

# The Westerra Way



## Westerra Awards 100 Grants to Local Schools

Westerra Credit Union is proud to have awarded \$50,000 in grants to 100 schools in Aurora Public Schools, Denver Public Schools, Douglas County School District, Jeffco Public Schools, Littleton Public Schools and Mapleton Public Schools to provide financial support for programs and activities that help students achieve academic and personal success. For a full list of schools that received grants—and to learn how they will use the funds—visit [westerracu.com/community/serving-our-schools](http://westerracu.com/community/serving-our-schools).

*At Westerra, it's all about our members!*



*I love Westerra. I especially appreciate the value they have brought to my mortgage financing needs. I have financed two homes—and refinanced one of them to lower my rate and payment. Both closings went smoothly and the title company remarked how they appreciate closing Westerra loans because the paperwork is always in order. The best part is having my loan serviced by Westerra—I can transfer my payment online and if I have a concern, I can talk to someone locally. Thanks Westerra for helping me achieve my dream of home ownership—twice!*

~ Kimberly B., member since 1992.

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL  
TIME ~~OF THE YEAR~~  
TO BUY A HOME

**1/8 PERCENT OFF**  
YOUR MORTGAGE RATE

It's a wonderful time of year to purchase your new home. You may find better home prices and you'll get **1/8% off your mortgage rate from Westerra — it's our holiday gift to you!**\* Plus, make a down payment of as little as 3% on loans up to \$850,000!

### Other Westerra Benefits:

- » **Full credit approval** – not just a prequalification so you are ready to make a winning offer
- » **Flexible payment options** – monthly, semi-monthly or bi-weekly schedules
- » **Make your payments to Westerra** – now and in the future
- » **No prepayment penalties**

Westerra mortgage loan specialists will help make the most of your home purchase dollars. They'll listen to your needs and personalize a loan that supports your best overall financial health. **Apply or learn more at [westerracu.com](http://westerracu.com), stop by your local branch, or call 303-710-8868 to speak to a mortgage loan specialist today.**

 NMLS# 421606

\*1/8% rate reduction valid on home purchase applications received on or before January 31, 2020. Some restrictions apply. To determine your payment amount, visit [westerracu.com/services](http://westerracu.com/services) to use the payment calculator. Rates are based on individual credit history and are subject to change without notice.



## Educational focus brings credit unions together. Mapleton Public Schools Credit Union Members Overwhelmingly Approve Merger with Westerra

The membership of Mapleton Public Schools Federal Credit Union voted by an overwhelming margin of 80% on October 7 to merge with Westerra Credit Union. The merger agreement was unanimously approved by both Boards of Directors. "Our credit unions have so much in common," said Mapleton Public Schools Federal Credit Union Co-Chairman Sam Molinaro, "and this merger positions us even better to serve the financial needs of our members through additional branches, expanded service and a continued focus on financial education in our schools and our community."

"We are very excited about the many benefits this merger of two sound credit unions provides to both Mapleton and Westerra members," said Andy Raicevich, Chairman of Westerra Credit Union. "It is important to us to provide local resources, as conveniently as possible, to meet the financial needs of those in our community."

"Our credit unions share a commitment to financial education," said Jay Champion, President/CEO of Westerra Credit Union. "Members and non-members are invited to attend free financial seminars, use our online financial literacy tools, and have conversations with credit union staff to find answers to their questions. Westerra also provides grants to schools and makes presentations in classrooms to help our educational community with their important mission. We look forward to sharing these resources throughout the entire Mapleton community."

Westerra branches and services are available to all Mapleton members beginning December 23, 2019.





## Get Your Finances in Shape in the New Year!

**Get a free Fitbit™ when you complete a free Financial Checkup and open one new service!\***

Are you looking to improve your financial health in the New Year? Now that the holiday spending season is behind us, it's a great time to take a closer look at your personal finances. With a Financial Checkup, we can review your financial picture and help you discover how to:

- » **Save money with** free checking and debit card rewards.
- » **Lower your payments** with lower rates on loans and credit cards.
- » **Understand your financial picture** by reviewing your credit report.
- » **Earn more** with competitive rates on savings.
- » **Save time** with free mobile apps and online banking.
- » **Find more branches and ATMs** – credit unions have the second largest branch network and second largest ATM network in the nation!


**Get your Fitbit® – or State or National Parks Pass\* – on the spot with your Financial Checkup** and your choice of a new checking account, auto loan, first mortgage, home equity loan, credit card, certificate of deposit or money market account. Schedule your Financial Checkup at [westerracu.com](http://westerracu.com).

\*Limited time offer. Your choice of a Fitbit® or a free annual Parks Pass is included with the completion of a free Financial Checkup and one new service, excluding adult share savings account. Annual Parks Pass good for 12 months from activation date. Financial Checkup includes obtaining your credit report. Limit of one free gift per account per year. Value of Fitbit or State/National Parks Pass may be reported to the IRS. The National Park Service, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and Fitbit are not participants in or sponsors of this promotion.

