

Financial Focus

Organized 1934

Working Together for Financial Freedom

April 2017

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President's Message



The first quarter of this year has been a busy time for us behind the scenes here at the Credit Union. Our conversion to a new operating system with the introduction of new services inside existing services has caused a great deal of increased phone calls to the Operations Center. Our staff has performed exemplary; working patiently with members, helping them set up and reset up on our services.

We understand members were not happy with our performance during this time period, but there is something we can all do to help going forward. We need members to use our electronic services to receive information on their balances and check clearing. We have several services to accomplish this and none are new to our members. Telephone Teller, Online Banking, Mobile Banking, ATM, Shared Branching are all services that can accommodate the majority of our members' needs without the use of the call center.

As a cooperative, if we all work together to drive down costs then the Credit Union becomes more profitable and you have a stronger financial institution. As a member if you use any of these services to check a balance or check on recent transactions there are costs associated with that transaction:

Direct Costs Per Transaction:

Branch	Call Center	Mail Payments	ATM	Mobile	Shared Branching	Web	Telephone Teller
\$7.72	\$4.43	\$1.52	\$.22	\$.07	\$.16	\$.01	\$.01

Since the beginning of the year, as members call in for balances, our staff has been helping members get set up on electronic services. Members are very accepting of the new way to get balances and transaction history and understand why we need them to use our electronic services. This increased time of education has caused a longer call time which has caused a longer wait time for members. But as we work through this process the call time is coming down and the wait time as well.

As a cooperative if we all use electronic services we drive down costs. But it can't be done without you the member.

Have a great upcoming Spring season.

Thank you for your membership.

John F. King
 President / CEO

1% Cash Back Card with Extended Intro Rate – 0.99% APR for 12 months!

If you are carrying a balance on another credit card or you use your credit card regularly you need to switch to our Cash Back Visa card. For a limited time we have extended the intro rate of 0.99% APR* for 12 months.

Transfer your balance from your high rate bank or store cards and you can save big! **Plus, there's NO BALANCE TRANSFER FEE!**

Apply today at FreedomCU.org/CashBack.

With the Cash Back Card you get all of these added benefits:

- **1% cash back on all purchases – deposited directly into your savings account**
- 0.99% APR intro rate* for the first 12 months
- No annual fee
- No balance transfer fee
- No cash advance fee
- Plus, all of these added benefits. ...Roadside Dispatch, Auto Rental Collision Damage Waiver, Travel & Emergency Assistance Services, Warranty Manager Service, Cellular Telephone Protection, Emergency Medical/Dental Benefit, Visa Concierge Service, and Travel Accident Insurance



*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Balance transfers/cash advances/purchases during the promotional period (12 months from the date the card is opened) will be eligible for the 0.99% APR. Balance transfers from other Freedom cards are not eligible for promotional rate. All purchases made with the Cash Back card will receive 1% cash back deposited into the primary savings account at the credit union. This offer is only available for new card applications during the promotional period. After the promotional period the APR you receive on a Visa Cash Back card will be based on your credit history and will not be less than 9.9% or greater than 17.9%. All rates accurate as of 4/1/17. The maximum unsecured debt per Member is \$30,000. Offer subject to credit approval. Not everyone will qualify. You must be at least 18 years of age Offer is available for a limited time, may be withdrawn at any time and is subject to change without notice.

FREE Shredding Event

Join us April 29 at the Warminster Branch from 9:00 to 11:00am for a FREE shredding event. All shredding will be done on-premises, as you watch! Don't miss out on this opportunity to securely destroy your outdated documents.



Simple Ways to Prevent Credit Card Fraud

Fraud can cost Members and the Credit Union thousands a year, but there are simple steps you can follow to safe guard your information.

- Never give out your PIN and cover your card and the card pad when entering your PIN
- Use a card with an EMV chip to increase security
- Keep your credit cards in a safe and secure location; only carry the cards you'll be using that day.
- Enable alerts to inform you of card activity
- Review your account activity and report any unauthorized transactions
- Report lost or stolen credit cards immediately
- Don't respond to email, text or telephone calls asking for personal or financial information.

We will not solicit personal or private information via email, phone or text messaging. If we suspect fraudulent card use you will be contacted by our Card Holder Security Department, please return their call as quickly as possible. Please use the contact number on the back of the card if you suspect fraudulent activity. Contact us if you have any questions or concerns about your card.



Stay Protected with Visa Purchase Alerts

With free Visa Purchase Alerts, you can monitor your Freedom Visa credit or check card activity. Create custom notifications that alert you to purchases made over a specified amount, online transactions, purchases made outside the United States, and more.

