

Hope NOTES

FALL 2018



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What's Your #PlatinumLining?

The credit union movement is steeped in a rich history of collaboration across divides. For nearly two centuries, financial cooperatives have encouraged people of every race, gender and belief to come together and give their all towards the betterment of their communities. It's about people helping people.

This year, International Credit Union Day's platinum anniversary is on October 18, and it's a chance to look back over 70 years and be thankful for the lives and communities that have been improved by the unique principles and actions of our movement. We hope you'll share how you found a #platinumlining by being a member-owner of HOPE.

At HOPE, we think this is too special to confine to a single day, so we're celebrating ICU Day during the entire month of October. We're doing something special for members-owners who start or expand their credit union relationship. New or existing members who open a new checking account any time during the month will receive a \$5 gift card.¹

Keep an eye on our social media channels all month long for more information about how HOPE and credit unions benefit you. Children can also come by a branch or visit our website to get their ICU Day coloring page. Learn more at www.hopescu.org/icuday2018.

¹Offer valid on new checking accounts opened in person at a HOPE branch on or between October 1, 2018, and October 31, 2018, and funded with a minimum deposit of \$25 at the time of account opening. New members will need an additional \$25 for their membership fee and primary savings account deposit. Limit of one card per member and one card per account. All other qualifying terms and conditions for opening a HOPE account will apply.

Step on the Gas for Low Auto Loan Rates

Whether you're currently shopping for a new or used vehicle or have been thinking about it, now is the time to buy. HOPE is still offering a special deal for financing, but the recent trend of rising interest rates means that getting a loan now could be your best bet.¹

Great Rates

We are still offering rates as low as 3.25% APR² on vehicles up to two years old. If you are purchasing a car, truck, or SUV that is more than five years old, you'll still enjoy a rate of no more than 12%, which makes HOPE a much better option than dealer financing for older cars or people with less than perfect credit.

Extended Terms

With our special vehicle financing offer, members can reduce their monthly payment by extending the length of the loan. Now vehicles up to three years old can be paid off over six years.³ Older vehicles also can have regular terms extended by between 4 and 12 months.

Up to 100% Financing

You can avoid the up-front burden for purchasing your vehicle with a loan for the total cost of your vehicle based on the following criteria:

- New Vehicles: 100% of dealer invoice plus add-ons, taxes, and license fees.
- Used Vehicles: 100% of clean retail value from current NADA or purchase price (whichever is less), plus add-ons sold by HOPE.

Learn more or apply online at www.hopescu.org/steponthegas.

¹All loans subject to approval.

²APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Vehicle loans with an annual interest rate of 3.25% and a term of 72 months would have a monthly payment of \$382.70 for a loan amount of \$25,000.

³Six year term available on car loans of at least \$20,000.





Bringing HOPE to Alabama

The credit union celebrated its first branch in Alabama with a ribbon cutting ceremony at its newly renovated Arba Street location in Montgomery. The facility became part of HOPE's network after a merger with Tri-Rivers Federal Credit Union last year.

During the event, HOPE announced plans to partner with Regions Bank to open a second branch in early 2019. Regions will donate the bank's former McGehee Road branch to help HOPE expand its presence in Montgomery.

Make This the Best Holiday Season Ever!

Set spending targets with HOPE's Smart Money PFM

Did you know that the average person spends more than \$1,000 on holiday shopping? Add travel, entertainment, and all the other expenses that the holidays bring, and you're looking at a very expensive season.

HOPE's Smart Money Personal Financial Manager can help you stay on top of your spending now so it doesn't turn into a blizzard of bills in January. It's easy to set spending targets with Smart Money, and once you have them, they can keep you grounded when the festivities start.

Setting spending targets may be the best decision you make all season! And we've made sure doing it is just as easy.

There are other great features that Smart Money provides like monthly cash flow, spending patterns, and more. But let's keep it simple. Set your spending targets before the holidays heat up. You'll be glad you did.

Learn more about this Smart Money feature at www.hopecu.org/pfmholidayspending.

Your Privacy Is Important to Us

Hope Credit Union, your member-owned financial institution, is committed to providing you with competitive products and services to meet your financial needs and help you reach your goals. We are equally committed to protecting the privacy of our members.

Please take a moment to look at the privacy policy on our website at www.hopecu.org/privacy. If you have any questions after reading this information, please contact us toll-free at 1-866-321-4673.

Avoid the "Free" Trial Trap

The Federal Trade Commission is warning about an uptick in free trial scams. These usually come in the form of an ad saying you've been granted a temporary subscription to their product or service at no cost.

That sounds great, until you're asked to pay for fees that are carefully hidden or you find it's very difficult to cancel the service. This can lead to hundreds of dollars in unanticipated costs or fees that recur month after month for a year or more.

Here's how to steer clear of these scams:

- **Do your research.** Use caution if an online search of the company shows results like "scam" or "rip-off".
- **Read the fine print.** Don't sign up without reading all terms and conditions.
- **Check the exit strategy.** Be wary if there isn't a way to change your mind or there is a very short window of time to cancel.
- **Check URLs.** Check the address of the webpage and determine if it matches the company you are allegedly dealing with.
- **Ignore urgent calls to action.** If an ad urges you to "act now!" or claims an offer will expire momentarily, it's likely a scam.

Stay alert, and don't let a free trial cost you big!

Branch Closures

Columbus Day

Saturday, October 6
Monday, October 8

Veterans Day

Saturday, November 10
Monday, November 12

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 22

Christmas

Tuesday, December 25

New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 1

Don't forget: HOPE is always open, even when the branches are closed. Just use our HOPENet Online Banking, HOPE Mobile Banking, or HOPE24 Telephone Banking solutions.

Contact HOPE

General Account Information

HOPE24 Telephone Banking (877)214-HOPE

HOPENet Online Banking

Go to www.hopecu.org, then log in to HOPENet

Deposits - Phone (866)321-HOPE

Email deposit@hopecu.org

U.S. Mail (Do not send cash deposits through the mail)

Hope Credit Union | P.O. Box 22886 | Jackson, MS 39225

Consumer Loans

Email: consumerloan@hopecu.org

Mortgage Loans

Email: mortgageloan@hopecu.org

HOPE Affinity Network Email: affinity@hopecu.org

Supervisory Committee Phone: (601)944-1100

Email: supervisory.committee@hopecu.org

BRANCH PHONE NUMBERS Dial (866)321-HOPE

to be connected to your local branch.