EVERFI Financial Literacy

Curriculum Guide - 2019 Release

**Recommended Grade Level** 9-12 in the U.S. and Canada  
**Total Time** 7 lessons, 25-35 minutes each  
**Subject Fit** Finance, Economics, CTE, Social Studies, Business  
**Standards Alignment** Jump$tart Standards, State-Based Financial Literacy Standards

EVERFI: Financial Literacy for High School is a digital financial education program that teaches students how to make wise financial decisions to promote financial well-being over their lifetime. The interactive lessons will translate complex financial concepts and help students develop actionable strategies for managing their finances.

Students will understand the different ways to acquire income, develop a savings and investing plan, create a budget, track expenses, make informed purchases, monitor and protect their money, and navigate financial institutions and financial products.

**Topic Areas**

1. **Banking Basics** — Students will gain confidence in engaging with financial institutions and picking the right products for their life and financial goals.
2. **Income and Employment** — Students will feel confident in navigating the choices and paperwork presented when starting a new job.
3. **Budgeting** — Students will set short-term and long-term financial goals and create a personal budget that tracks spending.
4. **Consumer Skills** — Students will proactively research purchase decisions and select the best way to pay for those purchases.
5. **Credit and Debt** — Students will engage in wise debt management practices and avoid expensive borrowing behaviors.
6. **Financing Higher Education** — Students will develop a plan for financing postsecondary education or training.
7. **Insurance** — Students will become aware of the need for a risk management strategy and how insurance plays a role.

**Course Structure**

Each digital lesson is accompanied by offline lesson plans and discussion guides to use in the classroom.
Detailed Course Outline:

**Lesson 1: Banking Basics**

Students will gain confidence in engaging with financial institutions and picking the right products for their life and financial goals.

**Learning Objectives:**

*Students will be able to...*

- Examine the functions, services, and products offered at various financial institutions
- Compare the costs and benefits of select banking products
- Demonstrate how to open and effectively use a checking and savings account
- Monitor and reconcile bank statements to their personal records
- Explain how investing can be used as part of a long-term financial strategy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity Topic</th>
<th>Activity Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Researching Financial Institutions</td>
<td>Students learn about different financial institutions and the pros and cons of each type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparing Accounts</td>
<td>Students learn about the different types of bank products, bank product features, and simple vs. compound interest.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opening and Using Accounts</td>
<td>Students learn about the required information necessary for opening checking and savings accounts and how to use them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring and Reconciling Accounts</td>
<td>Students monitor bank statements and learn how to reconcile them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investing</td>
<td>Students explore what is investing, why to invest, and different types of investment vehicles.</td>
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**Lesson 2: Income and Employment**

Students will feel confident in navigating the choices and paperwork presented when starting a new job.

**Learning Objectives:**

*Students will be able to...*

- Analyze relationship between education, training, and earnings
- Examine the different deductions that come out of a paycheck that determines net pay
- Explain the content and purpose of standard tax forms
- Identify other types of income that can supplement wages or a salary
- Investigate benefits such as health insurance contributions, retirement benefits, leave, life insurance, and disability
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<tr>
<td>Impact of Education on Career Earnings</td>
<td>Students discover how their level of education or job training affects total income over a lifetime.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tax Withholding</td>
<td>Students discover the purpose of tax withholding and how to fill out a W-4 tax form.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analyzing a Paycheck</td>
<td>Students analyze a paycheck to learn how to calculate net pay.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gig Economy</td>
<td>Students explore other sources of income to supplement their primary income.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Filing Taxes</td>
<td>Students learn about the purpose of a W-2 and how to fill out a 1040 tax form.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benefits</td>
<td>Students discover the purpose of benefits and compare different types.</td>
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**Lesson 3: Budgeting**

Students will set short-term and long-term financial goals and create a personal budget that tracks spending.

**Learning Objectives:**

*Students will be able to...*

- Discover money personality, including spending and saving propensity
- Describe the reasons for maintaining a budget
- Build a budget by prioritizing needs and wants
- Develop a system for tracking income, spending, and savings
- Devise a contingency plan for covering unexpected expenses

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<td>Budget Introduction</td>
<td>Students discover budgets and the reasons to have them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Setting Up a Budget</td>
<td>Students prioritize needs and wants and identify budget line items to comprise their budget.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budgeting Tools</td>
<td>Students explore common budgeting tools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracking Spending</td>
<td>Students explore the consequences of unplanned spending on a budget.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Expenses</td>
<td>Students establish an emergency fund and discover the consequences of not planning for unexpected expenses.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Lesson 4: Consumer Skills

Students will proactively research purchase decisions and select the best way to pay for those purchases.

**Learning Objectives:**

*Students will be able to...*

- Recognize the responsibilities associated with personal finance decisions
- Assess the quality of sources when researching products to buy
- Analyze the costs and benefits of renting vs. owning
- Apply strategies for making informed decisions when purchasing consumer goods
- Describe when and how to use different payment methods
- Recognize common consumer scams and how to avoid them

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<td>Shopping for Everyday Items</td>
<td>Students explore how to effectively shop for everyday items by calculating unit price and assessing the validity of advertisements and sources. They also learn about different payment methods that can be used to make purchases.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shopping for a Car</td>
<td>Students discover the costs and benefits of owning vs. leasing a car and what they need to consider when shopping for one.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopping for a Home</td>
<td>Students learn about the costs and benefits of owning vs. renting a home and what they need to consider when buying a house.</td>
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Lesson 5: Credit and Debt

Students will engage in wise debt management practices and avoid expensive borrowing behaviors.

**Learning Objectives:**

*Students will be able to...*

- Understand the reason for using debt to finance purchases
- Compare and select credit cards based on features and impact to personal financial plan
- Describe how credit repayment affects the cost of borrowing
- Explain how the terms of a loan can affect the cost of credit
- Develop strategies to manage debt and understand the consequences of not managing debt wisely
- Recognize and avoid identity theft and fraud
Lesson 6: Financing Higher Education

Students will develop a plan for financing postsecondary education or training.

Learning Objectives:

Students will be able to...

- Analyze the relationship between cost of education versus return on investment
- Compare costs of various higher education options
- Analyze costs beyond tuition associated with postsecondary education and training institutions
- Understand the costs and benefits of funding options
- Discuss the purpose and components of the FAFSA
Lesson 7: Insurance

Students will become aware of the need for a risk management strategy and how insurance plays a role.

Learning Objectives:

Students will be able to...

- Identify common types of risks and basic risk management methods
- Explain the role insurance can play in a risk management strategy
- Define insurance terminology
- Distinguish among the types, costs, and benefits of insurance coverage

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<td>Risk Management and Insurance</td>
<td>Students explore insurance as part of their risk management strategy.</td>
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<td>Auto Insurance</td>
<td>Students discover the purpose and types of auto insurance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renters/Homeowners Insurance</td>
<td>Students analyze the purpose and types of insurance to protect their home and assets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>Students explore risk management strategies related to personal and family health insurance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disability and Life Insurance</td>
<td>Students learn about the benefits of disability and life insurance.</td>
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