





## Message from the CEO

As adults, we make important decisions every day of our lives, but certain decisions can be more difficult to make than others. When it comes to the big financial decisions, such as providing for your children's college education or preparing for retirement, getting the best, most objective advice and support available is crucial. That's why Fiscal is thrilled to announce a new service for our members. In partnership with Linsco/Private Ledger (LPL) Financial Services, Fiscal is offering members new, wide-ranging investment options designed to help you plan for the future.

As our members already know, Fiscal is constantly looking for ways to improve the high quality products and services we offer. Through LPL we are able to bring solid, unbiased advice, along with meaningful, timely information and research to our members, so they can make the best and most informed investment decisions. And I'm pleased to say that LPL delivers the same high level of service that our members already receive from Fiscal.

So, I hope you will find this new service especially helpful when making any future investment decisions. I urge all of our members to contact Pierre for assistance in meeting their financial objectives, as he is extremely knowledgeable and experienced in delivering objective financial guidance. To get in touch with Pierre, please inquire at any of the Fiscal's branches or call (800) 311-3328.

As always, Fiscal is constantly looking for ways to help members meet or exceed their financial goals. This new service is another way we're "The Bridge to Your Future!"

Regards,

Michael R. Gomez  
CEO

## Another Level of Convenience for Fiscal Members



Ever felt like having a midnight snack while making a deposit, withdrawal, transfer, credit advance or loan payment? Well, you're in luck. CO-OP ATM services are now available at 2,000 7-Eleven stores nationwide. That means, as a Fiscal member, you gain the added convenience of being able to use ATM machines at participating locations to conduct surcharge-free transactions on your Credit Union account – any time of the day or night.

These new 7-Eleven locations add to the existing 25,000 CO-OP ATMs that Fiscal members can utilize for quick and easy access to their accounts. This is just another example of Fiscal's ongoing commitment to make the services members need as convenient as possible.

And what could be more convenient than a 7-Eleven? With their well-lit and high-traffic areas, you can enjoy simple and safe access to your accounts whenever you want.

## Fiscal Shines A Spotlight on Ambassadors at Universal Studios Celebration

More than 100 people attended the 11th annual Fiscal Ambassador Celebration at Universal Studios on August 25th. This gala event is held each year to honor outstanding efforts of Ambassadors on behalf of the Credit Union. The Ambassador Club is an innovative program designed to strengthen relations between Fiscal and companies throughout Southern California.

Attendees included Ambassadors, their guests, Fiscal staff and officials. An award ceremony and picnic lunch were held at Universal Studios' Globe Theatre. Ambassadors were presented with achievement awards for their exemplary work in providing financial education to their co-workers. Following the ceremony and lunch, everyone took advantage of a beautiful day, catching rides and various shows at the park.



Ambassador of the Year: Tina Young,  
L.A.C.E.R.A.



Employer of the Year: Mexican American  
Opportunity Foundation



Partnership and Financial Education  
Award: L.A. Care Health Plan



Outstanding Ambassador Commitment  
Award: Nancy Williams, L.A. County  
Department of S.T.D.



Outstanding Employee Communication  
Award: L.A. County Assessors Office

# Debit or Credit? The Real Difference Revealed

**W**e've all been there: You're at the register paying for that long-coveted purchase. You swipe your Visa check card and the touch screen asks, "Credit or Debit?" If you're like most people, you make a choice without investing too much brainpower, but do you really know the difference between one choice and another? When is credit better than debit—and the other way around?

If you're paying with your Visa check card, one thing is always the same: Any credit or debit transaction you make will result in money coming directly out of your checking account. "Credit" transactions are not true credit; payments do not become part of a revolving account, as a regular credit card transaction would. There is no interest and no monthly payments. In this way, "credit" and "debit" charges on your Visa check card are largely interchangeable, and in most cases either choice is perfectly acceptable.

There are a few differences, however:

## USE CREDIT WHEN:

- **You want increased fraud protection.** VISA has zero liability policies on debit card purchases that are processed as "credit," meaning you have signed for your purchase rather than punching in a PIN.
- **Your purchase is big.** Because of smaller limits imposed when using PIN transactions, larger purchases are more likely to be authorized using the swipe and sign feature. Keep in mind that there are still limits to the "credit" side of a Visa check card; its best to confirm this limit prior to making that big-ticket item purchase.

## USE DEBIT WHEN:

- **You want cash back.** If your shopping day isn't even half over and you don't have the cash for a triple latte, this is the choice for you.
- **You like the security of using a PIN.** PIN based transactions are much less likely to be fraudulent than signature-based ones.
- **Your transaction is small.** Visa check cards carry a limit on purchases and withdrawals. If you're purchasing a big-ticket item, you may exceed your daily spending limit—or send the remainder of the day's transactions into limbo.
- **Your account is flush.** Debit purchases are instantly taken out of your account, just like an ATM transaction. There's no time to "beat the bank."

