

FINANCIAL LITERACY AWARENESS MONTH

Middle Georgia State University does not endorse any Third Party Information provided by these websites, but they have been found to be resourceful for Financial Literacy Education.

The month October has been designated by of Office of Financial Aid as Financial Literacy Month. Financial literacy is key to understanding how to save, earn, borrow, invest, and protect your money wisely. It is also essential to developing short- and long-term financial habits and skills that lead to greater financial well-being.

The resources on this page are to help bring financial awareness to our students, and some tips and guidance on how they can achieve greater financial wellness.

Please take an opportunity to review the educational information provided below.



Most people have questions about managing money when they're just starting out. The good news is, whether you're opening your first checking account, paying for college or saving up for a car, Better Money Habits® can help you along the way.

This free resource was created through our partnership with Khan Academy, a leader in online learning. It's a simple way to get real, practical knowledge about money, with accessible

tools and information that can help you make confident personal financial decisions.

Start building Better Money Habits

Start exploring topics today. Or get tips from a former student who shares advice she wishes she had been given when she started college.

Visit **BetterMoneyHabits.com/Student** or text **MONEYHABITS** to **42690** today.

Here's a sample of the financial topics you can explore at **BetterMoneyHabits.com**:

Borrowing for college



Seeking financial aid? What you need to know about FAFSA

Nearly every U.S. college and university uses one financial aid form, known as FAFSA. Visit Better Money Habits® for details about key things you should know before you fill it out, including which schools use it, when you should complete it and what information you'll need.



Terms to know when you take out student loans

Getting a handle on the central concepts of student loans as early as possible can help you make good choices both when you borrow and during the repayment process. Visit Better Money Habits® to learn about federal student loans versus private loans, PLUS loans for parents and more.

See reverse for more topics ▶

Better Money Habits®

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Getting started with credit



Start smart with your first credit card

Your first credit card can bring independence, convenience and opportunity all rolled into one. Learn the basic steps to help you handle credit responsibly as you build credit and improve your ability to borrow money in the future.



What is a credit score and how is it calculated?

As you move out into the world, your credit score will affect many areas of your financial life, from getting a credit card to how much interest you'll pay on a mortgage. Find out what your score means and how it's calculated so you can set yourself up for financial success.

Banking 101



The difference between checking and savings accounts

Checking and savings accounts are both important parts of a financial toolkit, but they're not interchangeable. Understanding how each works and their key differences will help you get the most from each one.



Your bank account: 10 questions to ask

An account with no monthly fee may not really be the best one for you. Find out which questions to ask before you open an account. Are there ATM fees or overdraft fees? Is there a branch nearby? Will you have the convenience of online access and mobile banking? These questions will help you get the whole picture.

Protecting your privacy



How to create a strong password

It pays to set up strong passwords that can help protect your accounts and keep your information safe. Learn how to beef up your passwords by adding complexity while keeping them unique and memorable. Plus, consider the benefits of using multifactor security or biometrics for even more security.



What to do if you lose your wallet

If your wallet is lost or stolen, don't panic. This guide will help you swing into action to help protect yourself and minimize the chance you'll have to deal with identity fraud. You'll find out who to notify first, what to replace and of course, how to protect yourself in the future.

Building your savings



How to make your cash last

Managing your money can be challenging — especially if you don't have a lot of it. This article offers a simple plan to help you pace yourself. You'll learn how to estimate your income, track your spending and even put some into savings for future needs.



How to save money every day

Saving starts with just a few simple changes to your spending. Watch an engaging video to get tips on how to save money on your everyday expenses, like food, transportation and entertainment.

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FL-05-19-0393

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