

CORE ESSENTIALS



BE FINANCIALLY PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY

Emergencies happen. Being financially prepared can make a big difference in your ability to handle such situations. Whether it's weather damage, extended illness or a car repair, having funds set aside can help minimize the challenges these emergencies bring and prevent them from turning into unplanned debt.

CREATE A RAINY-DAY FUND

Open a savings account specifically for your emergency fund. Start with small, regular contributions, even as little as \$5 a week. Treat this fund as a necessary monthly expense and keep the account inaccessible to avoid the temptation to spend it prematurely. We recommend keeping a "fully funded" emergency fund of about 3-6 months of your typical expenses.

SET A SAVINGS GOAL

Setting a specific goal for your emergency fund can help motivate you to save. Consider what your unexpected expenses might look like—such as replacing car tires or an emergency room visit—and set your savings target accordingly.

SAVE AUTOMATICALLY WITH DIRECT DEPOSIT

Make the process of saving easier by setting up a direct deposit

to funnel a portion of each paycheck directly into your emergency fund. After six months to a year, evaluate your budget to see if you can increase the amount you're saving.

GRADUALLY INCREASE YOUR SAVINGS

Small amounts add up. When you collect coins or extra cash, deposit them into your savings account. You can also spend less on things like dining out and shopping, and put that money into your emergency savings instead.

UNEXPECTED INCOME? SAVE IT

Whenever you receive unexpected income, such as bonuses or tax refunds, deposit a portion into your emergency fund. This practice can significantly boost your savings without impacting your regular budget.

Scan for free tools and resources to help you prepare for emergencies.

merituscu.net/education



MEET OUR 2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Meritus Credit Union recently awarded \$12,000 in member scholarships to six high school seniors in Acadia, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Martin and Vermilion Parishes. Each student received a \$2,000 scholarship towards their college education. In addition, two Meritus Credit Union members were awarded the Lafayette Chapter of Credit Unions 2024 Scholarship of \$1,000. Visit us on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram @merituscu](#) or merituscu.net/scholarships to learn more about our scholarship recipients.

MERITUS CREDIT UNION SCHOLARSHIP

- Ella Meche, Rayne High School
- Faith Landry, New Iberia Senior High School
- Mya Arceneaux, Teurlings Catholic High School
- Nicholas Gautreaux, St. Thomas More Catholic High School
- Ainsley Hitchcock, Lafayette High School
- Gage Laviolette, Erath High School

LAFAYETTE CHAPTER OF CREDIT UNION SCHOLARSHIP

- Chloe Griffin, UL Lafayette
- Rory Thibodeaux, McNeese State University



A collage titled "2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS" featuring eight individual portraits of students and members. The names are written in a stylized script font over each photo. The recipients are: Ella Meche, Gage Laviolette, Ainsley Hitchcock, Nicholas Gautreaux, Mya Arceneaux, Faith Landry, Chloe Griffin, and Rory Thibodeaux.

READY FOR A NEW RIDE?

Our money-saving auto loans put you in the driver's seat when purchasing your new or pre-owned vehicle. Request pre-approved financing from us to build your negotiating power and know how much you can spend, **before** visiting the dealership or ordering online.

Apply now at merituscu.net/autoloans or visit a branch.¹



CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF MERITUS CREDIT UNION

We're celebrating 70 years of brighter banking at Meritus Credit Union! In 1954, Meritus Credit Union began as Lafayette Parish Teachers Federal Credit Union, became Lafayette Schools Credit Union along the way and is now Meritus Credit Union. We've been dedicated to providing the best value in banking and support for our community. Thank you for being a valued member of our financial family.

70TH ANNIVERSARY GIVEAWAY

We're hosting a BIG giveaway on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages in mid-July. Follow us @merituscu to be the first to know the exciting details. Stay tuned for more!



Save the Date

Shred Day/International
Credit Union Day

Thursday, October 17, 2024

TEAM UPDATES

MELISSA AULTZ

Melissa joins our team as eServices Representative. She went to school in Tennessee and loves to travel and be outdoors.



SKIP YOUR JULY LOAN PAYMENT

Take a break from your eligible loan payment this July with our Skip-A-Payment program!² Use the money for your summer vacation, to boost your savings or to pay debt. The Skip-A-Payment Request Form and program details are available at branches and merituscu.net/skipapayment.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Deadline to request a Skip-A-Payment is Wednesday, July 31, 2024.
- You may request to Skip-A-Payment on multiple eligible loans.
- There is a \$29 processing fee for each request to skip a loan payment.
- All Skip-A-Payment requests are subject to approval.

ASHLEY FARRIOR

Ashley joins our team as a Member Service Representative at the New Iberia Branch. She enjoys indoor cycling and spending time with her kids.



