

MyMoney.club newsletter

Michigan Schools & Government Credit Union



Our Scholarship Program is Open for Applications! New for 2025: **10 ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS!**

As an organization founded by teachers, MSGCU recognizes the value of lifelong learning and the positive impact it has on career development. This year we are proud to award more than \$130,000 to those who are working hard to achieve their dream of attending college, becoming a first responder, or pursuing a skilled trades program. This year's online application period begins Thursday, January 2, at 8 a.m., and closes Tuesday, February 25, at 10 p.m. Check out our scholarship opportunities:

The MSGCU High School Excellence Scholarship, formerly known as the Educational Solutions Scholarship, is designed for any high school senior planning to attend a university or college. 18 scholarships of \$2,500 will be awarded.

The Rudolph Heino People Helping People Scholarship recognizes high school seniors committed to inspiring others through service and leadership, while upholding the credit union philosophy of "people helping people." Starting in 2025, the \$2,500 scholarship will be given to 15 individuals, an increase of 10 awards.

The Larry Swantek Educational Studies Scholarship supports high school seniors and college students planning to major in education. Four \$2,500 scholarships will be awarded.

The William Cayen Skilled Trades Scholarship helps fund certificate programs in carpentry, electrical, construction, HVAC, machining, or other industrial skilled trades, all of which are in high demand here in Michigan. Graduating high school seniors can now apply for this award. \$2,500 scholarships will be given to two individuals.

The Stephen Thomas First Responder Scholarship supports future first responders enrolled in fire and/or police programs at Macomb Community, Oakland Community, Washtenaw Community, and Schoolcraft Colleges. Applications occur directly with the schools. 14 future first responders will receive \$2,000 scholarships.

Apply today @
msgcu.org/scholarships



CONTEST — Share your proudest financial moment

2024 has come to a close and it's a great time to start working on your financial goals for the new year. As you reflect on last year, what was your proudest financial moment? Maybe you hit your savings goal or made an important purchase. Tell us about it in 100 words or less and feel free to add photos to your submission. Email your entry along with your name, age, address, and phone number to contest@msgcu.org. The teen with the winning entry will receive a **\$75 deposit*** in their MyMoney.club account. **Deadline for entry is Friday, February 21, 2025.**



Follow us on Instagram! MSGCU is now on Instagram and you can follow us **@MSGCUOfficial** for the latest credit union happenings. Don't forget you can also connect with us on Facebook, LinkedIn, and X.

* Contest limited to members ages 13 to 17. No substitution for prizes. Winners must be a MyMoney.club member of MSGCU at the time of selection. No purchase necessary. Only one entry per member. The winners will be contacted during the month of March. By submitting this entry, you consent to the reproduction and or authorize the use of your images, words and likeness for promotional and educational purposes by MSGCU. Relatives of MSGCU employees and Official Family members are not eligible to win.

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM SPOOFING SCAMS

Scammers have been around forever, but modern technology has weaponized them in new and dangerous ways. In particular, spoofing has become more sophisticated and difficult to spot.

What is spoofing?

It is the act of disguising a communication to appear as if it's being sent from a trusted source. The goal of spoofing is to get people to share their sensitive information and/or their debit or credit card details with the scammer. For example, a spoofer may impersonate the victim's credit union or bank to get them to share their online banking username and password. Then the scammer illegally transfers money to their own account.

Types of spoofing

Cybercriminals use a variety of communication methods to pull off their spoofing. They may use text messages, social media, emails, calls, or fake websites to steal money and personal information from their victims.



Follow these tips to avoid a spoofing attack:

- Never share your login credentials or a one-time login verification pin for Online and Mobile Banking.
- Watch out for websites with typos, unusual grammar, and spelling errors.
- Be suspicious of any unexpected calls, emails, or texts, claiming to be from your boss, a friend, or family member saying they are facing an emergency and urgently need money or bank account information.
- Don't give out debit and credit card numbers or the security code on the back of the card. Even to a trusted friend or family member.

If you think you've been a victim of a spoofing (or any other) scam, contact MSGCU right away for help at **(866) 674-2848**.

Fall Contest Winner

Great job to Sarah, age 13, for her winning entry in our fall contest about the most valuable money lesson she has learned. We received some impressive entries for our contest – thank you to everyone who participated!



Exclusive MSGCU workshop for teenagers and parents

Learning about responsible spending and credit card usage is an important foundational skill for successful money management. MSGCU is here to help teens ages 16+ and their parents learn about these topics through our **free Getting Started with Cash and Credit workshop**. Our experts share age appropriate tips for using checking and lending products to ensure teens start their financial journey on the right foot. After the session, qualified teens can open a checking account and apply for a low-interest, low-limit credit card.

Visit msgcu.org/workshops to see our upcoming sessions and register to attend.

Mark Your Calendars

New Year's Day (Closed)

Wednesday, January 1

Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Closed)

Monday, January 20

Presidents' Day (Closed)

Monday, February 17

Contest Deadline

Friday, February 21



Visit a branch

Find your nearest branch or make an appointment at msgcu.org/locations

Mon–Wed: 9 AM–5 PM
Thu–Fri: 9 AM–6 PM
Sat: 9 AM–1 PM



Find us online

It's easy to stay in touch. Visit msgcu.org/contact-us

Mon–Wed: 9 AM–5 PM
Thu–Fri: 9 AM–6 PM
Sat: 9 AM–1 PM



Call or text

Phone: (586) 263-8800
Toll Free: (866) 674-2848

Mon–Wed: 8 AM–5 PM
Thu: 8 AM–6 PM
Fri: 8 AM–7 PM
Sat: 8 AM–1 PM