



C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
Governor

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Director

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## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

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### **GOVERNOR OTTER 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 you manage your money. Education is a key to providing Idahoans the tools to achieve a better financial life."

"Making your money work for you is critical," Governor Otter said. "Financial education helps you gain an understanding of how to better manage your money. 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 financial 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 the Idaho Public Libraries have joined together to sponsor "Financial Literacy Month" in April. The IFLC is a partnership of private and public-sector financial educators. 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.

In April, the department also offers classroom presentations for interested schools. 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**". This year's winners were 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 prize of \$50.00.

Below is a list of some of the events scheduled for April. A list of events throughout Idaho is on the department's website 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

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## NEWS RELEASE

April 3, 2012

Page 2

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.

### Financial Literacy Month Events:

- ▶ The Department of Finance will offer **financial education presentations** to Idahoans at the Meridian Library and the downtown Boise Library, high schools, senior citizen centers and universities in April.
- ▶ **Weekly Consumer Bulletins** focusing on various timely financial topics will be issued by the department during April.
- ▶ **Senior Scam Jam** to be held at the **Nampa Civic Center on April 25<sup>th</sup>**. The department, BBB, AARP, Idaho Commission on Aging and many others are sponsoring this event as a way to educate senior citizens about financial fraud.
- ▶ The **Idaho Public Libraries** around the state are participating in “**Stash Your Cash**”. Events are being held at public libraries throughout the state and cover topics regarding financial matters. These events are open to anyone. Visit [www.stashcash.org](http://www.stashcash.org).
- ▶ The department has on its website a **Financial Literacy Month Calendar of Events** which highlights 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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