

# TEEN NEWSLETTER

It's Your Life...  
*are you ready?*



Quarterly Teen Newsletter:

December 2021

## **Managing your Checking Account**

Just get your first job? Learning how to manage your money can be confusing and stressful. Managing a checking account is as simple as 1-2-3:

### **1 – Know your balance**

It's important to know how much is in your account at all times. This way, you can avoid an overdrawn account, or having insufficient funds to cover your purchases. Being aware of how much money you have will also help you stick to a budget and spend within your means. Download the Interior FCU [mobile app](#) or login to [online banking](#) to check your account on the go.

### **2 – Automate your finances**

If you're just starting your first job, then you're receiving your first paychecks as well. You can set up [direct deposit](#) to have your paycheck land right in your account. Once, the money hits your account you can set up automatic transfers from your checking to savings account. Automatically transferring money to your savings account will help you never forget to put money away for a rainy day.

### **3 – Track Your Spending**

Once you get your first debit card you may wonder where all your money went by the end of the month. Get into the habit of tracking your expenses to be mindful of minor transactions that may be costing you more than you think. For instance, the cup of coffee may only be \$5, but \$5 a day adds up over time. Learning how to track your expenses now will save you from a future of careless purchases. Interior FCU offers [Money Management](#), a free tool that has the ability to see all your financial relationships in one place.

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## Retirement Planning?

You should start to plan for retirement now. Now? While you're still in high school and making minimum wage at a grocery store and have your whole life ahead of you? Yes. Here's why.

### Interest

If you start saving a small amount into a retirement fund now, that small amount is going to gain interest for a very long time: 40 or 50 years. If you put in \$5 a week for the whole time you're in high school, that is \$1,040. In a Roth IRA and gaining 7%–10% over a lifetime, this will leave you with somewhere between \$21,000 and \$75,000. And that is if you never put anything else in.

### You're Not Wealthy Now

When you start to establish yourself, you can make investments that payout sooner. You don't have a lot of money to invest now so it makes sense to make long-term investments; you'll get a better payout.

### Why not?

You don't have anything to lose by planning that far ahead. You don't even need to plan—just choose your investment vehicle and let it go until you reach the desired amount or the age you can withdraw money.

Start Planning at Interior FCU and check out our [IRA Center](#) to learn more.

