

ATTACHMENT
Text of Proposed New 19 TAC

Chapter 113. Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies

Subchapter C. High School

§113.76. Personal Financial Literacy and Economics (One-Half Credit).

- (a) General requirements. This course is recommended for students in Grades 11 and 12. Students shall be awarded one-half credit for successful completion of this course.
- (b) Introduction.
- (1) The Personal Financial Literacy and Economics Course emphasizes the economic way of thinking, which serves as a framework for the personal financial decision-making opportunities introduced in the course. Students will demonstrate the ability to anticipate and address financial challenges as these challenges occur over their lifetime. In addition, students are introduced to common economic and personal financial planning terms and concepts. As a result of learning objective concepts and integrating subjective information, students gain the ability to lead productive and financially self-sufficient lives.
- (2) Personal Financial Literacy and Economics builds on and extends the economic content and concepts studied in Kindergarten-Grade 12 social studies in Texas. The course provides a foundation in both microeconomics and macroeconomics. Students will survey the impact of demand, supply, various industry structures, and government policies on the market for goods, services, and wages for workers. Macroeconomic study involves economic systems with an emphasis on free enterprise market systems, goals of full employment, price stability, and growth while examining problems such as unemployment and inflation and the policies enacted to address them. The course also builds on and extends the personal finance content and concepts studied in Kindergarten-Grade 8 in mathematics in Texas. It is an integrative course that applies the same economic way of thinking developed to making choices about how to allocate scarce resources in an economy to how to make them at the personal level. The course requires that students demonstrate critical thinking by exploring how to invest in themselves with education and skill development, earn income, and budget for spending, saving, investing, and protecting. Students will examine their individual responsibility for managing their personal finances and understand the impact on standard of living and long-term financial well-being. Further, students will connect how their financial decision making impacts the greater economy.
- (3) This course was created in response to Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.025(b-22), satisfies the high school requirement, and meets the two-thirds of instructional time in personal financial literacy and one-third of instructional time in economics. In addition, the course addresses new financial challenges of modern economy.
- (4) State and federal laws mandate a variety of celebrations and observances, including Celebrate Freedom Week.
- (A) Each social studies class shall include, during Celebrate Freedom Week as provided under TEC, §29.907, or during another full school week as determined by the board of trustees of a school district, appropriate instruction concerning the intent, meaning, and importance of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, in their historical contexts. The study of the Declaration of Independence must include the study of the relationship of the ideas expressed in that document to subsequent American history, including the relationship of its ideas to the rich diversity of our people as a nation of immigrants, the American Revolution, the formulation of the U.S. Constitution, and the abolitionist movement, which led to the Emancipation Proclamation and the women's suffrage movement.

- (B) Each school district shall require that, during Celebrate Freedom Week or other week of instruction prescribed under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, students in Grades 3-12 study and recite the following text: "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness--That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed."
- (5) Students identify and discuss how the actions of U.S. citizens and the local, state, and federal governments have either met or failed to meet the ideals espoused in the founding documents.
- (6) Students understand that a constitutional republic is a representative form of government whose representatives derive their authority from the consent of the governed, serve for an established tenure, and are sworn to uphold the constitution.
- (7) Statements that contain the word "including " reference content that must be mastered, while those containing the phrase "such as " are intended as possible illustrative examples.
- (c) Knowledge and skills.
 - (1) Economics. The student understands the fundamental concepts of economics. The student is expected to:
 - (A) analyze how the concepts of scarcity, choice, and opportunity costs apply to decision making;
 - (B) interpret a production-possibilities curve and apply the concepts of scarcity, choice, and opportunity costs;
 - (C) explain how the production-possibilities curve represents cost-benefit decision making;
 - (D) use the circular flow model to identify how households, firms, and governments interact in both resource markets and product markets;
 - (E) evaluate how prices and quantities are determined through supply and demand;
 - (F) interpret a supply-and-demand graph, including equilibrium point, surpluses, and shortages;
 - (G) analyze how non-price determinants of supply and demand affect equilibrium price and equilibrium quantity; and
 - (H) explain how supply and demand exist in both resource and product markets.
 - (2) Economics. The student understands that macroeconomic issues and policies have an impact on personal finance. The student is expected to:
 - (A) identify types of progressive and regressive taxes at the local, state, and national levels and explain the economic importance of each;
 - (B) examine and evaluate the reasons for federal income taxation, Social Security taxation, Medicaid taxation, and Medicare taxation, including earnings limitations as applicable;
 - (C) explain how all economic systems are mixed and exist on a spectrum between pure market and pure command systems;
 - (D) explain the benefits of the U.S. free enterprise system, including private property and incentives;
 - (E) discuss the importance of full employment, price stability, and economic growth in achieving the macroeconomic goals of the United States;
 - (F) explain the impact of fiscal policies enacted by government decisions on interest rates, inflation, and unemployment; and

