



BASIC BANKING

Know Your Rights!

NEW YORK'S BASIC BANKING LAW

New York State passed a law in 1994 requiring banks to offer low cost accounts, known as BASIC BANKING ACCOUNTS.

All banking institutions must offer an account with the following features:

- Your initial deposit may be as low as \$25.
- You may maintain a balance as low as 1 cent.
- Banks may not charge you more than \$3.00 per month.*
- You may make up to 8 transactions per month without any extra charge.
- You may make as many deposits as you like at no charge.

The law permits banks to impose certain requirements for opening a Basic Banking Account. For example, a bank may limit accounts to New York State residents, or offer the account only to people who have no other checking account. Before you open a Basic Banking account with a bank, be sure to find out how much the bank charges if you make more than 8 transactions per month. Be aware that **banks do not have to publicize or market Basic Banking accounts.**

*The New York State Banking Department has authorized Chase Manhattan Bank, for example, to charge a monthly fee of \$4 with up to 10 monthly transactions at no extra charge.

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Phone: (212) 680-5100 / Fax: (212) 680-5104 / info@nedap.org / www.nedap.org