

Glossary

Handout 4-12

Account: What you set up at a bank or credit union for depositing, withdrawing, borrowing or investing money. There are two kinds of accounts: savings and chequing.

Account statement: A record you receive monthly of all of your banking transactions (i.e. deposits, withdrawals, transfers).

Annual percentage rate (APR): The rate of interest charged on a loan each year, including any fees. This calculation helps borrowers compare rates.

Automated teller machine (ATM): A machine you use to do banking with an electronic (debit) card. This is also called an automated banking machine (ABM).

Balance: The amount of money in a bank account. Can also refer to a budget where the income and expenses are equal (balanced budget).

Bank: A financial institution that takes deposits, lends money and provides other financial services.

Banking fees: Fees charged to customers for banking services.

Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation (CDIC): A corporation set up by the federal government. They provide insurance to protect money deposited in Canadian financial institutions.

Cheque: A cheque is a printed form on which you write an amount of money and who it is to be paid to. Your bank then pays the money to that person from your account.

Chequing account: An account at a bank or credit union that allows the account holder to write cheques.

Credit union: A financial institution that is owned by its depositors and borrowers. Credit unions are similar to banks but have different systems of ownership and governance. They are member-owned co-operatives.

Debit card: A card that lets you transfer money electronically from your account to pay for something you buy. It is also used to deposit money into an account.

Deposit: Money held in an account at a bank, credit union, or trust company.

Deposit insurance: An insurance plan to protect the money you deposit in a bank, credit union or trust company (see Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation).

Financial institution: A bank, trust company, credit union or other institution that offers financial services such as savings and chequing accounts, loans, credit cards, and investments.

Overdraft: This happens when money is withdrawn from a bank account and the available balance goes below zero. Typically this results in an additional fee on your account.

Overdraft protection: A pre-arranged limit a customer can borrow from the bank when their balance goes below zero. There may be fees and interest charged for this protection.

Personal identification number (PIN): A confidential number you use to confirm who you are at a bank machine, computer or phone system.

Savings account: An account with a bank or credit union that pays interest on the money you deposit.

Withdraw: To take money out of an account.