# Consumer Education/ Economics

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# **Producing Income**

### **Employment**

- Research careers identifying occupational trends, related interests and capabilities, location options, education and training required, and capabilities of salaries to support various lifestyle expectations.
- Assess the pros and cons for relocating for a new job under different scenarios.
- Complete a job shadowing experience analyzing the work environment and culture, occupational tasks performed, the skills and capabilities needed for the job, and the work interactions observed.
- Debate the pros and cons of whether a college education is worth the time and expense commitment.

#### **Entrepreneurship**

- Prepare and present a business start-up or expansion plan.
- Identify and compare online crowdfunding sites.
- Identify and compare sources of start-up capital from lenders.

# **Managing Money**

#### **Budgeting**

• Identify appropriate tasks, skills, and resources for coping under economic hardship.





### **Using Financial Services**

- Select and use appropriate tools and technology for money management.
- Distinguish between the way funds in banks and credit unions are insured.
- Describe and analyze the appropriate use of a variety of saving and investment options.
- Identify appropriate financial services and products for saving/investing over changing life circumstances and changes in the larger economy.
- Identify appropriate financial professionals for different needs.
- Identify appropriate financial products for an emergency fund.

### **Household Recordkeeping**

• Explore online options for household recordkeeping and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each.

# **Understanding the Consumer Economy**

- Explain the importance of the Consumer Economy to the local economy.
- Explain the basic principles and organization of a market economy.
- Explain the oversight roles and responsibilities of various local, state, and federal agencies and organizations in consumer protection and safety.
- Explain the provisions of major pieces of federal consumer legislation and the protections each provides.
- Explain the importance of the Consumer Economy to the country's GDP.
- Research the history, organization, programs and responsibilities of the United States Consumer Protection Bureau.

### **Financial Planning**

### **Goal Setting**

- Identify appropriate financial tasks in response to changing life circumstances.
- Articulate how attitudes, emotions, values and social pressures influence financial decisions.
- Analyze the impacts of local, regional, state, national, and global economic changes on household finances.

#### **Asset Building**

• Determine appropriate savings/investment strategies for households under different circumstances.

### **End-of-Life Planning**

• Analyze the need for and appropriate uses of end-of-life planning tools such as power of attorney, advanced care directives, living wills, and estate and trust instruments.

# **Borrowing**

### **Using Credit**

- Explain basic interest and APR calculations and the relationships among yearly and monthly interest.
- Explain how the collections industry and the collection process works.
- Analyze the impact of the credit industry and its practices on household finances.

#### **Credit Protection**

• Analyze the gaps in credit protection under current legislative protections and policy.

# **Protecting**

#### **Insurance**

- Explain why it may be important to be insured above auto coverage minimums required by law.
- Explain how insurance needs change in response to changing life circumstances.
- Analyze the health, property, disability and auto insurance requirements of households under different financial and life circumstances.
- Identify and compare health care financing options for individuals and families including group and private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid and Cover Tennessee.

#### **Identify Theft and Fraud**

• Explain the oversight roles and responsibilities of various local, state, and federal agencies and organizations in fraud prevention, redress and prosecution.

#### **Preparing for Disaster**

- Research a major disaster that displaced significant numbers of people and describe how it affected their financial identities and futures.
- Describe the process for obtaining duplicates of personal identification and reestablishing financial records after a disaster.

# **Sharing**

### **Giving**

• Describe the different purposes and the structural and operational differences between forprofit and nonprofit entities.

#### **Taxes**

- Explain the concept of the "social safety net" and analyze its effectiveness in the U.S.
- Compare the social safety net in the U.S. with that of other countries.
- Understand the basic strategies for reducing taxes on earnings and investments including tax deductibility and deferral.

# Housing

- Identify rights under Fair Housing legislation and consumer protection laws.
- Research reasons for and the process of foreclosure.
- Explain why the housing market and industry are so important to the overall economy.
- Identify current housing trends among different age groups and explain how they are related to larger social and economic trends.

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