

Credit Card Authorized User FAQs

What is an authorized user?

Simply put, an authorized user is someone who is granted access to another person's credit card. An authorized user receives full access to the account's credit card line, but is not legally responsible for paying the balance or associated fees of the account. Only the primary account holder receives the statement, regardless of who made the charges with the card.

An authorized user is different from a *joint account user*, who is also allowed to make charges on the account but is also liable for any debt related to the card. It is common for parents and couples to add an authorized user to their credit card, giving these individuals the ability to make purchases without assuming payment liability.

It is your credit score, credit history and money. You must fully trust the persons you add as authorized users.

An authorized user does not need to qualify for a loan or credit card, nor will their credit be pulled prior to being added as an authorized user.

What are the requirements to add an authorized user? The following requirements must be met for consideration as an authorized user:

- Potential authorized users must have their own RBFCU primary savings account and be a member in good standing.
- Must be 15 years or older
- Must have a valid SSN or TIN

Why would I want to add an authorized user to my RBFCU credit card? Primary account holders may want to help someone they trust build their credit history. This unique type of relationship has pros and cons. Having an authorized user has important implications for both parties' credit standing. If the authorized user has no previous credit history, his or her first credit score should generate within the first six months. This score could range from poor to excellent, depending on how the account is managed.

For couples that share expenses, it may be easier for each person to have a credit card with their name on it, rather than passing a single card back and forth to

make purchases. It may also be convenient to provide a card to a child (minimum age 15) or relative that lives far away for emergency purposes.

How many authorized users can I add to my credit card?

There can be a total of four (4) cardholders on each Mastercard account.

Can I request additional cards for authorized users? Yes. When an authorized user is added, you will be able to specify if you would like each user to have a card.

Can an authorized user earn rewards? Yes. If the primary card holder has a reward card, the purchases made by the authorized user will earn the same rewards.

What *can* an authorized user do on my credit card?

- Make purchases, cash advances and balance transfers
- Report lost or stolen cards
- Initiate billing disputes
- Make payments
- Inquire about fees
- Remove themselves as an authorized user from the account

What *can't* an authorized user do on my credit card?

- Close the account
- Add another authorized user
- Change the address or make changes on the credit card
- Request increases
- Request a lower Annual Percentage Rate (APR)
- Remove the primary cardholder from the account
- Remove any other authorized users from the account

How do I add an authorized user to my Mastercard?

Please call our Member Service Center at 1-800-580-3300 in order to provide the necessary information to qualify an authorized user. All non-business Mastercard account authorized users must be members of the credit union.

What information do I need to add an authorized user to my credit card?

- The last 4 of the SSN or TIN of the primary card holder
- Current RBFCU credit card #
- Full name of the member to be added as an authorized user
- Valid SSN or TIN of the potential authorized user
- Date of Birth for the potential authorized user

RBFCU Payment Services will review the information provided and determine if the request is approved. In some cases, we may require additional information prior to making the final decision. You can check the status of your request anytime by calling 1-800-580-3300 ext. 74571. Generally, a decision will be made within 24 hours of a request. If no additional information is required, the authorized user will receive a card within 7 days.

****As an extra layer of security, a Personal Identification Number (PIN) will be mailed separately. The PIN is not required to activate the card. The PIN may be required to complete a transaction at merchants who are EMV compliant.****

Can I remove an authorized user from my credit card? Yes. Removing an authorized user's account access is easy. Simply call Payment Services at 1-800-580-3300 ext. 74571 and ask the representative to remove the person's name from the credit card. This will revoke the removed authorized user's access and block all cards. Since the credit card holders share the same card number all cards associated with the account will be blocked to prevent unauthorized usage. The primary account holder and active authorized users will receive new cards with a new card number.