

money talk

Q3-2017



Invested in you.

Drive Away With a FREE YETI!

Continued on page 3



Holiday Closings:

Independence Day
Tuesday, July 4

Labor Day
Monday, September 4

Table of Contents:

2 Scholarship Winners
Current Fee Schedule • FAQs

3 Free YETI • Education Is Essential Blog
Skip-A-Payment

4 Meet Your Credit Union
Business Services

Essential's Theatre Baton Rouge Special Offer

The logo for Essential Federal Credit Union, featuring a stylized orange and yellow leaf-like graphic above the word "essential" in white lowercase letters, with "FEDERAL CREDIT UNION" in smaller orange uppercase letters below it. The logo is set against a teal background that is tilted and layered over a light brown textured background.

Essential Scholarship Winners

Essential offers two unique scholarship opportunities. The first one is the Panther Pride Credit Union Scholarship, which was established in honor of the graduating students of Brusly High School, where Essential houses the PPCU, our student-run credit union. The second is the Essential Scholarship, which is open to any graduating student who is a member or has a parent/guardian who is a member of Essential.

Recipients were each awarded a \$1,000 scholarship for demonstrating academic excellence, outstanding commitment to their school and community, and for submitting an essay stating where they saw themselves in five years, financial challenges faced by young adults today and why they should be selected for this scholarship.

Essential is proud to announce:

*The PPCU Scholarship was awarded to
Katheryn Gonzales of Brusly High School.*

*The Essential Scholarship was awarded to
Lauren Honore of St. Joseph's Academy.*

Current Fee Schedule

Membership & Teller Services

Account Balance: \$20/per hour
Call Center Assisted Transaction: \$2 per transaction
Cashier's Checks: \$10
Chargeback Fee: \$10
Check Cashing for Non-member: 3%
Dormant Account Fee: \$5
Incoming Wire: \$10
Loan Payments from External Institutions via Telephone: \$10
Mailed Paper Statement: \$2 per month
Membership Share: \$5
Outgoing Wire: \$20
Outgoing Wire (International): \$40
Printed Paper Statement in branch: \$1 per page
Re-Open Membership: \$25 (^Exceptions Apply)
Starter Checks: FREE
Traveler's Prepaid Visa: \$5
Undeliverable Mail: \$5

Miscellaneous Charges

Account Research: \$20 per hour
Coin Counting: 7.5% of total amount. (Free for members.)
DMV Processing Fee: \$18
Fax Service Fee: \$5
Forced Place Insurance: \$25
Garnishment or Subpoena: \$50
Indirect Processing Fee: \$45

Late Payment Charges: \$10 or 5% of past due amount, whichever is greater.

Money Market Excessive Withdrawal: \$5
Money Market Low Balance: \$15
Money Orders: \$0.75
Notary Service: \$25
Photocopy Fee: \$5
Ready Cash Application Fee: \$20
Regular Savings Excessive Withdrawal: \$5
Safe Checking: \$10
Signature Guarantee Program: \$15
Simple Checking Fee: \$8
Stamps: \$4.90 Half Books; \$9.80 Whole Books
Stock Purchase Loan Application: \$25
Tax Levy: \$50
Western Union Transfer: Fee will be based on the transaction.

Safe Deposit Boxes

3 x 5 (Siegen Branch): \$30 per year
3 x 10: \$35 per year
5 x 5 (Central Branch): \$35 per year
5 x 10: \$45 per year
7 x 10 (Central Branch): \$40 per year
10 x 10: \$60 per year

Checking Account Services

Check Copies: \$5 per copy
NSF Fee: \$34
Reconcile Statement: \$20 per monthly statement
Safe Pay Fee: \$34
Starter Checks: FREE
Stop Payment: \$35 per check
Temporary Checks: \$3 per page (4 checks)
Transfers to Meet \$50 Min. Bal. Requirement: \$5

Visa® Card Services

Annual Fee: FREE
Cash Advance Fee: FREE
Chargeback/NSF: \$25
First Issue Card: FREE
Late Payment Charges: \$25; If you incur a 90 day delinquency, your rate will increase by 2% APR.^ After 6 months of timely payments, your APR will reset.
Replacement Cards: \$25 each
Visa Prepaid Cards: \$5

ATM & Debit Card Services

ATM Foreign Transaction Fee: \$3
ATM Transactions at Essential Machines: FREE (includes MoneyPass, CU24 & CU Here terminals)
First & Second Issued Cards: FREE
Other Replacement Cards: \$25 each

^No fee if account was closed by member or closed more than 12 months.

