

# It's tax time.

Take your refund for a drive.

## OFFER ENDS APRIL 30!

great rates as low as

# 2.99%

APR\*

on a used vehicle purchase from Enterprise Car Sales financed by First American



**enterprise**  
car sales

APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rates as low as 2.99% APR for 36 months, or 100% Financing available including Tax, Title & License. Financing for qualified First American Credit Union members. Not all buyers will qualify. Actual rate may vary based on credit worthiness. Offer valid only on Enterprise Car Sales vehicles purchased 03/01/2019-04/30/2019. Cannot be combined.

eNEWS: APR 2019



## The Future is Yours™

⇒ Picture it! ♥ Save for it! + Share it! ⇐

We often look at pictures to remember the past, but are you ready to picture your future?

For children and teenagers, the future brings limitless possibilities. Financial education from your credit union can be instrumental in helping them achieve their goals. This April, celebrate National Credit Union Youth Month with our 2019 theme:

**“The future is yours...**

**Picture it! Save for it! Share it!”**

Together, we're encouraging young members to express themselves through photography, sharing their visions for their own financial futures so we can help them get there. By staying true to credit union philosophy in an engaging new way, we can set our young members on the path to financial awareness and security.

Get involved by using the Twitter hashtag **#CUYouthMonth** to let everyone know how your credit union is making a difference in young members' lives.

 **Credit Union  
National  
Association**

 **First American  
CREDIT UNION**

visit **First American.org**  
or call **520.836.8848**

# Nine Ways to Master Your Money

## 1. Set S.M.A.R.T. Goals

Saving tends to be easier when you have a certain purpose in mind: Saving for your first house, your retirement at a certain age, a child's college education, or even a trip around the world. The important thing is for your goals to be specific, measurable, actionable, realistic and time-bound, or SMART.

Figure out how many weeks or months there are between now and when you want to reach your target. Divide the estimated cost by the number of weeks or months to make it ACTIONABLE. That's how much you'll need to save each week or month to have enough money set aside. Ask yourself, is this REALISTIC? Remember, a goal is a dream with a deadline.

## 2. Pay Yourself First

Save and invest 5-10% of your gross annual income. Of course, this can be much harder than it sounds. If you're currently living from paycheck to paycheck without any real opportunity to get ahead, begin by creating a solid spending plan after tracking all monthly expenses.

Once you figure out how you can control your discretionary spending, you can then redirect the money into a savings account. For many people, a good way to start saving regularly is to have a small amount transferred automatically from their paycheck to a savings account or mutual fund. The idea: If you don't see it, you don't miss it.

## 3. Maintain an Emergency Fund

Before you commit your newfound savings to volatile and hard-to-reach investments, make sure you have at least three to six months' worth of expenses saved in an emergency fund to see yourself through difficult times. Keeping it liquid will ensure that you don't have

to sell investments when their prices are down, and guarantee that you can always get to your money quickly.

If you have trouble deciding how much you need to keep on hand, begin by considering the standard expenses you have in a month, and then estimate all the expenses you might have in the future (possible insurance deductibles and other emergencies). Generally, if you spend a larger portion of your income on discretionary expenses that you could cut easily in a financial crisis, the less money you need to keep on hand in your emergency account. If you have dependents, you'd want to keep more money in your emergency fund to offset the greater risk.

## 4. Pay off Your Credit Card Debt

If you're trying to save while carrying a large credit card balance at, say, 19.8%, realize that paying off the debt is a guaranteed return of nearly 20% per year. Once you pay off your credit cards, use them only for convenience, and pay off the balance each month. If you tend to run up credit card charges, get rid of the credit card and go back to using cash, checks and a debit card.

## 5. Insure Your Family Adequately

The key to insurance is to cover only financial losses so large that you could not cope with them and remain financially fit (known as the law of large numbers). If someone is dependent on your income, you need adequate life insurance. Long-term disability coverage is important as long as you need employment income. Also, be sure to carry adequate liability coverage on your home and auto policies.

To save on annual premiums, it might be feasible for you to raise your insurance deductible, or eliminate dual coverage. And whenever purchasing insurance – life, home, disability, or auto – be sure to shop around, and buy only from a reputable firm.

## 6. Buy a Home

According to the US census, since 1968, the median price of new single-family homes has gone up almost tenfold; many houses still appreciate at a rate of 6% to 8% annually. Further, home ownership entitles you to major tax breaks. Interest on first and second home mortgages is fully deductible, meaning Uncle Sam helps subsidize your property investment. Additionally, the equity in your home can be a great source of retirement income.

Through a reverse mortgage, homeowners can access the equity in their home without having to sell, and have the option of receiving monthly income for life (or chosen term) or opening up a credit line against the home's value.

## 7. Take Advantage of Tax-deferred Investments

If your employer has a tax-deferred investment plan like a 401(k) or 403(b), use it. Often, employers will match your investment. Even if they don't, no taxes are due on your contributions or earnings until you retire and begin withdrawing the funds. Tax-deferred savings means that your investments can grow much faster than they would otherwise. The same is true of IRAs, although the maximum amount you can invest annually in an IRA is substantially less than what you can put in a 401(k) or 403(b).

## 8. Diversify Your Investments

When it comes to managing risk to maximize your return, it pays to diversify. First you need to diversify among the three major asset classes: cash, stocks and bonds. Once you have decided on an allocation strategy among these three investment classes, it is important to diversify within each asset. This means buying multiple stocks within a variety of industries and holding bonds of varying maturities. Simply put, don't put all your eggs in one basket. Also, don't make the

mistake of putting most or all of your money in "safe" investments like savings accounts, CDs and money market funds. Over the long haul, inflation and taxes will devour the purchasing power of your money in these "safe havens".

