 5,094,142     |
| Total mutual funds                            | 58,691,222         | 27,881,434    |
| Collective Trusts:                            |                    |               |
| Equity Funds - Domestic                       | 17,927,343         | 6,174,250     |
| Equity Funds - International                  | 1,034,234          | 668,718       |
| Equity Index Funds                            | 22,566,866         | 7,418,467     |
| Target Date Fund Income Active                | 1,048,487          | 1,055,289     |
| Target Date Funds 2010-2020                   | 7,481,600          | 5,757,831     |
| Target Date Funds 2025-2035                   | 18,645,464         | 10,624,655    |
| Target Date Funds 2040-2055                   | 11,649,877         | 4,984,731     |
| Stable Value Fund                             | 898,867            | 273,075       |
| Total collective trusts                       | 81,252,738         | 36,957,016    |
| Net appreciation in fair value of investments | \$184,717,518      | \$107,038,477 |

#### 4. STABLE VALUE FUND

The Wells Fargo Stable Return Fund C ("Fund C"), is a collective trust fund. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. serves as the Fund manager and trustee. Fund C has invested all of its assets in Wells Stable Return Fund G ("Fund G"), which invests in investment contracts, including traditional guaranteed investment contracts and security-backed contracts issued by insurance companies and other financial institutions. The beneficial interest of each participant is represented by units. Units are issued by Fund C at a price determined by Wells Fargo at the close of each business day. The net asset value of Fund C is calculated daily. Net investment income and realized and unrealized gains on investments are not distributed by the fund. Rather they are reinvested and reflected in the net asset value of the fund. Units of Fund C are issued and redeemed at the current net asset value. The estimated fair value of Fund C is net asset value, exclusive of the adjustment to contract value, and is considered a Level 2 investment. Currently the Plan does not provide for any competing stable value funds or benefit-responsive investment contracts.

Fund G's principal objective is to protect principal while providing a higher rate of return than shorter maturity investments, such as money market funds or certificates of deposit. To achieve this, Fund G invests in instruments which are not expected to experience significant price fluctuation in most economic or interest rate environments. However, there is no assurance that this objective can be achieved.

Limitations on the Ability of Fund G to Transact at Contract Value

Guaranteed investment contracts and security-backed contracts generally provide for withdrawals associated with certain events which are not in the ordinary course of Fund G operations. These withdrawals are paid with a market value adjustment applied to the withdrawal as defined in the investment contract. Events which may trigger a market value adjustment include:

material amendments to Fund G's structure or administration;

•hanges to the participating plans' competing investment options including the elimination of equity wash provisions; •complete or partial termination of Fund G, including a merger with another fund;

the failure of Fund G to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA;

the redemption of all or a portion of the interests in Fund G held by a participating plan at the direction of the participating plan sponsor, including withdrawals due to the removal of a specifically identifiable group of employees from coverage under the participating plan (such as group layoff or early retirement incentive program), the closing or sale of subsidiary, employing unit, or affiliate, the bankruptcy or insolvency of a plan sponsor, the merger of the plan with another plan, or the plan sponsor's establishment of another tax qualified defined contribution plan; any change in law, regulation, ruling, administrative or judicial position, or accounting requirement, applicable to Fund G or participating plans;

the delivery of any communication to plan participants designed to influence a participant not to invest in Fund G.

#### 5. NET ASSET VALUE (NAV) PER SHARE

The following table is a summary of the Plan's investments in collective trusts whose fair value is estimated using the NAV per share or its equivalent, as its fair value is not readily determinable:

