

Personal Financial Literacy offers targeted instruction, practice, and review designed to help students develop fluency, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply financial literacy skills.

In this course, students engage with important skills and concepts such as college and career planning, applying for financial aid, understanding the typical costs of living, creating and maintain a budget, selecting and using checking and savings accounts, and using credit cards for purchases responsibly. They also learn about different types of credit, credit scores, as well as loans and loan payments including the real-world examples of mortgages and home ownership, car ownership, car payments, and car insurance. Finally, students gain knowledge about multiple types of investments such as CDs, bonds, and stocks.

These topics are supported by writing and discussion activities. Journal activities provide opportunities for students to both apply concepts on a personal scale and analyze scenarios. Discussions help students network with one another by sharing personal strategies and goals and recognizing the diversity of life and career plans within a group.

To assist students for whom language presents a barrier to learning or who are not reading at grade level, Texas Personal Financial Literacy includes audio resources in English.

This course is built to Texas Essential Skills and Knowledge standards for Personal Financial Literacy.

Length: One Semester

UNIT 1: GOALS AND CAREER PLANNING

- Lesson 1: The Need for Financial Literacy
- Lesson 2: Identifying Goals
- Lesson 3: The Value of Education
- Lesson 4: My Ideal College
- Lesson 5: College Admissions
- Lesson 6: Goals and Career Planning Wrap-Up

UNIT 2: FINANCIAL AID

- Lesson 1: Cost of College
- Lesson 2: FAFSA and CSS/PROFILE
- Lesson 3: Scholarships, Grants, and Work-Study
- Lesson 4: Loans
- Lesson 5: Financial Aid Wrap-Up

UNIT 3: COST OF LIVING AND BUDGET

- Lesson 1: Compensation Packages
- Lesson 2: Take-Home Pay: Required Deductions
- Lesson 3: Take-Home Pay: Optional Deductions
- Lesson 4: Income and Career
- Lesson 5: Cost of Living and Budget
- Lesson 6: Itemized Deductions
- Lesson 7: Income and Budgeting Wrap-Up

UNIT 4: CHECKING AND SAVINGS

- Lesson 1: Compound Interest
- Lesson 2: Balancing Your Checkbook

- Lesson 3: Comparing Checking Accounts
- Lesson 4: Savings Accounts
- Lesson 5: Comparing Savings Accounts
- Lesson 6: Checking and Savings Wrap-Up

UNIT 5: PURCHASING AND CREDIT

- Lesson 1: Coupons, Rebates, and Sales
- Lesson 2: Credit Cards
- Lesson 3: Calculating Credit Card Interest
- Lesson 4: Tracking Payments and Purchases
- Lesson 5: Purchasing and Credit Wrap-Up

UNIT 6: CREDIT

- Lesson 1: Credit, Debit, and Cash
- Lesson 2: Credit Scores
- Lesson 3: Bankruptcy
- Lesson 4: Other Types of Credit
- Lesson 5: Purchasing and Credit Wrap-Up

UNIT 7: LOANS AND PAYMENTS

- Lesson 1: Single and Payday Loans
- Lesson 2: Installment Loans and Layaway
- Lesson 3: Paying Off
- Lesson 4: Prepayment
- Lesson 5: Loans and Payments Wrap-Up

UNIT 8: HOME OWNERSHIP

- Lesson 1: Mortgages: Fixed Rate
- Lesson 2: Mortgages: Variable Rate
- Lesson 3: Discounts
- Lesson 4: Additional Costs: Escrow
- Lesson 5: Total Housing Payments
- Lesson 6: Home Ownership Wrap-Up

UNIT 9: CAR OWNERSHIP AND INSURANCE

- Lesson 1: Car Leasing
- Lesson 2: How to Buy a Car
- Lesson 3: Car Payments
- Lesson 4: Car Insurance Premiums
- Lesson 5: Property and Renters Insurance
- Lesson 6: Life Insurance
- Lesson 7: Car Ownership and Insurance Wrap-Up

UNIT 10: INVESTMENTS

- Lesson 1: CDs
- Lesson 2: Bonds
- Lesson 3: Stocks
- Lesson 4: The Stock Market
- Lesson 5: Periodic Investment
- Lesson 6: Retirement and Periodic Investment
- Lesson 7: Individual Net Worth
- Lesson 8: Investments Wrap-Up

UNIT 11: REVIEW AND EXAM

- Lesson 1: Review and Exam