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Discover it Secured Credit Card review: Earn cash back while building your credit history

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The Discover it® Secured credit card doesn't require a credit score to apply. In fact, it helps build up your credit score by offering cardholders cash-back rewards as an incentive for responsible credit behavior.

Discover It Secured Credit Card

- **Annual fee:** None
- **Welcome offer:** 10.99% intro APR on balance transfers for 6 months from the date of your first transfer (28.24% variable APR after that)
- **Rewards:**
 - 2% cash back at gas stations and restaurants up to \$1,000 every quarter
 - Unlimited 1% cash back on all other purchases

- Automatic, unlimited 2x cash back match on all cash back you earn at the end of your first year

- **More details:**

- No credit score required to apply
- Your refundable deposit equals your credit line (minimum \$200 and up to \$2,500 depending on eligibility)
- After 7 months of use, your account will be automatically reviewed every month for unsecured card eligibility (once approved for an unsecured card, you'll receive your deposit back)

APR

There's a 10.99% intro APR for 6 months from the date of your first transfer. After that, it's 28.24%.

APR for cash advances is 29.99%. There's no penalty APR.

Annual fee

There's no annual fee to apply for or use the Discover It Secured Credit Card.

Read more: [How to apply for a credit card](#)

Welcome or introductory offers

You can enjoy a 10.99% introductory APR on balance transfers for the first 6 months from when you make your first transfer.

There's also an unlimited 2x cash back, dollar-for-dollar match on all your earned cash back for the first year.

Rewards rate

The Discover It Secured Credit Card offers decent rewards, especially for a secured card:

- 2% cash back at gas stations and restaurants, up to \$1,000 in combined purchases every quarter
- 1% unlimited cash back on all other purchases
- 2x unlimited cash back, dollar-for-dollar match of all your earned cash back at the end of the first year

How to earn rewards

You can earn the 2% cash back rewards when you shop at gas stations and restaurants. You can use your card anywhere Discover is accepted to earn another 1% cash back on everything else. Discover is accepted at 99% of merchants nationwide.

How to redeem rewards

You can redeem your rewards a few different ways, including:

- Shopping at Amazon.com
- With PayPal
- Account credit
- Physical check mailed to you (if you haven't used your rewards within 18 months)

Additional benefits

- Free access to your FICO credit score, updated monthly
- Reports to the major credit bureaus

- \$0 fraud liability guarantee, ensuring that you don't have to pay for unauthorized purchases
- Free overnight card replacement
- Fraudulent activity checks and online privacy protection
- Free alerts to let you know if your Social Security Number is used on the Dark Web

Who is the Discover It Secured Credit Card best for?

The Discover It Secured Credit Card is best for people with no credit history who are looking to build and prove responsible creditworthiness.

If you don't qualify for a traditional credit card and need a secured card to start your credit journey, the Discover It Secured Credit Card is a fantastic option.

For those who qualify for traditional credit cards, you may want to skip the Discover It Secured Credit Card.

Related: [How to use credit cards to build your credit score](#)

Discover It Secured card pros

- Cash-back rewards
- No annual fee
- Free overnight card replacement
- Reports to the major credit bureaus
- No hard credit check for pre-approval
- Refundable deposit once upgraded to an unsecured card

Discover It Secured card cons

- High APR
- Less acceptance compared to Visa and Mastercard
- Late payment and returned payment fees up to \$41 each

Where can you use the Discover It Secured Credit Card?

You can use the Discover It Secured Credit Card wherever Discover is accepted, which is about 99% of merchants across the U.S.

How to make a Discover It Secured Credit Card payment

- **Online:** You can make payments on your Discover It Secured Credit Card [online](#) or through [the mobile app](#).
- **Phone:** To make a payment over the phone, call the number on the back of your card or 1-800-347-2683.
- **By mail:** Where you mail your payment depends on your current address. There are four payment addresses throughout the U.S. so make sure your payment is received at the right location by checking your most recent bank statement.

Discover It Secured Credit Card customer service info

Discover has live agents available 24/7 over the phone by calling 1-800-347-2683. You can also message a U.S.-based agent, which is also available 24/7.

To reach Discover through the mail, you can send general inquiries to

Discover Financial Services

P.O. Box 30943

Salt Lake City, UT 84130-0943

You might find more specialized contact information based on your location and needs by [logging into your Discover account](#).

Alternative cards to consider

Check out the options below, and review our list of the [best secured cards of 2024](#).

[Learn more](#)

OpenSky® Secured Visa® Credit Card

Annual fee

\$35

Cash Advance Fee

\$6 or 5% of the amount of each Cash Advance; whichever is greater.

Foreign Transaction Fees

3% of each Transaction in U.S. dollars

Late Payment Fee

Up to \$41

Card type(s)

Secured, Credit-builder

Ongoing Purchases APR

24.89% (variable)

Ongoing Cash Advance APR

24.89% (variable)

Ongoing Penalty APR

^

None

Recommended credit score

No credit check

Rewards rate

Earn up to 10% cash back through the OpenSky Rewards program

Benefits

- 88% average approval rate
- \$200 minimum security deposit
- Graduate to an OpenSky Unsecured Gold Card in as little as 6 months

OpenSky Secured Visa review: No credit check required for this secured card

[Learn more](#)

Capital One Platinum Secured Credit Card

Annual fee

\$0

Welcome offer

None

Card type(s)

Secured

Purchase APR

29.99% variable

Recommended credit score

No credit history required

Rewards rate

None

Benefits

- No annual or hidden fees; see if you're approved in seconds
- Earn back your security deposit as a statement credit when you follow best practices, such as making payments on time
- Be automatically considered for a higher credit in six months with no additional deposit

Capital One Platinum Secured Credit Card review: Build credit with no annual fee

[Learn more](#)

Capital One Quicksilver Secured Cash Rewards Credit Card

Annual fee

\$0

Welcome offer

None

Card type(s)

Secured, Cash-back

Purchase APR

29.99% variable

Introductory APR

N/A

Recommended credit score

Excellent, Good

Rewards rate

- 5% unlimited cash back on hotels and rental cars booked through Capital One Travel
- 1.5% unlimited cash back on every purchase, everywhere

Benefits

- No annual or hidden fees; see if you're approved in seconds
- Earn back your \$200 security deposit as a statement credit when you follow card best use practices, such as making payments on time
- Be automatically considered for a higher credit in six months with no additional deposit

Related: [Secured vs. unsecured credit cards: What's the difference?](#)

This article was edited by [Rebecca McCracken](#)

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How do credit card companies make money?

Credit cards offer Americans billions in valuable perks each year, including cash-back rewards and airline miles — so how are credit card companies still able to make money?

Best secured credit cards for December 2024

The best secured credit cards report to the three major credit bureaus, have no annual fees, and provide valuable rewards in the form of points or cash back.

Discover it Student Cash Back review: Get 5% back in popular quarterly categories

There's no credit score required to get this valuable cash-back student card.

Best credit cards to build credit for December 2024

The best credit cards to build credit include secured and unsecured cards, such as the Chase Freedom Rise, Discover it Secured Credit Card, and Petal 2 Visa Credit Card.

Capital One Quicksilver Secured Cash Rewards card review: A great choice for improving credit with no annual fee

The Capital One Quicksilver Secured Cash Rewards Credit Card is one of our top picks for improving your credit score.

Discover vs. Capital One: Which credit card giant is the better bank?

Discover Bank and Capital One are two major online banks with competitive interest rates and low fees. Here's a closer look at how Discover vs. Capital One compare.

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