



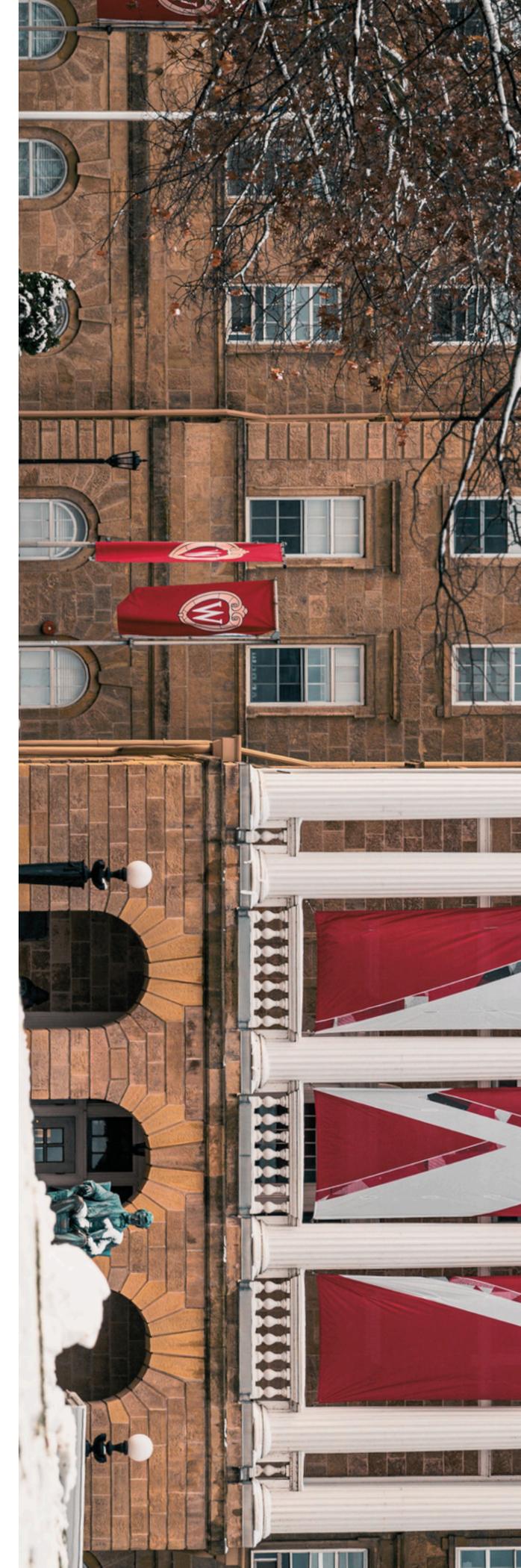
International Student Services

INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

BANKING OPTIONS / OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

2024-25
EDITION



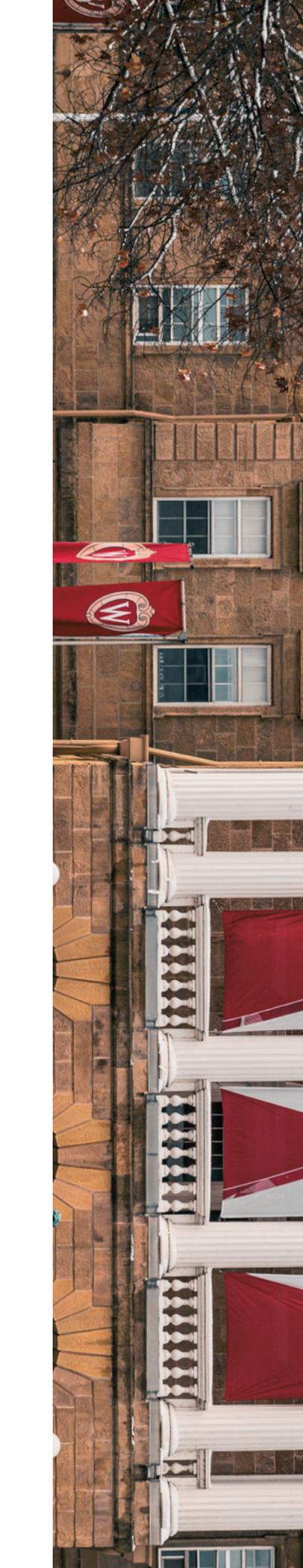


PLEASE NOTE

ISS cannot recommend any specific banks over others, but there are many banks in the downtown / campus area.

Some banks have titles that include “*U.S.*”, “*America*”, or “*American*” in the name, but that does not mean they are more official than other banks. You are not required to bank there.

