### MONEY'S VORTH FOR TECU MEMBERS

#### July 2019



### Member Solutions offers free financial coaching

Do you struggle to pay off your debt? Does thinking about credit scores feel overwhelming? Do you simply need a little help improving your finances?

As part of our mission to help our members achieve financial success, TFCU offers free financial coaching as a benefit of membership. Our Member Solutions team can provide assistance with budgeting, credit score improvement, debt consolidation and more.

To set up a one-on-one coaching session with one of our certified financial counselors, call (405) 319-7991, or send an email to MemberSolutions@TinkerFCU.org.



# Start the conversation about financial aid award letters for college

After you receive college acceptance letters, financial aid award letters (also known as award letters or aid packages) aren't far behind. These letters, which are sent from every school to which an undergraduate or graduate student has been accepted, reveal the amount of financial aid that's being offered. They hold the key to figuring out how much you'll need to attend each school.

There's no standard format for financial aid award letters, so comparing them can take a little work. Sallie Mae<sup>®</sup> has some tips on how to make financial aid award letters easier to understand—and compare.

Know the terminology:

Cost of attendance (COA) is an estimate of what one year at the school will cost, including tuition, fees, room and board, personal expenses and transportation.

The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) isn't what you'll need to pay for college—it's a number from a federal formula that schools use to determine how much financial aid you're eligible to receive.

Continued on back page... 🥵



#### QUICK TIP

## Did you know you can finance?

Bring the beach to your backyard this summer. Finance a swimming pool with a TFCU HELOC, home equity loan, credit card or through our retail lending department. To apply for a loan, visit TinkerFCU.org.



### Fighting the Effects of Inflation

Inflation is a general increase in prices and the fall in the purchasing value of money over time. The big problem with inflation is what it does to your dollar over a period of time.

At a three percent annual inflation rate, see what happens to your money over a 20 year period of time.

	Now:	In 20 years:
Gallon of Milk	\$3.81	\$6.88
New Car	\$28,352	\$51,207
House	\$275,500	\$497,584

While we can't stop inflation, here are ways to fight it:

- Aim to increase your savings during your working years by the annual cost of inflation. Example; if the inflation rate is three percent, increase next year's annual savings from \$1000 to \$1030.
- If you are retired, don't overspend early in your retirement years and consider postponing Social Security benefits to increase your monthly payment amounts.
- Consider your investment choices. Historically, investing in the stock market long term increases the probability of keeping up with the effects of inflation.
- Set an appointment with a financial advisor at TFCU Financial Advisors to create a financial plan that includes the effects of inflation on your overall plan.

#### **TFCU Financial Advisors**

6501 Tinker Diagonal Midwest City, OK 73110 (405) 737-0006 TFCUFinancialAdvisors.org



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#### TFCU EVENTS



Shred Day, Yukon > July 13, 2019

TFCU will host our next shred day on Saturday, July 13, 2019, at our Yukon Branch located at 11209 W Reno, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please limit the number of boxes you bring to no more than three (approximately 18 inches x 12 inches).

### Amusement Park Tickets > Now On Sale

Amusement park tickets are available to TFCU members to purchase. Tickets for Six Flags Over Texas (Arlington) and Frontier City/White Water Bay can be purchased at participating TFCU branches. Tickets for Six Flags Fiesta Texas (San Antonio) are available through our website. Members with Home Branch access can also purchase tickets for Silver Dollar City. Tickets are only available to TFCU members to purchase. To view ticket details and see a list of participating branches, visit TinkerFCU.org and search "park tickets."

#### HOLIDAY HOURS

TFCU will be closed on Thursday, July 4, in celebration of our Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States of America.

### Five ways to keep your accounts cyber-safe

## ONE

#### Password security

Every account deserves a unique password that is eight characters or longer and is a combination of numbers, upper and lowercase letters and symbols. Try to create a sequence that makes it easy for you to remember, but not easy to guess.

#### Use multi-factor authentication

Multi-factor authentication is a security system that requires more than one method of authentication to verify a user's identity for a log in or other transaction. This feature can easily be set up with most accounts. If someone is attempting to hack into your account, the provider will request additional authorization to grant access.

# THREE

FOUR

#### Check your accounts often

Keeping tabs on your daily expenses will help you quickly spot suspicious transactions. Alert your financial institution immediately if anything looks questionable. Being proactive will prevent further damage to your account.

#### Always be alert

Make sure a card skimmer (a device disguised as part of the machine that copies and saves card information) hasn't been attached to an ATM before you use it. Always look for hidden cameras and check for loose or damaged parts on the machine. If you see something suspicious, do not use the ATM and report the issue immediately. Also, try to use ATMs in well-lit areas with plenty of traffic.

#### Be aware of phishing scams

These scams are still very common and are getting more difficult to detect. If you are not expecting a link or attachment, regardless of the sender, do not click or open it until you have verified legitimacy.

### up to \$50,000

for details, go to TinkerFCU.org/Payoff Federally insured by NCUA

No purchase or transaction required and need not be present to win. The Great Auto Loan Payoff Sweepstakes ("Sweepstakes") is effective 12:00 am (CT) June 1, 2019, through 6:00 pm (CT) August 30, 2019. The award (a) is available to one eligible primary member in good standing; (b) will be randomly selected by Tinker Federal Credit Union ("TFCU"); and (c) may be applied to one TFCU vehicle loan payoff up to \$50,000 (including interest, fees, taxes, etc.) or valid mail-in entry member recipient, (subject to Official Rules and limitations). Eligible primary members with a TFCU vehicle loan, as of the end of the Sweepstakes period, will be automatically entered into the Sweepstakes based on their highest TFCU vehicle loan amount. All directors, officers, employees, and representatives of TFCU and of Braid Creative and Consulting, LLC, (including their affiliates and family members) are not eligible for entry into the Sweepstakes. The award may not be substituted, transferred, or exchanged for any other award, amount, cash value, or benefit. The potential winner will be notified by phone by September 16, 2019 and must complete all required paperwork and tax forms, and provide a valid U.S. issued unexpired photo identification within seven (7) days of notification or attempted notification; otherwise TFCU will randomly select another potential winner. Visit www.tinkerfcu.org/payoff for the Official Rules. TFCU is federally insured by NCUA.