All investments involve some trade-off between risk and return. Diversification reduces unnecessary risk by spreading your money among a variety of investments. Aside from diversification, the single most effective strategy is to invest continuously over time, with a long-term perspective.

## 9. Write a Will

The simplest way to ensure that your funds, property and personal effects will be distributed according to your wishes is to prepare a will. A will is a legal document that ensures that your assets will be given to family members or other beneficiaries you designate. Having a will is especially important if you have young children because it gives you the opportunity to designate a guardian for them in the event of your death. Although wills are simple to create, about half of all Americans die intestate, or without a will. With no will to indicate your wishes, the court steps in and distributes your property according to the laws of your state. If you have no apparent heirs and die without a will, it's even possible that the state may claim your estate.

To begin, take an inventory of your assets, outline your objectives and determine to which friends and family you wish to pass your belongings to. Then, when drafting a will, be sure to include the following: name a guardian for your children, name an executor, specify an alternate beneficiary and use a residuary clause which typically reads "I give the remainder of my estate to ..." Once your will is drafted, you won't have to think about it again unless your wishes or your financial situation changes substantially.

## UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

Stay informed of our Holiday Observances.  
Helping you plan ahead.

**Memorial Day**

May 27, 2019



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CREDIT UNION

visit [First American.org](http://FirstAmerican.org)  
or call **520.836.8848**

## MEMBER BENEFIT:

### ACCESS TO OVER 85,000 ATMS NATIONWIDE WITH THE ALLPOINT AND CO-OP NETWORKS

First American Credit Union does not charge a fee for the first 5 ATM withdrawals. Subsequent withdrawals will be charged \$2 each except when made at any First American Credit Union-owned ATM. 85,000+ Surcharge free atms in Allpoint and CO-OP Networks. A 1% foreign transaction fee applies to withdrawals outside the United States. [Find ATMs](#)

## GETAWAYTODAY.COM special offer

The wait is finally over! Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge is coming to the Disneyland Resort starting May 31, 2019. Don't miss your chance to experience new attractions like Millennium Falcon: Smuggler's Run and Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance. Plus, you'll also be able to enjoy unique dining and shopping locations like Oga's Cantina, Docking Bay 7 Food and Cargo, Ronto Roasters, Dok-Ondar's Den of Antiquities and so much more. With so much to do and see, you'll want to have enough time to experience this brand-new Galaxy Far, Far, Away!

Luckily, First American Credit Union has partnered with Get Away Today to give you the best price for your Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge vacation. Not only will you be able to save big on discount Disneyland tickets and hotel stays, but you'll also be able to plan ahead for this summer's most anticipated event. With Get Away Today's interest-free Layaway Plan, you can book your galactic getaway for just \$175 down!

To book, visit [getawaytoday.com](http://getawaytoday.com) or call 855-GET-AWAY to speak to a travel expert directly. Don't forget to mention that First American Credit Union sent you!

## STOP HIGH INTEREST NOW

build credit & save! ➔

LOW six-month intro rate...

**3.99%** APR\*

followed by a LOW fixed rate as low as

**6.99%** APR\*

\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. After the introductory period, a low fixed rate applies ranging from 6.99% APR to 9.99% APR, based on your creditworthiness. Subject to credit approval. Some restrictions apply. See application and solicitation disclosure for full terms and conditions. Benefits and services may vary.



## HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT

no closing costs! ➔

intro rate

**3.90%** APR\*

first 12 months

as low as

**6.00%** APR\*

after the first 12 months

From Home Improvement to Debt Consolidation a HELOC makes it easier!

\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Fixed Intro Rate of 3.90% APR for first 12 months and as low as 6.00% APR after first 12 months. Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC) Promotional APR shown is available only for new HELOCs with a minimum loan amount of \$5,000 and a maximum loan-to-value (LTV) of 90%. \$50 annual fee applies; Promotional APR is fixed for initial 12 months of the term. On the anniversary day of loan closing date, APR will convert to the variable rate plan as described in the applicable loan documents. Subsequent APR may vary based on the index rate, plus a margin. Index rate is based on the Prime Rate as published in the Wall Street Journal. On December 20, 2018 that index was 5.50%; resulting APR with a 0.50% margin is 6.00%. Floor rate at the end of the initial 12-month period is 2%. APR will never exceed 18.00%. "As low as" rate assumes excellent borrower credit history, 90% or less Loan-to-Value. Alternative rates and terms are available. Actual rates and APRs dependent on credit history, type of product, loan term and loan to value (LTV). This line has a 10-year draw period. Eligible property includes single-family, owner-occupied, primary residence and vacation homes (located in AZ or NM only). Property insurance required. Interest may be tax deductible. Consult your tax professional regarding deductibility. Closing costs are waived unless the loan is paid off within the first two years. An estimated range of fees is \$100 to \$800. Not all members will qualify for this promotional offer. All loans subject to credit worthiness, collateral conditions, and location. Other restrictions may apply. If the borrower is not a member, a \$10 fee is required to join the Credit Union. Contact us for specific details. See the Home Equity Early Disclosure for complete details First American Credit Union NMLS ID #811468.

# SHRED

## DAY

HELP US PREVENT IDENTITY THEFT!

NEW LOCATION FOR 2019:

1001 N Pinal Ave  
Casa Grande, AZ

**SATURDAY, APRIL 27**

9AM - 12PM

First five boxes are free, donations accepted to benefit the Casa Grande Youth Commissions.



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