## PRE-CONTRACT CREDIT INFORMATION

## 1. Contact details

Creditor.	American Express Services Europe Limited.
Address.	Belgrave House, 76 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 9AX
Telephone number(s).	0800 917 8047
Web address.	americanexpress.co.uk
Credit intermediary.  Address.	You may have dealt with a credit intermediary (such as an internet comparison website), for example, one of the following:
	<ul> <li>Moneysupermarket.com operated by Moneysupermarket.com Financial Group Limited, Moneysupermarket House, St David's Park, Ewloe, CH5 3UZ;</li> <li>Uswitch.com operated by Uswitch Limited, The Cooperage, 5 Copper Row, London, SE1 2LH;</li> <li>Moneysavingexpert.com operated by Moneysavingexpert.com Limited, 19-22 Rathbone Place, London, W1T 1HY – Moneysupermarket.com Limited;</li> <li>Topcashback.co.uk operated by Topcashback Ltd, Temeraire House, Nelson Court, Staffordshire Technology Park, Stafford, ST18 0WQ;</li> <li>Quidco.com operated by Maple Syrup Media Limited, 4th Floor, 76-80 Great Eastern Street, London, EC2A 3JL;</li> <li>Ooki.io operated by Score Genius Technology Limited, 9 Duke Street, Richmond, TW9 1HPT;</li> <li>Thepointsguy.co.uk operated by Red Ventures Services Limited, 5 Copper Row, London, SE1 2LH;</li> <li>Forbes.com/uk/advisor/credit-cards/ operated by Marketplace Platforms Limited, 45 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JG;</li> <li>Creditec.co.uk operated by Creditec Limited, The Steam Mill Business Centre, Steam Mill Street, Chester, Cheshire, CH3 5AN;</li> <li>Smarter-savings.com operated by Smarter Savings Limited, 60 Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AJ.</li> </ul>

# 2. Key features of the credit product

The type of credit	Credit card
The total amount of credit.  This means the amount of credit to be provided under the proposed credit agreement or the credit limit.  How and when credit would be provided.	The credit limit is the maximum amount that you can borrow on your account. We'll set your credit limit and we can adjust it (up or down).  We'll tell you your credit limit when you receive your card.  You'll normally be able to use the account when we have sent you your card.  You may use the card up to your credit limit for purchases and, if we tell you, for balance/money transfers, cash
The duration of the credit agreement.	advances and other types of transactions we may allow.  This agreement doesn't have a fixed end date. It will continue until you or we close your account in accordance with the terms of the agreement.
Repayments.	The minimum payment will be the higher of the following amounts:  (1) £25 (or the total amount you owe if less); or (2) an amount equal to the total of:  • any interest, default fees, repayment protection insurance applied to your current month's statement;  • 1/12th of any annual cardmembership fee or the full monthly fee (if applicable to the product you hold);  • the monthly instalment amount and the monthly instalment fee due in respect of any Instalment Plan;  • plus 2% of the amount you owe on the account excluding any Instalment Plan balances.  A different minimum payment may apply if you are in a Financial Relief Programme.  You can always pay more than the minimum payment to reduce the amount you owe and the amount of interest you have to pay.  We'll show your minimum payment on your statements.  During this agreement we may offer you an Instalment Plan. An Instalment Plan is created when we allow you to repay a part of the amount you owe by fixed monthly payments over a set number of months.  You'll pay a monthly fee for an Instalment Plan, but no interest will be charged on the balance in an Instalment

