

Why is saving important?

- Financial security
- Financial freedom
- Emergencies or tough times
- Covering education expenses
- Retirement
- Being able to afford large expenses such as:
 - » A home
 - » A new vehicle
 - » A family vacation
 - » Home improvements
 - » Repairs



When should I start saving?

It's vitally important to start saving early. It's ideal to begin contributing to savings as soon as you have gainful employment, the earlier the better. Good saving habits will help you determine when the item in your cart is something you need versus something you want, allowing you to keep more in your wallet (and your piggy bank), making saving money easier the more you practice.

General savings tips

- Pay yourself (or your savings) first; treat savings like any other bill
- Automate your saving using direct deposit or an ACH transfer into your savings or IRA
- Review your budget regularly to evaluate areas where you could cut expenses and save more

Planning for college?

At Alive Credit Union, we understand you want to plan for the future, and college is no different. Whether it's your child, your spouse, or yourself, our Wellness Coaches are here to guide you.

As a loyal member, you have access to a variety of resources, including:

- » FAFSA walkthrough
- » Federal student loan information
- » The Smart Option Student Loan® for Alive Credit Union by Sallie Mae®
- » Information on 529 and Coverdell Savings Plan
- » Personalized savings plan

3 facts about financial aid

- Information about financial aid is available for free. Don't pay for "secret sources" of money for school.
- Some people promise to get you financial aid and want you to pay them before they do any work for you. No one can guarantee financial aid or a scholarship.
- Make sure you are on <https://www.fafsa.ed.gov> before entering personal information. Smart scam artists use lookalike sites to get your information.