

# **Financial Education and Empowerment Committee**

STATE TREASURY PROGRAM CENSUS

By State (updated April 9, 2019)

# **Alabama**

Hon. John McMillan

<u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u> Brittany Carter, External Affairs

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#### **Programs**

Beginning with the 2013-14 academic year the Alabama State Department of Education implemented the Career Preparedness required course of instruction. The areas of instruction include academic planning and career development, financial literacy and technology. The courses specific to financial education encompass managing finances and budgeting, saving and investing, banking and financial institutions, credit and debt, and risk management and insurance.

The Treasurer's Office is working to enhance financial literacy educational opportunities beyond the required courses of study. We are working collaboratively with the Alabama Department of Education, Governor's Office, state banking associations and other key groups to provide additional education opportunities for Alabama students.

Currently, Treasury does not have a formal governance structure or earmarked funding for financial literacy.

The Office presently offers several projects that support and incorporate elements of financial literacy, including the CollegeCounts 529 college savings program and Enable Alabama's ABLE program.

# Alabama Treasury provides links to Financial Literacy Sources

http://treasury.alabama.gov/financial-education/

# **Arizona**

Hon. Kimberly Yee

<u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u> Rebecca Reigelsberger, Director of External Affairs

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#### Mission Statement

As financial literacy and money management are basic life skills that are critical for citizens to succeed in life, the Arizona Treasurer's Office is committed to increasing the level of financial education among Arizonans.

#### **Programs**

**Web Portal** 

## Website Link

http://www.aztreasury.gov/financial-literacy/

# **Arkansas**

Hon. Dennis Milligan

# Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff

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#### Mission Statement

The AR Finance AR Future program is designed to increase awareness and financial literacy among Arkansas students.

#### **Programs**

AR Finance AR Future (to bring critical financial literacy education to Arkansas elementary-aged students through the AR Finance. AR Future. Program. The financial literacy curriculum - the Vault - Understanding Money<sup>TM</sup> platform, which provides an interactive, web-based financial management program - is offered to Arkansas elementary schools). The program, which is free to schools, has impacted more than 19,200 students in 148 schools, and has brought more than 36,500 hours of financial education to Arkansas students.

#### Member of Arkansas Jump Start Coalition

Partnership with Pay It Forward –The mission and purpose for the Foundation is an unwavering commitment to providing financial aid to aspiring students as well as life skills training and educational awareness for students. Arkansas 529 recently awarded seven scholarships at \$529 based off an essay contest in partnership with Pay It Forward.

Ongoing relationship with Junior Achievement of Arkansas – JA of Arkansas's volunteer-delivered, kindergarten-12th grade programs foster work-readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills, and use experiential learning to inspire students in our community to dream big and reach their potential. Our partnership with JA allows Arkansas 529 further reach to higher grade levels, middle school through high school, to promote our financial literacy initiatives, and encourages personal finance through entrepreneurship, and understanding finances.

Partnership with Stephens Elementary School & First Security bank – First Security had been teaching personal finances through banking at the school. In the programs second year, Arkansas 529 awarded Gift of College gift cards to the best 'diligent saver' students at Stephens Elementary School.

Partnership with The University of Arkansas School of Social Work, the Arkansas Coalition of Marshallese, and the Economic Opportunity Agency are collaborating to deliver a college-savings program, which will be distributed through the Arkansas 529 College Investing Plan. The Child Savings Account (CSA) Program is designed to provide \$100 in seed money to 200 Marshallese children and youth (birth to 18 years) to use toward post-secondary education or job training costs.

Partnership with Clinton Presidential Center - Opportunities to promote the college investment plan to thousands of families who will experience educational programs at the Clinton Center this year. For example, more than 6,000 parents, caregivers, and youth will attend Bridge to the Future (Spring TBD) and Head of the Class Bash (August) where the Arkansas 529 GIFT Plan will be featured. In addition, the Educators' Reception in August will provide a captive audience of hundreds of educators for the Arkansas 529 GIFT Plan as these teachers and administrators receive a sneak peek of the Clinton Center's upcoming exhibits and educational programs. This allows Arkansas 529 to promote the Vault Program, which will be available to students during back to school backpack drive. Financial Health Summit in partnership with Our House (Feb 10, 2018) - to address concerns surrounding saving, preparing for higher education expenses, banking tools, and credit in the local LMI population. And more importantly, help us to create an open dialogue around "money" and why we just don't talk about it!

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Women's Financial Health Summit (April 28, 2018) - to address concerns surrounding saving, preparing for higher education expenses, banking tools, and credit in regards to Women's financial health. And more importantly, help us to create an open dialogue around "money" and why we just don't talk about it!

#### Website

https://www.artreasury.gov/financial-education.html

#### California

Hon. Fiona Ma

# Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff

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#### **Mission Statement**

The California State Treasurer's Office does not have an overall financial literacy program but has several projects that support and incorporate elements of financial literacy: Scholarshare 529 college savings program, CalABLE our state's ABLE program, and CalSavers, our new retirement program for private sector workers. Helping people understanding how to build wealth by understanding better how to borrow, how to save wisely, and how to plan for unforeseen events like unemployment is one of the best things we can do to improve the lives of our families and the fiscal health of our communities.

Likewise, The California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission (CDIAC) works with public officials to understand and implement best practices in managing local and state finances to ensure tax dollars are spent wisely and governments have the resources to weather hard times. Finally, it is also important to help the public understand how their tax money is being spent, so they can engage in an informed debate around setting state and local budget priorities and hold public officials accountable.

# **Programs**

To support the financial needs of individuals and families, the three main programs run by our office: ScholarShare 529, California's state-sponsored 529 plan, CalSavers, and CalAble.

ScholarShare 529's financial literacy/education efforts are a part of ScholarShare529's overall marketing and outreach efforts aimed at educating California families about the importance of saving for and attending college. ScholarShare 529's mission statement is to help Californians achieve their higher education goals and a better future by investing in a ScholarShare 529 college savings plan. One of ScholarShare 529's goals is to meet this mission by partnering with organizations and agencies that promote education and financial literacy, as well as provide educational opportunities to California families and children. ScholarShare 529 has also launched a Matching Grant Program to provide low- to moderate-income with a dollar-for-dollar match of up to \$200 and a bonus of \$25 for establishing an automatic contribution plan. To reach eligible families, ScholarShare 529 has partnered with community-based organizations and government agencies.

STO recently launched a pilot of CalSavers in late 2018. The goal of CalSavers is to promote greater retirement savings for California's approximately 6.3 million private-sector employees who currently lack access to employer-sponsored retirement plans by providing access to a voluntary, low-cost, portable retirement savings program that encourages participation through automatic enrollment and facilitates contributions through payroll contributions.

Additionally, in late 2018, STO also launched CalABLE to provide people with disabilities greater financial security. CalABLE will allow people with disabilities to establish tax advantage savings accounts that will allow them to save up to \$15,000 a year and up to \$100,000 total without jeopardizing their public benefits.

For public agency officials: The California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission (CDIAC) provides information, education and technical assistance on debt issuance and public fund investments to local public agencies and other public finance professionals. The Commission was created in 1981 through legislation that established CDIAC's predecessor agency, the California Debt Advisory Commission, as the State's clearinghouse for public debt issuance information and required it to assist state and local agencies with the monitoring, issuance and management of public debt.

Among other functions specified in statute, CDIAC: (1) Collects information on all State and local debt issuance in California and serves as a statistical clearinghouse; (2) provides technical assistance and continuing education to state and local government officials on the practices and strategies for public debt issuance and investing public funds; (3) undertakes or commissions studies on methods to reduce the costs of debt and improve credit ratings; (4) publishes a monthly newsletter; (5) recommends legislative changes to improve the sale and servicing of state and local debt; (6) collects reports of annual fiscal status, bond reserve draws and bond defaults for Mello-Roos Community Facilities Districts and Marks-Roos Bond Pools; and, (7) assists State financing authorities and commissions to carry out

their responsibilities. Financial transparency: The STO also has Debt Watch http://debtwatch.treasurer.ca.gov/ a new open data website designed to help the public track debt issued by the state and local governments. This site gives users the ability to create data visualizations and download raw data for their own research.

# Formal Governance

No

We do not have a formal governance structure for the financial literacy programs; however, CalSavers, Cal ABLE and ScholarShare have a formal governance structure governed by a board chaired by the Treasurer.

# **Funding**

ScholarShare 529's many financial literacy/education efforts are included within ScholarShare 529's overall marketing plan. ScholarShare 529's marketing and outreach efforts are funded in two ways: (a) through the ScholarShare 529 program manager's annual marketing commitment as outlined in its contract with the ScholarShare 529 Investment Board (SIB), and (b) through SIB's annual appropriated budget allocated for marketing, which is funded by participant fees collected by the Plan. Both CalABLE and CalSavers will by statute be entirely funded by participant fees. The websites are all designed inhouse.

#### Website Links

CalABE www.treasurer.ca.gov/able

CalSavers <a href="http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/scib/index.asp">http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/scib/index.asp</a>

ScholarShare Investment Board http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/scholarshare/index.asp

CDIAC https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/cdiac/index.asp

#### Connecticut

Hon. Shawn Wooden

#### Website Links

http://www.ott.ct.gov/financial\_education.html

http://www.ott.ct.gov/financial financialplanning.html

# Delaware

Hon. Colleen Davis

# **Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff**

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#### Mission Statement

Though Treasurer Davis has only just begun her tenure as Delaware State Treasurer, she has already established a number of financial literacy priorities and objectives. These priorities are being facilitated through partnerships with the Department of Education, local non-profits, and other community stakeholders with a focus on economic inclusion and education. The Office of the State Treasurer also oversees the state's 529 College Savings, 529A/ABLE, and Deferred Compensation plans. Each of these plans offers opportunities to provide target populations with financial education to improve retirement readiness, college preparedness, and disability-focused savings.

# **Programs**

Directly, and in conjunction with the state's Plans Management Board, the Delaware Office of the State Treasurer manages the Delaware College Investment Plan (529), **DE**PEND**ABLE** –(529A/ABLE),, and **DE**FER – the Delaware Deferred Compensation Plans (457, 403b, 401a). , The office seeks to inform and educate residents and employees about the benefits of saving for a more secure financial future. These programs engage residents through events and activities statewide, and the **DE**FER program offers free visits with financial counselors throughout the state for employees. Additionally, the office offers trainings on the plans to agencies and organizations who interact with residents that could benefit from these opportunities and overall economic education.

The office also works to encourage federal action on initiatives that support financial literacy, through participating in NAST events in Washington, D.C., and otherwise encouraging action on legislation, such as passage of the ABLE Age Adjustment Act. These activities create awareness and can foster financial knowledge.

Treasurer Davis has connected with a number of financial literacy gamification models, including the state's *Personal Finance Challenge*, a program facilitated in part by the University of Delaware's Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship. This program is for high school students and features a gamification model for finance consisting of four competitive rounds: Earning Income & Protecting and Insuring, Using Credit & Buying Goods and Services, Saving & Financial Investing, and a Quiz Bowl. Additionally, she is coaching two teams for this year's *Stock Market Challenge*, which allows students to create faux virtual stock portfolios and experience the world of investing.

