

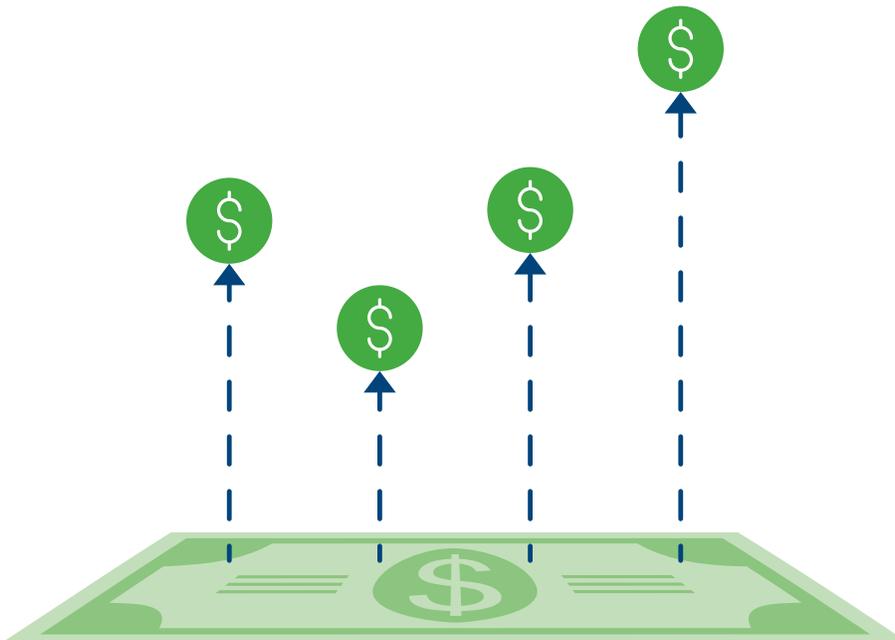
## It really does pay to be a member

For the **fifth** year in a row, members earned a triple dividend on all savings accounts, which means, instead of the normal 0.3% APR, all savings accounts earned 0.9% for the quarter ending Dec. 31. This equals more than \$48,000 paid to savers.

Additionally, a 5% loan interest rebate was returned to all members who had a consumer loan in good standing during 2017. This rebate equates to almost \$30,000 paid back to borrowing members.

These member rewards are directly related to the positive results the credit union had in 2017: member growth, loan growth and better-than-budgeted net income. The board of directors is committed to returning a portion of the earnings back to the members who help generate it.

When you total all these rewards, the credit union paid members more than \$78,000 in the fourth quarter!



### Did you get a new cell phone? Move? Cancel your landline?

Please keep the credit union up-to-date on your current personal information. That way we know how to reach you should emergencies arise. Keeping your information current is easy. Simply use any of the following methods to update your personal information:

- » Complete an address update form available on the credit union website under "Forms & Applications"
- » Log in to Virtual Branch to make secure changes
- » Provide a verbal update via telephone or during an in-person visit

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

### Important Dates:

**Feb. 26 - March 3**

America Saves Week

**March 30**

Scholarship application deadline

**April 1-30**

National Credit Union Youth Month

**April 17**

2017 IRA contribution deadline

**April 24**

64th Annual Meeting

# How long do you need to keep financial paperwork?

With tax season right around the corner, you'll likely find yourself wondering how long you should keep some of your paperwork. Well, here's a handy primer.

When you no longer need any of these documents, shred them so you can keep personal information confidential. Contact us for the next shred event date.

## Two months to a year

Credit card receipts/statements and pay check stubs are information that should be kept up to a year. Receipts should be kept to review with your monthly statements; if they are correct shred the receipts. Exceptions: keep receipts if you're disputing a bill, covering a warranty or possibly returning an item. With pay stubs, make sure they match your annual W-2, then shred the stubs. If the information doesn't match, notify your employer.

## At least one year

Retirement/savings plan statements, credit card statements and bills should be kept for at least one year. Keep quarterly retirement/savings statements until you receive your annual summary. If the annual summary is correct, shred the quarterly statements. It's best to hold on to annual statements until you retire or close an account. Credit card statements should be reviewed at the end of the year. Keep the statements related to taxes, business expenses, and housing or mortgage payments. Bills of major purchases—cars, jewelry, furniture, computers and so on—should be kept permanently, or until you sell the item, in case of loss to show proof of their value. Other bills should be kept until they have cleared your account or the return and refund period has expired.

## Six years or longer

House records, tax records, IRA contributions, and other miscellaneous records should be kept for at least six years, if not permanently. House records such as purchase price information and the costs of improvements to your property, like remodeling should be kept the duration of ownership. If you buy or sell property, keep the records of legal fees for six years after the transaction. Tax records should be kept for up to seven years. The IRS has three years to audit your returns, and you have three years to amend a return, if you made a mistake. The IRS has six years to challenge if you underreported gross income by 25% or more.



## Permanent records

IRA contribution records should be kept permanently, in case you need to prove you paid taxes on money when you withdraw it. You also should permanently keep:

- » Birth and death certificates
- » Marriage license
- » Divorce papers
- » Military papers
- » Insurance claims
- » Accident reports and claims
- » Proof of ownership and major debt repayment
- » Legal correspondence

## Basic steps to financial fitness

Your finances and your financial decisions change. Here are some broad guidelines that may help you get a handle on your financial plans moving forward.



**For mortgages**, some lenders expect your non-housing payments to be no more than 28% of your monthly gross income (income before taxes, Social Security and other deductions). Another method says that your principal, interest, property taxes and insurance (PITI) plus your total long-term debt (car payments, college loans, installment payments) should not exceed 36% of your gross income.



