

USSFCU had a great 2017 and we are celebrating by give back to our members with **GREAT NEW RATES ON ALL DEPOSIT OFFERINGS!**

USSFCU's Share Certificate Rate as of January 2018

2.76%¹

USSFCU's Money Market Rate as of January 2018

0.80%

Take advantage of these great new rates, contact Member Services at 800.374.2758.

View all 2018 deposit rates and terms at ussfu.org/newrates

1 Share Certificate APY = Annual Percentage Yield. A 60-month term share certificate with a minimum balance of \$60,000 will earn 2.76% APY. A 60-month term share certificate with a minimum balance of \$1,000 will earn 2.63% APY. Rates effective as of 01/01/2018. Rates are subject to change without notice. Early withdrawal penalties may apply. Withdraws and fees may reduce earnings. The minimum balance required to open a share certificate is \$1,000.00. You must maintain a minimum daily balance of \$1,000.00 in your account each day to obtain the disclosed annual percentage yield. You will earn dividends for every day during the period that your account equals or exceeds the minimum daily balance requirement. The APY assumes dividends will remain on deposit until maturity. The dividend period on your account begins from the date that your account is opened and ends on the maturity date, unless renewed. Member has 10 days from the maturity date to make changes with no penalty.

2 Money Market APY = Annual Percentage Yield. A money market account with a minimum balance of \$2,000 will earn 0.46% APY. A money market account with a minimum balance of \$500,000 will earn 0.80% APY. Rates effective as of 01/01/2018. Rates are subject to change without notice. The minimum balance required to open a money market account is \$2,000.00. You must maintain a minimum daily balance of \$2,000.00 in your account each day to obtain the disclosed annual percentage yield. You will earn dividends for every day during the period that your account equals or exceeds the minimum daily balance requirement. The APY assumes dividends will remain on deposit until maturity. The dividend period on your account begins from the date that your account is opened. Unlimited transactions in branch locations and only 6 electronic transactions (online banking, mobile banking or teleaction) per month

*National average yield for 60-month term certificates according to Bankrate's most recent national survey of banks and thrifts at bankrate.com.

**National average yield for money market based on postings from bankrate.com as of 12/28/2017

Membership eligibility required. This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.



options that we offer at USSFCU.



What's Your Best Savings Option? It Depends...

How to Safeguard Your Personal Info

Exploring Your IRA

USSFCU Corner



How to Safeguard Your Personal Info Don't fall victim to fraud. Learn the Do's and Don'ts of securing your information.



Exploring Your IRA Planning to Retire? Make sure your savings plan is right for you.

USSFCU | Serving the Senate Community Since 1935

After decades of strategic planning and growth, USSFCU strives to continually introduce innovative new products and services to meet our members' evolving needs in an era of rapid technological change.



Kenneth W. Kramer President/CEO



Mike Sisk Chief Operating Officer



Dennis R. Will Chief Financial Officer

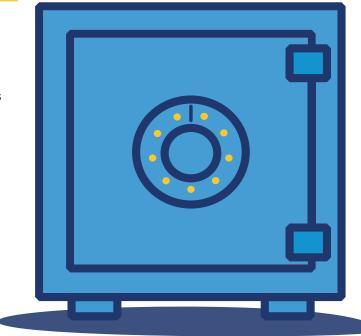
What's Your Best



There's no question that saving is a wise plan, but where to put your savings isn't always so cut and dried. Does a regular savings account fit your needs best, or would a money market account be a smarter choice? And what about saving certificates? Which option is right for you depends largely on the amount you're saving and your cash-flow situation.

Basic savings accounts are popular for their safety and accessibility. These accounts are federally insured up to certain limits, with steady returns that compound regularly, and the minimum balance required to avoid a fee is usually low.

Although there may be a limit to the number of free monthly transactions, customers can make withdrawals as desired without penalty. Savings accounts have come a long way since the days of passbooks and paper statements; depositors now may enjoy ATM, telephone and remote account access. The downside is that Annual Percentage Yields, or APYs, on savings accounts tend to be lower than the rates of return for other types of investments.





Another safe, federally insured option is a money market account (not to be confused with money market funds, which are a type of mutual fund). As with savings accounts, returns compound regularly; online, remote and ATM banking are available; and there are no maturity terms to contend with.

Money market accounts typically offer higher returns than savings accounts at traditional banks and credit unions that provide in-person services, allowing your money to grow at a faster rate. Some money market accounts also come with the added benefit of limited check-writing capability.

