



# MyMoney.club newsletter

Michigan Schools & Government Credit Union



## Scam Tips from MSGCU's Security Experts **CARD CRACKING 101**

In this installment of our MyMoney.club scam series, we're arming you with the best protection: knowledge. Don't be a card cracking victim! It's also known as cracking or popping cards. Whatever the name, card cracking is not a good thing. It's a crime that can ruin your financial health.

Card cracking works like this: someone writes you a check and asks you to deposit it into your account via an automatic teller machine (ATM) and then give them the cash. The ATM may give you the cash back immediately, and when the check is discovered fraudulent, the credit union or bank will make you return the money. It likely won't be possible to get it back from the criminal who wanted it in the first place.

Another ATM scam involves "friends" asking for your ATM card and personal identification number (PIN) so that they can use them to withdraw some cash. These criminals then tell you to dispute the transaction and have the credit union or bank put the money back in your account. They may even



have a brilliant idea – NOT! – for you to lie and tell the credit union or bank your card was lost and it was a stranger using it. Rest assured, the financial institution is onto this scam. It's criminal, and you can be punished.

### What to do?

If you're being pressured to let someone use your ATM card and PIN, don't! Here are some options:

- Tell the bully the wrong PIN if you have to.
- Alert the credit union or bank staff about what's happening. They can shut down your ATM card immediately.
- Call the cops and tell them all about it.
- Contact OK2SAY. It's a student safety program that allows you to confidentially report scams like card cracking and other crimes directed at students, school employees, and schools. Text 652729 (OK2SAY) or find other contact information on their website at [michigan.gov/ok2say](http://michigan.gov/ok2say).

MSGCU has sophisticated security measures in place to keep your account safe, but criminals continue to come up with new ways of tricking you to steal your money. Know the facts and stay safe!

## Easily Save with Direct Deposit

Direct Deposit is one of the greatest ideas ever, and easy to set up. If you earn a paycheck from an employer, you may be eligible. It allows you to have your paycheck deposited into your account(s) automatically, by your employer, every pay day. You can even allocate your paycheck among different MSGCU accounts, say 50/50 between savings and checking. It's all done for you once you choose Direct Deposit. Sometimes employers will need you to fill out and submit a form. The MSGCU form can be found at [msgcu.org/direct-deposit](http://msgcu.org/direct-deposit). Other employers could have an online platform where you enter your information.



# Open an MSGCU Achieve **STUDENT DEBIT ACCOUNT**

You like having money, but you don't want to think about it all the time. We get it. The Achieve Student Debit Account is for young adults, 16-23, who want to make money management easier. It offers the perks you need to take the worry out of saving and spending money. Here are a few benefits:

**Independence and support.** No parent/guardian co-signer is required for teen members 16-17 years old after you attend MSGCU's Getting Started with Cash & Credit webinar. Gain financial knowledge that literally pays off. Find a webinar at [msgcu.org/workshops](http://msgcu.org/workshops).

**Roll Up the Change.** This program allows you to round up your debit card transactions to the nearest dollar and transfer the extra change into a savings account automatically. This is done on MSGCU's end. You just tell us you want to make it happen every time you use your card, and watch those small amounts grow over time.

**Spending safeguards.** Keep your spending in check with \$200 daily limits on debit transactions and ATM withdrawals.

**Get your cash when you need it.** More than 30,000 free ATMs are available nationwide.

**Mobile Banking.** Manage your money right from your phone. Wherever life takes you, you'll always be connected to your account.

**Learn more at [msgcu.org/achieve](http://msgcu.org/achieve).**



## Congratulations

to Olivia H. for her winning submission in our summer newsletter contest, which described what she was saving for over the summer. Olivia was saving up to buy a printer to make stickers, which she draws digitally and prints. She wants to start selling her stickers and needs a high-quality printer to make her products!

— Olivia, age 14

## How do you stay safe from scams? Contest

Do you avoid clicking on emails and texts from strangers? Ignore friend requests from people you don't know on social media? Keep your ATM card in a safe place? Whatever your plan of attack, tell us about it in pictures or words. Email your entry along with your name, age, address, and phone number to [contest@msgcu.org](mailto:contest@msgcu.org). Every teen with a winning entry will receive a **\$75 deposit\*** in their MyMoney.club account. Another way to easily save!

**Deadline for entry is Monday, November 21.**

\* Contest limited to members ages 13 to 19. No substitution for prizes. Winners must be a MyMoney.club member of MSGCU at the time of selection. No purchase necessary. Only one entry per member. The winners will be contacted during the month of December. By submitting this entry, you consent to the reproduction and/or authorize the use of your images, words and likeness for promotional and educational purposes by MSGCU. Relatives of MSGCU employees and Official Family members are not eligible to win.

## Mark Your Calendars

**Columbus Day (Closed)**  
Monday, Oct. 10

**Veterans Day (Closed)**  
Friday, Nov. 11

**Contest Deadline**  
Monday, Nov. 21

**Thanksgiving (Closed)**  
Thursday, Nov. 24

**Christmas (Closed)**  
Saturday, Dec. 24  
Monday, Dec. 26

**New Year's (Closed)**  
Saturday, Dec. 31  
Monday, Jan. 2



### Visit a branch

Find your nearest branch at [msgcu.org/locations](http://msgcu.org/locations)

Mon–Wed: 9 AM–5 PM  
Thu–Fri: 9 AM–6 PM  
Sat: 9 AM–1 PM



### Find us online

It's easy to stay in touch. Visit [msgcu.org/contact-us](http://msgcu.org/contact-us)

Mon–Wed: 9 AM–5 PM  
Thu–Fri: 9 AM–6 PM  
Sat: 9 AM–1 PM



### Call or text

Phone: (586) 263-8800  
Toll Free: (866) 674-2848

Mon–Wed: 8 AM–5 PM  
Thu: 8 AM–6 PM  
Fri: 8 AM–7 PM  
Sat: 8 AM–1 PM