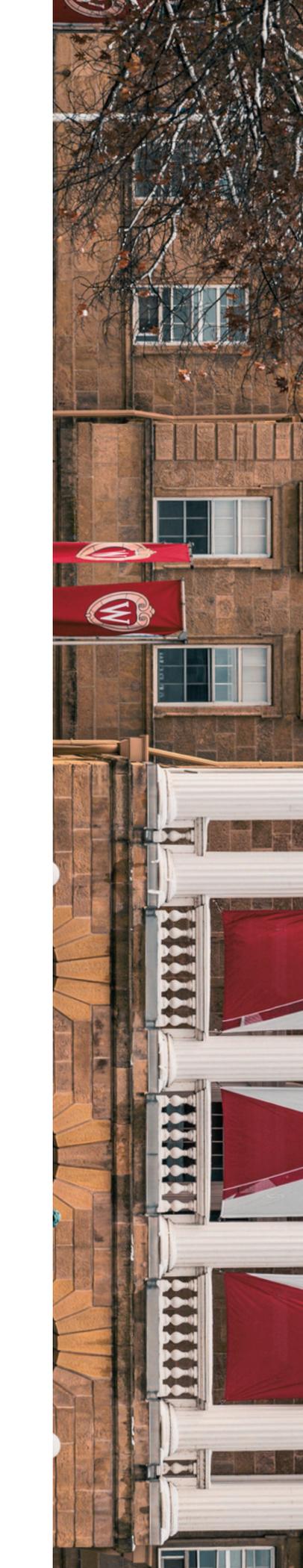
UW-Madison has an official partnership with UW-Credit Union, but you are also not required to bank with them due to this partnership.



WHAT DO I NEED TO OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT?

In order to open a bank account, you will likely need the following documents:

- **A valid non-expired Class A ID**
(Passport, U.S. State ID, Permanent Resident Card, etc.)
- **Current living address** (no PO BOX)
- **Phone number** (INT or Local #)
- **Specified amount of money to fund the accounts**
- Need to know Social Security number or ITIN **only if you have one** (You do **not** need a ITIN or SSN to open accounts)
 - *Note: In order to open a CREDIT card, it is almost always required that you have a Social Security number (SSN). You will not be eligible for a SSN if you do not have a job.*



THINGS TO CONSIDER

How long will you be in the U.S.?

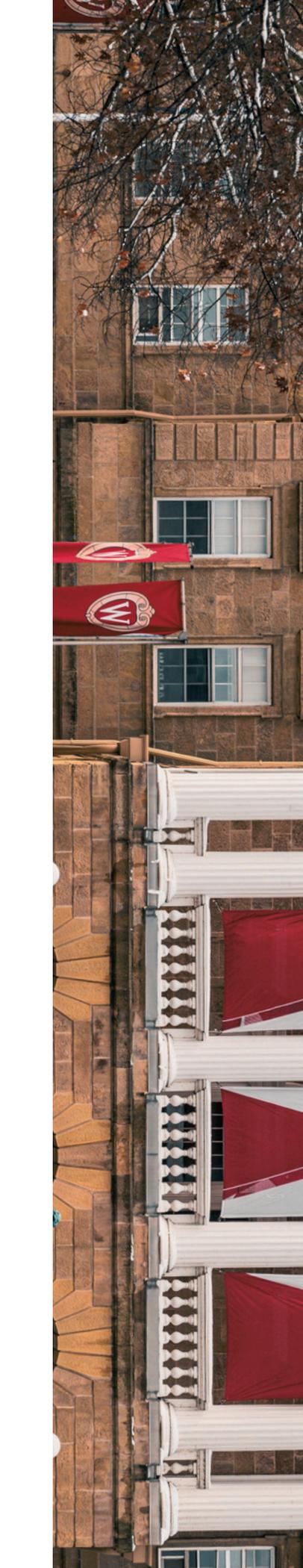
What features are important to you?

- *No ATM fees*
- *Physical bank location close by*
- *Special features or deals*
- *Security and fraud protections*
- *Customer service*
- *Online banking portal or app*
- *No international fees, etc.*

If you need to take a trip to a physical bank to open an account, how will you get there (transportation plan)?

If you may travel or live outside of Madison or Wisconsin, consider a national chain bank rather than a local bank or credit union.

TIP: GOOGLE MAPS ALLOWS YOU TO SEARCH FOR NEARBY ATMS AND BANKS!



