

# The Store Front

**TruGrocer**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Just for you

## New charter expands TruGrocer membership to include all grocery and supermarket employees nationwide

TruGrocer Federal Credit Union was recently granted a nationwide Grocery and Supermarket Industry TIP (Trade-Industry-Profession) charter by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA). As a result, all grocery and supermarket industry employees in the United States are eligible to join TruGrocer and enjoy the benefits of TruGrocer membership.

TruGrocer has specialized in serving the financial needs of grocery and supermarket employees for more than 40 years. Membership is open to employees who work regularly in the grocery and supermarket industry, retirees of the industry, and immediate family members of industry employees and retirees.

**If you know of anyone who may be eligible but is not yet a member, please share the good news about TruGrocer's expanded field of membership and invite them to join and benefit from our wide variety of financial products and services.**

Joining TruGrocer is easy. Simply visit [www.trugrocer.com](http://www.trugrocer.com) to utilize our new 24/7 online membership application, contact our Call Center at **(208) 385-5200** or visit any TruGrocer branch office. Grocery and supermarket **employers wanting details about partnering with TruGrocer as an employee benefit** may contact Julie Post, Business Development Officer, at [jpost@trugrocer.com](mailto:jpost@trugrocer.com) or **(208) 385-5259**.

<sup>1</sup>Some restrictions apply. Go to [www.trugrocer.com](http://www.trugrocer.com) to view a listing of just some of the numerous grocery and supermarket banners that qualify for membership.



## What will you do with your tax rebate?

By now, most eligible taxpayers have received their "economic stimulus" tax rebates from the federal government. What will you do with yours? Consider adding it to your savings. That's what nearly one out of three people plan to do, according to two recent surveys. In fact, only about one-fourth intend to spend the money, and almost half say they will use it to pay down debts.<sup>1</sup>

### *Why save it?*

Shoring up your savings makes good financial sense. Your tax rebate may help you get closer to your financial goals, such as retirement or your child's college education. It also may come in handy if you ever face an unexpected financial need.

Even if your rebate amount is modest, it can serve as a stepping-stone in your financial strategy. For example, if you have other cash available, you might combine your rebate check with those funds to create a "ladder" of savings certificates — a series of certificates with evenly staggered maturities. Because just a portion of your certificate ladder matures at any given time, you help control your exposure to interest rate fluctuations. Laddering also helps you enjoy the relative liquidity of shorter-term certificates and the potentially higher yields of longer-term certificates.<sup>2</sup>

### *Where to turn*

TruGrocer Federal Credit Union can help you decide where to save your tax rebate. You'll find a variety of savings options, including Share (savings) Accounts, Savings Certificates (minimum deposit \$500 per Certificate) and much more. Visit [www.trugrocer.com](http://www.trugrocer.com) or call your nearest TruGrocer branch office for information today.

<sup>1</sup>Sources: International Council of Shopping Centers survey, February 2008; CCH Complete Tax survey, February 2008.

<sup>2</sup>Share certificates are subject to a penalty for early withdrawal.

# Fortify your own financial health in the sluggish economy

When you were a child, your mother made sure you put on your raincoat on rainy days. She was looking after your health. Now, while the economic climate is far from sunny, it's time for you to look after your financial well-being. These five tips may help:

**1. Have ample emergency cash.** A cash reserve may help you make ends meet in the event of a job loss or other financial emergency. Set aside enough money to cover at least three- to six-months' worth of living expenses. Keep it in an easy-access, dividend-earning account such as a TruGrocer Share Account or Money Market Account.

**2. Continue to contribute to your savings.** One of the best ways to reach financial goals is to save regularly, through economic ups and downs. An easy way to save is to use Direct Deposit to have your paycheck deposited automatically in your TruGrocer account on a regular basis.



**3. Manage debt wisely.** Pay down balances on high-interest credit cards, and pay with cash rather than credit whenever possible. Consider establishing a home equity line of credit (HELOC) while you're employed, in case that situation changes later. As a backup to your cash reserve, a HELOC may offer the financial flexibility you need.<sup>1</sup>

**4. Live within your means.** During tough economic times, put off any non-essential purchases and prioritize your spending.

**5. Contact TruGrocer.** We can help you take care of your finances in any economic climate. We offer a broad range of deposit accounts and services for your savings as well as HELOCs with favorable rates and terms. Call or visit your nearest TruGrocer branch or go to [www.trugrocer.com](http://www.trugrocer.com) to learn more.

<sup>1</sup>HELOCs are serious financial obligations because you face the risk of foreclosure if payments are not made. Weigh your options carefully before applying.

## Understand these key economic indicators

These days, economic news is easy to find — but sometimes a challenge to understand. If you familiarize yourself with these commonly cited economic indicators and what they represent, you may get a better grasp of economic news and what it may mean for you:

**Consumer Price Index (CPI)** — The CPI is a widely used measure of inflation, or increases in the cost of living. It tracks the prices of a variety of goods and services purchased by consumers. Inflation affects how much money you need to make ends meet as well as the amount you need to accumulate for financial goals.

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** — The GDP is the total market value of the nation's goods and services produced for a certain period. It helps gauge overall economic growth (or contraction). A healthy, growing economy usually means good news for the financial markets, businesses and the workforce. A recession is typically defined as two or more consecutive quarters of negative GDP.

**Consumer confidence** — Periodic surveys of consumers' attitudes about the economy may help indicate future trends in spending and overall economic health. Optimistic consumers tend to spend more freely, which may help spur economic growth. When consumers are less confident, they usually spend less and may increase the potential for economic sluggishness.

### BRANCHES

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Baker, Chairman  
Bill Carter, Vice Chairman  
Mike Shalz, Treasurer  
Lary Matthews, Secretary  
Cynthia Forsch, Member  
Doug Gibson, Member  
Gary Morton, Member  
Pradip Mehta, Member  
Kevan Fenderson, Member

### MANAGEMENT STAFF

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President and Chief Executive Officer  
Michael S. Vickery, Senior Vice President  
and Chief Operating Officer  
Theresa Koenen, Loan Manager  
Ann Cargile, Loan Servicing Supervisor  
Chris Demaray, Director,  
Member Services and Human Resources  
Stacey Devereaux, Manager,  
Accounting and Electronic Services  
Leo Francis, Manager, Branch Operations  
and Regulatory Compliance  
Ken Smith, Manager, Technology  
Development and Loss Prevention  
Denise Bardwell,  
Orlando Branch Manager  
Chalyce Wendle,  
Dallas/Fort Worth Branch Manager  
Laura Sotelo,  
Los Angeles Branch Manager

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

(as of April 30, 2008)

Members . . . . .	37,383
Assets . . . . .	\$211,556,360
Loans . . . . .	\$79,686,064
Shares . . . . .	\$167,662,473



[www.trugrocer.com](http://www.trugrocer.com)