

FOR THE MEMBERS OF COLUMBUS METRO

# CREDIT Views

## NEW IRA CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE



The IRS has extended the filing deadline for tax year 2020. That means that you now have until May 17, 2021, to make IRA contributions for last year.

Qualified taxpayers can contribute up to \$6,000 for tax years 2020 and 2021, while those ages 50 and older can contribute an extra \$1,000 for a total of \$7,000 per year. The age limits for IRA contributions have been eliminated, so members of any age can contribute to Roth and/or traditional IRAs.

Columbus Metro offers traditional and Roth IRAs with competitive rates and up to \$500,000 in combined federal and private deposit insurance. For more information, stop by one of our offices or call us at **614.239.0210** or **800.986.3876**.

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## COLUMBUS METRO JOINS THE TELHIO FAMILY

Columbus Metro is now part of the Telhio Credit Union family following our legal merger on February 28.

As a Columbus Metro member, you can continue to conduct business as usual. You can visit the same branches, and you'll see the same familiar faces waiting to serve you. You can continue to use your existing debit and credit cards and online and mobile banking. We are working towards full integration of the two institutions under the Telhio Credit Union name in early 2022.

In the meantime, you'll experience the benefits of Telhio CU membership right away. Columbus Metro members now have access to:

- 5,600 more branches across the U.S. (including six Telhio branches in the Columbus area and three more in southwest Ohio) through CO-OP shared branching;
- Free financial education and debt management options with Money iQ and GreenPath Financial Wellness;
- Wealth management and investment planning services, and more.

More information on some of these services can be found in this newsletter; others will be available in the weeks and months to come. And you can always see the latest news on the merger and more at [www.columbusmetro.org/WhatsNew](http://www.columbusmetro.org/WhatsNew).

We're excited about the future of Columbus Metro as part of the Telhio Credit Union family. We thank you for your business and look forward to serving you for years to come.

# CREDIT Views

## Super Money Market

\$1,000 to \$2,499 ..... 0.05% APY  
\$2,500 to \$4,999 ..... 0.15% APY  
\$5,000 to \$9,999 ..... 0.20% APY  
\$10,000 or more ..... 0.35% APY

## 6 Month Share or IRA Certificate

\$500 minimum ..... 0.35% APY

## 12 Month Share or IRA Certificate

\$500 minimum ..... 0.50% APY

## 36 Month Share or IRA Certificate

\$500 minimum ..... 0.70% APY

## 48 Month Share or IRA Certificate

\$500 minimum ..... 0.75% APY

## 60 Month Share or IRA Certificate

\$500 minimum ..... 0.85% APY

## Education Growth

### Fund Certificate

\$250 minimum ..... 1.25% APY

## Vehicle Loan (2020 to 2021)

As low as ..... 2.50%\*  
Up to 75 months

## Vehicle Loan (2016 to 2019)

As low as ..... 3.00%\*  
Up to 75 months

## Vehicle Loan (2015 & older)

As low as ..... 4.75%\*  
Up to 60 months

## Credit Cards

Visa Platinum ..... 9.90-13.90% APR\*

## Home Equity Loan—Fixed Rate

As low as ..... 4.40%\*  
Up to 240 months

## Home Equity Line of Credit

Redi-Line ..... 3.50% APR

## First Mortgages

Contact us at ext. 3408 or  
[mortgage@columbusmetro.org](mailto:mortgage@columbusmetro.org)

*Rates current as of 4/01/21 and subject to change without notice. See a Member Services Representative for full details. APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Loans made subject to standard loan approval guidelines. \*The rate you pay may vary based on your credit history, loan amount and/or loan-to-value ratio.*



Federally insured by NCUA

## WE'RE CLOSER THAN EVER WITH SHARED BRANCHING

Personalized service is a major benefit of banking at Columbus Metro, and you don't have to sacrifice convenience to get it. You now have access to your accounts at more than 5,600 credit union branches nationwide.

The CO-OP Shared Branch network links participating credit unions electronically, allowing members to bank at Columbus Metro wherever it's convenient, even if that happens to be at another credit union. This is a huge benefit to members who travel, have moved away from the Columbus area or just want the convenience of using a closer branch. Wherever you are across the country, there's a good chance there is a shared branch near you.

### At a CO-OP Shared Branch location, you can:

- Check your balance
- Withdraw funds up to your available account balance
- Deposit cash or checks (check deposits subject to our normal hold guidelines)
- Make a loan payment

You will need a valid government-issued photo ID and your Columbus Metro account number to use a shared branch. You also need to complete a transaction slip provided by the host credit union.

Thanks to shared branching, credit unions can offer the best of both worlds – individualized attention and nationwide availability. Visit [www.co-opsharedbranch.org](http://www.co-opsharedbranch.org) or call **888.748.3266** to find shared branches near you. You can also download the Shared Branch Locator app for iPhone or Android, or text a zip code to 91989 to receive locations via text. Participating credit unions will have the CO-OP Shared Branch logo on the door.



