BINSIGHT

The Quarterly Newsletter for APL Federal Credit Union Members

3rd Quarter 2020

Balance Transfers

low fixed rate for life



Balance Transfers for Life



We recently enhanced our low-rate Visa® Credit Cards with a new feature: Balance Transfers for Life. When you transfer balances from a non-APL FCU credit card or loan to an APL FCU Classic or Rewards Visa Card, the transfer balance will be locked in at a low fixed annual percentage rate, currently just 4.99%.*

While many credit card issuers advertise a 0% balance transfer feature, they often charge a balance transfer fee, which typically runs 3% or more of the balance being transferred. And the 0% offer is almost always an introductory rate, which converts to a much higher rate after the introductory period ends. Plus, they often void the 0% rate if just one payment is late by just one day, or charge you back interest if the full transfer balance is not paid in full by the end of the introductory period.

With APL FCU's Balance Transfers for Life feature, there is no balance transfer fee, and the 4.99% rate is locked in until the transfer balance is paid off. If you are an existing APL FCU Visa Cardholder, you can submit a balance transfer request by logging into eBranch and submitting the secure Balance Transfer Authorization form located under the Member Forms tab.

Great Low Rates, Too

In addition to the new Balance Transfers for Life feature, our Classic and Rewards cards have annual percentage rates well below the national average. According to Bankrate.com, the average credit card rate was 16.05% in June. This is more than twice as high as our Classic Visa rate, which is currently just 7.50%, and much higher than our Rewards Card rate of 12.75%.**

Both the Classic and Rewards Visa cards are available in a secured option for members looking to establish or rebuild credit. These secured cards are also a great way for younger adults to develop good spending and budgeting habits.

To learn more about APL FCU's low-rate credit cards and the Balance Transfers for Life feature, visit the Visa Credit Cards section under the Borrow tab at aplfcu.org.

*The annual percentage rate (APR) for APL FCU's Balance Transfers for Life feature is shown as of 7/1/2020 and subject to change without notice. Any balance transfers will be locked in at the APR in effect on the business day the Balance Transfer Authorization form is submitted. If the form is submitted after 6 pm, or on a non-business day, the rate will be the APR in effect on the following business day.

**APRs for APL FCU's Classic and Rewards Visa Cards are shown as of 7/1/2020 and subject to change based on the rate calculations shown in the Credit Card Agreement.





MAIN OFFICE 11050 Johns Hopkins Road Laurel, MD 20723 443-778-5250 800-367-5796 (out of area) Fax: 240-228-5545

Lobby Hours: Mon. through Fri. 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Saturday 9:00 am to Noon

Drive-Thru Hours: Mon. through Fri. 8:00 am to 6:00 pm Saturday 9:00 am to Noon

APL CAMPUS BRANCH 11100 Johns Hopkins Road Laurel, MD 20723 443-778-5250 Fax: 240-228-3060

Lobby Hours: Mon. through Fri. 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

COLUMBIA BRANCH

8870 McGaw Road Columbia, MD 21045 443-778-5250 Fax: 410-309-3522

Lobby & Drive-Thru Hours: Same as Main Office

CALL CENTER: Use Main Office Numbers Mon. through Fri. 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Saturday 9:00 am to Noon

CURRENT RATES: Visit aplfcu.org

SURCHARGE-FREE ALLPOINT ATMs

to find locations:

- visit aplfcu.org
- use your mobile device
- use your GPS device
- call 800-976-4917

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (38 of 05/31/2020)

Assets - \$518 Million Savings - \$459 Million Loans - \$325 Million Members - 24.907

SPREAD THE WORD

APL Federal Credit Union is open to anyone who lives, works, attends school or regularly conducts business in Howard County, Maryland, and members of their families. Family members do not have to live or work in Howard County to be eligible for membership.

CONTACT US

Website: aplfcu.org

e-Mail:

MemberServices@aplfcu.org

Telephone Banking: 443-778-5858 Out of Area: 800-382-1993

Lost or Stolen Visa Card: After hours and weekends 800-367-5798

Routing Number: 255077998





From David's Desk

Over the past year, I have had the privilege to participate in the Leadership Howard County program as a member of the class of 2020 (the most resilient class ever). As their website states:

Leadership Howard County presents an unequaled opportunity for leaders to see beyond their own work or personal environments to the broader interests of the community. Through interactions with decision-makers and industry experts, they develop a working knowledge of our community across sectors and learn to appreciate the diverse perspectives of their classmates. The result—a dedicated network of leaders equipped to transform our community.

I can affirm that this has been my experience. Our 49-member class was the most diverse in Leadership Howard County's history, with a strong representation of people from all across our community. The program's highly impactful experiences helped me see beyond my own world view, and prompted a higher level of understanding and appreciation of the challenges, fears, aspirations, and hopes of others in our community.

APL Federal Credit Union is a cooperative community financial institution, owned and governed collectively by our members. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are some of the fundamental values of the credit union movement. We promote financial participation and inclusion - and serve as a building block in our community - by providing trusted services and information that you can count on to be in the best interests of our members.

As the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all of us,

our staff has been dedicated to serving our members according to public health and safety guidelines. We have assisted more than 700 members with payment deferrals while their incomes have been interrupted, while also donating more than \$20,000 to local non-profit organizations supporting local relief efforts (such as the Community Action Council/Howard County Food Bank, Elizabeth House, and the Howard County General Hospital Foundation's "Care for Our Caregiver's" fund).

Rest assured that your Credit Union remains strong and well capitalized during these difficult times, and we will continue to serve the needs of our members.

Historically Low Mortgage Rates

Over the past few months the average mortgage rate has dropped back down near historic lows. As of mid-June the conventional 30-year rate was in the 3.00 - 3.375% range, while rates for 10and 15-year mortgages were even lower.

With rates this low it's a great time to refinance a higher-rate mortgage. The lower rates also give you additional purchasing power if you are looking to buy a new home. Whether you are purchasing or refinancing, APL FCU offers numerous options to meet the varied financing needs of our members. This includes fixed-rate and adjustable-rate conventional and jumbo mortgages, as well as several specialty mortgages.

One-Stop Mortgage Shop

For assistance with any of our mortgage programs, please contact our Lending Department at MortgageLoanOfficers@aplfcu.org. We can determine your eligibility for each program, discuss all available options, and help you choose the best mortgage for your particular situation.

For current mortgage rates and available programs, click on the Mortgages page under the Borrow tab at aplfcu.org. APL FCU is an equal opportunity lender.

CU Scoop and Events



PRODUCT UPDATE

Apple Pay® and Google Pay™ are now available for your APL FCU credit or debit cards. As our routines and lives change, safety is a priority. Mobile Payments are fast, convenient, and secure. Best of all, it's contactless so you won't have to touch any machines or hand your card to a clerk. To get started, visit aplfcu.org/Mobile-Wallets for step-by-step set up instructions. Let's stay safe together.



POSTPONED EVENTS

Due to the Pandemic, our spring events (Shred Day and Food Drive) were postponed. We do not have new dates for these events yet, but hope to hold them in the Fall. Join our monthly electronic newsletter, On the List, for up-to-date Credit Union information.



