

SPRING 2026

FOCUS

A PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBER/OWNERS OF
CALTECH EMPLOYEES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Commitment to the Lowest Loan Rates Possible



John K. Meeker
President/CEO

At CEFCU, everything we do begins with a simple commitment: to deliver meaningful financial value to our member/owners.

As President/CEO, I have made it my mission to uphold this commitment by striving for excellence across our organization — from providing exceptional member service to maintaining low fees and highly competitive rates. Every decision

we make is guided by one question:

How can we deliver the greatest financial value to our members?

This focus is especially evident in our approach to loan rates. Each week, our team conducts a thorough review of the market. We analyze rates from local and national banks, track fintech competitors with their unique business models, and closely monitor key indicators such as the U.S. 10-Year Treasury. By combining this comprehensive market intelligence, we ensure that CEFCU remains among the most competitive lenders in the marketplace.

At the close of every rate review meeting, I remind my team: **Lead the market in value. In loan rates, CEFCU should set the standard.**

This mindset defines our culture. We remain agile and flexible, and respond quickly and decisively. Our goal is simple — to consistently position ourselves at the low end of loan rates among our competitors.

In 2025, this strategy delivered results. As we focused on maintaining competitive loan rates, members responded. Loan originations totaled over \$143 million for the year, bringing the total loan balances to over \$658 million. Just as important as the growth itself is the quality behind it.

Our exclusive field of membership, combined with prudent underwriting standards, continues to produce a strong and resilient loan portfolio that supports the long-term stability and financial strength of our organization.

These results reflect a culture that values growth, innovation, and disciplined execution while rejecting complacency and unnecessary bureaucracy. At CEFCU, we move with purpose, always focused on delivering measurable value to the members who place their trust in us.

Whether you are in the market for a new home, planning to refinance an existing adjustable-rate mortgage, financing a vehicle, or consolidating debt, CEFCU should always be your first choice. **We encourage you to think of us for all your borrowing needs, for the financial value is here —** through low or no fees, highly competitive rates, and flexible terms.

As we look ahead, our commitment remains unchanged.

We will continue to monitor markets closely, act with agility, and ensure that CEFCU remains the trusted financial partner our members rely on — today and for years to come.

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CEFCU remains the trusted financial
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**CHECK OUR LOW LOAN
RATES ON THE BACK PAGE**

“Romance Scammers” Are Trying to Hook You

They use a fictitious online identity to establish a trusted relationship with you — romance or friendship — for the purpose of requesting money. Then, they will use a false situation to create a sense of urgency.

The modern search for love and connection increasingly unfolds on screens. Dating apps and social platforms promise a convenient way to meet someone new. But alongside genuine connections lurks a sophisticated form of financial fraud: the romance scam.

In this scam, con artists — practiced manipulators — craft believable personas, cultivate intimacy, and establish trusted relationships — romance or friendship. Their ultimate goal is not companionship, but your cash.

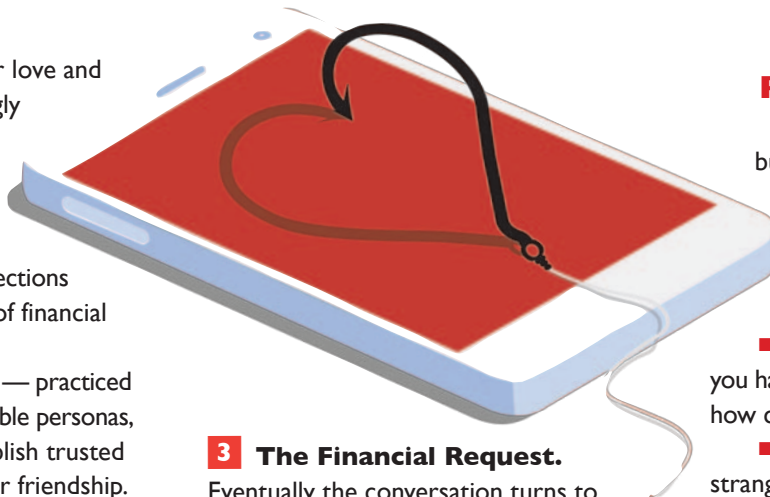
The best defense is awareness. Understanding how romance scams work and how to recognize their warning signs can help protect both your finances and your emotional well-being.

FAKE LOVE, REAL LOSS

Romance scams typically follow a familiar three-part script.

1 The Perfect Profile. Scammers generally begin by creating convincing profiles on dating sites, social networks, or online messaging platforms. They steal photographs from real people and use fake names. The fabricated persona is usually designed to inspire admiration or sympathy, such as a deployed service member, an international doctor, or an engineer working on a distant oil platform. Then, the scammer makes contact with potential targets, striking up friendly conversations to gain their trust and affection.