BANK TERMS

Terms to know:

Debit Card vs Credit Card

Checking Account vs Savings
Account

Routing Number vs. Accounting
Number



HOW TO WRITE A CHECK

Terms to know:

Debit Card vs Credit Card

Checking Account vs Savings Account

Routing Number vs. Accounting Number

BANKS IN THE CAMPUS AREA

Bank branches around Madison:

- Associated Bank
- Summit Credit Union
- UW Credit Union
- Chase Bank
- U.S. Bank
- BMO Harris Bank
- Starion Bank
- Town Bank
- Park Bank
- Old National Bank



PARK BANK

TOWN BANK[®]
N.A.

A WINTRUST COMMUNITY BANK



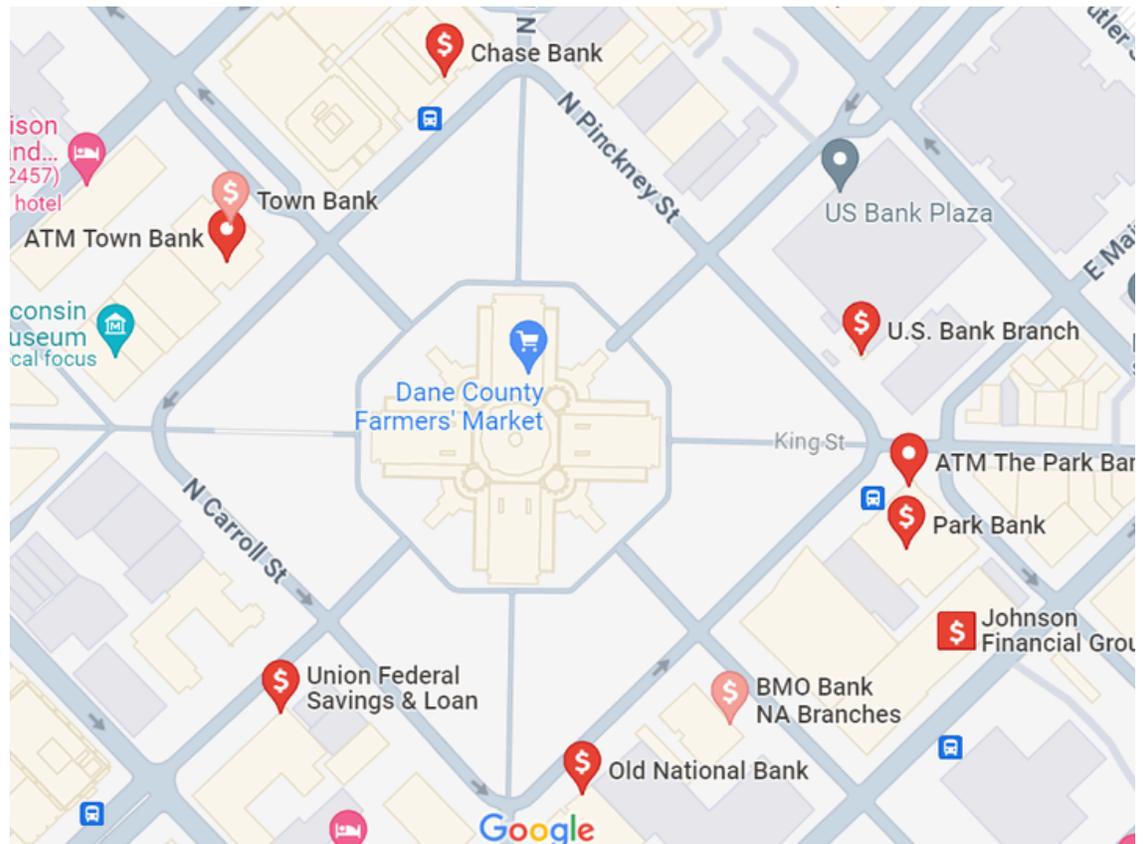
OLD NATIONAL BANK[®]



BANKS IN THE CAMPUS AREA

Capitol Square area has a few banks in a concentrated place.

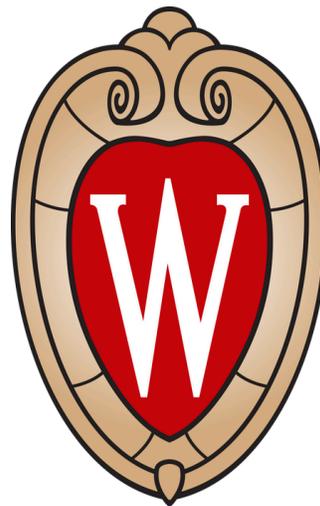
- Town Bank
- Chase Bank
- U.S. Bank
- Park Bank
- Old National Bank
- BMO Harris Bank





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Welcome, Badgers!



Information collected and shared by
UW-Madison ISS Global Engagement Interns