KEY RATES

The National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund federally insures member accounts to at least \$250,000. Deposit accounts at different branches are part of Telhio Credit Union. Deposits held at each office are not separately insured.

## MAIL DELAYS CONTINUE

We continue to experience delays in mail delivery. This affects both items that we send to you as well as items that you send to us. For this reason, we recommend that you use our electronic services wherever possible.

### E-statements

E-statements are the fast, convenient and secure way to receive your account statements. No more waiting on the mail – we'll email you when your statement is available, usually the first day of the month. Then you can log on to MetroWeb or MetroWeb Mobile to view and/or print your statement.

To sign up, simply log on to MetroWeb, click on the E-Statements tab and follow the instructions.

### Loan Payments

There are a number of ways you can make your loan payment other than dropping a check in the mail. If you're paying with funds on deposit at Columbus Metro, you can transfer your payments with MetroWeb or MetroWeb Mobile. Or, we can set it up so that it transfers automatically.

If your checking account is at another institution, we can automatically debit your account every month on the date you choose. If you'd rather be in control, use our Online Payment Center to schedule your payment from your checking or savings account or use a debit or credit card\*.

For more information on any of our convenient electronic services, visit [www.columbusmetro.org](http://www.columbusmetro.org), email us at [cmfcu@columbusmetro.org](mailto:cmfcu@columbusmetro.org), or call or stop in a Columbus Metro branch for personal assistance.

\*We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover debit cards and MasterCard and Discover credit cards. Visa does not permit its credit cards to be used for loan payments.

## COLUMBUS METRO & TELHIO: SAFER THAN EVER



One of the most frequently asked questions about the merger is some version of the following: "Is my money still safe?"

**The answer: A resounding "YES!"** In fact, your money is safer than ever, now that Columbus Metro is part of the Telhio Credit Union family. Here's why:

- **Federal deposit insurance** – Member deposits are still backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government through the National Credit Union Administration's Share Insurance Fund. The NCUA insures member deposits up to \$250,000. However, accounts may be structured in different ways to achieve federal coverage of more than \$250,000.

If you have accounts at both Columbus Metro and Telhio, your deposits will be insured separately until August 28, 2021, (and possibly longer in the case of certificates). Visit [www.mycreditunion.gov/share-insurance-estimator-faq#20](http://www.mycreditunion.gov/share-insurance-estimator-faq#20) for complete details.

- **Excess Share Insurance** – The combined institution offers an extra \$250,000 in savings protection through ESI. The additional coverage applies to personal accounts that exceed NCUA's maximum coverage.
- **Superior Rating** – Both Columbus Metro and Telhio have been awarded BauerFinancial's 5-Star Superior rating for safety and soundness. BauerFinancial ([www.bauerfinancial.com](http://www.bauerfinancial.com)) has been independently analyzing bank and credit union financials since 1983.
- **Financial Stability** – The larger asset size of the combined institution provides financial stability in uncertain times and more resources to invest in information technology and security.



If you need assistance maximizing your deposit insurance, we're here to help. Call, stop in or visit [www.columbusmetro.org](http://www.columbusmetro.org) today.

## PANDEMIC-INSPIRED HOME TRENDS

Thanks to COVID-19, we've all been spending more time at home and using our homes in different ways. While design trends typically come and go, there are a few pandemic-inspired trends with staying power, according to Realtor.com's Ana Durrani.

Those include:

- **The “zoom room”** – This is a dedicated room or corner with an attractive background and the technology needed for videoconferencing. In fact, many homeowners need two or more such spaces, one for students and another for professionals.
- **Clean and cozy** – No one wants to spend all day every day in a space that feels dark and cluttered. Donation centers like Goodwill have seen a huge increase in donations, and business is up for companies like 1-800-Got-Junk as homeowners clean out extra bedrooms, basements and other storage areas to create more living spaces.
- **Backyard retreat** – Not surprisingly, homeowners who are trapped at home are looking to escape to the great outdoors. Popular projects include creating areas for year-round use, adding outdoor kitchens and wiring for better lighting and technology use outside.

If you're planning home improvements this spring, Columbus Metro can help. Our home equity loans and lines of credit are an affordable source of funds. A loan can provide a lump sum for one major project, while a HELOC might be a better choice if you have several projects in the works. Either way, you'll benefit from a low rate and potential tax deduction\*.

For more information on home equity loans and lines of credit, call, stop in or visit [www.columbusmetro.org](http://www.columbusmetro.org) today.

\*Check with your tax advisor regarding the deductibility of interest.

Source: Realtor.com, *These Pandemic-Related Housing and Design Trends Aren't Going Away*, by Ana Durrani, November 4, 2020.



