

# News & Notes

1ST QUARTER 2025

A Quarterly Publication by Lubrizol Employees' Credit Union



## Lower payments. **HIGHER VIBES.**

Consolidate debt for savings you can feel!

Take the weight of high-rate debt off your shoulders with a **Debt Consolidation Loan** that could help you pay off your debt faster and save money with a lower monthly payment.

Here's how it works:

1. If you're approved for a Debt Consolidation Loan with us, we'll use the funds to pay off the balances you have with other financial institutions.
2. You'll have one monthly payment with us and a clear end date for paying off the loan.

It's that easy! Act now before rates change.

Apply today by visiting: [lzequ.org](https://lzequ.org) > Loans > Personal Loans  
Or visit a branch or call us at :1-800-477-LECU

**\$25,000**  
As low as 6.99% APR\*  
Up to 60 months

\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. All rates are subject to credit approval, and certain restrictions may apply. Offer ends 3/31/25.

## BEWARE of Phishing Scams

Telephone, text and email scams have been hitting our members harder than ever – and scammers have gotten better at appearing as if they're from well-known entities! Beware of people claiming to be from the IRS, credit card companies, computer techs, charities and even, potentially, LZECU. To keep your personal information and money safe, listen for some of these main red flags:

- Wanting payment in the form of a prepaid debit or gift card, MoneyGram, money order or bank wire
- Telling you not to contact anyone until you send the payment
- Asking you to "verify" your information such as your full name, email, usernames or passwords, account information, full Social Security number or full credit card number
- Telling you to click a link in a text or email to resolve an issue
- Receiving an unexpected email with a suspicious document attached

If you receive a suspicious call, text or email, don't engage. If the person contacting you claims to be from a well-known company, call the company directly from a trusted number to verify the legitimacy of the call. Do not pay anything over the phone. Instead, ask for a paper bill to be mailed to the address they have on file.

If you believe you've been scammed, file your complaint at [ftc.gov](https://ftc.gov), and then visit the FTC's Identity Theft website at [consumer.gov/idtheft](https://consumer.gov/idtheft) to learn how to minimize your risk of damage from ID theft.



## TRUSTWORTHY FINANCIAL EDUCATION RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

There are countless online sources offering financial education and insight, but it can be hard to discern whether the advice they're giving is accurate or in your best interest.

Thanks to our partnership with BALANCE, you know you're getting unbiased, up-to-date information and tools to help you navigate all kinds of financial situations. You have access to:

- + Educational articles
- + Toolkits, checklists and worksheets
- + Financial calculators
- + Podcasts, videos and webinars
- + And so much more!

Explore [balancepro.org](https://balancepro.org) – we think you'll be pleasantly surprised by the breadth of topics they cover and how many resources are offered.

# LUBRIZOL EMPLOYEES' CREDIT UNION

P.O. Box 158, 205 Center Street  
Deer Park, Texas 77536  
281.479.6651 | Fax 281.479.3087  
1.800.477.LECU | lzecu.org

## HOURS

### Lobby

Monday – Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### Drive Thru

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### Holiday Closings

Martin Luther King Jr. Day: January 20

## ATMs

Locate one of over 90,000 FREE ATMs using the ATM locator on our app or website!

## DIVIDENDS DECLARED

For **Share Accounts**, the LZECU Board of Directors approved a 0.60% APY\* dividend for the fourth quarter of 2024. You must maintain a minimum daily balance of \$25 to earn the APY.\* Share dividends are paid on the last day of each quarter.

**Share Draft Accounts** will earn 0.15% APY\* for the first quarter of 2025. You must maintain a minimum daily balance of \$300 to earn the APY.\* Share draft dividends are paid on the last day of each month.

**Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs)** will earn 1.25% APY\* for the first quarter of 2025. IRA dividends are paid on the last day of each month.

\*APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Dividends are calculated on a day-in, day-out basis. Rates are subject to change without notice. Call for our Rate and Fee Schedule.