	Plan or on the monthly fee. Details of the fee and other terms will be provided to you before you enter an Instalment Plan.
Financial Relief Programmes.	If you experience financial difficulties, we may allow you to pay reduced minimum payments for a limited period (a 'Financial Relief Programme'). We may also reduce the interest rates applicable to your account for a specified time.
	We'll confirm any conditions attached to your Financial Relief Programme with you in writing, including details of how your minimum payment is calculated and confirmation of the duration of the programme. We'll then update you using your periodic statements, including reminding you when your Financial Relief Programme will come to an end.
	The minimum payment amount will always be at least equal to any interest, default fees and 1/12th of any annual cardmembership fee or the full monthly fee (if applicable to the product you hold) plus 1% of the amount you owe on the account upon entry into the Financial Relief Programme (subject to a minimum of £5).
	If you miss two or more payments whilst you are in a Financial Relief Programme, the programme may end.
	When a Financial Relief Programme ends (either because you have exited from the Programme or because the programme has come to an end) your minimum payments will be calculated in the same way as they were before you entered into the Financial Relief Programme.
Your repayments will pay off what you owe in the following order.	If the amount you pay is less than the full amount you owe, we'll use your payment to pay off arrears before other amounts you owe us.
	We'll then pay off the monthly instalment amount and monthly instalment fee that you owe in relation to any Instalment Plan.
	We'll then pay off the remaining amounts you owe at the highest interest rates before amounts charged at lower interest rates.
	We'll also apply payments to amounts that have appeared on your statements before amounts that have not yet appeared on your statements.
The total amount you will have to pay.	£1,567.61

This means the amount you have borrowed plus interest and other costs.

When this agreement is made, we don't know how much you'll actually pay, or the cost, because this depends on how much you borrow, how quickly you repay it and whether we make any changes to interest rates or charges or other terms (e.g. if we increase the minimum monthly payment).

For this reason, all credit card providers have to use certain assumptions when calculating the APR and Total Amount Payable. We've assumed that:

- if a cardmembership fee applies, we charge this fee to your account on the date your account is opened;
- you make just one purchase of £1,200 at the start of the agreement;
- there's no change in the interest rate or any other fees or charges; and
- you repay any annual cardmembership fee in full on the day we charge it to the account, and repay the remainder of your account balance in 12 equal monthly payments.

#### 3. Costs of the credit

The rates of interest which apply to the credit agreement.

**Explaining Interest Rates** 

#### A. SIMPLE RATE

We use the Simple Rate to work out the interest due on your unpaid transactions including any unpaid interest. We calculate this interest daily. We add the total of the daily interest to your account every month on your statement date.

The Simple Rate of interest is made up of two parts:

- (1) A rate which is personal to you known as the Personal Rate. The Personal Rate may change but is currently 22.06%; and
- (2) A rate which is linked to the Bank of England Base Rate. This is known as the 'Base Rate'. The Base Rate can go up or down depending on what the Bank of England decide to do when they change it. The Base Rate is currently assumed to be 4.5%.

Because your Simple Rate includes the Base Rate, you may notice that your Simple Rate changes. For example, if the Bank of England raise interest rates by 1.5%, your Simple Rate will also increase by 1.5%. If the Bank of

England decide to lower interest rates by 1.5%, your Simple Rate will decrease by 1.5%.

The Base Rate part of your Simple Rate will never be less than 0%. This means that if the Bank of England decrease interest rates to -0.25%, the Base Rate will reduce only so far as 0%.

If the Bank of England base rate is no longer available, we'll use a replacement rate. This will be a rate that we reasonably decide is the most similar to the Bank of England's base rate.

### B. COMPOUND RATE

If you do not pay your balance in full each month by the date set out in your statement we'll charge interest on any unpaid interest that has fallen due even where you pay the minimum payment. This is called 'compounding' and means that you are paying interest on interest.

We have provided the Compound Rates below for information only. This is to show you the effect of compounding on the Simple Rate over the course of a year. Because the Compound Rate takes account of the payment of interest on interest, it will be higher than your Simple Rate. We don't use the Compound Rate to work out the interest you owe.

We charge different interest rates for different types of transactions. These are called our 'standard rates' and are set out in the table below.

Transaction Type	Compound Rate	Simple Rate
Cash advance	37.3%	32.14%
Balance transfer/money transfer	30.0%	26.56%
All other transactions and amounts charged to your account (including purchases)	30.0%	26.56%
Instalment Plan balance	0%	0%

**Promotional and Financial Relief rates** (where we reduce the interest rate on any individual, group or type of transaction).

