



Sacramento Credit Union Celebrates 75 Years of Service

For three-quarters of a century, Sacramento Credit Union has offered its members competitively priced financial products and services along with the personal touch that only a credit union can offer.

While megabanks are offering less-than-stellar rates and eliminating free checking accounts, Sacramento Credit Union offers a friendly alternative. Our goal is to help you become financially secure, not line the pockets of shareholders.

SERVICE TRUMPS SIZE

Big banks keep getting bigger, but not necessarily better. The four largest U.S. banks now control approximately 40% of the country's total banking deposits and two-thirds of credit cards.* But their growth in financial clout isn't necessarily accompanied by customer-friendly service. In fact, banks seem to be going in the other direction – charging higher and more fees more often than other financial institutions.

In contrast, credit unions are *all* about our members and providing excellent service.

Because we are member-owned institutions, we reward our members with low rates on loans, higher earnings on deposits and personal service every step of the way. We help keep megabanks in check.

Currently, credit unions serve 87 million members with affordable financial products. California credit unions provided more than \$1.3 billion in direct financial benefits to their members in 2008, equivalent to \$135 per member or \$256 per member household.**

SPREAD THE WORD

If you have other accounts spread among financial institutions, and you're upset over the high fees and poor service you receive, consider moving those accounts to Sacramento Credit Union. We'll make the transfer easy for you. Simply stop in at a branch or apply online at www.sactocu.org.

In addition, if you know someone else who could benefit from a friendlier way to bank, invite them to check out credit union membership. Encourage your family members and co-workers to stop by one of our branches, call **(916) 444-6070** or visit us online at www.sactocu.org for more information about joining Sacramento Credit Union.

* Source: *The New Yorker*, Oct. 26, 2009.

** Source: www.cuna.org.

The IRA Deadline Is Right Around the Corner

If you haven't opened or contributed to your individual retirement account (IRA) for 2009, you have until April 15, 2010, to do so. Don't miss out on 2009's opportunity! Stop by a branch or visit www.sactocu.org to learn more about how an IRA can help you save toward a financially secure retirement.

in this issue

Rest Easy with the Guaranteed Rate of a Share Certificate ...2

New – Update Your Contact Information Online ...2

Homebuyers Tax Credit Extended

The first-time homebuyers tax credit, originally scheduled to end last November, has been extended and enhanced. Income eligibility limits have been raised, and repeat homebuyers may also be eligible for a credit.

HURRY – TIME IS RUNNING OUT

If you buy or enter into a binding contract to buy a primary residence for the first time between Jan. 1, 2009, and **April 30, 2010**, you can receive an automatic tax credit up to \$8,000. You must close on the home by June 30, 2010. Current homeowners may qualify for a credit of up to \$6,500.

To learn more about eligibility for the credit, visit www.federalhousingtaxcredit.com.* To learn more about or to apply for a mortgage through Sacramento Credit Union, call **(916) 444-6070**, click www.sactocu.org or visit your local branch office.

* Web site provided for information only. No endorsement is implied.

Board of Directors

Willie L. Southward III, Chair
AnnMarie Boylan, Vice Chair
John Beck, Secretary-Treasurer
Les Brown, Director
Judy McGarry, Director
Mark Norris, Director
Jan Reeves, Director
Terry Tice, Director

Supervisory Committee

Gene Webb, Chair
Mary Ann Bennett, Vice Chair
Remie Diva, Member
Beverly Skeaton, Member
Pat Wilcox, Member

President & CEO

Jerrold A. Kinlock

Branch Hours

Mon. - Thurs. • 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday • 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All Offices

Phone: (916) 444-6070
Toll Free: 1(888) SACTO-01
24-Hour LoanAccess Line
Toll Free: 1(877) 444-LEND
E-Z Access: (916) 441-2255
Toll Free: 1(800) 397-2255

Elk Grove

9160 E. Stockton Blvd., Ste. 120

Fair Oaks

8100 Madison Avenue

Sacramento

3660 Bradshaw Road
800 H Street
3045 Arden Way, Ste. 200
6121 Franklin Blvd.
Kaiser Hospital*
6600 Bruceville Road

* Limited hours of operation.

www.sactocu.org

Home Loans

www.SCUhome.com
(916) 441-LOAN

SCU Investment Services

(916) 444-8599, ext. 3112

**Personal Auto Shopper
Autoland**

(916) 449-2763

Rest Easy with the Guaranteed Rate of a Share Certificate

When you want the safety and security of a guaranteed return and a higher rate than regular savings accounts, turn to share certificates. A Sacramento Credit Union share certificate offers a competitive interest rate that is guaranteed for the term. Plus, each account holder's funds are insured by the NCUA to at least \$250,000 until Dec. 31, 2013, and retirement accounts such as individual retirement accounts are separately insured up to \$250,000.*

Share certificates are available in a variety of terms from three months to five years.** Plus, interest is tiered, so share certificates earn higher rates on amounts in excess of \$20,000, \$50,000 or \$100,000. The more you save, the more you can earn!

BUILD A LADDER TO REACH YOUR GOALS

Are you on the fence about whether to invest in a certificate now, or hold out for higher rates on the horizon? The answer may be to do both, with a certificate ladder. By staggering maturities, you take advantage of rising rates and enjoy access to your money by reinvesting at set intervals.

When interest rates are trending up, you may want to structure a certificate ladder with short maturity intervals. To have certificates mature every six months, open six-month, 12-month, 18-month and 24-month certificates. As each matures, renew it at the longest term in your ladder to keep the ladder going and capture the longer-term certificate rate, which is usually higher.

This laddering strategy can help even out interest rate fluctuations, since you can take advantage of rising rates while having some protection from falling rates.

START SAVING NOW

With as little as \$1,000 (\$500 for an IRA share certificate) you can invest in an SCU share certificate and maximize your earnings. Stop by a branch, call **(916) 444-6070** or visit www.sactocu.org for more information.

* After Dec. 31, 2013, the basic insurance limit will return to \$100,000, barring further legislation, and retirement accounts will be separately insured to \$250,000.

** It's important to choose a maturity date in line with your goals because there may be a penalty for early withdrawal.

New – Update Your Contact Information Online

Now online banking members can quickly and easily update their contact information online. Just log on to online banking at www.sactocu.org and click the “your profile” option in the top menu bar to update your information. If you change your e-mail address, you'll receive a confirmation e-mail at both addresses.

Not only will updating your information ensure that you receive the information you need from Sacramento Credit Union, if you provide your e-mail address we can send you important updates and notices in minutes instead of days through “snail mail.”

So update your information at www.sactocu.org today. It's quick and easy!

Why We Need Your Contact Information

One of the best ways you can protect yourself from financial fraud and identity theft is to make sure that Sacramento Credit Union has your most recent contact information – phone, e-mail and address – on file. That way, if we notice an unusual spending pattern on your debit or credit card, we can reach you immediately. It will also help prevent having financial information and statements sent to an old address, where it may be subject to theft.

Help us help you by keeping your contact information current. Thanks!