Visa Purchase Alerts can help you immediately identify potentially fraudulent activity and stay on top of account balances. Alerts are fully customized to your needs and can be received through text messages or email.

Visit FreedomCU.org/VisaAlerts to learn more about Visa Purchase Alerts and enroll today.

Get a Jump on Spring Home Improvement Projects

Spring is around the corner and now is the time to start planning for those home improvement projects.

Invest some time in planning, even if you don't intend to make all improvements at once. Determine what your final goal is and break the project into stages.

There are several basic concepts that improve the value of a home, such as finishing existing spaces and energy savings improvements – upgrading windows and appliances. There are other options that may not add to the resale value, but are important to you; new lawn furniture, a swimming pool or three season room.

Whether you are doing home improvements for your own enjoyment or to improve the value of your home, having a plan and a budget will save you time and money in the long run.

Once you've determined which projects you want to tackle, a personal loan is an affordable way to fund your next project. We offer great rates and have an easy online application process, visit FreedomCU.org to learn more.



Fund Your Next Project

personal loan rates as low as
5.99% APR*

Thinking about home improvements, upgrading your vacation plans or funding a special event? A personal loan is an affordable option to finance a big purchase or unexpected expense. **With rates as low as 5.99% APR*, now is the time to apply!**

Learn more at FreedomCU.org/LoanSale.

*Annual Percentage Rate (APR) will not be less than 5.99% or greater than 14.99%. Rates accurate as of 4/1/17. The interest rate you receive and the amount you may borrow will be based on your credit history and are subject to approval. The maximum unsecured debt per Member is \$30,000. Payment Example: Monthly payments for a \$10,000 personal loan at 5.99% APR for a term of 5 years would result in 60 monthly payments of \$193.30. Advertised rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Loan proceeds may not be used to refinance any existing loan with Freedom Credit Union. Offer available for a limited time and is subject to change without notice. Credit union membership required, eligibility requirements apply.

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 4/1/17. 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 4/1/17. 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 ⁵
1-66 Months (New) ⁵	as low as 2.49%
1-66 Months (Used, Refinance) 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.

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 4/1/17. 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%.

April is Credit Union Youth Month

It is never too early to teach your child the value of savings and good money management skills. Throughout the month of April we will be offering a special youth referral promotion: open any youth savings account and we will give both you and the youth account owner \$25! Apply online or in a branch location – use the promotional code R9. Open your account today at FreedomCU.org/Youth

*Promotion is only valid for new accounts opened from March 1 – April 30, 2017. Credit Union Membership and social security number is required to open the account. Limit one per individual. The incentive is only for new member accounts, each person can only be a new member once. Youth is defined as a child between 1 - 25 years of age. If the account is in good standing, matching funds will be paid 30 days after the initial deposit is made. Children 12 and older may have a primary savings account in their own name. Savings accounts for minors under the age of 12 must have an adult joint owner or custodian on account. Member must be 16 years of age or older for a checking account.



Are your kids on the right track to financial independence?

Achieving economic prosperity is difficult, and it's especially hard for young people who've never learned how to manage money. Your credit union is ideally positioned to respond because we believe in the power of education. We're here to help you launch the youth in your life toward financial independence, and here's how:

Join. For starters, open a credit union savings account for each child in your family. As soon as your children can write, have them fill out deposit and withdrawal slips. Guide teenagers through using a debit card and tracking transactions.

Share. Include your children in household money discussions. Show them how you budget income and expenses. As their skills improve, give them challenges—such as finding a better cell phone plan, calculating the total monthly cost of owning a car, or sticking to a budget for back-to-school or holiday spending.

Coach. Remind your children to ask for help when they need it. And turn to your credit union when you want help. We are here to assist you in achieving your financial goals.



BE WISE.
SAVE.™
CREDIT UNIONS CELEBRATE YOUTH™

Apply Now for Our Scholarship

Freedom Credit Union Scholarship

We strongly believe in giving back to the members we serve and improving the

communities in which we live and work. Our Scholarships were established to honor our long-standing tradition of serving educational institutions and to provide funds for members to use in furthering their education. We will award \$2,000 scholarships to three qualified students to be applied towards any portion of comprehensive fees from an accredited college, university or trade school.

Applicant must submit:

- A high school or college transcript for the most recently completed semester.
- A typed 500-word essay using 10- or 12-pt font on the following topic: **The Credit Union movement is founded on the principle of people helping people. Please write an essay citing an example of how you have been influenced by a person or a group that has helped others.**
- A completed scholarship application.

We will be accepting Scholarship packets from April 1 through May 12. For complete details and to complete an application visit FreedomCU.org/Scholarship



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