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Marketing

Why do Credit Unions and Banks ask for Identification?

We understand that being asked for identification at a credit union or bank can feel repetitive. Financial institutions require identification for two primary reasons: to protect our members and to comply with the law.

Protecting Your Account

Staff members are trained to ask for identification to confirm your identity. This is especially important when you visit a branch outside your normal community or work with new staff who may not know you. Verifying your identity ensures that only authorized individuals can access your account, make changes, or withdraw funds.

Checking IDs is a critical step in preventing financial crimes such as account takeovers, check fraud, and money laundering. We pride ourselves on keeping your information safe and will always prioritize the prevention of fraud and financial crimes.

Legal Compliance

Additionally, financial institutions are legally required to collect and verify identification when you open an account. The USA Patriot Act's Customer Identification Program mandates this process. This act was signed into law under George Bush in October 2001 to strengthen national security and prevent terrorism.