

FEBRUARY 2021

MAKE YOUR **DREAMS** A REALITY

Teachers will be there with you for every step of the journey towards your dream home, whether that be purchasing, refinancing or utilizing your equity towards home improvements. Take advantage of our expertise and wide range of products today.

Here are some home buying tips from our Mortgage experts to help you on your journey:

- A pre-approval with Teachers is free of charge and is important to get because it may be required prior to working with a realtor or having your offer accepted.
- You don't have to put 20% down when buying your new home. First time buyers could potentially put down as little as 3%!
- Your credit score may affect the interest rate on your loan. You're entitled to a free copy of your credit report from each of the three credit bureaus per year, so make sure you're keeping tabs on your information!
- Small payments add up - best practice is to only use one or two credit cards leading up to your application. Try paying off small balances; this could help your application, credit score, and wallet.

OUR MORTGAGE EXPERTS MAKE THE JOURNEY EASY!



Hear what members Michael and Debora L. had to say about working with our Mortgage Loan Officer, Jennifer.

“Jennifer listened carefully and asked me about what I was trying to accomplish. She then educated me on the mortgage products Teachers offers to help make a recommendation based on our goals. She came to our home to complete the paperwork with my wife and I, followed up with us throughout the entire process, and was incredibly patient with our many questions.

Since then, we have referred several people to Teachers and they have all thanked us. It is very rare to find a person as dedicated to member service as Jennifer and we want to thank her and the Teachers mortgage team for a great experience.”

Are you ready to start the journey to your dream home?
Visit www.teachersfcu.org/mortgages to get started!

SMART ADVICE FROM THE CEO

Our President & CEO, Brad Calhoun, is sharing monthly advice to help you reach your short and long term financial goals.



In addition to focusing on big goals (say, buying a home), aim to also set smaller, short-term goals along the way that will reap quicker results – like saving some money each week to take a trip in six months. This will help you stay motivated for the financial long haul.



President & CEO - Brad Calhoun

WELCOME TO BALANCE TRANSFERS 101

Is your wallet feeling heavy? A balance transfer might be the answer! A balance transfer is the action of moving what you owe on one credit card to another and can help you on your way to financial security.



- If you're carrying balances on multiple cards, transferring those balances to a credit card with a lower interest rate may save you a significant amount of money over time.
- Consolidating payments allows you to put extra money toward savings.
- Having fewer credit cards means fewer bills to keep track of each month.
- By lowering your credit utilization rate, you might boost your credit score!

Balance transfer requests can be submitted at any of our branches, through your online banking, or by calling 1-855-462-5880!

A QUICK AND SECURE WAY TO SHOP!

Your Teachers credit or debit card can be loaded into Apple Pay®, Google Pay®, and Samsung Pay® for a safe, touchless, and convenient way to shop!

- Make in-store payments straight from your phone, with just a tap! This touchless way to pay creates a frictionless experience.
- Data information is encrypted, keeping your card information secure.
- Mobile wallets allow you to store your loyalty and gift cards in addition to your credit and debit cards – reducing clutter and bulge in your wallet.

Have a question about mobile wallet? Contact our Call Center at 1-800-341-4333!

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teachersfcu.org

BANKING FROM HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE!

Teachersfcu.org is like one of our branches from the comfort of your own computer or phone!

- Our new website offers easy access to your accounts, financial education, and Help Center resources to get you the answers you need.
- Add to your financial journey by opening an account in less than five minutes!
- Need to apply for a loan? Submit your application online! That goes for Mortgage applications, too.
- View your accounts right from your phone through our Mobile App. Transfer funds, make a payment, find branch locations, deposit checks, and more.

Visit [teachersfcu.org](https://www.teachersfcu.org) to unlock the banking you can do from home!

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FRAUD



Keeping your information safe is important to us. Scammers are attempting to take advantage of the public's uncertainty during the pandemic, and we want to remind you to stay vigilant!

If someone contacts you and requests your account information, do not share any information. You can contact us directly at 1-800-341-4333, ext. 6780 to validate the authenticity of the request.