Money market accounts do come with a few considerations, however. The average required minimum balance to avoid fees tends to be significantly higher than for savings accounts. And in some cases, these accounts may allow for fewer of certain types of transactions per month.



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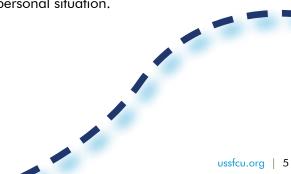
If you're in a position to leave money in place for a longer period—in exchange for a higher return—consider investing in share certificates.

With share certificates offered by credit unions, and certificates of deposit from banks, you agree not to touch the money you put in for a fixed period of time, which can run from a few weeks to five years or more.

In return, you receive a greater return at the end of the term than if you'd put the cash in a money market or traditional savings account. Impatience will cost you, though: If you decide to withdraw your money before the end of the term, you'll generally get hit with early withdrawal penalties.



When comparing these saving options, there isn't a single clear winner. The choice comes down to how much money you want to put in a savings plan, what kind of access you need to have to it and how long you can comfortably let it sit and increase in value. Taking the time to compare rates, minimum balances and fees will help you find the best savings vehicle for your personal situation.





ATM Services At

MORE THAN 500,000 ATMS*

in the U.S. and internationally NYCE with the NYCE® Network



Not all 500,000 ATMs in the NYCE® Network are surcharge free.



Look for these bright red logos at participating ATMs:

Surcharge-free ATMs—It's your money, save SUM

DOLLAR STOP ®

\$1 charge ATMs—Convenient cash for just \$1**

Don't forget that you can also get cash back at most local merchants and major national retailers during check-out! (Fees may apply)



- USSFCU's ATM network offers more surcharge-free ATMs than just about any bank, coast to coast, nationwide.***
- You can access your funds at over 100,000 surcharge-free ATM locations throughout the United States and the rest of the world thanks to our vast network of partners.***

UNITED STATES SENATE FEDERA

USSFCU ATMs

Located at all USSFCU branches and throughout Capitol Hill Visit ussfcu.org/atms for more information

or to locate your nearest surcharge-free ATM.

Network size available at nyce net/consumers. "Terms of use may apoly, "March 2017 comparison based on claims located at bankafamerica.com. chase.com. anc.com. usbank.com. usbanklocations.com and wellsfargo.com. "Please note that USSFCU strives to report the most accurate information available for each location. Occasionally there may be a discrepancy in the information provided (including fee surcharges) due to some institutions initiating changes or experiencing system malfunction There may be some overlap between ATMs in the different USSFCU partner networks.

Membership eligibility required. This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.



HOW TO SAFEGUARD YOUR PERSONAL INFO

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FRAUD & IDENTITY THEFT

■ By now, everyone is aware of the credit-reporting agency Equifax and the data breach that exposed 143 million consumers' records to hackers. The scale of this breach was unprecedented, underscoring the fact that it is absolutely crucial to take precautions and protect your personal information. All consumers are vulnerable to becoming victims of fraud and identity theft. Read below for some Do's and Don'ts that will help you safeguard your personal information.



√ BE OBSERVANT WHEN WITHDRAWING MONEY FROM ATMS

Look for worn down parts and malfunctioning screens. These may indicate the presence of a card skimmer. Contact customer service if you think you have used a compromised ATM.

√ MONITOR YOUR CHECKING & SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Diligently monitor your checking and savings accounts and know your balances. Use Online or Mobile Banking to view your account details daily.





√ CHECK YOUR CREDIT REPORT

Every consumer in the U.S. is entitled to check their credit report once a year. To access yours for free visit AnnualCreditReport.com.

✓ KNOW YOUR FICO SCORE

FICO scores fluctuate often, but monitor yours for drastic changes. You can check yours at myfico.com for a nominal fee.

✓ GO THE EXTRA MILE

Sign up for a credit monitoring and identity protection service. Be sure to use a service you trust and verify its legitimacy.

IDnotify[™]—now available to USSFCU members free for one year! (See details on page 9)

6 | ussfcu.org ussfcu.org | 7



X DOWNLOAD SMARTPHONE AND **TABLET APPS FROM JUST ANYWHERE**

Most apps may appear harmless but they can contain risky code. If you need to access Mobile Banking, research the app through your financial institution's website first.

X STORE CARD NUMBERS ON **MERCHANT SITES**

Never opt to store your data. A breach on any website can jeopardize your personal information and identity. Use Visa® Checkout or Masterpass™ to protect sensitive card data and always check to make sure the webpage you are on is secure. You can validate the security of a website by checking your browser for the lock symbol and ensuring that the address begins with https not just http.

