

Finding the Right Fit

Use the following checklist when looking for a bank or credit union* and accounts that are right for you.

Name of Financial Institution or Account	1.	2.	3.
Financial Institution Information			
Does it offer the services I need?			
Convenient branches and ATMs?			
Hours?			
Do employees speak my language?			
Is it insured by the FDIC or NCUA?			
Accounts			
Requirements for opening account?			
Checking Accounts			
Minimum opening balance?			
Minimum monthly balance?			
Fees? / Fee waivers available?			
Earn interest?			
Hold time on deposits?			
Overdraft Programs			
Low balance alerts offered?			
Overdraft/protection fees?			
Link to a savings account?			
Link fees?			
Savings Accounts			
Minimum opening balance?			
Minimum monthly balance?			
Annual percentage yield? (APY)			
Fees? / Fee waivers available?			
ATM / Debit Cards			
Fees? / Fee waivers available?			
Withdrawals per month without a fee?			
Location/number of ATMs?			
Transaction requirements or limits?			
Mobile/Online Banking			
Is it available?			
Transaction types and limits?			
Fees? / Fee waivers available?			
Online bill pay?			
Other Information			
Total Monthly Costs			
Total Annual Costs			

(*Check out membership eligibility requirements.)

Source: Money Smart's Bank on It (FDIC, 2010)