

THE PULSE

WITH AN EYE TOWARDS THE FUTURE



CHANGE HOW YOU SEE YOUR DEBT IN 2020 AND MAKE IT YOUR BEST YEAR EVER

- **Transform** your credit card balance or other loans into an easier lower payment or rate.
- **See results quickly.**
- **A new lowered 20/20 Signature Loan rate as low as 6.90% APR*** gives you a clear way to begin

Five reasons to consolidate

- Reason #1:** Lower Interest Rates means you save. Period.
- Reason #2:** Your Interest Rate is Fixed.
- Reason #3:** The Loan Has a Fixed Term. Look forward to paying it off.
- Reason #4:** One low easy payment
- Reason #5:** Less Stress

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

WHAT'S NEW?

- 01** *20/20 Fiscal Vision—Start 2020 by transforming your debt*
- 02** *The President's Message, Are your finances seeing 20/20?*
- 03** *Understanding your loan*
- 04** *Why save? Seven reasons why.*

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rate, terms and conditions are subject to change and may vary based on creditworthiness and qualifications. This promotion excludes current signature loans financed through HACU. Flexible payment options are available for qualifying members. Payment example 12 month rate of 6.90% APR \$86.49 per \$1,000 borrowed. Creditworthiness and terms determine your rate and then the rate will be reduced by 1%, on every Signature Loan application received from January 1- February 29, 2020.

20/20 FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Happy 2020 to you and your family! I hope you had a wonderful holiday and are ready to start the New Year with a fresh perspective. Needless to say, 2019 was an incredible year packed with excitement and offerings. Not only did we look for ways to help our members Bank Healthy, we spent the year Paying it 40, where we celebrated our 40th anniversary and members shared some amazing stories about how HACU has helped them. Now we are ready to celebrate a new beginning, not only of a new year, but also of a new decade.

When people say 2020, the first thing that probably comes to mind is 20/20 vision; a 20/20 eye prescription essentially means you have perfect vision. Well, one of the things that we at HealthCare Associates Credit Union want for our members and their families is for them to be fiscally fit, so we're making 2020 the year of Fiscal 20/20 Vision here at HACU.

So what does Fiscal 20/20 look like? It means having a deep understanding of your finances. Understanding what your money is doing and how it is working for you. Setting goals for your financial life like sending someone off to college or taking that vacation you've been dreaming of and being able to meet those goals. It's also having a keen understanding of your financial obligations and ensuring you have the best rates for things like your mortgage, auto loans and other areas of debt.

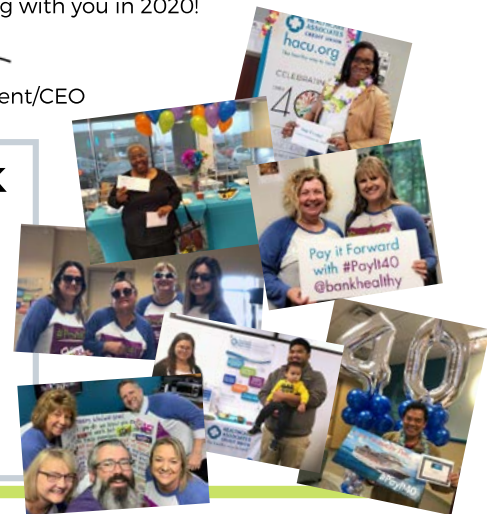
No matter where you are in your life, HACU wants to help! We have a variety of products and services suitable for every stage of your financial life. Whether you're planning to start your lives together, paying for braces, buying or making improvements to your home, furthering yourself with an education or getting ready to retire, HACU has the right products to start you on your way to 20/20 fiscal vision. So reach out to us and we can continue the journey together.

I sincerely thank you for banking with us here at HealthCare Associates Credit Union. We value having a relationship with you and look forward to being a partner in your success. I look forward to celebrating with you in 2020!

Joseph J. Kregul | President/CEO

A LOOK BACK At 2019's #PayIt40

- Over a dozen Cruises awarded to members
- Four \$500 Gift Cards
- \$10k to Charity
- 260 onsite workshops
- Tens of Thousands in lending and savings promotions



ARE YOUR FINANCES SEEING 20/20?

2020 is here and it's time to do things like update your benefits package for 401k, health and vision. While you probably schedule your annual physical and vision check-up like clock work, when was the last time you took a look at your financial vision?

Think of your finances the same way you think of your vision. If it's not clear, how do you get where you want to be? Visual acuity is usually measured with an eye chart, while financial acuity is measured with a credit score by most financial institutions. But at HACU we see our members as part of our family, not a score and strive to find out about you and how to make your finances better.

