



## Financial Education Resources

### Federal Reserve Education

<http://www.federalreserveeducation.org/FRED/>

The Federal Reserve System is committed to economic and personal financial education. Here you can find links to instructional materials and tools that can increase your understanding of the Federal Reserve, economics and financial education. All of the Fed web sites, curriculum, newsletters, booklets and other resources are free.

The Federal Reserve provides economic literacy materials to help students and the public better understand the U.S. economy and the role of the Federal Reserve. Each of the twelve Federal Reserve Banks supports this objective through a wide variety of education partnerships, publications, learning tools, and student challenge contests. Links to Financial Education resources offered through each of the twelve Federal Reserve banks are available through the Personal Financial Education website.

#### *Building Wealth: A Beginner's Guide to Securing Your Financial Future*

Helps individuals and families develop a plan for building personal wealth. Presents an overview of personal wealth-building strategies that includes setting financial goals, seeking guidance, budgeting, saving and investing, and managing debt.

Interactive version: [English](#) | [Español](#)

PDF: [English](#) | [Español](#)

### Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) developed the "Money Smart" curriculum to help adults enhance their money management skills, understand basic financial services offered by the financial mainstream and build their financial confidence to use banking services effectively. The "Money Smart" curriculum is comprised of ten comprehensive instructor-led modules covering basic financial topics including an introduction to bank services, tips on obtaining credit and buying a home.

The Money Smart Computer-Based Instruction (CBI) is a friendly and easy to use learning tool that teaches the entire Money Smart curriculum online. The CBI complements the classroom training that instructors use to present Money Smart.

<http://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/overview.html>





## **Citigroup Financial Education Program**

Designed for almost any audience, the Citigroup Financial Education Program's Curriculum offers basic lessons in personal finances. The Curriculum and accompanying Facilitator's Guide are available in Spanish and English, and can be used with audiences from students to senior citizens.

<http://financialeducation.citigroup.com/citigroup/financialeducation/curriculum/index.htm>

## **Department of Housing and Community Development:**

### **Virginia Individual Development Accounts**

[http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/HomelessnessstoHomeownership/Virginia\\_Individual\\_Development\\_Account\\_VIDA.htm](http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/HomelessnessstoHomeownership/Virginia_Individual_Development_Account_VIDA.htm)

The Virginia Individual Development Accounts (VIDA) Program is a special savings program that helps eligible individuals gain financial literacy skills and build assets. For every dollar the participant saves in a designated account, VIDA will match it with two dollars. The combined savings can be used to:

- Purchase a home
- Start a business
- Go to school (postsecondary education)

In addition to the 2:1 savings match, participants also receive financial literacy and other training and support. DHCD partners with intermediary organizations, which are typically nonprofit or governmental agencies located throughout the state, to provide these services. Individuals interested in participating work with a local intermediary to complete an application.

For individuals accepted into the program, DHCD will open and monitor a custodial account on their behalf at Wachovia Bank. The participant will make their deposits at any Wachovia Bank branch. DHCD also holds the match funds in escrow on behalf of the saver. The match is not deposited into the saver's account.





### **Consumer Action Money Wise Program:**

The color coded Leader's Guides are available for download in PDF through the Consumer Action website: [www.consumer-action.org](http://www.consumer-action.org). The Leader's Guides are also available free of charge through the mail to non-profit or government agencies. I encourage you to preview them. Read the new [MoneyWi\\$e Best Practices Online Newsletter](#), designed for community based organizations that teach financial literacy. MoneyWi\$e is a financial education project of Consumer Action and Capital One.

**Help Your Savings Grow:** This 24-page guide, written in question and answer format with a table of contents, is designed to provide background information on how to build savings. The topics include savings accounts, individual development accounts (IDAs), money market deposit accounts, certificates of deposit (CDs), U.S. Treasury investments, retirement and education savings accounts and how to figure your net worth. A section on Internet resources is also included.

The corresponding pamphlet, **Saving to Build Wealth**, provides information about the importance of saving, setting short- and long-term goals to promote saving, opening a savings account and ways to make your money grow faster, including certificates of deposit (CDs), individual retirement accounts (IRAs), U.S. Savings Bonds and college savings accounts.

**Rebuilding Your Credit:** A guide to help community-based organization staff educate their clients about ways to start rebuilding good credit. Topics include damaged credit, credit reports, mistakes on your credit report, credit repair offers, debt consolidation, co-signing loans, secured credit cards, credit counseling, bankruptcy and how to keep your good credit.

**Put Bad Credit Behind You:** An easy-to-read brochure that explains why having good credit is important, your rights if your credit application is rejected, how to check your credit report, how to dispute mistakes on your credit report and how to begin to rebuild good credit.

**Micro Business Basics:** Micro businesses are very small companies run by their owners with few employees. This brochure outlines some of the financial issues that entrepreneurs need to address in order to build a successful micro business, and stresses the importance of sound financial planning, having a well-formulated business plan, preparing a budget that closely reflects your business plan and the value in keeping business and personal accounts separate. The brochure also contains an overview of U.S. Small Business Administration loans and free resources to help the micro business owner.

**Managing Your Money:** This guide can help you become a money management mentor. Once you understand the basics of money management, you'll be able to help others learn techniques that can make an important difference in their finances.

**Track Your Money:** A fact sheet about wise money management, including budgeting, balancing your checkbook, cutting back on expenses and ways to spend less and save more.





### **National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE):**

<http://www.nefe.org/HelpforConsumers/tabid/64/Default.aspx>

Although not restricted to a particular age group, the Education Programs area has focused largely on increasing financial literacy among the nation's youth. This focus is exemplified by the organization's longest-standing public service effort, the [NEFE High School Financial Planning Program®](#) (HSFPP).

Printed copies in English of the HSFPP Instructor's Manual and the complete HSFPP Student Guide are available at no cost. With your order, please specify the name of your school/institution, complete street address, telephone number, and e-mail address, along with the quantities you need. To order, contact: Lanell Daniel-Knight, 303-224-3511, [ldk@nefe.org](mailto:ldk@nefe.org)

### **Virginia Cooperative Extension**

The Virginia Cooperative Extension site provides you the opportunity to preview and then download several different money/spending/credit guides for individuals and families.

How to Make your Money Go Further is an excellent guide to start a spending plan and budget. The 16 page booklet contains worksheets and lists for planning. Do you control where your money goes? Or does it go here, there, and everywhere? Guide your money so it goes where you want it to go by using a spending plan. You can build a sound money management program if you

- get yourself organized;
- know what you want to do with your money;
- look at all available resources;
- know how much money you are worth;
- know how much money you make;
- know how much money you spend;
- plan your spending and stick to it;
- evaluate your spending plan.

<http://www.ext.vt.edu/pubs/family/354-028/354-028.html>

### **The Federal Government's website dedicated to helping American's understand more about their money: MyMoney.gov.**

To order a sample of some of the financial publications featured on this website, you may send for a free "My Money" tool kit. It has information to help you choose and use credit cards, get out of debt, protect your credit record, understand your Social Security benefits, insure your bank deposits, and start a savings and investing plan. Just click on the Free "My Money" tool kit link below, fill out the order form, and we'll be glad to send your "My Money" tool kit. You should receive your order within three to four weeks. <http://www.mymoney.gov/>

