

Newsletter

Winter 2009

Searching for a low-interest auto loan?

Before you sign, look at the bottom line!

Before you sign anything at a dealership, let us help you determine if you could do better with a loan from HALLCO Community Credit Union. While dealer financing might seem like a steal at first, it may really be a "deal" for the dealership.

Here's why:

- These low rates are often only available to those with the best credit records.
- Large rebates are usually not included with low rates.
- Many of the companies are offering these low rates for short terms, increasing the amount of your monthly car payments dramatically.
- Large down payments are sometimes required.
- The rates are sometimes only offered on certain slow-selling models, leaving out the most popular cars and trucks.
- Special rates are often limited to on-site dealer stock, which means you could have to pay for features you didn't really want.
- Trade-ins are often restricted.

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HALLCO Community CU Adopts a State Charter

HALLCO Community Credit Union is pleased to announce that we have completed the process of conversion to a state chartered credit union. In December, the membership of HALLCO Community Credit Union overwhelmingly voted to adopt a state charter. Thank you for your vote.

Members have not and will not experience any change as a result of the conversion. They will continue to enjoy all of the products and services and the friendly, personal attention they've always found at the credit union. *All deposits are still insured to \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Administration.*

While the benefits to our members have remained the same, the new charter has enhanced the credit union's potential for growth. The State charter, under which the credit union will be regulated primarily by the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance, will allow the

credit union to extend membership eligibility to other people in our community and the surrounding area. This growth will have a two-fold benefit for the credit union. First, it will allow the credit union to serve people in Northeast Georgia who do not currently have access to the benefits and value of credit union service. Additionally, membership growth will position the credit union to offer new products and services, improve convenience and potentially open new branches in the future.

HALLCO Community Credit Union has always been committed to meeting the financial needs of our members. We believe this change has equipped the credit union to continue to do this successfully in the future. Our goal is to meet and exceed your expectations as we grow, and we look forward to offering you an even higher level of service excellence as a result of this change.

HALLCO Community CU VISA

A Diet for Your Debt

Dieting has always been one of the most popular New Year's resolutions. Why not add a twist to the old standard this year, and put your debt on a diet?

It's simple to do when you transfer your balances from high-interest credit cards to a low-interest HALLCO Community Credit Union Visa® credit card. With lower interest charges, you'll be able to trim down your debt more quickly.

Our Visa® credit card offers one of the lowest non-variable rates* in town.

Other benefits include:

- No annual fee
- No balance transfer fee
- 25-day grace period
- Acceptance wherever you see the Visa® logo

Begin reducing your debt today. Call the credit union at (770) 534-4255 for more details, or apply online at www.HallcoCU.org.

*Annual Percentage Rate.



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How to find the best deal

Ask the dealer about financing incentives and any additional costs or requirements to qualify. Then come to the credit union and let us help you make sense of it all. We can help you figure out the bottom line. Your best bet may be to skip the dealer rate, take the dealer rebate and finance with the credit union.

How?

- When you apply the rebate to your down payment, you start off with a lower loan amount, saving you money in finance costs.
- You could get lower monthly payments because we offer our low auto loan rates for longer terms.
- You may save money on the total cost of the loan because we never charge an application fee or a pre-payment penalty. And we charge simple interest, meaning you pay down your principal balance at a faster rate.

Check HALLCO Community Credit Union BEFORE you sign any dealer financing agreement. If you already have a loan with another financial institution, we may still be able to save you money. Call the credit union and ask about refinancing your existing loan. Did we mention that we'll pay you 1% to finance with us?



\$250,000 Share Insurance Protection Extended to 2013

Good news! The Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009, signed into law May 20, 2009, includes a provision extending \$250,000 share insurance coverage provided by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund through December 31, 2013. Previously, this level of coverage was set to expire December 31, 2009. What this means to you: If your accounts total between \$100,000 and \$250,000, you no longer have to worry about the last \$150,000 losing insurance coverage after the end of 2009. This means you can, for instance, invest in longer-term certificates knowing you have that full federal protection.



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VISA



Holiday Closings

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day January 18

Presidents' Day February 15