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## Save Money on a Balance Transfer

Did you rack up some high credit card bills with a high interest rate over the holidays? If so, you can save money with a balance transfer. **Receive a 0% APR for 6 Months** when you transfer a credit card balance to your PFCU Visa Credit Card. Plus, **NO Balance Transfer Fee (until Feb. 28, 2023)!** Transferring is SIMPLE! To get started, call a Loan Officer today at 847.697.3281.

Don't Have a PFCU Visa Credit Card? That's OK, APPLY TODAY. Our credit card is unbeatable:

- Fixed Rate Cards as low as 11.80% APR\*
- No annual service charge
- No Balance Transfer Fees on transactions completed before Feb. 28, 2023
- 24/7 online account access

Subject to qualification. 0% promotional rate is valid for 6 billing cycles from the date of transfer. After 6 billing cycles, the APR\* for the unpaid balance will revert to your standard rate based on your initial credit card agreement. \*APR = Annual Percentage Rate.

# 2023 Rising Star Scholarships Are Available

PFCU is pleased to announce that we will be awarding \$40,000 in scholarships in 2023 to deserving students with up to \$3,000 per recipient!

The PFCU Rising Star Scholarship Program is an opportunity for graduating high school seniors to receive support for their future accredited college, university, vocational or trade school of their choice. Applicants will be evaluated on academic performance, financial need, and leadership abilities, including community involvement.



To be eligible, applicants must graduate in the Spring of 2023. The applicant and/or parent/legal guardian must have established a membership with PFCU by 8/1/2022. Complete details on the scholarship are on the application at [www.mypfcu.org](http://www.mypfcu.org).

## Save Money By Refinancing Your Car. You May Save \$100's or Possibly over \$1,000



Have you purchased a car recently? We can help lower your payments! If you have a car loan with the dealer or at another financial institution, you can refinance your loan at PFCU. We will do two great things for you:

- We'll Reduce Your Rate by 1%
- We'll give you the option to have NO payments for 90 Days

Enjoy having extra cash in your pocket every month! If you have any questions, please call us at **847.697.3281** and ask to speak to a Loan Officer.

Subject to qualification. Restrictions apply. For loan amounts of \$5,000 or more. Refinance is for the remaining term of the loan. Floor rate is 2.00% APR\*. Offer not available on auto loans currently financed at Partnership Financial Credit Union. To qualify for 90 day payment deferral, must have a credit score of 625 and above and an active PFCU checking account (transaction within the last 30 days). Interest will accrue for the 90 days. Cannot take advantage of Skip-A-Pay for the first 6 months from the date of disbursement. \*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Savings will vary based on loan amount and remaining term.



## Virtual Strongbox Will Be Retired Jan. 31st

Due to low demand and minimal use by the membership, we will be retiring Virtual Strongbox on January 31, 2023.

Please be aware that you need to digitally remove any personal documents or receipts you have stored by January 31, 2023. These documents will be deleted and no longer accessible. Thank you for understanding.

Access your accounts using these contact methods:

 [www.mypfcu.org](http://www.mypfcu.org)  
Online Access

 PFCU  
Mobile App

 Mobile Check  
Deposit

 24/7 Telephone Teller  
833.MYPFCU1  
833.697.3281

# Free Up Some Cash with a Skip-a-Pay



Did stuffing the stockings empty your pockets? With the holidays over and credit card bills starting, you may need a little help with cash flow this time of year. We have a solution for this: skip a loan payment with our **Skip-a-Pay program**. Here is how you can apply:

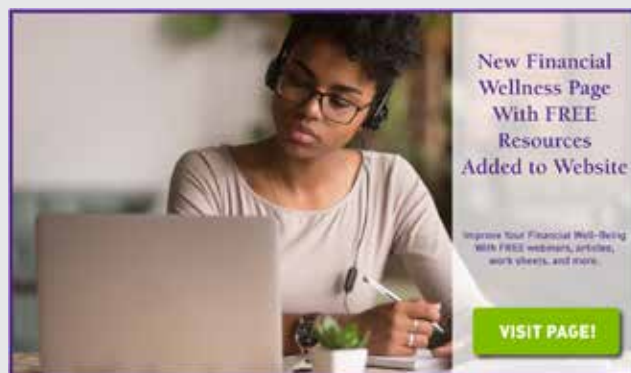
- **Online** when you login to Online Access (home banking). If you're not enrolled in Online Access, you can enroll from our home page.
- **Call** one of our **Loan Officers** at **847.697.3281**.
- **Use your mobile app**. Don't have our FREE mobile app? You can download it at the App Store or get it on Google Play

**REQUIREMENTS** • All accounts must be current and in good standing. • Loan must have been in repayment for a minimum of six (6) months • No loan delinquent payments or overdrawn checking for the past six (6) consecutive months. • No more than 2 skipped payments per loan in a twelve (12) month period with a period of six (6) months to lapse between each skipped payment. • Home Equity Loans and Visa Loans are not eligible for the Skip-a-Pay option. • All parties on the loan must sign and date the application. • Skip-a-Pay request form **MUST** be received at least 5 BUSINESS DAYS prior to the loan payment due date. • PFCU reserves the right to refuse any and all requests.

