

Visit RetryHub.com for more free guides or if you want the top performing merchant account solutions in the US or EU. Zero obligation pre-application. There's zero set up fee.

How to go from **NO CREDIT** to **EXCELLENT CREDIT** in the USA (Even if you're not an American)

1. **Apply for a TIN # if you're not an American citizen or resident:** [Taxpayer Identification Numbers \(TIN\) | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#)

Note: You can do it within your own country as well if you use an agent: [Acceptance Agent Program | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#)

If you're an American resident or Citizen you probably already have an EIN #.

2. **Apply for a SECURED card.** There are a few US banks that offer this. Keep the utilization rate (usage rate below 10% or don't use it). Normally, you just prepay \$200 and keep this open. Keep them open. Do not close it.

- Examples include but are not limited to: Chime Credit Builder Visa® Credit Card Capital One Secured Cards, and Visa Secured Cards

3. After 1-2 months **apply for department store cards** (eg. Best Buy, Banana Republic, Lowe's, Macy's, Costco, or Kohls). Get about 2-3 of them opened. Keep them open. Do not close them. Keep your utilization below 10% of the credit limit.

4. Monitor your credit through a free online service Credit Karma, and if your credit is about 550+ consider applying for one or more **non-secured credit cards**. Keep your utilization below 10% of the credit limit.

5. Once your credit score is ≥ 670 , you can apply for "Good to Excellent credit cards" You should aim for 7+ credit cards open in total to maximize your credit score.

6. Once your credit score is ≥ 740 , you can apply for higher end cards that require excellent credit.

General rules:

- Keep your utilization rate below 10%: Credit utilization rate is a measure of how much of your available credit you are currently using. It is calculated by dividing your total credit card balance by your total credit limit. For example, if you have a credit card with a \$1,000 limit and your balance is \$500, your credit utilization rate is 50%.
- Don't close cards (it will drop your credit score)
- Have multiple cards open. If you have too few cards open it will slow down your progress.
- Ensure all payments are made on time (schedule payments)