

# money matters

The quarterly newsletter for members of the Racine Municipal Employees Credit Union

## International Credit Union Day



**Local Service.  
Global Reach.**

Thursday, October 17, 2019.

Stop in to enjoy refreshments and pick up your 2020 calendars and planners as we celebrate International Credit Union Day.

## Credit Card Skip-A-Pay is BACK!!



- No Fee
- No Sign Up Required

Watch your credit card statement in late December to see if you qualify for the January 2020 Credit Card Skip-A-Pay. In the minimum payment due box, it will show \$0.00 or NONE due.



## Holiday Loan Special



### New Direct Deposit Based Loan at RMECU

Starting November 18th, and running through December 20th, RMECU is offering a special loan to its membership where approval is not based upon your credit report. This loan will allow members to receive funds to help with seasonal and other expenses.

### How It Works

Qualifying members will be eligible to receive a Holiday Loan Special up to a maximum amount of \$1,000. Members will then make payments on the loan for up to 6 months to pay the loan back in full.

Members can receive a loan in the amount of up to 50% of their monthly income that is direct deposited into their RMECU account(s). Income deposits include personal employment income, retirement income, SSI or SSA Income. Rep Payee income is not considered direct deposit income for this type of loan.

A one time \$35 pre-paid finance charge\* will be due at the time of application.



### How To Qualify

In order to qualify for this loan, you must meet the following requirements:

- Must be a member for at least 90 days
- Must have direct deposit in your RMECU account for at least 60 days prior to the loan application date.
- Cannot have courtesy pay
- Must have a positive account balance at time of application.
- No prior losses to the Credit Union
- No Child Support Liens
- No delinquent or past due loans with RMECU

### When Can I Apply?

RMECU is taking applications starting **November 18th through December 20th**. Final loan approvals will be disbursed on December 20th.

Most applicants will receive their loan proceeds same day or the next business day.

\* \$35 pre-paid finance charge is a one-time non-refundable charge. Loan terms will not exceed 6 months. Loan amount not to exceed 50% of total monthly direct deposit amount deposited into your RMECU account. Direct deposit income is personal employment income, retirement income, SSI or SSA income. Rep Payee income is excluded from direct deposit income for this type of loan.. Loan annual percentage rate is a fixed rate of 35%. No skip payments for "extra" pay periods. Credit Bureau will be accessed; however, approval/denial will not be based upon credit bureau in any way.

## SHAZAM BOLT\$ Debit Card App

Get it on the Apple App Store & Google Play

Take control of your debit card. Download the SHAZAM BOLTS Mobile App today! It's the fastest way to turn your debit card on and off, manage fraud and check your balance.

You can also locate all ATMs, including SHAZAM Privilege Status free ATMs, get a quick view balance of your checking account, and send virtually anyone money.

- ▶ **Block/Unblock your RMECU debit card.**
- ▶ **Receive fraud alerts 24/7**
- ▶ **Quick View Account Balance**

Simply download the SHAZAM BOLT\$ mobile app from the App Store or Google Play, enter or scan in your RMECU Debit Card and start taking advantage of the features of the BOLT\$ app today!



# Here to Serve You

## STAFF MEMBERS

Nicole Christensen-Zabler  
President

Deb Johnson  
Loan Officer/Member Services

Michelle Pestka  
Operations/Member Services

Matt Swanson  
Marketing/Member Services

Kristina Merced  
Teller

## BOARD MEMBERS

Scott Sharp  
Chairman

Willie McDonald  
Vice Chairman

Terry Maier  
Treasurer

Dan DeMatthew  
Director

Chavan Smith  
Director

Charles Ricchio  
Director

## CREDIT COMMITTEE

Ronald Christensen  
Brian Hlavka  
Richard Mielcarek

## HOURS

Lobby:  
Monday-Wednesday: 9am-5pm  
Thursday-Friday: 9am-5:30pm

Drive Thru:  
Monday-Wednesday: 9am-5pm  
Thursday-Friday: 9am-5:30pm  
Saturday: 9am-12:30pm

