

# What can CHECK SAFE mean to you?

Being a little short on funds occasionally affects some of us. If something like this happens to you, CHECK SAFE may save you embarrassment, time and hassle.

## A Mistake in Your Checkbook

You forget to make an entry in your checkbook and your balance is off. If the mistake results in an over drafted account, your overdraft may be covered.

## Communication Between Multiple Account Holders

You have two members of the family with access to the account and one forgets to mention and ATM transaction or debit card purchase. IF the communication error results in an over drafted account, your overdraft may be covered.

## An unexpected Bill

You have a car repair bill or unexpected medical expense that overdrafts your account. You overdraft may still be covered.



## CHECK SAFE POLICY

We have always taken pride in giving our members the best value for their money. We have been careful that products we offer have been with our member's best interest. At this time we are offering you a product that is used by most other credit unions and banks in the state. The product is called by many different names but the most common description is "Courtesy Pay". Our version of this product is called "CheckSafe". CheckSafe is an overdraft protection product. It is designed to cover you when you're paying bills, buying groceries or simply a little short in your checking. We will cover your checks up to a \$400 negative balance on an approved account. Once the \$400 balance (including processing fees) is reached any further checks written before the account is brought positive will be bounced. There is a \$25 fee to clear each check that takes the account balance negative and the account must be brought to a positive balance at least every 30 days or the checking account will be closed. The demand for this product has led us to offer it as an alternative or companion to our standard "Overdraft Line of Credit".

This product is not for everyone. We believe that when used responsibly it can help ease concerns you may have as you near the end of the pay period and you are trying to remember if you have balanced your checkbook. CheckSafe will step in and offer a buffer to a returned check. Don't pay a returned check fee, sometimes as much as triple the check amount, on the merchant end, don't allow your name to get into the Chek Systems database for bouncing checks, use CheckSafe. In order to obtain the benefits of CheckSafe you will be required to fill out the application at the bottom of this page and bring it in to our main office. At that time if you are approved CheckSafe will be added to your account. If you have any questions regarding CheckSafe please contact a Member Service representative who will be happy to answer them.

### Member Opt In Authorization

I \_\_\_\_\_ understand that by adding CheckSafe to my account the credit union may take my checking account into a negative status of up to \$\_\_\_\_\_ in order to clear my checks and collect a per cleared check fee of \$25. I also understand and agree that I will bring the negative balance to a positive balance at least every 30 days. I agree that should I not bring this negative balance positive within the prescribed period the credit union will convert that to a loan that will be payable within 180 days at 17.00% APR., and that my checking will be closed and not reopened until the previous balance is paid in full. I understand that I may only access CheckSafe thru written checks and not thru cash withdrawals done at the credit union. I also understand that CheckSafe will not apply to debit card transactions. I now exercise my option to participate in this program by signing on the line provided below. I do this without coercion or duress.

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Joint Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Account Number \_\_\_\_\_



1250 Country Hills Dr.  
Ogden, UT 84403  
Ph: 801-392-4877  
Fax: 801-392-4879  
www.e1cu.org



*A Little Extra Coverage*

- ✔ Protects you from NSF returned checks
- ✔ Protects you from merchant returned check charges
- ✔ Protects you from collection agency fees
- ✔ Protects your good credit rating



www.e1cu.org

## Bouncing a check no longer has to be a hassle-filled and embarrassing incident!

If you write a check and do not have enough funds to cover it, in addition to a NSF fee from your credit union, you may face:

- Making the check good with the retailer
- Potential damage to your credit rating
- Retailer/Merchant fee
- Embarrassment and aggravation

Your credit union understand this and wants to help.

That's why we're making a discretionary CHECK SAFE program available to our members.

This service costs you nothing unless you use it. As long as you maintain your account in good standing, we will consider payment of your reasonable overdraft instead of returning it as a non-sufficient funds item.

With CHECK SAFE, your check & ACH transaction may\* be covered by your credit union and you will be charged the same NSF fee you would have been charged if the item were returned.

You will be sent a notice of non-sufficient funds and will be required to bring your account to a positive balance within 30 days.

*It's that simple!*

Please, always manage your finances responsibly, and know that if you need it, your credit union is there and CHECK SAFE may help.

\*See our CHECK SAFE Policy for details.



### What is CHECK SAFE?

CHECK SAFE is an overdraft protection product we provide to our members with checking accounts. We may\* cover insufficient fund checks, electronic funds transfers, or other payment/withdrawal requests up to your approved limit.

That means instead of returning a check to the merchant, the credit union may pay your check up to your \$400 limit, saving you additional charges from the merchant or a collection company. We will charge our normal NSF fee for each item, and send you a notice each time an overdraft occurs.

### How do I sign up?

Sign up for CHECK SAFE by completing the CHECK SAFE application which can be found online at [www.e1cu.org](http://www.e1cu.org) or at one of our locations.

### What if I already have overdraft protection?

If you have established other overdraft protection methods, such as a line of credit or automatic transfer from your other accounts, we will always look to pay any overdraft by those other methods first before paying your overdraft utilizing CHECK SAFE and imposing a \$25 fee for each overdraft we pay.

### How does CHECK SAFE work?

When we receive an item for payment that causes that balance in your account to go below zero, we may, as a courtesy, pay the check or debit up to \$400 including the overdraft fee. You must bring your account into a positive balance within 30 days.

### Is CHECK SAFE a loan?

No. It is a service provided by the credit union to help you manage your money. This service can be withdrawn at any time by the credit union.

### How will I know if I us my CHECK SAFE?

We will mail a letter notifying you when you have activated your CHECK SAFE and overdrawn your account. We'll send reminder letters advising you of your overdraft until your bring your account to a positive balance.

### What if I go over my CHECK SAFE limit?

If you exceed the CHECK SAFE limit, any additional items will be returned or declined when presented for payment.

### Is there a charge for CHECK SAFE?

We will charge our standard overdraft fee (NSF FEE) per each overdrawn item as described in our CHECK SAFE Policy. The schedule of charges is also listed in the Fee Schedule found in your account packet. Don't forget to subtract any fees from your checkbook balance.

### If I use my CHECK SAFE, how long do I have to bring my account into a positive balance?

You should bring your checking account to a positive balance as soon as possible. You have 30 days maximum to pay any overdraft and associated fees. However, depending on the situation, we can ask for repayment at any time. Any deposit you make or is made automatically will first be applied to any overdrawn balance and associated fees.

### What happens if I can't bring my account to a positive balance?

With CHECK SAFE you have up to 30 days to bring your account to a positive balance. If you still have a negative balance at that time, your CHECK SAFE will be suspended or revoked until the account is returned to good standing, regardless if you've reached the \$400 limit or not. If your account balance is negative for 30 days, you could lose checking privileges at this institution.



EDUCATION FIRST  
CREDIT UNION