X REVEAL INFORMATION TO UNKNOWN SOURCES

If someone calls, emails or texts you with a "very important message from your card issuer," do not pick up and do not respond. Place a separate call to customer service or your card issuer to assess the situation. If you do not recognize the phone number calling you, do not answer. The art of fraud thrives on technology. There are now tools available that can synthesize the human voice; there is a chance that a fraudster may be calling to obtain a voice sample.

SCAM ALERT: TELEMARKETING FRAUD



When you send money to people you do not know personally or give personal or financial information to unknown callers, you increase your chances of becoming a victim of telemarketing fraud.

Here are some warning signs of telemarketing fraud—what a caller may tell you:

- » "You must act 'now' or the offer won't be good."
- vacation or prize." But you have to pay for "postage and handling"
- give a credit card or bank

account number or have a check picked up by courier." You may hear this before you have had a chance to consider the offer carefully.

- "You don't need to check out the company with anyone." The caller says you do not need to speak to anyone including your family, lawyer, accountant, local Better Business Bureau or consumer protection agency.
- » "You don't need any written information about the company or their references."
- » "You can't afford to miss this 'high-profit, no-risk' offer."



If you hear these or similar "lines" from a telephone salesperson, just say "no, thank you" and hang up the telephone.

Learn more at FBI.gov/scams-and-safety

» "You've won a 'free' gift,

or other charges.

» "You must send money,

TO ALL USSFCU MEMBERS——WE ARE NOW OFFERING

Protection and Peace of Mind, FREE—FOR ONE WHOLE YEAR*

IDnotify[™] by Experian is now available to USSFCU members.

ACT NOW! Enrollment ends March 13, 2018!

This safe and secure protection program is offered free for an entire year to all USSFCU members—but **HURRY!** Enrollment ends March 13, 2018!



This quality program includes the following

- ☑ Credit Monitoring
- ✓ Dark-Web Monitoring
- ☑ Full-Service Identity Restoration

As your financial institution we value your membership and are taking additional action every day, for your protection:



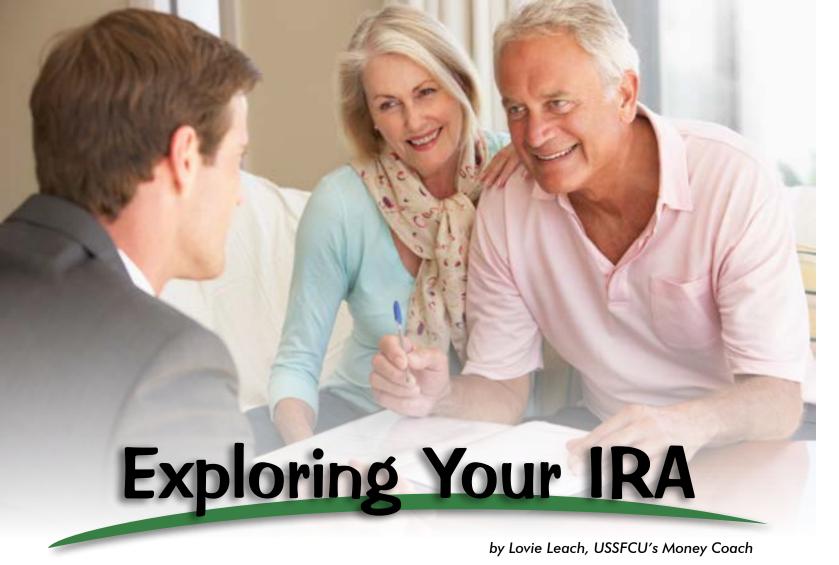
- We diligently monitor accounts and verify suspicious transactions.
- We take extra precaution confirming member identity.
- We provide 24-hour phone support for lost or stolen cards.
- We offer the ability to change personal identification numbers (PINs) on USSFCU cards at USSFCU ATMs.
- We do not hold members liable for unauthorized transactions on their USSFCU cards.
- We never ask for personal information such as your account or credit card number, social security number or date of birth via text or email.

Enrolling is easy—simply e-mail "ENROLL ME" to memberprotection@ussfcu.org.

For more information contact member services at 800.374.2758.

