



RAISE TEXAS
BUILDING FINANCIAL SUCCESS

Better Options When You Need Cash Now

OCTOBER 2022



AVOID HIGH-COST QUICK CASH LOANS

Quick cash loans, like payday and auto title loans, offer easy access to money when needed but can make a hard financial situation worse. Many of these loans are intentionally designed to be difficult to pay back on time, so you are forced to refinance and pay hefty fees. If you need cash quickly, ***please consider these safe, affordable options. For more local resources, call 2-1-1, visit 211.org, or enter your zip code at findhelp.org.***



Did you know?

On average, borrowers in Texas who refinance pay \$1,200 to \$4,000+ on a \$500 payday or auto title loan—paying many times the amount borrowed.¹

Ask Your Employer for a Paycheck Advance or Loan

1. Ask your employer for an advance on your paycheck.
2. Find out if your employer offers a loan.
3. Be careful of Early Wage Access apps. If you use these products, ***we recommend that you tip \$0 and skip the optional fee for an immediate payment.*** The money should hit your account in less than 3 business days. Make sure to plan for a smaller paycheck in your next pay cycle.



Two Options:

Community Loan Center
\$400 to \$1000, 18% APR, \$20 fee,
pay back over 12 months

TrueConnect
Up to \$5,000, 19.9% APR, pay back
over 12 months, no credit check

Get a Cash Advance on a Credit Card

Here are examples of credit cards designed for people who have a hard time getting credit. To save interest costs, pay back the cash advance amount as soon as you can.

Bank of America Secured Credit Card

- Minimum refundable security deposit of \$300 (maximum of \$4900) is required to open account.
- Maximum credit limit determined by security deposit, income, and ability to pay.
- Annual fee: \$0; Late payment fee up to \$40, but \$0 if balance is \$100 or less
- 24.24% variable rate
- Cash Advance: Fee of \$10 or 3-5% of transaction amount, whichever is greater

Capital One Platinum Secured Mastercard

- For people who have defaulted on loan more than once or been declined for credit card in last 3 months
- Must be 18+, have SSN or ITIN, income & checking or savings account
- Minimum security deposit \$49, \$99 or \$200 (refundable). Minimum initial credit line of \$200 to \$1,000.
- Annual fee \$0; Late payment fee up to \$40
- 26.99% variable rate
- Cash Advance: Fee of \$10 or 3% of cash advance amount, whichever is greater

Capital One Platinum Mastercard or Journey Student Rewards

- For people who have defaulted on loan in past 5 years or have limited credit history
- Must be 18+, have SSN or ITIN, income & checking or savings account
- Annual fee \$0; Late payment fee up to \$40
- 26.99% variable rate
- Cash Advance: Fee of \$10 or 3% of cash advance amount, whichever is greater

Lower Cost Loans Under 36% APR

Here are short-term loan options that charge no more than 36% annual percentage rate (APR). These loans are MUCH cheaper than payday or auto title loans, which often carry annual rates of 500% or more.

ONLINE

Capital Good Fund Crisis Loan (866-584-3651)

- \$300-\$1,500
- 5% APR, no payment for 90 days
- Pay back over 12 months

Oportun (866-488-6090)

- \$300-\$12,000
- 35.99% APR, up to 3 years repayment based on loan
- Payback period varies
- No minimum credit score



Be careful with online loans. Make sure the lender's street address, phone number and email are easy to find on the website in case there is a problem and/or you need to stop electronic access to your bank account.

BANK LOANS

Ask your bank about loan options. Here are a few examples:

Bank of America Balance Assist Loan (866-584-3651)

- \$100-\$500
- No interest, \$5 flat fee
- Pay back over 3 months
- Apply online. The approval and payout process is faster than most payday loans.
- Must have a qualified Bank of America checking account open for 12 months and receive regular monthly deposits.

