

DEBT CONSOLIDATION



Consolidate your bills with CMECU's Debt Consolidation Loan.

YOU CAN FINALLY BE FREE OF ALL THOSE BILLS!

Are your bills, finance charges and late fees piling up? If so, a Debt Consolidation Loan may be the perfect solution.

When you choose Chicago Municipal Employees Credit Union as your lender, you can consolidate your existing loans into one loan with one monthly payment and a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan.

Chicago Municipal Employees Credit Union provides you a choice of four flexible repayment schedule options with no prepayment penalties. Consolidating your debt could mean a lower rate, lower payments and a lower stress level for you.

Contact us for more details, or apply for your Debt Consolidation Loan online today at www.cmecunonline.org!

Protect Yourself From Identity Theft

Keep identifying numbers secret

Never carry your Social Security card in your wallet or write it on a check. Provide your Social Security number only when absolutely necessary, and ask to use other types of identifiers instead.

Treat your trash and mail carefully

To thwart identity thieves who may pick through your trash or recycling bins to capture your personal information, always shred your charge receipts, credit application copies, insurance forms, physician statements, checks and bank statements, expired charge cards, and credit offers you get in the mail.

Be on guard when using the Internet

The Internet offers access to information, entertainment, financial advice, and countless other services but it can also leave you vulnerable to online scammers and identity thieves.

Select intricate passwords

Place passwords on your credit card, bank, and phone accounts. Avoid using public information like your mother's maiden name, your birth date, the last four digits of your Social Security or phone number, a series of consecutive numbers, or a single word that would appear in a dictionary.

Combinations of letters, numbers, and special characters make the strongest passwords. When opening new accounts, many businesses still ask for your mother's maiden name. Ask to use a password instead.

Verify a source before sharing information

Don't give out personal information on the phone, through the mail, or on the Internet unless you've initiated the contact. Clever identity thieves may pose as representatives of banks, Internet service providers (ISPs), or government agencies to get you to reveal your private information. Legitimate sources will not object to you calling back on their publicly listed phone number.

What is a credit freeze?

Many states have laws that let consumers "freeze" their credit – in other words, restrict access to their credit reports. A credit freeze means potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. So it's unlikely that an identity thief would be able to open a new account in your name. A credit freeze does not affect your credit score – or keep you from getting your free annual credit report or buying your credit report.



Coming Soon! Home Improvement Loans

When the stock market is risky, investing in your home is a smart move. Stay tuned for details!

Stretch Pay Loans

Stretch Pay Loans are designed to help members manage temporary financial strains by providing an advance on their pay check up to \$1000. Our rates are reasonable when compared to the interest rates charged by Payday Loan establishments for similar products. Some of the features include:



- Credit limits/minimum advances of \$500. \$50 fee for each advance can be deducted from the loan amount; OR
- Advances on your Net pay (rounded down to nearest hundred; \$1,000 max advance). \$100 fee for each advance can be deducted from the loan amount;
- 30-day repayment term;
- Paid in full requirement prior to new/additional advances;
- 50% Annual Percentage Rate;
- Active Direct Deposit required.

APR= Annual Percentage Rate. Stretch Pay Loans are not available to members who have filed bankruptcy, have delinquent accounts at CMECU, or have a higher than 50% debt ratio. Active direct deposit required; borrower must be at least 18 years old, a CMECU member for at least 90 days, and must present a check-stub.

They're Ready... Are You?



When they're ready to go, we are ready to help. Chicago Municipal Employees Credit Union has several loan options available to assist with this important step:

- Student Loans – Government Secured
- Signature Loans
- Line of Credit
- Supplemental Student Loans
- Home Equity Loans

Send your student off with our services that will teach them financial responsibility:

- Basic, Universal, or Direct Deposit Checking
- Overdraft Checking
- Share Savings

We understand the importance of this process, and we want to help your family accomplish all its dreams.

Visit us online anytime or come see us today!

An Eye on the Future

Now more than ever, we are all in this together. These difficult times have left no one untouched — we all know someone who is experiencing financial hardship. CMECU works diligently with members who are struggling, while continuing to grow and expand services for those who are succeeding. Our goal is to improve the financial lives of our members, whatever their circumstances. Your Board of Directors is proud to work for an institution that supports these values.

On an operations note, Sharon Goodloe, Chief Executive Officer, has left CMECU to pursue other avenues, and we wish her good fortune. Her leadership will be missed. Robin Hollis, Chief Financial Officer, and Peter Tzortzakis, Chief Operating Officer will share the duties as Acting Presidents while the Board finds the perfect candidate to lead our credit union forward. The outlook for 2009 is good — we are optimistic about our future and you can be, too. The cooperative, not-for-profit business model of America's credit unions works, and CMECU is as strong and stable as ever.

CMECU is Safe, Sound and Secure

On January 28, 2009, the National Credit Union Association (NCUA) approved the biggest rescue in the history of credit unions with a \$1 billion cash infusion into the central bank for credit unions, to cover losses experienced in 2008. This was followed by an article in The Wall Street Journal: "U.S. Moves to Bail Out Credit Union Network."

We want to reassure our CMECU members with some important facts about the NCUA's move:

- The \$1 billion infusion is dedicated to covering unexpected losses of U.S. Central Federal Credit Union, which serves as the main clearinghouse for wholesale credit unions.

- CMECU is not a wholesale credit union, and though we have investments with wholesale credit unions, we have not experienced any losses through those relationships.
- CMECU is not responsible for U.S. Central or its investment policies, nor are we designated to receive any bailout funds.
- CMECU has always maintained prudent, conservative fiscal policies, resulting in our ability to achieve strong levels of capital.

We understand these may be distressing times for members as the country continues to work through its financial issues, but your assets with us are safe, sound and secure. We will continue to provide you with important updates on this subject.

Both offices of Chicago Municipal Employees Credit Union will be closed on the following holiday:

Monday, May 25

Memorial Day

AT YOUR



At Your Service is a quarterly publication of Chicago Municipal Employees Credit Union. © Copyright 2009 by Chicago Municipal Employees Credit Union.

Main Office

33 North LaSalle St.
Suite 300
Chicago, Illinois 60602
Phone: 312 236-2326

Austin/W. Garfield Office

4909 West Division
Chicago, Illinois 60651
Phone: 312 236-2326

E-mail:

info@cmecunonline.org

Web Site/Home Banking:

www.cmecunonline.org

Board of Directors

David A. Bryant, Chairman
Harold O'Kere, Vice-Chairman
Mark Mitrovich, Treasurer
Michele Price, Secretary
Richard Butler III
Ken Gotsch
Marvin Walton

Member Services

Home Banking
Savings Accounts
Share Certificates
Checking Accounts
ATM/Debit Card
Holiday Club
Financial Health Club
Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs)
Personal Loans
New and Used Car Loans
Home Equity Loans
Share Secured Loans

Visa Classic

Visa Gold
Visa Platinum
Secured MasterCard
Home Mortgage Loans
Payroll Deductions
Direct Deposit
Automated Bill Payment
Automobile Insurance
Money Orders
Notary Public
MECU "Telephone Teller"
Financial Counseling

Office Hours

8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Monday - Friday

Office Hours

10:30 am - 6:00 pm
Monday - Friday

Telephone Teller

Open 24 hours
1 800-760-MECU



AMERICA'S
CREDIT UNIONS
where people are worth more than money™