We'll tell you the rate, the duration and any other criteria applicable to a promotional rate(s) or offer of financial relief at the time of the promotion or entry into a Financial Relief rate offer.

If you miss a payment, you may lose any promotional rate(s) or the benefit of financial relief on your account.

We'll contact you before the promotional rate(s)/financial relief comes to an end. Once the promotional rate(s)/financial relief has ended our standard rate applicable to each transaction type will apply, unless we tell you a lower rate will apply.

## Changes

We may change the rates we charge as set out in your agreement. This includes if we change our view of your ability to repay us, for example, where there's a change in your circumstances.

If we're changing your interest rate because the Base Rate has changed, we'll tell you of this on the monthly statement before the change takes effect.

If we're increasing your interest rate because we are increasing your Personal Rate we'll give you at least 60 days' advance notice of the change. We'll do this by including a message in your monthly statement, by writing to or emailing you separately, through the online account centre or in any other lawfully permitted manner.

Annual Percentage Rate of Charge (APR).

87.3%.

This is the total cost expressed as an annual percentage of the total amount of credit. The APR is calculated using the same assumptions as for calculating the total amount you'll have to pay above.

The APR is there to help you compare different offers.

If the APR were to be calculated using the interest rate applicable to another form of drawdown, such as cash withdrawals, then the APR may be higher.

### Related costs

Any other costs deriving from the credit agreement.

You'll pay the following charges, where applicable. We may suspend, reduce, waive or cancel all or part of any fee which applies to your account, including interest.

### Standard charges

The cardmembership fee for the first membership year is £0. After the first membership year, the full cardmembership fee of £195 will be charged annually.

If a supplementary fee applies, we'll charge it for each year starting on the date the supplementary cardmember is added to the account. Unless you remove the supplementary cardmember, we'll then charge the fee every year after that on the same date. The supplementary fee is £45.

If you make a balance/money transfer, 3% of the amount of each transfer.

If you obtain cash, 3% (or a minimum of £3) of any cash amount.

If you make a non-sterling transaction, 2.99% of the amount after we've converted the transaction into sterling.

If you ask for an additional copy of your statement, £2.

## **Default charges**

For payments which are returned unpaid, £12.

For taking action to collect amounts you owe us, we may require you to pay our reasonable costs, including legal fees.

## **Instalment Plan fee**

We'll tell you the amount of the monthly fee for the Instalment Plan before you enter into the Instalment Plan.

Conditions under which the above charges can be changed.

### Changes

We may change our charges for the reasons set out in your agreement. We'll give you at least 30 days' advance notice of the change, unless the change is not to your disadvantage. In this case, we'll give you notice but we may make the change more quickly. We'll always give you details of when the change will take effect. If you don't want to accept any change, then you can always end this agreement by paying off all the amounts you owe us and telling us to close your account. If you don't do this before the date the change takes place, we'll assume you've accepted the change.

Costs in the case of late payments.

If you're late in paying the minimum monthly payment, £12.

We won't charge this if your minimum payment is £12 or less.

Consequences of missing	We won't charge interest on late payment fees or returned payment fees, but we'll charge interest on the outstanding balance at the rates set out above.  Missing payments can have serious consequences. It
payments.	<ul> <li>if you miss a payment, you'll lose any promotional interest rates on your account which means any balances will be charged interest at your standard rate;</li> <li>you may lose any financial relief interest rates or Financial Relief Programmes on your account;</li> <li>you have to pay additional charges or costs;</li> <li>your credit rating may be affected, making it more difficult or expensive to obtain credit; and</li> <li>legal action (which could include getting a court order to give us the right to take payment out of the sale proceeds for your home or other property) or bankruptcy proceedings may be taken against you to recover any debt owed under this agreement.</li> </ul>

