

## CHECKLIST

Eagle Federal Credit Union wants you to succeed in your financial future. To make sure you are on the right path, we have a brief check list help get you started.

- Open Checking Account
  
- Set up Direct Deposit through ClickSWITCH
  
- Access your account through NetTeller
  
- Set up recurring payments through ClickSWITCH (i.e. Gym memberships)
  
- Set up monthly bills through iPay (i.e. Rent, Utilities or Car Note)
  
- Activate Debit Card to begin earning Extra Rewards
  
- Download Eagle's App, GoDough, to your Smart Phone



Your savings federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government. National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency.

## LOCATIONS

### Baton Rouge

**Main Office**  
2271 College Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

**Downtown Office - Main Street Market**  
504 North Fifth Street, Suite D  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

### New Orleans

**Jackson Barracks Office**  
6400 St. Claude Avenue, Building 4208  
Jackson Barracks, Area C  
New Orleans, LA 70117

### Pineville

**Camp Beauregard Office**  
Building 229, Camp Beauregard  
Pineville, LA 71360

### Zachary

**Zachary Office**  
5711 Main Street  
Zachary, LA 70791

# Checking for **SUCCESS**



**Eagle**  **Federal**  
CREDIT UNION

(225) 927-1900 • (888) 281-8485

[www.eaglefederal.org](http://www.eaglefederal.org)

 Like us on Facebook

**FINANCIAL SUCCESS** starts with understanding your accounts and managing your money. The following tips are designed to help you manage your personal financial success.

## MONEY MANAGEMENT

A budget is a plan that outlines where your money comes from and where it needs to go so you have the things you need and can do the things you want. Budgeting starts by listing your income sources and expenses. If you have a positive number when you subtract your expenses from your income then you are living within the limits of your income. If the result is a negative number, you need to find ways to increase your income or reduce expenses. Consider non-essential expenses that you can eliminate by asking yourself if each expense is a “want” or a “need” and try to minimize the “wants” until you can improve your overall budget position. Once you create your budget, adjust as needed but it must always balance and you must always stick to it!

## DIRECT DEPOSIT BASICS

Direct deposit is a free service that automatically and electronically transfers recurring income (like your paycheck or social security benefits) to your credit union account. It is a fast and safe way to deposit money. Funds from a direct deposit are posted to your account on the date provided by the payer and are available to you immediately! Eagle Federal makes setting up or redirecting direct deposits simple (and fast) through an online switch tool – ClickSWITCH. And, we’re here to help you through the process.

## GETTING CASH

Sometimes you just need cash in your pocket. Access cash at ATM machines using your debit card with your PIN. You can use almost any ATM but you may have to pay a surcharge fee if it is not an Eagle ATM machine. You can also access cash at merchants by selecting cash back when you make purchases using your debit card and PIN.

## MAKING PAYMENTS

Everyone has to pay bills or make payments and there are several good ways to do that. Money Orders are one way, but the cost adds up. Writing checks is another way, but even that requires purchasing checks that have to be mailed or delivered. Eagle’s iPay online bill pay service allows you to send payments from your checking account. You can set up automatic recurring payments, schedule one-time payments and even person-to-person payments. No stamps, no envelopes, no charge.

## DEBIT CARD TIPS

Visa Debit cards work like checks, only better –when you make purchases, the amount is deducted directly from your checking account, but with the added security of a Visa card. When you use an Eagle Visa Debit card, you earn Extra Award Points that can be redeemed for cash or service discounts.

**Debit vs Credit Transactions:** Debit and credit transactions are processed differently. When you use a debit card and your PIN (personal identification number), the transaction is completed in real time - a debit transaction. You authorize the purchase with your PIN and the money is immediately transferred from your account to the merchant. With a credit transaction, using a debit card as credit, you generally sign to authorize the purchase. Credit transactions may take one or more days for the transaction to actually post to your account. The transaction amount may be deducted from the available balance until the actual transaction posts.

## ACTUAL VS. AVAILABLE BALANCE

The ACTUAL balance, or current balance, is the amount of money in your account at that point in time. The AVAILABLE balance is the amount of funds you have available to withdraw excluding any pending items like debit card transactions, outstanding checks or holds placed on funds. Available balances may not reflect all pending items so you should always keep a register of your transactions to avoid overdrafts or fees.

## CREDIT HISTORY & CREDIT SCORES

Your credit history describes how you use money. A credit report summarizes credit history. A credit score summarizes the credit report.

**Know Your Credit History:** Each of the 3 nationwide consumer reporting companies (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) are required to provide you with a free copy of your credit report once a year. You can request them simultaneously or separately throughout the year. Visit AnnualCreditReport.com for your free copy. Knowing in advance what your credit report says could be a time and money saver. Businesses look at your credit report to learn about you and so should you. They decide if they want to lend you money, give you a cell phone, rent you an apartment or insure your vehicle. Sometimes, employers look at your credit report when you apply for a job. The price you pay for some services is based on your credit. Monitor your credit report and report or dispute any errors. Take positive action to improve behaviors that may be negatively impacting your score.

## SAVING MONEY

Saving is an integral part of any financial plan. Pay yourself first by setting aside a portion of each paycheck. Savings can help you stick to your budget by providing funds for emergencies, unexpected expenses or fulfilling your dreams for the future.

## SAFETY NET

A safety net provides security against misfortune or difficulty. There are several financial tools that can provide a safety net for you. NetTeller online banking provides 24/7 access to your accounts. You can monitor and manage your finances on your terms. You can set up alerts for balances or payment due dates. Eagle’s GoDough app puts it all on your Smart Phone! Overdraft Protection allows items presented against your checking account to be paid even when the money isn’t available in your checking account by transferring funds from another account or credit card to cover items presented. Payday Alternative loans or Money Maker loans can be used if you find yourself running short before you overdraw.