

BREAKING NEWS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE CHECK 21 ACT.

What is Check 21?

The Check Clearing for the 21st Century Act (Check 21 Act) is a legislative act taking effect October 28, 2004. It will permit any person or entity that processes checks to create an electronic image of the original check. The financial institution can then process the electronic image or create a paper reproduction known as a "substitute check." The electronic image can be conveyed and transported electronically – decreasing processing time and transportation costs while reducing the likelihood of items being lost or destroyed in transit. If a physical check is ever needed, a "substitute check" can be created from the electronic image.

What does this mean for me?

The Check 21 Act will decrease check processing time, which will mean a decrease in "float time" – the amount of time between the writing and the cashing of a check. This means that funds may be taken from your account faster than they have in the past. To avoid having a check returned due to insufficient funds (NSF) because of this quicker clearing time, you may consider using your VISA Credit Card or Home Equity Line of Credit as an overdraft source of funds. Additionally, if an electronic image has been made of your check, you will notice a difference in the appearance of the image when you view your checks online at www.ibmsecu.org.

Check 21 is a Federal Act and consumers do not have the option to "opt out" of it.

For more information, please refer to the enclosed disclosure "Substitute Checks and Your Rights," view the brochure "Where Are My Checks?" available at www.ibmsecu.org or contact us at (800) 873-5100, (561) 982-4700 or serviceplus@ibmsecu.org.

HOW IS MY CREDIT SCORE CALCULATED?

According to the Experian* credit bureau, the five factors that are considered when calculating a credit score are:

- ♦ Pay History: **35%** of your credit score is based on your payment history
- ♦ Amounts Owed: **30%** of your credit score is based on the amounts you owe
- ♦ Length of Credit History: **15%** of your credit score is based on the length of your established credit
- ♦ New Credit: **10%** of your credit score is based on the number of inquiries and recent accounts opened
- ♦ Types of Credit: **10%** of your credit score is based on the mix of and how many accounts you have

The credit score is based on all of the above factors – both positive and negative. The score does not consider ethnicity, religion, gender, marital status or nationality.

A credit score is always changing and is newly derived each time a credit report is pulled.

For more information, please visit www.ibmsecu.org.

*Experian credit bureau reporting agency is a trademark of Experian Information Solutions, Inc.



GREAT RATES.

It's easy to apply:

- ♦ Log on to www.ibmsecu.org
- ♦ Visit your nearest branch office
- ♦ Call (800) 873-5100, ext. 8707 or (561) 982-4700, ext. 8707
- ♦ After hours or on weekends call LoanLine24 at (877) 354-LOAN (5626)

Apply online and receive \$25**

*APR—Annual Percentage Rate. 3.49% APR applies to new vehicle/24-72 month loans with new or existing Credit Union VISA credit card in good standing at the time of the vehicle application. The new vehicle/24-72 month interest rate without a Credit Union VISA credit card is 3.74% APR. Used vehicle loan interest rate is 4.49% APR for 24-60 month loans with new or existing Credit Union VISA credit card in good standing at the time of the vehicle application. The used vehicle 24-60 month interest rate without a Credit Union VISA credit card is 4.74% APR. Used vehicles (2000-2005) qualify. Rates valid Oct. 1–Oct. 31, 2004. Rates subject to change without notice. Prevailing loan terms may apply. All IBM Southeast EFCU auto loans are subject to income, address and identification verification and credit approval. Please refer to "Your Loan Disclosures" available on our Web site or contact a Member Service Representative at (800) 873-5100, (561) 982-4700 or loans@ibmsecu.org for full details on rates, terms, fees and conditions. Offer not valid on refinanced Credit Union loans. Other discounts do not apply.

**\$25 will be deposited into your Membership Savings account upon loan disbursement. Credit Union employees not eligible. Subject to change without notice.

Great Vehicle Loan Rates
As Low As
3.49% APR*
Between Oct. 1–Oct. 31, 2004



CREDIT UNION AND TAXES.



Credit Unions are exempt from paying Federal income tax. Why? Congress determined that Credit Unions, because of their unique structure as not-for-profit financial cooperatives, should not be taxed on the income they produce. A Credit Union's income is distributed back to the Membership in the form of higher savings rates and lower loan rates.

On three separate occasions, 1937, 1951 and 1998, Congress decided not to tax Credit Unions. In order to retain their tax exemption, Congress told Credit Unions that they must meet three requirements. First, they need to remain financial cooperatives. Second, they need to be democratically controlled and governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Lastly, they cannot issue capital stock. These three features are what make Credit Unions different from Banks.

This policy has allowed Credit Unions to grow and provide lower cost services to their Members. In addition, Credit Unions create strong, viable alternatives to other financial providers, which gives all consumers more choices.

SURCHARGE-FREE ATM NETWORK.

IBM Southeast EFCU partnered with Allpoint network to offer you over 25,000 surcharge-free ATMs nationwide when using your VISA Check Card. Additionally, for Gold, Platinum and Diamond level Members, there will be no ATM usage fee by IBM Southeast EFCU either!* You can find Allpoint locations at many local Target, Winn Dixie, Albertsons, Costco etc. locations. Visit www.ibmsecu.org and enter your zip code to find the nearest locations to you.

The surcharge-free savings at Allpoint locations are only applicable when using your VISA Check Card. Please visit www.ibmsecu.org or contact us at (800) 873-5100, (561) 982-4700 or serviceplus@ibmsecu.org for details and to find out how to increase your REWARDS level to Gold, Platinum or Diamond.