### BY PHONE

614.239.0210  
800.986.3876

### BY FAX

614.239.0988

### BY EMAIL

[cmfcu@columbusmetro.org](mailto:cmfcu@columbusmetro.org)

### BY MAIL

P.O. Box 13240  
Columbus, OH 43213-0240

### VISIT US

4000 E. Broad St.  
Columbus, OH 43213

6623 E. Main St.  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

5600 N. Hamilton Rd.  
Gahanna, OH 43230

DSCC Building 20  
Room B110S

DFAS Building 21  
Room A132

### 24-HOUR SERVICES

MetroWeb  
[www.columbusmetro.org](http://www.columbusmetro.org)

MetroWeb Mobile  
Download from the App Store  
or Google Play

Bill Pay Support  
844.357.5638

Visa® Balance & Payment  
Inquiries  
833.541.0763  
[www.ezcardinfo.com](http://www.ezcardinfo.com)

Lost or Stolen Visa  
833.541.0777

Lost or Stolen Debit  
MasterCard®  
800.528.2273

CONTACT US

# 5 WAYS TO TEACH KIDS TO SAVE

## Teach Kids To Save Day is Thursday, April 22

We start kids young with almost everything — sports, school, so why not saving? The earlier that you have a positive mindset around saving, the easier it is to save successfully as an adult.

The idea of saving doesn't always have to be tangible in terms of actual dollars and cents. Those small things that we expect our children to do around the home contribute to saving as a family. This can be a great motivator for them if you are saving for a vacation or some other fun family gift or experience.

Here are some ideas of ways your children can save around the home:

### 1. Teach them to turn off the water.

Did you know using a (newer) dishwasher saves more water than hand washing dishes? Small adjustments like turning off the water while brushing your teeth, and ensuring a 'full' load of laundry during washing can save you big on your water bill.

### 2. Teach them to conserve energy.

Kids thrive when they feel like they're the leader. Assign them the role of 'Energy Saver' and make it their responsibility to turn off the lights, keep the refrigerator door closed, or make sure the TV is off if it's not being watched. Explain to them that they are helping the family save with a lower electricity bill. You could even sweeten the deal by having a family savings goal, like a special outing or even a vacation, once you save a certain amount.

### 3. Teach them to enjoy cooking at home.

Eating out may be convenient, but cooking at home can be just as satisfying, especially when you get your kids involved. Try making their favorite pizza from scratch. They may enjoy the process and the taste way more than your usual take-out order.

### 4. Teach them to grow their food.

When children have ownership of something, they're more likely to enjoy it. Can you imagine how much more eager they'll be to eat their broccoli and carrots if they grow it themselves? Not to mention, you will save quite a bit by growing your own fruits and veggies.

### 5. Have at-home family nights.

Get creative with low-cost family fun activities such as family game nights, card games, movie nights, backyard campouts and more. You'll find it easy to have fun and bond as a family in the comfort of your home. Some activities might require a one-time investment that can keep the fun going for years to come.

By making these tips a habit, you'll save on utility bills and entertainment. More importantly, you'll build a foundation of positive savings habits that will last a lifetime.



## INCREASE YOUR MONEY IQ

Want to learn more strategies for teaching kids about money? You can find more on this topic and much, much more with Money iQ.

Topics include budgeting, paying for college, building emergency savings, debt management, retirement planning and more.

Money iQ is a free benefit of your Columbus Metro membership, now that we're part of the Telhio family. To access all of the Money iQ content, visit [www.telhio.org/moneyiq.html](http://www.telhio.org/moneyiq.html).

**MoneyIQ**  
powered by telhio





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43213-0240

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HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

CREDIT

# Views



**MEMORIAL DAY**  
Monday, May 31

**JUNETEENTH**  
Friday, June 18  
*Offices close at 1:00 p.m.*

**INDEPENDENCE DAY**  
Monday, July 5

## TAX-FILING DEADLINE EXTENDED

### MORE TIME TO SAVE WITH TURBOTAX

The IRS has extended the tax filing deadline for individual taxpayers from April 15 to May 17, 2021. That means that Metro members have even more time to save with TurboTax®.

Getting your biggest possible tax refund has never been easier. From simple to complex taxes, TurboTax has you covered. Just answer questions about your year, and TurboTax fills in all the right forms for you. Need help? Real experts are standing by – and can even do your taxes for you, start to finish. **Get up to \$15 off** when you **start TurboTax now at [www.columbusmetro.org](http://www.columbusmetro.org)**.



Visit <http://turbotax.intuit.com/lp/yoy/guarantees.jsp> for TurboTax product guarantees and other important information. Limited time offer for TurboTax 2020. Discount applies to TurboTax federal products only. Terms, conditions, features, availability, pricing, fees, service and support options subject to change without notice. Intuit, TurboTax and TurboTax Online, among others, are registered trademarks and/or service marks of Intuit Inc. in the United States and other countries.

