



IDAHO

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GAVIN M. GEE
Director

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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GOVERNOR OTTER PROCLAIMS APRIL "FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH"

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND THE IDAHO FINANCIAL LITERACY COALITION OFFER MONEY SKILLS PRESENTATIONS

Boise, Idaho . . . Declaring that, "financial literacy is essential to the financial stability of all Idahoans," Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter today signed a Proclamation establishing April as "Financial Literacy Month."

"Our economy and way of life are only as safe and strong as our ability to protect them. That requires each of us to become educated and informed about how our financial system works and our own responsibilities within it," Governor Otter said. "Knowledge is power in today's global marketplace, and financial literacy is a critical part of a well-rounded education."

The Idaho Department of Finance and the Idaho Financial Literacy Coalition (IFLC), an affiliate of the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, sponsor "Financial Literacy Month" each April. The IFLC is a partnership of private and public sector entities interested in supporting financial education. The Department of Finance participates year round in financial literacy education efforts, and is proud to team up with the IFLC during Financial Literacy Month to draw attention to the need for all Idahoans to obtain basic money management skills.

In recognition of April as Financial Literacy Month, a press conference, sponsored by the IFLC, was held on March 30, 2007, in the Governor's Office in the State Capitol featuring Governor Otter, and representatives of the IFLC, and Department of Finance.

Below are some of the events planned for Financial Literacy Month:

- ▶ "Money: Growing and Protecting It"--The Department, AARP, and the IFLC are co-sponsoring a **free** event on April 14, 2007, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the

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PROTECTING THE INTEGRITY OF IDAHO FINANCIAL MARKETS

MK Plaza, 720 Park Boulevard, Plaza One Building, Boise, Idaho. Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden will provide the keynote address. Workshops will be offered encompassing such topics as:

- Investment Scams
 - Identity Theft
 - Retirement Planning
 - Long Term Care
 - Reverse Mortgages
 - Choosing a Financial Professional
- ▶ Department and IFLC members will offer financial education presentations at Idaho high schools, senior centers, and universities.
 - ▶ The Department will host an Open House on April 26, 2007, for its securities and consumer finance constituents, educational partners as well as Idaho's economics and financial education teachers.
 - ▶ Weekly press releases will be issued by the Department during April focusing on various timely financial topics.

As part of its ongoing efforts, Department staff members are also available to make in-school presentations regarding saving, investing and other personal finance issues beyond the April event. The 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. In addition, a presentation can be customized to the needs of a particular class.

Educational materials will be distributed by the Department during April, and many resources are available for children and adults on the Department's website at <http://finance.idaho.gov>.

For more information on any of these events or to schedule a high school, senior citizen, corporate, or collegiate 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 will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

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Department of Finance press releases and other information are available on the Internet via the world wide web at <http://finance.idaho.gov> and may be obtained by contacting the Department at (208) 332-8000, or toll-free in Idaho at 1-888-346-3378.