

Financial Wellness Spotlight

August 2024

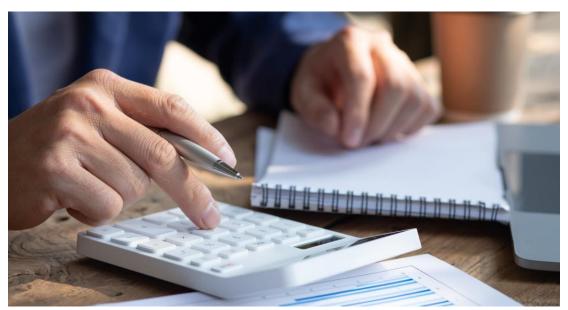


Is It Time to Unsubscribe?

It seems like everything comes with a monthly subscription these days. It's not just TV and music anymore. Subscription pricing is used for many things, and you may have even opted into one or two that you forgot about. Cutting back on our subscriptions can save you a lot of money, but how do you get started if you're not even sure what you're paying for? This guide can help.

- Identify your subscriptions. Get started by pulling up your credit card and bank statements for the last several months and look for recurring payments. If you shop with Amazon or other online stores, open those accounts and look for "Subscribe & Save" to see what you have subscribed to. Don't forget to check the App store and/or your "Settings" on your smartphone as well.
- Cancel, pause, or rotate. Once you find out what subscriptions you have, do a quick assessment of what you are really using and how much you are paying. You may find several that you have not used recently. Ask yourself, is it worth it? If not, it is time to cancel. Maybe you have a service like NFL+ that you are currently not using, but you know you will once football season starts. That's okay! Cancel for now and start it up later. Your service may even allow you to pause your account temporarily. If you watch a streaming service for a single show and it ends, rotate! There may be something else on another provider that you've been dying to watch. You don't have to subscribe to them all at once.
- **Don't go!** When you cancel a service, providers will often try to keep you hooked with special deals-a free trial period or discount for a limited time. If you decide to stay, set a reminder on your calendar to re-evaluate before the trial period is up.
- Free services. With the convenience of all these subscriptions, it's easy to forget that we can get this stuff for free. Consider taking a break from some of your services and check with your local library for audiobooks, eBooks, music, digital magazines, podcasts, movies, and more. Often, they have the same titles as the apps you subscribe to, and you'll feel good because it didn't cost anything!

Once you trim your subscriptions back, you will have found a little extra money! Don't let that go to waste (and please don't use it on another subscription). Instead, tuck that money away into your savings or use it to help pay down debt. Free up that money for something you really need (or want)!



Estate Planning Workshop Series

This fall BMI Federal Credit Union is partnering with a trusted attorney to provide a series of workshops on Estate Planning.

- Estate Planning 101: Saturday, September 21, 2024
 Learn what documents you should have in place to ensure your wishes are clear and estate secure.
- Asset Protection Planning: Saturday, October 5, 2024
 Learn how probate, taxes, and long-term care costs can affect your estate. Find out what steps you can take to secure your assets and preserve your legacy.

These Workshops will be in-person at our Dublin location in the Sharon L. Custer Member Meeting Room. Register to attend and find a full list of upcoming workshops at bmifcu.org/workshops.



Financial Wellness Tip: Get in the Routine by Stacking Your Habits!

Make your financial habits routine by stacking them onto daily habits you already have. For instance, if drinking coffee in the morning is already a part of your daily routine, now include tracking your spending from the previous day. Start by making a list of your daily routines and

a list of financial habits you want to start. Then, pair them up!

Explore our module <u>Healthy Financial Habits</u> to learn what you should put in place for your financial well-being.



Online Learning Center

Learn what you need to know to make good financial decisions through our **Online Learning Center**:

- <u>Financial Education Center</u>: Explore mobile friendly modules on personal finances topics or create your own customized playlist
- Money Managment Videos: This collection of 24 videos will help you learn the basics of how to manage your money.
- Online Learning Dashboard: Read in-depth articles, use calculators, and try out a virtual coach to help you on a variety of personal finance topics.

Product and Services Highlights



Transfer Your Balance and Relax

Transfer your balance to a new BMI FCU Visa Platinum credit card and get **ZERO** percent introductory APR¹ on your balance transfers for 6 months. After that, your APR will be **9.900%-17.900%** based on your creditworthiness when you open your account!

Compare the National Average Credit Card Rate with BMI FCU®

National Avg. Credit Card Rate² 18.04% - 26.71% BMI FCU® Platinum Rate 9.90% - 17.90%

²National Average Credit Card Annual Percentage Rate Source: WalletHub Credit Card Landscape Report, May 6, 2024. https://wallethub.com/edu/cc/credit-card-landscape-report/24927#interest-rates



Secure Savings Products for Financial Freedom

Share Certificates and IRAs are short and long-term savings products to make savings easy. Reach your savings goals with our <u>Certificate Special</u> or check out our other Share Certificates and IRAs!

Share Certificates and IRA's Youth Certificates

Add a savings product in **Online Banking**, stop by a branch, or call **614.707.4000**.

*See complete details.

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