

Financial Education Fact Sheet Series: **OHIO**

The mission of State Treasurer Robert Sprague's office is to be a trusted steward of Ohio's treasury, wise investors in Ohio's future, and bold innovators committed to improving people's lives. This includes fostering the financial literacy of state residents.

nast.org/financialwellness/census



Financial Literacy

REAL MONEY. REAL WORLD.

Ohio Treasurer Robert Sprague has partnered with The Ohio State University to advance and expand the use of the Real Money. Real World. financial education program throughout K-12 schools in Ohio.

Real Money. Real World. is a financial literacy curriculum designed for youth ages 12-18 and includes an interactive spending simulation. With an emphasis on experiential learning, the program presents students with scenarios aimed at balancing lifestyle choices within a budget, replicating choices they will make as adults.

The partnership was officially launched in February 2021 in conjunction with "America Saves Week."

COMPASS AWARDS

The monthly recognition program highlights individuals, organizations, and programs across Ohio that are working to advance financial literacy education and empowerment. Compass Award honorees have demonstrated a track record of success in preparing Ohioans to make wise financial decisions.

ONLINE RESOURCE GUIDE

The Financial Literacy Resource Guide contains a series of helpful online resources intended to assist Ohioans with making more informed short-term and long-term financial decisions. The resources can help individuals better understand and navigate common financial challenges, while working toward their overall financial goals. The resource guide currently features sections focused on: Budgeting, Saving, Borrowing, Retirement, and Veterans Resources.

HIGH SCHOOL FINANCIAL LITERACY FUND

The High School Financial Literacy Fund is used to fund teacher training and is under the custody of the Ohio Treasurer. Ohio Revised Code requires certain teachers to receive training or demonstrate competency in personal finance if providing instruction in financial education as part of high school graduation requirements.

AMERICA SAVES ADVISORY BOARD

The Ohio Treasurer's office serves on the America Saves Advisory Board. America Saves is a national campaign that encourages saving money, reducing debt, and building wealth. Ohio State University Extension is also a partner of America Saves and manages the statewide Ohio Saves Campaign.

Center for Public Investment Management (CPIM) Ohio Checkbook

To ensure our tax dollars are invested safely, the Ohio Treasurer's office provides continuing education to local fiscal officers. On an annual basis, public funds managers have the ability to participate in both in-person and online courses offered or accredited by the Treasurer's office. This curriculum assists these local officials to ensure their skills and knowledge-base remain up to date.

Transparency leads to trust. In its mission to increase government transparency by providing Ohioans access to information, the Ohio Treasurer publishes local government and state pension expenditure data on OhioCheckbook.gov. The data is provided on a voluntary basis by entities and displayed online in a searchable format.

FINANCIAL EDUCATION/ STATE REQUIREMENTS

Per Ohio Revised Code 3313.603, schools must provide instruction on financial literacy and entrepreneurship. This instruction can be included as part of other coursework, such as social studies. Past legislative efforts to mandate stand-alone courses in financial literacy have been unsuccessful.

FUNDING/GOVERNANCE

The Treasurer's 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.