## Mark Your Calendar for the Annual Meeting

Since 1934 Westerra Credit Union has been a trusted local resource for members' financial needs. Please join us to learn the highlights of 2019. Speakers include Board of Directors Chairman Andy Raicevich and President/CEO Jay Champion. The Nominating Committee is pleased to nominate the following qualified candidates to the Board of Directors for three-year terms: Andy Raicevich, Bill Abbey and Larry Ottele. The other continuing members of the Board of Directors are: Barry Beal, Jr., Jim Kullhem, Kathy Betts and Ron Walker.

The Nominating Committee is also pleased to announce the following appointment by the Board of Directors to the Supervisory/Audit Committee for a three year term: Kim Martinez. The other continuing members of the Supervisory/Audit Committee are: Glenn Mohr, JT Gaietto, Jack Swanzy, Johnny Lydia and Norm Ruggles. Please join us in congratulating our leaders at the Westerra Credit Union Annual Meeting. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by March 9, 2020 to [email@westerracu.com](mailto:email@westerracu.com) or 303-321-4209.



**Tuesday, March 17, 2020**  
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
3700 East Alameda  
Denver, CO 80209

## Attend a Financial Seminar

Westerra Credit Union was started by teachers more than 85 years ago—and that focus on education continues. We are committed to furthering financial education and supporting community initiatives by offering free financial seminars to help you achieve your financial goals—no matter what they may be.

We are offering seminars on many financial topics in 2020. Visit [westerracu.com/events](http://westerracu.com/events) to see dates for seminars on home buying, understanding credit, small business topics, teaching kids and young adults money management, and more. Also visit our financial education page at [www.westerracu.com/community/financial-tips](http://www.westerracu.com/community/financial-tips) to see a list of webinars available to you.



## Help Us Bring Special Olympics to More Schools!

As the Presenting Sponsor of the 2020 Polar Plunge, we invite you to take the plunge or run/walk the 5K on March 1 at Washington Park in Denver.

Participate as an individual or join the Westerra team. All funds raised support and expand Special Olympics Unified Sports in our area schools, bringing kids with and without intellectual disabilities together on the same team—playing together to create an atmosphere of inclusiveness. See all dates and locations—and register to participate at [www.specialolympicsco.org/plungeco](http://www.specialolympicsco.org/plungeco).

## Year-End Tax Info

Your Westerra Credit Union year-end tax information will be mailed to you by January 31. You can also find your year-end information on your December 31, 2019 paper and online statement. You will find a section that notes dividends earned and interest paid for 2019.

## FYI on IRAs

Please note the IRA "Fair Market Value" on your statement is the end-of-year balance as of 12/31/19, and will be reported to the IRS. Also, distributions from your Traditional IRA are subject to federal income tax withholding. You may change your election at any time prior to your receipt of a payment. To make a change please contact Westerra at 303-321-4209 or 1-800-858-7212.

## Important Information Regarding Your Account

In case of errors or questions about electronic funds transfers from your share or savings account, telephone us at the following number or send us a written notice to the following address as soon as you can if you think your statement or receipt is wrong or if you need more information about a transfer listed on the statement or receipt. We must hear from you no later than sixty (60) days after we sent the FIRST statement on which the problem appears.

Call us at: 303-321-4209 or write to:

Westerra Credit Union  
P.O. Box 9408  
Denver, CO 80209-0408

- » Tell us your name and account number.
- » Describe the electronic transfer you are unsure about, and explain as clearly as you can why you believe the credit union has made an error or why you need more information.
- » Tell us the dollar amount and date of the suspected error.

If you tell us verbally, we will require that you send us your dispute or question in writing by completing, signing (preferably including notary where indicated) and returning the necessary forms (to be provided by us) within ten (10) business days. If we do not receive written notice within ten (10) business days, we will proceed with the investigation of your issues, but will not have sufficient information to credit your account.

We will determine whether an error occurred within ten (10) business days after we receive the written dispute or question from you and will correct any error promptly. If we need more time, however, we may take up to forty-five (45) days to investigate your dispute or question. If we decide to do this, we will credit your account within ten (10) business days for the amount you think is in error, so that you will have the use of the money during the time it takes us to complete our investigation.

For errors involving new accounts, point-of-sale, or foreign initiated transactions, we may take up to 90 days to investigate your dispute or question. For new accounts, we may take up to 20 business days to credit your account for the amount you think is in error. We will tell you the results within three (3) business days of completing our investigation. If we decide that there was no error, we will send you a written explanation. You may ask for copies of the documents that we used in our investigation.

NOTE: If the error you assert is an unauthorized Visa® transaction, other than a cash disbursement at an ATM, we will credit your account within five (5) business days unless we determine that the circumstances or your account history warrants a delay, in which case you will receive credit within ten (10) business days.

**303-321-4209 • 1-800-858-7212**  
**[email@westerracu.com](mailto:email@westerracu.com)**

Over 1000 free ATMs in Colorado  
200 convenient CO-OP Shared Branches



Your savings are federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government.