



October/November 2008

Welcome to the OCC's first 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.

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Upcoming Events

National Council on Economic Education National Association of Economic Educators Global Association of Teachers of Economics Annual Conference

October 8-11 (Biloxi, MS)

On October 8-11, 2008, the National Council on Economic Education, National Association of Economic Educators, and Global Association of Teachers of Economics will hold their annual conference. This year's conference will be hosted by the Mississippi Council on Economic Education and will be held at the Beau Rivage Hotel, Biloxi, Mississippi. This nationwide conference will focus on K-12 economic, financial and entrepreneurship education. For more information, [click here](#).

Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Money Smarts Week

October 11-18, 2008 (IL, IN, IA, MI, WI)

On October 11-18, 2008, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago will sponsor the annual *Money Smart Week* across Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan and Wisconsin. These events give consumers the chance to attend free educational seminars on ranging from creating a budget to saving for retirement. For more information, [click here](#).

President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy

October 14, 2008 (Washington, D.C.)

On October 14, 2008, the President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy will meet in Washington, D.C. For more information, [click here](#).

U.S. Department of the Treasury and Financial Literacy and Education Commission National Roundtable on Insurance Literacy

October 15, 2008 (Washington, D.C.)

On October 15, 2008, the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Financial Literacy and Education Commission will hold a national roundtable on insurance literacy. The roundtable will cover insurance education from several perspectives. Panels will include representatives from state regulators, insurance companies, educators, and insurance agents. Discussions will focus on how property, casualty, life, and health insurance and benefits education should be structured in traditional financial education programs as well as other settings. Disaster insurance education will also be addressed. The general public is welcome as observers. To read more or register, [click here](#).

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Building Excellence in Economic and Financial Literacy Conference

October 17, 2008 (Conway, AR)

On October 17, 2008, the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis will sponsor the *Building Excellence in Economic and Financial Literacy* conference. This conference is designed for middle- and high-school teachers who want to learn more about methodologies related to teaching economics. Experts in the fields of economics, personal finance and social

sciences education have been invited to discuss the importance of teaching economics and personal finance in today's classroom. To read more or register, [click here](#).

**National Foundation for Credit Counseling is sponsoring National Protect Your Identity Week
October 19-25, 2008**

On October 19-25, 2008 the NFCC will sponsor National Protect Your Identity Week. This initiative is designed to bring identity theft awareness and prevention programs to consumers in communities across the country. The [Web site](#) contains tips on how you to protect your identity and what an individual can do if they are a victim of identity theft.

Jump\$tart Coalition

October 23-24, 2008 (Washington, D.C.)

On October 23, 2008, the Jump\$tart Coalition will hold its committee meeting and networking reception in Washington, D.C. On October 24 Coalition will hold its partners meeting, board meeting, and workshop in Washington, D.C. As more information becomes available, it will be posted [here](#).

**Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
The ABCs of Personal Financial Workshop
October 30, 2008 (St. Louis, MO)**

On October 30, 2008, the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, the Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Education at University of Missouri-St. Louis, and the Office of Economic Education and Business Research Team at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville will host "The ABC's of Personal Finance Workshop" in St. Louis, MO. The conference is for those who teach personal finance at all levels. This one-day event covers the basics and provides attendees with content, materials, and classroom activities. For more information or to register, [click here](#).

**President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy
Financial Literacy Challenge
November 3-26, 2008**

From November 3-26, 2008, the President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy will hold the 2nd Financial Literacy Challenge. The Challenge is a voluntary, 35-question test that students can take on-line to earn recognition of their financial knowledge. Students scoring in the top 25th percentile of the nation's scores will earn a certificate of recognition from the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Students scoring exceptionally high will win a 2008 National Financial Literacy Challenge Award medal. Teachers must register their students to compete. For more information, or to register, [click here](#).

**Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
Federal Conference for Educators
November 5-6, 2008 (Memphis, TN)**

On November 5-6, 2008, the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis will hold a conference for educators covering content, materials, and classroom activities. Each day will include both elementary and secondary curriculum sessions. For more information, [click here](#).

**Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and the Powell Center for Economic Literacy
Kidsize Economics Workshop
November 14, 2008 (Baltimore, MD)**

On November 13, 2008, the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and the Powell Center will host the Kidsize Economics Workshop. The workshop is a one-day seminar for elementary school teachers. The goals of this day are to provide teacher training and distribute classroom materials and lesson plans for Maryland's educators. To register or read more, [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](#).

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

On February 3-5, 2009, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation will host the first annual Alliance for Economic Inclusion (AEI) in Arlington, VA. For questions, e-mail AEIConference@fdic.gov.

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

American Bankers Association National Get Smart About Credit Day

October 16, 2008

On October 16, 2008, the American Bankers Association will host *Get Smart About Credit Day*. On this day bankers go to classrooms, connect with youth groups, and visit college campuses to help young people in the community get smart about credit so they can make smart financial choices later in life. For more information, [click here](#).

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Chairman's Award Program for Innovation in Financial Education

From June 16 through October 31, 2008, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) will accept applications for the first annual Chairman's Award Program for Innovation in Financial Education. A nomination committee made up of FDIC staff will assess nominations in November. To learn more about the award, or to make a nomination, [click here](#).

