

PERSONAL FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

Welcome to Personal Finance and Economics! This guide will help you understand what your student will learn in this required course and how you can support their learning at home. This course combines the study of economics with essential personal finance skills, preparing students to make informed financial decisions and understand the economic forces that shape their lives and communities. If you have questions, contact your child's teacher.

Course focus: Economics for Life

Your child will explore the fundamentals of economic decision-making, microeconomics, macroeconomics, and international economics, they will also learn personal finance skills they can apply to their own futures.

FUNDAMENTALS OF ECONOMICS

- Understand scarcity, opportunity cost, and rational decision-making
- Compare economic systems (market, command, mixed)
- Explore how investments in human capital and technology affect economic growth

MICROECONOMICS

- Analyze how supply and demand determine prices
- Understand different types of businesses and market structures
- Explore how households and businesses interact in the economy

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

- Understand the benefits of trade and the impact of trade barriers
- Analyze how exchange rates affect consumers and producers
- Explore Georgia's role in the global economy

MACROECONOMICS

- Learn how economic activity is measured (GDP, CPI, unemployment)
- Understand the role of the Federal Reserve and monetary policy
- Explore how government uses fiscal policy to influence the economy

PERSONAL FINANCE

- Make informed decisions about college, careers, and major life purchases
- Create and manage a personal budget, understand paystubs and taxes
- Compare financial institutions and payment methods
- Evaluate savings and investment options, including retirement accounts
- Understand credit scores, loan terms, and the risks of debt
- Learn about insurance, identity theft protection, and consumer rights

HOW YOUR CHILD WIL LEARN

High school students engage in:

- Real-World Applications: Budgeting, tax forms, credit reports, and investment planning
- Data Analysis: Interpreting economic indicators and financial documents
- Critical Thinking: Evaluating financial decisions and economic policies
- Project-Based Learning: Simulating financial planning and economic scenarios

SKILLS YOUR CHILD WILL BUILD

- Make informed financial decisions
- Understand economic principles and systems
- Analyze data and trends
- Communicate financial and economic ideas clearly

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Talk about budgeting, saving, and spending at home
- Encourage your student to track their own expenses or savings goals
- Discuss current economic events and their impact on families and communities
- Support your student in exploring career and college financing options

Personal Finance and Economics equips students with the knowledge and skills to thrive financially and understand the economic world around them.