The Delaware Department of Education is currently pursuing creation of a financial literacy curriculum for students K-12 and has been open in engaging with the State Treasurer regarding this work. She also will be visiting with teachers during a one day professional development FinCamp with *NextGen*. Treasurer Davis will be joining the University of Delaware Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship to encourage teachers participating in *Keys to Financial Success* which trains educators from Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey at the Philadelphia Federal Reserve each summer.

The Delaware Office of the State Treasurer looks forward to continuing to build connections with additional financial literacy providers that operate throughout the state, including the Academy of Finance, \$tand by Me, Banks in Schools, and other community organizations, state agencies, business groups, and other institutions.

#### Website Links

www.treasurer.delaware.gov

#### **Florida**

Hon. Jimmy Patronis

# **Programs**

Web Portal - Your Money Matters

#### Website Links

http://www.myfloridacfo.com/ymm/

#### Idaho

Hon. Julie Ellsworth

# **Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff**

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# **Programs**

Treasurer Ellsworth took office on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and is currently reviewing ways the Treasurer's office can assist with financial literacy efforts.

The Treasurer's office administers the 529 College Savings Program. The College Savings Program Board consists of the state treasurer, who shall serve as chair, the governor, the state controller, the attorney general, the superintendent of public instruction, and the secretary of state or their designee.

#### Website Links:

529 College Savings Program: https://www.idsaves.org

#### Illinois

Hon. Michael Frerichs

# <u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u>

Nikki Giancola, Director of Financial Education Programming

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#### Mission Statement

The State Treasurer's Office and Econ Illinois, a nonprofit that specializes in economic education, have teamed up to provide services-free of charge- to school districts and communities to support the new financial literacy state standards and other financial literacy initiatives throughout the state. Through this joint effort, named Money Minded Illinois, we strive to make a lasting impact on financial education.

#### **Programs**

# **Money Minded Illinois Curriculum**

In 2015, Illinois passed the first ever Financial Literacy standards as part of the Social Studies curriculum for grades 1-8. We quickly heard feedback from school districts and teachers that while they believed this subject matter is important, there were not many resources available for them to teach. We decided to meet this need by developing and writing our own curriculum that aligns with the Illinois

standards and is available for free to any teacher, school, or district. The curriculum is primarily focused on financial literacy standards, but we incorporate economics standards where appropriate as well. Through the structure and nature of our lessons, the inquiry standards for Social Studies is met as well. The curriculum is all uploaded online, but we also have curriculum booklets available. Currently, grades 1-3 are ready and up to view, with grades 4, 5, and 6-8 planning to be ready by the first week in Aprils.

- First Grade Curriculum
- Second Grade Curriculum
- Third Curriculum

# **Community Events**

Money Minded Library Story Times

To introduce children at an even younger age to financial literacy concepts, we have created a
program that includes a picture book and mini lesson for use at libraries. This program is aimed
at preschool aged children. Our outreach team was trained on how to teach the program, and
to date, we've had over 30 story times throughout the state since launching it less than a year
ago.

Roundtable, entitled "The Future of Education: Inquiry Based Learning, Helping Students Become Career Ready." The audience for this was principals, superintendents, and regional superintendents. We brought together experts from ISBE, the MacArthur Foundation, and NIU Career Pathways to talk about how implementing the new inquiry standards will have a direct impact on ensuring students are career ready and meeting the demands of the future workforce.

# **Programming**

There are four main programs that we run (in conjunction with Econ Illinois) throughout the year in schools. They are: Economic Poster Contest (grades 1-8), Stock Market Game (7-high school), Personal Finance Challenge (high school), and Econ Challenge (gifted/AP high school). All our programs provide lesson and support through staff at Econ Illinois.

# **Professional Development**

We offer trainings for teachers that specialize in both the financial literacy standards as well as inquiry skills. Our trainings can range from anywhere between an hour to a full day institute. We always work with the individual school districts to understand the needs of their teachers, and continuing profession credits can be given out at the end of the training. In the initial launch this past year, we put on a dozen trainings for teachers.

#### Formal Governance

We do not have a governance structure for our financial education. We do have an intergovernmental agreement with Econ Illinois that provides us with additional staff support. Our office does have a financial literacy nonprofit named Dollars and Sense, but it is dormant at this time.

#### **Funding**

Our program is funded through office appropriations.

#### Website Links

https://illinoistreasurer.gov/Financial Education/Overview

From this main page, you can navigate to our curriculum as well.

# **Indiana**

Hon. Kelly Mitchell

# Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff

Catherine Seat, Director of External Affairs and Communications

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# **Mission Statement**

Treasurer Mitchell understands the lasting benefit that financial education can bring to all Hoosiers. Her office strives to reach Hoosiers in all walks of life and provide valuable resources to those seeking information regarding improving financial literacy.

#### **Programs**

# **CollegeChoice Savings Plan**

Indiana's 529 plan administered by the Indiana Education Savings Authority. We offer a direct, an advisor, and a CD plan. Currently the direct savings plan has \$3.6 billion in assets in 317,000 accounts.

#### BankOn Indiana

Bank On Indiana was launched in 2009, spearheaded by Office of the Treasurer of Indiana, as an umbrella organization to offer technical assistance to local Bank On programs throughout the Hoosier state. Bank On Indiana is modeled after the growing Bank On Cities program, initiated in San Francisco in 2006. Bank On Indiana provides unbanked Hoosiers an opportunity to open and maintain safe, affordable checking accounts.

#### Right on the Money

Through a partnership between IHCDA, CollegeChoice 529 Savings Plan and the Indiana Treasurer of State's office, "Right on the Money" was produced to provide a financial education opportunity for young Hoosiers. This video explains the path of Indiana tax dollars in providing services to residents.

# Website Links

https://www.collegechoicedirect.com/

http://bankonindiana.net/

https://www.in.gov/tos/2743.htm

#### Iowa

Hon. Michael L. Fitzgerald

<u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u> Karen Austin, Deputy Treasurer Email: Karen.austin@iowa.gov

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# **Mission Statement**

Treasurer Fitzgerald is committed to providing lowans with unbiased financial information and education programs that can help improve their lives.

#### **Programs**

# **Iowa Finance Challenge and Economic Challenge**

College Savings Iowa has partnered with the Iowa Council on Economic Education to offer the Finance Challenge and Economic Challenge to Iowa's middle and high school students. These competitions combine an online quiz component with an in-person statewide final. The state final winners attend the two national competitions in May.

# ABCs of Credit Card Finance (The Center for Student Credit Card Education)

Free, structured curriculum offered to educators and designed to help high school students learn how to responsibly use a credit card.

# Partnership with Jump\$tart

Present and participate in the annual financial literacy conference and Money Smart Week.

# **Member of Iowa's Financial Literacy Network**

The Financial Literacy Network is a group of educators, state agencies and public and private organizations committed to reshaping financial education in the state of lowa. The Network discusses financial literacy standards in the classroom, professional development for teachers and financial education for adults.

## Formal Governance

No

# **Funding**

No separate funding.

# Website Links

http://www.iowatreasurer.gov/for citizens/financial education and empowerment/

# Comments

Financial literacy initiatives often emphasize the classroom. Many programs are developed to assist educators in integrating financial concepts into everyday activities and Common Core curricula. Iowa's approach couples this attention on school education with reinforcement of good financial habits and financial wellness in the home. We offer a repository of free online games and mobile apps for teachers to encourage students to play and parents to use with their children. Our newest program introduces parents to the benefits of saving with College Savings Iowa, our 529 plan, which reinforces good saving habits and makes higher education a reality. Our belief is that financial literacy is learned both in the classroom and beyond, and we strive to provide both teachers and parents the tools necessary to achieve this.

#### Kansas

Hon. Jake LaTurner

# <u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u>

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#### **Mission Statement**

Help Kansas citizens make responsible financial decisions by promoting financial growth and healthier families well into the future. Financial knowledge is the key to empowering an individual or family to become more financially secure and independent.

# **Programs**

# Kansas Money.gov (State Bank Commissioner, Kansas Department of Credit Unions, Kansas Department of Revenue, Kansas Attorney General, Securities Commissioner)

Our office partners with the offices of the State Bank Commissioner; Kansas Department of Credit Unions; Kansas Department of Revenue; Kansas Attorney General's office and the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner to support a joint one stop-shop website, KansasMoney.gov, which will provide a collective and efficient method for distribution of financial literacy educational resources provided by Kansas state agencies. Targeted audience: Adults and teenage youth 13

# MoneySmart (Federal Reserve, FDIC, Kansas Credit Unions, Department of Education, etc.)

Our office partners with Money Smart Week Kansas and serves on the Money Smart Kansas Steering Committee. Money Smart Week Kansas initiatives provide a platform for our office to collaborate with financial education providers across Kansas to coordinate campaigns that provide the public with financial education information and resources to assist them in making positive financial decisions.

# Jump\$tart

The office also serves as a partner for the Kansas Jump\$tart Coalition, a 501-c-3 tax-exempt non-profit organization committed to advancing financial literacy among pre-school through college-age youth and working collaboratively toward effective financial education; Both MoneySmart and Jump\$tart have provided great opportunities for financial institutions and educational providers to foster a cooperative, concentrated approach in financial literacy outreach.

#### **Social Media**

Our office maintains a strong social media presence by publishing content centered on topics that may assist Kansans in their everyday finances. Periodically we post The Treasurer's Top 10: A list highlighting businesses and individuals with the most unclaimed property in a specific county. We emphasize higher education and how the Learning Quest 529 Education Savings Program is working to assist Kansas families in their efforts to save for future career education. We share savings tips and post a variety of facts about unclaimed property and encourage Kansans to routinely search.

# Formal Governance

Yes

We have a 501(c) named the Kansas Financial Education Foundation. Kansas Financial Education Foundation is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to help individuals, in all stages of their lives, develop sound financial practices that will enable them to enjoy the benefits and stability of financial well-being.

#### Funding

Government appropriation

#### Website Links

https://www.kansasstatetreasurer.com/prodweb/personal finance/personal finance.php

# Kentucky

Hon. Allison Ball

**Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff** 

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# **Mission Statement**

To create an environment for and advocate for policies that improve the opportunity for Kentuckians to be financially empowered and financially literate.

#### Overview

Since taking office in January 2016, Kentucky State Treasurer Allison Ball has made financial literacy a priority. The Kentucky State Treasurer's Office is on the Jump\$tart Coalition Board in Kentucky and participates annually in Kentucky Saves Week.

In addition, the Treasury releases press releases and op-eds on financial literacy. For social media efforts, the Treasury posts financial literacy tips and participates in campaigns, such as America Saves Week in March, Financial Literacy Month in April, and #ABLEtoSave Month in August.

In 2018, Treasurer Ball launched Kentucky's Financial Empowerment Database and Coalition. In 2019, Treasurer Ball announced plans to establish the Kentucky Financial Empowerment Commission at no cost to taxpayers thanks to a partnership she secured with Kentucky credit unions.

Treasurer Ball has championed important financial literacy legislation in Kentucky with both of these bills garnering bipartisan support. During the Kentucky General Assembly's 2018 Legislative Session, Treasurer Ball supported legislation that would make a financial literacy course or program a graduation

requirement for high school students starting in 2020. During the 2019 Legislative Session, Treasurer Ball supported legislation to establish the Kentucky Financial Empowerment Commission. Both bills became law.