|   | Fair Value Estin          | nated Using Net | Asset Value per | Share         |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Investment                                    | Fair Value <sup>(1)</sup> | Unfunded        | Redemption      | Redemption    |
| Investment                                    | rair value(1)             | Commitment      | Frequency       | Notice Period |
| December 31, 2013                             |                           |                 |                 |               |
| Equity Funds - Domestic <sup>(2)</sup>        | \$68,818,277              | \$              | Immediate       | None          |
| Equity Funds - International <sup>(3)</sup>   | 6,105,762                 | _               | Immediate       | None          |
| Equity Index Funds <sup>(4)</sup>             | 97,366,683                | _               | Immediate       | None          |
| Target Date Fund Income Active <sup>(5)</sup> | 12,335,333                | _               | Immediate       | 90 days       |
| Target Date Funds 2010-2020 <sup>(5)</sup>    | 55,827,457                | _               | Immediate       | 90 days       |
| Target Date Funds 2025-2035 <sup>(5)</sup>    | 100,670,061               | _               | Immediate       | 90 days       |
| Target Date Funds 2040-2055 <sup>(5)</sup>    | 61,562,248                | _               | Immediate       | 90 days       |
| Stable Value Fund <sup>(6)</sup>              | 67,646,827                | _               | Immediate       | None          |
| Total   | \$470,332,648             | <b>\$</b> —     |                 |               |
|   |                           |                 |                 |               |
| December 31, 2012                             |                           |                 |                 |               |
| Equity Funds - Domestic <sup>(2)</sup>        | \$47,768,700              | <b>\$</b> —     | Immediate       | None          |
| Equity Funds - International <sup>(3)</sup>   | 4,186,574                 | _               | Immediate       | None          |
| Equity Index Funds <sup>(4)</sup>             | 64,963,928                | _               | Immediate       | None          |
| Target Date Fund Income Active <sup>(5)</sup> | 11,545,514                | _               | Immediate       | 90 days       |
| Target Date Funds 2010-2020 <sup>(5)</sup>    | 47,189,631                | _               | Immediate       | 90 days       |
| Target Date Funds 2025-2035 <sup>(5)</sup>    | 76,682,097                | _               | Immediate       | 90 days       |
| Target Date Funds 2040-2055 <sup>(5)</sup>    | 39,444,934                | _               | Immediate       | 90 days       |
| Stable Value Fund <sup>(6)</sup>              | 56,950,922                | _               | Immediate       | None          |
| Total   | \$348,732,300             | <b>\$</b> —     |                 |               |

- (1) The fair values of the investments have been estimated using the net asset value of the investment.
- (2) Equity funds domestic strategies seek to invest in a diversified portfolio of common stocks.
- (3) Equity funds international strategies seek long-term growth of capital primarily through investments in foreign securities.
- (4) Equity index fund strategies seek to track the performance of the S&P 500 Index.
- (5) Target date fund strategies seek to invest in equity and fixed income trusts with an allocation strategy determined by a specific retirement date.
  - Stable value fund strategies seek to invest in a variety of investment contracts such as guaranteed investment
- (6) contracts (GICs) issued by insurance companies and other financial institutions and other investment products with similar characteristics.

#### 6. FAIR VALUE DISCLOSURES

The following provides a description of the three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value under ASC 820:

Level 1 - Inputs utilize quoted prices (unadjusted) available in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 - Inputs utilize other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, and include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in an active or inactive market, quoted prices for the identical assets in an inactive market, and inputs other than quoted prices that are observable at commonly quoted intervals, such as interest rates;

Level 3 - Inputs utilize unobservable inputs, and include situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability.

In instances in which the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety has been determined is based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. The Plan's assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment, and considers factors specific to the asset or liability.

Assets Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis

There were no Level 3 assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis at any point during the year ended December 31, 2013 and 2012.

There is no difference between the carrying value and the fair value of these funds, except for the stable value fund. The following table presents information about the Plan's assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2013 and 2012 and indicates the level within the fair value hierarchy with which each of those items is associated:

|                                | Quoted Prices In<br>Active Markets for<br>Identical Assets<br>(Level 1) <sup>(1)</sup> | Significant Other<br>Observable Inputs<br>(Level 2) <sup>(1)</sup> | Total         |
|--------------------------------|--|--|---------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2013   |  |  |               |
| Assets                         |  |  |               |
| Common stock:                  |  |  |               |
| Discover Financial Services    | \$137,099,992  | \$—  | \$137,099,992 |
| Mutual Funds:                  |  |  |               |
|                                | 150 421 050  |  | 150 421 050   |
| Domestic Stock Funds           | 158,431,958  | _  | 158,431,958   |
| International Stock Funds      | 86,018,854   | _  | 86,018,854    |
| Fixed Income Funds             | 62,382,165   | _  | 62,382,165    |
| Total mutual funds             | 306,832,977  |  | 306,832,977   |
| Collective Trusts:             |  |  |               |
| Equity Funds-Domestic          | _  | 68,818,277   | 68,818,277    |
| Equity Funds-International     |  | 6,105,762  | 6,105,762     |
| Equity Index Funds             |  | 97,366,683   | 97,366,683    |
| Target Date Fund Income Active |  | 12,335,333   | 12,335,333    |
| Target Date Funds 2010-2020    |  | 55,827,457   | 55,827,457    |
| Target Date Funds 2025-2035    |  | 100,670,061  | 100,670,061   |
| Target Date Funds 2040-2055    | _  | 61,562,248   | 61,562,248    |
| Stable Value Fund              | _  | 67,646,827   | 67,646,827    |
| Total collective trusts        | _  | 470,332,648  | 470,332,648   |
| Total assets                   | \$443,932,969  | \$470,332,648  | \$914,265,617 |
|                                |  | •  | •             |

|                                | Quoted Prices In<br>Active Markets for<br>Identical Assets<br>(Level 1) <sup>(1)</sup> | Significant Other<br>Observable Inputs<br>(Level 2) <sup>(1)</sup> | Total                      |
|--------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2012   |  |  |                            |
| Assets                         |  |  |                            |
| Common stock:                  | <b>4.02.272.22.</b>  | <b>*</b>   | <b>* * * * * * * * * *</b> |
| Discover Financial Services    | \$102,372,224  | <b>\$</b> —  | \$102,372,224              |
| Mutual Funds:                  |  |  |                            |
| Domestic Stock Funds           | 104,612,271  | _  | 104,612,271                |
| International Stock Funds      | 58,753,324   | _  | 58,753,324                 |
| Fixed Income Funds             | 62,487,939   | _  | 62,487,939                 |
| Total mutual funds             | 225,853,534  | _  | 225,853,534                |
| Collective Trusts:             |  |  |                            |
| Equity Funds-Domestic          | _  | 47,768,700   | 47,768,700                 |
| Equity Funds-International     | _  | 4,186,574  | 4,186,574                  |
| Equity Index Funds             | _  | 64,963,928   | 64,963,928                 |
| Target Date Fund Income Active | _  | 11,545,514   | 11,545,514                 |
| Target Date Funds 2010-2020    | _  | 47,189,631   | 47,189,631                 |
| Target Date Funds 2025-2035    | _  | 76,682,097   | 76,682,097                 |
| Target Date Funds 2040-2055    | _  | 39,444,934   | 39,444,934                 |
| Stable Value Fund              | _  | 56,950,922   | 56,950,922                 |
| Total collective trusts        | _  | 348,732,300  | 348,732,300                |
| Total assets                   | \$328,225,758  | \$348,732,300  | \$676,958,058              |

<sup>(1)</sup> There were no transfers into or out of levels 1 and 2 in the fair value hierarchy for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012.

#### 7. PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Parties-in-interest are defined under Department of Labor regulations as any fiduciary of the Plan, any party rendering service to the Plan, the employer, and certain others. The Plan holds units of collective trusts managed by the Plan Custodian, The Bank of New York Mellon. Because The Bank of New York Mellon is the Plan Custodian, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Notes receivable from participants are also considered party-in-interest transactions.

At December 31, 2013 and 2012, the Plan held 2,450,402 and 2,655,570, respectively, shares of common stock of the Company, the sponsoring employer, with a cost basis of \$57,209,780 and \$53,289,343 and a fair value of \$137,099,992 and \$102,372,224, respectively. During the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, the Plan recorded dividend income on the common stock of the Company of \$1,898,743 and \$852,460 respectively. Certain administrative functions are performed by officers or employees of the Company. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan. Some administrative expenses of the Plan are paid directly by the Company.

#### 8. FEDERAL INCOME TAX STATUS

On January 24, 2013, the Plan Sponsor received a favorable determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") that the Plan satisfies the requirements of the applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code. No provision for income taxes has been recorded in the accompanying financial statements. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the plan and recognize a tax liability if the plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by the IRS; however, there are currently no audits

for any tax periods in progress. The Plan administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2010.

