

# 7 Practice Opening a Bank Account

## TRANSITION OBJECTIVE

Students will analyze banking fees, practice completing deposit slips and open a bank account.

## RELEVANCE TO SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

Learning and practicing basic banking skills is good preparation for life in the community. It is important for young people entering the work force to understand these basics before they earn their first paycheck.

## INSTRUCTIONAL SEQUENCE

### ❑ STEP 1: Update Journal

My first experience in a bank . . .

### ❑ STEP 2: Convene Roundtable

"I think ATM machines are good/bad because \_\_\_\_."

### ❑ STEP 3: Advance Organizer

"Today you will practice opening a checking account and making deposits."

### ❑ STEP 4: Activity - 20 Minutes

Introduce the concept of opening a bank account. Tell students that it is almost necessary to use some type of bank services today. Explain banking services, such as savings accounts, checking accounts, credit cards, ATM or debit cards and loans. Go over the first section of the worksheet **Account Application**. Have students take turns reading the information about each bank. On the board, solve these three problems to help students make their decisions about choosing a bank that best fits their needs:

1. Which bank requires you to keep some money in the bank at all times?
2. Which bank has the lowest monthly fee?
3. Which bank would have the lowest fees for writing 20 checks?

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LIFE MANAGEMENT: Unit 3 LESSON 7

### Account Application

Choose your bank by determining how much the account will cost you. Circle the number to show your choice.

1. Western Bank offers checking accounts for \$8.95 per month plus .25 per check. If you always keep a balance of at least \$1,500.00 in your account, there is no charge for checks.
2. South Credit Union offers free checking and .25 per check. You must pay \$25 to open the account and keep \$200.00 in the account at all times or pay a fee of \$50 per month.
3. Bayview Savings offers checking accounts for 12.00 per month with no per check charge for the first 20 checks. A charge of .10 cents per check is made after the 20th check. If you keep a balance of \$1,000 in the bank your checking will be free.

Checking Account Application Card			
Applicant Name (First)	(Middle)	(Last)	Birth Date
Street Address		City	State Zip
Home Phone Number		Work Phone Number	
Employer	Address		
Mother's Maiden Name	Social Security Number	Driver's License Number	
Name of Beneficiary	Address		
Applicant Signature	Date		

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### ❑ STEP 5: Optional Activity - 20 Minutes

Many students will never receive a paper check from their future employers and will opt for direct electronic deposit of funds. Similarly, they may rarely pay bills with paper checks choosing instead, online bill-pay. Share online banking tips with students by showing any one of a variety of online banking videos on Youtube or posted by the larger banking institutions. Ask students to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of online banking.

[illegible]

☐ **STEP 6:** Activity - 25 Minutes

Have students complete the worksheet **Account Application**. If possible, use actual application forms from a local bank or print out and distribute online banking applications from one or more of the larger financial institutions. Next, students open an account and deposit paychecks or cash in

the class bank. Using a screen image, go over and complete the handout **Make Your Deposits** with the **Paycheck** for Terry Smith in *Lesson 4*, as an example. Students complete their deposit slip.

Working individually or in pairs, you or another adult should play the role of the bank employee, assigning account numbers and recording student deposits. Lessons in this unit are sequential and future activities require these materials. End the lesson by having students mark the square labeled, *Open a Bank Account*, on **The Game of Life**.

## ❑ STEP 7: Evaluate Outcomes

What is one thing will you look for in selecting a bank? “\_\_\_\_\_”

### □ STEP 8: Connecting Activity

Invite a financial speaker or visit a bank or credit union to learn more about how to open and use a checking account at a bank. Have them explain what an "overdraft" and "NSF" are as well as discussing how to use online banking.

## KEY WORDS

**employer**

**account**

teller  
NSF check

**overdraft**

**automated**

## MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

- Student Handouts: **Account Application**, page 103; **Make Your Deposits**, page 104.
- Prepare an example of the **Checking Account Application Card** on a screen image.
- Make a sample deposit slip and check register to demonstrate how to use these on the screen image.

## SCANS FOUNDATION SKILLS

- Basic Academic Skills: Reading, Writing, Math
- Thinking Skills: Problem Solving, Reasoning
- Personal Qualities: Responsibility, Self-Management