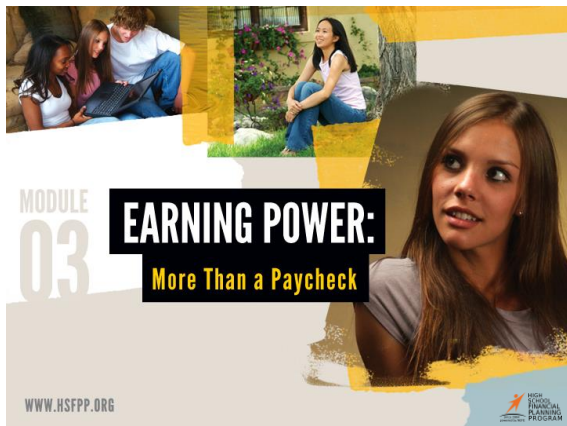
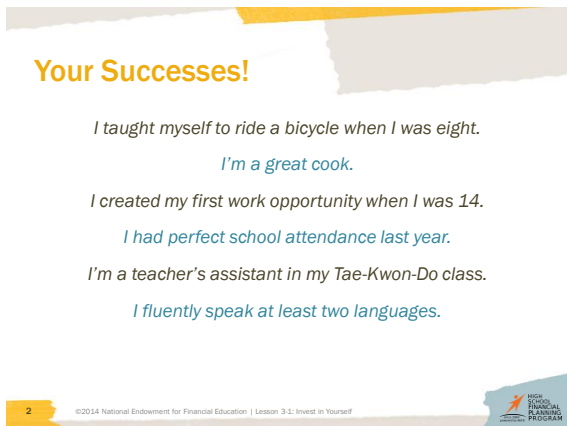


High School Financial Planning Program

Lesson 3-1: Invest in Yourself







High School Financial Planning Program

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Preview

Today we will answer these questions

- What does it mean to “invest in myself”?
- Does education really have an impact on my future earnings?
- How can I minimize the costs of advanced education?

Use what you learn today to outline a plan to “invest” in yourself through education and by continually developing skills.

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Meet Kevin and Gina

Kevin – senior

- Works part-time in restaurant
- Pursuing career in medical field
- Worried about paying for college

Gina – sophomore

- Works part-time at uncle’s auto repair shop
- Wants to work full-time after graduation
- Uncertain about post-secondary education
- Worries about family finances



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Plan Ahead for a Career

- Proactively plan to take charge of your own future.
- Expand your options rather than limit choices.
- Be positioned to take advantage of opportunities along the way.
- Have potential to rebound faster if unemployed.
- Enjoy the work you do.

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An Education is an Investment in You

Invest in education throughout your career:

- Gain new skills and sharpen existing skills so you are “marketable.”
- Keep up to date in the job market.
- Adapt to changes in employment trends.
- Provide flexibility to make career moves.

Education Options

- Four-year colleges
- Two-year colleges
- Apprenticeships
- Military

Which option(s) seem a good match for you?

How to Manage Education Costs

One of the most important and expensive events in your life should not be handled with haphazard decisions.

Streamline Expenses <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stick to a budget• Avoid nonessential expenses• Use discounts• Look for freebies: scholarships, grants, credit in high school, testing-out options	Comparison Shop <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish minimum criteria• Weigh value with what you can afford• Match to your situation and future plans	Be Strategic About Income Sources <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider the long-term value• Explore or jumpstart your career• Earn while you learn• Apply for tuition reimbursement or scholarships• Use loans with caution
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High School Financial Planning Program

Lesson 3-1: Invest in Yourself

More Ways to Manage Education Costs

More students drop out of college programs due to finances than because of grades.*

Know Before You Go	Finish on Time (or Early)	Take Steps Now
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Find out prerequisitesPrepare to meet requirementsPlan to cover costs (tuition and living costs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Map out a planStick to the planMinimize need for catch-up courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Save and invest moneyTake care of required courses in high schoolExplore optionsPosition self for eligibility (entrance requirements, entry-level jobs, scholarships, internships)

*Source: www.publicagenda.org/theirwholivesaheadofthem/reality1
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Challenge

1. Outline a plan to pursue a career that you find interesting now.
2. Select an education option that is a realistic way for you to get a good start in that career.

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Reflection

- What are the three greatest challenges I will face when preparing for my first career?
- What are the greatest opportunities I might encounter while preparing for my first career?

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