

The Professional Touch

FOURTH QUARTER 2021

GET READY FOR THE FUTURE WITH AN ETPCU SCHOLARSHIP

East Texas Professional Credit Union has awarded a total of \$419,000 in free money for college since the implementation of our scholarship program in 2001. In 2021, scholarships were awarded to 16 deserving seniors from high schools within our field of membership. These scholarships were awarded in two separate categories each year:

ETPCU McLaughlin Scholarship - \$2,000
(for those who wish to pursue an education degree)

ETPCU Presidential Scholarship - \$1,000
(for those who wish to pursue a degree in any field)

Applications are available online at etpcu.org. They may also be picked up at the counselor's office at any high school within our field of membership, or at any East Texas Professional Credit Union office location.*

*The applicant, or an immediate family member, must have a Credit Union account in good standing to qualify for either scholarship. (An immediate family member is defined as a parent, grandparent, brother or sister.) Scholarship eligibility extends to any graduating high school senior within the following counties: Anderson, Angelina, Camp, Northern Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Nacogdoches, Panola, Rusk, Smith, Upshur. Also, students attending school in Daingerfield in Morris County, and Hughes Springs and Avinger in Cass County, are eligible.

FREE SHRED DAY AND FLU SHOT CLINIC

A free shred day is planned from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, October 22 at our Longview office located at 409 E. Loop 281. Credit Union employees will shred up to 10 pounds of personal or business documents per member. The free shred day is designed to foster identity theft prevention by securely destroying paper documents such as checks, tax information and ATM receipts that contain personal information.

ETPCU will host a flu shot clinic on Friday, October 22 from Noon until 5 p.m. Medical professionals will be at the 409 E. Loop 281 office in Longview offering flu vaccines for \$26. The minimum age to receive a flu vaccine is 13 years.



LET'S CELEBRATE!



International Credit Union Day has been celebrated on the third Thursday of October since 1948. The ultimate goal is to raise awareness about the great work that credit unions are doing around the world, give members the opportunity to get more involved, and to show members our appreciation.

In recognition of this special day, East Texas Professional Credit Union will host a Member Appreciation Day at all locations on Friday, October 22, 2021. Refreshments will be served throughout the day and drawings will be held for exciting cash prizes. We invite you to visit any of our 14 office locations and join the celebration! We love helping our members and serving your financial needs. Thank you for choosing East Texas Professional Credit Union!

REMINDERS

GRASSROOTS EFFORT – PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY AND YOUR CREDIT UNION

Holiday Hours

East Texas Professional Credit Union will observe the following upcoming holidays:

Columbus Day
Monday, October 11, 2021
409 E. Loop 281; Longview
Lobby Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Drive Thru Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
All Other Offices Closed

Veterans' Day
Thursday, November 11, 2021
409 E. Loop 281; Longview
Lobby Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Drive Thru Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
All Other Offices Closed

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 25, 2021
All Offices Closed

Christmas Day
Saturday, December 25, 2021
All Offices Closed

New Year's Day
Saturday, January 1, 2022
All Offices Closed

Project F.I.T.

Financial Independence Training
For Members Age 12-22

October 28, 2021

November 18, 2021

December 16, 2021

Call to reserve a spot
903.323.0230 * 800.256.5009

The Build Back Better Act proposed by President Biden is under review in Congress. The review process includes developing a proposal to determine how to pay for the cost of implementing the Act. The proposal includes expanded reporting requirements for financial institutions. Specifically, financial institutions would be required to report annual inflows and outflows totaling \$600 or more for all accounts to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Congressional intent is to ensure Americans honor their tax obligations, particularly business owners who may underreport income. Trade organizations for all financial institutions, including NAFCU and CUNA, strongly oppose the proposed IRS reporting requirements on the following grounds:

