

making the Grade



Your First Ride

Researching & Choosing a
Good, Reliable First Car



You've just turned sixteen and passed that stressful road test and received your brand new shiny driver's license. Since you were a kid you have probably pictured yourself cruising down the freeway in your awesome new convertible as soon as you turn sixteen, right? Well it's time to face the facts- it's not that easy. Buying your first car is an expensive, complicated process and we can help you!

First things first, you need credit. You can develop a good credit score at your age quite easily, in fact. For example, you can earn a favorable credit score by simply opening a \$300 share secured VISA® credit card in your name and paying your bills on time. To learn more about credit you can check out the last Student Club newsletter online at mfcu.net.

Be as informed as possible. This will help you to avoid being swindled into paying a higher price than you should, so do your research. There are a lot of websites and magazines out there which can help you determine how much you should be paying for certain vehicles. Some good websites you can check out are NADA.com, Kelley Blue Book, Cars.com, Yahoo! Autos, and Edmunds.com. They will provide you with resources such as reader reviews, industry reports, and payment calculators.

Low-maintenance, dependable cars are the best choices for a first car. If you change your oil and look after it by performing regular maintenance, your car could last up to 300,000 miles!

Buying used or new? It really depends on what you can afford and how you want to finance your purchase. If you decide to purchase a used vehicle, you will need to get a vehicle history report through a

website like carfax.com. Pay attention to the history. If a vehicle was in the shop five times last year for the same issue, you may want to consider a different car.

When you are ready for your set of wheels, consider us for your financing needs! We will save you time, money and give you and your parents peace of mind.

Call 888.835.5151 for personalized financing 24 hours a day, 7 days a week or log on to mfcu.net to apply.

Benefits of a vehicle loan through Members First Credit Union:

- Get up to an additional ½% off your loan rate based on your relationship with the credit union
- Auto Savings Loan-Build a savings account at the same rate that you are paying on your loan
- Receive pricing discounts on GM and Chrysler vehicles through the Invest in America Partnership
- Up to 100% financing on both new and used
- Insurance products to protect you when the unthinkable happens
- Terms up to 84 months
- Automatic payment from your payroll or designated account
- AAA of Michigan or MEMBERS Auto insurance discounts



Turn the money you got for Christmas into more!

How would you like to earn \$86.25 just for saving your money? Being a member of the Student Club, you can deposit at least \$100 into a Certificate of Deposit (CD) to help make your money grow! A Certificate of Deposit is like promising not to touch that money for a certain period of time (6 months up to 5 years). The longer you promise not to touch your money, the more interest you earn! Interest means a percentage of the money that you have in your CD gets added to the money in there.

<u>CD Terms</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Annual Percentage Rate*</u>
6 months	1.00%	1.00%
12 months (1 yr)	1.49%	1.50%
24 months (2 years)	2.08%	2.10%
36 months (3 years)	2.72%	2.75%
48 months (4 years)	2.97%	3.00%
60 months (5 years)	3.21%	3.25%



If you deposit \$500 now, in 5 years you'll have \$586.25!
That's like earning over \$86 for not touching your money!
Call 835.5100 to start earning today!



*Rates as of December 8, 2009 and subject to change.

74th Annual Meeting

Date: March 9, 2010 • Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: Barstow Shipp's Wing of the Midland Community Center

Two board members are up for re-election; Terry Graf and Robert Cooper. One supervisory committee member is running for re-election; Donald Boyer. Join us at the annual meeting to cast your vote. Primary members ages 18 and older are able to cast a ballot.

Other nominations of members of voting age (18) may be made in writing over the signature of one hundred (100) members of voting age on nomination forms available at the credit union. The form needs to be submitted to Eric Brubaker, President/CEO by January 26, 2010.

We hope you can join us for the informative meeting complete with refreshments and prizes!

Current Rates

Our Board of Directors has announced the following 4th quarter regular shares dividend paid on December 31, 2009:

.50% Dividend Rate .50% APY (annual percentage yield)

Dividend rate and APY subject to change every dividend period, as determined by the Board of Directors.



Mailing Address

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Toll Free: 1.888.835.5151

Branch Office

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Toll Free: 1.888.835.5151
Fax: 989.631.6860

First Call

989.631.3161
Toll Free: 1.800.767.6227

Office Hours

Monday & Tuesday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Wednesday
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Thursday & Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Lobby)
8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Drive-Up)
Saturday
9 a.m. - Noon (Drive-Up)

Board of Directors

Diane Bechtel
Elizabeth Christiansen
Robert Cooper
Terry Graf
Larry Sherwood
David Thompson
George Yost

Supervisory Committee

Donald Boyer
Greg Crawford
Joe Kreusch

Our Supervisory Committee

can be reached at:
P.O. Box 0454
Midland, MI 48640-0454