# **Programs**

#### **Financial Empowerment Commission**

Kentucky State Treasurer Allison Ball has created the Kentucky Financial Empowerment Commission to focus on bringing greater financial empowerment to Kentuckians from all walks of life, including seven specific communities within the Commonwealth population on financial literacy. The seven cultivation communities are Aging Kentuckians, Commonwealth Employees, Kentuckians with Disabilities, Low-Income Families, Emerging Adults, Student Strategies, and Veterans and Military Personnel. The legislation establishing the Financial Empowerment Commission was signed into law in March of 2019. Treasurer Ball has secured private funding for this Commission from Kentucky credit unions, allowing the Commission to operate without use of taxpayer dollars.

The Commission will be a 501c3 with the Kentucky State Treasury as its designated state agency and will be governed by a board comprised of 11 members. Three members are ex-officio, three are named expressly by their organization in statute, and five are appointed by the Kentucky State Treasurer. Treasurer Ball will also serve as Chair of the Board.

#### **Online Resource Database**

Kentucky State Treasurer Allison Ball launched a Financial Literacy Online Resource Database in April 2018. The database is a first-of-its-kind in Kentucky and has over 100 resources gathered from financial literacy stakeholders in Kentucky.

# **Financial Literacy Summit**

Kentucky State Treasurer Allison Ball partnered with several Kentucky University Centers for Economic Education to establish an annual summit about financial literacy strategies, updates, initiatives, and teaching techniques that relate to financial literacy and economic empowerment across the Commonwealth. Participants of the annual summit include Financial Empowerment Coalition members, educators, professors, community leaders, etc.

#### **STABLE Kentucky**

In December 2016, Kentucky State Treasurer Allison Ball launched STABLE Kentucky. STABLE Kentucky is Kentucky's ABLE plan that allows individuals with disabilities the ability to save and invest up to \$15,000 per year without losing government benefits such as Medicaid or SSI. Kentucky has partnered with the Ohio STABLE Account program to make this possible for Kentuckians at no additional cost to Kentucky taxpayers. In August of each year, STABLE Kentucky participates in #ABLEtoSave month, a national campaign to elevate awareness of ABLE Accounts started by the ABLE National Resource Center.

#### **Financial Transparency**

In April 2017, Kentucky State Treasurer Allison Ball launched Kentucky's new Transparency Website. This website is a bipartisan, multi-agency effort to provide a more transparent, accountable state government, and to allow constituents the opportunity to discover how tax dollars are being spent to move our state forward. This website provides easily accessible information on: Executive Branch Budget, Judicial Branch Budget, up-to-date salary information for state employees, Kentucky taxes, open

records, ethics, and searchable databases for grants, contracts and line-item expenditures. The launch of this program lead to Kentucky's U.S. PIRG National Transparency Ranking rising 14 spots from #24 to #10 among states.

# **Formal Governance**

The Treasurer's office manages the Financial Empowerment Database. Treasurer Ball will also Chair the Financial Empowerment Commission Board. Additionally, the Kentucky State Treasury has an adhoc committee for STABLE Kentucky. STABLE Kentucky has an eleven member board that is chaired by the Kentucky State Treasurer. The board meets annually to learn updates on the progress of STABLE Kentucky and outreach efforts.

#### **Funding**

The Kentucky State Treasury does not receive any direct program funding at this time for financial literacy initiatives.

# **Website Links**

http://www.treasury.ky.gov

https://treasury.ky.gov/FinancialEmpowerment

http://www.stablekentucky.com

http://www.transparency.ky.gov

# Maine

Hon. Henry Beck

#### **Programs**

The Maine State Treasurer's office has no internal programs related to financial education, but two state instrumentalities for which the State Treasurer is a board member by statute fulfill some related functions:

Finance Authority of Maine: varied financial education efforts: https://www.famemaine.com/education/topics/money-management/

Maine State Housing Authority: first-time homebuyer education: <a href="http://www.mainehomeworks.org/">http://www.mainehomeworks.org/</a>

# Maryland

Hon. Nancy K. Kopp

**Programs** 

**Web Portal** 

# Website Links

https://www.treasurer.state.md.us/financial-literacy.aspx

# Massachusetts

Hon. Deborah B. Goldberg

# Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff

Alayna Van Tassel, Deputy Treasurer and Executive Director of the Office of Economic Empowerment

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#### Mission Statement

The Office of Economic Empowerment is charged with creating, advocating, and facilitating policies that empower all Massachusetts residents. Its policy priorities include increasing access to financial education, closing the gender wage gap, improving college affordability, and promoting STEM education.

#### **Programs**

# **BabySteps Savings Plan**

The BabySteps Savings Plan is Massachusetts' first statewide college savings account program. Through the BabySteps Plan, beginning January 1, 2020, every child born or adopted as a Massachusetts resident will be eligible for a free \$50 deposit into a 529 college savings account. The program is designed to encourage families across the Commonwealth to plan and save from the moment their child is born.

#### **SeedMA**

SeedMA is a universal, seed-funded college savings account program designed to help families prepare for postsecondary education and clear the pathway to college and vocational training for more students in Massachusetts. This program is available to kindergarteners in Worcester and Monson. Every 529 account opened through SeedMA receives a \$50 deposit funded by the Economic Empowerment Trust Fund. Philanthropic donations enable the program to be offered at no cost to taxpayers.

The SeedMA program has three principal goals. First, it aims to increase the percentage of children saving for higher education. Second, it seeks to deliver quality financial education programming to families, while also building a culture of saving and prudent budget management. Third, it strives to inspire economically vulnerable and disadvantaged children to enroll at and graduate from higher education institutions, thereby boosting rates at colleges and vocational training schools. This is a three-year pilot that aims to inform the plans for a statewide college savings account program. The 2018-2019 school year, is the last year of the pilot. Our statewide programto create a statewide college savings account program with an initial deposit of \$50 for each child. Research shows that children with a college savings account are seven times more likely to attend college.

#### **SoarMA**

The SoarMA college savings program is a two-year pilot that offers seventh grade students seed-funded 529 accounts. This initiative looks to help low-income Massachusetts children and families save for postsecondary education and training. The pilot, funded through public-private partnerships, provides a

matched savings program and a financial education curriculum. These accounts are offered through the Office of the Massachusetts State Treasurer and Receiver General, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA), and Inversant.

The SoarMA program will be opened to all eligible seventh graders enrolled in the following middle schools starting in the 2017–2018 school year: Consentino Middle School (Haverhill), Stoklosa Middle School (Lowell), Reid Middle School (Pittsfield), South End Middle School (Springfield), and Worcester East Middle School (Worcester). Enrollment for year one opened on December 1, 2017.

#### Just Ask!

"Just Ask!" is the first in the nation state-wide salary negotiation training program for women. This program will provide women with the tools they need to overcome the negative impacts of wage inequality. This new initiative is launched in collaboration with the Massachusetts Community Colleges Executive Office, the Community Colleges Presidents, the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women. The 15 Massachusetts Community Colleges are the host of the workshops and the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women members are the facilitators. Workshops are free and open to the public. The workshops will use the American Association of University Women's Work Smart and Start Smart curriculum. In 2019, OEE will be adding a digital option for the curriculum in partnership with the AAUW.

## **Women's Economic Empowerment Series**

The Women's Economic Empowerment Series (WEES) consists of free educational sessions that focus on wage negotiation, money management, retirement, and investment strategies for women of all ages, ethnicities, economic backgrounds, and levels of fiscal knowledge. The program typically takes place in two evenings on back-to-back weeks. Participants are invited to take workshops on salary negotiation with American Association of University Women (AAUW) facilitators trained on the Work Smart and Start Smart curriculums or financial education workshops led by Citizens Bank volunteers. The workshops are free and open to the public. OEE typically partners with a community organization in order to facilitate outreach for the event and workshop selection. The intention of the workshops is to provide women with access to financial education and wage negotiation skills to help mitigate issues that lead to the gender wage gap. In 2019, OEE is seeking to also offer the curriculum digitally to allow more women to attend the workshops.

# Financial Education Fair Innovation Fund (Credit for Life Fairs)

Beginning in 2015, the State Treasurer's Office and the Division of Banks, has provided funding to high schools across Massachusetts through the Financial Education Innovation Fund. The awards are funded through the Division of Banks' settlements over alleged unlawful lending practices to create or expand 'Credit for Life' fairs. These fairs are an interactive and effective way to teach critical financial skills like saving, spending, and budgeting to high school students. Participants simulate the day-to-day budgetary decisions they will face based on assigned financial situations, including finding an affordable housing and saving for retirement. The Office of Economic Empowerment provides support, informational and financial, to high schools looking to offer a financial education fair to their student body.

#### **Operation Money Wise**

Military personnel, veterans, and their families face unique personal financial challenges. Operation Money Wise is a grant opportunity for non-profit organization, public agencies and Massachusetts institutions of higher education. The grant is used to provide financial education to veterans, service members and their families with information on money management, planning for college, and saving

for retirement. Grantee receive detailed guidance, advice, and training from the Office of Economic Empowerment and the Operation Money Wise Committee. Operation Money Wise was previously a free annual financial empowerment conference offered to the military community. The new format has allowed for increased outreach to service members, veterans, and their families. Many of these regional workshops included strategy sessions on managing money, planning for college, preparing for retirement, and monetary decision-making.

#### MyFinancialLifeMA

In April 2017, MyFinancialLifeMA.org was launched, an innovative resource that guides constituents through life's financial challenges. A digital complement to OEE's in-person programming, MyFinancialLifeMA enables on-the-go access to financial education. The site is designed around personal identities and life stages (women, veterans, high school students, twenties and thirties, families with children, couples facing marriage and divorce, and seniors) thus allowing for tailored, timely financial education. Some of the site's resources have been translated into other languages to meet the needs of the state's diverse population.

# **EqualPayMA**

EqualPayMA.com is a robust digital platform designed to help close the wage gap. The website was built around several innovative features for constituents: a wage gap calculator, a business toolkit, and an anonymous email platform. To date, the calculator—which allows users to calculate their wage gaps by age, race, and industry—remains the most popular aspect of the site. Analytics indicate that around 50% of all site traffic is contained within the calculator. The business toolkit, which guides employers through implementing gender equitable practices in the workplace, has been used as a resource all over the world. 99 anonymous emails have been sent to employers, encouraging they look at internal pay gaps and other issues around gender equality.

# **Financial Literacy Workshops for Seniors**

In partnership with People's United Bank and community partners across Massachusetts, the Office of Economic Empowerment hosts financial literacy workshops that help protect elders from financial exploitation. Led by instructors from the Bank, participants engage in curriculum focused on fraud and scam prevention, banking, credit, saving, financial recovery, and other topics. The FDIC's Money Smart for Older Adults program is the basis of the program. Community partners include local Councils on Aging, senior centers, and non-profit organizations in cities and towns across the state.

#### **Women in Finance Fellowship**

In 2016, Treasurer Goldberg launched the Massachusetts Women in Finance Fellowship, a new program for undergraduate women interested in the financial field. Following resounding success in 2016 and 2017, OEE welcome its third cohort of fellows in June 2018.

For the past three summers, fellows have been placed in various Treasury departments (Administration, Debt Management, Pension Reserves Investment Management, Massachusetts State Lottery Commission, and Massachusetts School Building Authority) to fulfill a paid opportunity for ten weeks. Program objectives include identifying and training prospective female employees for the financial industry, building a network and pipeline of talent, and advocating for more women in leadership roles.