- The proposal creates a significant burden on financial institutions and small business owners
 - o Reporting on the gross inflows and outflows above \$600 will create an enormous amount of additional data filing with the IRS at a significant cost to financial institutions
 - o In past public testimony, IRS representatives have stated the IRS does not have the capacity to utilize the current level of data filing, rendering additional data filing ineffective at best
 - o Financial institutions will be required to design new tracking and reporting systems across all delivery channels to ensure regulatory compliance which is especially burdensome on smaller financial institutions due to a lack of economies of scale
 - o Small business owners will be burdened with increased tax preparation costs when so many small businesses are already struggling for survival
- The proposal creates significant consumer privacy and data security concerns
 - o Reporting requirements violate consumers' personal privacy by forcing financial institutions to provide the IRS with information that does not reflect taxable activity
 - o Violations of personal privacy will lead more individuals to be "unbanked," destroying decades of effort to improve financial literacy and financial well-being at all socio-economic levels
 - o The IRS is a frequent target of cyber criminals and has suffered significant data breaches due to its decades old data systems, which creates a grave concern when considering the tremendous amount of additional sensitive financial data reported.

Please contact your United States Senator and House Representative and ask them to oppose the new IRS reporting provisions in the Build Back Better Act. To find your legislators, go to:

<https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm>

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

OUT AND ABOUT

East Texas Professional Credit Union takes pride in being a part of the communities we serve. We are thankful that we have been able to resume some of our regular events and activities, as well as some new traditions! In the last few months we have been able to be a part of the Hallsville Community Pep Rally, we have delivered over 30,000 ETPCU planner calendars to surrounding schools in our field of membership, attended local pep rallies, and served breakfast at numerous back-to-school events.

We are so thankful to be a part of our communities, and we have more opportunities to get involved coming up! Follow us on social media to keep up with our events and outreach.

 @East Texas Professional Credit Union

 @easttexasprofessionalcu



FRAUD PREVENTION

Scams, identity theft, viruses, worms and credit card fraud are happening more frequently. Our members are continually concerned with these threats to their financial information and often seek assistance. East Texas Professional Credit Union is committed to educating our members about the numerous security risks you face, and we work hard to keep you informed about newly discovered breaches, threats and attacks on your personal information.

Stickley on Security (SoS) offers helpful tips to stay a step ahead of identity thieves. With comprehensive educational videos, articles and quick tips, SoS is easy to use and provides the most up-to-date information to equip our members with fraud prevention knowledge. To access this content and get on the road to fraud prevention, visit our website at www.etpcu.org/sos.

WELCOME WILDWOOD!



We are pleased to announce that the new East Texas Professional Credit Union Wildwood branch is now open! Our new office is located at 2395 H G Mosley Pkwy. in Longview, TX. We are excited to be able to serve you from our new location. Thank you for choosing East Texas Professional Credit Union for all of your financial needs! Below are the hours of operation for the Wildwood Office.

Hours of operation:

Lobby:

9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday - Thursday

9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Friday

9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Saturday

Drive Thru:

7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Monday - Friday

8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Saturday

HOLIDAY SKIP-A-PAY

In order to qualify for the Skip-A-Payment option, your loan must meet the following criteria:

Your November payment must be paid prior to skipping your December payment.

You must have completed a minimum of six monthly payments.

There can be no more than three late payments (11-30 days delinquent) within the last 12 months.

All other loans must be current.

There cannot have been a payment skipped or extended on the subject loan within the last 12 month period.

Call Us at 903.323.0230

*Not applicable on the following loan types: real estate, home equity, home improvement, credit cards and all commercial loans. All Skip-A-Payments subject to ETPCU's normal credit guidelines and also the specifications listed above. Skip-A-Payment is for one month's loan payment, regardless of payment frequency. If the loan payment is made through payroll deduction/direct deposit, bank draft or automatic transfer, the normal payroll distribution will be deposited into the member's share account.



903.323.0230 ★ 800.256.5009 ★ etpcu.org

Federally Insured by NCUA 