# 4. Other important legal aspects

Right of withdrawal.	You have the right to withdraw from this agreement, without giving any reason. This right begins the day after you receive your card and ends after 14 days.
Early repayment.	You can repay all, or part, of the amount you have borrowed at any time.
Consultation with a Credit Reference Agency.	We'll inform you immediately and without charge if we reject your credit application on the basis of a consultation with a Credit Reference Agency.
Right to a draft credit agreement.	You have the right, upon request, to obtain a copy of the draft credit agreement free of charge, unless we're unwilling at the time of the request to proceed to the conclusion of the credit agreement.
The period of time during which the creditor is bound by the precontractual information.	This information sets out the terms for an agreement that we could offer you today. We can't guarantee that the terms would be exactly the same if you applied for a card on a different date.

# 5. Additional information in the case of distance marketing of financial services

a) concerning the creditor	
Registration number.	Financial Services Register no. 661836.

The supervisory authority.	The Financial Conduct Authority, 12 Endeavour Square, London E20 1JN.
b) concerning the credit agreement	
The law taken by the creditor as a basis for the establishment of relations with you before the conclusion of the credit agreement.	The laws of England.
The law applicable to the credit agreement and/or the competent court.	This agreement is governed by the non-exclusive laws of England and the courts of England shall have non-exclusive jurisdiction over us and you. This means the English courts will be able to deal with any claims.
Language to be used in connection with the credit agreement.	We'll communicate with you at all times in English.
c) concerning redress	
Access to out-of-court complaint and redress mechanism.	If you're unhappy with the way we deal with your complaint you may be able to refer your complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service by:
	<ul> <li>writing to Financial Ombudsman Service, Exchange Tower, London E14 9SR;</li> </ul>
	• calling 0800 023 4567 or 0300 123 9123; or
	sending an email to:     complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk
	You can find out more about the Financial Ombudsman service on their website at:
	financial-ombudsman.org.uk

### **KEY POINTS ABOUT YOUR CREDIT CARD AGREEMENT**

### IS THIS CREDIT CARD RIGHT FOR YOU?

We want you to make sure this credit card meets your needs before you sign your credit card agreement.

Please consider the Pre-Contract Credit Information we've provided and the points set out below. If we've given this to you in person, you can take it away to read.

If you have any questions or would like further information about your agreement, please go to our website (americanexpress.co.uk) or contact us on 0800 917 8047.

### WHAT ARE THE KEY POINTS YOU SHOULD KNOW?

### Your borrowing options

A credit card may not be right for you if you want more certainty about the amount you borrow or repay. Depending how you use the card there may be cheaper ways to borrow – for example, if you want to borrow a large amount and repay it over a long period.

## **Using your account**

You and any supplementary cardmembers can use the account up to the credit limit for purchases and, if we tell you, for balance/money transfers, cash advances and other types of transactions we may allow. Your card is for personal use and you shouldn't use it for business purposes.

You're responsible for all use of your account by supplementary cardmembers and anyone they allow to use your account. This means you must repay all transactions they make. You can add no more than five supplementary cardmembers to your account.

## Repayments

The minimum payment will be the **higher** of the following amounts:

- (1) £25 (or the total amount you owe if less); or
- (2) an amount equal to the total of:
  - any interest, default fees, repayment protection insurance applied to your current month's statement;
  - 1/12th of any annual cardmembership fee or the full monthly fee (if applicable to the product you hold);
  - the monthly instalment amount and the monthly instalment fee due in respect of any Instalment Plan;
    - plus 2% of the amount you owe on the account excluding any Instalment Plan balances.

A different minimum payment may apply if you are in a Financial Relief Programme.

You can always pay more than the minimum payment to reduce the amount you owe and the amount of interest you have to pay. If you only pay the minimum payment, it will cost you more overall and will take you longer to clear your balance.

We'll show the minimum payment due on your statements.

During this agreement we may offer you an Instalment Plan. An Instalment Plan is created when we allow you to repay a part of the amount you owe by fixed monthly payments over a set number of months.

You'll pay a monthly fee for an Instalment Plan, but no interest will be charged on the balance in an Instalment Plan or on the monthly fee. Details of the fee and other terms will be provided to you before you enter an Instalment Plan.

