

Product	Minimum needed to get started	Safety	Where to purchase	Accessibility	Expected return	Additional considerations
Savings Accounts	Many savings accounts can be opened with as little as \$10. Shop carefully though, some accounts may require you reach a minimum balance to avoid fees.	FDIC insured.	Banks Credit Unions Online Banks	Money is easily accessible.	Rate of return is usually very low.  Online banks may offer a greater rate of return.	Savings accounts can be linked to checking accounts and used as overdraft protection.
Money Market Deposit Account	Usually about \$1,000 to avoid fees.	FDIC insured	Banks Credit Unions Online Banks	Limited to six withdrawals per month.	Rate of return higher than traditional savings accounts.	Money can be accessed using ATM, debit, and checks.
Certificate of Deposit	Usually about \$500	FDIC insured	Banks Credit Unions Online Banks	Must agree not to access the money for at least six months or you will pay a penalty.	Higher than money markets & savings accounts.	Can use laddering to plan for different goals and shift money if interest rates increase.
Treasury Bills	\$1,000	Backed by the U.S. government. Considered very safe.	<a href="http://www.savingsbonds.gov">www.savingsbonds.gov</a>	Bills mature in terms of 4 weeks, 13 weeks, or 26 weeks.	Usually higher return than savings accounts or money market deposit accounts.	Can be sold before the maturity date.
Money Market Mutual Fund	Usually about \$2,500	Not FDIC insured. Considered a relatively safe investment.	Mutual fund companies or brokerages.	Money can be accessed with ATM or checks.	Usually higher return than savings accounts or money market deposit accounts. Fees can reduce returns.	Compare expense ratios to determine the percent that will go toward fees, sales costs, and operating expenses.