Teachers will NEVER contact you directly to request any of your account information, including:

- **Social Security Number**
- **Credit or Debit Card numbers**
- **Security Code or CVV**
- **PIN - Personal Identification Number**
- **Address**
- **Date of Birth**
- **Online Banking Login Information**
- **Verification Codes**
- **Passwords**

SUPPORTING STEM

Teachers was a sponsor of the Brookhaven National Lab **2021 Regional Science Bowl**, supporting STEM education. Students competed for a chance to participate in the national competition. Congratulations to all the winners!



From left to right: Cindi Biancarosa (Brookhaven National Laboratory, Office of Educational Programs), Jennifer Gunn (Teachers FCU), and Christine Stafford (Teachers FCU Branch Manager). Photo courtesy Brookhaven National Laboratory.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR GRADUATING MEMBERS!

At Teachers, learning never stops! We're proud to offer our members not one, but two college scholarship opportunities for 15 students through the Teachers Federal Credit Union and the Robert G. Allen Scholarship Programs!

Visit www.teachersfcu.org/2021scholarship for more information and be sure to share with soon-to-be grads!



THE CONTACTLESS WAY TO PAY!

Contactless debit cards bring forth sophisticated and secure technology to help you on your financial journey.

What are the benefits of Contactless Cards?

- 1. Speed:** It is estimated that the average contactless payment can be completed twice as fast as traditional cards.
- 2. Security:** Contactless cards feature built-in fraud protection that ensures the same transaction doesn't occur twice, even if a user mistakenly taps twice at the checkout.
- 3. Connectivity:** By connecting your card to your smartphone and other accessories like a smartwatch, you can make a payment without ever removing your card from your wallet!



FAST



EASY



SECURE

Are you interested in a Teachers contactless debit card? Visit your local branch today!

Member Alert: As of 3/31/2021, American Express will discontinue the sale and supply of Travelers and Gift Cheques. Teachers will only honor cheques for encashment after 3/31/2021 and will no longer sell American Express Travelers and Gift Cheques.

Member Alert: All Teachers branch locations will be closed on Monday, February 15 in observance of Presidents' Day.



Smart For All

TEACHERS HEADQUARTERS

Located at: 102 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge, NY
Mail: P.O. Box 9005, Smithtown, NY 11787

teachersfcu.org

1-800-341-4333



[facebook.com/teachersfcu](https://www.facebook.com/teachersfcu)



[instagram.com/teachersfcu](https://www.instagram.com/teachersfcu)



twitter.com/tfcu

While consistent effort is made to ensure the integrity of information contained in this publication, material should not be considered legal, financial or professional advice. Terms and conditions apply. Please speak to a representative for details.

Branch Locations

Amityville - 355 Broadway (Rte. 110)
Bay Shore - 3rd Ave. and Sunrise Hwy.
Briarwood - 139-30 Queens Blvd.
Brookhaven National Lab* - 400 Brookhaven Ave.
Center Moriches - 248 Montauk Hwy.
Central Islip - 118 Wheeler Road
Commack - 10 Vanderbilt Pkwy.
East Meadow - 2557 Hempstead Tpke.
East Northport - 556 Larkfield Road
Farmingville - 2410 N. Ocean Ave.
Hauppauge - 102 Motor Pkwy.
Holbrook - 5439 Sunrise Hwy.
Huntington - 211 East Main Street
Kings Park - 742 Route 25A
Manorville - 460 County Road 111
Merrick - 1638 Merrick Road

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Nesconset - 127 Smithtown Blvd.
North Babylon - 1134 Deer Park Ave.
North Massapequa - 4250 Jerusalem Ave.
Oakdale - 951 Montauk Hwy.
Patchogue - 31 W. Main Street, Suite 23
Port Jefferson Station - 5145 Nesconset Hwy.
Riverhead - 176 Old Country Rd. (Rte. 58)
Riverside - 180 Riverside Blvd. at W69th St.
Rocky Point - 561 Route 25A
Selden - 301 Independence Plaza, (Rte. 25)
Shirley - 437 William Floyd Pkwy.
Smithtown - 1 West Main Street
South Setauket - 260-A Pond Path
Stony Brook - 1113 North Country Rd - Now Open!
Wading River - 6257 Route 25A
Woodside - 50-24 Queens Blvd.

* Facility employees only

Executive Management

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Convenient Loan Call Center Hours
24/7 Loan Information & Applications
631-698-7000, Ext 6790

Teachers Routing Number: 221475786