



Trust Us

SCHOLARSHIP



AWARDS

► 2024 Scholarship Recipients ... pg. 2



► Vacation Loans ... pg. 2

Quarterly Newsletter

July 2024



FIRST IN TRUST, FIRST IN SERVICE, YOUR TRUSTED FINANCIAL LEADER SINCE 1959.



Let's Get to It! Building an Emergency Fund

"That's life!" It's a phrase we are all familiar with and usually it pertains to an unexpected event or occurrence. Most of us have had to deal with something in life that caused what felt like a *financial emergency*: unexpected medical bills, appliances break down, a wedding, a funeral, car repairs, orthodontic braces, a study abroad opportunity, etc. Setting up an emergency fund is an essential way to prepare for such events. It can alleviate the stress and financial burden when unexpected financial expenses arise, and it can help you build your savings as

well. Here are some helpful tips for getting started whether you have a consistent monthly income, or are living paycheck to paycheck.

1. Decide where you will create and build this fund. For instance, First Trust offers a rainy day account or spare change account as a sub-account to your regular savings account. It's quick and easy to add one to your existing savings.
2. Start with small, regular contributions on a consistent basis. If you have your paychecks direct deposited, ask about allocating a certain amount of your paycheck into one sub-account, such as \$50 each paycheck. You can set up a recurring automatic deposit or a transfer into your emergency fund sub-account. If you live paycheck to paycheck, try to eliminate one expense and allocate that money to your fund instead.
3. Set small and realistic goals. Start with saving a small amount of money each paycheck or month. Be careful not to put too much stress on your normal cash flow, or you might be more prone to give up on your plan. You can always increase your contributions along the way as you feel more comfortable. You may be surprised at how fast your savings will grow.
4. Take advantage of one-time opportunities to save such as receiving a tax refund, holiday or birthday cash gifts, or a cash bonus at work. Putting all, or a portion, of this into your fund will help it grow faster. Another tip is to include an increase in your contribution each time you receive an increase in income, such as a pay raise at work.
5. It's a good idea to monitor your progress occasionally, and also celebrate your successes!

Building your own emergency fund is a big step toward healthy financial practices. It can really save you in times of financial stress, and provide you with peace of mind. If you need assistance with getting started, please contact Member Services at 800-276-6161. We'd be glad to help!

Sources: [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau \(cfpb.gov\)](http://Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (cfpb.gov))
[Securian Financial Services \(securian.com\)](http://Securian Financial Services (securian.com))



Auto Loans

- ⊕ No Application Fees
- ⊕ Fast, Easy Pre-Approval
- ⊕ No Payment for 60 Days
- ⊕ Affordable Rates
- ⊕ Rate Match Available!

Apply Online or Contact Us Today!

FirstTrustCU.com
800-276-6161

Loans subject to credit approval. Rates based on consumer credit scoring system. Rates subject to change without notice. Interest will accrue during 60 days payment is deferred.



Giving Back to Local Schools!

This July and August, be sure to check in with your local First Trust Branch to donate school supplies for our local community schools.

~Thank You for Your Support!

2024 Calendar

Independence Day
Thursday - July 4th, CLOSED

Labor Day
Monday - September 2nd, CLOSED

Veterans Day
Monday - November 11th, CLOSED

Thanksgiving
Thursday - November 28th, CLOSED

Christmas Eve
Tuesday - December 24th,
(Closing at 1:00 p.m.)

Christmas Day
Wednesday - December 25th, CLOSED

New Year's Eve
Tuesday - December 31st,
(Closing at 3:00 p.m.)

New Year's Day
Wednesday - January 1st, 2025,
CLOSED



STUFF A BUS



SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, 9/28/24

Michigan City Branch will be collecting donated food items & monetary donations in August and September to help restock the Michigan City Salvation Army food pantry. The annual Stuff A Bus event will be held on Saturday, September 28th at both Al's Supermarket locations in Michigan City.

CONGRATULATIONS 2024

\$1,000 Scholarship Recipients

\$1,000 Scholarship - Bachelor's Degree
ELIZABETH EHRHARDT (*Valparaiso High School*)
 Elizabeth will attend Lehigh University (Pennsylvania)
Major: Population Sciences & Molecular Biology



\$1,000 Scholarship - Bachelor's Degree
COLLEEN GRAFTON (*Kankakee Valley High School*)
 Colleen will attend the University of Notre Dame
Major: Finance



\$1,000 Scholarship
Associate's Degree/Apprenticeship/Certification
IZABELLA WALKER (*Kankakee Valley High School*)
 Izabella will attend Ivy Tech Community College
Major: Animal Science



\$1,000 Scholarship - Bachelor's Degree
REESE YETTAW (*New Prairie High School*)
 Reese will attend Indiana University (Bloomington, IN)
Major: Nursing



\$1,000 Scholarship - Bachelor's Degree
OLIVIA LEMON (*La Porte High School*)
 Olivia will attend Purdue University (West Lafayette, IN)
Major: Psychology



Michigan City
 950 E. U.S. Highway 20
 Michigan City, IN 46360
(219) 879-6161

La Porte
 402 J Street
 La Porte, IN 46350
(219) 324-4359

Valparaiso
 1404 E. Lincolnway
 Valparaiso, IN 46383
(219) 462-7805

Wheatfield
 4259 W. State Road 10
 Wheatfield, IN 46392
(219) 956-3922

President/CEO
 Kim Kniola

Board of Directors
 Robert Tillema, Chairman
 James Mink, Sr., Vice-Chairman,
 & Treasurer
 Linda Bechinski, Secretary
 Kathryn Harrow
 John Henderson
 Pam Jenks
 Judy Wright

Supervisory Committee
 Rona Edquist, Chairperson
 Judith Mutchler
 Sandra Sobecki

Toll Free
800-276-6161
www.firsttrustcu.com



Federally Insured
 By NCUA



Additional coverage up to
 \$250,000 provided by
 Employee Share Insurance
 Corporation, a licensed
 insurance company.



Mortgage loans are provided by First
 Trust Credit Union NMLS #399279, and
 by partnership with Servion Mortgage, an
 affiliate of Servion Inc. NMLS #1037

VACATION LOANS

Let's Make Plans!

Contact us Today!

FirstTrustcu.com 800-276-6161

★ **Great Rates** ★ **No Application Fees**

All loans subject to credit approval with rates, loan amounts, and terms based on
 consumer credit scoring system. Rates subject to change without notice.