If the amount you pay in a month is less than the full amount you owe, we'll use your payment to pay off arrears before any other amounts you owe us.

We'll then pay off the monthly instalment amount and monthly instalment fee that you owe in relation to any Instalment Plan.

We'll then pay off the remaining amounts you owe at the highest interest rates before amounts charged at lower interest rates.

We'll also apply payments to amounts that have appeared on your statements before amounts that have not yet appeared on your statements.

## **Financial Relief Programmes**

If you experience financial difficulties, we may allow you to pay reduced minimum payments for a limited period (a 'Financial Relief Programme'). We may also reduce the interest rates applicable to your account for a specified time.

We'll confirm any conditions attached to your Financial Relief Programme with you in writing, including details of how your minimum payment is calculated and confirmation of the duration of the programme. We'll then update you using your periodic statements, including reminding you when your Financial Relief Programme will come to an end.

The minimum payment amount will always be at least equal to any interest, default fees and 1/12th of any annual cardmembership fee or the full monthly fee (if applicable to the product you hold) plus 1% of the amount you owe on the account upon entry into the Financial Relief Programme (subject to a minimum of £5).

If you miss two or more payments whilst you are in a Financial Relief Programme, the programme may end.

When a Financial Relief Programme ends (either because you have exited from the programme or because the programme has come to an end) your minimum payments will be calculated in the same way as they were before you entered into the Financial Relief Programme.

### Interest rates and charges

The cardmembership fee for the first membership year is £0. After the first membership year, the full cardmembership fee of £195 will be charged annually.

If a supplementary fee applies, we'll charge it for each year starting on the date the supplementary cardmember is added to the account. Unless you remove the supplementary cardmember, we'll then charge the fee every year after that on the same date. The supplementary fee is £45.

There are different ways to use the card and different interest rates and charges apply to these (we tell you more about these in the agreement). For example, using your card to withdraw cash or make a balance/money transfer is more expensive than using your card for purchases. If you:

- withdraw cash, you'll pay a fee of 3% on the cash amount (minimum £3); or
- make a balance/money transfer, you'll pay a fee of 3% on the amount you transfer.

We can change our rates and charges but we'll tell you about the change and how it will affect you before we make any change.

If we're changing your interest rate because the Base Rate has changed, we'll tell you of this on the monthly statement before the change takes effect.

If we're increasing your interest rate because we are increasing your Personal Rate we'll give you at least 60 days' advance notice of the change.

We'll give you 30 days' notice for all other changes, unless the change is not to your disadvantage. In this case, we'll give you notice but we may make the change more quickly.

If you don't want to accept an interest rate increase you can close the account and pay off the amount you owe at the unchanged rate.

If you're eligible for a promotional rate or financial relief rate offer, the interest free or reduced interest period will last for the period we tell you, after which the standard rate will apply.

### Consequences of missing payments

Missing payments can have serious consequences. It could mean:

- you'll lose any promotional interest rates on your account which means any balances will be charged interest at your standard rate;
- you may lose any financial relief interest rates or Financial Relief Programmes on your account;
- you have to pay additional charges or costs;
- your credit rating may be affected, making it more difficult or expensive to obtain credit;
   and
- legal action (which could include getting a court order to give us the right to take payment
  out of the sale proceeds for your home or other property) or bankruptcy proceedings may
  be taken against you to recover any debt owed under this agreement.

## Your right to withdraw

You can withdraw from this agreement, without giving any reason, by calling us on 0800 917 8047 or by writing to us (American Express, Department 871, 1 John Street, Brighton, East Sussex, BN88 1NH). Your right to withdraw ends 14 days from the day after you receive your card.

If you withdraw, you must repay everything you owe us (except any charges) without delay and in any case within 30 days, starting the day after you tell us that you want to withdraw. If you don't repay us within 30 days, we may charge interest at the rates in the agreement until everything is fully repaid. You can contact us for details of what interest will be payable.



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