Answer on Question #80347 - Economics / Economics of Enterprise

QUESTION: You have \$10,000 dollars and want to invest them in the best possible option.

• Bank A offers to pay 4.1% compounded quarterly

• Bank B offers to pay 4% interest, compounded monthly

• Bank C offers to pay 4.1% compounded semesterly

Additionally, petrol/ transport costs to deposit and to collect the money are:

• Bank A is online (assume free)

• Bank B is \$15 per trip

• Bank C \$12 per trip.

If you are planning to leave the money in the bank for three years, what option is the best ?

ANSWER.

The formula for annual compound interest, including principal sum, is:

 $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P} \left(1 + \mathbf{r/n} \right)^{(\mathrm{nt})}$

Where:

A = the future value of the investment/loan, including interest

 \mathbf{P} = the principal investment amount (the initial deposit or loan amount)

 \mathbf{r} = the annual interest rate (decimal)

 \mathbf{n} = the number of times that interest is compounded per year

 \mathbf{t} = the number of years the money is invested or borrowed for

1. For bank A: compounded quarterly using the formulae you get:

A=\$10,000(1+0.041/3)^{3*3}

A=\$11,299.43

2. For bank B... compounded monthly A=\$10,000(1+0.04/12)^{12*3} A=\$11,272.72 3. For bank C... compounded semesterly
A=\$10,000(1+0.041/6)^{6*3}
A=\$11,304.11

Petrol/ transport costs to deposit and to collect the money Bank A is free therefore no cost.

Total=\$11,299.43

Bank B is \$15 per trip (2 trips, deposit and withdraw) therefore \$11,272.72-(\$15*2) =\$11,242.72

Bank C \$12 per trip (2 trips, deposit and withdraw) therefore \$11,304.11-(\$12*2) =\$11,280.11

The best option is bank A which is \$11,299.43

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