# Credit Scores in Online Banking





A Tool to Start Conversations with Your Members

### INTRODUCTION

You can now share with members their VantageScore credit scores you have on file for them by activating the **Your Credit Score** page in **It's Me 247** online banking. With this feature you can share your records with members, but more importantly, *start a conversation with a member* who is curious about their score and how your credit union uses it.

Scores display based on how long ago they were pulled. Members who don't have a recent score on file will instead see a message that encourages them to contact the credit union to find out more.

You can configure instructions to appear on the page as well as an optional link to a page on your website. There's even a new Smart Message you can activate to encourage members to check out the new feature.



This feature is especially popular among credit unions that run regular soft credit pulls to keep member credit scores up to date.

You've paid for the score. Why not use it to get your member's attention, give them a bit of education, and **then tell them how you can set up a loan that's just right for them?** 

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For an updated copy of this booklet, check out the Reference Materials page of our website: https://www.cuanswers.com/resources/doc/cubase-reference/ CU\*BASE<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of CU\*Answers, Inc.

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### **ACTIVATION CONSIDERATIONS AND CONFIGURATION SETTINGS**

#### WHAT THE FEATURE IS...AND WHAT IT ISN'T

With the It's Me 247 "Your Credit Score" page, your credit union can be transparent about what records you have on file for making decisions about the member's creditworthiness. Even more important, it creates an opportunity to connect with a member who is curious about their score and how the credit union uses it.

It's Me 247 will show members the data you have on file. That means the score is only as recent as the last time you did a soft pull for that member. Some credit unions routinely pull credit scores for all their members ("soft pulls"). So, it's important to keep in mind that it's not the member's current score...it's simply the most recent soft pull score you have on file in CU\*BASE for them.

Simply put, this feature is intended to leverage data you've already purchased to let you reach out to your members. Its main purpose is to encourage members to get a loan. Every chance you get, you're talking to your members about how the credit union can help them. This is just one more topic of conversation to make that possible.

#### THE VANTAGESCORE CONNECTION

This feature uses TransUnion VantageScore credit scores. Contact Lender\*VP for more information.

## **Q:** Can I review the scores my members might see if I decided to activate this feature?



A: Yes, via Tool #319 Credit Score History Dashboard:

Review this history to see what score your members will see online and determine what configuration settings make the most sense with your procedures, the score data you have on file. All columns are sortable by clicking the header row. First enter a date range to populate the dashboard. Then sort by the "V" volume to see your VantageScore credit scores that will be show in online banking. You can also sort by date to see how recent your scores typically are.

## **Q: I run soft pulls regularly. Will these scores be shown to members?**

A: Yes. VantageScore soft pull scores will be used when showing your members their credit scores in online banking.

#### Q: What if I haven't pulled any score yet for a member?

A: Instead of the score at the top of the page, those members would simply see a message encouraging them to contact the credit union. See the sample on Page 12.

## **Q: I have some older score data that I don't trust as much as recent data. Can I hide that from members?**

A: Yes. You can choose how old a score can be to be presented.

## **Q:** What education can I provide to my members about credit scores and my procedures?

A: There are two ways you can set up explanatory content: Free-form text can be entered that will appear just below the three pushbuttons near the bottom of the page. Use this for instructions and tips on how your credit union pulls scores and uses them. You can also enter a URL for the "Learn More About Credit Scores" pushbutton, to link to a page on your website.

#### Q: Is this feature available via It's Me 247?

A: Not at this time.

## **Q:** I've seen credit reports come in with a score of 0. How will those appear?

A: These records will be bypassed and treated as if they do not exist at all. Likewise for scores greater than 9000 (which indicate not a score, but special conditions).

## Q: I have a score that is other than Vantage. Can I set it to not show in **It's Me 247**?

A: Yes, this can be set via "Credit bureau link" In Additional Loan Maintenance (Tool #51). *Contact Lender\*VP for more assistance*.

#### **GETTING STARTED**

There are three steps to activating the "Your Credit Score" feature for your members:

- 1. Choose Your Configuration Settings
- 2. Configure the Text Members Will See
- 3. Complete an ARU/Online Banking Change Request

#### **Step 1: Choose Your Configuration Settings**

Contact Lender\*VP for assistance with this step.

