



January/February 2009

Welcome to the OCC's second Financial Literacy Update. These periodic updates contain information about upcoming financial literacy events, new initiatives of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and other organizations in the financial literacy field, as well as listings of financial literacy and consumer financial education resources.

[Upcoming Events](#)

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Upcoming Events

President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy January 6, 2009 (Washington, D.C.)

The President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy will hold its 7th meeting on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 starting at 2 p.m. and will be open to the public. For more information, [click here](#).

Financial Literacy and Education Commission January 15, 2009 (Washington, D.C.)

On January 15, 2009, the Financial Literacy and Education Commission will hold its 16th meeting in the Cash Room at the U.S. Department of the Treasury beginning at 10 a.m. To learn more about the Financial Literacy and Education Commission, [click here](#).

United States Conference of Mayors January 17-19, 2009 (Washington, D.C.)

On January 17-19, 2009, the United States Conference of Mayors will hold its 77th winter meeting where the 2009 Dollar Wi\$e Capacity Grants Program recipients will be announced. For more information and their calendar of events, [click here](#).

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Alliance for Economic Inclusions Conference February 3-5, 2009 (Arlington, VA)

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN POSTPONED - Instead, that same week, several AEI members (community organizations, banks, and others) from around the country will report on their efforts to reach into underserved markets at the *FDIC Advisory Committee on Economic Inclusion* (Come-IN) meeting on Thursday, February 5, 2009, at FDIC headquarters in Washington, DC. The meeting can be viewed through webcast by logging on to the FDIC's website <http://www.fdic.gov/about/comein/index.html>.

America Saves Week 2009 February 22 – March 1, 2009 (Nationwide)

From February 22-March 1, 2009, the America Saves campaign and the American Savings Education Council will be hosting America Saves Week 2009. The goal of the campaign is to promote the savings message to foster better savings behavior. To learn more, [click here](#).

The Federal Reserve System's Community Affairs Research Conference April 16-17, 2009

On April 16-17, 2009, the Federal Reserve System will hold its 6th Biennial Community Affairs Research Conference: *Innovative Financial Services for the Underserved*. This conference will encourage objective research into financial services issues affecting low- and moderate-income individuals, families, and communities. For more information, [click here](#).

Junior Achievement Worldwide Leadership Conference

July 20-24, 2009 (Boston, MA)

On July 20-24, 2009, Junior Achievement will hold its Worldwide Leadership Conference in Boston, MA. As the curriculum and more information become available, it will be accessible [here](#).

New Initiatives

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Seeks Help Publicizing the Earned Income Tax Credit

The IRS is encouraging financial institutions to publicize the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) by promoting EITC products and noting EITC products and efforts in news releases. Each year, the IRS sponsors EITC Awareness Day to highlight EITC in the media. For 2009, the date is January 30. Scores of news conferences will be held nationwide. For more information on how you can help, e-mail partner@irs.gov.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Loan Modification Program

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) recently announced the availability of a comprehensive package of information to give servicers and financial institutions all of the tools necessary to implement a systematic and streamlined approach to modifying loans based on the [FDIC Loan Modification Program](#) initiated at IndyMac Federal Bank.

U.S. Department of the Treasury's Multi-Media Campaign To Help Young Adults Control Their Credit

The Treasury's new ad campaign features an interactive online game and radio and television spots warning, "Don't let your credit put you in a bad place." Presented in partnership with the Ad Council and created pro bono by Lowe New York, the campaign is designed to encourage young adults to take control of their credit and to combat the issue of excessive debt and financial illiteracy. The PSAs urge young adults to take control of their financial decisions by directing them to <http://www.controlyourcredit.gov/>, which will provide information about credit and personal finance. Radio spots and Web content in English and Spanish demonstrate the consequences of developing bad credit at an early age, such as being denied future employment or a car loan.

CashCourse from the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE)

[NEFE](#) is an independent, nonprofit foundation committed to helping all Americans gain the knowledge and skills necessary to take control of their finances. NEFE has created [CashCourse](#) as a way to offer practical money management skills to students. This free program is designed to help students learn how to make better financial decisions and succeed in life after school.

Financial Fitness from the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)

[Financial Fitness](#) is a national [FCCLA](#) peer education program that involves youth teaching one another how to make, save, and spend money wisely. Through this program, youth plan and carry out projects that help them and their peers learn to become wise financial managers and smart consumers. Additionally, FCCLA partnered with FEFE (Family Economics and Financial Education) to offer national recognition to chapters completing Financial Fitness and FEFE projects. These honors include cash awards and special recognition at the National Leadership Meeting and in *Teen Times* magazine. Award applications are due to the FCCLA national headquarters postmarked by March 1.

America Saves Campaign

The America Saves Campaign (ASC) and the American Savings Education Council hosts America Saves Week 2008 from February 22-March 1, 2009. To learn more, [click here](#). The goal of the campaign is to promote the savings message and foster better savings behavior. The OCC serves on the National Advisory Committee for the ASC and is involved in the headquarters events in D.C., as well as nationwide events supported by the OCC's District Community Affairs Officers. Enroll as a Saver at www.fcclasaves.org.

