

Pay Us a Visit

In addition to drive-thru, phone and online services, we've made it possible for you to get in-person service at a time that works best for you. Complete our Appointment Request Form at apgfcu.com/Appointment to reserve a time to stop by an APGFCU branch, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Your time is important - schedule an appointment to come in, complete necessary transactions and get on your way faster.



Mark Your Calendars to Reach for the STARSS

The 2021 APGFCU Annual STARSS College Scholarship **opens online January 2, 2021.**

Let us help you or someone you know cover costly expenses of college, trade school and other higher education, so you or they can focus on the future.

We are dedicated to helping students at every phase reach their personal and professional goals. Apply for our STARSS Scholarship for help reaching yours.

Learn more at apgfcu.com/STARSS.

Holiday Closings

Monday, January 18
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 15
Presidents' Day



For remote access, use Online Banking, Mobile Banking, ABBY Telephone Teller and ATMs.

We're Here for

Whether you are looking to manage debt or navigate uncertainty created by the pandemic, APGFCU and our partners at GreenPath are here to help. Access educational guides,

advice and resources to address your financial concerns and help you remain safe and successful through this time.

Visit apgfcu.com/GreenPath for more details.



2021 Board of Directors Election Candidates

Voting for the APGFCU 2021 Board of Directors Election opens January 4, 2021, so learn more about the candidates and make your selection.

Paper ballots will be mailed to you in January 2021 with your fourth quarter statements. Select the three (3) candidates that best represent your needs, goals and ownership in the credit union, and return your ballot by mail or vote online by March 28, 2021.

Election results will be announced at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 22, 2021.

Review each candidate's credentials and official election rules at apgfcu.com/Election.



Helping Get Back on Track

If holiday overspending left you out in the cold, we can help! Get your finances back on track by taking advantage of our competitive low-rate loan options. Let us help you cover personal and credit card debt, or consolidate payments to see how much you could save.

Apply for a Personal Loan, Home Equity Line or Loan or Visa® Balance Transfer today at apgfcu.com/GetOnTrack and start spending your money the way you want.

Move Your Banking Online to Stay Safe & Avoid the Line

Your safety and convenience is our priority now and always. To help keep your health and finances secure throughout uncertain times, we've put together a list of 54 ways to complete everyday transactions without visiting a branch. Pay bills, make deposits and transfers, withdraw funds, apply for a loan, check your account balance and much more any time, from anywhere. Download your copy at apgfcu.com/54Ways.

Sign up for Online and Mobile Banking and start managing your finances on-the-go today.

Make Shopping a Breeze With Your APGFCU Visa® Cards

No matter where you shop, let the convenience and security of your APGFCU Visa Credit or Debit Cards help you in the new year.

Add your Visa Card to your PayPal®, Venmo®, Google Pay®, Samsung Pay® and Apple Pay® accounts for fast, convenient and secure payments – anywhere, anytime.

Visit apgfcu.com/Visa to find the right card for you.



Six Resolutions to Boost Your Finances in the New Year

At the start of 2020, 67% of Americans resolved to improve their financial standing – a 6% increase from 2019¹. It is important to start planning your financial strategy now to hit the ground running come January 1. Here are six resolutions you can make today to be in a better financial position next year.

1. Reach Long-Term Financial Goals

First thing's first: Decide what you want your future to look like, then lay out a plan to get there. Whether you dream of purchasing a house, starting a family or retiring at an early age, mapping out a plan to comfortably afford life events is the first step to turning them into a reality. Sit down with your spouse or financial advisor to prioritize your goals, lay out an overall plan and determine actionable steps you can take in the new year to help reach them.

2. Save More, Spend Less

Of Americans considering a financial resolution, 53% vow to save more and 35% to spend less¹. You can start by adjusting your habits such as eating out frequently or purchasing unnecessary merchandise to cut back on spending. Then, put the money you would ordinarily spend on these expenses in a designated savings account. You might be surprised at how quickly it adds up!

Planning on spending less at the start of a new year can be simple, but resisting the daily temptation is often more challenging. Setting clear, specific and measurable goals can help you stick to your resolution – and has helped 51% of Americans do the same¹. Additionally, tracking the progress you've made over weeks or months can be encouraging.

3. Pay Down Debt

While it may not be feasible for you to eliminate debt in only a year, there are several steps you can take to move closer to a debt-free life. Compare your income to your necessary bills and spending habits to find out how much you can afford to put toward debt payments each month. Develop a plan to contribute as much as possible in each payment, starting with the highest interest rate, to help pare down debt quickly.

Take advantage of the low-rate debt consolidation options offered by APGFCU, including Personal and Home Equity Loans, Home Equity Lines of Credit and Visa® Balance Transfers*. Learn more at [apgfcu.com/GetOnTrack](https://www.apgfcu.com/GetOnTrack) and start consolidating your debt today.

4. Contribute to an Emergency Fund

An adequate emergency fund is meant to cover three months of living expenses. While many individuals have a "rainy day fund," 28% of U.S. adults do not have anything saved for emergencies². Stocking your emergency fund with enough money to support unexpected life events such as a flat tire, home repair or medical bill will reduce the chances of going into debt due to surprise costs.

Consider setting up automatic transfers from your paycheck or checking account to a savings account. Even if you cannot largely contribute to your emergency fund, every little bit helps protect your wallet from the unknown.

