

Financial Focus

Organized 1934

Working Together for Financial Freedom

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Focus Points

Tax Forms

Tax forms will be mailed separately from December statements.

Holiday Closing

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, January 16

Although we will be closed, mobile banking, online banking, telephone teller and our Credit Union network of ATMs will be available.



President's Message



The year 2016 was one of the most productive years on record for your Credit Union. New members, shares, and loans were all up this past year and we owe this success to you our members.

I want to thank all our members for the confidence and trust that you have in your Credit Union. As a Financial Cooperative we exist for the benefit of our members. Your patronage of the Credit Union is what makes us the success we are.

As we look to 2017 we are preparing to utilize the technology that the new Core Conversion will help us with in bringing better service and products to you. We are going to concentrate even more on growing our membership base. Members are the life blood of the Credit Union and the more we get to participate the stronger we get as a Credit Union. So, help us out and refer a friend, family member or coworker to your credit union. By doing so you are helping to make sure that your Credit Union continues to be strong.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, Committee members and the entire staff at your Credit Union I want to once again thank you. Thank you for using your Credit Union for the services and products we offer. Have a great year in 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John F. King".

John F. King
President / CEO



10 Financial Resolutions To Make In The New Year

1. For a better budget, track everything. For at least this month, try to track every dollar you spend. This easy step can give you a clearer picture of how (and how much) you are spending, and where you can make cutbacks, so a realistic monthly budget will be that much easier to create and follow.
2. Start an emergency fund. Don't be discouraged by the thought of saving months of living expenses – be realistic and save what you can. Whatever the amount you can put aside, and put aside regularly, it's far better than having nothing saved at all.
3. Start an anticipated expense fund. It is useful to recognize expenses that, while irregular or infrequent, will inevitably occur. Start putting money away now for the day that your car needs new brakes or your child has an out-of-state competition.
4. Set a savings goal for 2017. Another way to make your money resolutions last all year is to set a long-term goal. Whether it's paying off all credit card debt or setting aside \$5,000 for your child's college tuition, give yourself a target for the year.
5. Keep your family in the loop. You know the how, when, and where of your important records and other financial information...but do your spouse and children? Take time to review where you keep essential files and what is contained in them. In case of emergency, this will save invaluable time for your family.



6. Take another look at non-utility monthly expenses. To dig even deeper into savings, re-evaluate your wireless, cable, phone, and insurance expenses. Although these bills can sometimes be challenging to decipher, an investigation might reveal places where you are spending too much – such as paying for premium cable channels you rarely watch.
7. Own up to little luxuries! Whether it's a specialty coffee drink on weekend mornings or a manicure twice a month, be realistic about that small indulgence you aren't willing to give up! By taking ownership of the expenditure, you can make adjustments to incorporate it into your budget.
8. Pack lunch one day a week. If you are used to buying your lunch every day, planning and making lunch for a week may seem like too much commitment even when you know it can net you big savings. Instead, resolve to bring your lunch the same day each week to get in the habit. If you like the savings you see as it adds up from week to week, you may even be motivated to start brown-bagging it more often!
9. Automate your savings. If you haven't already, consider enrolling in your employer's 401(k) plan especially if your company matches contributions. You might also consider having part of your paycheck deposited directly into a savings or other deposit account that you are less likely to touch.
10. Comparison shop for better credit card rates. The holidays are over but you may be just beginning to pay off related bills. There's no better time to do some post-holiday shopping...for better credit card rates. Look for a card with a low intro APR, no balance transfer fees, and no annual fee.



1% Cash Back on all Purchases

Earn 1% cash back on every purchase with the Cash Back Visa card. Apply online at FreedomCU.org/Cards.



Balance Your Bills

Transfer your high credit card balance to a lower interest rate Freedom card with NO balance transfer fee!

Is Now the Right Time to Refinance Your Home?

For most homeowners, it's still a good time to refinance. Rates are still at record lows, and by refinancing and locking in a better rate; you could reduce your monthly payment and save thousands of dollars in interest over the life of your mortgage.

Here are important things to consider when thinking about refinancing:

What Is Your Current Interest Rate?

Mortgages rates remain low and if you can reduce your current mortgage rate by one percentage point, then refinancing may work for you. But it is not always about saving money, your home is your largest asset and refinancing can provide funds for other expenses, like home improvements, a vacation home or college tuition.

What is the Cost of Refinancing?