ESSENTIAL FAQs:

Q: I'm about to travel; do I need to let you know about this?

A: Yes! Often, transactions that are abnormal to your typical spending behavior can set off alerts and your Visa debit and/or credit card can be blocked. This is to prevent possible fraudulent charges. When you notify us of your destination and traveling dates, we can ensure your transactions are not interrupted.

Q: Do you offer VA Home Loans?

A: Yes, we do! We also offer a wide variety of other mortgage loan products. Contact us at (888) 369-2207 or visit a branch and let us put you in touch with a mortgage expert to help find the best loan for your needs.

Continued from page 1

Drive Away With a FREE YETI!

Drive away with the coolest summer essential: a FREE YETI® cooler! When you finance your \$30,000 or more auto loan with Essential, you will get a FREE Essential Tundra 35 ice cooler and:

- 90 days no pay
- A LOW, fixed APR*
- Extended warranty
- GAP insurance
- An EASY application process
- And more!

Hurry – this offer is only **while supplies last!** Visit essentialfcu.org or visit a branch to apply.



*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. All loan approvals are based on standard loan underwriting guidelines and credit-scoring benchmarks. Actual rate may vary based on credit score. To receive a free Essential YETI, member must book a direct auto loan with Essential on or before July 31, 2017. Offer does not apply to loans previously booked with Essential. Offer available while supplies last.

90 days no pay: Offer only applies to direct auto loans booked during promotional period. Limited-time offer. To qualify, member must have a credit score of 680 or higher and be current on all loans. The minimum loan value must be \$10,000 or greater, and the loan must be closed at Essential. Interest will accrue beginning at closing of the loan. Excludes all loans currently financed with Essential.

Education Is Essential Blog

We know the banking world can be impossible to navigate. So, we've done the homework for you and are dedicated to bringing you insightful information about the things you want to know more about. Visit essentialfcu.org to check out our Education Is Essential blog!



Back-to-School Skip-A-Payment

Does back-to-school shopping have your wallet feeling a little stretched? No need to worry because Essential can help with a Skip-A-Payment offer. Simply elect to skip your qualifying credit union loan payment for the month of July or August and enjoy the flexibility of having extra funds.

Download your Skip-A-Payment Request Form by visiting essentialfcu.org.



Member Services

DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

Personal Savings Accounts
Personal Checking Accounts
Interest-Bearing Accounts
Holiday Club Accounts
Hi-Yield Money Market Accounts
Certificates and IRAs (Regular & Jumbo)
Business Checking Accounts

CONSUMER LOANS

New & Used Cars, Trucks & SUVs
New & Used Boats
Motorcycles, RVs & ATVs
Secured & Unsecured Loans
Educational Loans
Full Line of Visa® Credit Cards

MORTGAGE LOANS

Conventional First Mortgages
Construction – Perm Financing
Fixed & Adjustable Rates
Second Mortgage Loans
Home Equity Lines of Credit
Land, Lot & Acreage
Mobile/Manufactured Homes

BUSINESS LOANS

Commercial Real Estate
Lines of Credit
Working Capital for Inventory
Fleet Vehicle Financing
Business Titanium Visa
SBA-Approved Lender

BUSINESS SERVICES

Tiered Checking Accounts
Monthly Earnings Credits
Same-Day Credit on Deposits
Business Checks & Accessories
FREE Online Banking
Full Line of Merchant Services
Currency Management
Business Rewards Program
Local Support & Service

ONLINE SERVICES

FREE Online Banking
FREE eStatements
FREE Online Bill Pay
View Cleared Checks Online
Visa Online Statements
Online Mortgage Account Management
Electronic Account Alerts
Secure Messaging
Scheduled Transfers
Check Reorders
Mobile Banking

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Investments – Mutual Funds, Annuities, Stocks, Bonds
Estate Planning
Brokerage Accounts
Retirement Plans
Individual Retirement Accounts
Insurance Products
Financial Planning for Businesses