*Please visit www.ibmsecu.org or see a current REWARDS brochure for details on the IBM Southeast EFCU fees that apply to Basic, CheXpress, Bronze and Silver level Members.



DON'T LET DENTAL BILLS BITE INTO YOUR SAVINGS.

In today's world of rising medical costs, health insurance is a must. But what about the fast-rising costs of dentistry? Many health plans don't cover the expense of caring for your teeth. That's why IBM Southeast EFCU is pleased to offer Dental Benefits Plus to its Members.



With Dental Benefits Plus, dental benefits are provided by a G.E. Financial Company,* and Credit Union Members can cover a wide range of dental expenses at affordable rates. As little as \$9.95 per month for individuals (or \$11.95 for entire families!) can give you all these benefits:

- ◆ Save an average of 30% on more than 170 dental services.
- ◆ No charge for routine exams or bite-wing X-rays.
- ◆ Access to more than 13,000 dentists and specialists nationwide.
- ◆ No claim forms, no deductibles, no waiting periods, no contracts to sign.
- ◆ Savings of up to 60% on prescription drugs, vision, chiropractic and other health-related benefits. Enroll online today – it's easy.

Just visit www.ibmsecu.org or call Dental Benefits Plus toll-free at **(800) 818-7587**.

This program is not insurance. Benefits available only through participating providers.

*Dental network is maintained by Signature Agency, Inc., a G.E. Financial Company.

PIN OR SIGN?

When using your Credit Union VISA Check Card, you can choose the debit option and enter your PIN, or you can choose the credit option and simply sign the receipt. Both options automatically deduct the transaction from your Checking account. The benefit of the credit option is that you don't have to remember a PIN or worry that you are entering the wrong one, you can just sign the receipt. The next time, the cashier says "debit or credit," say "credit" and forget the PIN!

THE FAST LANE TO FINDING A CAR.



Auto Acquisition

Time to shop for a new car, SUV, pickup or truck? With so many choices, how do you locate the best choice at the best price? IBM Southeast EFCU has the key. It's called Auto Acquisition: an exclusive service for Credit Union Members.*

- ◆ Attractive prices on the exact make and model you want – often a lower price than dealers will quote**
- ◆ Competitive interest rates**
- ◆ Direct delivery of your vehicle to the nearest branch of your Credit Union, for easy pickup
- ◆ GAP Total Loss Protection at rates better than car dealerships offer*
- ◆ Professional service in every area of auto expertise – from people you trust
- ◆ Previously leased vehicles for sale at special prices

Contact your Auto Acquisition Representative today:

In Florida, call **Al Gonzalez** at **(561) 982-4700, ext. 7740** – or **(800) 873-5100, ext. 7740**. In Atlanta, call **Jim Styne** at **(770) 509-2571**. In other areas, call **(800) 493-2955**. You may also visit our Web site at www.ibmsecu.org.

*Auto Acquisition and GAP Total Loss Protection administered by Alliance Leasing Corporation.

** All IBM Southeast EFCU auto loans are subject to certain qualifications, income, address and identification verification and credit approval. For more information, please refer to the booklet "Your Loan Disclosures" available on our Web site, or contact a Member Service Representative at (800) 873-5100 or (561) 982-4700, or e-mail loans@ibmsecu.org for full details.



WHEN IT'S TIME TO RENEW.



Great rates. Personal service. All insurance companies promise it, but will they deliver? Yes and no. The truth is, different policies work better for different people. To get the best results, you have to do a little investigating. That's where Members Insurance Services, LLC* has you covered.

If you are within 45 days of renewing your current insurance policy, give MIS a call to receive your free quote. MIS represents over 20 insurance carriers and will submit your request to several insurers. For assistance, please visit www.membersinsuranceservices.com or call (877) 981-8448. Please be sure to have your driver's license and current insurance information available so your quote can be processed quickly and accurately.

*Members Insurance Services, LLC is a subsidiary of IBM Southeast EFCU

SHARE YOUR FINANCIAL GOALS WITH US. WE CAN HELP YOU.



In today's fast-changing financial world, saving money isn't enough. You need to invest your money wisely and set targets to achieve your goals. You need a personal approach that's customized for you. Your independent Financial Services Representatives are there to share your goals, assess your situation and work with you to achieve the financial stability you desire.

Find out more about:

- ◆ Retirement Planning: IRA, Roth IRA, 403(b), and 401(k) Rollovers
- ◆ Estate Planning: Trusts, Maximize Transfer of Assets
- ◆ College Planning: Coverdell, Education IRAs, 529 Plans
- ◆ Tax-Advantaged Investments
- ◆ Investment Accounts: Insurance, Annuities, Mutual Funds, Stocks & Bonds
- ◆ Group Benefits (25 people or more): Health, Disability, Long-Term Care
- ◆ Transition Planning: Career and job changes

In Boca Raton or Palm Beach Gardens, contact Christi Seay at (561) 982-4700, ext. 4772

In Tampa, contact Barbara Leschander at (727) 848-2219

In Atlanta, contact Jay Jones at (678) 797-6303

Securities offered through Wellstone Securities, LLC. Member NASD/SIPC. Investment products offered are not FDIC, NCUA or NCUSIF insured. Investment products are not obligations of or guaranteed by the Credit Union, involve investment risk including the possible loss of principal, and may lose value.