



the member connection

The Newsletter of B-M S Federal Credit Union

5 EASY TIPS TO SAVE CASH ON YOUR VACATION

Vacations are meant for relaxation and exploration, not financial stress. With a little foresight and creativity, you can enjoy your getaway without emptying your wallet. Here are five simple yet effective ways to save money while on vacation:

- 1. Pack Smart and Light:** Airlines often charge hefty fees for checked baggage, so pack efficiently to avoid unnecessary costs. Stick to carry-on luggage if possible and pack versatile clothing items that can be mixed and matched.
- 2. Embrace Public Transportation:** Instead of shelling out money for taxis or rental cars, utilize public transportation options like buses, subways, or trains.
- 3. Seek Out Free Activities:** Research free or low-cost activities and attractions at your destination. Many cities offer free walking tours, public parks, museums with complimentary admission days, and cultural festivals.
- 4. Dine Like a Local:** Skip the touristy restaurants and opt for eateries frequented by locals. Not only will you enjoy authentic cuisine at lower prices, but you'll also support small businesses and immerse yourself in the local food scene.
- 5. Use Cash-Back Apps and Reward Programs:** Before booking accommodations or activities, check cash-back apps and reward programs for potential savings.



By incorporating these tips into your vacation planning, you can enjoy a memorable getaway without breaking the bank.

Sources: Rakuten: www.rakuten.com | Honey: www.joinhoney.com

REMEMBER THE VIEW, FORGET THE EXPENSE!

There's no time like the present to plan the dream vacation you've been wanting. If you missed out on our Liberty Loan last month, don't fret! There are other options for you to get those Instagram worthy photos and make the rest of us drool in Vacation Envy. Check out our Personal loans or begin saving for that 2025 vacation destination with our Vacation club account!

Personal Loan Benefits

- ➔ Apply for up to \$15,000
- ➔ For 48 months
- ➔ With a low rate of 9.00% APR*

Vacation Club Benefits

- ➔ Earn Dividends
- ➔ \$5.00 minimum to open
- ➔ 24/7 access via Online & Mobile Banking

*APR=Annual Percentage Rate.

To apply, visit our website at www.bmsfcu.org, click on Personal Loan or Share Accounts in the dropdown menu on our home page and complete the online application.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2024 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

B-M S FCU is thrilled to unveil the exceptional minds chosen as this year's scholarship recipients! In a pool of driven candidates from neighboring high schools, these students demonstrated a remarkable commitment to extracurriculars, community service, and employment, balancing it with aplomb. Leading by example, they've held prominent leadership roles while maintaining an impressive GPA of 3.5 or above. Amidst stiff competition, our winners have truly stood out, embodying the spirit of ambition and excellence. Join us in celebrating their outstanding achievements and the bright futures they're destined to forge!



Abby Tattersall pictured above.

Abby Tattersall is currently attending New Hampton High School with aspirations to attend Colby College. She has made High Honor Roll the past 7 semesters and is involved in multiple extracurricular and leadership positions. Abby plans on majoring in biochemistry so she can attend optometry school.

Giulia Rosingana is currently attending East Brunswick High School with aspirations to attend Purdue University. Giulia has made Gold and Silver Honor Roll for multiple semesters, while being involved in community service and a part time job. Giulia hopes to work in the Cybersecurity field as an analyst as she aspires to be a defender of people's work, privacy and security.

Once a Member, Always a Member

When you join B-M S Federal Credit Union, you are a member for life! You can take us with you wherever you go.

Visit www.bmsfcu.org to learn more!

Stay tuned for all our upcoming announcements!



UNLOCK CONVENIENCE WITH YOUR B-M S DEBIT CARD IN YOUR MOBILE WALLET!

No more carrying around bulky wallets or worrying about losing your cards – everything you need is right on your phone. Plus, enjoy peace of mind with built-in security features like fingerprint or facial recognition.



Setup Google Pay



Setup Apple Pay

Experience the future of payments today with mobile wallets. Simplify your s hopping experience and streamline your transactions with the tap of a finger. Try it now and embrace the convenience!

How To Start Using Zelle:

1. Enroll or log in to online banking
2. Select "Send Money with Zelle®"
3. Accept Terms and Conditions
4. Select your U.S. mobile number or email address and deposit account

That's it! You're ready to start sending and receiving money with Zelle®.

Scan Here For Zelle!



just for you specials

SMART STRATEGIES FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAVINGS: A FAMILY'S GUIDE

As summer draws to a close, families gear up for the back-to-school rush, a period often accompanied by hefty expenses. However, with strategic planning and savvy shopping tactics, families can navigate this season without draining their wallets. Here's how:

- 1. Create a Budget:** Before hitting the stores, establish a realistic budget for back-to-school expenses. According to the National Retail Federation (NRF), families with children in elementary through high school plan to spend an average of \$849 on back-to-school items. By setting a budget and sticking to it, families can avoid overspending and maintain financial stability.
- 2. Shop Sales and Discounts:** Keep an eye out for back-to-school sales, which typically offer significant discounts on clothing, school supplies, and electronics. Many retailers also provide coupons and promotional codes that can further reduce costs. According to Deloitte's annual back-to-school survey, 52% of families plan to take advantage of discounts and promotions when shopping for school supplies.
- 3. Buy in Bulk and Share:** Consider purchasing school supplies in bulk with other families or classmates to take advantage of volume discounts. By pooling resources and sharing items like notebooks, pens, and art supplies, families can save money while still ensuring that students have everything they need for the school year.
- 4. Comparison Shop Online:** Before making any purchases, research prices online to ensure you're getting the best deal. Utilize price comparison websites and apps to compare prices across different retailers. According to Adobe Analytics, online back-to-school shopping is on the rise, with an expected increase of 6% in online spending compared to the previous year.



