

## **Credit:**

Credit is a major factor in today's economy and as your reputation has a borrower. The sooner you start building your credit profile the better off you will be in the future after graduation from PAU. Most people begin establishing credit in college or early adulthood. You may have credit cards, student loan debt, apartment lease, cell phone etc.

### **Credit Report and Credit Score**

A credit report is a detailed report of your **credit** history. All of your credit accounts are reporting to Credit Reporting Agencies. They gather information about your finances such as: credit account, payment history, where you live and work, and other important information. Your financial information is collected into a credit report which outline your credit history.

You can get a free copy of your credit report once a year from one of the three main credit reporting bureaus: Equifax, Experian, or Transunion. You can also obtain a free copy of your credit report at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com).

Credit score is a number from 300-850 that determines a person's credit worthiness. The higher the score the better. Your credit report and score are the primary factors in your borrowing capability.

\*Helpful Tips about Credit for Students [Creditcards.com](http://Creditcards.com): [10 ways Students Can Build Good Credit](http://Creditcards.com)

[A College Student's Guide to Building Credit](#)

[National Foundation for Credit Counseling](#) (NFCC):\_The NFCC is a nonprofit financial counseling organization, providing credit counseling, financial education, and money management services to consumers.

[Credit Karma](#): Credit Karma offers free unofficial credit scores, as well as access to view credit accounts whenever you decided to log in. Not just annually. Credit karma also offers a credit simulator to estimate the impact to your credit of opening a new line of credit, paying off an existing credit card, or making other changes. This may be helpful in determining the best financial decisions for yourself.