Published quarterly for over 2.9 million members of State Employees' Credit Union

Grassroots

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HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

State Employees' Credit Union branch offices will be closed for the following holidays:

Labor Day
Monday, September 7

Veterans Day
Wednesday, November 11

You may access your accounts at any time via Member Access or the SECU Mobile App. Reach Member Services Support at (888) 732-8562.

2026 ANNUAL MEETING

The SECU Annual Meeting and Board of Directors Election is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2026. It will be held at the Koury Convention Center, 3121 W. Gate City Blvd., in Greensboro. The General Session starts at 1:00 p.m.

Visit ncsecu.org/about-us/corporate-information/governance to learn more.

SAFE DEPOSIT BOX FEE REMINDER

If you lease an SECU safe deposit box, your annual rental fee will be debited from your designated account on October 30, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact your local branch. Interested in renting a safe deposit box?

SCAN THE CODE TO LEARN MORE.

SECU Car Buying Service: A New Way To Find and Finance Your Next Vehicle

We can help keep your vehicle buying journey moving with the SECU Car Buying Service, powered by TrueCar™.[1] Explore thousands of new and used vehicles, compare pricing, and lock in a competitive loan rate all in one connected experience.

SEAMLESS INVENTORY SEARCH

With a centralized inventory search, trade-ins, and paperwork all within a single digital showroom, the SECU Car Buying Service helps reduce administrative hurdles and multiple dealership visits.

THE TRANSPARENT PRICING ADVANTAGE

No-hassle negotiations help ensure the price seen online is the exact price honored on the lot.[2]

TRUSTED VEHICLE FINANCING WITH SECU

The SECU Car Buying Service also helps bridge the gap between finding a vehicle and securing a loan. The connected online experience lets you find a vehicle and then apply for financing from SECU in just a few clicks. With an Auto Loan from SECU, you get trusted service and a competitive member rate. And now for a limited time, make no payment for up to 90 days[3] with an SECU new or used vehicle loan.

CUSTOMIZABLE AUTO INSURANCE WITH SECU

When accidents happen, having the right coverage matters. SECU works with multiple carriers to help you compare auto insurance options and rates. We'll also tailor coverage to fit your needs and help protect your vehicle and assets.[4]

Learn more and start your search today at ncsecu.org/loans/auto-loans/car-buying-service.

1. TrueCar operates the SECU Car Buying Service. SECU is not responsible for any offer, purchase, lease, or service provided by or through the SECU Car Buying Service. TrueCar Certified Dealers are contractually obligated by TrueCar to meet certain customer service requirements and complete the TrueCar Dealer Certification. For questions about the SECU Car Buying Service please call TrueCar at (833) 544-1576.
2. Price may exclude tax, title, tags, governmental fees, any emissions testing charges, and any finance charges (if applicable). Unless otherwise stated separately in the vehicle details, where allowed by law, the price may not include processing, administrative, closing or similar fees. Members must be 18 years old or otherwise eligible for lending services to apply. Lending is limited to North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, and Virginia residents and titled vehicles. Financing is not allowed on vehicles older than ten years or those with mileage over 150,000 at the time of origination.
3. Interest begins to accrue from the date of loan origination. The option to extend the first loan payment up to 90 days from the date of origination is only available for new and used vehicle loans originated between June 15, 2026, and September 15, 2026, including loans originated through SECU's Auto Power program provided the vehicle is purchased between June 15, 2026, and September 15, 2026. This option is not available for refinancing of any existing SECU vehicle loan.
4. Auto, home, and other personal lines of insurance are subject to underwriting. Insurance products are not guaranteed by, a deposit of, or an obligation of, any credit union and are not insured by NCUA or any other federal government agency. Insurance specialists are licensed to sell in North Carolina only.

Grassroots is a publication of the State Employees' Credit Union Marketing department. The Credit Union is a member-owned cooperative, organized to promote thrift and provide low-cost financial services.

Follow us on:

SECU
State Employees' Credit Union®

The Benefits of Term Life Insurance

Term life insurance can help protect your loved ones' financial future, yet many people avoid getting coverage because they assume it's costly, complicated, or they can always get it later. However, term life can be affordable, easy to obtain, and there are advantages to having it in place earlier in your lifetime when you are more likely to qualify for coverage.

- **Help protect the quality of life for your loved ones.** If something unexpected happens, term life insurance can help replace lost income, cover final expenses, and provide support for their ongoing financial needs.
- **Simple, fast, and no medical exam required.*** When you use the SECU Life online platform, you can get a quote, apply for coverage, and purchase a term life policy in as little as 15 minutes, with no medical exam required.* If you prefer to speak with a licensed representative, our specialists can guide you.
- **Term life from the source you trust.** You've trusted us to support your financial goals and we can help protect your loved ones' future as well. It's life insurance for your budget and peace of mind for your family.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE AND APPLY ONLINE OR CALL 855-732-8467.

Life insurance is offered through SECU Life Insurance Company. SECU Life Insurance Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of State Employees' Credit Union. Life insurance is not guaranteed by, a deposit of, or an obligation of any credit union and is not insured by NCUA or any other federal government agency. Insurance Representatives are licensed to sell in North Carolina only. For online term life quotes, the applicant must be 18-50 years of age, must be a North Carolina resident, and must not be replacing an existing policy.
*Applications are subject to underwriting. Decisions are based, in part, on the applicant's responses to medical questions.

