

# Brighten

your

# New Year

with

# Low Loan Rates



January 2022

## NEW & USED VEHICLES

Receive up to a .20% discount with Apple Rewards. \*\*

## HOME LOANS

Receive historically LOW rates on your largest asset.

(Refinances are available on existing VECU loans.)

## PERSONAL/SIGNATURE LOANS

Receive up to a .20% discount with Apple Rewards. \*\*

## CREDIT CARDS

Receive the convenience of a card with non-variable rates and no annual fees.

**VECU Loans to ALL Credit Scores!**

Visit [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org) or call **757.930.2425** and select Option #2 to apply for a loan today!\*\*\*



\*\* Must qualify for VECU Apple Relationship Rewards.

\*\*\* Loan rates based on terms and credit worthiness. Other restrictions may apply.

## President's Note



The beginning of each year is a time of renewal and hope, and this year feels especially significant considering the challenges we have all experienced as we continue to work through the global pandemic. However, we know that there is also reason to be optimistic as we continue to improve in our knowledge and ability to manage these challenges. As a financial cooperative, a new year is a crucial time to remind ourselves of our credit union's core mission which includes key initiatives for our membership: providing personal and efficient financial services including loans at affordable terms and rates, supporting financial education, enhancing members' financial goals, and maintaining financial stability through sound planning. Our focus in 2022 will include lending funds to members at affordable rates, keeping fees at a minimum, providing financial education and empowerment, and ensuring convenient and safe channels for our services.

As we continue to work through the environment of a global pandemic, our top priority will remain the continued health and safety of our employees and members while focusing on providing convenient service over all communication channels to fit your needs. It continues to be our privilege to serve our members with essential financial services. We thank you for your understanding as we continue to have extra safety measures within our offices.

We are beginning 2022 with incredibly competitive and historically low loan rates to assist you with your lending needs. Credit unions originated so that individuals would be able to have affordable rates to borrow funds, and we are continuing with this key mission to ensure members are provided with competitive rates for all credit scores. We also offer further rate discounts with our Apple Rewards program to thank you for your strong relationship with our credit union. There has never been a better time to save with these all-time low loan rates.

Your credit union is strong and sound and exists to serve you – the member owners. Thank you for your continued membership and for making the "educated" financial choice with Virginia Educators Credit Union. Please remind your family members that because of you they are also eligible to join and be part of the credit union philosophy of "People Helping People." Here is hoping you and your family enjoy a healthy 2022!

Sharon G. Conti, CPA, CGMA  
President/CEO

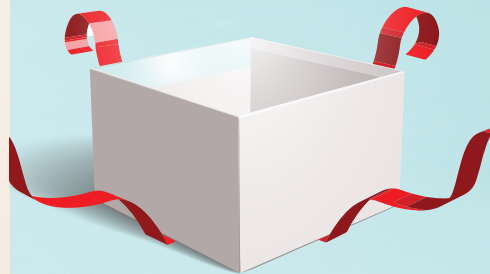


## Holiday

### Skip-A-Payment!

The holidays can result in some additional expenses, and we want to remind you about the opportunity to skip one or more loan payments during the month of January as the last month of our Holiday Skip-A-Payment program. There is a \$25 fee for each Skip A-Payment\* and you may skip only one payment per loan. Skipping your payment is simple. Visit any VECU office or you may access at [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org) to download a Skip-A-Payment form. Use your loan payment for extra funds to put towards paying down some extra holiday expenses.

*\*Not all loans are eligible, which includes all real estate/home loans. Other restrictions may apply.*



# 2022 Annual Meeting AND MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY

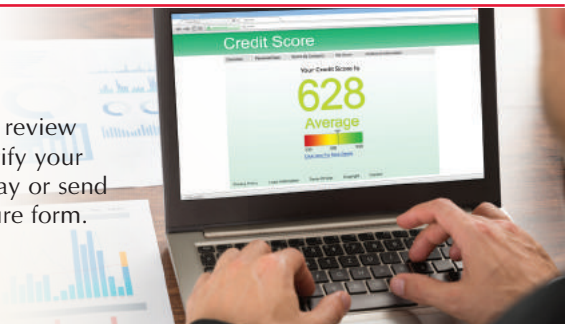
We will be celebrating our Annual Meeting/Member Appreciation Day in late March 2022. During this day, you will be able to vote for Board members up for election, receive an Annual Meeting report and a special gift. As a specific date is finalized, details will be posted on the website for your convenience at [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org).