By implementing these strategies, families can ease the financial burden of back-to-school shopping while ensuring that students are well-prepared for the academic year ahead.

Sources: National Retail Federation (NRF) | Deloitte's annual back-to-school survey | Adobe Analytics

HELP THEM PURSUE THEIR INTERESTS - WITH LOW INTEREST

Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today. Whether you need money to pay for college tuition or purchase a new computer to help you or your child study, you can fast track everyone's future with a B-M S FCU Education loan.

EDUCATIONAL LOAN

- 🍏 Apply for up to \$5,000
- 🍏 For 36 months
- 🍏 Low rate of 8.50% APR*!

COMPUTER LOAN

- 🍏 Apply for up to \$5,000
- 🍏 For 24 months
- 🍏 Low rate of 8.50% APR*!

To apply, visit our website at www.bmsfcu.org, click on Educational Loan in the dropdown menu on our home page and complete the online application.

*APR=Annual Percentage Rate.



APPLY TODAY!



Upon approval, add your e-signature,
click finish and you're all done!



Credit Union Policy

Loan Policy

Effective March 2024

SIGNATURE LOAN CLASSIFICATION:

LOANS are at INTEREST RATES as LOW as 9.00%

Each of these loans is available for 24, 36 or 48 months with over six months of employment. Maximum loan amount is \$15,000.00.

A hold of \$100.00 will be placed on your main share account for the duration of any loan with B-M S Federal Credit Union.

AUTOMOBILE LOAN CLASSIFICATION:

New and Used car loan interest rates

New Cars: 100% financing including tax and title on NEW cars

Rates as low as

24 months	5.00%
36 months	5.50%
48 months	6.00%
60 months	6.50%
72 months (over \$20,000.00)	7.00%

Used Cars: 100% of book value (retail)

Rates as low as

24 months 2012 thru 2014	5.00%
36 months 2015 thru 2019	5.50%
48 months 2020 thru 2023	6.00%
60 months 2024 thru present	6.50%

Historical autos are on a case-by-case basis.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE LOAN CLASSIFICATION: Boats, ATVs, motorcycles, trailers and motorhomes

New: • Up to 84 mo. • 100% Dealer MSRP • 8.00%
 • Available on RVs (trailers and motorhomes) over \$20,000.00, up to a maximum of \$200,000.00.
 • Less than \$20,000.00: Maximum term is five years.

Used: • Up to 84 mo. • 100% of book value (retail) • 8.50%
 • Available on RVs over \$20,000.00, up to a maximum of \$100,000.00.
 • Less than \$20,000.00: Maximum term is five years.

SHARE SECURED LOAN CLASSIFICATION:

3% above current dividend rate for maximum of 48 months for fully secured and 4% above current dividend rate for 50% secured.

SPECIAL LOAN CLASSIFICATIONS:

Computer Purchase up to \$2,500.00 2 years 8.50%
Education up to \$5,000.00 3 years 8.50%

REAL ESTATE LOAN CLASSIFICATION: Mortgage/Refinance

Please call our toll-free number (866) 443-4961 or via website <https://cu.memberfirst.com/bmsfcu>

NOTE: ALL LOAN APPLICATIONS WILL BE SUBJECT TO A CREDIT BUREAU REPORT BEFORE LOAN IS APPROVED. LOANS MUST BE PAID DOWN 30% BEFORE REFINANCING IS AVAILABLE.

*APR = ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME. ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE IS BASED ON CERTAIN CREDIT WORTHINESS CRITERIA. CURRENT B-M S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION AUTO LOANS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REFINANCE

our team

	Board of Directors
Chairman	Kathleen McElarney
Vice Chairman	Dalton Jordan
Treasurer	Donna Susan
Secretary	Lisa Dolan
Director	Consuelo Ramos
	Loan Officers
VP of Lending and Member Services	Olga Vigo
VP of Operations	Ivette Rosado
	Supervisory Committee
Chairman	Barbara Ferris
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VP of Operations	Ivette Rosado
VP of Lending and Member Service	Olga Vigo
Service Director	Lissette Imhoff
Operations Manager	Judy Herrera
Branch Manager NB	Stephanie Azcona
Marketing / Member Service Rep.	Nayan Patel
BSA Officer	Hina Ali
Member Service Rep.	Nujhat Islam
Member Service Rep.	Cheri McMillian

where you can find us

Office Hours and Locations

New Brunswick, NJ (Main) One Squibb Dr. Building 111-1-111A New Brunswick, NJ 08903-1588 M-F 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (732) 227-6700 Toll-free (888) 423-7265	Lawrenceville, NJ 3551 Lawrenceville Rd. Room A.119 Princeton, NJ 08543-4715 M-F 8 a.m.- 3 p.m. (609) 252-4038/7738
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Princeton Pike, NJ
3401 Princeton Pike
Room B.1022
Lawrence, NJ 08648-1205
M-W-F 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
(609) 302-7644

Mortgage Department
(866) 443-4961
<https://cu.memberfirst.com/bmsfcu>
Lost/Stolen ATM/Debit Card
(800) 472-3272
Debit Card Fraud
(800) 262-2024
www.bmsfcu.org

apply for a loan anytime!

Log in to our website at www.bmsfcu.org and click on Loans on our home page to apply 24/7.

NMLS #809443

We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and Equal Credit Opportunity Act.

