

Financial Wellness

A Quarterly Publication For Members Of Healthcare Employees Federal Credit Union



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Always Be Alert!

Remember to never let your guard down when it comes to protecting yourself from fraud and identity theft. Fraudsters are continuously trying new ways to prey on innocent people for their own personal gain. Don't become a victim.

Holiday Closings

New Year's

Monday, January 1, 2024

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 15, 2024

President's Day

Monday, February 19, 2024

6 Financial Resolutions for the New Year

It's a brand-new year, so now is a great time to set budget-friendly resolutions to pave the way toward a more financially fit future. Here are six financial resolutions to get you started.

1. Create (and stick to) a budget

If you don't have a monthly budget, let's get one started! Track your spending and income over several months, and then make a list of all expenses and all monthly income streams. Assign a dollar amount to each expense category. If your columns are equal, or your income is more than your expenses, you're doing great. But, if your expenses are more than your income, you'll need to trim your spending or find ways to increase your income.

After you've created your budget, or if you already have one, resolve to actually stick to it each month. You can use one of the many budgeting apps that are out there to help.

2. Build an emergency fund

An emergency fund is your financial safety net. Experts recommend having three to six months' worth of living expenses in your emergency fund. Resolve to build an emergency fund this year by setting aside a small sum of money each month until you have a nest egg that can get you through virtually any emergency.

3. Trim your expenses

Have your expenses started trickling upward in any area(s)? Identify your weak points and brainstorm for ways to start spending less. Small change today adds up to big bucks tomorrow.

4. Pay down debt

Make this the year your year to pay down debt, or at least make real headway toward getting rid of it for good. You can choose to prioritize high-interest debts, or work on paying off your smallest debt first to keep your motivation going. Maximize payments on your chosen debt until it's paid off. Then, keep on rolling to the next debt on your list until you're completely debt-free.

5. Automate your savings

It's all wonderful to resolve to put more money into savings each month, but how do you turn those good intentions into reality? Set up automatic monthly transfers from your checking account to your savings so you never forget to feed your savings.

6. Expand your financial education

Invest in your financial education this year by reading books, taking online courses, listening to podcasts or attending seminars on personal finance.



President's Message

Dear Member:

It's hard to believe another year has come to an end as we embark upon a new year. I hope that all HEFCU members are enjoying a bright start to 2024.

Now that the stress of the holidays are behind us, it's a great time to look at how financial stress can impact our daily lives. The cost of almost everything is going up, from groceries to interest rates on loans. There are ways to get through tough economic times, regain financial control and lessen your stress.

HEFCU is proud to continue our partnership with GreenPath Financial Wellness, a free benefit to all members. Start the new year out right and take advantage of access to free financial counseling services. Read more about our partnership and how we can get you connected within this newsletter.

Dreaming big this year? Keep HEFCU in mind for the loans needed to make your dreams a reality. Home improvements, new car, or vacation plans? Whatever you wish to accomplish this year, HEFCU is here to help.

We are also excited to have launched online account opening with electronic membership applications. We now bring the convenience of opening a credit union membership right to your mobile phone, computer or tablet. There's no better time than now to share the benefit of credit union membership with friends and family members!

The HEFCU Board of Directors is pleased to announce the 5th consecutive quarterly dividend increase. We urge you to compare our high yield liquid savings account to accounts you have elsewhere to make an informed choice. See our website for new rates.

With the new year comes a revitalized sense of appreciation for our 15,000+ members that have put their trust into our credit union. Your continued loyalty keeps HEFCU strong and propelling forward.

On behalf of our Staff and Board of Directors, we wish you and your family a very healthy and prosperous New Year.

Respectfully,

John J. Dawidowski
President/Chief Executive Officer



HEFCU Scorecard

Here's how we've done in the past few months:

Category:	30-Nov-23	31-Aug-23
Deposits	\$121,895,501	\$124,215,756
Loans	\$70,963,045	\$71,711,480
Capital	\$11,132,316	\$10,750,672

1099 Tax Reminder Info

Your 1099 tax information for 2023 was included with your December 31, 2023 statement. Please retain this information for your tax records. 1099 tax information will not be sent by separate mail in 2024. Please call our Member Service department if you have any questions.



Get Your Tax Refund Faster

Make your life easier by having your tax refund directly deposited into your credit union account. Simply fill in the appropriate lines on your IRS tax forms and provide your account number and HEFCU's ABA Routing Number (231288811). And, there's no cost to you!

Share The Benefits Of Membership!

Tell your co-workers and spouse, siblings, parents, grandchildren, grandparents, etc. about our low-rate loans, friendly member service, convenient services, competitive savings rates, etc.

They can stop by or give us a call to apply for membership!

5 WAYS TO

REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

- 1 Use clean energy.
- 2 Reduce air travel.
- 3 Walk more, drive less.
- 4 Eat less red meat.
- 5 Make your home more energy-efficient.