## FINANCIAL WELLNESS

**Free financial education webinars** are put on monthly, courtesy of our partner, BALANCE. You can register by visiting Events on our Facebook page or visiting our website at [lzecu.org](http://lzecu.org).

### Coming this quarter:

January – *Basics of Personal Finance*

February – *Unleashing the Power of Credit*

March – *Tap Into Wise Credit Card Use*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## For Our 71st Annual Meeting!

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 7:00 p.m.  
Deer Park Theater and Courts Building  
1302 Center Street  
Deer Park, Texas 77536

Join us at our 71st Annual Meeting. We're excited to celebrate this huge milestone with special door prizes and giveaways! Come enjoy refreshments as we share our accomplishments over the year, as well as our plans for the future.

We hope to see you there!



## PROS AND CONS TO LEASING A CAR

Trying to decide whether you should lease a vehicle or buy one? There are certainly benefits and downsides to both.

Leasing allows you to drive a brand-new vehicle with lower monthly payments. Typically, lease agreements stipulate a mileage maximum for the lease period. At the end of your lease, you have the option to return the vehicle or purchase it.

### Leasing might be right for you if you:

- Like driving a new car every couple years
- Want a low monthly payment
- Find new safety features and options very important
- Always want a car under warranty
- Don't care about ownership
- Drive a limited number of miles

However, leasing is more expensive in the long term because, as long as you're leasing a car, you'll always have a car payment. Plus, car leases are usually limited to new cars, which can be more costly long term than buying a used car. Any additional mileage you put on the vehicle is also an extra cost, which could be problematic if you do a lot of driving.

When you buy a vehicle, you'll pay the full cost of the vehicle, plus sales tax and auto loan interest. Once you've paid off the loan, though, you own the vehicle.

### Buying a vehicle might be a good idea if you:

- Can afford higher monthly payments
- Like the idea of ownership
- Don't want to risk lease-end costs
- Plan on driving the same vehicle for many years
- Are a high-mileage driver
- Don't mind covering repairs after the warranty expires

If you're having trouble deciding, check out our auto loan options to see if buying is more cost-effective for your budget and situation. Our auto loan specialists can help you determine how much you can afford to spend.

Explore options or apply today by visiting: [lzecu.org](http://lzecu.org) > Loans > Auto Loans  
Or visit a branch or call us at: 1-800-477-LECU

\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. All rates are subject to credit approval, and certain restrictions may apply.



## ACCESS TO RECORDS & COMPLAINT NOTICE

### Access to Records Notice

Members are entitled to review or receive the latest version of these credit union documents:

1. Balance sheet and income statement
2. A summary of the most recent annual audit
3. Written board policies, articles of incorporation, bylaws, rules and guidelines
4. IRS Form 990

Request any of the documents by writing:

**Lubrizol Employees' Credit Union  
Internal Audit Department  
205 Center Street  
Deer Park, Texas 77536**

### Complaint Notice

If you have a problem with the services provided by this credit union, please contact us at:

**Lubrizol Employees' Credit Union  
205 Center Street  
Deer Park, Texas 77536  
Phone: 281.479.6651  
Toll Free: 1.800.477.5328  
Fax: 281.479.3087  
Email: [contact@lzecu.org](mailto:contact@lzecu.org)**

The credit union is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas and under state law is subject to regulatory oversight by the Texas Credit Union Department. If any dispute is not resolved to your satisfaction, you may also file a complaint against the credit union by contacting the Texas Credit Union Department at:

**914 East Anderson Lane Website: [www.cud.texas.gov](http://www.cud.texas.gov)  
Austin, Texas 78752-1699 Email: [complaints@cud.texas.gov](mailto:complaints@cud.texas.gov)  
Phone: 512.837.9236  
Fax: 512.832.0278**



 **Lubrizol Employees'**  
**Credit Union**



Federally Insured by the NCUA