# Start the conversation... (continued from front page)



It factors in taxed and untaxed income, assets, and benefits (such as unemployment or Social Security), family size, and the number of family members who'll attend school during the year.<sup>1</sup>

It's important to understand the difference between "free" money (scholarships, grants, and fellowships), versus earned money (workstudy) and borrowed money (student loans).

To compare several financial aid letters, you can create a spreadsheet with columns for each type of financial aid and a row for each school. Add up the aid from each school and subtract that figure from the COA. That gives you the "gap," the difference between financial aid and the cost that you'll need to make up with savings, private loans or other methods.

Numbers might not tell the whole story. A smaller award with more scholarships and grants may be better than a larger one consisting mainly of loans.

When you're making the final school decision, remember to consider other factors, like culture, location and academic quality.

For more information—and a fun poster of financial aid award letter tips—visit SallieMae. com/AwardLetters.

<sup>1</sup>COA and EFC information was gathered on 2/2/18 from https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/next-steps/howcalculated#cost-of-attendance and https://studentaid. ed.gov/sa/fafsa/next-steps/how-calculated#whats-theexpected-family-contribution.

#### LOCATIONS, NUMBERS, & HOURS

Ada l 1620 Lonnie Abbott Blvd. 🚓 🕑 Bethany | 6750 N.W. 39th 🔶 🕑 Crooked Oak Campus Open to Crooked Oak students, faculty and staff Edmond I 1401 N. Kelly 🚓 🕑 Edmond, East | 3141 S. Bryant 🔶 🕑 Enid I 801 S. Oakwood 🔶 🕒 John Marshall Mid-High School Campus Open to John Marshall students, faculty and staff Midwest City | 6501 Tinker Diagonal 🔶 🕑 Midwest City East | 1401 S. Post Road 🛛 🌧 🕑 Moore | 400 S.W. 6th 🔺 🕑 Norman East | 1131 12th Ave., N.E. Norman West I 301 36th Ave., N.W. 🔶 🕑 OKC, Capitol Hill | 2315 S. Western Ave. 🚓 🕑 OKC, Metro Tech 1800 Springlake Drive, Suite 200 Lobby Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30-3:30 p.m. OKC, North Rockwell | 13300 N. Rockwell Ave. 📥 🕻 OKC, Northeast I 1177 N.E. 23rd 🛛 🚓 🔮 OKC, Northwest I 4626 N.W. 39th 🚓 🔮 OKC, South Sooner Rd. | 14900 S. Sooner Rd. 🜩 🔮 OKC, Southwest I 9601 S. Pennsylvania 🚓 🕑 OKC, Southwest (Drive-Thru) 1200 S.W. 89th OKC, Tri-City | 4101 S.W. 134th 🌧 🕑 Seminole I 2221 N. Milt Phillips Ave. Lobby & Drive-Thru Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00-5:00 p.m. Friday 9:00–6:00 p.m. Closed Saturday

#### CO-OP Shared Branch Locations

For a complete list of CO-OP Shared Branch locations, visit www.TinkerFCU.org, and click on CO-OP Shared Branches under Locations.

#### Key

- Standard Lobby Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00-5:00 p.m. Friday 9:00-6:00 p.m. Saturday 9:00-Noon
- Standard Drive-Thru Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00-6:00 p.m.
  Friday 8:00-6:30 p.m.
  Saturday 8:00-Noon



Shawnee | 3923 N. Harrison **.** 0 Stillwater | 5101 W. 6th Ave. Tinker AFB, Area A | Bldg, 420 Lobby Hours: Monday-Friday 7:45-4:30 p.m. Drive-Thru Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00-5:00 p.m. Tinker AFB, Area C-1 North Blda, 3001 Post Y-92 Lobby Hours: Monday-Friday 6:45-4:30 p.m. Tinker AFB, Area C-2 South Bldg. 3001 Post Y-32 Lobby Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00-4:00 p.m. Tinker AFB, TAC Bldg. 9001 Post A-45 Lobby Hours: Monday-Friday 7:45-4:15 p.m. Tulsa | 8920 E. 61st Street Vance AFB | 234 Fields Street Lobby Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00-5:00 p.m. Friday 8:00-5:00 p.m. Drive-Thru Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00-5:00 p.m. Friday 8:00-5:00 p.m. Closed for lunch 1:00-2:00 p.m. Yukon I 11209 W. Reno Ave. 🛛 🛖 🕑 **TFCU Financial Advisors** 6501 Tinker Diagonal, MWC (405) 737-0006 Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00 p.m.

#### TFCU Express Electronic Service Centers

Enid Express I 215 W. Owen K. Garriott OKC, Southwest Express I 1200 S.W. 89th OKC, West Express I 4140 W. I-40 Service Rd.



P.O. Box 45750, Tinker AFB, 73145 (405) 732-0324 OKC (918) 592-0324 Tulsa (405) 707-7440 Stillwater (580) 310-0324 Ada (580) 233-3330 Enid 1-800-456-4828 TinkerFCU.org