# Unit 4: Managing Financial Accounts

**Personal Financial Literacy** 

# Objectives

- Compare the different types of checking accounts.
- Explain the process of check endorsement.
- Explain the importance of recording debit withdrawals and reconciling them against a financial statement.
- List ways you and the bank can protect your personal information and assets when using online banking services.

# Parts of a Check

- Personal information
- Payee
- The Dollar Box
- The amount of your check
- Memo line
- Date line
- Signature line

- Banks ABA routing number
- Your account number
- Check number

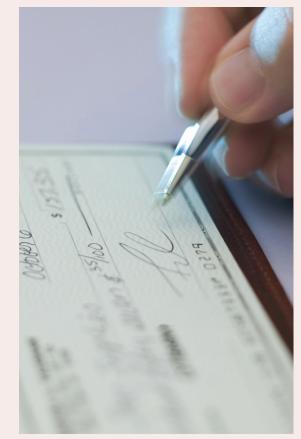
Mr and Mrs Someone 12345 Main Street Anywhere, USA	Date		
Pay to the Order of		\$	
		Ψ	
		Dollars	
For			
	0000000000000000 <b>0: 0</b> 000		

# **Regular Checking Accounts**

- May or may not have a monthly service fee for unlimited transactions
- Single or joint checking accounts

# Interest-Bearing Checking Accounts

- Interest often determined by current interest rate
- Must maintain higher balance
- May waive minimum balance requirement if consumer has multiple bank accounts



#### Share Accounts

- Checking accounts at credit unions
- Rarely minimum balance requirements
- Fees low or nonexistent

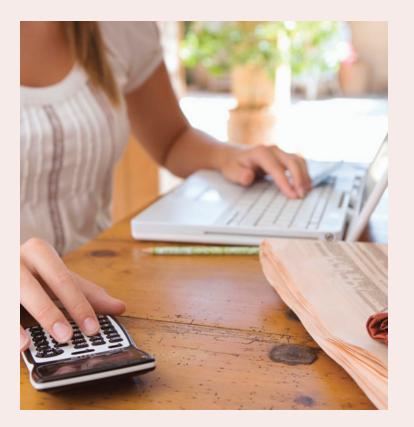
#### **Special Accounts**

- Limited activity accounts
- Low balances and/or few transactions
- Per transaction fee common

#### **Check Endorsement**

- Left edge of check on reverse side
  - Blank
    - Your signature in endorsement area
  - -Special
    - Transfers right to cash the check to someone else
  - Restrictive
    - Limits use of check

#### **Check Register**



- Record:
  - Check number
  - Date
  - Payee
  - Amount
- Write in check register BEFORE you write the check or make the withdrawal.

# Reconciliation

- 1. Check off transactions from monthly statement.
- 2. Subtract fees or add interest from statement.
- List outstanding deposits and checks that appear in your register but not on your statement.
- Use ending balance on statement: add outstanding deposits and subtract outstanding checks or withdrawals.



Keeping Online Banking Safe: Institutions

- Must offer a copy or receipt for transactions.
- Provide secured websites.
- Must investigate reported errors within 10 days of notification.
- Automatic log-off when inactive for 10 minutes.



Keeping Online Banking Safe: Account holder

- Keep user name and password confidential
- Make passwords difficult
- Sign-off; never leave account information on screen.
- Do not autosave user name or passwords.
- Do not give social security number or account number to anyone

#### **Unit Review**

- 1. Explain the purposes of having a checking account.
- 2. Name the eight items found on every check.
- 3. What responsibilities does having a checking account include?
- 4. Distinguish between different types of checking accounts.
- 5. What would be an advantage to having a joint checking account?

#### **Unit Review - Continued**

- Name the types of endorsements. Blank, Restrictive, and Special (A special endorsement may include "Pay to the order of")
- Identify why you might use a restrictive endorsement. – Usually includes "For Deposit Only" and a signature
- 8. What is a blank endorsement? Signature only

#### **Unit Review - Continued**

What is the purpose of a check register?
What should you do when you receive a

monthly account statement?

#### **Unit Review - Continued**

- 11. Explain a reason that some checking accounts become overdrawn.
- 12. Describe the process of reconciling an account.
- 13. List at least three things a financial institution does to keep financial accounts safe online.
- 14. Name at least three things an account holder can do to keep financial accounts safe.



#### **Curriculum and Instructional Materials Center**

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