*This offer is valid to all USSFCU members regardless of account type. Must be a USSFCU member at the time of enrollment and termination of USSFCU membership will not affect the 12-month free trial. The 12-month free trial starts upon moment of full registration and submission of the free trial PIN with IDnotify™. IDnotify™ is an Experian product, not a USSFCU product. By registering with IDnotify™ you agree to their terms and conditions. Any continued enrollment after the 12-month free trial has ended will be the sole responsibility of the member. Any pricing agreed upon after the 12-month free trial would be exclusively through IDnotifyTM and Experian. To view IDnotifyTM pricing plans and their terms and conditions, visit www.idnotify.com. To opt-out of this service at any time, please contact IDnotify™ at 1.888.883.1852 or memberservices@idnotify.com. New members joining USSFCU during the 90-day enrollment period are eligible for enrollment in this offer. Members joining after March 13, 2018 are not eligible.

Membership eligibility required. This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.



An individual retirement arrangement (IRA) is a personal retirement savings plan that offers specific tax benefits. In fact, IRAs are one of the most powerful retirement savings tools available to you. Even if you're contributing to a 401(k), Thrift Savings Plan or another plan at work, you should also consider investing in an IRA.

What types of IRAs are available?

There are two major types of IRAs: Traditional IRAs and differences between these two types of IRAs. You must Roth IRAs. Both allow you to make annual contributions understand these differences before you can choose the of up to \$5,500 in 2017 (unchanged from 2016). type of IRA that's best for you. Generally, you must have at least as much taxable compensation as the amount of your IRA contribution. But if you are married filing jointly, your spouse can also contribute to an IRA, even if he or she does not have taxable compensation. The law also allows taxpayers age 50 and older to make additional "catch-up" contributions. These folks can put up to \$6,500 in their IRAs in 2017 (unchanged from 2016).

■ Both Traditional and Roth IRAs feature tax-sheltered growth of earnings. And both give you a wide range of investment choices. However, there are important



Traditional IRAs

Practically anyone can open and contribute to a Traditional IRA. The only requirements are that you must have taxable compensation and be under the age of 70½. You can contribute the maximum allowed each year as long as your taxable compensation for the year is at least that amount. If your taxable compensation for the year is below the maximum contribution allowed, you can contribute only up to the amount you earned.

- Your contributions to a Traditional IRA may be tax deductible on your federal income tax return. This is important because tax-deductible (pre-tax) contributions lower your taxable income for the year, saving you money in taxes. If neither you nor your spouse are covered by a 401(k) or another employer-sponsored plan, you can generally deduct the full amount of your annual contribution. If one of you is covered by such a plan, your ability to deduct your contributions depends on your annual income (modified adjusted gross income, or MAGI) and your income tax filing status. You may qualify for a full deduction, a partial deduction or no deduction at all.
- What happens when you start taking money from your Traditional IRA? Any portion of a distribution that represents deductible contributions is subject to income tax because those contributions were not taxed when you made them. Any portion that represents investment earnings is also subject to income tax because those earnings were not previously taxed either. Only the portion that represents nondeductible, after-tax contributions (if any) is not subject to income tax. In addition to income tax, you may have to pay a 10%

early withdrawal penalty if you're under the age of $59\frac{1}{2}$, unless you meet one of the exceptions.

■ If you wish to defer taxes, you can leave your funds in the Traditional IRA, but only until April 1 of the year following the year you reach age 70½. That's when you have to take your first required minimum distribution from the IRA. After that, you must take a distribution by the end of every calendar year until your funds are exhausted or you die. The annual distribution amounts are based on a standard life expectancy table. You can always withdraw more than you're required to in any

INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY AN EMPLOYER PLAN			
Filing Status	Deduction is limited if MAGI between:	No deduction if MAGI over:	
Single/Head of Household	\$62,000–\$72,000	\$72,000	
Married Joint*	\$99,000–\$119,000	\$119,000	
Married Separate	\$0-\$10,000	\$10,000	

*If you're not covered by an employer plan, but your spouse is, your deduction is limited if your MAGI is \$186,000 to \$196,000, and eliminated if your MAGI exceeds \$196,000.

year. However, if you withdraw less, you'll be hit with a 50% penalty on the difference between the required minimum and the amount you actually withdrew.

Roth IRAs

Not everyone can set up a Roth IRA. Even if you can, you may not qualify to take full advantage of it. The first requirement is that you must have taxable compensation. If your taxable compensation is at least \$5,500 in 2017 (unchanged from 2016), you may be able to contribute the full amount. But it gets more complicated. Your ability to contribute to a Roth IRA in any year depends on your MAGI and your income tax filing status. Your allowable contribution may be less than the maximum possible, or nothing at all.