# Formal Governance

Yes

# **Economic Empowerment Trust Fund**

The Economic Empowerment Trust Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, chaired by the State Treasurer, that was created pursuant to Section 35QQ of Chapter 10 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The fund serves as a valuable tool within the Massachusetts State Treasury to make a meaningful difference in the lives of residents across the Commonwealth. The Economic Empowerment Trust Fund allows for improved collaboration between the myriad of programs that fall within the broader theme of economic empowerment, and consolidates the resources available for each. It also has the flexibility to leverage public-private partnerships in order to develop innovative programming with real, scalable impact.

#### **Board Mission Statement:**

The Economic Empowerment Trust Fund goal is to promote the long-term economic security and stability of all Massachusetts residents. Its mission is to educate and provide the resources and opportunities for people of all-ages to empower themselves, with access to the knowledge and tools to make informed decisions throughout their lives. Through the Trust Fund, in collaboration with other public agencies and community based organizations, we will create and support programs, policies, and capacities that achieve these goals. Our priorities include financial education, closing the gender wage gap, college affordability, and promoting STEM education. Programmatic goals of the Trust Fund are implemented through the Massachusetts Treasurer's Office of Economic Empowerment.

## **Funding**

The Office of Economic Empowerment is funded through a line-item in the Commonwealth's annual operating budget.

The Economic Empowerment Trust Fund can receive contributions and grants to fund programs. It does not receive an appropriation in the budget.

Website Links

MyFinancialLifeMA.org EqualPayMA.com

http://www.mass.gov/treasury/empowerment/

# Michigan

Hon. Rachael Eubanks

<u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u>

Anne Wohlfert, Director, Student Financial Services Bureau (SFSB)

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Tel. 517-335-7342

#### Mission Statement

To ensure that Michigan's citizens have the information and resources necessary to make sound decisions about financing college.

#### **Programs**

The state's Outreach unit provides a range of college access services and programs to students, parents, community organizations, and training programs for high school counselors, and financial aid

administrators in order to help individuals gain access to postsecondary education. This includes awareness of student financial aid programs as well as consumer education. We provide FAFSA completion services, borrower assistance, ombudsman support and a range of programs on budgeting, planning based on award letters, and paying for college tips. Campus and Collegiate Reality workshops are offered as early as middle school.

Michigan has several 529 savings plans programs including; 1) Michigan Education Trust (MET) a prepaid tuition program, Michigan Education Savings Program (MESP) a college savings program and Michigan Advisor Sold (MAP) which is a broker sold MESP account.

Michigan also has a program under 529A, for disabled citizens under the Achieving a Better Life Experience act (ABLE). In Michigan, the MI ABLE program offers the highest maximum contribution rate (\$500,000). A Considerable amount of Outreach in done to providers who offer services to the disabled in our population.

# Formal Governance

Yes

The 529 programs fall under both Federal 529 legislation and Public Act 316 of 1986 under the direction of the MET Board of Directors. MI ABLE is founded in federal legislation for a 529A program and Michigan Public Act 160 of 2015. Our general outreach activities are authorized under the Federal Higher Education Act of 1975 and are directed by Treasury's Student Financial Assistance Bureau.

#### **Funding**

Varies per program.

#### Website Links

For more information visit: <a href="www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid">www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid</a> which will take you to all general information and will link you to specific programs like MET.

You may also want to visit Michigan's Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) site at <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/difs">www.michigan.gov/difs</a> for more information on how citizens can build their financial future, plan for retirement and/or how to find a qualified financial planner.

# Minnesota

Hon. Myron Frans

#### Programs

No financial literacy efforts under the Commisioner's Office.

# Mississippi

Hon. Lynn Fitch

<u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u>

Emelia Nordan, College Savings Plans and Policy Director

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# Mission Statement

The Treasurer's Education About Money (TEAM) initiative seeks to change Mississippi's financial culture. TEAM will empower Mississippians to achieve their life goals through the prudent and informed management of their finances. TEAM will enhance the availability of personal finance educational tools and training for schools, our workforce, and consumers through public-private-nonprofit partnerships.

#### **Programs**

**TEAM** aims to leverage partnerships and private funding sources to bring financial literacy education to Mississippi schools—for teachers and students. TEAM also provides, via the Treasurer's website, a multitude of additional free resources and links, including Federal Reserve of St. Louis resources and VISA Financial Football, among others. These resources are not meant to replace the services provided by EverFi and MCEE but to complement their efforts. We strive to provide Mississippians with as many credible financial literacy resources as possible.

TEAM works through a web-based interactive learning platform, powered by EverFi, which allows students to complete modules on classroom computers, or even on their mobile devices at home. The program teaches and assesses students in financial literacy through 3D gaming, sophisticated animation and video, and other interactive technologies. (Our initial focus is on Mississippi High Schools but hope to expand the initiative to include all Mississippians as more funding becomes available.); ii. Teacher training is another essential part of the TEAM effort. Professional teacher training, provided by MS Council on Economic Education (MCEE), centered on financial literacy will ensure uniform adoption and sustainability of enhanced personal finance education in our schools.

# Formal Governance

Yes

The TEAM governance structure is a combination of several entities. TEAM has an advisory committee whose members consist of TEAM Partners and The Office of the State Treasurer. We also have TEAM service providers, Everfi, a for-profit company provides the online financial literacy program, and MCEE, a 501(c)(3) which provides financial literacy training for teachers kindergarten through 12th grade. While EverFi and MCEE are chiefly responsible for implementing the TEAM program and training, the advisory committee structure is used to guide the effort, ensure accountability, and leverage TEAM partnerships.

#### **Funding**

The TEAM initiative leverages private dollars, public support from the Treasurer and her team, and implementation by entities with proven track records for success. TEAM seeks to engage as many stakeholders as possible, including partners in all regions of the state, and beyond, to achieve and sustain the TEAM effort; The TEAM initiative utilizes sponsorship dollars to fund the program. The Everfi online program and MCEE teacher training is provided, free of charge, to students and teachers.

#### Website Links

http://www.treasurerlynnfitch.com/TEAM/Pages/default.aspx

# Missouri

Hon. Scott Fitzpatrick

<u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u>

Brandon Alexander, Deputy Chief of Staff

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Tel. (573) 298-1654

## Mission Statement

Treasurer Fitzpatrick aims to empower Missourians with the information, skills, and habits to be financially successful.

# **Programs**

The State Treasurer's Office has partnered with the Missouri Bankers Association and the Missouri Council of Economic Educators to organize the Missouri Personal Finance Workshop, which provides resources and training to personal finance teachers from across Missouri. The Office also partners actively with the St. Louis Federal Reserve and their financial education department to help Missourians develop personal finance skills.

#### Website Links

https://treasurer.mo.gov/financial-literacy/Default

# Nebraska

Hon. John Murante

**Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff** 

Charles Isom, Director of Communications

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Tel. 402-471-8884

# Mission Statement

Nebraska NEST Financial Scholars benefits students, parents, and the State of Nebraska as the State Treasurer's Office provides Nebraska young people with the financial information they need to live out their dreams as financially responsible adults and as the Treasurer's Office provides families the information and tools they need to build the financial foundation where these dreams can take hold.

NEST Financial Scholars reaches across the state and reinforces the Treasurer's strong belief that financial knowledge is an essential piece of a well-rounded education. Treasurer Stenberg believes basic financial knowledge is critical to the state's goal of developing financially responsible, productive citizens who can move our state and our economy forward and who will be able to manage their own finances and their families' finances in an increasingly complex financial system as smart, well-informed consumers and investors.

The Nebraska Treasurer's Office was pleased to be invited to present at the Financial Education and Empowerment Track at the NAST Treasury Management Training Symposium in May 2017 in Minneapolis. The Nebraska Treasurer's Office also was highlighted on the NAST Financial Literacy State Spotlight page in January 2018 on the NAST website. <a href="https://nast.org/state-spotlight-nebraska-financial-literacy-program/">https://nast.org/state-spotlight-nebraska-financial-literacy-program/</a>

#### **Programs**

#### **Nebraska NEST Financial Scholars for Students**

Nebraska NEST Financial Scholars is offered through an agreement with EverFi, Inc., an educational technology company in Washington, D.C. The initiative is sponsored by the Nebraska Educational Savings Trust (NEST), Nebraska's state-sponsored college savings program. Treasurer Stenberg is Trustee of NEST.

Nebraska NEST Financial Scholars is a financial education program directed at Nebraska high school students and their families. One component of the program provides an interactive, web-based educational program to Nebraska high schools at no cost to schools or the students. The EverFi course includes six hours of programming on financial topics including credit cards, credit scores, insurance, mortgages, savings, stocks student loans, taxes, and 401k plans.

A total of 6,643 students in 132 high schools in Nebraska took part in the EverFi course in the 2016-17 school year, the fourth year of the program. The knowledge gain was an average 63 percent based on pre- and post-testing.

#### **Nebraska NEST Financial Scholars for Families**

A second component called Nebraska NEST Financial Scholars for Families provides parents and grandparents with a web-based tutorial on financing their children's higher education and on learning about investing through 529 college savings plans. The tutorial can be accessed through the State Treasurer's website at no charge to the users. It is available to college savers nationwide. This program was the subject of a case study prepared by EverFi to use as a model for others. The case study can be accessed at <a href="https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/financial-literacy/">https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/financial-literacy/</a>.

# **Vault-Understanding Money**

Vault - Understanding Monday is an online financial education program for elementary and middle school students developed by EverFi. The Treasurer's Office introduced this program and made it available to the first 200 schools to sign up in fall 2016. The program is offered at no charge to the schools or the students through the Nebraska Educational Savings Trust.

Vault features six learning groups that focus on skill building and decision making, from learning how to control spending to seeking advice from trusted adults. The program takes two and one-half hours to complete. Topics include responsible money choices, income and careers, planning and money management, credit and borrowing, insurance and safety, savings and investing.

In the 2016-17 school year, a total of 3,178 students in 68 schools took part in the Vault program. The students in the Vault program increased their knowledge by an average of 33 percent, showing the greatest gains in the areas of responsible money choices and savings and investing.

#### **Personal Finance Challenge**

A significant aspect of Nebraska's financial literacy initiative is its informal partnership with the Nebraska Council on Economic Education, headquartered at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Through this partnership, the Nebraska Educational Savings Trust awards NEST scholarships to winners in the statewide Personal Finance Challenge competition for high school students. Each member of the first-place team in Nebraska receives a \$2,000 NEST savings account, each member of the second-place team receives a \$1,000 NEST savings account, and each member of the third-place team receives a \$500 college savings account. A team usually is made up of four students.

For the past three years, the Treasurer has been featured in a video that was sent to schools, encouraging teachers and students to take part. The video can be viewed at <a href="https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/financial-literacy/">https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/financial-literacy/</a>.

A second video on the Financial Literacy page highlights the National Personal Finance Challenge, which, for the first time, will take place at the College of Business at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln on May 11, 2018. The Nebraska Educational Savings Trust will award NEST college savings accounts to the first-, second-, and third-place winners in the national competition. Last year, one of the smallest schools in Nebraska, Arthur County High School, took third place in the national competition.

