

NATIONAL
PERSONAL FINANCE
CHALLENGE
Teacher Handbook

The National Personal Finance Challenge is a competition that provides high school students with an exciting and motivating opportunity to build, apply, and demonstrate their knowledge of money management while competing against other students from across the nation. Through a two-hour personal finance simulation, teams showcase their expertise in earning income, buying goods and services, saving, using credit, investing, as well as protecting and insuring. The team achieving first place at the competition will be named the national champions.

Signature Sponsor:



A program of:



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Important information

- Event hotel
 - The Graduate, 141 N. 9th Street, Lincoln 68508 || 402.475.4011. Reservations will be made through Caleb Larson (clarson@councilforeconed.org or 212.827.3632)
 - Each national finalist team will be provided rooms 2 rooms for competitors and 1 room for the teacher/chaperone for one night, Sunday May 3, 2019. If you have any questions, please call Caleb at CEE 212.827.3632 or Becky at NCEE 402.472.2333.
- Meals:
 - Group dinner provided at 7pm May 3, 2020 at The Graduate hotel. This will be an enjoyable get to know each other gathering and is required for all participants.
 - Breakfast will be provided at The Graduate hotel.
 - Lunch will be provided day of the competition.
 - Snacks will be provided.
- Dress
 - Business for competition.
 - Business casual for Sunday evening activities.
- Social media:
 - Use the hashtag **#financechallenge** to document your experience on social media. Feel free to tag the Council for Economic Education (@CouncilEconEd), the Nebraska Council on Economic Education (@NEEconEd), and Voya (@Voya) on Twitter.
- Contacts:
 - Caleb Larson clarson@councilforeconed.org or 212.827.3632
 - Becky Barnard rbarnard3@unl.edu or 402.472.2333
 - Jennifer Davidson jdavidson2@unl.edu or 402.472.2333
 - Rosanna Castillo rcastillo@councilforeconed.org or 212.827.3633
 - Kevin Gotchet kgotchet@councilforeconed.org or 212.827.3608

Event agenda

May 3

7:00 p.m. Group dinner at The Graduate Hotel, Carson, Thomas & Morrill rooms.

May 4

7:00 a.m. Breakfast at hotel-Carson, Thomas & Morrill rooms.

8:15 a.m. Arrive at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Business atrium (730 N. 14th Street) by walking escorts or hotel shuttle

8:30 a.m. Introductions and welcome

9:00 a.m. Two hours to work on scenario and presentation

11:00 a.m. Collect flash drives of presentations

11:15 a.m. Presentations begin (five rooms, states randomly assigned, occurring simultaneously)

11:45 – 1:15 Lunch

1:15 p.m. Announce top 5 and begin Finals round

2:30 p.m. Winners declared

3:00 p.m. Adjourn/photos of winners – transportation to airport

Competition structure

1. Each team will have two (2) hours to work together to come up with a financial plan based on a detailed fictitious family scenario. Each team will create a PowerPoint presentation and present to a panel of expert judges. Presentations are limited to nine (9) minutes and an additional three (3) minutes to respond to questions.
 - a. Teams will be provided with the same fictitious family scenario (case study). Scratch paper, pens, calculators, markers, note cards and flash drive to submit PowerPoint presentation will also be provided.
 - b. Teams are required to bring at least one (1) laptop (and power cord) with Microsoft Office PowerPoint (enabled).
 - i. Teams can bring additional laptops or tablets for research purposes only.
 - ii. Laptops or tablets will NOT be provided.
 - c. Teams are NOT allowed to bring notes, prior research, or other supplies to the competition.
 - d. Free guest Wi-Fi access will be provided.
 - e. Presentation must be saved to a flash drive that will be provided to each team. As a backup, teams may email their presentations to PersonalFinanceChallenge@councilforeconed.org
 - f. CELL PHONES AND SMART WATCHES ARE NOT ALLOWED AT ANY TIME DURING THE TWO-HOUR WORK TIME OF THE COMPETITION. There will be a bucket on each table in which to deposit your phones and watches. Use of a cell phone or smart watch during this time will be grounds for disqualification from the competition.
2. Teams will be randomly selected to present in one (1) of five (5) breakout rooms. Each breakout room will have a minimum of four expert judges.