■ Your contributions to a Roth IRA are not tax deductible. You can invest only after-tax dollars in a Roth IRA. The good news is that, if you meet certain conditions, your withdrawals from a Roth IRA will be completely free from federal income tax, including both contributions and investment earnings. To be eligible for these qualifying distributions, you must meet a five-year holding period requirement. In addition, one of the following must apply:

- » You have reached age $59\frac{1}{2}$ by the time of the withdrawal.
- » The withdrawal is made because of disability.
- » The withdrawal is made to pay first-time home buyer expenses (\$10,000 lifetime limit from all IRAs).
- » The withdrawal is made by your beneficiary or estate after your death.
- Qualified distributions will also avoid the 10% early withdrawal penalty. This ability to withdraw your funds with no taxes or penalty is a key strength of the Roth IRA. And remember, even non-qualified distributions will be taxed (and possibly penalized) only on the investment earnings portion of the distribution, and then only to the extent that your distribution exceeds the total amount of all contributions that you have made.



ROTH IRA			
Filing Status	Contribution is limited if MAGI between:	No contribution if MAGI over:	
Single/Head of Household	\$118,000–\$133,000	\$133,000	
Married Joint	\$186,000_\$196,000	\$196,000	
Married Separate	\$0-\$10,000	\$10,000	

■ Another advantage of the Roth IRA is that there are no required distributions after age 70½ or at any time during your life. You can put off taking distributions until you really need the income. Or, you can leave the entire balance to your beneficiary without ever taking a single distribution. Also, as long as you have taxable compensation and qualify, you can keep contributing to a Roth IRA after age 70½.

Choosing the Right IRA for You

Assuming you qualify to use both, which type of IRA is best for you? Sometimes the choice is easy. The Roth IRA will probably be a more effective tool if you don't qualify for tax-deductible contributions to a Traditional IRA. However, if you can deduct your Traditional IRA contributions, the choice is more difficult. Most professionals believe that a Roth IRA will still give you more bang for your dollars in the long run, but it depends on your personal goals and circumstances.

■ The Roth IRA may very well make more sense if you want to minimize taxes during retirement and preserve

assets for your beneficiaries. But a traditional deductible IRA may be a better tool if you want to lower your yearly tax bill while you're still working (and probably in a higher tax bracket than you'll be in after you retire). A financial professional or tax advisor can help you pick the right type of IRA for you.

You can have both a Traditional IRA and a Roth IRA, but your total annual contribution to all of the IRAs that you own cannot be more than \$5,500 in 2017 (\$6,500 if you're age 50 or older).

IRA contributions for the 2017 tax year may be made in 2018 up to the official tax deadline (April 17th, 2018).

To make your contribution before the deadline or for more information, call Member Services at 800.374.2758.

IRAs are one of the most POWERFUL retirement saving tools available.

It's never too early to take an active role in your retirement planning. At USSFCU it is our commitment to provide you with every available resource to do so. USSFCU's very own Money Coach* specializes in coaching clients with their retirement planning and investing. She is available to assist all members with their financial decisions.



To schedule your appointment, contact Lovie Leach at 202.869.3897 | LLeach@MoneyConcepts.com





Use your Visa between 1/1 – 2/28/18 for a chance to win a trip to a past Olympic Winter Games host city, courtesy of Visa.



You've set your sights on gold. We'll help you cross the finish line.





2017 Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10-Mile Run Capitol Hill Competition Plaque Presentations

In mid-November, USSFCU met with Senator Angus King to honor the Senator and his team for placing First Runner Up in the 2017 Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10-Mile Run Capitol Hill Competition. Senator King's team, "All the King's Men," finished with a run time of 3:21:35, only 3 minutes 20 seconds off of the lead time.

USSFCU CEO/President
Ken Kramer presented a
commemorative plaque to Senator
King and his team for their
accomplishment. Accompanying
Ken to present the award were VP
of Risk Management Libby Fike
and Marketing Director Arthur
Green. The Senator's team (Pete
Benoit, Andrew Fitch, Katheryn
Sudhoff, Aisha Woodward & Will
Woodworth) were all very excited
about receiving the award and
the upcoming run in 2018.



Later in November, the USSFCU team met with Senator Martin Heinrich's team, "Heinrich Maneuver," to present them with a commemorative plaque for placing Second Runner Up in the 2017 Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10-Mile Run Capitol Hill Competition. Senator Heinrich's team (Stephen Jochem, Andrea Mares, Russell Page, Whitney Potter & Peter Rothfeld) finished with a run time of 3:26:47, only 8 minutes 32 seconds off of the lead time.