Lower mortgage rates can mean lower payments but, for many homeowners, the deciding factor is the cost for refinancing. For example, if your refinance carries total closing costs of \$3,000, and you save \$100 monthly with the transaction, the general thinking is that you should not refinance unless you'll be in your home for at least 30 months.

Extending or Reducing Your Term

Another consideration for refinancing is whether you want to extend or reduce the number of years until your mortgage is paid in full. For homeowners with an existing 30-year mortgage, refinancing to a new 30-year mortgage may yield a tremendous monthly savings. Long-term, you'll still save money, but you'll be paying on your loan for more years overall. A 15-year mortgage is a popular refinance choice. This option offers low mortgage rates and fewer years to repay in full. Payments on a 15-year mortgage are higher as compared to 30-year loan, but over the life of the loan, a 15-year mortgage saves thousands of dollars in mortgage interest costs.



Not sure if refinancing is the right choice for you? You can have a no-obligation conversation with one of our home loan specialists; they will review your current loan and explore your options. In addition, they can explain how our "low cost refinance" option can minimize your closing costs. Just complete our brief online home loan checkup form and one of our specialists will contact you. **Visit FreedomCU.org/HomeLoanCheckup to get started.**

MONEY MARKET, CHECKING & SAVINGS RATES

Account	Dividend Rate	APY ¹
Money Market		
\$0 - \$9,999.99	.20%	.20%
\$10,000 and above	.30%	.30%
Checking	.10%	.10%
Primary & Club Savings	.20%	.20%
Education & IRA Savings	.20%	.20%
Health Savings	.10%	.10%

¹Dividends on IRA, Savings, Club, and Checking Accounts are computed monthly on average daily balances of \$5 or more and posted monthly. The Money Market Account has a variable rate which may be greater than our regular savings rate, and subject to daily adjustments. Dividends will be paid monthly on the average daily balance, based upon the current tier level rates. Fees may reduce earnings. Regulations prohibit payment in excess of available earnings. Rates accurate as of 1/1/17. Rates subject to change without notice and may change after account is opened.

SHARE & IRA CERTIFICATE (CD) RATES

Account Type	Dividend Rate	APY ²
6 Months	.65%	.65%
12 Months	.75%	.75%
18 Months	.85%	.85%
24 Months	1.14%	1.15%
30 Months	1.29%	1.30%
36 Months	1.54%	1.55%
48 Months	1.83%	1.85%
60 Months	2.23%	2.25%

²APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Rates accurate as of 1/1/17. Minimum opening deposit and amount to earn APY is \$500, \$250 for ages 25 and under. Penalty required for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. Regulations prohibit payment in excess of available earnings. Terms and rates are subject to change without notice.

CREDIT CARD RATES⁴

Credit Card Type	APR ³
Visa® Cash Back	0.99% Intro APR, then as low as 9.90%
Visa® Gold	As low as 8.90%
Student Visa	11.90%
Shared Secured Visa	15.90%

NEW/USED VEHICLE LOAN RATES

Term	APR ³
1-66 Months (New) ⁵	as low as 2.49%
1-66 Months (Used) ⁵	as low as 2.99%
67-75 Months ⁵	as low as 2.99%
76-84 Months (New Only)	3.99%

HOME EQUITY LOAN RATES⁶

Term	APR ^{3,7}	Monthly payment per \$10,000 borrowed
1-60 Months	as low as 3.24%	\$181.80
61-120 Months	as low as 4.24%	\$102.28
121-180 Months	as low as 4.49%	\$76.35

HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT^{6,8}

Index	Margin	APR ³
Prime Rate	as low as -0.01%	as low as 3.99%

FIRST MORTGAGES

Call Freedom at 215.612.6196 or visit **FreedomCU.org** for current rates and terms. **Call CU Abstract at 267.803.5000** for title insurance services.

OTHER LOAN RATES

Type	APR ³
Share Secured Loan	7.00%
Share Certificate Secured Loan ⁹	7.00%
Personal Loan ¹⁰	as low as 5.99%
Overdraft/Line of Credit ¹¹	as low as 10.90%

³APR=Annual Percentage Rate. The maximum unsecured debt per Member is \$30,000. Rates accurate as of 1/1/17. Terms and rates subject to change without notice.

⁴The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Rate will not be less than listed above or greater than 17.9%. 0.99% Introductory APR applies to all purchases, cash advances, and balance transfer made using the Freedom Visa Cash Back card during the 6-month introductory period. This offer is only available for new Card applications. Card issuance subject to final approval. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer subject to change without notice.