The site of the 2018 national event was announced February 22, 2018, at a news conference at the UNL College of Business. The news conference featured Treasurer Stenberg, as well as the Dean Kathy Farrell of the UNL College of Business and Jennifer Davidson, president of the Nebraska Council on Economic Education. This collaboration adds another partner, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, to our financial education initiative. <a href="https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/default.aspx?story=432">https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/default.aspx?story=432</a>

#### Outreach

As part of our financial literacy initiative, the Treasurer hosts students in the Treasurer's Capitol office, visits schools, presents certificates to students who have completed the programs in school certification ceremonies, reaches out to home school families, and writes letters to teachers and administrators, encouraging them to use our programs and thanking them for their support. We are planning a roundtable discussion with students at Arlington High School and a presentation with Vault students at Johnson Crossing Academic Center in Fremont in April of 2018. To date, the Treasurer has visited and met with students in 18 schools in Nebraska.

## **Formal Governance**

The Nebraska Treasurer's financial literacy program is a component of the Nebraska Educational Savings Trust, a division of the State Treasurer's Office.

#### Funding

The program is funded by fees paid by account owners in the Nebraska Educational Savings Trust, our state-sponsored 529 college savings program. The Treasurer's Office continues to seek funding from private organizations and foundations to expand the programs and make sure the programs continue.

#### Website Links

Financial Literacy Webpage: <a href="https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/financial-literacy/">https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/financial-literacy/</a>

College Savings page on Nebraska State Treasurer's Website: https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/csp/

# **News Releases**

Stenberg Touts Success of Financial Literacy Program https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/2017/0801/

Treasurer Stenberg Honors Arthur County High School Finance Challenge Team at Capitol Event https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/2017/0601/

Nebraska Team Takes 3<sup>rd</sup> in Nation in Personal Finance Challenge https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/2017/0507/

Arthur County High School Takes Top Place at State Personal Finance Challenge <a href="https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/2017/0421/">https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/2017/0421/</a>

Teams from 11 Nebraska High Schools to Compete April in Personal Finance Challenge in Lincoln, Omaha, Kearney

https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/2017/0417/

Stenberg Advises Grand Island 6<sup>th</sup> Graders to 'Spend Less than You Earn' https://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/2017/0412/

# Nevada

Hon. Zach Conine

Tel. 702-486-3955

# <u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u>

Sheila Salehian, Deputy Treasurer Email: sasalehian@nevadatreasurer.gov

Beth Yeatts, Senior Deputy Treasurer - South Email: bayeatts@nevadatreasurer.gov Tel. 702-486-3889

# Mission Statement

Financial illiteracy has a negative and lasting impact on individuals, their families, the state, and the economy as a whole. We must work collaboratively with community partners to improve the financial literacy of the public we serve.

#### **Programs**

**Financial Literacy Teacher Summits** 

Senate Bill 249 requiring financial literacy to be taught in grades 3-12 was passed in the State of Nevada in June 2017. This is the first time many teachers will be responsible for teaching this area of study and therefore the Treasurer's Office completed Teacher Summits in May 2018 (Reno and Las Vegas) to support the teachers and administrators. National Speakers were brought in to share information on why Financial Literacy is a critical skill in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

These conferences were very well received and may be conducted in the future in partnership with the Department of Education and others. All Treasurer administered college savings 529 plan information and state scholarships were shared with the teachers as part of the college and career readiness information they will need to use to facilitate meaningful conversations in their classrooms as required by SB249.

# **Financial Literacy Website to Support SB249 Summits**

The College Savings Board approved development of the new website which houses all presentations given at the May 2018 conferences as well as useful resources for parents, students and teachers. This website will be used with the newly formed Nevada Financial Literacy consortium for all Nevada Financial Literacy partners and providers to use and contribute to in the coming months. The website can be accessed by the URL below.

http://policyapplied.org/nevads-financial-literacy-center/

Upcoming Goals for this draft website:

- To be a resource for teachers and students to find valuable lesson information, including age
  appropriate curriculum on the college savings programs and scholarships administered by the
  Treasurer's Office as required by SB249.
- To contain valuable links to important college planning websites for parents, students and teachers as they help their students prepare for higher education. (FAFSA, scholarships, grants, etc.)
- To contain links to other government agencies that offer financial literacy curriculum such as mymoney.gov and FDIC.gov.
- Eventually, all 529 Plans and Scholarships will be turned into age appropriate curriculum for teachers to download in support of the 'College and Career Preparedness' Nevada Academic Standards for Social Studies as required by SB249.

# Financial Literacy & College Savings for Families of Children with Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) or 504 Plans & Financial Literacy & College Savings for Military and Veteran Families

This is an Online Learning Management System approach to Connecting Families of Children with IEPs or 504 Plans in Nevada and/or Military Families to Generational Financial Stability through Financial Literacy and College Savings Resources. The goal of this pilot program is to increase access for families with children who have disabilities, and/or to identify families with dependent children who qualify for the Distinguished Valor Match Funding offered by the State of Nevada Treasurer's Office in conjunction with the Nevada 529 College Savings Partner, USAA. Additionally, the participants will receive information about the Nevada College Kick Start Program in both the survey and the online training course. The goal is to provide free financial literacy materials, resources, and support services in addition to providing information and access to college saving resources, leading to 529 enrollments, and increasing the number of claimed Nevada College Kick Start accounts.

• The pilot will survey families on financial literacy and college savings questions which align with post training survey questions to measure financial literacy knowledge gains resulting from taking online financial literacy and college savings training.

- Serve up to 125 families chosen from survey with online training consisting of financial planning, banking and lending options, college savings, budgeting, and debt reduction.
- This course sits on the Learning Management Platform, which incorporates customized branding specifically for the State Treasurer's Office with College Savings Program resources and contact information. The training course will have interactive learning opportunities for each of the substantive topic areas as well as quizzes and assessments.

The course is being reviewed by Treasurer staff and is expected to be live by May 2019.

# School Savings & Saving for College (SchoolSavings.com)

This pilot program is happening in two schools in the 2018-2019 school year and is teaching kids to save for college by making deposits, AT SCHOOL, *into their saving or 529 account*. By saving early and regularly, many students can save enough for tuition at a community college. Student loan debt has sky-rocked to more than \$1.5 trillion! The goal is to help reverse this trend by creating a culture of "saving" within our families and schools. Save For America School Savings™ is a thirty-five (35) year-old social enterprise that helps children learn to save by accepting their saving deposits and those of their faculty AT SCHOOL. Approved by the US Department of Education as a national financial literacy model for grades K-8, its goal is to re-instill the saving ethic in youth and help them save for college. A secure, cloud-based school banking system collects deposits, manages banking operations and credits the students' accounts electronically through the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. Volunteers deliver the student funds to a local financial institution. Manual deposit processing is ELIMINATED.

Pending funding approval, this program will continue to expand as it has resulted in many new 529 College Savings Plan accounts in the two pilot schools in the short time since it was launched fall 2018.

#### **Create Financial Literacy Coalition**

The State Treasurer's Office has contracted the services of a professional Financial Literacy consultant that include: formation and oversight of both a financial literacy coalition and online clearinghouse, and, to develop criteria to evaluate, recommend and report on both current and future financial literacy programs. The consultant has assembled a group of community leaders and stakeholders to participate in the Treasurer's Office Financial Literacy coalition in 2019. Draft goals for the coalition are listed below.

- Identify companies and nonprofit organizations that are providing financial literacy services to Nevadan's currently, to include on the coalition.
- Summarize the work that is being done in the state by the participants, partners and nonprofit organizations and the groups that they serve.
- Work with a nonprofit consultant to determine what the current needs are (Services being provided – gaps) in Nevada with respect to financial literacy for adults and children via survey methodology with published white paper results
- Assemble recommendations to be presented to the coalition and the State Treasurer, which will be used to formulate a statewide strategic plan

#### Formal Governance

Nevada does not have a formal governance as far as working strictly with 501© (3) organizations, however that is primarily who we have partnered with over the past 6 years to deliver the programs we have financially supported and sponsored.

#### **Funding**

Our Financial Literacy dollars are NOT TAXPAYER money, they are part of the College Savings Endowment Fees we receive from our College Savings 529 Partners, and by statute, can be used to educate Nevadan's about the 529 college savings opportunities and programs we offer. The College Savings Board of Nevada has approved \$175,000 to be spent annually in support of Financial Literacy outreach efforts and AB475 added the appropriation to law in June 2017.

#### Website Links

Nevada does not currently have a dedicated website, but here are "pages" on our other sites:

http://www.nevadatreasurer.gov/Sites/Students/

http://policyapplied.org/nevadas-financial-literacy-center/

# **New Hampshire**

Hon. Bill Dwyer

**Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff** 

Kimothy C. Griffin, Investigator

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#### Mission Statement

The New Hampshire Banking Department is committed to protecting the public's interest through professional supervision of the financial services we regulate. Our vision is to be an innovative and exemplary leader in financial services regulation.

#### **Programs**

**CU4Reality**: financial education fairs sponsored by America's Credit Union Museum. The NH Banking Department participates with New Hampshire state - chartered credit unions to hold events at NH public schools. The events are targeted towards middle and high school students. Each student selects a career and researches educational requirements, pay-scales, and other pertinent information regarding the career selected. The student then attends an event where the student is required to make real life purchasing decisions and complete a budget worksheet. The program's goal is to provide real life financial experiences to our students, preparing them for the future.

Ca\$h Coalition of NH, Creating Assets, \$avings, and Hope: The coalition consists of public, private, federal, and state agencies that provide services to low and moderate income individuals and families. Services provided by the coalition include savings programs, housing services, fuel assistance, financial literacy training, tax return preparation, education advice, employment advice, and other such assistance.

**America Saves:** This is the first year the Banking Department has participated in the America Saves program, coordinated by the Consumer Federation of America. The program is "dedicated to helping individuals save money, reduce debt, and build wealth."

In the near future, the Department is considering partnering with the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority to bring first-time homeownership counselling services to consumers, before they purchase a home. The Department is also considering developing outreach programs for the elderly on issues such as reverse mortgages and current fraud techniques that target seniors.

# Formal Governance

No

# **Funding**

The Department has limited funding allocated through its authorized state budget.

#### Website Links

http://www.nh.gov/banking/consumer-assistance/index.htm

http://www.nh.gov/banking/consumer-assistance/information.htm#bcissues

# **New Jersey**

Hon. Elizabeth Maher Muoio

#### **Programs**

No financial literacy efforts under the State Treasurer's Office.

#### **New Mexico**

Hon. Tim Eichenberg

#### **Programs**

Currently no financial literacy efforts under the State Treasurer's Office.

# **North Carolina**

Hon. Dale Folwell

# **Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff**

Mary Buonfiglio

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# **Mission Statement**

The North Carolina Department of State Treasurer seeks to provide ample resources and opportunities for practical financial literacy education in matters that relate to the work of the Department of State Treasurer.

#### **Programs**

# **Retirement Systems Division (RSD)**

RSD provides multiple ways for prospective retirees to learn more about financial planning required for retirement. The Retirement Readiness Tool is an online resource that helps future retirees create a financial plan for their retirement. Furthermore, our RSD outreach team conducts meetings across the state for those who will soon be facing retirement. The Department of the State Treasurer has also led an education campaign about the connection between the pension's unfunded liabilities and future needs for funding schools, roads, safety and other government functions. The Retirement Systems

Division also maintains an online tool, ORBIT, that allows retirees or those planning their retirement to educate themselves on the options that are available to them. This, in conjunction with outreach events and on-site counselors, helps educate state employees on financial literacy relating to retirement and retirement readiness.