SECU's Youth Saving Challenge Is Back

Help your young savers build smart money habits and grow their savings. To participate, make a qualifying deposit into an existing FAT CAT® or Zard® Share Account or open a new youth savings account between Aug. 3 and Sept. 4 for a chance to win an iPad! SECU's Youth Saving Challenge is an engaging way to inspire your young savers to save for their future – and have fun while doing it!

SCAN THE CODE FOR DETAILS, INCLUDING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND CONTEST RULES.

Ideas for Paying Down Debt:

One way to pay down debt is to use a strategy that you can stick with. Two of the most popular are known as the **waterfall method** and the **snowball method.** Here's what to know about both.

THE WATERFALL METHOD (INTEREST FIRST)

Itemize all your debts from **highest interest rate to lowest.** Make the minimum required payment on every debt, then use any extra money to pay down the debt with the highest interest rate. Once that's paid off, move to the debt with the next highest rate.

THE SNOWBALL METHOD (MOMENTUM FIRST)

Itemize all your debts from **smallest balance to largest.** Make the minimum required payment on every debt, then allocate any extra money to the smallest debt first. Once that's paid off, roll the extra money into the next smallest debt—like a snowball picking up speed.

DEBT CONSOLIDATION OPTIONS FROM SECU

If your goal is to consolidate and reduce high interest debt, consider a signature loan from SECU. Our Closed-End Signature Loan is a great option for debt consolidation and offers a fixed rate for the life of the loan. These loans typically offer lower interest rates than credit cards and other revolving credit options.[1] Additionally, a 0.50% interest rate discount is available to certain qualifying[2] North Carolina state employees and state retirees.

SCAN THE CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PAYING DOWN DEBT.

1. APR = Annual Percentage Rate. APR is your cost over the loan term expressed as a rate. Rates are subject to change prior to the completion of the loan. Your actual APR will be determined at the time of disbursement and may vary based on credit score and loan terms. If you qualify, we can give you a quote for the current rate and most loan documents can be signed electronically.
2. To be eligible for this discount, members must be a current full-time or retired employee of the state of North Carolina (including public school employees) and members' state payroll or retirement benefits from a plan administered by the North Carolina Retirement Systems division of the Department of State Treasurer must be on direct deposit with SECU (if on partial direct deposit, total monthly direct deposit amount must be $500 or greater). Additional terms and conditions apply.

Tips on Being a Role Model for Healthy Money Management

Children watch and learn from adults in their lives, including how they manage their finances. You can play an important role in helping children prepare for financial success in adulthood. Here are a few ideas to get started:

- Share the role of money in your everyday life. Point out things that cost money and things that don't.
- Explain how money is earned. Speak about the work you do or the jobs of other adults in your child's life, like teachers and bus drivers.
- Build a basic family budget together for a shared treat, like a pizza night. Ask children for ideas, like skipping a small purchase today to afford the goal sooner.
- If they receive money, such as for their birthday or on holidays, encourage them to set some aside as savings in a FAT CAT or Zard Account, and explain why it is important to do so.

SCAN TO VISIT THE LEARNING HUB FOR MORE DETAILS AND TIPS.

Protect Your Family Against Back-To-School Scams

As you prepare for the new school year, scammers are also busy trying to gain access to your personal and financial information. Whether you're shopping online for supplies or getting ready for college, use these tips to help safeguard yourself and your family from back-to-school scams.

- Pay by debit or credit card so you can dispute school-related purchases if there is a problem.
- Verify online sellers are legitimate and/or authorized vendors of the school's merchandise.
- Thoroughly research organizations that offer financial aid and scholarships before providing any information or payment.
- Pay attention to delivery times and fees. Make sure you will receive your purchase in time for the start of school, and check that added fees don't stray outside your budget.
- You may be buying from vendors you have not used before, especially for college purchases. Always approach with caution. Be wary of unsolicited offers and stay away from deals that are too good to be true.

SCAN THE CODE FOR MORE VALUABLE TIPS.

SPECIAL MEMBER OFFERS ON NC ATTRACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

As a proud community connector, SECU is pleased to offer opportunities to explore, experience, and enjoy more of North Carolina with special discounts on attractions and activities across the state. Get access to discounted event and entertainment tickets at ncsecu.org/join/member-discounts. New offers will be added regularly, so bookmark this page to check back for more.

Discounts are limited to SECU members. Membership eligibility requirements apply.

INTERESTED IN SERVING ON YOUR LOCAL BRANCH ADVISORY BOARD?

Advisory Board members serve as a vital link between the Board of Directors, staff, and membership. They meet quarterly to provide valuable feedback and make recommendations for new products, services, or modifications to existing offerings to help SECU better serve its members.

SCAN FOR THE ADVISORY BOARD INTEREST FORM.

Financial Condition

MAY 31, 2026 (UNAUDITED)

Assets	**Year 2026**	**Year 2025**
Cash, Investments	$ 20,148,154,159	18,210,276,895
Loans to Members	37,939,902,510	35,915,675,693
Accrued Interest Receivable	303,916,483	199,568,626
Property and Equipment	1,260,828,780	1,214,840,936
Deposit for Insurance of Accounts	474,346,315	437,284,024
Other Assets	221,848,654	260,127,215
Total Assets	$ 60,348,996,901	56,237,773,389
Liabilities and Reserves		
Checking Accounts	$ 7,776,159,124	7,383,837,597
Share Accounts	46,489,561,314	43,336,496,604
Total Accrued Expenses	72,866,146	77,847,785
Other Liabilities	247,261,575	229,061,280
Reserves/Undivided Earnings	5,763,148,742	5,210,530,123
Total Liabilities and Reserves	$ 60,348,996,901	56,237,773,389