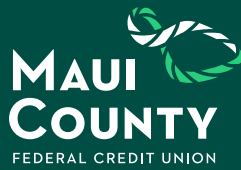


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APRIL 2025

connection

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE MAUI COUNTY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

3 Tips to Keep Your Financial Information Safe

Keeping your money and personal information safe is important. Scammers try to trick people into giving away their passwords and other details. Here are three simple rules to help protect yourself.

1. Never Share Your Password

Your password is private, and you should never share it with anyone—not even friends or family. A strong password keeps your accounts safe. If someone asks for your password, don't give it to them.

2. Banks Will Never Ask for Your Password

Financial institutions, like your credit union, bank or credit card company, will never call, text, or email asking for your password. If you get a message asking for it, it's a scam. Hang up or delete the message and contact your bank directly.

3. Don't Click on Links

If you get a random email or text message with a link, don't click it. Scammers use fake links to steal your information. If you think the message might be real, visit the company's official website or call their customer service number to check.

Stay Safe Online

By following these three simple rules, you can protect yourself from fraud. Always keep your password private, remember that banks will never ask for it, and be careful with links in messages. Staying alert will help keep your money and information safe!

Unlock the Power of Your Home's Equity



Are unexpected expenses putting a strain on your budget? Whether it's home repairs, tuition, or consolidating debt, a Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC) could be the solution you've been looking for. With a low introductory rate fixed for the first two years, it's a flexible and affordable way to access the funds you need.

What is a HELOC and How Does It Work?

A Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC) is a revolving line of credit that allows you to borrow against the equity in your home. Unlike a traditional loan where you receive a lump sum, a HELOC gives you access to funds as needed, much like a credit card. This flexibility makes it an excellent option for ongoing expenses or projects that may require multiple payments over time.

With a HELOC, you only pay interest on the amount you use, not the full line of credit. During the draw period, which typically lasts several years, you can borrow and repay as needed. Once the repayment period begins, you start paying back the principal along with interest. This structure provides a

cost-effective way to manage expenses while keeping monthly payments manageable.

Benefits of a HELOC

- **Flexible Access to Funds:** Borrow what you need, when you need it.
- **Lower Interest Rates:** Compared to credit cards and personal loans, HELOCs typically offer much lower rates.
- **Use for Multiple Expenses:** Ideal for home improvements, tuition, debt consolidation, and emergency expenses.

After the introductory period, your rate will adjust to the current variable rate. Plus, you can have peace of mind knowing that Maui County Federal Credit Union is federally insured by the NCUA and an Equal Housing Lender.

Applying is easy! You can apply for a HELOC or schedule an appointment for a consultation at MauiCountyFCU.org, or email mortgage@mauicountyfcu.org. Take control of your finances today and let us help you achieve your goals!

Save early with our Kids Club



Did you know that saving money at a young age can help build smart financial habits for the future? At Maui County FCU, we make saving fun and rewarding with our Kids Club Account—a special savings account just for kids newborn to 12 years old!

Why Join the Kids Club?

Opening a Kids Club account is easy! With just a \$5 minimum deposit, your child can start their savings journey. Plus, accounts with a balance over \$100 earn interest, helping their money grow even faster! (See rates for details.)

Fun Perks and Rewards!

We want to make saving exciting, so we offer awesome rewards:

- Free Maui County FCU piggy bank – A fun way to start saving at home.
- Earn tokens – For every \$10 deposited (up to \$50 per day), kids receive a token.*
- Redeem tokens for prizes – Visit any branch to trade in tokens for cool rewards!*
- Birthday bonus – Get double tokens (up to 10 tokens) on your special day!*
- Good grade rewards – Earn \$1 per A or ME (up to \$5 per quarter) when you bring in your report card. (Report cards must be from the most recent grading period and submitted within one month. Progress reports are not eligible.)
- Free coin machine access – Bring in your piggy bank savings and exchange coins for cash at no cost!

Special Limited-Time Referral Bonus!

Now through June 30, 2025, when you refer a new Kids Club member, you'll receive a free, limited-edition 12 oz or 18 oz Yeti water bottle, while supplies last!

Start Saving Today!

It's never too early to learn how to save. Book an appointment online or visit any Maui County FCU branch with your child to a Kids Club Account today!



* Kids Club member must be present to receive and redeem tokens.