#### State Health Plan (SHP)

A recent redesign of the health insurance card and the Explanation of Benefits (EOB) used by North Carolina state employees creates awareness that the Plan is self-funded by North Carolina taxpayers, meaning that every member of the Plan should stand guard against fraud and abuse as it not only hurts the Plan, but also the taxpayers who fund it. Furthermore, the State Health Plan conducts outreach meetings across the State to help members utilize the Plan better by understanding the many benefits it provides. The Department of the State Treasurer has also led an education campaign about the connection between the health Plan's unfunded liabilities AND future needs for funding schools, roads, safety and other government functions.

#### State & Local Government (SLG)

The State and Local Government Finance Division, which includes the Local Government Commission, is the Treasurer Department's arm that deals with local governments' finances. The SLG sends out coaching teams to counties and cities across the state that are dealing with financial difficulties. They offer plans to help return these local units to fiscal solvency and educate them on how to avoid such difficulties in the future.

# **Unclaimed Property Division (UPD)**

The Unclaimed Property Division (UPD) exists to reconnect North Carolinians with their lost money. This involves educating the public on 1) UPD's existence and purpose, and 2) how people can connect with them to reclaim their property. These efforts bring to light the process of escheats and the fact that people may have money owed to them by the state that they did not know about.

#### North Carolina Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Program

North Carolina's ABLE Program allows people with disabilities to save money in a tax-advantaged NC ABLE account, while maintaining Medicaid, SSI and other supports. This valuable program gives people who are especially vulnerable the opportunity to learn about the importance of saving money and a means for doing so. Furthermore, the ABLE Program holds outreach events to educate eligible individual and families about the benefits of the program.

# **North Carolina Financial Literacy Council**

The North Carolina Department of State Treasurer maintains a seat on the North Carolina Financial Literacy Council, which was founded in 2009 to "monitor and assist" public school systems to deliver financial education statewide. The Council also "identif[ies] programs designed to increase the financial literacy of North Carolinians outside the public school system, and work[s] to expand access to financial education resources and programs in communities across North Carolina." Containing 18 members from government agencies, universities, and the private sector, the Council is a great way for the Department of State Treasurer to provide additional resources for financial literacy education in the public schools.

# **North Carolina State Board of Education**

State Treasurer Dale Folwell is a member of the North Carolina State Board of Education, which oversees the State's public school system. Treasurer Folwell uses this position to promote financial literacy

education within the State's Department of Public Instruction and local school districts whenever possible.

# **North Dakota**

Hon. Kelly Schmidt

<u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u> Inquiries may be sent to treasurer@nd.gov

Tel. 701-328-2643

# **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to prepare North Dakotans for a lifetime of financial responsibility through engaging financial literacy educational programs delivered at no cost to schools or taxpayers.

# **Programs**

Financial Football/Soccer

#### **North Dakota Jump\$tart Coalition**

**Everfi, an education technology partnership,** the Office of State Treasurer has partnered with local businesses and financial institutions to bring an opportunity to every North Dakota student at no cost to our local schools or our North Dakota taxpayers.

**ND Newspaper Association**, monthly financial literacy articles published throughout the state.

# Formal Governance

No

#### **Funding**

The Office of State Treasurer is partnering with local businesses and financial institutions to bring this opportunity to every North Dakota student at no cost to our local schools or our North Dakota taxpayers.

# Website Links

http://www.nd.gov/treasurer/financial-literacy/

# Ohio

Hon. Robert Sprague

**Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff** 

Andrew Yogmour, Director of Financial Literacy Programs

Email: andrew.yogmour@tos.ohio.gov

Tel. (614) 995-4509

#### Mission Statement

Treasurer Robert Sprague recently took office and adopted the following office wide mission statement:

To be trusted stewards of Ohio's Treasury, wise investors in Ohio's future, and bold innovators committed to improving people's lives.

# **Programs**

The Sprague administration is currently in the process of restructuring and bolstering financial literacy programs focused on keeping student loan debt low and helping students begin their adult lives on strong financial footing.

The Ohio Treasurer's office also provides continuing education to Ohio's public funds managers and their oversight authorities through the Center for Public Investment Management (CPIM). In order to earn required continuing education hours, public funds managers can participate in the Ohio Treasurer's CPIM Academy and other in-person and on-line CPIM courses offered or accredited by the Treasurer's office.

# Formal Governance

N/A

#### **Funding**

The office dedicates funding for the Department of Financial Literacy Programs, which is responsible for developing policy related to the topic. CPIM operates through a state dedicated and fee based funding structure.

#### Website Links

Financial literacy program information will be posted on the Treasurer's website as policies are developed: www.tos.ohio.gov

Information on CPIM can be found at: <a href="https://www.tos.ohio.gov/cpim">www.tos.ohio.gov/cpim</a>

#### Oklahoma

Hon. Randy McDaniel

# <u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u>

Andrew Messer, Deputy Treasurer

Email: Andrew.Messer@treasurer.ok.gov

Tel: (405) 521-4504

#### Mission Statement

State Treasurer Randy McDaniel has made financial literacy a high priority for the office. As the State's Chief Elected Financial Officer, the Treasurer advocates for financial education to empower individuals to take control of their financial lives and plan for a prosperous future.

#### **Programs**

The Treasurer's office administers the state 529 plan, Oklahoma College Savings Plan, and 529A program, Oklahoma STABLE. Additionally, the office partners with the Oklahoma Council on Economic Education and Jump\$tart Coalition to promote personal finance and economic education in Oklahoma.

# Website Links

Oklahoma College Savings Plan: www.ok4saving.org

Oklahoma STABLE: <a href="https://okstable.org/">https://okstable.org/</a>

Oklahoma Council on Economic Education: https://econisok.org

# Oregon

Hon. Tobias Read

<u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u>

Kim Olson, Policy Director

Email: kim.olson@ost.state.or.us

Tel: (503) 373-7609

# Mission Statement

Financial security and economic growth to ensure opportunity for all Oregonians.

Financial Security: Oregonians' quality of life is tied to their financial confidence and stability. Our goal is to equip Oregonians with the knowledge they need to make sound financial decisions in their day-to-day lives (education) and help them plan for their long-term goals (empowerment).

*Economic Growth:* The State's ability to provide support, and workers' ability to make financial plans are directly related to the economic climate. Our goal is to make sound investments with public funds and be a good steward of public lands, helping to position Oregon as a sustainable, dynamic, and forward-looking place to live and work.

Opportunity for all Oregonians: Programs aimed at financial security, accompanied by robust economic growth makes for an excellent recipe, but everyone must be invited to the table. Our goal is to ensure opportunity is accessible to all Oregonians, regardless of income or geography.

# **Programs**

The Treasurer's office runs three major programs with financial education elements: OregonSaves, Oregon College Savings Plan, and the Oregon ABLE Savings Plan.

The Oregon Savings Network (encompassing all three savings plans) mission statement is: "Improving Oregon's financial capabilities by empowering all Oregonians to save today for tomorrow." All programs seek to turn non-savers into savers through increased awareness and understanding of the Network's savings plans, and by removing barriers to saving. The network offers live presentations and marketing materials across the state to promote the program and encourage saving.

The goal of OregonSaves is to provide an auto-IRA retirement savings option to the approximately 1 million Oregonians lacking access to an employer-sponsored retirement savings plan. The program is rolling out to Oregon businesses in tranches from 2017-2020. The program will execute statewide outreach and engagement and lay the groundwork for long-term operations. Staff offer live presentations across the state to businesses and organizations interested in learning more. As part of the program, OregonSaves provides financial education resources for employers and workers. This includes partnership with two Oregon-based non-profits to provide workplace financial education

training, as well as online tools, such as a <u>simple retirement calculator</u> and <u>links</u> to resources and other organizations that can assist with coaching, personal finance, housing, tax assistance and other finance-related topics. OregonSaves is currently partnering with the Common Cents Lab at Duke University and Commonwealth to research ways the program can better integrate behavioral economics methodology to reach new savers.

The Treasurer's office is a Founding Member and current Board Chair of the Oregon Jump\$tart Coalition, hosting quarterly networking meetings for individuals and organizations that provide financial literacy programming throughout Oregon. In addition, the Oregon College Savings Plan partners with Financial Beginnings to provide financial literacy to Oregon schools. As the key sponsor of Financial Beginnings' elementary curriculum, the plan finances the Moonjars distributed to schoolchildren by the program.

#### Formal Governance

We do not have a formal governance structure for the financial education programs. The individual programs have the following formal governance structures:

- 1) OregonSaves is governed by the seven-member Oregon Retirement Savings Board, which is chaired by the Treasurer. Ascensus serves as the program manager. The Board and Ascensus develop and execute marketing, outreach, and financial education strategies.
- 2) Oregon College Savings Plan and Oregon ABLE Savings Plan are governed by the same fivemember Oregon Savings Network Board. The network is currently transitioning to a new program manager, BNY Mellon. The Board will work with the BNY Mellon's Sumday team to develop and execute marketing, outreach, and financial education strategies.

# **Funding**

The funding for financial education initiatives is tied to the individual programs.

# Website Links

Information about the individual programs can be found at the following websites:

OregonSaves: https://www.oregonsaves.com/; http://www.oregon.gov/retire/Pages/index.aspx;

Oregon College Savings Plan: https://www.oregoncollegesavings.com/

Oregon ABLE Savings Plan: http://oregonablesavings.com/

# Pennsylvania

Hon. Joe Torsella

# Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff

Anne DeCecco, Policy Specialist Email: adececco@patreasury.gov Tel. 717-705-5825

#### Mission Statement

We seek to promote financial literacy of Pennsylvanians through productive partnerships like the Missing Semester Program and through the consumer savings programs Treasury offers.

# **Programs**

In October 2018, PA Treasury became an official partner of the Missing Semester program. The financial literacy program is designed for high school students and is based on "The Missing Semester," a book written by Eugene Natali, Jr. and Matt Kabala. It covers topics such as saving and compound interest, building good credit history, and planning for major expenses.

The program is available to all Pennsylvania schools that wish to participate. To date, 206 school have registered for 2019. Teacher trainings occur twice annually. Thirty-two teachers attended a teacher training in September 2018 and 82 attended the March 2019 training.

Treasury's support of this program is non-monetary and the program is free to schools. PA Treasury has promoted the program and provided a speaker at teacher trainings. In addition, Treasury's provides use of its logo on student certificates and other program material. Other program partners include the CFA Institute and C.S. McKee, the investment management firm where Mr. Natali is Senior Vice President. Penn State Behrend is conducting and analyzing pre and post tests to measure the efficacy of the program.

In addition, Treasury also uses social media to spread awareness about programs that are available to Pennsylvanians like the PA 529 College and Career Savings Program, the PA ABLE Savings Program, Keystone Scholars, and unclaimed property.