#### 9. RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO FORM 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

|  | December 31,  |               |
|--|---------------|---------------|
|  | 2013          | 2012          |
| Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements                         | \$961,012,943 | \$708,844,226 |
| Adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive stable value | 542,468       | 1,605,031     |
| fund   | 3-12,-100     | 1,005,051     |
| Corrective distributions   | (20,962)      |               |
| Distributions and withdrawals payable  | (428,755)     |               |
| Net assets available for benefits per Form 5500  | \$961,105,694 | \$710,449,257 |

The following is a reconciliation of the increase in net assets per the financial statements to the form 5500:

|   | 2013          | 2012          |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Increase in net assets per the financial statements   | \$252,168,717 | \$164,826,795 |
| Adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive stable value fund | (1,062,563)   | 1,847,822     |
| Change in corrective distributions  | (20,962)      | _             |
| Change in distributions and withdrawals payable   | (428,755)     |               |
| Net increase per Form 5500  | \$250,656,437 | \$166,674,617 |

December 31,

Employer Identification Number 36-2517428; Plan Number 003 Form 5500, Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) December 31, 2013

| (a) | (b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party | (c) Description of investment, including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value  | (d) Cost** | (e) Current value  |
|-----|---|---|------------|--|
|     | CRM Dodge & Cox Dodge & Cox Morgan Stanley PIMCO          | Mutual Funds Cramer Mid Cap Value Fund Dodge & Cox International Stock Fund Dodge & Cox Stock Fund MSIF Inc. U.S. Large Cap Growth Portfolio Fund PIMCO Total Return Fund |            | \$30,084,449<br>86,018,854<br>67,419,540<br>60,927,969<br>62,382,165 |
| *   | Prudential Trust Company The Bank of New York Mellon      | Collective Trusts Jennison U.S. Small Cap Equity Fund Mellon EB Temporary Investment Fund II  |            | 38,520,854<br>2,223,099  |
| *   | The Bank of New York<br>Mellon                            | Mellon S&P 500 Index  |            | 97,366,683   |
|     | Pyramis Global Advisors<br>Trust Company                  | Pyramis Select International Fund   |            | 6,105,763  |
|     | Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.                                    | Wells Fargo Stable Return Fund C  |            | 67,646,827   |
|     | KeyBank National<br>Association                           | Victory Large Cap Fund  |            | 28,074,323   |
|     | ¥ •   | T. Rowe Price Retirement Income Active Fund   |            | 12,335,333   |
|     | ¥ •   | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2010 Fund  |            | 4,034,218  |
|     |   | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2015 Fund  |            | 34,511,635   |
|     | ¥ •   | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2020 Fund  |            | 17,281,603   |
|     | ¥ •   | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2025 Fund  |            | 24,518,447   |
|     | ž •   | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2030 Fund  |            | 24,797,318   |
|     | ¥ •   | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2035 Fund  |            | 51,354,297   |
|     |   | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2040 Fund  |            | 21,094,013   |
|     |   | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2045 Fund  |            | 16,467,425   |
|     |   | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2050 Fund  |            | 12,011,769   |
|     | T. Rowe Price Trust Company                               | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2055 Fund  |            | 11,989,041   |
| *   | Discover Financial Services                               | Common Stock  |            | 137,099,992  |
| *   | Participant loans   | Maturing 2014 - 2028 at interest rates between 4.25% and 10.50%   |            | 24,611,601   |
|     | Total Investments Held at End                             | of Year   |            | \$938,877,218  |

<sup>\*</sup>Party-in-interest.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Cost information is not required for participant-directed investments and therefore is not included.

#### **SIGNATURE**

The Plan. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the Discover Financial Services 401(k) Plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

#### DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES 401(k) PLAN

By: Discover Financial Services Employee Benefits

Committee, as Plan Administrator

June 23, 2014 By: /s/ Douglas Seipel

Douglas Seipel, Chairman

Discover Financial Services Employee Benefits

Committee

# EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number Description

23.1 Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.