

YOUR ONE SOURCE



www.starone.org | 866.543.5202 | Winter 2019

Refinancing Student Loans

You Have Options

If you're looking for a way to consolidate and refinance existing student loans, Star One Credit Union may have the answer you need.*

Star One can help you turn your private and federal student loans (including PLUS loans) into one manageable, convenient payment that could also lower your rate.**

Budget-Friendly Features

As a not-for-profit organization, Star One works for the benefit of its members so you can feel confident about our offerings. Some of the features of refinancing with Star One include:

- No origination fees or prepayment penalties.
- Refinance up to \$125,000.
- Competitive fixed- and variable-rate options available. The rate offered will depend upon the credit qualifications of the borrower or co-signer (if applicable) and the repayment term selected.
- Flexible terms. Choose from 5-, 10- or 15-year repayment plans.

Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for student loan refinancing you must be:

- A U.S. citizen or permanent resident who graduated with a bachelor's degree from an approved public or private college or university.***

- Repaying or in a grace period on one or more outstanding private or federal student loans.
- Able to meet underwriting criteria (a co-signer may be needed).
- Eligible for credit union membership.

Getting Started Is Easy

You can learn more, check out loan options, use our student loan refinance calculator and apply online by visiting the Student Loan Refinancing page at www.starone.studentchoice.org.

* By refinancing federal student loans, you may lose certain borrower benefits from your original loans, such as interest-rate discounts, principal rebates, or some cancellation benefits that can significantly reduce the cost of repaying your loans.

** Subject to credit qualification and additional criteria, including graduating from an approved school.

*** Approved schools subject to change.

Visit the Student Loan Refinancing page at www.starone.studentchoice.org.

Planning for Your Retirement

IRA Contribution Limits and Deadlines

	2018	2019
IRA contribution limit (if under age 50)	\$5,500*	\$6,000*
IRA contribution limit (if age 50 or older)	\$6,500	\$7,000
Deadline for contributions	April 15, 2019	April 15, 2020

* Or your taxable compensation for the year, whichever is less. Non-wage-earning spouses of wage earners may also contribute to an IRA. This limit is indexed to inflation for future years.

Preventing Elder Financial Abuse

What You Should Know

Financial exploitation of the elderly, which involves the illegal or improper use of an older person's funds or resources, is on the rise, according to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Whether you're an older adult or a caregiver, being informed and aware can help you avoid becoming a victim of scams that can include fraud and identity theft.

Criminals are constantly devising new schemes, but these are a few of the more common scams to watch for:

- **Computer and tech support scams.** Phony technicians call or send a pop-up message to your computer, saying it has been infected with a virus or malware. They will ask to remotely access your computer to "fix" a fake problem, then charge you for it, often stealing all of your personal information. **Tip:** Do not open email or click on links or attachments from people or businesses you don't know.
- **Government employee scams.** Someone claiming to be from the IRS or another government agency calls, threatening government action if you don't pay up.



In addition to money, they often steal your Social Security number and other vital personal information. **Tip:** Do not respond to IRS calls. The IRS only makes contact via U.S. mail.

- **Lottery and sweepstakes fraud.** Scammers will ask you to pay a "processing fee" or "transfer charge" to collect your winnings, but you'll never receive payment. **Tip:** Do not accept solicitations from strangers offering something that's too good to be true.

At Star One Credit Union, we take protecting your finances seriously. Here's another tip: Do not respond to emails threatening to close your Star One accounts. If you believe you or a loved one has been a victim of financial exploitation, contact Star One at **408.543.5202** or toll free at **866.543.5202**. To learn more, check out our Elder Financial Abuse Prevention educational modules in the Learning Center at www.starone.org.

Star One Phone Representatives

(408) 543-5202 or
(866) 543-5202 toll free
Fax: (408) 543-5203

Star One Phone Representatives are available Mon. – Fri., 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. and on weekends and most holidays from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. For your convenience, we use a Shared Branch call center to handle after-hours calls. They can assist you with general questions and basic transactions.

Branch Hours:

Mon., Tues. & Thur. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Wed. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Fri. 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sat. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Big Basin, Blossom Hill and Stevens Creek Branches

Cupertino

De Anza Branch
10991 N. De Anza Blvd.

Palo Alto

El Camino Branch
3903 El Camino Real

San Jose

Blossom Hill Branch
1090 Blossom Hill Road

San Jose

Stevens Creek Branch
3136 Stevens Creek Blvd.

Saratoga

Big Basin Branch
14411 Big Basin Way

Sunnyvale

Enterprise Branch
1080 Enterprise Way, #150

Website

www.starone.org

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 3643
Sunnyvale, CA 94088

Email

service@starone.org



Star One Credit Union Scholarship Program

Ten \$5,000 Scholarships to Be Awarded in 2019

Star One Credit Union will be accepting applications starting January 2 through February 28, 2019. Recipients will be announced in May 2019.

You're eligible to apply if you meet all of the following criteria:

- Are a high school senior or a college freshman, sophomore or junior
- Are enrolled as a full-time college* student pursuing an Associate or Bachelor's degree in the fall of 2019
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Are a member of Star One Credit Union
- Are in good standing with the last educational institution you attended and cannot be on disciplinary or academic probation
- Are involved in community service and extracurricular activities

Learn more at www.starone.org.

* For the purpose of this policy, "college" is defined as accredited, nonprofit, two- or four-year community colleges, public and private colleges, and universities located in the United States.



Holiday Schedule

Star One branches will be closed to observe:

New Year's Day – Jan. 1
Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Jan. 21
Presidents Day – Feb. 18



Your savings are federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government. National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency.



We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act.

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