BINSIGHT

The Ouarterly Newsletter for APL Federal Credit Union Members

1st Quarter 2021



New! Lower Credit Card Rates Are Here

In December we dropped our already-low Visa® credit card rates even lower, to just 6.99% for our Classic Visa and 9.99% for our Rewards Visa.*

According to creditcards.com, the average credit card annual percentage rate (APR) hit 16.05% in December, more than twice as high as our Classic card rate and almost 38% higher than our Rewards card rate. Plus, the creditcards.com average APR doesn't factor in the annual fees many other card issuers charge. With no annual fees, APL FCU's Visa cards could save you even more money on top of the finance charge savings.

4.99% Balance Transfers for Life

In addition to the great low rates and no annual fees, our Classic and

Rewards cards include a "Balance Transfers for Life" feature. You could save a ton of money by transferring the balance of a high-rate loan or credit card from another lender to an APL FCU Visa card. There is no transfer fee, and the balance is locked in at a low fixed rate – currently just 4.99% – until the transfer balance is paid off.

Secured Card Options

For members looking to establish or rebuild credit, our Classic and Rewards Visa cards are both available in a secured card option. Best of all, our secured Visa cards feature the same low rates as our standard cards, without the annual fees or transaction fees that many secured cards charge.

If you are not an APL FCU Visa cardholder and would like to take advantage of our new low rates and Balance Transfers for Life feature, visit aplfcu.org and click on the Card Options link under the Borrow tab.



*The annual percentage rate (APR) for APL FCU's Classic and Rewards Visa cards is shown as of 1/1/2021. The APR for the Classic Visa and Savings Secured Classic Visa is Prime + 3.74%, with a minimum rate of 6.49%. The APR for the Rewards Visa and Savings Secured Rewards Visa is Prime + 6.74%, with a minimum rate of 9.49%. These rates may vary monthly and are based on the highest Prime Rate as published in the Wall Street Journal on the last day of each month, effective the following day. APL FCU's Visa cards will never exceed the maximum rate permitted under the Federal Credit Union Act, which is currently 18.00%.

TRANSFER

That Holiday Balance!

4.99%

FIXED RATE ON BALANCE

TRANSFERS FOR THE

LIFE OF THE BALANCE

> TRANSFER FEES

> ANNUAL FEES

> TRANSACTION FEES

> CASH ADVANCE FEES

6.99%

VARIABLE LOW

RATE ON ALL

NEW PURCHASES

4843 1234 5678 0000

VLFOU WEMBER

The APR for the Balance Transfers for Life feature is shown as of 1/1/2020 and is subject to change without notice. Visit the Balance Transfers link under the Borrow tab at aplfcu.org for complete details.



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:

Please visit our Main Office or Columbia Branch

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

(as of 11/30/2020)

Assets - \$543 Million Savings - \$481 Million Loans - \$337 Million Members - 25,500

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:

e-Mail:

MemberServices@aplfcu.org

Telephone Banking: 443-778-5858

Lost or Stolen Visa Card:
After hours and weekends

Out of Area: 800-382-1993

Routing Number: 255077998

800-367-5796





From David's Desk

Financial Webinars

TurboTax[®] Discount

CU Scoop and Events



Now that 2020 has finally come to an end, I am looking forward to a much better year in 2021. A new vaccine becoming readily available means we should see better days ahead on so many fronts – getting together with friends and extended family, going to public events and restaurants, and a general improvement in our local business climate, just to name a few.

Here at the Credit Union, in response to the pandemic, we have adapted our capabilities to provide more of our services electronically and made many processes easier for our members. We also assisted more than 750 members with loan payment relief, and are happy to see that most of them are on the road to recovery.

We know there may still be tough days ahead, so we're here to assist our members however and whenever we can. In addition to continued loan relief assistance if needed, we're also helping members with great mortgage, auto loan and credit card rates, helping to take a big bite out of those monthly expenses.



With our solid financial foundation, APL FCU is here for you, our members, through the tough times as well as the good.

Wishing you all the best in 2021,

David Woodruff, President/CEO Baltimore-Washington Financial Advisors (BWFA) is a "fee-only" wealth management firm in Columbia that was recently voted the best financial advisor in Howard Magazine's "Best of Howard County" poll.

Because of BWFA's long-standing relationship with the Credit Union, which dates back more than 20 years, APL FCU members receive no-cost, no-obligation initial consultations and a special discount on financial plans.



Free Webinars

In addition to the financial planning discount, another benefit for APL FCU members is the numerous free webinars, covering a variety of financial topics, BWFA conducts each month.

Best of all, if you are unable to attend a particular webinar, BWFA has created a library of past webinars, so you can browse dozens of topics, find ones pertinent to you, and watch on-demand at your convenience. They even have some non-financial webinars, such as cooking classes, which can be very helpful during times of social distancing.

For more information about BWFA and their services, or to view upcoming webinars or the library of past webinars available on-demand, please visit bwfa.com.

APL Federal Credit Union has once again teamed up with TurboTax to offer members a special discount of up to \$15 off TurboTax federal products, including TurboTax online and TurboTax



downloads. 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.

TurboTax searches over 350 deductions and credits to make sure you get the biggest possible refund, guaranteed. And TurboTax's CompleteCheck™ reviews every detail in your return, walks you through any final changes, and gives you the green light to file.

TurboTax Live and Full Service

If you are not comfortable completing and filing your taxes on your own, TurboTax Live and the new TurboTax Live Full Service are great options to consider. With TurboTax Live, you prepare your taxes on your own, but can talk with a tax expert about deductions and credits. The tax expert will also conduct a final review of your return before filing to give you 100% confidence in your return.

With TurboTax Live Full Service, you hand over your tax preparation to a tax expert or CPA, who will complete the return for you. TurboTax Live Full Service is backed by TurboTax's "100% Accurate, Expert Approved Guarantee."

To get started on your return, or for complete details about the TurboTax products (including the new TurboTax Live Full Service), visit aplfcu.org and click on the TurboTax link under the Belong tab.

TOYS FOR TOTS RECAP

We appreciate your generosity during our Toys for Tots Foundation Toy Drive this past holiday season. With



your help, we collected a little over \$1,000 for area children. You helped us spread joy to children that were most in need.

APL FCU BRANCH CLOSURES

The Credit Union will be closed:

Monday, January 18th for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Monday, February 15th for Presidents Day

Stay connected even when our branches are closed with eBranch, Mobile Banking, Telephone Banking and our ATM Locator.

CREDIT UNION ANNUAL MEETING

The Credit Union's Annual Meeting will be held at the Main Office on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. The APL FCU Nominating Committee has nominated candidates to fill expiring term positions on the Board of Directors. At this time, additional nominations may only be made by petition and must be signed by one percent of the members of APL FCU. For petition requirements, contact Melany Felix at 443.778.5252 or Melany.Felix@aplfcu.org for complete details.

COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

Is your home shredder clogging every few minutes? Our next free community Shred Day will be held **Saturday**, **May 15**th from **9:00 to 11:45 a.m.** at

our **Columbia Branch** located on McGaw Road. Please limit shredding materials to two boxes weighing less than 100 pounds each. This event is weather permitting, so please visit aplfcu.org on the day of the event if the weather is questionable.