



## Protecting Yourself from Holiday Scams

With the hustle and bustle of the holidays, it's easy to get caught up in the stress and forget to be alert of scams and cyber attacks. Holiday fraud can range from stolen financial information to fake websites. Here are a few common holiday scams and how to avoid them this season:



### Charity Scams

One-third of all charitable giving occurs in December. You could receive emails, calls, or see social media posts asking you to donate to an organization. Before doing so, ensure the organization is credible. Give to established charities you know and trust. Be aware of organizations with copycat names and research the group's track record. If an organization asks you to donate through: cash, gift cards, virtual currency, or wire transfer, it could be a scam.

AARP. "Holiday Scams" <https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/info-2019/holiday.html>. 11.5.2020

### Delivery Scams

Recently, scammers have sent phishing emails disguised as UPS, FedEx, or the Postal Service notifications of incoming or missed deliveries. These often contain a link directing you to a website infested with malware or used as a ploy to obtain your financial information. If you receive an unexpected text message, don't click any links. If you think it could be legitimate, contact the company using a website or phone number you know is real.

### Fake Websites

As retailers discount their hot-item products, scammers target bargain-hunting shoppers with fake websites. To avoid purchasing from fake websites, look for a privacy policy and a phone number or street address for the business. If there is an unbelievable discount on a popular item, it's likely it's too good to be true.

Watch our recorded webinar, *Protecting Yourself from Fraud and Scams* to learn more at: [gecreditunion.org/cu-events](https://gecreditunion.org/cu-events).

## Current Rates as of December 10, 2020

### Certificate Rates<sup>1</sup>

6-Mo	Min. \$500	.54%	<b>.55%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
1-Yr	Min. \$500	.74%	<b>.75%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
2-Yr	Min. \$500	.89%	<b>.90%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
3-Yr	Min. \$500	.94%	<b>.95%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
5-Yr	Min. \$500	1.09%	<b>1.10%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
1-Yr Jumbo	Min. \$100,000	.79%	<b>.80%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
2-Yr Jumbo	Min. \$100,000	.94%	<b>.95%</b> <sup>APY</sup>

### IRA Savings and Certificate Rates<sup>1</sup>

IRA Savings	Min. \$5	.10%	<b>.10%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
6-Mo	Min. \$500	.54%	<b>.55%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
1-Yr	Min. \$500	.74%	<b>.75%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
2-Yr	Min. \$500	.89%	<b>.90%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
3-Yr	Min. \$500	.94%	<b>.95%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
5-Yr	Min. \$500	1.09%	<b>1.10%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
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### Deposit Rates

#### IRA Money Market<sup>2</sup>

\$100-4,999.99	.14%	<b>.15%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
\$5,000-24,999.99	.29%	<b>.30%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
\$25,000+	.59%	<b>.60%</b> <sup>APY</sup>

#### Choice Checking<sup>3</sup>

Up to \$4,999.99	.05%	<b>.05%</b> <sup>APY</sup>
\$5,000+	.10%	<b>.10%</b> <sup>APY</sup>

**Membership eligibility required.** APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rates are subject to change at any time and are accurate as of 12.10.2020. Interest will accrue as of the date funding is received; funding must be received within 30 calendar days of opening the account. Fees may reduce earnings. <sup>1</sup>**Certificates and IRA Certificates:** Early withdrawal penalties may apply. Refer to the Account Disclosures for account information. Contact a Member Service Representative for further information about applicable fees and terms and conditions. <sup>2</sup>**IRA Money Market Account:** There is no minimum balance requirement to open this account. To earn dividends, you must maintain a minimum balance of \$100; no interest is paid on balances below \$99.99. Dividend rates are based on the account balance and account tier. The tiers are as follows: Tier 1 daily balance up to \$99.99, Tier 2: \$100.00-\$4,999.99; Tier 3: \$5,000-\$24,999.99; Tier 4: \$25,000 or more. We use the daily balance method to calculate the dividends on your account. Rates earned are based on balances, calculated daily, and compounded to the account quarterly. Subject to Regulation D requirements. <sup>3</sup>**Choice Checking:** You must deposit \$25 to open this account. If your average daily balance is below \$500, you will incur a \$10 monthly maintenance fee. To earn dividends, you must have a balance greater than \$0. Dividend rates are based on the account balance and account tier. The tiers are as follows: Tier 1 daily balance of \$0.01-\$4,999.99; Tier 2: \$5,000 or more. We use the daily balance method to calculate the dividends on your account. You will receive the accrued dividends if you close your account before dividends are posted. APY will vary due to the account activity and balance. For all of our rates, visit: [gecreditunion.org/deposit-rates](https://gecreditunion.org/deposit-rates) or contact us. <sup>4</sup>**11-Month Certificate:** This is a limited-time offer, all details including the stated APY, are accurate as of 12.10.2020. GECU reserves the right to end or modify this offer at any time. Minimum balance to open certificate and earn APY is \$500. Certificates will be opened, and interest will accrue as of the date funding is received; funding must be received within 30 calendar days of opening the account. Fees may reduce earnings; subject to early withdrawal penalties. GECU will send you a maturity notice prior to renewal. Upon maturity, the certificate will automatically renew into the same term at the prevailing rate available. <sup>5</sup>**Requires a minimum deposit of \$500, new money only.** New money is defined as proceeds not previously on deposit with GECU. **Insured by NCUA**

## 11-Month Certificate

# 1.21%

Annual Percentage Yield<sup>4</sup>

\*See reverse side for details.

Regardless of what the market does, the money you put into a GECU certificate will continue to grow.

Lock in this great rate with as little as \$500 (new money only) before it ends on **December 31<sup>st</sup>**!<sup>5</sup>

## Know someone graduating high school next year?

Tell them about our annual **Robert A. Cunningham Memorial Scholarship!** For details and how to apply, visit: [gecreditunion.org/promotions](http://gecreditunion.org/promotions). Applications are due before Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>.



## December's History Corner

**1913:** Ford Motor Company enacted the first moving assembly line for the Model T Ford.

**1967:** First human heart transplant was performed in South Africa.

**1951:** Joe DiMaggio announced his retirement from baseball.

**2017:** First pizza party in space held by astronauts at the International Space Station.

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## Gingerbread Truffles

Gatherings may look a little different this year, but we can still enjoy the holidays with desserts!

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup white chocolate chips
- 3 tablespoons light corn syrup
- 1/2 cup evaporated milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon cloves
- 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup nuts (finely chopped)
- 2 1/2 cups gingersnap crumbs
- 1/2 cup granulated salt



### Instructions

1. Place white chocolate in a microwave-safe bowl and heat until melted.
2. Once melted, add corn syrup, evaporated milk, and vanilla extract. Stir gently.
3. Stir in gingersnap crumbs, powdered sugar, all spices, salt, and chopped nuts. Refrigerate for one hour until firm enough to shape.
4. Roll into small balls between your palms, and then roll in granulated sugar.
5. Place in airtight container and store in the fridge.