

Frequently Asked Questions about Reward Checking

What “rewards” does Reward Checking include?

Reward Checking pays interest – earn 2.00% Annual Percentage Yield (APY)* on your balance up to \$25,000, and 0.25% APY* on your balance over \$25,000 when you meet the account activity requirements. You will also be refunded up to \$3 per transaction with a maximum of \$25 per qualification cycle for any ATM-related fees you incur when using another bank’s ATM if you meet the requirements, and you will receive a free debit card, free online and mobile banking, free bill pay and unlimited check writing.

What are the account activity requirements that must be met to qualify for the rewards?

All three of the following requirements must be met during the qualification cycle to qualify for the rewards:

1. At least ten signature-based debit card transactions post and clear per qualification cycle
2. At least one direct deposit or one ACH auto debit post and clear per qualification cycle
3. Receive monthly statement electronically (through online banking)

Do ATM withdrawals and PIN-based purchases count as debit card transactions?

No, ATM withdrawals and PIN-based purchases do not count toward your ten required transactions per qualification cycle. Debit card transactions must be signature-based purchases from any point-of-sale merchant. To make your transaction signature-based rather than PIN-based, ask the merchant to run your card as a credit rather than debit card.

What if my new debit card doesn’t arrive until late in the statement cycle and, therefore, I don’t have time to earn my rewards for the first cycle?

As a thank you for choosing Reward Checking, you will receive your rewards for the remainder of the first statement cycle whether or not you meet the requirements for that qualification cycle.

Is there a fee to use my debit card?

There is no fee to use your debit card to make purchases. Other banks may assess a surcharge fee if you withdraw money from their ATM machine, but if you meet the account activity requirements, you will be refunded for those fees up to \$3 per transaction with a maximum of \$25 per qualification cycle.

How often must the account activity requirements be met to qualify for the rewards?

The requirements must be met each qualification cycle to receive the rewards for that time period. To ensure you qualify for the rewards, your required debit card transactions should be posted to your account a few days before the qualification cycle ends.

Is there a minimum balance requirement in order to receive the rewards?

There is no minimum balance required for Reward Checking. However, to open a Reward Checking account, you must deposit a minimum of \$100.

What happens if I do not meet the requirements during a qualification cycle?

You will earn 0.05% APY* on your checking balance and the ATM-related fees will not be reimbursed for that particular qualification cycle. No matter what, you will still receive a checking account that pays interest with no monthly service fee or minimum balance, free ATM use at all Bank Iowa and SHAZAM Privileged Status ATMs, a free debit card, free online and mobile banking, free bill pay and unlimited check writing.

How will I know if I have qualified for the rewards at the end of the qualification cycle?

You will receive a monthly summary email at the end of the qualification cycle letting you know whether or not you have met the account activity requirements and what your actual results were for each requirement. This e-mail also lets you know that your e-statement is ready for viewing through online banking.

If I meet the requirements, when will I receive the rewards?

Your rewards will be credited to your account on the last day of the qualification cycle, including your interest and any ATM-related fee refunds.

Is there a limit to the number of transactions allowed with Reward Checking?

There is no limit on the number of transactions on your Reward Checking account.

Is this just a “teaser” interest rate?

No. While the interest rate may change based on normal variations in the marketplace, the account is designed to pay a high APY interest to those who meet the account activity requirements.

How is the interest calculated?

Interest is calculated using the daily balance method, which applies a daily periodic rate to the principal in the account each day. It is based on the collected balance.

How does the tiered interest rate for Reward Checking work?

If you meet the account activity requirements, your full balance up to \$25,000 will receive 2.00% APY* and any amount of your balance over \$25,000 will receive 0.25% APY*. The interest will be paid in a lump sum as a credit to your account at the end of the qualification cycle.

Will I receive cancelled checks with Reward Checking?

You can view cancelled check images through your free online banking account but will not receive hard copies through the mail.

Can this be used as a business or DBA account?

No, Reward Checking is for personal accounts only.

Do I have to own a computer in order to have Reward Checking?

You do not have to own a computer, but you must have a valid email address in order for us to send your statements electronically and Internet access in order to view your e-statement and online banking account information.

Do I have to come to the bank to open a Reward Checking account?

Unless you are an existing customer who wants to switch to Reward Checking, an office visit is required to open a new Reward Checking account.

If I am a current Bank Iowa customer who wants to switch to Reward Checking, will I be able to use my existing debit card, checks and account number?

Yes – your account number, debit card and checks will remain the same when you switch to Reward Checking.

**The APY stated is accurate as of 2/28/12. Rates are subject to change.*