**Problems Description**

One of the problems with Common Core education is lack of financial education in middle and high schools .

Only 17 states require High School students to take a class in personal finance and only 20 states require taking a class in economics to graduate.

That situation leads to poor money habits among Young Adults and Millennials and can affect next generations too. Many Americans continue to lack even a basic understanding of economic and financial concepts.

<http://councilforeconed.org/policy-and-advocacy/survey-of-the-states/>

According to a recent survey on millennials,

* more than half of them are living paycheck to paycheck and don’t have an opportunity to save
* 43% of them use costly non-bank borrowing methods such as payday loans, pawn shops and rent-to-own stores
* 75% of nowadays college students carrying credit are unaware of late fees
* 4 in 10 millennials say they are overwhelmed with debt
* nearly 1 in 4 adults admit not paying their bills on time

<https://www2.deloitte.com/global/en/pages/about-deloitte/articles/millennialsurvey.html>

http://www.creditcards.com/credit-card-news/credit-card-debt-statistics-1276.php#source17

**Solutions and Advocacy**

Study of students who have taken financial classes show the opposite statistics:

state education affects later life financial decisions in a good way as students are:

* more likely to save
* more likely to pay off credit cards in full each month
* less likely to be compulsive buyers
* more likely to take reasonable financial risk
* have higher credit scores and lower probability of delinquency as young adults

<http://www.nefe.org/What-We-Provide/Primary-Research/Grant-Studies-Teachers-Preparedness-and-Money-Man>

<http://www.oecd.org/pisa/keyfindings/pisa-2012-results-volume-vi.htm>

<http://www.nefe.org/What-We-Provide/Primary-Research/Financial-Education-Mandates-Report>

So as we can see there is hope for improvement in the future if we work to make economic and financial education a priority in our schools.

To do that we need to make sure to advocate for the change spreading information throughout our community and using this helpful Advocacy Plan on Economics and Personal Finance Education. There are many approaches to advocacy planning, but here is a 10-step process that will help assure success.

<http://councilforeconed.org/policy-and-advocacy/toolkit/>

Thankfully there are also a lot of information to be discovered and books to be read on that topic. If you are a person striving to find knowledge and dip your toes in the unfamiliar world of personal finance, here are some links that might be helpful:

**Online recourses:**

***Teenagers and Young Adults:***

**Genirevolution:** Online Personal Finance Game

<http://www.genirevolution.org/>

**Napkin Finance:** Financial concepts explained easily on napkin graphs

<https://napkinfinance.com/>

**The Financial Diet:** 9 Steps To Giving Yourself A Financial Education That Actually Sticks

<http://thefinancialdiet.com/9-steps-brighten-financial-education/>

**TwoCents:** Everyday Financial advice articles

<http://twocents.lifehacker.com/>

## Money Management International: MMI offers a wealth of different resources for personal finance topics including frugal living, holiday spending, bankruptcy, debt, and budgeting. They also offer a series of webinars that you can take advantage of if you don't mind working around their schedule.

<https://www.moneymanagement.org/Financial-Education.aspx>

**CNN's Money 101**: CNN Money offers free online classes on 23 different financial topics. Each topic is detailed, thorough and offers a test at the end of the lesson. CNN covers the basics: making a budget and setting financial goals. But you'll learn more advanced topics, too, like asset allocation and taxes.

<http://money.cnn.com/pf/money-essentials/>

**MyMoney.Gov**: MyMoney was launched by the Federal Financial Literacy and Education Commission. You'll find basic tips that focus on five main categories: Spend, Earn, Save & Invest, Protect and Borrow. Each category includes a quiz. You can also use checklists and worksheets for managing finances.

<https://www.mymoney.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

**GCF Learn Free**: Launched by the Goodwill Community Foundation, this we includes 90 free online tutorials. Most of the lessons help you hone job skills, but they do have an entire section for money basics. Among other lessons, you'll learn to manage checking and savings accounts and live within your means.

<http://www.gcflearnfree.org/moneybasics/>

**Credit Unions**: Many credit unions offer free financial literacy materials, games, calculators and online lessons.

**Learn Money:** Recourses for Financial Literacy, helpful information, downloadable spreadsheets to use.

<http://www.learnmoney.org/>

## MoneySKILL: Developed by the AFSA Education Foundation, it is a free resource geared towards helping young adults learn how to manage their money. You can read over the [different modules](http://www.moneyskill.org/about.cfm) as well as see a [demo](http://www.moneyskill.org/demo/index.cfm) of the actual program.

## [www.moneyskill.org](http://www.moneyskill.org)

***Parents and Educators:***

**Financial literacy and sustainability lessons**

<https://www.pwc.com/us/en/about-us/corporate-responsibility/commitment-to-youth-education/financial-literacy-curriculum/thank-you.html>

**Money as You Grow**: At this website, parents and educators learn how to teach kids about money. Select your child's age, and a list of financial literacy milestones pop up.

<http://www.moneyasyougrow.org/>

**Financial Fairy Tales**: At this fun website, you'll find a variety of resources for teaching kids about finances. The site also includes games that teach kids about money.

<http://thefinancialfairytales.com/>

**Edutopia:** Resources and Downloads for Financial Literacy

<https://www.edutopia.org/financial-literacy-resources-guide>

**Helping Youth Achieve Financial Literacy**

<http://www.actforyouth.net/sexual_health/community/adulthood/finances.cfm>

**Free classes, workshops and personal counselling in NYC area:**

**NYPL Money Matters:** [Financial Literacy Central](http://www.nypl.org/help/getting-oriented/financial-literacy-central) can help you manage your money!

<https://www.nypl.org/help/getting-oriented/money-matters-flc>

<https://www.nypl.org/help/getting-oriented/financial-literacy>

# NYC Financial Empowerment Center: Get Free Financial Counseling

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dca/consumers/get-free-financial-counseling.page>

**BMCC:** MoneyWorks Program

<http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/moneyworks/about.jsp>

**Money Smart Week:** Participate in Money Smart Week, a national initiative in its seventh year between the ALA and the Federal Reserve Bank (Chicago) to provide financial literacy programming to help members of your community better manage their personal finances.

<http://www.ala.org/offices/money-smart-week>

**Cents Ability:** Teaching Teens Personal Finance

<http://cents-ability.org/programs/>

**HarkSociety:** Financial Literacy Workshop

<http://harksociety.org/financial-literacy-program/>