U.S. Department of the Treasury Community Financial Access Pilot

The *Community Financial Access Pilot* is designed to increase access to financial services and financial education for low- and moderate-income people. The U.S. Department of the Treasury will implement best practices learned from Treasury's First Accounts Program and the Financial Literacy and Education Commission's Regional Conferences on Reaching the Unbanked. Treasury's "community consultants" will provide assistance to approximately eight demonstration sites to implement community initiatives. At the conclusion of the pilot, the Treasury will release information on effective practices. Read more about this initiative [here](#).

America Saves Week 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 and foster better savings behavior. To learn more, [click here](#).

National League of Cities Bank on Cities Campaign

The NLC's *Bank on Cities Campaign* was initiated to advance efforts to connect families with mainstream financial services. The NLC's Institute for Youth, Education and Families launched this campaign as the outgrowth of a two-year project to help cities develop comprehensive asset-building initiatives involving financial education, homeownership counseling, saving accumulation programs, and asset protection. For more information, [click here](#).

Money Math

Lessons for Life is a curriculum supplement launched by a diverse partnership of private companies, nonprofit organizations, and the U.S. Department of the Treasury for students in grades 7-9 that addresses mathematical concepts using real-world financial scenarios. To read more about the curriculum and to download a copy of the lessons, [click here](#).

The Society for Financial Education and Professional Development (SFEPD) offers Credit Management and Personal Money Management Seminars to College Students

The SFEPD is offering practical financial education for college-age students. They have created a series of seminars to expose students at historically black colleges and universities to the fundamentals, strategies and intricacies of personal financial management. The information is presented during a single classroom session on college campuses. For the schedule of seminars, [click here](#).

New Financial Literacy Resources

Public Service Campaign on Youth and Credit: The Bad Credit Hotel

The U.S. Department of the Treasury unveiled a new multi-media campaign aimed at combating financial illiteracy among young adults. The ad campaign features an interactive online game, radio, and television spots. It warns "Don't let your credit put you in a bad place." Presented in partnership with the Ad Council, the campaign is designed to encourage young adults ages 18-24 to take control of their credit. See more about the campaign at www.controlyourcredit.gov.

OCC's Financial Literacy Web Resource Directory

OCC's Community Affairs Web site www.occ.treas.gov/cdd/finlitresdir.htm provides information on financial literacy resources, issues, and events that are important to bankers, organizations, and consumers of all ages. The directory includes descriptions and contact information for organizations that have undertaken financial literacy initiatives as a primary mission. It also provides easy access to fact sheets, newsletters, conference materials, consumer advisories, and publications. Access the page [here](#).

OCC's Public Service Announcements

In the past 15 months, the OCC has conducted public service campaigns by issuing print articles in small local papers and radio spots throughout the country on such topics as gift cards, debt elimination schemes, foreclosure prevention, OCC's new consumer-focused Web site, and OCC's customer assistance program (available in both English and Spanish). Those items have run more than 7,600 times in 41 states and have reached a cumulative potential audience of more than 900 million. To download public service announcements for print or radio, [click here](#).

Financial Literacy and Education Commission Conference Materials

During 2006-2007, the Financial Literacy and Education Commission hosted a series of regional conferences to share banking strategies and best practices for the unbanked. For access to materials from these conferences, [click here](#).

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Money Smart for Young Adults

The FDIC's *Money Smart for Young Adults* curriculum helps youth ages 12-20 learn the basics of handling their money and finances, including how to create positive relationships with financial institutions. *Money Smart for Young Adults* consists of eight instructor-led modules. Each module includes a fully scripted instructor guide, participant guide, and overhead slides. The materials also include an optional computer-based scenario that allows students to complete realistic exercises based on each module. The curriculum is free and distributed on CD: [click here to order it](#). Or to read more about the program, [click here](#).

Federal Trade Commission

OnGuardOnline.gov has been updated. Since its launch in September 2005, more than 8.5 million visitors have learned about computer security at OnGuardOnline.gov and AlertaEnLinea.gov, its Spanish-language counterpart. Now, a Web 2.0 redesign allows users to grab and embed games and videos, search for topics on the site, and have a more interactive experience while getting useful tips and information.

[Focus on Finances](#) has been updated. The site is designed to help high school students learn about consumer issues and important lessons for life.

A new link on the FTC home page will take you to their [Hurricane Recovery](#) site. The site contains information on avoiding scams involved in home repair fraud, identity theft, and more. The site contains useful information on what steps to take to be prepared should a hurricane strike your home town.

The Federal Reserve Board's Consumer's Guide to Mortgage Refinancing

This consumer guide helps answer questions about refinancing mortgage loans. It includes worksheets to help determine whether refinancing will pay off and to help shop for a mortgage loan to fit individual financial situations. The guide also includes tips to help through the refinancing process. Access the guide [here](#).

ABA's Financial Calculators

The ABA provides a choice from more than 50 financial calculators to help consumers determine how much home or auto loan they can afford and the best terms for certain loans. It also provides retirement and investment calculators to help determine how much to save for the future. Financial calculators are available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

American Savings Education Council Choose to Save® PSAs

The American Savings Education Council has signed a contract with WJLA-TV in Washington, DC, 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](#). The other three will be released later in 2008.

HelpWithMyBank.gov

The OCC's [HelpWithMyBank.gov](#) Web-site provides answers to more than 250 commonly asked banking questions. While targeted to national bank customers, the site answers many questions common to all banking consumers and provides useful information about contacting regulators of institutions in addition to national banks.

MyMoney.gov

[MyMoney.gov](#) is the U.S. government's website 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 401k.

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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