If you are a credit union member and you are interested in being considered for a position on the Board of Directors or Supervisory Committee, contact the credit union at 757.930.2425 ext. 925. We are happy to provide any information pertaining to credentials and position requirements. We appreciate your membership!

## FREE Credit Report Analysis

Make an appointment with a credit union representative for a free review of your credit report. We can help you understand your score, verify your information, and help you grow and improve your score. Call today or send us a request on our website, [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org) under contact us/secure form.

VECU Loans to ALL Credit Scores!





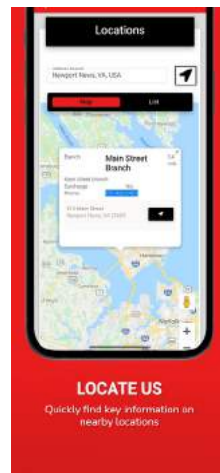
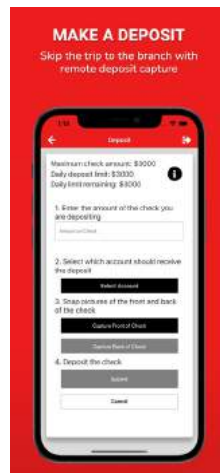
# A New Year's Resolution

## (SIMPLE TIPS FOR AVOIDING IDENTITY THEFT)

Many Americans are concerned about someone stealing their credit card, check, or debit card numbers, but they may be ignoring an easy way thieves can access financial accounts: receipts and passwords.

Disregarding receipts that have valuable information greatly increases the risk of credit and debit card fraud. Thieves can easily find receipts with financial or personal information in trash cans. Here are some easy steps you can take to prevent thieves from stealing your financial information:

- Shred all preapproved credit offers received in the mail, credit and debit card receipts, insurance forms, financial statements, and other paperwork containing personal or financial information.
- Check credit union statements and other financial statements monthly for discrepancies and order a credit report once a year to make sure no one else is using your personal information to obtain credit cards or services at [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com).
- Do not carry your Social Security card in your wallet.
- Do not share or carry any passwords on your person.
- Be hesitant about giving personal or financial information over the telephone—make sure you know the caller and know how the information will be used. (VECU has your personal and financial information, so we will not need to call you for this.)



## Enhanced Internet Branch (Moneylink)

### is Here with Updated Free Mobile Apps!

Our updated Internet Branch (Moneylink) is available for your convenience which offers enhanced security and user functions! To sign into the updated site, visit [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org) and select Account Login from the homepage. You will initially use your account number, and will then need to create your own unique username which will require 6 digits with at least 1 number. You may keep your current password if it meets the length requirements and does not include your account number. There is a tutorial available for your convenience on the site, and the location of key elements are in the same location you are familiar with. An updated free VECU App is available for download in the App Store or Google Play Store by searching VECU.

At Virginia Educators Credit Union, we are here to help you deal with your day-to-day financial needs in the most convenient, stress free way possible! That is why we provide our members with a variety of free options to monitor his/her account, verify daily transactions and account history, transfer funds between accounts, complete remote deposits, make payments toward loans and credit cards, and apply for a convenient LOW rate loan.

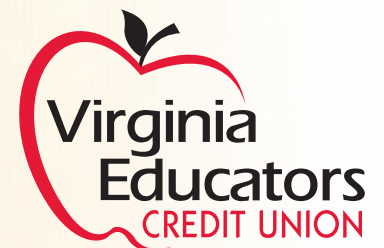
If you have any questions about VECU's FREE account access options, please send us your questions at [www.vecu.org/contact-us](http://www.vecu.org/contact-us).

## Daylight Saving Time

### REMINDER

Daylight Saving Time will begin on **Sunday, March 13th at 2:00 a.m.**

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night!