⁵The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Rate will not be less than 2.49% for new cars or 2.99% for used cars, or greater than 11.99%

⁶APR applies to Loan-to-Value (LTV) less than or equal to 80%. Hazard Insurance is required. For loans over \$100,000, Title Insurance is required. Loan subject to final approval. Terms and rates subject to change without notice.

⁷APR will not be less than 3.24% or greater than 6.49%. The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. Applies to loans in the 2nd lien position.

⁸Home Equity Line of Credit is subject to a Variable Rate which is based on the highest Prime Rate as published in the Wall Street Journal and will be the rate 10 days prior to the first day of each calendar quarter of each year. Margin will not be less than listed above or greater than 1.49%. Rate will not be less than 3.99% or greater than 18.00%.

⁹The greater of 7% APR or 2% above the Term Share Certificate rate.

¹⁰The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. APR will not be less than listed above or greater than 14.99%. Loan minimum is \$500.

¹¹The interest rate you receive will be based on your credit history. APR will not be less than listed above or greater than 17.9%.

New and Used Auto Financing Tools



The purchase of a car likely will be the second largest expenditure you have, second only to the purchase of a home. Whether you desire the shiny, brand new one, or if you are content with finding a reliable used one, we offer tools help you get the most for your money

Vehicle Buying Advisor

Whether you have just started looking or ready to buy be sure to call a Vehicle Buying Advisor to guide you through the entire purchasing process. Helping you find the right car at the right price, this FREE service can save you time and money! To get started call 215-612-6132 or email venezialej@FreedomCU.org.

Dedicated Loan Specialists

We have specially trained dedicated loan specialists to help guide you through the lending process. Armed with competitive rates and flexible terms, they will work with you to find the financing option that works best for you.

Great Rates and Secure Financing

Don't waste hours at the dealership or guessing at what you can afford. We offer competitive rates and an easy online application process. It only takes minutes to apply and we offer fast approvals. We provide quick pre-approvals and auto-drafts, so you can have cash in hand when you are ready to purchase.

Contact the consumer lending department at 215-612-5900 (option 4) to learn more or **apply online at FreedomCU.org/Auto**.

Try TurboTax and Save Up to \$15 and get a chance to win \$25,000!



We've teamed up with TurboTax® to save you up to \$15 on TurboTax federal products, and a chance to win \$25,000 in the \$25,000 Payday Sweepstakes. TurboTax® translates taxes into simple questions about your life, so you don't need tax knowledge – or an appointment – to get your taxes done right.

- Get your maximum refund. TurboTax searches over 350 deductions and credits to make sure you get your biggest possible refund, guaranteed.
- Be sure nothing gets missed. TurboTax CompleteCheck™ reviews every detail in your return, walks you through any final changes, and gives you the green light to file.
- You're never alone. Connect with an expert live, on-screen to get answers when you need them with TurboTax SmartLook™.

Just try TurboTax Online for FREE (and provide your email address) by February 16th to be automatically entered in the TurboTax \$25,000 Payday Sweepstakes.¹ Start TurboTax now!

Visit <http://turbotax.intuit.com/lp/yoy/guarantees.jsp> for TurboTax product guarantees and other important information.

¹ TurboTax \$25,000 Payday Sweepstakes. NO PURCHASE OR FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE NECESSARY. Open to legal residents of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia, 18 years of age or older at time of entry, who are customers of participating Financial Institutions or employees of participating businesses. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Sweepstakes ends 2/16/17. Subject to complete Official Rules and all applicable federal, state and local laws. See Official rules including odds of winning, alternate method of entry, and prize descriptions. PRIZES: 1 Grand Prize: A check for \$25,000. Retail value, \$25,000. 12 First Prizes: A check for \$1,000. Retail value, \$1,000 each. Maximum retail value of all prizes is \$37,000. The odds of winning a prize depend upon the total number of eligible entries received by the end of the Promotion Period. SPONSOR: Intuit Inc., 7535 Torrey Santa Fe Rd, SDG-2A-03-22E, San Diego, CA, 92129. State filing charges apply. Limited time offer for TurboTax 2016. Terms, conditions, features, availability, pricing, fees, service and support options subject to change without notice. Intuit, TurboTax and TurboTax Online, among others, are registered trademarks and/or service marks of Intuit Inc. in the United States and other countries. Other parties' trademarks or service marks are the property of their respective owners.

Refinance and Save

Think you are paying too much or need to change your terms? Refinance your non-Freedom auto loan with us and start saving today.



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