

Saving Success

[Intro]

Financial wellness doesn't have to be hard — but it does take a little discipline and some good advice. At Golden 1 Credit Union, we're here to help, with unbiased financial advice and education. As a not-for-profit, member-owned credit union, our main goal is to help you reach *your* goals, whether you're trying to make a major purchase, start an investment fund or just have some peace of mind. Together we can be golden!

Welcome

Hello! Welcome to the Golden 1 Financial Wellness podcast. I'm Martin ...

... and I'm Megan!

Thank you so much for joining us.

[Main content]

Today, we want to talk to you about savings. Savings is an important part of budgeting and can help us strengthen our financial footing and move us closer towards our financial goals.

That's so true, Megan. But how do we get started and where should we save our money?

Great questions, Martin! One of the best ways to begin mapping out a plan for achievement is to separate your goals into short-, mid- and long-term time frames. Once you know what you want to save for, the next step is to decide where to save it.

There is a lot of options for where to save money. With so many options how do I know which type of savings is right for me?

Your right Martin, there are a lot of options out there and many of those options come with different features, but your financial institution is a great resource to help you find the right

savings for all of your financial goals. Let's head over to Golden 1 Credit Union and find out from the specialists what kind of savings products they know are helping their members.

[Interview 1]

I am here with Stephanie from our Clovis Branch in Clovis, California. Our listeners are curious about savings accounts and finding the right savings account for them. Most of us have several savings goals. Is there a special savings account that can help us save for multiple goals at the same time?

Absolutely, Martin! Saving for multiple goals at the same time can be difficult. Golden 1 Credit Union offers flexible savings accounts that you can set up for each of your specific savings' goals. We even help you to save by restricting the savings account until the date you need to access the money or when you have achieved your goal. This way it will help detour you from impulse shopping and help keep you on track towards your financial goals.

That sounds helpful. Have you helped people save money with this type of savings account before?

Yes. I had a recently engaged couple come in to open an account. When they told me about some of their goals, we were able to help them set up a savings account for their wedding, dream honeymoon, and their first home. Coming up with plan on how and where to save their money helped the couple feel in control of their money and put them one step closer to achieving their financial goals.

That is amazing. But, that sounds like a lot of goals and a lot of accounts.

Ya, I don't know how I would remember to deposit my savings into each of those accounts.

Well Martin and Megan, you don't have too.

We don't [both]

We can help you automate your savings!

I almost forgot. Technology is on our side. We can set up automatic deposits into savings accounts from our paycheck, or set up automatic transfers each month from our checking account.

This is great if you are just starting to save, but what if I already have some money saved and need to use this money towards longer term goals?

Good question Martin. Let's see if we can find another specialist to help us with this savings goal.

[Interview 2]

Martin, I am here with Marcos from Online New Accounts and they have just helped a member find a better savings product for their current savings.

Hello Marcos. I already have some money saved and was hoping that you could help us and our listeners with a savings account product that will help us with some of our longer-term goals.

But Martin, don't forget that you are wanting to use some of that money in the near future to purchase a car.

That is what my last member was wanting to do too. My member has a lot saved up to buy a car but is having trouble finding what they want so I helped them move their savings to a different savings that would help them earn some money while they continue to look.

Earn money.

Now you have to explain.

Golden 1 Credit Union, just like many other financial institutions, offers a Money Market Account. This account offers you higher dividend rates for keeping your larger savings balances in your account but gives you the freedom to access the money without any penalty.

So, I can use the money I have saved to buy my car without having to worry about my money not being accessible.

Exactly. And you have the potential to earn a higher dividend rate than a regular savings while you look for your car.

I can imagine that this type of savings account can be beneficial in this way to a lot of individuals.

Yes. I recently helped a member who sold their home and had decided to use the funds from the sale of their home to purchase a new home. We placed the money they made from the sale of their home into the money market account for a short while until they were ready to use the funds for their new home. This way they were able to earn a little money while they continued their home ownership journey.

The Money Market Savings account seems like a good idea even if you are not planning to make a purchase anytime soon. Being rewarded for a larger savings amount in an account is only going to encourage me to save more. I wonder if there are other savings accounts that can help me towards my savings goals if I know I am not going to need access to the funds?

Let's find out! Kristi from our Clovis Branch was recently talking to me about term savings accounts. Maybe he/she has some insights on how this type of savings account can help us achieve our savings goals.

[Interview 3]

Hello Kristi. I was telling Martin and our listeners that you know a thing or two about termed savings accounts. Can you tell us what a termed savings account is?

A termed savings account can also be referred to as a Share Certificate, CD, or termed account. The deposit amount used to open this account is entered into a contract with the financial institution to receive a higher rate of return, or interest than it would in a traditional savings account.

Well, that sounds like the Money Market account Marcos taught us about. How is this savings account different?

A termed certificate is different because it is an account that you are contracted to keep the funds in for a specific period of time and typically earns higher rates of return than a traditional savings account and Money Market Account. But, you need to be sure that you are not going to need the funds for the contracted time or term of the certificate. If you pull the funds out early you can be subject to fees or penalties.

How do I know what type of certificate account is right for me?

I like to advise members to pick termed certificates that align with their savings goals. For example, I recently had a member who had saved money for a vacation. They had to postpone the vacation until next spring, so we placed their funds into a termed certificate for 9 months. Now this member has peace of mind that their savings is secured for their vacation, they will have access to their funds right before their vacation, and the funds will earn some interest while they wait.

Wow Martin, we sure have learned a lot about savings accounts.

We sure have Megan. And there are a lot of other savings account products out there that can help us reach our financial goals. You can learn more about savings solutions at [Golden 1.com](https://www.golden1.com).

[wrap up/outro]

Martin, I guess that's our show for today! I hope everyone out there has picked up some helpful tips and understands how to get started saving.

I sure did!

And remember, if you haven't already done so, you can subscribe to the Golden 1 Financial Wellness podcast on Apple, Google and Spotify. Plus, you can find a ton of other resources ...

... like videos, interactive modules and webcasts. And you don't even have to be a member to use them!

... Just go to the [Financial Wellness tab at golden1.com](#).

... that's golden and the numeral 1.

Thank you so much for joining us today. This has been Megan ...

... and Martin ...

... wishing you financial health and happiness — and, as always, reminding you to ...

[both] ... stay golden!