## RMECU ROUTING NUMBER

275981420

## LOST/STOLEN CARDS

Call the Credit Union

After Hours Call:

Debit/ATM Card  
1-800-383-8000

Credit Card  
1-800-325-3678

## RACINE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

1907 Lathrop Ave.  
Racine, WI 53405  
Phone: 262-637-7274  
Fax: 262-637-0491

E-mail: [nicole@rmecu.org](mailto:nicole@rmecu.org)  
Website: [www.rmecu.org](http://www.rmecu.org)



Your savings federally insured to at least \$250,000  
and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government

# NCUA

National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency

## Scammer Series: Phone Scams

Over the next few newsletters we're bringing a series called "Scammer Series". This series will take a closer look at what types of scams are out there and how to identify if you're being targeted. This Scammer Series will focus on phone scams.

### Threatening Calls From the IRS

Especially popular during tax season, IRS phone scams involve crooks impersonating federal agents. They sound official and may even provide a badge number. If immediate payment isn't made, they threaten lawsuits or may say the police are on the way to make an arrest.

The IRS will not call you by phone. That's the first sign it's a scam. They also typically ask for payment in the form of gift cards, something the IRS would never do. The first contact from the IRS will almost always be by US mail, and will never demand payment over the phone. Fraudsters like gift cards because they are untraceable, and this is a dead giveaway the call is a scam.

### Technical Support Calls

In this scam, the caller typically says they are from a well-known company like Microsoft or Apple and have detected an error on a person's computer. They will then talk the victim through a series of steps to "fix" the problem. In reality, a person is unwittingly downloading software that will hijack their system or give the caller remote access. Scammers use it to gather sensitive data or install ransomware, which requires a payment to unlock a computer's files.

This is ripe for elder abuse because they lack the technical sophistication. Younger people might recognize something fishy about Microsoft calling them, but seniors could be more trusting. As with the IRS scenario, these calls are always fake. Microsoft and other tech companies do not make unsolicited technical support calls.

### Family Members in Peril

These scams often target seniors. Someone calls to tell grandma they are in trouble. Maybe they are in jail and need bail money or their car has broken down. Many times people hear something incorrectly and so they assume it is, in fact, one of their grandchildren and are quick to provide payment over the phone.

If you get a call that is supposedly a family member in a crisis, hang up and call that person's number directly. If you are unable to reach them, call another friend or family member who may be able to validate their whereabouts. Try the courthouse or police department if a person is allegedly in legal trouble. Most importantly, frequently remind elderly family members that they should be skeptical of unusual calls from family members asking for money.

### Fake Charity Appeals

Charity scams are common after a natural disaster or other tragedy. To avoid giving money to a criminal, don't make any donations to unsolicited callers. Instead, do your own research using sites like Charity Navigator or Guidestar to select a reputable charitable organization.

### Lottery Scams

If you get a call saying you have been randomly selected to win a foreign lottery, don't believe it. These calls are fake, and the tipoff is that the caller will say you need to pay taxes or other government fees in order to collect the winnings.

### Bank Fraud Calls

Sometimes crooks will pretend to be the good guys. They may call and say they are alerting a customer to potential fraud in their bank account. As the call progresses, they request bank account numbers, passwords or other sensitive data. Don't provide these details to anyone calling you. Hang up instead.

Then, contact your institution directly to confirm whether the call was legitimate. Don't use a number provided over the phone or in a voicemail from an unknown person either. Use the number for your local branch. LaPonsie, Maryalene "10 Most Common Phone Scams to Look Out For," [money.usnews.com](http://money.usnews.com) U.S. News, 3 May 2019 Web. 27 Sept. 2019.

## Dates to Remember

**October 14**

(Monday)

**Columbus Day**

(Closed)

**November 28**

(Thursday)

**Thanksgiving Day**

(Closed)

**December 24**

(Tuesday)

**Christmas Eve**

(Closed at 12:30pm)

**December 25**

(Wednesday)

**Christmas Day**

(Closed)

**December 31**

(Tuesday)

**New Year's Eve**

(Closed at 12:30pm)

**January 1**

(Wednesday)

**New Year's Day**

(Closed)