



C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
Governor

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Director

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## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

**April 3, 2012**

### **GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS APRIL "FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH"**

Boise, Idaho . . . Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter has signed a proclamation establishing April as "Financial Literacy Month" in Idaho, noting that, "The quality of every Idahoan's life is dramatically affected by how each citizen handles his or her money. Education is key in giving Idahoans the tools to a better financial life."

"We all know that knowledge is power and nowhere is this more evident than with financial education," the Governor said. "I encourage every Idahoan to take advantage of the great free resources the State and others have available to learn about the wise use of credit, the basics of saving and investing, home ownership preservation, and the pitfalls associated with mortgage modification fraud."

The Idaho Department of Finance, the Idaho Financial Literacy Coalition (IFLC) ([www.idahoflc.org](http://www.idahoflc.org)) – an affiliate of the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy – and Get \$mart Idaho ([www.getsmartidaho.org](http://www.getsmartidaho.org)) have joined together to sponsor "Financial Literacy Month" in April. The IFLC is a partnership of private and public-sector financial educators with whom Get \$mart Idaho is affiliated. The Department of Finance participates year round in the efforts of the IFLC and is proud to take part in this opportunity to draw attention to the need for all Idahoans to learn money management skills.

The department's presentations are drawn from *The Basics of Saving and Investing: Investor Education*, a personal finance teaching curriculum available free of charge to Idaho teachers, and *Money Smart*, a training program offered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Presentations can be customized to the needs of a particular class.

The IFLC membership sponsored Idaho's annual Piggy Bank Beauty Contest. The winners are chosen by the IFLC membership. Contest participants, currently in third through sixth grades, created their own banks and entered them in one of the four contest categories: prettiest, scariest, funniest, and celebrity-look-alike. Each winner of the four categories received a \$100 U.S. savings bond.

Below is a list of some of the events scheduled for April. A list of events throughout Idaho is on the department's Web site at <http://finance.idaho.gov>. For more information on any of these events or to schedule a presentation, please call **Patricia Highley** or **Jo Ann Lanham** of the Idaho Department of Finance at **(208) 332-8004** or toll free within Idaho at **1-888-346-3378**. All presentations are free and will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

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### Financial Literacy Month Events:

- ▶ The Department of Finance will offer financial education presentations to Idaho's high schools, investment clubs, senior centers and universities in April.
- ▶ Get \$mart Idaho is sponsoring presentations throughout northern Idaho during the month of April. Please visit the Get\$martIdaho Web site for more details on dates and times of events [www.getsmartidaho.org](http://www.getsmartidaho.org) or at the department's Web site at <http://finance.idaho.gov>.
- ▶ Weekly Consumer Bulletins focusing on various timely financial topics will be issued by the Idaho Department of Finance during April.
- ▶ The Idaho Department of Finance has a section on its website devoted to Financial Literacy Month which highlights a calendar of events during April as well as the many other resources that are available. Website resources include an assortment of financial literacy informational links and brochures, fraud prevention tips, and links to sites on such topics as "Online Fraud Prevention Tips," "Research your Broker," "Foreclosure Prevention Resources," and more. The Web site can be found at <http://finance.idaho.gov> under Education/Financial Literacy.

Department of Finance Press Releases and other information can be found on the Internet at <http://finance.idaho.gov> and may be obtained by contacting the department at (208) 332-8000 or Idaho toll-free at 1-888-346-3378.

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