- (G) explain the impact of monetary policies enacted by the Federal Reserve System on interest rates, inflation, and unemployment.
- (3) Personal financial literacy--investing in education and skills. The student recognizes the costs and benefits of various types of postsecondary education and training throughout the student's lifetime. The student is expected to:
 - (A) analyze the relationship between education and training and earnings throughout the student's lifetime;
 - (B) investigate and evaluate the costs and benefits of various postsecondary education and training institutions;
 - (C) describe the process for completing grant and scholarship applications, including the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) provided by the U.S. Department of Education or the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA);
 - (D) analyze and compare various student grant and loan options, including private and federal loans;
 - (E) interpret data from a student aid report; and
 - (F) research and align interests and skills with potential careers and postsecondary education to assure a life strategy that will produce employment the student enjoys with a desired standard of living.
- (4) Personal financial literacy--earning. The student recognizes that a variety of factors influence income. The student is expected to:
 - (A) identify sources of income, including wages and salaries, profits, interest, rent, dividends, and capital gains;
 - (B) compare common employee benefits such as health insurance, sick leave, retirement plans, and other tax-favored health and dependent care plans;
 - (C) differentiate among and calculate gross, net, and taxable income; and
 - (D) identify factors such as educational attainment and market demand for careers that can influence the labor market and affect income.
- (5) Personal financial literacy--entrepreneurship. The student discusses the opportunities available for entrepreneurship. The student is expected to:
 - (A) describe the role of the entrepreneur in creating businesses;
 - (B) explain how an entrepreneur earns income, including through profits from the creation or ownership of businesses;
 - (C) compare total compensation and additional benefits and obligations as a self-employed or independent contractor with total compensation as an employee;
 - (D) discuss the resources available for entrepreneurship and the federal, state, and local agencies available to assist with or provide grants for the creation of a small business;
 - (E) analyze the risks and rewards of entrepreneurship, including those associated with starting a new business, owning a small business, and purchasing a franchise; and
 - (F) explain the characteristics of business organization such as sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations.
- (6) Personal financial literacy--spending. The student understands how to set personal spending goals. The student is expected to:
 - (A) develop financial goals for the short, medium, and long term that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time based;

- (B) analyze the opportunity costs of spending and saving in recognizing short-, medium-, and long-term goals;
 - (C) identify and prioritize types of purchases and charitable giving;
 - (D) evaluate various forms of financial exchange such as cash, checks, credit cards, debit cards, mobile payment applications, and electronic transfers;
 - (E) discuss the importance of tracking income and expenses to reconcile financial records;
 - (F) evaluate the impact of unplanned spending;
 - (G) analyze costs and benefits of owning versus renting housing; and
 - (H) analyze costs and benefits of owning versus leasing a vehicle.
- (7) Personal financial literacy--credit and debt. The student understands the costs and benefits of borrowing. The student is expected to:
- (A) compare and contrast sources of credit such as banks, merchants, peer-to-peer, payday loans, and title loans;
 - (B) identify the characteristics and dangers of predatory lending practices;
 - (C) compare and contrast types of credit, including revolving and installment credit, and collateralized loans versus unsecured credit;
 - (D) discuss how character, capacity, and collateral can adversely or positively impact an individual's credit rating and the ability to obtain credit;
 - (E) explain how to access and interpret a sample credit report and score;
 - (F) describe the importance of monitoring credit reports regularly and addressing errors;
 - (G) discuss how factors such as medical expenses, job loss, divorce, or a failed business could lead to bankruptcy; and
 - (H) determine and discuss if and when to use credit by considering the truth in lending disclosures.
- (8) Personal financial literacy--saving and investing. The student understands the importance of saving and investing in creating wealth and building assets. The student is expected to:
- (A) determine the exponential growth benefits of starting early to invest with continuous contributions;
 - (B) determine the number of years it will take for savings to double in value by using the rule of 72;
 - (C) evaluate the costs and benefits of various savings options such as bank savings accounts, certificates of deposit, and money market mutual funds;
 - (D) evaluate risk and return of various investment options, including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and exchange-traded funds (ETFs);
 - (E) evaluate the relative benefits of pre-tax and post-tax investing;
 - (F) develop a short-term saving strategy to achieve a goal such as establishing and maintaining an emergency fund;
 - (G) develop an intermediate-term saving and investing strategy to achieve a goal such as accumulating a down payment on a home or vehicle; and
 - (H) develop a long-term investing strategy to achieve a goal such as a financially secure retirement.

- (9) Personal financial literacy--protecting and insuring. The student recognizes financial risks faced by individuals and families and identifies strategies for handling these risks to avoid potential loss of assets and earning potential. The student is expected to:
- (A) apply risk management strategies, including avoiding, reducing, retaining, and transferring risk;
 - (B) define insurance terminology, including premiums, deductibles, co-pays, and policy limits;
 - (C) explain the costs and benefits of different types and sources of health insurance;
 - (D) explain the costs and benefits of disability and long-term care insurance;
 - (E) explain the costs and benefits of life insurance, including term insurance and whole life insurance;
 - (F) explain the costs and benefits of property insurance, including homeowner's and renter's insurance;
 - (G) explain the costs and benefits of automobile insurance and factors that impact the price of insurance, including the type of vehicle, age and sex of driver, driving record, deductible, and geographic location;
 - (H) identify ways to reduce risk of identity theft and protect personal information;
 - (I) recognize common schemes and scams such as Ponzi schemes and pyramid, phishing, check cashing, and home renovation scams;
 - (J) explain how consumer protection agencies protect consumers against fraud; and
 - (K) explain the importance of estate planning, including guardianship of minor children, wills, beneficiary designation, power of attorney, living will, and medical directives.
- (10) Personal financial literacy skills. The student understands how to set personal financial goals. The student is expected to:
- (A) use problem-solving and decision-making processes to identify a problem, gather information, list and consider options, consider advantages and disadvantages, choose and implement a solution, and evaluate the effectiveness of the solution;
 - (B) develop a budget that addresses short-, medium-, and long-term financial goals; and
 - (C) demonstrate how earning income, spending, credit, debt, saving and investing, and protecting and insuring are part of a comprehensive financial plan.