



Financial Literacy Guidance

Introduction

Sec. 10. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph k, as enacted by 2018 Iowa Acts, Senate File 475, section 20, is amended to read as follows: One-half unit of personal finance literacy. All students shall complete at least one-half unit of personal finance literacy as a condition of graduation.

(1). The curriculum shall, at a minimum, address the following:

- a. Savings, including emergency fund, purchases, and wealth building.
- b. Understanding investments, including compound and simple interest, liquidity, diversification, risk return ratio, certificates of deposit, money market accounts, single stocks, bonds, mutual funds, rental real estate, annuities, commodities, and futures.
- c. Wealth building and college planning, including long-term and short-term investing using tax-favored plans, individual retirement accounts and payments from such accounts, employer-sponsored retirement plans and investments, public and private educational savings accounts, and uniform gifts and transfers to minors.
- d. Credit and debt, including credit cards, payday lending, rent-to-own transactions, debt consolidation, automobile leasing, cosigning a loan, debt avoidance, and the marketing of debt, especially to young people.
- e. Consumer awareness of the power of marketing on buying decisions including zero percent interest offers; marketing methods, including product positioning, advertising, brand recognition, and personal selling; how to read a credit report and correct inaccuracies; how to build a credit score; how to develop a plan to deal with creditors and avoid bankruptcy; and the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.
- f. Financial responsibility and money management, including creating and living on a written budget and balancing a checkbook; basic rules of successful negotiating and techniques; and personality or other traits regarding money.
- g. Insurance, risk management, income, and career decisions, including career choices that fit personality styles and occupational goals, job search strategies, cover letters, resumes, interview techniques, payroll taxes and other income withholdings, and revenue sources for federal, state, and local governments.
- h. Different types of insurance coverage including renters, homeowners, automobile, health, disability, long-term care, identity theft, and life insurance; term life, cash value and whole life insurance; and insurance terms such as deductible, stop loss, elimination period, replacement coverage, liability, and out-of-pocket.
- i. Buying, selling, and renting advantages and disadvantages relating to real estate, including adjustable rate, balloon, conventional, government-backed, reverse, and seller-financed mortgages.

(2). (a) One-half unit of personal finance literacy may count as one-half unit of social studies in meeting the requirements of paragraph "b" [social studies], though the teacher providing personal finance literacy coursework that counts as one-half unit of social studies need not hold a social studies endorsement.

(b) Units of coursework that meet the requirements of any combination of coursework required under paragraphs "b", "d", "e", or "h" and incorporate the curriculum required under subparagraph (1) shall be deemed to satisfy the offer and teach requirements of this paragraph "k" and a student who completes such units shall be deemed to have met the graduation requirement of this paragraph "k".

Overview

What is the updated timeline?

In the 2019 legislative session, Governor Reynolds signed SF139 into law that changes the implementation date of SF2415 to the graduating class of 2020-2021. There is no stipulation for when the student takes the course, only that it is a 9-12 requirement for graduation.

What are the required standards and content?

The legislation, as noted above includes an outline of specific topics meeting the minimum required content. As a reminder, 21st Century Skills standards for Financial Literacy are still mandated for all Iowa students K - 12.

How does this impact offer and teach requirements?

SF2415 requires 1/2 unit of financial literacy to graduate. The course can be taught in social studies, math, business, family and consumer sciences, or agriculture and satisfy the offer and teach requirement for financial literacy. The 1/2 unit may, but is not required to, count as part of the 5 units of social studies to meet offer and teach. This course could have an Accreditation Program Area in one of the areas in the table below to be used to meet offer and teach requirements: Mathematics, Social Studies, or CTE. A district may offer more than one course to students.

In what area can students earn credit?

As per the legislation in SF2415, one half unit or semester of social studies credit may be awarded using any of the SCED codes/courses below even if the course is not being taught by a social studies endorsed teacher.

What kinds of courses may meet this requirement (ILO, dual-enrollment, etc.)?

New legislation allows a district/school that cannot find an appropriately licensed teacher or typically has fewer than 10 students enrolled in a course needed to meet offer and teach to use ILO to provide the course. If ILO cannot provide the course or does not have room, the district/school can use an approved online provider to offer an online course or develop their own online course. A waiver is required to use an online course to meet offer and teach. Please be aware that after the 2019-2020 school year, ILO will not be available.

Which courses can be used to meet this requirement and who is endorsed to teach them?

The Iowa Board of Educational Examiners crosswalks teacher licensure with SCED Codes (course codes). Teachers need to hold the appropriate license/endorsement for the SCED code chosen. They are identified as follows:

SCED Code	SCED Course Title	Approved Endorsements
SCED Code 02157	Consumer Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-12 Business-General • 5-12 Business-All • 5-12 Mathematics
SCED Code 04201	Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-12 Economics • 5-12 All Social Sciences • 5-12 Business-All
SCED Code 04208	Microeconomics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-12 Economics • 5-12 All Social Sciences • 5-12 Business-All
SCED Code 12051	Introductory Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-12 Business-General • 5-12 Business-All
SCED Code 12101	Banking & Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-12 Business-General • 5-12 Business-All
SCED Code 19251	Family and Consumer Sciences-Comprehensive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-12 Family & Consumer Sciences-General
SCED Code 19262	Consumer Economics/ Personal Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-12 Business-General • 5-12 Business-All • 5-12 Family & Consumer Sciences-General
SCED Code 18201	Agribusiness Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-12 Agriculture
SCED Code 22900	Iowa Financial Literacy Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-12 Economics • 5-12 All Social Sciences • 5-12 Business-General • 5-12 Business-All • 5-12 Family & Consumer Sciences-General • 5-12 Mathematics
SCED Code 19257	Life Skills	
SCED Code 19258	Personal and Career Readiness	

Iowa Department of Education guidance should be viewed as advisory unless it's specifically authorized by state statute, according to Iowa Code section 256.9A as enacted by Senate File 475. This does not apply to administrative rules, declaratory orders, or materials required by federal law or courts.

SCED Code 22152	Employability Skills	
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