BANK LOANS *(continued)*

Frost Bank Unsecured Personal Loan (866-376-7889)

- \$2,000-\$4,999
- 12% APR, no fees
- Pay back over 36 months
- Must have government-issued ID and SSN

US Bank Simple Loan (800-872-2657)

- \$100-\$1,000
- \$6 fee for every \$100 borrowed
- Pay back over 3 months
- Must have US Bank personal checking account open for 6 months with 3 months of recurring deposits and valid SSN

Truist Ready Now Loan (844-487-8478)

- \$100-\$1,000
- \$5 fee for every \$100 borrowed
- Pay back over 6 months
- Must have Truist personal checking account open for 6 months and valid SSN

CREDIT UNION LOANS

There are hundreds of credit unions that offer low-cost loans in Texas, so check with your local credit union.

Amarillo: Santa Fe Federal Credit Union Cash 4 You Loan (800-733-2804)

- Up to \$500
- 18% APR; \$20 fee
- Pay back over 1-4 months
- Must be member for 3 months, with current employer for 6 months, and have full direct deposit for 2 months

Austin: University Federal Credit Union Personal Loan (800-252-8311)

- 17.9% APR for poor/no credit; \$22.70 fee for every \$1,000 borrowed
- Payback period varies

DFW/North Texas: Resource One Credit Union Small Dollar Loan Solution (800-375-3674)

- \$200-\$2,000
- 7.75-17.50% APR
- Pay back over 3-24 months

El Paso: GECU Fast Cash Loan (800-772-4328)

- \$200-\$1,000
- 27.9% APR
- Pay back over 6 months
- Must provide proof of 12 months of employment

Houston/San Antonio: Credit Human Credit Union QMoney Loan (866-376-7889)

- \$200-\$500
- 28% APR
- Pay back over 60 days
- No credit check

Laredo: Laredo Federal Credit Union Personal Loan (956-722-3971)

- \$500-\$10,000
- 8-18% APR
- Payback period varies

McAllen: South Texas Federal Credit Union Personal Loan (844-487-8478)

- \$1,000-\$15,000
- 8.45-17.75% APR
- Payback period varies

San Antonio: Select Federal Credit Union Select Cash Now Loan (844-487-8478)

- \$300-\$1,000
- 18-28% APR; \$20 fee
- Pay back over 6-12 months
- Must be member for 60 days and with current employer 6 months



Free Financial Coaching

Don't let an emergency loan get you off track with your financial goals. Contact a financial coach for help on creating a budget to pay back the loan, building savings for future emergencies, and reaching other financial goals. To find financial coaches in your area, call 2-1-1 or visit findhelp.org.

Capital Good Fund Financial Coaching Hotline

- Call 866-584-3651
- ext. 301 (English), 401 (Spanish)

GreenPath Financial Wellness

- Call 800-550-1961 (English & Spanish)

Tips for Applying for a Quick Cash Loan

LOOK FOR LOANS THAT MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1. Annual Percentage Rate (APR) does not exceed 36%
2. Loan is repaid in equal installments.
3. Minimum of 90 days to pay back loan or approximately 1 month for every \$100 borrowed
4. Combined penalties and fees do not exceed \$10 or 5% of the monthly payment.
5. No prepayment penalties.
6. The company does not try to sell you add-on products, like credit insurance, car clubs, or credit cards.
7. Loan payments are reported to all 3 credit bureaus.

CALCULATE THE MONTHLY PAYMENT

Weigh how the loan's monthly payments will change your budget and if you can comfortably pay it on time. **Beware: Some installment loans, as well as most payday and auto title loans, show payments that only include interest and fees, which can cause a crisis when the amount you borrowed is due in one lump-sum payment. Avoid these loans.**

COMPARE INTEREST COSTS AND FEES

- Use APR (Annual Percentage Rate) to compare your options.
- Balance monthly payments you can comfortably pay with the total fees and interest you have to pay.
 - Terms that are too short are difficult to pay back on time.
 - Terms that are too long make the loan cost more in interest and fees.
- Make sure you know exactly what fees will be charged.
 - Watch for fees for application, origination, credit services, insurance, and late payments.

ASK WHEN YOU WILL GET THE MONEY

Some lenders can give a loan the next day, while others can take up to a week.

ALWAYS get a written copy of the loan agreement.

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