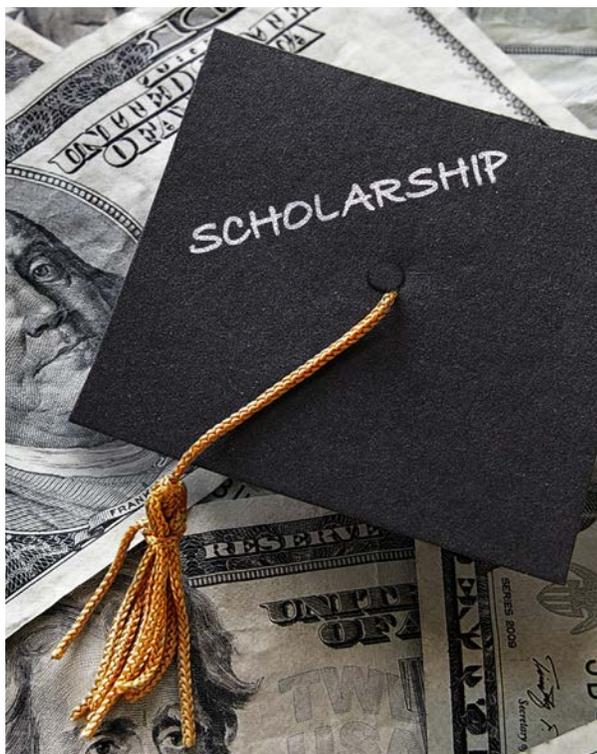
**How much should you be saving?** Financial experts suggest you save **three to six months' take-home pay in a savings account**. That can take time to build up, and you may need to raid your account even while you're adding to it. Still, if you consistently put aside 5% of your take-home pay, using payroll deduction, you'll reach your goal.



**For long-term retirement savings**, at minimum put a percentage into your 401(k) that equals your employer match. Anything less and you're actually giving up

free money. **Ideally, contribute the maximum your employer allows into your 401(k)**. Can't swing that much while you're saving for your child's future education expenses? Keep this in mind: You can borrow to meet higher education expenses, but you can't borrow for retirement expenses.

Talk to the professionals at your credit union to learn about all the services available to help you meet your goals.



### Attention high school seniors: Scholarship applications available

The Kansas Blue Cross Blue Shield Credit Union is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating high school senior who will be attending college in Fall 2018. Applicants must be a son, daughter, or grandchild of a Kansas Blue Cross Blue Shield Credit Union member. This is a one-time only award and its intended use is for tuition, books, fees, or room and board.

Applicants must demonstrate leadership and responsibility through school and community activities, be recommended by a teacher or counselor, and have a mid-term grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

Applications and supporting documents must be received no later than March 30, 2018. You can find the application on the credit union website or in the credit union lobby.

# Go ahead, click the tires

Introducing the fast and easy way to research and shop online for the perfect car

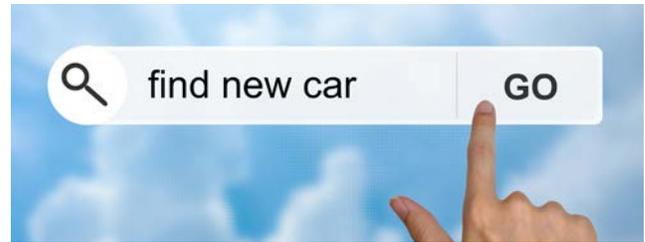
Shopping for a car should be simple. And with Kansas Blue Cross Blue Shield Credit Union's online car-buying resource center, we make finding your next vehicle as easy and as fast as possible. Rather than visiting multiple dealers just to see what's available, now you can research and compare cars from your computer or device, saving time and stress. Our auto-shopping website lets you search thousands of new, used and certified pre-owned vehicles from multiple dealers. Looking for something specific? Find cars that fit your style and budget. After you choose your favorites, connect with a local dealer and take a test drive!

## Find the car, truck, SUV or motorcycle that's right for you

You need a car that matches your lifestyle. Whether you're purchasing for the first time, have a family, or need a truck built for an adventure, you'll find it on our auto-buying website. Customize your search with our smart filters. Can't make up your mind? We'll help with that, too. You can virtually build your own car. Just choose your favorite features and assemble your ideal ride. We'll compare it to available inventory, and help you narrow down the search.

## Browse inventories online

Our car-buying resource lets you instantly connect to a large selection of inventory online. You don't have to wait for the perfect moment in your schedule to shop. It's all at your fingertips; just use your desktop, tablet or phone to find your next car. Whether you're on your couch or out on the town, you can search whenever it's convenient for you. It's car-shopping on your terms.



## Get an estimate on your trade-in

If you plan to trade in your vehicle, use our online resource to check its trade-in value. You can make a more realistic budget, and get the most out of your money. Just enter basic information about your car, and the website will provide you with an approximate trade-in value. It's an easy way to save on your purchase, and best of all, you'll know how much your car is worth before you ever meet the dealer.

## Apply for a credit union loan

The next step in the car-buying process is crucial to saving money. Once you've done the research and found your perfect car, make sure you get pre-approved for an auto loan from Kansas Blue Cross Blue Shield Credit Union. Save on the cost of your vehicle and get affordable monthly payments with our exclusive, low rates. With your pre-approved loan, you'll arrive at the dealership feeling confident and prepared. Don't forget to tell the dealer that you are a Kansas Blue Cross Blue Shield Credit Union member. Pre-approval only takes a few minutes. Apply in person or online before you start shopping.

Ready to buy your next vehicle? Make sure you check out our online car-buying resource center. We'll make finding your dream car fast and easy.

Visit [ksbcbscu.cudlautosmart.com](https://ksbcbscu.cudlautosmart.com) today.