A Message from Our CEO



Dear Members,

As I reflect on my time leading Maui County Federal Credit Union, I am filled with immense gratitude. Since stepping into this role in 1991, I have had the privilege of witnessing and guiding an incredible journey of growth, transformation, and service to our members.

When I first joined, we were a single-branch institution with nine dedicated employees serving 6,000 members. Today, we proudly operate three locations with a team of 70, serving over 20,000 members. This growth is not just measured in numbers but in the lives we've impacted—helping families buy homes, finance educations, and build financial security.

Over the years, we have expanded our offerings far beyond traditional savings and checking accounts. We introduced share certificates, rewards and cashback checking accounts, kids and teen savings programs, and a full suite of digital banking services. We've also empowered our members with access to auto loans, mortgages, HELOCs, credit cards, and safe deposit boxes—ensuring we meet their financial needs at every stage of life.

This journey has also included major milestones, such as building a new main office and Wailuku Branch to support our growing operations and undertaking a core processor conversion to modernize and enhance our services. Each step has been driven by our unwavering commitment to innovation and our dedication to serving our members with excellence.

As I prepare to retire, I do so with confidence in the bright future ahead. Our leadership team and staff are stronger than ever, ready to continue our mission of caring for our members' needs by providing services that encourage financial well-being. I have no doubt that the credit union will continue to thrive and evolve in ways that benefit both our members and our community.

To our board of directors, our incredible staff, and—most importantly— you, our members, thank you. Your trust, support, and belief in Maui County FCU have been the foundation of everything we have accomplished together. It has been an honor to serve as your CEO, and I look forward to seeing all that the future holds for this remarkable institution.

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Gary Fukuroku
CEO & President

Take charge of your financial future!

April is Financial Literacy Month, and it's the perfect time to enhance your money management skills! Whether you're saving for a major purchase, preparing for college, or simply looking to make smarter financial decisions, understanding how money works can empower you to build a secure future. Best of all, we offer free tools to help you every step of the way!

Why Financial Literacy Matters

Financial literacy is about making informed choices with your money. When you develop strong financial habits, you can:

- **Save more effectively** – Reach your financial goals faster, whether it's a dream vacation, a new car, or a rainy-day fund.
- **Avoid debt pitfalls** – A solid budget helps prevent overspending and unnecessary financial stress.
- **Build wealth over time** – Learning how investments and savings accounts work can grow your money.
- **Stay financially secure** – Understanding credit, loans, and interest rates helps you make smart borrowing decisions.

By improving your financial knowledge, you can take control of your future with confidence.

Exclusive Free Tools for Our Members

We're committed to helping you succeed

financially, which is why we offer free, engaging tools to boost your money skills!

Earn Rewards While Learning

Want to get rewarded for learning about finances? With ZOGO, you can! This fun, interactive app offers short lessons and quizzes on topics like saving, budgeting, and credit. Plus, you can earn points to redeem for gift cards!

To get started, download the ZOGO app and use the code "Maui" to start earning while you learn!

Your Personalized Financial Education Hub

Looking for a customized approach to financial learning? Check out Enrich, an online platform available to our members at mauicountyfcu.enrich.org. Enrich provides:

- **Personalized financial assessments** – In less than five minutes, assess your finances and receive recommended tools, articles, and courses tailored to your goals.
- **Budgeting and savings calculators** – Plan your finances and track your progress
- **Engaging articles and videos** – Learn at your own pace with expert insights on money management.

Whether you're just getting started or looking for advanced strategies, Enrich is a powerful resource to help you take control of your financial future.

Smart Money Moves You Can Make Today

Improving your financial literacy doesn't have to be complicated. Here are some simple steps you can take right now:

- **Set a Savings Goal** – Define what you're saving for and create a plan to reach it.
- **Make a Budget** – Track your income and expenses to manage your money more effectively.
- **Think Before You Spend** – Ask yourself: Is this a need or a want? Can I find a better deal?
- **Understand Credit** – Learn how credit scores, loans, and interest rates affect your financial health.
- **Use Free Resources** – Take advantage of ZOGO and Enrich to grow your money skills in a fun and easy way!

Invest in Your Financial Future

Financial literacy is one of the most valuable life skills you can develop. The more you know, the more confident you'll be in making financial decisions.

