Voya Recognizes 100 Best W!se High Schools Teaching Personal Finance Thursday, April 18, 2019 04:00:00 PM (GMT)

Each year, Working in Support of Education (W!se) ranks the 100 best high schools teaching personal finance, honoring the top ranking programs.

Voya Financial, Inc. (NYSE: VOYA), has announced that its nonprofit partner Working in Support of Education (W!se) has released its ranking of the 2019 "100 Best W!se High Schools Teaching Personal Finance."

The High School for Math, Science & Engineering in New York City earned first place, while Chicago's Youth Connection Charter School and Virginia's Richmond Community High School placed second and third, respectively. The schools were honored during a ceremony on April 15 at the New York Stock Exchange. Select students, as well as local civic and business leaders, spoke during the awards program, which was sponsored by Voya.

The "100 Best" is believed to be the first and only national ranking in the field of personal finance education. Ninety three percent of students in the 2019 100 Best Schools ranking earned W!se's Financial Literacy Certification based on their coursework throughout the year and their performance on W!se's Certification Test.

"Voya Foundation is proud to support organizations like W!se that are helping the next generation become financially resilient," said Voya's Martin Smit, managing director, Strategic Relationship Management Group and W!se board member. "Developing financial literacy skills early on makes a significant difference in the lives of young people among different demographics by equipping them with the expertise and financial knowledge necessary to compete in the 21st century workforce and manage their income to and through retirement."

Voya's five-year partnership with W!se has supported programs that help to enhance students' behavior regarding personal finance, with more students making smart financial decisions when it comes to budgeting, setting goals, and establishing healthy savings. W!se's award-wining Financial Literacy Certification program provides schools with the curriculum and resources to support their personal finance instruction and to measure students' financial literacy when they take the Financial Literacy Certification Test. Students passing the test become Certified Financially Literate™ — a nationally recognized credential.

See a complete list of this year's 100 Best schools (PDF).

About Voya Financial®

Voya Financial, Inc. (NYSE: VOYA), helps Americans plan, invest and protect their savings — to get ready to retire better. Serving the financial needs of approximately 13.8 million individual and institutional customers in the United States, Voya is a *Fortune 500* company that had \$8.5 billion in revenue in 2018. The company had \$467 billion in total assets under management and administration as of Dec. 31, 2018. With a clear mission to make a secure financial future possible — one person, one family, one institution at a time — Voya's vision is to be America's Retirement Company[®]. Certified as a "Great Place to Work" by the Great Place to Work Institute, Voya is equally committed to conducting business in a way that is socially, environmentally, economically and ethically responsible. Voya has been recognized as one of the 2019 World's Most Ethical Companies[®] by the Ethisphere Institute; as a member of the Bloomberg Gender Equality Index; and as a "Best Place to Work for Disability Inclusion" on the Disability Equality Index by Disability:IN. For more information, visit voya.com. Follow Voya Financial on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter @Voya.

About W!se

Working in Support of Education (W!SE) is a leading educational nonprofit based in New York City with a mission to improve the lives of young people and at-risk adults through programs that develop financial literacy and readiness for college and the workforce. For more information, visit <u>wise-ny.org</u>. Follow W!se on <u>Facebook</u>, Instagram, and Twitter <u>@wisenewyork</u>.

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