## Save Now for the Holidays

When the holidays roll around, do you ever wish you had saved more money during the year? You can, with our Holiday Club Account.

There's only a \$5.00 minimum balance required to earn dividends. Maximum balance is \$6,000. Dividends are paid monthly usually at a higher rate than regular shares. Funds get disbursed on October 31st to your Savings Account. Apply at **www.mypfcu.org** or visit one of our offices.



## Free Financial Wellness

PFCU is excited to announce our new financial wellness page on our website at **mypfcu.org/financial-wellness/**.

This page will have links to free webinars and recorded webinars, videos, articles, worksheets, and more. This is all free to you for being a PFCU member. Please make sure to check back often as we will be updating the page regularly.

Our next FREE webinar is:  
**Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2023** | 2:00 – 2:45 pm  
*Fall In Love With Your Money*  
 Register for the webinar at :  
**mypfcu.org/financial-wellness/**.

Webinars are hosted by our partners at GreenPath.

## Digital Wallets Are Available at PFCU



PFCU is proud to announce that in addition to Apple Pay, Google and Samsung Pay digital wallets have arrived. With digital wallets, you can make quick and secure payments online or in stores with your mobile device.

You'll have peace of mind knowing your payment information is never shared with merchants or stored on your device.



# Glenview Office Is Permanently Closing



After thorough research and careful consideration, the Board of Directors and PFCU Management have made the difficult decision to permanently close the Glenview office. The office will **close on Friday, April 14th at 3:00 pm**.

The good news is that PFCU has 3 nearby, full-service offices to serve the Glenview area. Two of these offices house 24-hour night drops and are equipped with drive-thru's that open a half hour earlier at 8:30 am than office lobbies, which open at 9:00 am. Furthermore, digital services are available 24/7, which includes mobile deposit.

The Glenview team will be onsite to assist you in a smooth transition. And rest assured, all Glenview team members will retain their employment with PFCU.

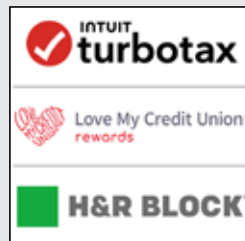
**Morton Grove** | With DRIVE-THRU and NIGHT DROP  
5940 Lincoln Avenue | 4.5 miles south and just east of Glenview

**Evanston**  
2522 Green Bay Road | 6 miles east and just south of Glenview

**Des Plaines** | With DRIVE-THRU and NIGHT DROP  
58 E. Northwest Hwy | 8 miles southwest of Glenview

## Tax Solution Discounts

We are happy to bring you member discounts on tax prep solutions this tax season!



Save up to \$15 on Turbo Tax federal products. New H&R Block clients save \$25 on in-office tax prep services and returning clients get the Tax Identity Shield® add-on for FREE (\$35 value).

Get your discounts at:

<https://taxservices.lovemycreditunion.org/>

## Partnership Pointers



Is there a room in your house that you are not using? If there is, you're wasting valuable energy and money by heating it in the winter. You should close the

vents in that room and keep the door shut. This will prevent you from paying to heat unused space.

You can read more Partnership Pointers by following us on social media on Tuesdays.



**FOLLOW US ON  
SOCIAL MEDIA!**

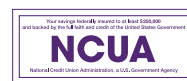
**FOLLOW MY\_PFCU** for important tips, fun photos and social happenings at PFCU! Be sure to check out our new blog – “LEARN” – for valuable articles and information.



**Partnership**  
Financial Credit Union

[www.mypfcu.org](http://www.mypfcu.org)

This newsletter is published each quarter for the members of Partnership Financial Credit Union. This publication of the Credit Union serves as official notification to the Credit Union's membership of all matters contained within.



**For FINANCIAL TIPS**, valuable information and more, check out our blog — **LEARN!**



## 5 Factors That Affect Your Credit Score

If you're looking to get a credit card or to take out a mortgage to purchase your first home, credit is an essential tool for helping people to meet their goals. When applying for a line of credit, the higher your credit score, the more likely you will be to qualify, the more options you will have available, and the better interest rate you will receive. Here are the 5 factors that influence your score and how to give your score a boost.

### Payment History (35%)

Payment history is the biggest factor used to calculate your credit score. Late payments (even a couple of days), past due accounts, and accounts in collections all have a negative impact on your credit. Regular, on-time payment of the minimum amount or greater will improve your score. An on-time payment history in the range of 18 months or longer will begin to show results in a growing credit score. If your late payments are due to forgetfulness, set up automatic payments. If you're having trouble making ends meet, call your creditors and request a forbearance or payment deferral. They may also be able to waive late fees or even allow a lower payment for a period of time.

