

Too much debt? Our debt consolidation loan can help free you from mounting worries.

Today, many people face growing debt. If you're finding it hard to pay down your balances each month, we have ways to lower your debt before it becomes an overwhelming problem.

A debt consolidation loan from Allsteel Credit Union can help you get your personal finances back on track by letting you combine



multiple credit payments into just one simplified payment with a lower interest rate.

Consolidating debts at a reduced rate can be advantageous because you can:

- Pay off your balances faster
- Save money by paying less interest
- Enjoy a lower monthly payment
- Improve your credit score

Allsteel Credit Union offers multiple ways to consolidate your debt. These include credit card balance transfers, personal loans and home equity lines of credit.

As your trusted financial partner, Allsteel Credit Union is committed to improving your financial health. A debt consolidation loan from us can save you money, help streamline your finances and reduce stress.

To apply, log into your Allsteel account and select "Apply For A Loan." Or visit the credit union or call 630.906.2050.

Mortgage prequalification or mortgage preapproval. Is there really much difference?

When buying a home, people often wonder whether getting preapproved for a mortgage, or simply prequalified, is the better way to go. Here's what you should know.

First, they're not the same. While some people use the terms interchangeably, they actually refer to two distinct steps in the mortgage lending process.

What is prequalification?

Getting prequalified for a loan is only a *preliminary* estimation of how qualified you are to obtain one because the lender is using limited information, such as your income, assets and debt, without actually verifying that data. Often used as a starting point, a prequalification can help you better understand your general ability to get a loan, as well as the loan amount you might qualify for.

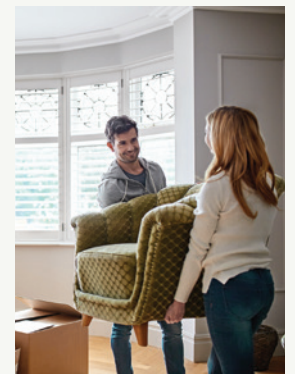
What is a preapproval?

Getting a preapproval is a much more complex process that includes submitting a loan application along with tax returns, pay

stubs, a W-2 for several years and financial institution statements — information the lender verifies. Your credit report will also be reviewed. When issued, a preapproval signifies that a lender has scrutinized your loan file and has issued a written promise to lend, subject to review of an appraisal on the house.

Many real estate experts recommend getting a preapproval over getting prequalified. Preapproved homebuyers can act faster because they already have their financing in place. Having a preapproval also shows the seller you're a serious, qualified buyer and don't need to make an offer contingent on financing.

To get prequalified or preapproved, call Allsteel's mortgage partner, CU/America Financial Services, at 630.620.5200.



NEWS NOTE

Effective July 1, 2018, users of Mobile Check Deposit will be required to write the words "FOR MOBILE DEPOSIT" on the signature side of the check, below the signature. From that date on, checks submitted through Mobile Check Deposit without those words will not be honored.

We're committed to keeping you and your money in close, constant touch.

We understand how valuable your time is. That's why we're always working to make sure you enjoy fast and easy ways to access your money. We regularly invest in technology that makes managing your accounts amazingly efficient and hassle-free.

At Allsteel Credit Union, you can check accounts, transfer funds, make loan payments, even deposit checks — whenever you want, wherever you are, and in a manner that's most convenient for you.

Our *Online Banking* allows you to stay in touch with your money 24/7. And our *Mobile Banking* lets you use your mobile device to access your accounts via our *mobile app* or



mobile website or *text banking*. With *Mobile Deposit*, you can deposit checks simply by taking photos of the front and back of your check.

Other time-saving ways to access your money at Allsteel Credit Union include national networks of nearly 90,000 fee-free ATMs, as well as Speedy Line, our automated telephone banking system.

To sign up for Online Banking, call 630.906.2050. Or go [here](#).

Once you've signed up for Online Banking, download the *Allsteel Credit Union Mobile App* from the Apple or Android App store.

Thoughts from the President

Don't let cyber criminals school you while you're getting a college education.

The task of protecting your privacy and personal information should always be a prime concern. But one group in particular — college students — should be aware of the importance of taking precautions to keep from falling prey to cyber criminals.

While the current generation is widely thought to be truly tech savvy, too many students are not up to date on safe practices related to computer privacy and cyber protection.

Here are guidelines recommended by FinancialSafetyNet, LLC to minimize your chances of being victimized:

Secure laptops and other devices left in your dorm.

Invest in a strong security cable and lock your computer or laptop to a table, a desk, or even your bed to deter snatch-and-run thieves.

Install anti-virus software and keep it up to date.

Set your program to automatically connect online for software updates to prevent potential threats.

Create strong passwords and routinely change them.

Incorporate a mix of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers and symbols; change passwords every 60 to 90 days.

Be cautious when using unsecured networks.

School and public Wi-Fi networks could be vulnerable to unauthorized users. So, while you can use those networks to study or do research, don't shop online, log in for banking or visit other sites where your private, personal information is used.

Use HTTPS websites when possible.

The "S" in HTTPS stands for secure. It signifies that communications between your browser and the website are encrypted, ensuring that your transactions are protected.

Be safe and smart with social media.

Configure the security settings on your social-networking accounts so that only your friends can see your posts and view your profile information.

Safeguarding the financial security of our members has always been a priority for Allsteel Credit Union. We're doing our part to keep our members educated and protected from illicit cyber activity.



Robin L. Lamb
President



At Allsteel Credit Union, we do the utmost to safeguard your personal information. Our privacy notice is available at allsteelcu.com or if you would like a copy mailed to you, please contact the credit union at 630.906.2050 or 800.467.3162.

what's
news

allsteelcu.com

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