Senator Heinrich's team was very gracious and already has team members in training for the 2018 run.

The 2018 Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10-Mile Run Capitol Hill Competition will be held on Sunday, April 8, 2018. Both Senator King and Senator Heinrich's teams are already gearing up for the 2018 Capitol Hill Competition. USSFCU is very excited for another great year in support of Children's National Hospital.



USSFCU Brings Some
Holiday Cheer to
Carpenter's Shelter
with a \$20,000 Donation



The Carpenter's Shelter was opened in 1982 and supports the homeless in achieving independence through shelter, guidance, education and advocacy. Carpenter's Shelter serves more than 600 homeless and formerly homeless children and adults each year. Their comprehensive continuum of care offers continuous services, aiding the chronically homeless and shelter residents through their transition back into independent living. In late December 2017 a USSFCU team, including Ken Kramer (President/CEO) Chris Shunk (Board Chair) and Margo Rushing (Vice Chair), met with the Carpenter's Shelter Executive Director, Shannon Steene, to present a donation of \$20,000 just in time for the holidays. USSFCU is very proud to support such an amazing organization that is doing so much for the community.

USSFCUDAY OF SERVICE

Throughout the year employees are encouraged to spend time outside of the office to work with organizations such as the Capital Area Food Bank, Women With a Cause Global Outreach and Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.

Area Food Bank.

Some USSFCU employees took the time to give back during the holiday season.



Compliance and Marketing Departments

"Both the Compliance and Marketing departments donated their time and energy to the Capital Area Food bank in Washington, DC. The two departments came together, sorting and packaging canned foods for hungry families and seniors in the local DC area. Not only was volunteering a great way to celebrate 'Giving Tuesday,', but it was also fun to spend time outside of the office with coworkers, working together for a great cause."

Tiffany B. | Member Services

"I was able to spend the day at the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, here in Verona, packing boxes for the elderly. We packed 600 boxes! It felt great to be a part of such an important piece of the community and that I was able to spend quality time with my dad. who also volunteered!"



Chasity D. | Member Services

"This year at the annual conference as my part of my Day of Service I was blessed to help in many areas: from creating a video for WWAC, photography, decorating, setting up and tearing down, assembling the guests' gift bags and hosting the guest speakers... just to name a few. I am very blessed and thankful to be involved with WWAC-GO. Seeing the impact it has made not only in my community but around the world has changed my life and will be a part of me forever."



The new USSFCU Bump Rate Share Certificate lets you lock in a great rate at the start of the year and reserve the one—time option to bump it up to an even better rate during the term of your certificate.*

**Puring the term of your Bump Rate Share Certificate, you are permitted to make a one-time request to adjust your dividend are a your discretion. To adjust the rate on the Bump Rate Share Certificate, an owner of the Certificate must contact the Credit Union receives the increase.

The rate of the Bump Rate Share Certificate will be adjusted on the date the Certificate will be adjusted to the rate currently in effect for our Bump Rate Share Certificate will be received in the contact of the cont

Save on TurboTax[®], the Smarter Way to Get Your Taxes Done Right

As a USSFCU member, you can save up to \$15 on TurboTax® Federal Products the #1 best-selling tax software. With TurboTax®, you'll get your taxes done right and your biggest possible refund, guaranteed.*

- NEW: Expert review of your return. With TurboTax® Live, you
 can have a live CPA or EA by your side to answer questions
 and review your tax return.
- Get a head start on your taxes. Snap a photo of your W-2, or import it into TurboTax® from over 1 million companies. Either way, you'll save time and get a jump start on your tax return.
- Searches over 350 deductions. TurboTax® finds every deduction and credit you qualify for so you don't miss a thing.

Start TurboTax today and save!**



- *#1 Best-Selling brand of tax software based on aggregated sales data for all tax year 2016 TurboTax® products.
- **Visit http://turbotax.intuit.com/lp/yoy/guarantees.jsp for information on all TurboTax® products, guarantees and other important information. Limited time offer for TurboTax® 2017. Terms, conditions, features, availability, pricing, fees, service and support options subject to change without notice. Intuit, TurboTax® and TurboTax® Online, among others, are registered trademarks and/or service marks of Intuit Inc. in the United States and other countries.

Not a USSFCU product. Discounted prices are subject to change without notice.