

Tips for Consumers to Reduce Banking Costs

- Take advantage of free checking and savings accounts. Most banks offer these accounts.
- Use your home bank's ATM machines to avoid or lower your ATM fees.
- Use direct deposit. Many checking accounts are free when your paycheck is automatically deposited each month.
- Maintain your minimum account balance. Keep at least the minimum balance in your account.
- Avoid overdrawing your account. Keep track of transactions and account balances.
- Use e-mail or text alerts to monitor your account balance so it doesn't fall below a certain level.