5. Grow Your Nest Egg

Americans over 55 are expected to account for 25% of the workforce by 2024 – a 2% increase from 2017³. Ensure you are prepared for comfortable golden years before it's



too late. If your employer sponsors or matches a 401(k) program, consider contributing at least 10% for optimum yield. If your company does not offer a plan or you are self-employed, you can open and invest in an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) for the future.

6. Strengthen Your Credit Score

Your credit score matters. Three numbers can determine if you can purchase your dream house, a new car or even get a job. Start by checking your credit score to have an initial baseline, then make sure to pay bills on time and, preferably, in full throughout the new year. Plus, keep your current credit cards open and resist opening new accounts.

Remember to check your credit report annually to identify and amend any discrepancies. You can also automate your finances to ensure bills are paid on time, pay down debt and raise your credit score. Make this the year that your credit score bounces back!

Visit [apgfcu.com](https://www.apgfcu.com) to discover how we can help you reach your financial goals in the new year.

**All loans subject to credit approval.*

¹ https://www.fidelity.com/bin-public/060_www_fidelity_com/documents/about-fidelity/annual-financial-resolutions-factsheet.pdf

² <https://www.bankrate.com/banking/savings/financial-security-june-2019/>

³ <https://www.bankrate.com/retirement/baby-boomers-unable-to-retire-gig-economy/>



Member owned. Member driven.

P.O. Box 1176, Aberdeen, MD 21001-6176
apgfcu.com | 410-272-4000 | 800-225-2555



Branch Locations

- Aberdeen**
996 Beards Hill Rd.
- Amyclae**
1200-A Agora Dr., Bel Air
- APG**
2402 Chesapeake Ave.
- Bel Air**
321 S. Main St.
- Cecil College**
1 Seahawk Dr., North East
- Chesapeake City**
2579 Augustine Herman Hwy.
- Edgewood**
1321 E. Pulaski Hwy.
- Elkton**
1204 E. Pulaski Hwy.
- Fallston**
210 Mountain Rd.
- Forest Hill**
2010 Rock Spring Rd.
- Havre de Grace**
1045 W. Pulaski Hwy.
- Laurel Bush**
2113 Laurel Bush Rd., Bel Air
- North East**
2011 W. Pulaski Hwy.
- Rising Sun**
28 Rising Sun Town Center
- Riverside**
1327 Riverside Pkwy., Belcamp
- Home Loan Center**
Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Member Service Center**
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

ABA Routing & Transit Number
255075576

(use this number to arrange electronic fund transfers)

Operation Statistics as of November 30, 2020

Assets	\$1,749,136,580
Shares	\$1,573,710,122
Loans	\$1,281,718,807
Members	141,538



APGFCU is not affiliated with any non-APGFCU Internet sites listed in this newsletter. These sites are provided as reference only. APGFCU makes no representations about the content on these sites or subsequent links from those sites.



All loans are subject to approval.
Federally insured by NCUA

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Employer Benefit Cuts: Six Steps to Stay Afloat and Cover Costs

The unprecedented events of this year have caused some employers to reduce or eliminate employee benefit programs. However, there are alternative options available to cover your healthcare and retirement costs. Follow these six steps to strengthen your existing financial foundation, optimize your safety net and offset out-of-pocket costs going forward.

1. Don't Panic

Being notified of reduced or eliminated benefits can be shocking and worrisome. You might be asking yourself, "What if I get sick or injured? How will I cover medical bills? How am I going to plan my future?" Remember to take a step back, a deep breath and action. There are various routes you can take on the road to financial well-being. Do your research to determine the best option to optimize your bottom line while prioritizing your health and future.

2. Consider Private Health Insurance

If an employer eliminates your health coverage or reduces it to less than your individual or family requirements, consider getting a plan of your own. While enrolling in a personal health insurance plan is typically more time-consuming and expensive than simply selecting an employer-sponsored alternative, it offers the convenience and flexibility to choose the amount of coverage you desire – and the peace of mind knowing you are prepared for the unexpected. Make sure to do your due diligence to find a provider and plan that fits your needs.

3. Utilize a Health Savings Account

Check with your human resources or benefits center to determine if you are eligible for a Health Savings Account (HSA). An HSA allows you to deposit pre-tax funds each year, which can be used to cover individual or family medical costs. These funds typically do not expire, so you can roll them over after each calendar year to accumulate enough savings for large medical bills.

4. Take Advantage of Low-Cost Preventative Options

There are several no- and low-cost preventative medical options available to those who lack health insurance, including flu shots and immunizations, cancer screenings and well-baby clinics, which monitor infants as they mature. These are great additions to regular health visits that are both health- and cost-effective.

5. Opt for Installments and Low Rates

If you need to make a medical appointment before acquiring new health coverage, try negotiating an installment plan with your provider or using a low-rate credit card to cover the cost. Charging your visit to certain high-interest credit cards will likely eat further into your savings, causing more stress. Check out our competitive Visa® Credit Card options to cover your expenses without skyrocketing rates at apgfcu.com/Visa.

6. Keep Saving for Retirement

Cutbacks may include reducing or eliminating employer-matched contributions to your retirement savings plan. While it can be tempting to use the money in your retirement savings to cover immediate bills, withdrawing your funds early can be detrimental to your long-term financial stability, ruin your retirement plans and add significant penalties onto your tab.

It is important to continue growing your savings for the future by contributing to your 401(k) or 403(b) plans every month. If your employer has decreased their matching percentage, review your contribution to ensure you are meeting the new requirement, then make any necessary adjustments to take advantage of their match.

Visit apgfcu.com/Save to learn how we can help you grow your wealth and prepare for unexpected life events.

Please consult with your tax advisor for additional tax information.