Account Information Update

Have you moved recently? Or have you changed your phone number or email address? For the safety and security of your account information, it is imperative that you notify the credit union of these changes. It is important to have all updated contact information on file. Please verify your address, phone number and email with us.

Stay Protected and Opt-In Today for Overdraft Privileges

When you open a HEFCU checking account you are eligible to authorize HEFCU to pay overdrafts on your everyday debit card and ATM transactions.

Mistakes happen! Save yourself the embarrassment that comes along when you've been declined from making a purchase with your debit card. You may be eligible to add a **new option** to your overdraft protection plan. **This convenient and low-cost option ensures you have access to funds when you need them most.** Simply complete and return the form below to authorize HEFCU to pay overdrafts on your everyday debit card and ATM transactions.

We will charge you a fee of \$30 each time we pay a debit card transaction overdraft. There is no limit on the total fees we can charge you for overdrawing your account. We will not charge you an overdraft fee if your checking account is overdrawn \$5 or less at the end of each business day.

We do authorize and pay overdrafts for the following types of transactions:

- Share drafts/checks and other transactions made using your checking account
- Automatic bill payments
- Recurring debit card transactions
- ACH transactions

If you want us to authorize and pay overdrafts on everyday debit card and ATM transactions using Courtesy Pay, **complete the Opt-In Form below** and mail it to our office at 29 Emmons Drive, Suite C 40, Princeton, NJ 08540 or fax to 609-275-4194.

We will not authorize overdrafts for everyday debit card transactions if we do not receive a response.

If you have any questions, please contact a Member Service Representative by calling 1-800-624-3312.



COURTESY PAY OPT-IN REQUEST FORM

(this form is also available on our website)

Please note that you, or any joint account owner, may **add** or **remove** your Opt-In decision at any time.

ADD COVERAGE I **want** HEFCU to authorize and pay overdrafts on my everyday debit card transactions using Courtesy Pay.

REMOVE COVERAGE I **do not want** HEFCU to authorize and pay overdrafts on my everyday debit card transactions using Courtesy Pay.

Printed Name _____ Account Number _____

Signature _____ Date _____


TO BE COMPLETED BY THE CREDIT UNION

Coverage Added Coverage Removed Signature _____ Effective Date _____

Healthcare Employees FCU takes pride and honor in serving you and your family while providing security for your future.

FINANCIAL FITNESS IN THE NEW YEAR



 Work with GreenPath, a 60-year national nonprofit.

Now that 2024 is officially underway (and you've had time to emotionally process the aftermath of holiday spending), we wanted to say 'hi' and share a benefit you may have missed last year.

At HEFCU, we partner with GreenPath, a highly rated national nonprofit that has been providing free financial counseling since 1961. Wherever you're at, they're ready to meet you. Their empathetic, NFCC-certified counselors will take the time to understand your situation and develop a personalized plan.

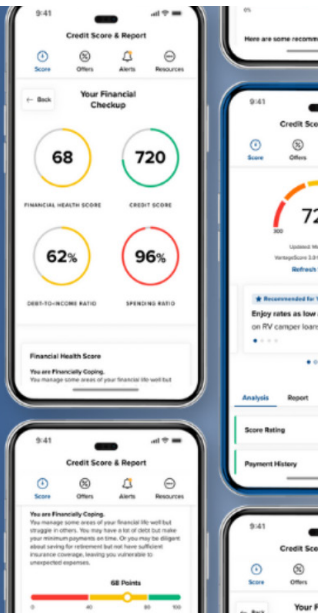
So, whether you're looking to eliminate debt, save more money in 2024, or simply build better habits for a sustainable future, GreenPath has a roadmap to guide you and is here to help.

Ready to get started? Contact GreenPath today, simply call 1-877-3399.

Financial Checkup

Know Your Score Shape Your Future

Log into HEFCU@Home Online Banking or register today and click "Show My Score".



Happy, Healthy New Year from HEFCU!

Healthcare Employees Federal Credit Union would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your membership. We wish you and your family a happy and healthy new year.

LOCATIONS

Main Office:

29 Emmons Drive, Suite C 40
Princeton, NJ 08540

Princeton Location Hours:
Mon – Fri: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
(lobby closes at 4:25 pm)

Mt. Holly Office:

175 Madison Avenue
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060

Mt. Holly Location Hours:
Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri:
8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Tuesday: 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

Toll-free: 800-624-3312
Phone: 609-951-0700
Fax: 609-275-4194
24-Hour Bank-by-Phone:
800-551-3001
www.hefcu.com

ATM LOCATIONS

Capital Health Systems

Fuld Division
Hopewell

Prime Healthcare

St. Michael's Medical Center

Penn Medicine

Princeton Health

Raritan Bay Medical Center

Perth Amboy Division

RWJ Barnabas Health

Clara Maass
Medical Center

Newark Beth Israel
Medical Center

RWJ University Hospital
Hamilton

RWJ University Hospital
New Brunswick



We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and Equal Credit Opportunity Act.