In Pennsylvania, the Department of Banking and Securities is the agency that is the lead on financial literacy, and we coordinate with them on some additional financial literacy efforts, like the Missing Semester. They do have a website with many resources for consumers: <a href="https://www.dobs.pa.gov/For%20Media/Pages/Publications-and-Reports.aspx">https://www.dobs.pa.gov/For%20Media/Pages/Publications-and-Reports.aspx</a>

# Formal Governance

N/A

#### **Funding**

Costs are de minimus and come from our general operating budget.

## Website Links

None

# **Rhode Island**

Hon. Seth Magaziner

# **Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff**

Charon Rose, Director of Outreach and Constituent Relations

Email: Charon.Rose@treasury.ri.gov

Tel. 401-222-2404

#### Mission Statement

Treasurer Magaziner is committed to a financial system that works for all Rhode Islanders. Currently, approximately 20% of households in the state either do not have access to a bank account or regularly rely on high cost financial services like payday lending and pawn shop check cashing. Treasurer

Magaziner strongly believes in promoting financial literacy for all age levels – students, adults, and seniors. The Treasurer is also working with local banks and credit unions to ensure that everyone has access to affordable banking services, and supports common sense regulation of payday lending and check cashing services.

#### **Programs**

Rhode Island Financial Empowerment Roundtable: The Rhode Island Financial Empowerment Roundtable, launched by Treasurer Magaziner, regularly brings together representatives from government, non-profits, education, businesses, and banking to network and share ideas on how to encourage economic growth and financial stability among Rhode Islanders. This initiative has already led to collaboration on a number of projects to promote financial education across the state.

**Fallen Behind**: In December 2018, Treasurer Magaziner released a white paper which calls for an expansion of high-quality personal finance instruction in Rhode Island public schools. The paper, Fallen Behind: Rhode Island's Personal Finance Crisis and the Urgent Need for Stronger Personal Finance Education in Public Schools, provides an overview of the impact that a lack of personal finance can have on young people in the State. Additionally, the report lists several recommendations to improve financial literacy in Rhode Island schools, and a list of free and low-cost resources to assist educators to expand financial education in their schools.

**Securing the Financial Future for All Students Act**: Treasurer Seth Magaziner has joined with R.I. Senator Sandra Cano and R.I. Representative Joseph McNamara to introduce legislation that will require personal finance to be adopted in the statewide curriculum for Rhode Island's public high schools.

**EverFi**: Rhode Island Treasury partners with EverFi, a highly regarded online financial education platform, to offer the Rhode Island Financial Scholars Program at schools across the state. Last year, EverFi provided financial education to an estimated 10,499 students in more than 90 percent of Rhode Island's high schools with the highest need.

**CollegeBound**: CollegeBound, Rhode Island's 529 college savings plan, was launched in 1998 to help Rhode Islanders affordably save for college. Investments, which grow tax-free, can be used at accredited colleges, universities, vocational school and trade schools across the nation. CollegeBound offers a simple way to save for a child's college education. CollegeBound also offers Rhode Island residents a number of special advantages, including a CollegeBound grant, a state tax deduction, low fees, the ability to make online gifts, no annual account fees, and automatic contributions.

Partnership with Rhode Island Jump\$tart: RI Treasury serves as a partner to the Rhode Island Jump\$tart Coalition, a coalition of Rhode Island organizations, businesses, educators, individuals and other stakeholders dedicated to improving the financial capability of the region's residents, including underserved populations. Jump\$tart seeks to improve personal financial knowledge and skills so that individuals may be empowered to employ responsible personal financial practices that can lead to lifelong financial security and fulfillment. Rhode Island Jump\$tart Coalition carries out its mission by convening forums where partners and other stakeholders can network, exchange ideas, promote efforts and form alliances; sharing and promoting best practices in financial capability programs; creating, planning, executing and securing funds for valuable initiatives; etc.

**Partnership with Rhode Island Money Smart Week**: A public awareness campaign designed to help consumers better manage their personal finances, RI Treasury partners with Rhode Island Money Smart Week to promote personal financial literacy through workshops and interactive activities.

**Financial Literacy Month**: Each April, RI Treasury plans a month of activities and outreach with collaboration from various community groups. Programming is geared towards promoting financial empowerment and literacy among Rhode Islanders, especially Rhode Island's unbanked and underbanked. Some of these workshops include: You May Have Unclaimed Property — a workshop with staff from the R.I. Treasury's Unclaimed Property division assisting the public with searching for unclaimed property and start the process for getting it; and Saving for College with the CollegeBound — a workshop with staff from Treasury's CollegeBound team discussing the costs and benefits of opening a college savings account.

Treasurer Magaziner's Financial Literacy Educator of the Year Award: Each year, Treasurer Magaziner recognizes a teacher who excel in and out of the classroom to provide their students with the financial literacy skills they need to successfully navigate our complex financial system. In order to be eligible, teachers in the State of Rhode Island must meet the following criteria: teach financial literacy and has taught it for at least two years, coach a financial literacy-related club or extracurricular activity, and have a student letter of support.

**Job Shadow Day**: In 2018, Treasurer Magaziner launched the Rhode Island Treasury's first-ever "Job Shadow" day. Each year, high school students across the state have the opportunity to interact with professionals in the finance industry and to learn about careers and observe daily work activities. The initiative continues to grow with over 140 students from seven schools participating in shadows across five worksites in 2019.

# Formal Governance

N/A

#### **Funding**

**Government Appropriation** 

## Website Links

http://treasury.ri.gov/treasury-divisions/financial-literacy/

# **South Carolina**

Hon. Curtis M. Loftis, Jr.

# **Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff**

Jenny McGill, Programs Director of College Savings and ABLE Our financial literacy program works closely with our 529 plan.

Email: jenny.w.mcgill@sto.sc.gov

Tel. (803) 734-0759

#### Mission Statement

To prepare South Carolina students with the tools they need for a successful financial future by providing online financial education.

#### **Programs**

**Web Portal -** Programs for students: Financial Football; Financial Soccer; Peter Pig's Money Counter; Money Metropolis

**Future Scholar Financial Literacy Program:** Partnership with EverFi. The program is an interactive, webbased financial management course that is available to elementary and middle schools across South Carolina, all at no cost to the taxpayers. The web-based program focuses on budgeting, career planning, saving, and investing through 3D gaming, animations, and video.

**Educator of the Month:** Each month an educator is recognized for their commitment to the financial literacy program.

#### Formal Governance

N/A

#### Funding

The Future Scholar Financial literacy is privately funded through our 529 program manager.

#### Website Links

https://futurescholar.com/news-events/financial-literacy-program/http://scfuturescholar.everfi.com

# Tennessee

Hon. David H. Lillard, Jr.

#### <u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u>

Bill Parker, Director of the Tennessee Financial Literacy Commission

Email: <u>Bill.Parker@tn.gov</u> Telephone: 615-532-5892

#### Mission Statement

The mission of the Tennessee Financial Literacy Commission is to improve the lives of Tennesseans through financial literacy by providing innovative educational resources to Tennessee schools and families.

#### **Programs**

Since 2012, the Tennessee Financial Literacy Commission has focused on introducing financial education to Tennesseans at an early age by training K-8 educators to incorporate financial literacy in the classroom. Training and materials are offered at no cost to the teacher, school or district.

# **Financial Fitness for Life**

The TNLFC offers 8 Saturday summits annually in each region of the state utilizing the Council for Economic Education's Financial Fitness for Life curriculum. Each attendee receives a copy of a teacher guide and student workbook. Over 4,400\* educators have been trained in the curriculum since the program's inception.

<sup>\*</sup>Measured through December 31, 2018

# **My Classroom Economy**

In fall 2018, the Commission launched My Classroom Economy, created by The Vanguard Group. This classroom behavioral management program is designed to instill basic financial responsibility through experiential learning. The basic tenets of this program revolve around students earning and spending money in a micro economy.

#### Vault - Understanding Money

The Tennessee Financial Literacy Commission partners with EverFi, Inc. to provide the Vault – Understanding Money platform. Vault is an interactive, online learning course designed to introduce financial education skills early in a child's cognitive development. More than 25,000\* students have been engaged through the Vault program.

\*Measured through December 31, 2018

# The Financial Empowerment Resource Library

With the desire to instill greater financial confidence in the educators utilizing our classroom-based programs, the TNFLC launched the Financial Empowerment Resource Library.

The Financial Empowerment Resource Library provides adult learners with online access to a series of short, interactive learning modules covering topics from building a budget to saving for retirement. Since it launched in 2017, more than 2,500 Tennesseans have utilized the program.

#### Formal Governance

The Commission is incorporated as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, nonprofit corporation, administratively attached to the Tennessee Department of Treasury.

The Commission is governed by an eleven-member Board of Directors, including three ex officio members (the State Treasurer, Commissioner of Education and Commissioner of Financial Institutions), four members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, and four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

#### Funding

The Tennessee Financial Literacy Commission operates primarily through donations from businesses and individuals dedicated to improving the financial culture of Tennessee.

# Website Links

www.tnflc.org

# **Texas**

Hon. Glenn Hegar

# **Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff**

Phillip Ashley, Associate Deputy Comptroller for Fiscal Matters

Email: phillip.ashley@cpa.texas.gov

Phone: (512) 463-4275

# Utah

Hon. David Damschen

<u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u> Brittany Griffin, Public Information Officer

Email: <a href="mailto:bngriffin@utah.gov">bngriffin@utah.gov</a> Phone: (801) 918-1411

#### Mission Statement

The Utah Office of State Treasurer strives to ensure improved financial and economic education in Utah through the collaboration of private and public entities that engage in teaching financial principles and share a commitment to empower individuals and families to achieve economic stability, opportunity, and upward mobility.

#### **Programs**

# **Utah Public Education Financial Literacy Advocacy Efforts**

Through the Utah Council on Financial and Economic Education, the Utah Office of State Treasurer works to defend and strengthen financial literacy requirements and curriculum within Utah's public education system.

#### **Stock Market Game**

The Stock Market Game is a national program designed for classroom use in grades 4-12 to help students understand the stock market, the costs and benefits involved in economic decision making, the sources and uses of capital, and other related economic concepts. The Utah Office of State Treasurer recently took over administration of The Stock Market Game in Utah from the Utah Division of Securities and provides fee waivers for Utah teams to participate.

# Women in the Money: Utah Financial Empowerment Conference

The Utah Office of State Treasurer is hosting Utah's first-annual women's financial empowerment conference on April 22, 2019. The conference aims to empower Utah women to achieve financial security by providing access to crucial financial information, valuable resources, and new mentors and friends. The conference serves Utah women from various walks of life. Women of all ages, cultures, and financial situations are invited to exchange ideas and grow together. The overarching message is that it is never too late, or too early, to learn about finances. Treasury staff formed a 501(c)3 organization to serve as the fiscal agent for the conference and other financial capability efforts. Website: womeninthemoney.org.

#### **Utah Saves Week**

As part of the America Saves initiative, Utah Saves Week is an annual opportunity for organizations to promote good savings behavior and a chance for individuals to assess their own saving status. The Utah Council on Financial and Economic Education recently created a committee focused on collaborating on and improving the Utah Saves initiative beyond Utah Saves Weeks.

# Formal Governance

The Utah Council on Financial and Economic Education was established by legislative resolution in 2009. The council is chaired by the state treasurer and includes participation by more than 50 private and public entities that share a common mission to increase the financial capability of Utahns. Participants

represent various specific interests that support consumer financial capability in Utah, including those of government, education, financial, social, religious, housing, retirement, women and family, investment management, media, and more.