Activating credit scores online requires a few configuration settings that help determine which scores to show members, and how to handle member traffic to that page:

Setting	Description
Show only if most recent score is no more than xxx days old	This controls how old the most recent score can be in order to show it to the member. In other words, if the most recent score in file is older than this period, treat it like the member has no score on file.
	The maximum allowed by the software is 999 days.
Tracker type and Memo type to use if scores are viewed by the member	Since the main purpose of this tool is to start a conversation with members who are curious about their credit score, every time a member visits the "Your Credit Score" page, we'll log a Tracker note automatically. You can choose the Tracker Type and Memo Type code you wish to use for these notes. (See Page 13 for tips on following up with these

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Setting	Description
	members.) If these fields are left blank then no Trackers will be created.

#### Step 2: Configure the Text Members Will See

Before activating the feature, you'll need to set up the instructions and sales messages you want members to read on the "Your Credit Score" page. See page 10 and 11 for a sample what the member sees and the areas of the page you can customize).

#### 1. Choose Tool #569 Online/Mobile/Text Banking VMS Config

₩ Session 0 CU*BASE GOLD - CU*ANSWERS TEST FEDERAL CREDIT U	≙
File Edit Tools Help	
Online Banking Configuration Options	
Corp ID 01	
Configurable Options	
Online/Mobile Web Banking Features	
Online Banking Password and Security Settings	
I PAT BANKING	
1020 Transfers	
Promise Deposits	
PIB	
Default Photo Album	
Default Theme	
Default Start Page	
Smart Messages	
Credit Scores History Sales Text	
ACH On-Demand Posting Services	
Contact Us Features	
Select	<b>↑ ↓</b>
Hold the Ctrl key and click to select as many items as desired, then click Select to proc	ceed.
$\leftarrow \rightarrow \land \blacksquare = \land \bigcirc ? \bigcirc$	BT (4246) 10/25/21
1	

2. Select the **Credit Scores History Sales Text** option to proceed to the following screen:

Here you can enter instructions, warnings, education, or any other content you wish members to see on the credit score page.

⊁ Session 0 CU*BASE GOLD Edition - ABC CREDIT UNION	
File Edit Tools Help	
Show Credit Score History	CHANGE
Enter text to appear at the bottom of the credit score history page and an optional URL to your website for a Learn More Link Credit Score History To include an optional link, enter a complete URL here https://ScoreHistory.ABCCreditUnion.con	Display of credit scores in online banking has NOT been activated
✓ Open new window for link	
Comments:	
Your score is an inportant part of your personal financial picture and can be a significant factor in your financial whether being. Today, credit scores are often referenced by insurance companies, and sometimes even prospective personal credit scores has traditionally been inconvenient for nost consumers. That's why ABC Credit Union offers all of our members free access to the credit scores we have on file for you. The presentation of your credit score is for educational purposes. Please understand that scores can vary due to Save Changes	When you add or remove characters, it might cause fragmented lines of text. Place the cursor at the end of the shortened line and press the Delete key to remove the line break and clean up the paragraphs as needed.
MESSAGE TIP: If you insert text or copy and paste text that exceeds the you have written or pasted, but be careful, this may delete following text decision" checkbox on this pop-up window.	space provided, a pop-up window will appear. Select Yes to retain text I. Select No to cancel a paste. WARNING: Never check the "Remember my
Talking Points	
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- 3. Enter a URL (this controls the middle green "Learn More About Credit Scores" pushbutton below the recent score information). Remember it should be a complete address, including http:// or https:// as appropriate.
- 4. Enter text for the instructions/disclosure portion that appears below the green pushbuttons. Use Ctrl+Enter to start a new line within the text box, and  $\downarrow$  arrows to add more lines of text.
- 5. Click Save Changes (Enter) when done.

#### Ideas for what to include in your content:

- $\blacksquare$  An explanation about where the data came from and why your credit union shows this data online.
- $\blacksquare$  Information about how to get a free credit report at www.annualcreditreport.com.
- $\blacksquare$  Disclaimers about how scores that can purchased online use different formulas from what the credit union receives from the credit bureau, and that they will vary from one credit company to another. ("Don't be surprised if this score is slightly different from what you might see somewhere else.")
- **I** Reiterate that looking at the score here won't affect their score. (Note: This is also mentioned in the introduction on the page. See Page 10 for a sample of what the member sees.)

#### Step 3: Complete an ARU/Online Banking Change Request

When you are ready to activate the feature for your members to see, complete the It's Me 247 Configuration Change Request form (Also known as the ARU/Online Banking Change form) and fax it to any Client Services &

Education team member. This form is available on the CU\*BASE Reference Page under "I."

Self Processors can access this configuration using ARU/Online Banking Configuration, available via Tool #5356. A view only version can be seen via Tool #140.

