



Power Move #12 Ally, Your Friend with Benefits

Educators, we *know* you're juggling a million things. Between lesson planning, grading, and molding young minds, tracking down extra cash shouldn't feel like extra credit assignment. That's why we're loving this 'Spending Account' sprint from Ally Bank – it's basically the early dismissal day of bank bonuses! It's all about working smarter, not harder – that's the real lesson here. *You've got this!*

1% Better:

- **ACT:** Open an Ally Savings Account ([HYSA](#)) or Spending Account (checking). The spending account bonus comes quicker – efficiency unlocked! The Savings Account may suit your needs better. Both unlock the \$100 bonus.
- **TRIGGER:** Within 30 days, make a simple external ACH push transfer into your new account. With no minimum requirement, even a single dollar could trigger the full \$100 bonus. Simply link Ally as an external account *from within* another bank and push that small transfer.
- **RELAX:** Ally issues bonuses weekly on Thursdays. Assuming you don't sign up right before payday, the \$100 signup bonus should be posted within 1-2 weeks of satisfying the requirement (though it can *technically* take up to 30 days).
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POWER MOVE #12: ALLY, YOUR FRIEND WITH BENEFITS

1% Better

1 ACT: 'CLICK SPENDING, OR SAVINGS.'
Select this specific account type to avoid a Savings Account wait

Spending Account (Checking) Option

skip Select this account required a required deposit

Efficiency Unlocked

2 TRIGGER: PUSH \$1 for \$100 bonus
External ACH push transfer within 30 days

Bank ---

Multiple sources confirm \$1 can work!

3 RELAX: Paid in Weeks, not semesters
Ally issues bonuses weekly on Thursdays

\$100 signup bonus may post within 2 weeks!
(max 30 days)

SPEED TO BONUS: SPENDING VS. SAVINGS

	Wait Time	Requirements
Option 1 (Spending)	1-2 WEEKS!	Single Transfer
Option 2 (Savings)	3+ MONTHS	3 Monthly Recurring Deposits

Express Lane

EARN MORE: REFERRAL BONUS GROWTH

Share your link, earn \$50 each!

Up to \$250 max per year!

Power Points:

- **Speed:** Avoid Option 2 (Savings Account) if you want cash fast. That route demands *three* monthly recurring deposits and takes 3+ months to pay out. Option 1 (Spending) is your express lane to \$100.
- **Spread the Wealth** (and Get Paid): Once your \$100 awards email hits your inbox, it will contain your unique referral link! Share the love with colleagues or friends during summer break and *earn \$50 for each person you refer, up to \$250 max per calendar year*. That's potentially five more 'Quick Cash' ACH wins triggered just by sharing the opportunity! That's what we call friends with benefits!

Finer Points:

- **One Bonus Limit:** The \$100 welcome bonus is limited to one per customer, regardless of how many different account types you open.
- **Link Delivery:** Much like Citi, your unique referral link is sent via email—typically arriving alongside the notification that your own bonus has been awarded.
- **Weekly Payouts:** Ally processes bonuses on a set schedule every Thursday.
- **Timeline:** While bonuses generally land within 1–2 weeks (contingent on your signup day), please allow up to 30 days for processing.
- **Verdict:** This is currently a notable offer in the current market due to its low barrier to entry and rapid payout turnaround. The fact that the FinTech employed by Ally's HYSA ("[buckets](#)") is part of the package is a behavioral finance bonus also worth considering. You may actually like/use the account for your "[sinking funds](#)."

50 Shades of Green:

- **Excited?** For those who find this world of referral and sign up bonuses titillating, you may want to follow the work of [JJ Mego](#) who tracks these opportunities in real time!
- **Bang for Your Buck?** Is the juice worth the squeeze? Though many opportunities exist, you must weigh whether the potential benefit justifies the requirements. To qualify for a bonus, certain financial institutions (banks, brokerages, and credit card companies) may require direct deposit of your paycheck, mandate a minimum spending or funding level, and/or charge higher rates or fees.
- **Protection?** If this is your first time, or you are unsure if the deal is safe, feel free schedule an appointment with your financial coach, or consult your colleagues' experiences in the 1% Better Community forum in our Take10 Financial Fitness Center.