This year, treasury staff formed a 501(c)3 organization, the Utah Financial Empowerment Coalition, to serve as the fiscal agent for the women's conference and other financial empowerment efforts.

# **Funding**

The work of the Utah Council on Financial and Economic Education is an unfunded mandate. Through the creation of a 501(c)3, we have been able to raise money for the women's financial empowerment conference through private donations.

#### Website Links

The Utah State Treasurer's Office is in the process of building out its financial literacy webpage as a resource for financial education: https://treasurer.utah.gov/financial-literacy/.

Women's Conference Website: womeninthemoney.org

# Vermont

Hon. Beth Pearce

# Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff

Dylan Giambatista, Director of Financial Literacy and Outreach

Email: <u>Dylan.Giambatista@vermont.gov</u>

Tel. (802) 828-3706

#### Mission Statement

Being "financially literate" means you have the knowledge, skills, and habits to successfully manage your money. A growing body of research shows a wide range of benefits to individuals, families, and communities where its citizens are actively practicing sound money management skills. Such skills include using a budget or plan for monthly spending; regularly saving some of today's money for tomorrow's needs; managing your use of credit to avoid over-extending yourself; and investing funds to allow your money to grow.

#### **Programs**

**Web Portal - www.MoneyEd.Vermont.gov**: Teaching Resources; Saving for Retirement; Just for Parents & Kids; Manage Your Money; Investment Education; Clearinghouse

**New Website Coming 2019** – Led by the Treasurer's Office, the Financial Literacy Working Group is developing a <a href="MyMoney.Vermont.Gov">MyMoney.Vermont.Gov</a> resource website, which will be launched in 2019. The website will include a mapping tool and resource clearinghouse, as well as original education resources.

**Reading is an Investment** – This program promotes the teaching of personal finance to elementary school children by providing quality children's books that explore financial subjects and curriculum guides to participating schools. In the last school term, the program's tenth year, over 140 Vermont schools were enrolled in the program.

**VerMoney** – This program provides afterschool educators with tools to teach students in grades 2-5 basic financial concepts. The Treasurer's Office administers VerMoney in partnership with Vermont Afterschool Inc., a nonprofit organization that specializes in learning in the "third space." Building on key elements of the Reading is an Investment program, VerMoney teaches personal finance concepts through the hands-on, active learning afterschool program. VerMoney was first piloted in 2019 and, depending on feedback, may be expanded and launched statewide.

**Vermont Treasury Cup Challenge** – This academically rigorous tournament, now in its eleventh year, challenges high-school students on their knowledge of personal finance, economics, and consumer affairs topics. Teams from high-schools around the state compete in this National Economics Challenge qualifier for college savings accounts awarded to members of the first and second place teams.

**Financial Literacy Awards Ceremony** – A financial literacy awards ceremony is held in April to recognize student winners of Treasurer's Office financial literacy programs. The Governor signs a proclamation declaring April as financial literacy month. The Vermont Jump\$tart Coalition recognizes its "Financial Educator of the Year" at the event.

**Vermont Saves Week** – In collaboration with multiple partners, Vermont Saves Week encourages Vermonters to implement personal savings plans.

#### Formal Governance

Yes

Financial Literacy Working Group

Vermont has a standing Financial Literacy Working Group. The Governor and State Treasurer created the interagency taskforce in late 2017. After holding a series of meetings in 2018, the Working Group developed and <u>issued a report</u>, including recommendations to improve how Vermont state government provides personal finance resources to Vermonters. The Working Group has incorporated feedback from 16 different agencies, departments, or office. These include: Agency of Education; Agency of Human Services, Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living; Department of Children and Families; Department of Corrections; Department of Health; Department of Mental Health; Department of Financial Regulation; Department of Human Resources; Department of Labor; Department of Libraries; Department of Taxes; Department of Vermont Health Access; Office of the Attorney General; Office of the Chief Marketing Officer; Office of the State Treasurer.

# <u>Funding</u>

The Treasurer's Office manages the Financial Literacy Trust Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to "promote the adoption of fiscally sound money management practices by Vermonters through education and outreach efforts that raise awareness of the need for and benefits of practicing such skills; and to create opportunities to build and encourage the development of new financial literacy activities and educational products for Vermont citizens." The Treasurer is authorized to receive contributions into the Fund, including State appropriations, gifts, grants, federal funds, and any other private or public funds.

# Website Links

http://www.vermonttreasurer.gov/financial-literacy

# Virginia

Hon. Manju Ganeriwala

## Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff

Not Applicable. The Virginia Department of Treasury does not have a Financial Literacy program. The Virginia Department of Education administers the Financial Literacy program in Virginia.

#### Mission Statement

Not Applicable. The Virginia Department of Treasury does not have a Financial Literacy program. The Virginia Department of Education administers the Financial Literacy program in Virginia.

# **Programs**

Financial Literacy in High School: Since 2011, students entering ninth grade needed to complete one standard unit of credit in Economics and Personal Finance for graduation with a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma. The class is designed to "further the development of knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed for responsible citizenship in a constitutional democracy". Specifically, instruction in economics and personal finance prepares students to function effectively as consumers, savers, investors, entrepreneurs, and active citizens. Students learn how economies and markets operate and how the United States' economy is interconnected with the global economy. On a personal level, students learn that their own human capital (knowledge and skills) is their most valuable resource.

#### Formal Governance

Not Applicable

#### **Funding**

Not Applicable

#### Website Links

Dept of Education - <a href="http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/economics\_personal\_finance/">http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/economics\_personal\_finance/</a>

Contact: Judith P. Sams, Education Specialist, Virginia Department of

Education, judith.sams@doe.virginia.gov

# Washington

Hon. Duane Davidson

# **Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff**

Brenda Snyder, Director of Financial Literacy

Email: Brenda.Snyder@tre.wa.gov

#### Mission Statement

The Washington State Treasurer's Office, under the direction of State Treasurer Duane A. Davidson will partner with other organizations that share goals in furthering financial education in Washington. We will partner in outreach programs to students, adults and families and work with educational groups to improve financial literacy and understanding.

#### **Programs**

Treasurer Davidson took office in January 2017. Since that time, the Treasurer's office has developed projects and programs focused on the migrant community, at-risk youth, and military families. Both through partnering with a wide range of agencies and organizations as well as creating new standalone projects, the Washington State Treasurer's Office continues to grow the efforts of reaching all Washingtonians.

**General financial education-** Treasurer's representatives take part in educational activities in schools and with other organizations. The financial education division also leads workshops and presentations in community outreach events and to various resource groups in line with the targeted population groups.

**Education Modules-** In collaboration with EverFi, a Washington D.C. based educational tech firm, the Washington Treasurer's Office launched a series of online educational modules to provide quick and easy access to financial education topics for adults and teens throughout Washington. These modules are accessible in both English and Spanish.

**Financial Education Public Private Partnership (FEPPP)** is a statute-created non-profit bringing together public and private sector entities to coordinate financial education provision to public school students. FEPPP provides training for teachers in financial education competency, helps communicate national Jump\$tart standards to school districts, and helps evaluate student financial competency. A designee from the Treasurer's office serves on the FEPPP board and serves on the executive team. More information can be found at <a href="https://www.feppp.org">www.feppp.org</a>.

#### Formal Governance

Our programs and initiatives operate through the Treasurer's office without a formal governance structure.

# Website Links

https://tre.wa.gov/news/financial-education/

# **West Virginia**

Hon. John D. Perdue

<u>Dedicated Financial Literacy Staff</u>

Gina Long Joynes, Deputy Treasurer of Communications

Email: gina.joynes@wvsto.com

Tel. 304.341.0758

Tom Vogel, Deuty Treasurer of Financial Education/529

Email: tom.vogel@wvsto.com

Tel. 304.341.7083

#### Mission Statement

The West Virginia State Treasurer's Office, under the direction of State Treasurer John D. Perdue, is committed to ensuring all West Virginians have access to quality financial education. In 2008, the State Treasurer developed a comprehensive financial education initiative called NetWorth, which is designed to teach lifelong personal financial management starting at the elementary school level. NetWorth

incorporates personal financial lessons in core subject areas such as math, language arts and social studies. General concepts such as savings and budgeting are introduced at an early age, with lesson progressing to more complex issues such as financial planning and investing. The program also includes workshops and seminars at the adult level.

#### **Programs**

# Integrated Lesson Plans (Partnership with the State Department of Education)

Thanks to Treasurer Perdue, West Virginia now mandates one unit of financial education before graduation. Teachers around the state helped the State Treasurer's Office develop Teach 21 Instructional Guides for Personal Finance. Those guides are available at: http://wvde.state.wv.us/instructionalguides/

# Supplemental Learning Opportunities (for primary, secondary and high school levels):

Bank at School (Partnerships with local elementary schools and banks) - The program works with elementary school age children, their teachers and local banks to open savings accounts and teach basic savings/spending principles;

**Get a Life (Partnerships with local middle schools and community volunteer groups)** - Get a Life is a 90 minute budget exercise for middle school students to walk through a hands-on budget simulation. Students visit various business stations and manage an expense ledger;

High School Money Conferences (Partnership with local high schools and guest speakers) - The State Treasurer's Office sponsors various motivational/financial literacy speakers to talk to high school students around the state. The office also provides a free book from the guest speaker and other financial literature.

#### **Money Conferences:**

**Women and Money** - A free, day-long conference that provides a financial education speaker, book and other financial education resources;

**Senior Money Management (Partnership with AARP-WV)** - A free, day-long conference that provides financial education speakers and resources;

Money Smart Week West Virginia (Partnership with AARP-WV and several other state and local agencies) - A week of events geared toward financial literacy, including a Scam Jam session with state leaders;

A free document shredding event; and other seminars for military families, adults and children, etc.

Moneyville Traveling Exhibition (Partnership with the Youth Museum of West Virginia): The State Treasurer's Office partnered with the Youth Museum of West Virginia to host an interactive money management exhibit for elementary school age children - As a supplement to the exhibit, the office created a West Virginia State Treasurer's Vault, which will become a permanent display at the State

Capitol (currently being set up). The Vault is interactive and teaches the save, share and spend principles.

**Online Financial Education Resources:** The State Treasurer's Office hosts financial education blogs, social media posts and downloadable money management resources online.

**Statewide Financial Literacy Steering Committee:** The West Virginia State Treasurer's Office is currently working with the West Virginia Education Alliance as a member of the organization's new Financial Literacy Steering Committee. The goal is to come up with best practices for the state and a new financial learning initiative to be used at the high school level.

# **Formal Governance**

Yes

The West Virginia Financial Education Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, partners with the West Virginia State Treasurer's Office to govern, fund and promote curriculum, programs and activities associated with NetWorth. The State Treasurer is member of the Foundation's board.

# **Funding**

Private sector contributions and grants are accepted by the West Virginia Financial Education Foundation. Government appropriations have been received in the past, but are not in the current budget.

#### Website Links

http://www.wvsto.com/Educational-Resources/Get-A-Life

http://www.wvsto.com/Educational-Resources/NetWorth

http://www.wvtreasury.com/Educational-Resources/Personal-Finance

# **Wyoming**

Hon. Curt Meier

#### **Programs**

The Wyoming Department of Treasury does not have a Financial Literacy program.