This Financial Literacy Month, take advantage of these free resources to boost your financial knowledge. Download ZOGO with the code "Maui", explore our online education hub at mauicountyfcu.enrich.org, and take charge of your financial future - your financial success starts now!

Supporting our community



Credit Unions of Maui Wildfire Relief Fund donated \$10,000 to the Nā Hale Kūpuna Project, an initiative by the J. Walter Cameron Center that provides affordable housing for seniors (kūpuna) affected by the August 2023 wildfires. This generous contribution will fund new appliances for the housing units, helping to create comfortable and fully equipped homes for residents. "We are deeply thankful to the Credit Unions of Maui for their generous support," said César E. Gaxiola, Executive Director of the J. Walter Cameron Center. "This donation significantly enhances our ability to provide our kūpuna with the amenities they need to live with dignity and ease."

The Credit Unions of Maui Wildfire Relief Fund is a collective effort by local credit unions to provide essential relief, including housing support, financial assistance, and critical supplies, to those impacted by the wildfires.



Scholarships Now Available

We're excited to announce that we're awarding ten scholarships, each worth \$1,000, to help students continue their education in 2025! Since starting our scholarship program in 2002, we've given out \$284,000 to support young members in achieving their dreams. Do you want a chance to win? Here's what you need to know!

Who Can Apply?

To qualify, you must:

- Be a current Maui County Federal Credit Union member for at least one year and remain a member when scholarships are awarded.
- Be a high school graduate or have a GED Certificate.
- Be enrolled full-time in college or a vocational program.
- Be working toward a Bachelor's, Master's, Doctorate, or Vocational degree.
- Not have received this scholarship before.

You must also register at mauicountyfcu.enrich.org and complete these courses:

- Borrowing Smart & Preparing for Higher Education (20 minutes) - Learn how to borrow student loans wisely.
- Repaying Your Student Loans (18 minutes) - Discover how to pay off your student loans successfully.
- Understanding Credit Reports & Scores (12 minutes) - Find out how credit scores work and why they matter.
- Using Credit Cards Responsibly (20 minutes) - Learn smart ways to use credit cards.
- Staying on Track with Student Loans While in School (25 minutes) - Get tips on managing student loans while studying.

How Winners Are Chosen

10 students will win a \$1,000 scholarship! Winners will be picked through a random drawing. Each recipient can only win once in a lifetime. All qualifications must be met, and applications must be submitted by May 31, 2025.

Scan the QR code for full details and the application form. Have questions? Contact us at hello@mauicountyfcu.org.



EMPLOYEE NEWS



Dayna Megallon

Financial Services Representative promoted to Member Care Specialist



Sequoia Warren

Member Service Representative promoted to Member Care Specialist



Taesia Keomoungkhoun

Member Service Representative promoted to Member Care Specialist

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Change to Your Funds Availability Policy Disclosure

This notice amends the Funds Availability Policy Disclosure, which we provided to you when you opened your transaction account. Except as stated in the notice, all of the terms and conditions of the disclosure will remain in effect.

The following changes to the Funds Availability Policy Disclosure are effective starting on July 1, 2025:

- Under Item 2. RESERVATION OF RIGHT TO HOLD, first paragraph, third sentence is amended to read as follows: However, the first \$275.00 of your deposit will be available on the first business day after the day of your deposit.
- Under Item 4. LONGER DELAYS MAY APPLY, first paragraph, second bullet point is amended to read as follows: You deposit checks totaling more than \$6,725.00 on any one (1) day
- Under Item 5. SPECIAL RULES FOR NEW ACCOUNTS, second paragraph, second sentence is amended to read as follows: Funds from deposits of cash, wire transfers, and the first \$6,725.00 of a day's total deposits of cashier's, certified, teller's, traveler's, and federal, state, and local government checks will be available on the next business day after the day of your deposit if the deposit meets certain conditions.
- Under Item 5. SPECIAL RULES FOR NEW ACCOUNTS, second paragraph, fourth sentence is amended to read as follows: The excess over \$6,725.00 will be available on the ninth business day after the day of your deposit.
- Under Item 5. SPECIAL RULES FOR NEW ACCOUNTS, second paragraph, fifth sentence is amended to read as follows: If your deposit of these checks (other than a U.S. Treasury check) is not made in person to one of our employees, the first \$6,725.00 will not be available until the second business day after the day of your deposit.