### WHAT THE MEMBER SEES IN ONLINE BANKING

#### **GRANTING ACCESS TO THE CREDIT SCORE FEATURE ONLINE**

For the member to access their credit score online, you must grant them access points to the feature. Below is an example of the Mega menu you might configure in ItsMe247 Manager. Other options and wording are available.

For more information contact the Internet Retailer Support Center at <u>irsc@cuanswers.com</u>. To purchase ItsMe247 Manager go to the CU\*Answers store at <u>https://store.cuanswers.com/store/irsc/cupublisher-self-service/</u>



#### Adding Access in the Mega Menu

You can also create an online banking advertisement that members view at the top of their Home Page or for the desktop version you can add it to the left-hand navigation.

#### **MEMBER WITH A RECENT SCORE**

The top portion of the page includes the most recent score. The date on this score is what drives everything else on the page. If your configuration settings require a score be no more than 90 days old, and the member's most recent score is older than that, the member will not see any scores at all on the page. (See Page 12 for a sample of what those members would see.)

This sample shows a member whose most recent score is within the configured period (90 days).

(The left screen shot shows what the member sees when the scroll down the page. This will show in the desktop version without scrolling.)

Refer to the next page to see the area at the bottom of the screen in a larger graphic.



#### **Recent Score and Example of Instructional Text**

#### **Close Up of Instructional Text**



Requests made via the "Contact Me" button can be monitored via **Tool #13** *Work Online Banking Apps/Requests*.

#### **MEMBER WITH NO RECENT SCORE ON FILE**

This sample shows what a member will see if they have no scores on file, or if the last score pulled for them is too old to be considered "recent."



### No Recent Score Found

information.

We're sorry but there is no score available to show right now. There are many reasons why a score may not be presented, so if you have any questions or want to talk to a credit union member service representative, we are always ready to work with you.

#### More Information

Managing your credit is an important aspect of your financial health. Success Credit Union offers this view of your credit score history with us in an effort to partner with you to assist you in achieving your financial goals. This credit score history comes from your interactions with the credit union. We will not have on record scores that other entities may have pulled to check your credit. We may pull a credit report for you when you open a membership, seek to open a checking account, or apply for a loan. Be assured that viewing these scores here will not affect your score. Scores you can purchase online, and scores retrieved from different credit bureaus use different formulas, so don't be surprised if the scores here differ slightly from those that you might see

### **FOLLOWING UP WITH MEMBERS**

Any time a member views the credit score page in **It's Me 247**, a Tracker note will be created if you have configured the credit score page to do so.

#### **Print Member Trackers (Tool #664)**

Report Options	Response		
lember account base range:			Job queue
From	(blank for all)	Optional	Copies 1
То	(blank for all)	Optional	Printer P1
conversation date range:			
From	Feb 01, 2015 📑 [MMDDYYYY]	(blank for all) Optional	
То	Mar 31, 2015 📑 [MMDDYYYY]	(blank for all) Optional	
racker type	ST 🔍 SALES TRACKER	(blank for all) Optional	
lemo type	🛛 🔍 Sales Lead	(blank for all) Optional	
ype of Employee to select below	Tracker created by Order Conversion	on created by	
mployee IDs		(blank for all) Optional	
mployee IDs		(blank for all) Optional	
mployee IDs		(blank for all) Optional	
mployee IDs		(blank for all) Optional	
mployee IDs	•	(blank for all) Optional	
racker selection	Open trackers OClosed tracke	rs 💿 <u>B</u> oth	
Print summary page only			
Print convertation detail			

Select a date range and enter the Tracker and Memo type codes you requested be used to log credit score activity. Use Enter to produce a report showing members with those notes:

3/27/15 16 RUN ON	:57:50 3/27/15	ABC CREDIT UNION LTKLE1 Member Tracker Listing		Page 1 User DAWNM		1			
Call Date	Call Time Account #	Follow Up Name	Memo type	Follow-up Date	Created By	Assigned To	Completed By	Completed Date	d e
03/20/2015	8:55:16 32414 Conversation:	Credit score via online banking	Sales Lead g selected by me	mber - scor	96 es were f	ound.			
03/20/2015	10:13:23 32414 Conversation:	Credit score via online banking	Sales Lead g selected by me	mber - scor	96 es were f	ound.			
03/31/2015	13:03:36 49861 Conversation:	Credit score via online banking	Sales Lead g selected by me	mber - scor	96 es were n	ot found.			

These notes will use an employee ID of 96 (for online banking).