

MICROSOFT CORP  
Form 11-K  
March 25, 2016  
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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 11-K**  
**x ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE**  
**SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
**For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015**  
**“ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF**  
**THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**  
**For the Transition Period From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_**

Commission File Number 0-14278

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:  
**MICROSOFT CORPORATION EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN**

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:  
**Microsoft Corporation**  
**One Microsoft Way**



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Microsoft Corporation

Employee Stock Purchase

Plan

Financial Statements as of December 31, 2015 and

2014, and for Each of the Three Years in the Period

Ended December 31, 2015, and Report of Independent

Registered Public Accounting Firm

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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

Plan Administrator

Microsoft Corporation

Employee Stock Purchase Plan

Redmond, Washington

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Microsoft Corporation Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the Plan), as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's Administrator. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with 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. The Plan is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, 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, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Seattle, Washington

March 25, 2016

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**MICROSOFT CORPORATION**  
**EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN**  
**STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS**

| December 31,                      | 2015 |            | 2014 |            |
|-----------------------------------|------|------------|------|------------|
| Assets                            |      |            |      |            |
| Plan cash held by Microsoft       | \$   | 16,416,555 | \$   | 15,106,601 |
| Liabilities                       |      |            |      |            |
| Payable to participants           |      | 16,416,555 |      | 15,106,601 |
| Net assets available for benefits | \$   | 0          | \$   | 0          |

See accompanying notes.

Table of Contents**MICROSOFT CORPORATION****EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN****STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS**

| <b>Year Ended December 31,</b>                       | <b>2015</b>    | <b>2014</b>    | <b>2013</b>    |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Additions</b>                                     |                |                |                |
| Employee contributions, net of withdrawals           | \$ 648,601,299 | \$ 633,074,196 | \$ 580,157,877 |
| <b>Deductions</b>                                    |                |                |                |
| Cost of shares purchased                             | 632,184,744    | 617,967,595    | 567,672,625    |
| Payable to participants                              | 16,416,555     | 15,106,601     | 12,485,252     |
| Total deductions                                     | 648,601,299    | 633,074,196    | 580,157,877    |
| Changes in net assets available for benefits         | 0              | 0              | 0              |
| Net assets available for benefits, beginning of year | 0              | 0              | 0              |
| Net assets available for benefits, end of year       | \$ 0           | \$ 0           | \$ 0           |

See accompanying notes.

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**MICROSOFT CORPORATION**

**EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 1 THE PLAN AND ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES**

**Accounting Principles**

The financial statements and accompanying notes are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**General**

The Microsoft Corporation Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the **Plan**) became effective on January 1, 2013. The Plan is intended to provide eligible employees of Microsoft Corporation (the **Company**), who wish to become shareholders in the Company, a convenient method of doing so. The Plan covers substantially all employees of the Company who are considered **regular employees**, whose hire date is before the first business day of the offering period, and where customary employment is for more than five months in any calendar year.

**Plan Administration**

Fidelity is the administrator of the Plan (the **Plan Administrator**). The Plan Administrator believes the Plan meets the qualification standards of Section 423 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, pursuant to which the Plan is not subject to taxation. The Plan is not subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

**Contributions**

Plan participants (**Participants**) may make contributions to the Plan through payroll deductions (pre-tax contributions not to exceed 15% of their compensation, as defined in the Plan document) for the purpose of purchasing the Company's common stock. Participant contributions are recorded in the period that the Participants' payroll deductions are made. Participant contributions are not subject to vesting and thus are fully vested at all times.

**Share Purchases**

Participants may elect to purchase shares of the Company's common stock (**Shares**) at 90% of the closing price reported on the exchange where the Shares are traded (**Fair Market Value**) on the last business day of each of the offering periods. The Plan operates with separate consecutive three-month offering periods ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31, with offering dates of April 1, July 1, October 1, and January 1, respectively. Shares are recorded as purchased on the trade date, which is the last business day of each offering period. Once Shares are settled in the subsequent period, they are distributed to each Participant's account by the stock transfer agent.

Participants purchased 15,708,441 Shares, 15,644,115 Shares, and 19,147,603 Shares through the Plan during the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively. Under the Plan, 149,499,841 Shares are reserved for future issuance as of December 31, 2015. The maximum number of Shares that will be offered under the Plan is 200,000,000.





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### **Withdrawals**

If a Participant elects to withdraw from the Plan at any time prior to the first day of the last calendar month of an offering period, or if a Participant's employment has been terminated at any time, the Plan refunds any amounts withheld in that period, plus any carryover from the previous period, back to the Participant. All such amounts are included in employee contributions, net of withdrawals, in the Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits. Refunds resulting from Participant withdrawals and terminations from the Plan were not significant during any of the periods presented.

### **Payable to Participants**

Payable to participants represents cash in Participant accounts that was contributed to the Plan in amounts greater than the cost of the maximum number of Shares allowed to be purchased in a three-month offering period (see Limitations below). All such amounts will be refunded to Participants from the Plan in the following offering period and, as such, are not included in net assets available for benefits in the accompanying financial statements.

### **Limitations**

Employees owning Shares representing 5% or more of the total combined voting power or value of all classes of shares of the Company are not permitted to subscribe for any Shares under the Plan. Under the Plan, no Participant may purchase more than 2,000 Shares during a three-month offering period. Additionally, Participants are prohibited from purchasing Shares through the Plan with an aggregate Fair Market Value in excess of \$25,000 in any one calendar year.

### **Administrative Expenses**

All expenses for Plan administration are paid by the Company and are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

### **Termination**

The Plan shall terminate at the earliest of the following:

December 31, 2022;

the date of the filing of a Statement of Intent to Dissolve by the Company or the effective date of a merger or consolidation (except with a related company) where the Company is not to be the surviving corporation;

the date the Board of Directors of the Company acts to terminate the Plan; or

the date when all Shares reserved under the Plan have been purchased.

In the event of a dissolution, merger, or acquisition of the Company, the Company may permit a Participant to purchase Shares to the extent of accumulated payroll deduction funds in the Participant's account. In the event of a

termination of the Plan, Plan assets will be returned to the Participants.

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**NOTE 2 PLAN ASSETS**

The Plan's cash is maintained by the Company on behalf of the Plan.

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**SIGNATURE**

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

Microsoft Corporation Employee Stock Purchase Plan

/s/ KATHLEEN HOGAN

Kathleen Hogan

Executive Vice President, Human Resources

March 25, 2016

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