## Interest Rates and Interest Charges

### Annual Percentage Rate (APR) for Purchases
- **8.99%, 10.99%, or 12.99%** introductory APR for one year, based on your creditworthiness.
  
  After that, your APR will be **14.99%**. This APR will vary with the market based on the Prime Rate.

### APR for Balance Transfers
- **15.99%**
  
  This APR will vary with the market based on the Prime Rate.

### APR for Cash Advances
- **21.99%**
  
  This APR will vary with the market based on the Prime Rate.

### Penalty APR and When it Applies
- **28.99%**
  
  This APR may be applied to your account if you:
  1. Make a late payment;
  2. Go over your credit limit;
  3. Make a payment that is returned; or
  4. Do any of the above on another account that you have with us.

### How Long Will the Penalty APR Apply?
- If your APRs are increased for any of these reasons, the Penalty APR will apply until you make six consecutive minimum payments when due.

### How to Avoid Paying Interest on Purchases
- Your due date is at least 25 days after the close of each billing cycle. We will not charge you any interest on purchases if you pay your entire balance by the due date each month.

### Minimum Interest Charge
- If you are charged interest, the charge will be no less than $1.50.

### For Credit Card Tips from the Federal Reserve Board
- To learn more about factors to consider when applying for or using a credit card, visit the website of the Federal Reserve Board at [http://www.federalreserve.gov/creditcard](http://www.federalreserve.gov/creditcard).

## Fees

### Set-up and Maintenance Fees
- **$20**
  - Annual Fee
  - Account Set-up Fee
  - Participation Fee
  - Additional Card Fee
  
  **$20** (one-time fee)

### Transaction Fees
- **Either $5 or 3% of the amount of each transfer, whichever is greater (maximum fee: $100).**
- **Either $5 or 3% of the amount of each cash advance, whichever is greater.**
- **2% of each transaction in U.S. dollars.**

### Penalty Fees
The following contains detailed information about the important aspects of a credit card offer:

1) **APR for purchases**
   - The interest rate you pay, on an annual basis, if you carry over balances on purchases from one billing cycle to the next. If the card has an introductory rate, you will also see the rate that applies after the introductory rate ends. Multiple interest rates may be listed here. Your rate will depend on your creditworthiness, which is based on your debt, income, credit score, and other factors, such as your history of paying bills on time.

2) **APR for balance transfers**
   - The interest rate you pay, on an annual basis, if you transfer a balance from another card. Balance transfer fees may apply, even if the balance transfer APR is 0%. If there is an introductory rate, pay attention to when that rate ends and what the new rate will be.

3) **APR for cash advances**
   - The interest rate you pay if you withdraw a cash advance from your credit card account. Cash advance fees may also apply. Most credit card companies charge interest immediately, starting from the date you get the cash advance.

4) **Penalty APR and when it applies**
   - Your credit card company may increase your interest rate for several reasons. For example, if you:
     - pay your bill late,
     - go over your credit limit,
     - make a payment that is returned, or
     - do any of these on another account that you have with the same company.

   Be sure to read the terms and conditions of your card to know what can cause your interest rate to go up. If you trigger the penalty rate, your credit card company must tell you that they will be raising your rate 45 days in advance of the increase.

5) **How long will the penalty APR apply?**
   - Credit card companies must tell you how long the penalty rates will be in effect. You may be able to go back to regular rates if you pay your bills on time for a period of time (for example, 6 months). Companies may not automatically remove the penalty rates. You may have to ask your credit card company to lower the rates.

6) **How to avoid paying interest on purchases**
   - You can avoid interest charges on purchases by paying your bill in full by the due date. About 40 percent of U.S. households pay in full each month; the remainder, about three out of five U.S. households, carry a balance and pay interest on their credit card accounts.

7) **Minimum interest charge**
   - Credit card companies often have a minimum interest amount. These charges typically range from $0.50 to $2 per month. Even if you carry over a low balance, you can be charged a minimum amount of interest. If the minimum interest charge is $1 or less, the company does not need to disclose this charge here.

