

Frequently Asked Questions

November 2022

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1. What is the new Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course?

Personal Financial Literacy and Economics is a new one-half credit high school course developed in response to [Senate Bill \(SB\) 1063](#) and [Texas Education Code \(TEC\), §28.025\(b-22\)](#). Students may successfully complete either this new course or the Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits course to satisfy the half-credit economics requirement for high school graduation. This new economics course is part of the required secondary curriculum.

2. When did the requirement to provide Personal Financial Literacy and Economics go into effect?

August 1, 2022, was the effective date for the State Board of Education rule action adopting 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), Adopted 2022.

3. Must every school district offer both the Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course and the Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits course?

As explained in Texas Administrative Code (TAC) [§74.3. Description of a Required Secondary Curriculum](#), districts are required to offer both courses. However, districts with a total district-wide high school enrollment of fewer than 500 students can apply to the commissioner of education to offer either Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits or Personal Financial Literacy and Economics.

4. How can districts with a total district-wide high school enrollment of fewer than 500 students apply to the commissioner of education to offer either Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits or Personal Financial Literacy and Economics?

The requirement to offer both Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits and Personal Financial Literacy and Economics may be reduced to one by the commissioner of education upon application of a school district with a total high school enrollment of less than 500 students. Districts should complete the [Request for Reduction in Required Curriculum Course Offerings](#) form and return the form to curriculum@tea.texas.gov.

5. Does the Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course need to be offered to students in the 2022-2023 school year and every year thereafter?

Starting with the 2022-2023 school year, each school district and each open-enrollment charter school that offers a high school program must offer the Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course.

Like other required courses, Personal Financial Literacy and Economics does not have to be offered annually. [TAC §74.3\(b\)\(4\)](#) states: “If the school district will not offer the required courses every year but intends to offer particular courses only every other year, it must notify all enrolled students of that fact.”

6. Is the Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course required for high school graduation?

To satisfy the half-credit economics requirement for high school graduation, students may successfully complete either the Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course or the Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits course.

7. Where can I find the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for Personal Financial Literacy and Economics?

The TEKS for the course are in 19 TAC Chapter 113. Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, [§113.76 Personal Financial Literacy and Economics \(One-Half Credit\), Adopted 2022](#).

8. What is the PEIMS code for Personal Financial Literacy and Economics?

The PEIMS code for Personal Financial Literacy and Economics is 03380083.

9. What teacher certification is required for Personal Financial Literacy and Economics?

The State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) ruled that the following teaching certificates would meet the [Economics and Personal Financial Literacy, Grades 9-12 teaching assignment](#):

- Any business certificate
- Junior High School (Grades 9-10 only) or High School:
 - Economics
 - Social Science, Composite
- Secondary, Grades 6-12, or Grades 9-12:
 - Economics
 - Social Studies
 - Social Studies, Composite
- Social Studies:
 - Grades 7-12
 - Grades 8-12

10. Must the Personal Financial Literacy high school elective course still be offered as part of the required secondary curriculum?

Yes, the [Personal Financial Literacy elective course](#) must still be offered to students. Both the Personal Financial Literacy elective course and the new Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course must be offered to students because both courses are part of the required secondary curriculum.

11. Can students be awarded credit for both Personal Financial Literacy and Economics and the Personal Financial Literacy high school elective course?

No, the State Board of Education (SBOE) decided that students may not be awarded credit for both the new Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course and the Personal Financial Literacy high school elective course.

12. Can students be awarded credit for both the Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course and the Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits course?

Yes, a student can be awarded credit for both the new Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course and the Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits course.

13. What instructional materials are available for Personal Financial Literacy and Economics?

You may wish to consider [Currently Adopted Instructional Materials](#) previously adopted by the SBOE for their alignment to the Personal Financial Literacy elective course or the Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits course. These materials may align to TEKS of the new Personal Financial Literacy and Economics course.

TEA is currently in the process of developing a list of free, open-source, and publicly available curricula that may be used for Personal Financial Literacy and Economics.

Proclamation 2024, issued by the SBOE at its April 2022 meeting, called for instructional materials for Personal Financial Literacy and Economics. Instructional materials from this proclamation are expected to be available for use in schools beginning in the 2024–25 school year.