United States Mint H.I.P. Pocket Change

The U.S. Mint [H.I.P. Pocket Change](#) Web site offers free educational resources based on the Presidential \$1 Coin Program, including lesson plans for grades K-12, classroom materials, and interactive Web-based learning activities. The lessons, posters, bookmarks and trivia sheets are available free from the Web site.

360 Degrees of Financial Literacy Program from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)

The AICPA's 360 Degrees of Financial Literacy Program is designed to educate the American public, from school children to retirees, on financial topics that apply to their particular life stage, such as: childhood, college, career, marriage, parenthood, home ownership, life crises, retirement and estate planning. For more information, [click here](#).

Financial Security Program from the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)

In partnership with the Land-Grant University System and Cooperative Extension, the CSREES, a unit within the United States Department of Agriculture, helps Americans of all ages meet future needs while keeping pace with day-to-day

obligations. The CSREES program provides national leadership for personal finance education, applied research, and family financial planning degree and certificate programs, and helps individuals and families build assets through informed financial decision-making. For more information, [click here](#).

Mayors' National Dollar Wi\$e Campaign

The goal of the [Mayors' National Dollar Wi\\$e Campaign](#) is to encourage the development of ongoing local financial literacy strategies to educate citizens about financial issues. The Campaign has compiled a resource book to assist mayors, city staff, and local community leaders implement local financial education programs, as well as an education curriculum matrix, model program guides, and Web resources.

Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Investor Education Foundation & the American Library Association: Smart Investing @ Your Library

Smart Investing @ Your Library, a jointly administered grant between FINRA's Investor Education Foundation and the American Library Association, reaches the grassroots level by supporting public libraries in their efforts to provide quality financial and investor education resources to library patrons. Libraries nationwide have developed model programs and outreach strategies to serve investors wherever and whenever they gather or find learning convenient. For more information, [click here](#).

New Financial Literacy Resources

OCC's New Web Page

The OCC created a new page dedicated to "[Reaching out on Financial Literacy](#)" which provides information about the OCC's participation in various financial literacy efforts across the country.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury's President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy Tips to Managing Your Money in Challenging Times

The President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy released "[Tips to Managing Your Money in Challenging Times](#)" on December 4, 2008. This resource offers seven important tips the Council feels all Americans should be aware of, and each tip is accompanied by applicable Web sites and resources.

MSN Money and the California Department of Corporations Predatory Lending Webinar for Military Families

MSN Money and the California Department of Corporations aired "Troops Against Predatory \$cams" a new, three-part webinar to financially educate military families. The series is available to share at www.msnmoney.com/moneytrack.

Federal Reserve Education Web Site Resources

The Federal Reserve Education Web site has added nine [active online lessons](#), titled "It's Your Paycheck." They are now available for high school personal finance classrooms. The lessons focus on human capital, wages, taxes, budgeting, saving, credit rights and responsibilities, payday loans, rent-to-own contracts, credit cards, and credit reports.

The Federal Reserve has also put out an [electronic newsletter](#) for K-12 educators designed to provide teachers with economics content, lesson plans, and updates on free resources from the Federal Reserve System.

American Savings Education Council Choose to Save® PSAs

The American Savings Education Council has signed a contract with WJLA-TV in Washington, D.C. to create four new PSA episodes of *Savingsman*™ and a new Choose to Save® Web page to promote savings tips. The first, Episode 8 Sub-Primate Ape, was released August 25th and can be viewed on the [PSA Viewer](#) found on the [Choose to Save® Web site](#).

National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program Congressional Update—First Program Report Released

As part of the 2008 Consolidated Appropriations bill, Congress authorized \$180 million for a National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling (NFMC) Program administered by NeighborWorks America. The data relating to the March 1-September 15, 2008 program activity has been released and can be accessed [here](#).

The Federal Trade Commission's New Web Site for Kids

The Federal Trade Commission launched a new Web site to introduce kids to key consumer and business concepts. Set in a shopping mall, <http://www.ftc.gov/YouAreHere> takes kids on an experiential journey that presents the FTC's mission and its important role in American commerce.

[HelpWithMyBank.gov](https://www.helpwithmybank.gov)

The OCC's [HelpWithMyBank.gov](https://www.helpwithmybank.gov) Web site provides answers to more than 250 commonly asked banking questions. While targeted at national bank customers, the site answers many questions common to all banking consumers and provides useful information about contacting regulators of national banks and other institutions.

[MyMoney.gov](https://www.mymoney.gov)

[MyMoney.gov](https://www.mymoney.gov) is the U.S. government's Web site dedicated to teaching all Americans the basics about financial education. The site houses important information from 20 federal agencies on topics such as buying a home, balancing a checkbook, or investing in a 401(k).

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Have a financial literacy event coming up worth noting? Rolling out a new financial literacy initiative? Developing a new tool or product? E-mail us at communityaffairs@occ.treas.gov.

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