

Nuveen Core Equity Alpha Fund  
Form N-Q  
November 28, 2014

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, DC 20549**

**FORM N-Q**

**QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT  
INVESTMENT COMPANY**

Investment Company Act file number 811-22003

**Nuveen Core Equity Alpha Fund**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

**333 West Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606**

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

**Kevin J. McCarthy Vice President and Secretary**

**333 West Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606**

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 312-917-7700

Date of fiscal year

end: 12/31

Date of reporting period: 9/30/2014

Form N-Q is to be used by management investment companies, other than small business investment companies registered on Form N-5 (§§ 239.24 and 274.5 of this chapter), to file reports with the Commission, not later than 60 days after the close of the first and third fiscal quarters, pursuant to rule 30b1-5 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30b1-5). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-Q in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles.

A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-Q, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-Q unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549-0609. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. § 3507.



**Item 1. Schedule of Investments**

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**Portfolio of Investments**  
**Nuveen Core Equity Alpha Fund (JCE)**  
 September 30, 2014 (Unaudited)

Shares	Description (1)	Value
	<b>LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS 100.4%</b>	
	<b>COMMON STOCKS 100.4%</b>	
	<b>Aerospace &amp; Defense 6.5%</b>	
22,300	Boeing Company	\$ 2,840,574
13,200	General Dynamics Corporation	1,677,588
1,100	Honeywell International Inc.	102,432
6,000	L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc.	713,520
22,900	Lockheed Martin Corporation	4,185,662
47,600	Northrop Grumman Corporation	6,271,776
23,300	Raytheon Company	2,367,746
600	Rockwell Collins, Inc.	47,100
14,900	Textron Inc.	536,251
700	United Technologies Corporation	73,920
	Total Aerospace & Defense	18,816,569
	<b>Air Freight &amp; Logistics 0.5%</b>	
3,200	C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc.	212,224
2,200	Expeditors International of Washington, Inc.	89,276
5,200	FedEx Corporation	839,540
3,600	United Parcel Service, Inc., Class B	353,844
	Total Air Freight & Logistics	1,494,884
	<b>Airlines 2.6%</b>	
15,200	Delta Air Lines, Inc.	549,480
205,500	Southwest Airlines Co.	6,939,733
	Total Airlines	7,489,213
	<b>Auto Components 1.0%</b>	
15,600	BorgWarner Inc.	820,716
34,900	Delphi Automotive PLC	2,140,766
	Total Auto Components	2,961,482
	<b>Automobiles 0.0%</b>	
1,200	Harley-Davidson, Inc.	69,840
	<b>Banks 1.6%</b>	
40,300	BB&T Corporation	1,499,563
5,000	Fifth Third Bancorp.	100,100
805	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	48,493
13,200	M&T Bank Corporation	1,627,428
11,500	U.S. Bancorp	481,045
16,450	Wells Fargo & Company	853,262
	Total Banks	4,609,891
	<b>Beverages 3.7%</b>	
29,900	Brown-Forman Corporation	2,697,578
11,000	Coca-Cola Company	469,260
45,900	Constellation Brands, Inc., Class A, (2)	4,000,644
11,300	Dr. Pepper Snapple Group	726,703
30,700	Molson Coors Brewing Company, Class B	2,285,308
6,800	PepsiCo, Inc.	633,012
	Total Beverages	10,812,505
	<b>Biotechnology 0.4%</b>	
9,200	Gilead Sciences, Inc., (2)	979,340
200	Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., (2)	72,104
	Total Biotechnology	1,051,444
	<b>Building Products 0.4%</b>	
22,100	Allergion PLC	1,052,844
	<b>Capital Markets 1.6%</b>	
24,600	Ameriprise Financial, Inc.	3,035,148
1,400	BlackRock Inc.	459,648
1,000	Charles Schwab Corporation	29,390
4,600	E*Trade Group Inc., (2)	103,914
7,700	Legg Mason, Inc.	393,932
10,000	State Street Corporation	736,100

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Total Capital Markets	4,758,132
<b>Chemicals 2.6%</b>	
600 CF Industries Holdings, Inc.	167,532
29,200 Dow Chemical Company	1,531,248
3,900 E.I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company	279,864
2,000 Eastman Chemical Company	161,780
2,800 Ecolab Inc.	321,524
8,700 FMC Corporation	497,553
900 International Flavors & Fragrances Inc.	86,292
15,500 LyondellBasell Industries NV	1,684,230
1,700 Monsanto Company	191,267
2,800 Mosaic Company	124,348
5,900 PPG Industries, Inc.	1,160,766
2,500 Praxair, Inc.	322,500
2,600 Sherwin-Williams Company	569,374
3,800 Sigma-Aldrich Corporation	516,838
Total Chemicals	7,615,116
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies 0.9%</b>	
19,600 Cintas Corporation	1,383,564
11,800 Pitney Bowes Inc.	294,882
7,100 Republic Services, Inc.	277,042
600	