

# Financial Advisory Services

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SECU provides financial advisory services in addition to deposit and lending services. Financial advisory services include insurance, investment, tax preparation, trust and estate planning services and more. Investment, trust, and insurance representatives, as well as tax preparers, are salaried SECU employees whom members can trust to provide unbiased advice. Members can contact their local branch or call the Contact Center at 1-**888**-732-8562 for more information.

**Financial Assessment** – SECU's Financial Assessment tool includes an education planning assessment, pre-retirement and post-retirement assessments, a life insurance needs analysis, and a spending plan. To use the tool, sign on to Member Access at [www.ncsecu.org](http://www.ncsecu.org) and click on the Financial Assessment link under the Services tab.



**Insurance Services** – SECU provides a comprehensive line of insurance products to meet members' needs.

- **Term and Whole Life Insurance** helps provide certainty in difficult times. Term life insurance offers affordable protection with coverage amounts from \$25,000 to over \$1,000,000 with level premiums for the 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 year term period selected. Level premium whole life insurance provides coverage for an insured's lifetime with face amounts of \$10,000 or more available. For many policies, real-time decisions are made at local branches.
- **Deferred and Immediate Fixed Annuities** are available to meet retirement or other long-range planning goals. Deferred annuities offer tax deferral for members who have maximized other retirement savings options. Immediate annuities can provide a lifetime stream of income to help cover expenses in retirement.
- **Auto, Homeowners and Other Personal Lines of Insurance** include property and liability coverage for autos, homes, recreational vehicles, motorcycles, boats, manufactured housing, renters, flood, wind and hail, and umbrella excess liability expenses.
- **Credit Life and Credit Disability Insurance** are optional coverages with monthly renewable premiums that are charged to the outstanding balance of the associated loan.
- **Health Insurance** advice is available on a variety of plans with choices to help fit any budget.

**Investment Services** – Investment services are offered to members through Credit Union Investment Services (CUIS), which is a subsidiary of SECU and a North Carolina Registered Investment Advisor. CUIS Investment Representatives recommend low-cost, diversified mutual funds to help members achieve long-term financial goals. Mutual funds provide the potential for higher returns than deposit accounts and can be more effective at outpacing inflation over time. Members may also purchase stocks, bonds and/or other mutual funds on a non-recommended basis.

Investment Representatives can open investment accounts for members who meet the following requirements:

- Are North Carolina residents
- Have at least \$250 to invest or transfer
- Have at least 5 years until all of the money will be needed
- Have an e-mail address and are willing to accept electronic delivery of account documents (statements, confirmations, etc.)

**Education Planning** – SECU helps members establish NC 529 accounts through the College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) to save for education-related expenses. The Credit Union also helps coordinate a statewide FAFSA Day each February to assist college-bound students in applying for financial aid.

**Retirement Planning** – SECU assists members who are many years from retirement, planning to retire soon or already retired. Branch employees can discuss Social Security strategies, provide guidance with state retirement and other pension options, and determine whether members are on track to retire.

**Tax Preparation Services** – SECU offers two basic tax preparation options for qualified members:

- **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** is a free, IRS-sponsored program available to help low-to-moderate income taxpayers with their tax preparation needs. Through VITA, SECU tax preparers complete and electronically file returns for eligible taxpayers free of charge.
- **Low-Cost Tax Preparation** is available for members with basic tax preparation needs, but whose income exceeds the VITA threshold.

SECU's Low-Cost Tax Preparation service is NOT affiliated with the IRS VITA program.

**Trust Services** – SECU Trust Representatives are available statewide to assist members with questions about trusts and other estate planning topics.

SECU through MEMBERS® Trust Company (MTC) offers corporate trustee services to manage trust assets and oversee distributions. SECU Trust Services has experience in managing various types of trusts, including special needs trusts, revocable trusts for incapacity planning, and trusts for spendthrift beneficiaries.

In addition, we offer corporate executor services to handle the estate settlement process, taking the burden off of family members and friends. SECU Trust Services has the expertise to effectively settle estates, adhering to final instructions and fiduciary responsibilities.

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**Estate Planning Essentials Program** – This program allows members to meet with participating attorneys and have estate planning documents prepared at a predetermined price. SECU is committed to providing financial planning services, and an estate plan is an important piece of a comprehensive financial plan.

Participation in the Estate Planning Essentials Program is optional for members. The following documents are included for each member:

- Will that may include trust provisions
- Durable Power of Attorney
- Health Care Power of Attorney and Living Will
- HIPAA Authorization

Members who are interested in obtaining an estate plan should meet with an SECU Trust Representative to discuss whether this program can meet their specific needs.

*Investment advisory services offered through Credit Union Investment Services. Securities offered through SECU Brokerage Services. Member FINRA, SIPC. Trust Services offered through MEMBERS® Trust Company, a federal thrift regulated by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. Securities, Trust and Insurance products are not credit union deposits, are not obligations of or guaranteed by the credit union or MEMBERS® Trust Company, and are not insured by the NCUA or any federal government agency. Securities and Trust products involve investment risks, including possible loss of principal invested. Insurance rate quotes are subject to change upon completion of the underwriting process. Investment, Trust and Insurance representatives are also credit union employees, who may accept deposits.*

*Attorneys participating in the Estate Planning Essentials Program are not employees or agents of the credit union (SECU), MEMBERS® Trust Company or any affiliated entity. SECU Trust Representatives are not employees or agents of the participating attorneys. The credit union and MEMBERS® Trust Company are not providing legal services and are not responsible for the services provided by these independent professionals. The Estate Planning Essentials Program is an optional program for members. Credit union members have the option to use an attorney participating in the program or select their own attorney.*



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