### Amount Owed (30%)

Your credit utilization is determined by the amount you owe compared to the total credit limit available to you, expressed as a percentage. As a rule of thumb, your credit utilization should be no more than 30.

If you can make small payments throughout the month, this can help keep your balance down and lower your credit utilization. The simplest way to decrease your credit utilization is to ask for a credit line increase.

### Length of Credit History (15%)

The length of a borrower's credit history is important. It's an indication of the kind of borrower you may be in the future. In addition to the overall time an individual has had credit accounts open, credit history is also

determined by how long specific types of accounts have been open, and how long it's been since those accounts have been used. To improve credit history, get a secured credit card. Backed by a cash deposit, a secured credit card is a low-risk way for those who have not had a credit card to start building credit. Also, closing a credit card can negatively affect your score, so keep cards open. If you have cards you aren't using, placing a small recurring charge on them, such as a phone bill, can help to keep the card active while keeping your overall credit utilization low.

### Credit Mix (10%)

Credit mix is determined by looking at the types of credit you are carrying (credit cards, installment loans, mortgage loans, etc.) as well as your payment history. Your credit mix isn't the most impactful category, and you shouldn't pursue loans unless they make sense for your personal needs. In fact, you may already have a fair credit mix—things like credit cards, personal loans, auto loans, and mortgage loans are all considered different types of credit.

### New Credit (10%)

Opening several credit accounts in a short time represents a more significant risk—especially for people who don't have an established credit. Open new credit accounts only as needed. Every time you apply for a new credit card, this creates a hard inquiry on your credit, which automatically lowers your score. While multiple inquiries over a short time frame for credit cards may result in significant score damage, other types of inquiries—such as home or auto loans—are reported a little differently. Since lenders know people often shop around, these types of inquiries won't hit your report for 30 days, and when they do, they'll be counted as a singular inquiry.

Remember: Your credit score is based on patterns over time, with an emphasis on more recent information. Improving credit won't happen overnight, but with persistence and consistency, your score should gradually improve over time!



# INSIDETHECU | Testimonials From Members

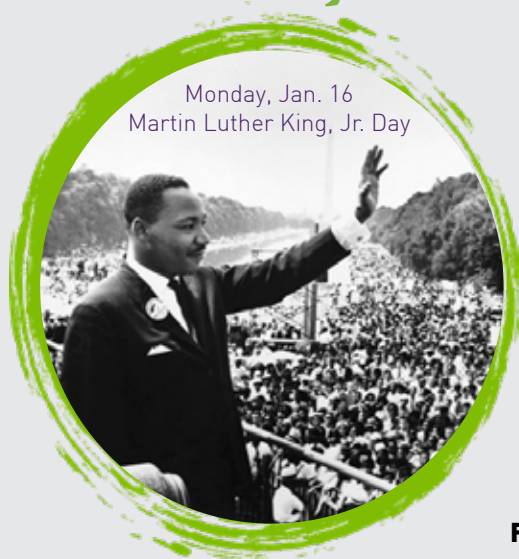


"I was just at the Des Plaines Office to open a Partner Plus account and wanted to sing some praises to **SUSAN** and **ELVIA**. They were both welcoming and helpful. Thank you!" --Missy

"**REBECCA** was amazing! This was the best experience I've ever had with any banking process in my entire life. She was extremely attentive and helped me through the auto refinance process effortlessly. Her knowledge and expertise set her above and beyond. I couldn't have asked for any better loan officer. Simply because of this I will continue my business with PFCU now and in the future." --Alex

"**LYNNE** has taken the time to work through several issues on two separate issues that helped me immensely. She took the time to solve a fraud issue that resulted in over \$650 returned to me within a ten day span. I also had an issue with two debit cards that she cleared up. While I was waiting, she got a chair for me and a bottle of water. The credit union has great people. Today she took the time to issue me 15 Visa gift cards. I appreciate her efforts." --Tim

## Holiday Office Closures 2023\*



**Monday, January 16**

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**Monday, February 20**

Presidents' Day

**Friday and Saturday, April 7-8**

Good Friday/Spring Holiday

**Saturday, May 27**

Memorial Day Observed

**Monday, May 29**

Memorial Day

**Monday, June 19**

Juneteenth

**Tuesday, July 4**

Independence Day

**Saturday, September 2**

Labor Day Observed

**Monday, September 4**

Labor Day

**Monday, October 9**

Columbus Day

**Friday and Saturday, November 10-11**

Veterans Day Observed

**Thursday, Friday & Saturday, November 23-25**

Thanksgiving Weekend

**Saturday, December 23**

Christmas Weekend

**Monday, December 25**

Christmas

**Saturday, December 30**

New Year's Weekend

\*Holidays determined by the 2023 Federal Holiday Calendar with the exception of the Spring Holiday. PFCU is closed Thanksgiving Friday and some Saturdays in conjunction with a Federal Holiday in order for our team members to enjoy time with their families.