2 The Emotional Narrative. After establishing trust, the story begins. The scammer may share an unexpected crisis — a sudden medical emergency, travel complications abroad, or a banking problem. The stories are always tailored to sound plausible and urgent. By this point, the relationship may feel real. Daily messages, affectionate language, and promises of future meetings create a sense of intimacy that lowers skepticism.



3 The Financial Request.

Eventually the conversation turns to money. Romance scammers may ask victims to send funds through payment methods that are difficult to trace, stop or recover, such as wire transfers, gift cards, cryptocurrency, transfers through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) or checks made payable to another person. In some cases, the scheme can grow more elaborate. A scammer may initially send money — often from a fraudulent or stolen source — and ask the victim to deposit it and forward the funds elsewhere. In such cases, the victim may unknowingly participate in money laundering and other fraud.

WATCH FOR RED FLAGS

Romance scams rely on emotional manipulation, but their tactics often share recognizable warning signs. Be cautious if someone you meet online:

- Says their job keeps them overseas, such as military deployment, oil rig work, or international medical assignments;
- Has a profile that appears inconsistent, sparse, or unusually polished;
- Sends vague or repetitive messages that feel impersonal;
- Urges you to move the conversation away from the dating platform to private email or text;
- Makes repeated plans to meet in person but cancels at the last minute;
- Requests money, financial information, or personal data.

PROTECT YOURSELF

Meeting people can be rewarding, but a few precautions reduce your risk. A healthy relationship — online or off — does not require secrecy, urgency, or financial sacrifice.

■ **Never send money** to someone you have not met in person, regardless of how compelling their story may sound.

■ **Avoid accepting money** from strangers, which may involve counterfeit checks or laundering schemes.

■ **Run a reverse image search** on profile photos. If the image belongs to someone else — or appears in stock photography — you are likely dealing with a scam.

■ **Do not send compromising photos** or personal documents, which could later be used for extortion.

■ **Share the situation** with a trusted friend or family member. A second perspective can reveal warning signs that are easy to miss when emotions are involved.

THE BOTTOM LINE

By blending emotional storytelling with financial manipulation, scammers can make even cautious people vulnerable.

Read more about protecting your finances against scams, fraud and identity theft by visiting www.cefcu.org. Select “Scam Awareness & Cyber Security” under the Resources tab.

Digital Banking Reimagined: We're Building a Powerful New Platform

At CEFCU, we are committed to elevating your digital banking experience. Stay tuned for important updates regarding our enhanced eBranch and mobile app.

CEFCU's New eBranch and Mobile App Arrives in 2026

An important step to create a seamless transition to our new platform requires our enrolled members to verify their contact information. This includes:

- ✓ *Email Address*
- ✓ *Mobile Phone Number*

Log into eBranch at www.cefcu.org and select "User Options" to review and update your account contact details.

DID YOU KNOW...

Your Family Can Join CEFCU Too!

Share membership in our "one-of-a-kind" Credit Union with your entire immediate family—by blood or marriage.

- *Spouse*
- *Children*
- *Parents*
- *Grandparents*
- *Grandchildren*
- *Siblings*
- *Significant other or extended family living under the same roof*

INVITE THEM ALL

They can open and fund a new account online. Once they join, they'll enjoy the same competitive rates and trusted service you do. In turn, they can extend our outstanding financial value to their entire immediate family.



Scan the code to visit our Family Membership page.

Must qualify for CEFCU membership to join. Minimum opening deposit of \$5 and one-time \$5 membership fee due upon opening any CEFCU Share Account. Federally insured by NCUA.



We Help You Move With Confidence

Fall in love with CEFCU's expert guidance and flexible home loan choices.

Whether you are buying your first home or are a current homeowner looking to lower payments with an extended term, you're going to love our competitive rates and variety of gimmick-free loan options.

With several affordable terms to choose from, we offer members a true advantage with each home loan:

- *No or low points*
- *Flexible terms*
- *Low down payment options*
- *Easy-to-apply online application*

READY TO MAKE YOUR MOVE?

■ **APPLY ONLINE** with our home loan experts a call away every step of the way. You can view your loan status and track the entire process online.

■ **CUSTOMIZE YOUR LOAN** based on your specific goals. Crunch numbers, explore options and run scenarios covering terms and costs.

■ **ONCE APPROVED**, you're ready to proceed and personalize your loan documents.

Visit our Real Estate Loan Center at www.cefcu.org to apply today. Or, call us at **800/592-3328 option 5**. Home ownership is one of life's biggest moves and our lending team can help you make that move with confidence.