CONVENIENCE SERVICES

Instant-Issue Debit Cards
Extended Hours of Operation
Multiple FRC Locations
Full-Service Call Center
Fee-Free ATM Network
Western Union Partner
Free Debit Card Issued Instantly
24-Hour Telephone & Online Access
Direct Deposit
Night Deposit
Notary Service
Money Orders
Certified Checks
Wire Transfers
Overdraft Protection
American Express® Travelers & Gift Checks



Contact Information

MAIN NUMBERS

(225) 353-8238
Toll Free: (888) 369-2207
Fax: (225) 353-6387

WEBSITE

www.essentialfcu.org

PLAQUEMINE, BATON ROUGE AND GONZALES HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 6:30 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

WALKER AND CENTRAL HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

NEW ROADS HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

PLAQUEMINE BRANCH

21925 Highway 1 South

BATON ROUGE BRANCH

6725 Siegen Lane, Suite K

GONZALES BRANCH

1051 North Airline Highway

WALKER BRANCH

28645 Walker South Road

CENTRAL BRANCH

10513 Sullivan Road

NEW ROADS BRANCH

2312 False River Drive, Suite A

GENERAL MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 738
Plaquemine, LA 70765

GENERAL EMAIL

eservices@essentialfcu.org

LOST/STOLEN CREDIT CARD

(800) 442-4757

LOST/STOLEN DEBIT CARD

(800) 442-4757

Essential FCU Board of Directors

Joey Justice, Board Chair
(225) 353-6586 or jjustice@dow.com

Lance Parker, Treasurer
(225) 353-6851 or lparker@dow.com

Robbie Bagaley, Secretary
(225) 309-0230 or
robbie.bagaley@dexcopolymers.com

Roberta Avery, Director
(225) 955-0939 or rarobbie@cox.net

Edmond Jordan, Director
(225) 590-5957 or edmond.jordan@gmail.com

Mary Overall, Director
(919) 720-0799 or mfoverall@gmail.com

Stephan Pierre, Director
(985) 783-4762 or bspierre@dow.com

Michael T. Samuel, Director
(225) 936-6777 or mtsamuel@cox.net

Kenith Woodall, Director
(225) 933-6185 or klwood111@cox.net



New Business Solutions Made for Businesses of All Sizes

Essential is equipped to meet your company's needs with a full menu of business services! Whether you are looking for a checking account or online banking, or need to finance a location for your business, Essential has a variety of commercial services to help your business succeed.

Our Business Lending team is located right here in the Greater Baton Rouge area, so all the lending decisions are made locally! And because we are committed to providing our business partners with exceptional service, a qualified team member will always be available throughout the process.

Standard Business Services

- Automated Clearing House (ACH) Services
- Currency Management and Change Orders
- Cashier's Checks and Wire Transfers
- Safe Deposit Boxes at Most Locations
- Expert Support From Local Representatives
- Quick Response to Your Needs
- One-on-One Consultations and Guidance

To get your business booming, contact us at (888) 369-2207 or visit a branch.

Meet Your Credit Union: Crystal Schmolke – Senior Branch Manager

Crystal Schmolke was recently named Senior Branch Manager for the Walker and Central Branches. Crystal has over 12 years of banking experience. Nine of those years she has been with Essential. She is a proud graduate of LSU, where she majored in finance.

In Crystal's spare time you can see her at the Livingston Parish and Central Chamber of Commerce events, including Livingston's Young Professionals, taking classes to prepare for the Notary Exam, watching football and enjoying being a mother to her foster babies.



THEATRE BATON ROUGE'S SPECIAL OFFER FOR ESSENTIAL FCU MEMBERS

Essential FCU members are receiving a discounted rate on Theatre Baton Rouge's upcoming performances:

"HAIR"

August 18 - 27, 2017

"FOOTLOOSE"

September 14 - 24, 2017

"TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD"

September 22 - October 8, 2017

For more information on these shows, visit www.theatrebr.org. Please call the box office at (225) 924-6496 and mention Essential FCU to purchase your tickets.

Save the Date

Member Appreciation Day

October 19, 2017 at all
Essential branches