The Educated Financial Choice

#### NETTLES DRIVE OFFICE

12626 Nettles Drive, Newport News, VA 23606

#### MAIN STREET OFFICE

812 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23605

#### LOBBY HOURS

MON, TUE, THU 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

WED 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

FRI 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Main Street Office Closed Tuesday and Thursday

#### DRIVE-THROUGH HOURS

MON 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

TUE 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

WED 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

THU 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

FRI 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Main Number:** 757.930.2425

**Toll-Free Number:** 800.930.2425

**Audio Response:** 930.2425 (Opt. 1)

**Loan By Phone:** 930.2425 (Opt. 2)

#### LOCAL CREDIT UNION SERVICE CENTERS

110 Cybernetics Way, Yorktown, VA 23693

433 Denbigh Blvd., Newport News, VA 23608

5028 George Washington Hwy., Yorktown, VA 23697

3711 Huntington Ave., Newport News, VA 23607

9155 Seabee Rd., Norfolk, VA 23505

2369 George Washington Hwy., Hayes, VA 23072

2445 Taylor Rd., Chesapeake, VA 23321

5624 Portsmouth Blvd., Portsmouth, VA 23701

4171 Ironbound Rd., Williamsburg, VA 23188

907 W. Washington St., Suffolk, VA 23434

#### FOR OTHER SERVICE CENTER LOCATIONS

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

#### VECU ATM LOCATIONS

12626 Nettles Drive

812 Main Street

CNU David Student Union

CNU Freeman Center

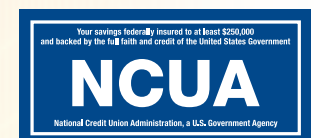
CNU Tribble Library

#### OTHER ATM (CUALLIANCE LOCATIONS)

Visit [www.vecu.org](http://www.vecu.org) to find a location nearest you.

#### WEBSITE

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



Federally Insured by NCUA up to \$250,000.

# Holiday Closings

## Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, January 17

## Presidents' Day

Monday, February 21

## Spring Holiday

Monday, April 4

# Community Corner

## Scholarship Opportunities

As an educational-based financial institution, Virginia Educators Credit Union recognizes the importance of education. We encourage our graduating high school seniors and all educators to enter our scholarship essay contests this year.

All scholarship applicants, excluding full-time educators, must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher. Scholarship applications must be accompanied with a one-page essay that is typed and double spaced.

For additional information about the scholarship opportunities available at Virginia Educators Credit Union including essay topics and deadline information, visit our website at [www.vecu.org/scholarships](http://www.vecu.org/scholarships) or stop by one of our offices to pick up an application.

### The following scholarships are offered to VECU members:

- **W. Phil Wynn Scholarship**  
\$1,500 scholarship awarded to a graduating high school senior who has been accepted and plans to attend a four-year college or university.
- **K. Bennett Educators Scholarship**  
\$1,500 scholarship awarded to a full-time educator who teaches at a school located within the credit union's field of membership.



## Good Grade Drawing

### Reminder!

Remember to drop off a copy of your student's report card to a VECU office after the next grading period and we will draw two students to receive \$25 deposited into their Loot Owl/ Youth accounts! The Good Grade Drawing rewards A, B, S, & E grades for elementary, middle and high school student members each grading period.

Grade



## Virtual Mock Interviews

We enjoyed participating in virtual mock interviews with students at Tabb High School during November! During the past two years, the Economic and Personal Finance (EPF) classes participated in Mock interviews to prepare the students for future employment which includes resume writing and job interviews. Various business leaders, including VECU's CEO Sharon Conti, conducted virtual interviews with students to engage in this great real life learning experience that concluded with evaluations and coaching feedback for the students.

A special thank you to the participating students at Tabb High School for their own excellent follow-up questions!

## Financial Literacy

Virginia Educators Credit Union is proud to announce receiving a 1st place state and 2nd place national level award in the Desjardin Youth Financial Education awards for credit unions. The Desjardin Award, sponsored by the Virginia Credit Union League and the Credit Union National Association, honors credit unions for their commitment to teaching personal finance basics to young people. During this award period, outreach became virtual due to enhanced safety measures, but we appreciate the opportunity to share financial literacy in all venues.

VECU offers FREE virtual financial literacy presentations for all ages including students, faculty, school employees and PTA groups. Please contact VECU at [financialliteracy@vecu.org](mailto:financialliteracy@vecu.org) or call 757.930.2425 ext. 905 to schedule a virtual presentation today!

