



Fort Financial
Credit Union

FINANCIAL FRONT

Member Newsletter ★ Summer 2015

*my*FUTURE. *my*FAMILY. *my*FORT.

SAVING *for* COLLEGE

Whether you are saving for your own education or for your children's, it's wise to start planning for college as soon as possible.

Tax-Free College Savings

A Coverdell Education Savings Account (formerly an Education IRA) accumulates interest tax-free. You can withdraw money from this account without penalty. Also, it's possible to put money into a state- or institution-sponsored prepaid tuition plan and not pay taxes on it until you withdraw the money. Contact your FFCU branch to learn more about this method of saving.

U.S. Department of Education Resources

The U.S. Department of Education's federal student aid programs are the largest source of student aid in America. Every year, they award about \$150 billion in grants, work-study assistance and low-interest loans.

Financial Aid and the FAFSA

To apply for financial aid, students will need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Remember that the first "F" in FAFSA stands for free, and you can submit your application for free online at the official FAFSA website, fafsa.ed.gov.

Other Sources of Aid

In addition to federal aid, be sure to look into scholarships and state and institutional aid. Check with the school(s) you are interested in for information about programs to consider. Contact your state's higher education agency for more information about programs available in your home state.

Other federal websites can also be a good source of information about potential aid. For example, veterans and their dependents, students training in various medical fields, and persons interested in earning funds in exchange for community service may qualify for other federal aid.

Source: MyCreditUnion.gov



Ask to

SKIP
your loan payment
and put a little
EXTRA
MONEY
in your pocket!

Some restrictions apply. Skip Pay is good for one month's payment per loan. Service fee is \$30 per loan. Excludes real estate loans, loans less than six months old, subprime (funded through capital lending) and any past-due loans. Valid June-July 2015.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Friday, July 3, 2015 (Independence Day)

Credit union closed. All three Meijer in-store branches will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday, July 4, 2015 (Independence Day)

Credit union closed. All three Meijer in-store branches will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday, September 7, 2015 (Labor Day)

Credit union closed. All three Meijer in-store branches will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Fort Financial Credit Union is a part of the CO-OP Shared Branch Network. Members have access to more than 5,000 locations nationwide. fortfinancialcu.org



Fort Financial
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LET YOUR HOME
Pave the Way
FOR YOUR FUTURE.

Put the equity in your house to work through a home equity loan or line of credit (HELOC). If you are looking for funds for your next home improvement project, to pay for college or to consolidate debt, consider using the equity you've built in your home.

Home Equity Loan *Features*

- ★ **LOW, FIXED-INTEREST RATE**
- ★ **PREDICTABLE PAYOFF SCHEDULES**
- ★ **POTENTIAL TAX-DEDUCTIBLE INTEREST**
- ★ **TERMS UP TO 180 MONTHS**
- ★ **NO CLOSING COSTS OR APPLICATION FEES**

Home Equity Line of Credit *Features*

- ★ **1.99% APR FOR 12 MONTHS***
- ★ **REVOLVING LINE OF CREDIT**
- ★ **LOWER INTEREST RATE THAN MANY OTHER TYPES OF CREDIT**
- ★ **INTEREST-ONLY PAYMENTS***
- ★ **ACCESS ANYWHERE VISA® IS ACCEPTED**
- ★ **CONVENIENCE CHECKS - FREE BALANCE TRANSFERS**

Best of all, you only pay interest on the funds that you use from your HELOC. As you make payments, the funds become available for use again.

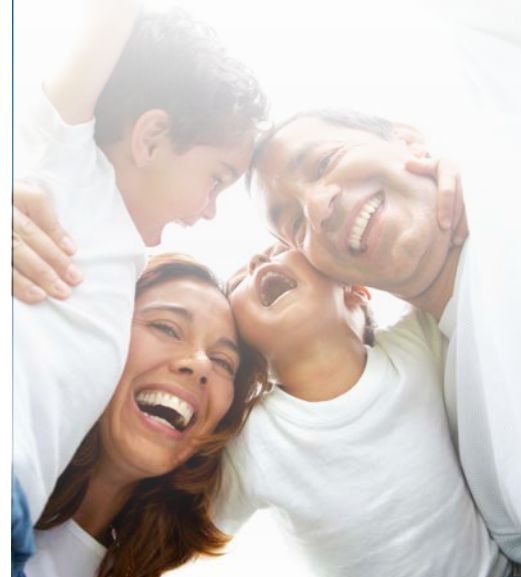
Talk with a Fort Financial loan officer to see how you can use the equity in your home for whatever you want or need.

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Minimum of \$5,000. After 12 months, standard loan rates apply. Offer subject to change without notice. Additional qualifications apply, including credit history review. See branch staff for details. Interest-only payments available during the 10-year draw period. Consult a tax advisor on the deductibility of interest.

Great **RATES**
ON YOUR CD

- ★ **SAVE MONEY FOR A SET PERIOD OF TIME**
- ★ **EARN A PREDICTABLE RATE OF RETURN**
- ★ **OFFERS HIGHER DIVIDENDS - EARN UP TO 1.51% APY***
- ★ **FLEXIBLE TERMS FROM 3 MONTHS TO 60 MONTHS**

APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Rates subject to change without notice. \$500 minimum balance required.



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