



PROPOSAL TO PRESENT

SESSION TITLE: Are Your Students College- and Career-Choice Ready?

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

Learn to teach economic and personal finance concepts and support students' college and career readiness in evaluating their choices for what path to pursue after high school. This session will highlight *Invest in What's Next: Life After High School*, an online mini-course to help students explore post-secondary education paths and job options for their future well-being. The session will also include an overview of other engaging online educational resources and programs offered by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, including their college and career readiness suite of products.

CATEGORY: 6-8, Middle School and 9-12, High School

DIVISION: Personal Finance, College & Career Readiness

SESSION LEARNING OBJECTIVES (3-5)

Attendees will learn about:

1. How *Invest in What's Next: Life After High School* supports educators in helping students be college and career ready whether in the classroom, career center, or in one-to-one mentoring sessions.
2. How the *Invest in What's Next: Life After High School* online mini-course provides an opportunity for student to learn personal finance and economic concepts while practicing making decisions about their education, career and future lifestyle in an interactive digital environment.
3. The Federal Reserve's free online educational resources and programs
4. The Federal Reserve's Education & Outreach team's mission and goals

DETAILED DESCRIPTION:

- Intended Audience: 6-12 Educators
- Grade level: High School
- Personal Finance & College and Career Readiness

Invest in What's Next: Life After High School is an online mini-course developed by the Federal Reserve Banks of Richmond and San Francisco to help students navigate their first major financial decision: what path to pursue after high school. The course encourages students to explore multiple post-secondary education paths and job options and to think about how investing in their knowledge and skills may contribute to their future well-being. The course's primary objective is to provide reliable economics-based information and tools to help high school students make informed decisions about post-secondary education. The course helps students begin planning their post-high school strategy by exploring and evaluating the costs and benefits of various education paths, while taking into account their job interests and desired lifestyle. Along the way, students develop personal finance and numeracy skills to help implement their strategy in the real world.

The course consists of three lessons: (1) Exploring My Options, (2) Budgeting for My Future, and (3) Evaluating My Plan. Each requires approximately 45 to 60 minutes of sit-down time, plus optional homework assignments. The lessons present content in a highly interactive format, featuring data-driven treatments, and help students explore their interests, discover their educational options and research schools, and budget for their future. These interactive treatments combine at the end of the course to build a plan that students can reference and update for life after high school. A dashboard directs and charts student progress in the course, allowing teachers and facilitators to tailor their own level of involvement.

Invest in What's Next has been designed to support educators and their students in a variety of settings — from the classroom to career centers to one-to-one mentoring situations. The online course provides a unique opportunity for students to learn economics and personal finance concepts while practicing making decisions about their education, career and future lifestyle in an interactive digital environment. The course does not prescribe a particular college or career path for students, but guides students to explore their options, conduct research and develop plans that align with their individual preferences and circumstances.

The session will focus on the lesson's approach of using personalized, highly interactive, data-driven treatments as a teaching method to engage students and promote informed financial decision-making. Participants will also learn how to effectively use a major financial decision that is directly relatable to students' lives to deliver content correlated with economics and personal finance standards of learning.

OUTREACH CONTACTS:

Lorraine Thayer, District Manager

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Lorraine manages the District's outreach efforts, forming strategic partnerships with state and local educational institutions, associations, and non-profit organizations. Lorraine serves as the 12th District representative to the Federal Reserve System Economic Education Group, and serves on the Board of Directors of the California, Nevada, and Oregon Councils on Economic Education. In addition, she served on the steering and planning committee for the Oregon Museum of Science & Industry's national MoneyVille project, a traveling exhibit that provided financial literacy education for K-12 students. Lorraine holds a Bachelor of Science in Business & Leadership from Marylhurst University.

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Daniel works with K-16 educators, educational organizations, and the public throughout the SF Fed's 12th District to support these audiences in learning and teaching about the Federal Reserve, economics, personal finance, college & career readiness, and the SF Fed's educational resources. Prior to joining the SF Fed, Daniel was a Program Manager at Hyve Solutions. Previously, he spent five years at Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County gaining valuable experience in program design, outreach, and volunteer management. Daniel holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Cal Poly University.