Bear in mind that some retailers charge a fee for either one or both "credit" and "debit" services. To avoid excess fees and unwelcome surprises, ask the retailer what fees may apply prior to making a choice between debit and credit. You'll also avoid excess fees by making sure you have adequate funds to cover any and all purchases you make, credit or debit, before you hit "enter." Adding an overdraft charge to the purchase price of any item can turn the best bargain into a splurge.

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# Let Your Home Finance Your Dreams

When you need extra cash are you tempted to break open that rainy-day piggy bank, or look for loose change under the couch cushions, or search the pockets of all your pants hanging in the closet? There's actually a much better source for much needed funds, and it just happens to be right over your head. Think of your home as a convenient source of cash that you can tap into for important expenditures, such as home improvements, paying a child's college tuition, or consolidating debt.

Fiscal offers several excellent ways to tap the equity in your home, so you can access the funds you need. We offer great rates with our Home Equity Lines of Credit (HELOC) and Home Equity loans. A Fiscal HELOC can provide you with an affordable source of funds using the value already accumulated in your home, as well as the flexibility of a line of credit.

A second way to tap in your home's lending power is through a Fiscal Home Equity loan, which allows members to borrow against the value of their home at a fixed rate for terms up to 15 years. Home Equity loans are fully amortized.

Both of these types of loan will provide you with the extra cash you need, and best of all, you won't have to resort to rummaging through your couch cushions anymore. For more information about Fiscal HELOC and Home Equity loans, visit [www.fiscal.org](http://www.fiscal.org) to apply online or contact one of our knowledgeable loan experts at (800) 311-3328.

## Fiscal Credit Union to Celebrate International Credit Union Day

### Members Invited to Participate in Essay Contest

On October 18, Fiscal will celebrate International Credit Union Day, commemorating the credit union movement's history and achievements. As part of the celebration, Fiscal members are invited to take part in an essay contest. Members are encouraged to submit a short essay of 150 words or less stating why the Credit Union is important to them.

The contest winner will receive a \$100 prize and have his or her essay published in the Winter 2008 issue of the FiscaLetter. Each of the two runner-ups will receive a \$50 prize. A member can submit only one essay. Essays must be received no later than October 19, 2007. Essays can be submitted at any Fiscal branch or emailed to [contest@fiscal.org](mailto:contest@fiscal.org)

"We are excited to celebrate the rich heritage of credit unions and the important role credit unions play around the world," stated Michael Gomez, Chief Executive Officer of Fiscal Credit Union. "Here at Fiscal, we work hard to support the local communities in which we work and live, and we remain committed to the financial well being of our members. I'm personally looking forward to hearing what members of our community value the most about their credit union."

*More than 172 million credit union members around the world will be celebrating International Credit Union Day this year. This annual event, which originated in 1948, is sponsored by the World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU), the international trade association and development organization for credit unions, and the Credit Union National Association (CUNA), the premier trade association for America's credit unions.*

This year's theme, "Together We're Better," reflects Fiscal's core values of service, community, integrity and innovation, and its constant commitment to support the financial needs of members.



#### Addresses:

##### 2,100 National Shared Branch Locations

To find a nearest shared branch or a no-fee ATM, please go to [www.fiscal.org/access/atms.htm](http://www.fiscal.org/access/atms.htm) and click on "CO-OP Network."

**Fiscal Center, Glendale Branch**  
310 E. Colorado Street  
Glendale, CA 91205

**Warner Center, West Valley Branch**  
21322 Oxnard Street  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

**East Valley Branch (New Location)**  
521-B North Montebello Blvd.,  
Montebello, CA 90640

**Fiscal website and e-mail**  
[www.fiscal.org](http://www.fiscal.org)  
[service@fiscal.org](mailto:service@fiscal.org)

#### Branch Hours:

##### Glendale and West Valley Branches:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:  
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
Wednesday: 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

##### East Valley Branch:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM  
Wednesday 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM  
Friday 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM  
Saturday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

#### Telephone Numbers:

Fiscal Call Center: (800) 311-3328  
Local Calls: (818) 553-8200  
CU Service Center (Shared Branch) Locator  
Toll-free: 1 (888) CUSWIRL (1-888-287-9475)  
CO-OP ATM Locator:  
1 (888) SITE-CO-OP (1-888-748-3266)

#### Third Party Disclaimer

Fiscal Credit Union is not responsible for the acts or omissions of any company or person to whom a member is referred for services, products, information, or other purposes ("referral information"). As a courtesy to its members, the Credit Union does provide referral information, however, the Credit Union does not endorse, guarantee or warrant any representations, services, information or products made or supplied by such company or persons.

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Essam Morcos, Secretary  
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##### Supervisory Committee Address:

P.O. Box 1422  
Glendale, CA 91209

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