20/20 Check-up. Let us help you achieve 20/20 financial well-being this year. Start with your prescription to refinance your credit cards and other high interest debt with 1% off a Signature Loan during the special!

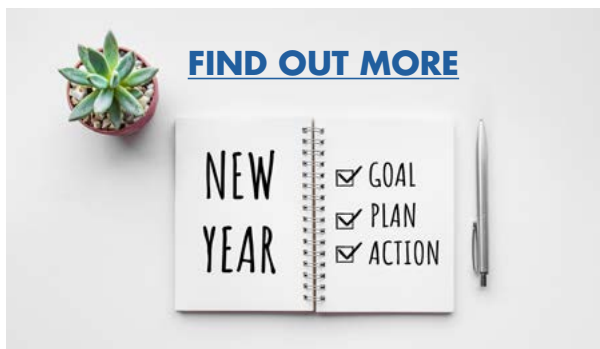
Here's an interesting fact: 20/20 Vision which most people think of as perfect is actually considered "normal". 20/20 is not the best possible eyesight. It's possible to have sharper than 20/20 vision. **Like vision,** only 21.8% of the U.S. population have a credit score at the top.

Let 20/20 take your finances to a new level. This year we'll be focusing on prescriptions to improve your financial well-being. Ready, Set... Go!



TOP 7 REASONS TO SAVE YOUR MONEY

20/20's top reasons to save. You may have asked yourself why you really need to save. If you have enough to pay for everything you need, why should you worry about putting anything aside each month? There are a variety of reasons to begin or continue saving money. Different people save for different reasons, but it makes saving easier if you have a clear goal or purpose for the money you are saving. Here are seven reasons that may open your eyes to new or additional reasons to consider increasing your savings account balance.



- 1 Save for Your Emergency Fund
- 2 Save for Retirement
- 3 Save for a Down Payment for a House
- 4 Save to Maximize Interest Rates
- 5 Save for Vacations, a New Car or Luxury Items
- 6 Save for Known, Large Expenses
- 7 Save for College Education

tips

Cut Expenses: Eating out, premium cable packages or Uber eats can all become uber expensive think about alternatives.

Automate: Set aside a certain amount per paycheck to go straight to a savings account so you don't spend it.



SET GOALS



It's time to set your goals. Like the lottery, if you don't buy a ticket (have a goal), you won't win. Your first step to planning should be to review your budget and update it so it's current, then you'll have a clear starting point.

Plan to save? Take your tax refund for instance, before you get your tax refund, you need to make a plan for that money. If you just put it in the bank, without a purpose, you will be surprised at how quickly that money can disappear. Take the time before you get your refund and determine the best way to spend it. Determine if you need to catch up on your bills or if you have a specific goal, like saving for a down payment.

Also Plan how to borrow wisely. Loans make the most sense when you make an investment in your future or buy something that you truly need and can't buy with cash.

- Education expenses
- Home ownership
- Automobiles
- Starting and growing a business

[LEARN MORE](#)

Loans for anything else. Whether or not it makes sense to borrow is something you'll need to evaluate carefully. In general, borrowing to fund your current expenses — like your housing payment, food, and utility bills — is not sustainable and should be avoided.

Source: thebalance.com

Being a financially fit family

means your flock will be ready for any obstacle that comes their way. Just as we practice good health tips, it's also important to be sure we are practicing good financial health too.

That's why members' family can join too! [JOIN NOW](#)

UNDERSTANDING YOUR LOAN

The 20/20 basics of your loan. When we receive a payment, we apply it first to the amount of interest due, then to the amount of principal due. Any amount left after this is automatically applied to any outstanding fees, then as a reduction to your principal. Therefore, if you pay late, more of your payment will be used to pay the interest you owe and less will go toward reducing your principal balance. You may also be charged a late fee, which also increases the cost of your loan.

Other actions that drive up your costs:

- Missing a payment—adds interest and late fees
- Moving you due date—adds interest
- Payment extensions—adds interest and extends your loan payment schedule



Ways to help save money and time

- Pay on time—Extra days between payments mean extra interest, and possible late fees.
- Pay online—Sign up for repeating payments from your checking or savings account at hacu.org. This helps you avoid late payments and saves time because you don't have to write a check to pay your bill each month.
- Pay extra—Adding a little more to your regular monthly payment each month or making an additional lump sum payment will help lower your principal faster and reduce your interest costs.



HACU ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, February 19, 2020, at 9:00 am at 1151 E. Warrenville Rd., Naperville, IL

UPCOMING BRANCH CLOSING DATES

New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, Monday, January 20

President's Day, Monday, February 17

BANK 24/7 ANY DAY

hacu.org Bank with My247 Digital Banking

Telephone Teller 630.276.5726 or toll free 800.213.6445



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