Current CEFCU rates, terms and fees can be found on our website. Rate is locked upon completed application or upon receipt of a fully executed purchase contract. Real estate loans are available for residential properties in the state of California. Certain exceptions may apply for jumbo loans or property types. Property insurance is required. All loans subject to credit approval. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. CEFCU is an Equal Housing Lender. NMLS #626590.



LA CAÑADA OFFICE

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PO Box 11001
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91012-6001
800/592-3328 • 818/952-4444
FAX 818/952-4382
Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. M-F
Drive Up: 8:15 a.m.-4:45 p.m. M-Th
8:15 a.m.-5:00 p.m. F

REAL ESTATE LOAN CTR.

801 Foothill Blvd.
PO Box 11001
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91012-6001
800/592-3328 ext. 404

JPL OFFICE

4800 Oak Grove Dr., Bldg. 291
Pasadena, CA 91109
818/354-3280
FAX 818/393-4308
Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. M-Th
8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. F

CAMPUS OFFICE

1200 E. California Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91125
M/S 100-63
626/395-6300
FAX 626/568-9536
Hours: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. M-Th
8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. F

WEBSITE

www.cefcu.org

CREDIT UNION OFFICIALS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Laurice Balian, *Vice Chair*
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Walt Boyd, *Member*
Brian Corcoran, *Member*
Charlene Hammell, *Member*
Debbie Lee, *Member*

CHECK OUT
OUR LOW
LOAN RATES



Scholarship Applications Available

High School graduating students may apply for CEFCU's scholarships to earn one of several \$2,000 awards. Scholars can choose to concentrate in any desired field.

Eligibility requirements are easy:

- Good standing high school senior
- Completed CEFCU scholarship application*
- Personal statement essay*
- CEFCU member*

Scholarship applications are available at **www.cefcu.org**. For more information, visit us online or call **800/592-3328 ext. 651**. The deadline to apply is May 4, 2026.

*See our application for full details. Applicants must be a current CEFCU member.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of February 28, 2026

Assets.....	\$2,182,817,447
Shares.....	\$1,609,665,566
Loans.....	\$ 663,189,480
Member Accounts.....	37,907

LOAN RATES & TERMS

Type of Loan	Annual Percentage Rate (APR)	Approximate Maximum Term
PERSONAL LOANS		
Personal Line of Credit (Variable).....	13.75%	Open End
Mastercard® (Variable).....	13.00%	Open End
Short Term Personal Loan.....	7.95%^	24 months
	8.25%^	36 months
	8.95%^	60 months
Share Secured Loan (Variable).....	3.76%	Open End

^ Includes 1% rate discount for payment by Automatic Transfer. Lower rate or refinancing option does not apply to current CEFCU loans.

VEHICLE LOANS

New/Pre-Owned Autos — Purchase and Refinance*

100% Financing (Current & prior 5 years).....	4.19%^	36 months
100% Financing (Current & prior 5 years).....	4.49%^	60 months
100% Financing (Current & prior 5 years).....	4.89%^	72 months
100% Financing (Current & prior 5 years).....	5.49%^	84 months
80% of Retail Value (6 years & older).....	4.89%^	60 months

New/Pre-Owned Motorcycles*

100% Financing.....	7.25%^	60 months
80% Financing (6 years & older).....	7.25%^	60 months

New/Pre-Owned Recreational Vehicles*

90% Financing.....	7.95%	120 months
80% Financing (6 years & older).....	9.00%	84 months

* Financing includes purchase price or retail value plus tax, license, documentation fees, mechanical breakdown protection, GAP, and extended warranty.

^ Includes 1% rate discount for payment by Automatic Transfer. Lower rate or refinancing option does not apply to current CEFCU loans or any vehicles that have been financed by CEFCU in the past 12 months.

REAL ESTATE LOANS

First Trust Deed..... Visit us online at www.cefcu.org or call 800/592-3328 ext. 404

Second Trust Deed

Primary/Secondary Residence (Fixed).....	6.95%	180 months
Rental Property (Fixed).....	8.25%	120 months

Home Equity Line of Credit (Variable)..... 6.40% Open End

10-Year Interest Only HELOC (Variable)..... 6.50% 120 months



This reference guide is provided as a service to our members for general information and is not meant as a full disclosure. See specific loan disclosures for further details. Rates and terms are those in effect at time of printing and are subject to change without notice. All loans subject to credit approval. Equal Housing Lender. NMLS #626590. Effective April 1, 2026.



HOLIDAY CLOSINGS — CEFCU Staff Training Day Thursday, April 9 • Memorial Day Monday, May 25
Juneteenth Friday, June 19 • Independence Day Friday, July 3 (observed)