

# FINANCIAL LITERACY EDUCATION GRANT



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## AWARDING TEACHERS AND ENGAGING STUDENTS

Recognizing the importance of developing personal financial literacy skills in young people, Dakota West Credit Union awards teachers with the funds necessary to develop and execute a program to engage students in the communities we serve to understand the importance of making responsible financial decisions and develop their knowledge of financial practices in an age-appropriate environment.

We look to develop financial literacy skills in our schools and award financial literacy grants to teachers based on a variety of factors including knowledge the students will gain, the ages and number of students receiving the program, the method for presenting the material, how the topic integrates with the students' existing curriculum, and how the success of the students will be measured.

## JOIN THE EFFORT TO DEVELOP STUDENTS' FINANCIAL SENSE

Teachers throughout the Dakota West region may apply for the Dakota West Financial Literacy Education Grant by submitting the attached application form and any additional resources that will help illustrate the proposal beginning Tuesday, January 7, 2020 through Monday, February 24, 2020.

Teachers looking to get started may consider all topics that address personal financial literacy and fiscal responsibility including the below topics.

### Elementary & Middle School Concepts

- The difference between debit cards and credit cards
- Where money goes when you buy something
- Learning about loans and why people get them
- Why people save money
- Know the difference between buying something you want versus something you need
- Understanding what it means to have debt
- Long-term savings versus short-term gratification

### High School Concepts

- Create a personal budget – it's important to your future
- Know your credit score and what it means for you now and in your future
- Protect yourself against financial frauds and scams
- You want to buy a car – you should know what other costs to expect
- Are you too young to plan for retirement?
- Get ready to understand and tackle the financial aid process

## GETTING STARTED MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Applications may be submitted electronically to [dwcw@dakotawestcu.org](mailto:dwcw@dakotawestcu.org) or mailed to **Dakota West Financial Literacy Education Grant**, PO Box 1496, Watford City, ND 58854 and should be postmarked by the due date of February 24, 2020. Questions about the Dakota West Financial Literacy Education Grant applications may be addressed to [dwcw@dakotawestcu.org](mailto:dwcw@dakotawestcu.org) during the application process.

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## PUTTING SUCCESS IN THE HANDS OF STUDENTS

Each winning classroom to be announced on Thursday, March 12, 2020 will receive \$250 to use towards supplies and materials to execute the program and learn important skills in developing financial responsibility and awareness. Winning teachers will receive guidance throughout the program development process from a Dakota West employee, as well as classroom involvement at the school during the program.

Dakota West Financial Literacy Education Grants will be evaluated based upon the appropriateness of the topic for the age group, the relation of the topic to the students' current studies, the ability to engage Dakota West staff in the program topic, the effectiveness in developing students' knowledge of the financial principles of the topic, and the ways in which the program will engage and educate throughout the duration of the program.

Winning programs will be presented to students through the month of April, whether as single-day presentations or programs designed to track personal spending or other means of planning over a period of weeks. Program effectiveness will also be evaluated following the presentation period.

The number of grants bestowed will be based on the individual merit of each application rather than an overall ranking of the applications.

## RESOURCES TO BUILD A WINNING PROPOSAL AND A SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM

Dakota West encourages the development of strong personal financial responsibility at any age and welcomes students to learn more about the importance of personal financial planning. Partnering with teachers and their own knowledge and resources will benefit students now and in the future. Ideas and resources also are available from a wide range of organizations, including several educational and government sites.

1. U.S. Department of Treasury: <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/consumer-policy/financial-literacy-and-education-commission>
2. National Financial Educators Council: <https://www.financialeducatorsCouncil.org/financial-literacy-for-kids/>
3. National Foundation for Credit Counseling 2019 Consumer Financial Literacy Survey: <https://www.nfcc.org/2019-consumer-financial-literacy-survey/>
4. InCharge.org – Financial Literacy for Kids: <https://www.incharge.org/financial-literacy/resources-for-teachers/financial-literacy-for-kids/>
5. National Education Association: <http://www.nea.org/tools/lessons/resources-for-teaching-financial-literacy.html>
6. National Credit Union Foundation: <https://www.ncuf.coop/how-we-help/how-we-help.cmsx>
7. Credit.org – Personal Finance Education: <https://credit.org/courses/>
8. Jumpstart.org – National Standards in K-12 Personal Finance Education: <https://www.jumpstart.org/what-we-do/support-financial-education/standards/>
9. Federal Student Aid: <https://studentaid.gov/h/understand-aid/how-aid-works>

## REWARDING TEACHERS AND REACHING STUDENTS

A \$25 gift card for classroom supplies will be given to each teacher who submits a completed proposal.

Teachers are encouraged to find ways to engage students in the development of ideas, whether through brainstorming topics the students would like to develop, asking the public for input via social media, or involving other teachers in determining what will benefit the school as much as the students who will be participating in the program.



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## APPLICATION INTRODUCTION

Thank you for applying for the Dakota West Credit Union Financial Literacy Education Grant. Please take time to read through the Education Grant guidelines, develop a personal financial literacy education program, and complete the Application Information and Release of Information on the following pages.

## GRANT GUIDELINES

- This grant opportunity is open to any teacher providing instruction to kindergarten through high school at school located within the [Dakota West Credit Union region](#).
- Only one entry per teacher will be accepted.
- Applications will be judged on the appropriateness of the topic for the age group, the relation of the topic to the students' current studies, the ability to engage Dakota West staff in the program topic, the effectiveness of the program idea in developing students' knowledge of the financial principles of the topic, and the ways in which the program will engage and educate throughout the duration the program.
- Entries may be shared with or released to the local media, the Credit Union Association of the Dakotas, and Dakota West Credit Union members.
- Send entries electronically to [dwcw@dakotawestcu.org](mailto:dwcw@dakotawestcu.org), or by mail to: Dakota West Credit Union, Financial Literacy Education Grant, P.O. Box 1496, Watford City, ND 58854. Entries must be postmarked no later than February 24, 2020.
- Grant recipients will be announced on Thursday, March 12, 2020 via Facebook.
- Grants will be paid jointly to the individual teacher and the school.
- Winning programs will be facilitated no later than April 30, 2020.

## APPLICATION DETAILS

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Age/Grades: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Program to be Presented: \_\_\_\_\_

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Overview: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Please include additional pages if necessary to elaborate on any details of the educational program to be developed.)

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## RELEASE OF INFORMATION

*Please submit this page with your application.*

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby authorize Dakota West Credit Union permission to use my likeness in a photograph in any and all of its publications and website, including but not limited to all Dakota West Credit Union's printed and digital publications. I understand and agree that any photograph using my likeness will become property of Dakota West Credit Union and will not be returned.

I acknowledge that since my participation with Dakota West Credit Union is voluntary, I will receive no financial compensation beyond the receipt of the educational grant for which I am applying, if I am selected as its recipient. A full and complete application will allow for the receipt of a \$25 gift card for the purchase of classroom supplies. I hereby authorize Dakota West Credit Union permission to use the text of my attached application in announcing my acceptance of this grant, if offered and accepted, in any and all of its publications and website, including but not limited to all Dakota West Credit Union's printed and digital publications.

I hereby irrevocably authorize Dakota West Credit Union to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish or distribute this photo for purposes of publicizing Dakota West Credit Union's programs or for any other related, lawful purpose. In addition, I waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product, including written or electronic copy, wherein my likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of the photograph.

I hereby hold harmless and release and forever discharge Dakota West Credit Union from all claims, demands, and causes of action which I, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on my behalf or on behalf of my estate have or may have by reason of this authorization.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_