BUY. BUILD. RENOVATE.



Learn more and apply at
merituscu.net/homeloans



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

JA FINANCIAL LITERACY DAY

We enjoyed hosting Financial Literacy Day at Prairie Elementary in partnership with Junior Achievement of Acadiana. Approximately 680 K-5th grade students participated in activities to prepare them for success including money management, entrepreneurship and work-readiness. Meritus Credit Union and community volunteers presented the curriculum during this action-packed and exciting day long experience.



BACK TO SCHOOL LOAN

Prepare for the new school year with a loan for supplies, technology, class trips – anything you need. Our personal loan is stress-free with a low rate, flexible terms and an affordable monthly payment. Apply now at merituscu.net/personalloans or a branch.



COX RETIRES FROM BOARD

Judy Cox has retired from the Meritus Credit Union board of directors after 26 years of volunteer service. During her tenure, she was inducted into the Louisiana Credit Union League Hall of Fame. We thank Judy for her dedication, leadership and many contributions to our credit union and members.

FEATURED RATES

KASASA CASH®
REWARDS CHECKING

5.00%

5.00% APY³ ON BALANCES
UP TO & INCLUDING \$15,000

NEW AUTO LOANS

5.00%

AS LOW AS 5.00% APR¹
UP TO 60 MONTHS

HOME EQUITY
LINE OF CREDIT

LOW RATES

& FLEXIBLE
PAYMENT TERMS

[MERITUSCU.NET/HELOC](https://merituscu.net/heLOC)

Rates as of July 3, 2024. For current rates, visit merituscu.net or call us at 866.989.2800.

¹APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Your APR will be determined based on our internal credit criteria. Listed APRs assume excellent credit rating. Minimum and maximum loan amounts or credit limits may apply. Your APR may differ based on your loan amount, repayment method and other factors. APR examples, shown above, do not include the \$35 Document Preparation Fee that is charged with this type of loan. Actual APR could be higher. ²All Skip-A-Payment requests are subject to approval. Participants authorize Meritus Credit Union to extend their final loan payment by one month and must resume making regular payments the month following their skipped payment. Interest will continue to accumulate on loans during the month participants skip their payment. Excludes all real estate loans, Momentum loans, lease-like loans and Visa® credit cards. If participant has chosen GAP coverage on their loan and chooses to take advantage of the Skip-A-Payment promotion, coverage may be affected. Only two Skip-A-Payments are allowed per year per loan. All loans and deposit accounts must be current to qualify. ³APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Rates, rewards, and bonuses, if any, are variable and may change after account is opened; rates may change without notice to you. No minimum balance is required to earn or receive the account's rewards. Rewards less than a penny cannot be distributed. Fees may reduce earnings. Membership restrictions may apply. Account approval, conditions, qualifications, limits, time frames, enrollments, log-ons and other requirements apply. A \$25.00 minimum deposit is required to open the account. There are no recurring monthly maintenance charges or fees to open or close this account. Advertised information and rewards are based on all account qualifications being met during each cycle period. Contact one of our credit union service representatives for additional information, details, restrictions, reward calculations, processing limitations, cycle dates and enrollment instructions. Learn more at merituscu.net/kasasacash.

CONNECT

LAFAYETTE BRANCH

515 Guilbeau Road | Lafayette, LA 70506

Lobby

Monday - Friday | 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Drive-Thru

Monday - Thursday | 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Friday & LPSS Paydays | 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

Contact Numbers

Phone 337.989.2800 | Fax 337.989.2816
Toll Free 866.989.2800

CARENCRO BRANCH

724 Veterans Drive | Carencro, LA 70520

Lobby

Monday - Friday | 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Drive-Thru

Monday - Thursday | 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Friday & LPSS Paydays | 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

Contact Numbers

Phone 337.896.2900 | Fax 337.896.9200

ACADIA BRANCH

331 Odd Fellows Road | Crowley, LA 70526

Lobby

Monday - Friday | 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Drive-Thru

Monday - Thursday | 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Friday & APSB Paydays | 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

Contact Numbers

Phone 337.785.0810 | Fax 337.785.0201

IBERIA BRANCH

1101 Parkview Drive | New Iberia, LA 70563

Lobby

Monday - Friday | 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Drive-Thru

Monday - Thursday | 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Friday & IPSB Paydays | 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

Contact Numbers

Phone 337.335.1100 | Fax 337.335.1103

BONJOUR TELEPHONE BANKING

800.291.3867

ONLINE & MOBILE BANKING

www.merituscu.net

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Thursday, July 4 - Independence Day
Monday, September 2 - Labor Day



Federally Insured
by NCUA



Equal Housing
Lender



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