   **Example:** Your balance is $25 and your APR is 12%. Your card has a minimum interest charge of $2. Based on your balance of $25, your monthly interest would be $0.25 (as calculated by the APR), but instead you will be charged $2.

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**How We Will Calculate Your Balance:** We use a method called “average daily balance (including new purchases).”

**Loss of Introductory APR:** We may end your introductory APR and apply the Penalty APR if you become more than 60 days late in paying your bill.

**Callout Descriptions:**

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   **Example:** Your balance is $25 and your APR is 12%. Your card has a minimum interest charge of $2. Based on your balance of $25, your monthly interest would be $0.25 (as calculated by the APR), but instead you will be charged $2.
7) Set-up and maintenance fees
Some credit cards offered to people with lower, or subprime, credit scores may charge a variety of fees. Some fees are charged before the card is used and may reduce the amount of credit initially available. These fees can include:

- **Annual fee**—The amount you’ll be charged during each 12-month period for having the card.
- **Account set-up fee**—Usually a one-time fee for opening and setting up the account.
- **Participation fee**—Usually a monthly fee for having the card.
- **Additional card fee**—This can be a one-time fee or an annual fee for having a second card for the account.

*Example: You are assigned the minimum credit limit of $250, your initial available credit will be only about $209 (or about $204 if you choose to have an additional card).*

8) Transaction Fees (balance transfer, cash advance, foreign transaction)
Credit card companies may charge you a fee for transferring a balance, getting a cash advance, or making a transaction in a foreign country. These fees can be either a fixed dollar amount (for example, $5) or a percentage of the transaction amount (for example, 3%). If you are planning to transfer a balance, get a cash advance, or make foreign transactions, check your agreement for these fees.

9) Penalty fees (late payment, over-the-limit, returned payment)

**Late payment.** Credit card companies may charge you a fee if you pay your bill late. Some companies may charge different fees depending on your balance—the higher your balance, the higher the late fee.

**Over-the-limit.** If you have consented to extensions of credit that exceed your credit limit (opt-in to going over the limit), credit card companies may also charge you a fee if your balance goes over your credit limit. Rather than denying a transaction, your credit card company may let the transaction go through but then charge you a fee for going over your limit.

**Returned payment.** If you make a payment, but you don’t have enough money in your account to cover the payment, your credit card company may charge you a returned payment fee, just like a bounced check fee. This can happen whether you pay with a check or with a direct debit from your account.

10) Other fees
Some cards require credit insurance, or debt cancellation, or debt suspension coverage. Credit card companies may call this “account protection” or something similar.

*Example: Your credit card offers debt suspension coverage for up to 90 days if you become unemployed. If you lose your job, you may be able to stop making payments on your credit card for about 3 months. But interest may still continue to be added to your balance during the debt suspension period.*

11) How we will calculate your balance
Credit card companies can use one of several methods to calculate your outstanding balance. The method they use can make a big difference in the interest charges you’ll pay. Find out if the card calculates your balance:

- using average balance or adjusted balance,
- by including or excluding new purchases.

Depending on the balance you carry over and the timing of your purchases and payments, you’ll usually have a lower finance charge with:

- the adjusted balance method,
- the average daily balance method, excluding new purchases, or
- the previous balance method.

Descriptions of balance calculation methods:

**Adjusted balance method.** The balance is the outstanding balance at the beginning of the billing cycle, minus payments and credits made during the billing cycle.

**Average daily balance method, including new purchases.** The balance is the sum of the outstanding balances for every day in the billing cycle (including new purchases and deducting payments and credits) divided by the number of days in the billing cycle.

**Average daily balance method, excluding new purchases.** The balance is the sum of the outstanding balances for every day in the billing cycle (excluding new purchases and deducting payments and credits) divided by the number of days in the billing cycle.
Previous balance method. The balance is the outstanding balance at the beginning of the billing cycle.

12) Loss of introductory APR
If your card has a special, lower rate that is called an “introductory rate,” this area will list the ways that you can lose this lower rate. For the first year after opening an account, you can only lose an introductory rate if your account becomes more than 60 days past due.