- a. Teams will have 9 minutes to present and 3 minutes to respond to questions.
 - b. Competing teams and chaperones/teachers are not allowed to observe any team during the preliminary presentations.
 - c. The top team from each breakout presentation room will advance to the Finals round. The decision of the judges is final.
3. Finals Round
- a. The top five teams will make their presentation to the entire group. An elite panel of judges will determine overall place in the national competition.
 - b. These five (5) teams will remain outside of the competition room until called to make their final presentation. Order for presentation will be randomly selected.
 - c. The first, second, third, fourth, and fifth place national rankings will be determined by the panel of elite expert judges. The decision of the judges is final.

Team structure

1. Team composition
 - a. Teams shall be comprised of three or four members.
 - b. All members must be from the same high school.
 - c. The state championship team may reconstitute the members of its team prior to the national competition. Students must however, meet the general student eligibility conditions.
2. Student eligibility
 - a. Students must be currently enrolled in a high school or home-based school from the state they are representing.
 - b. Each team must be sponsored by a teacher from its school. For home-based high school teams, one parent is to serve as the sponsor/teacher.
 - c. Students may participate each year that they are attending high school.

Prizes

First place: Banner and \$2000 for each team member.

Second place: Banner and \$1000 for each team member.

Third place: Banner and \$500 for each team member.

Fourth place: Banner and \$250 for each team member.

Fifth place: Banner and \$125 for each team member.

All national finalists will receive a 2020 limited edition National Personal Finance Challenge T-shirt.

More ways to win...

During the preliminary presentations, students and teachers will compete in a trivia competition!

Competition integrity

It is our desire to ensure that fair competition exists at all levels. If a student or chaperone/teacher is observed cheating the team will be disqualified. The following are strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification and immediate removal from the competition.

- a. Communication between the students, teachers, and chaperones during the case study preparation time/two (2) hour work time.
- b. Discussion of the case study or presentation during breaks with teachers or chaperones.
- c. Accessing any previously saved data, research, or other files on a personal laptop or online, including Dropbox or Google Drives, for use on the case study or presentation.
- d. Use of cell phones/smart watches during the two-hour case study work time.

Preparing your students

Visit the following websites for numerous lessons and ideas to prepare your students for the competition.

[EconEd Link \(https://www.econedlink.org/\)](https://www.econedlink.org/)

Council for Economic Education's portal for lesson plans, videos, activities, ed tech tools, resources to supplement our publications and more.

[Federal Reserve Education \(https://www.federalreserveeducation.org/\)](https://www.federalreserveeducation.org/)

Get the latest on educational resources from the Federal Reserve.

[Financial Avenue \(https://fa.financialavenue.org/\)](https://fa.financialavenue.org/)

Inceptia's online financial education program, Financial Avenue, mentors students on the basics of personal finance while talking to them on their level.

[Gen I Revolution simulation \(http://www.genirevolution.org\)](http://www.genirevolution.org)

In 2010, CEE published Gen i Revolution, an online strategy game that simulates a cyberpunk battle against financial illiteracy. Players will confront both economic themes and personal finance challenges.

[Next Gen Personal Finance \(https://www.ngpf.org/\)](https://www.ngpf.org/)

Free resources for personal finance teachers.

[Wells Fargo Hands on Banking \(https://handsonbanking.org/\)](https://handsonbanking.org/)

The Hands on Banking® online learning center offers resources for anyone who wants to learn more about money management.

For more information contact:

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Email: clarson@councilforeconed.org or rcastillo@councilforeconed.org
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Or

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402.472.2333

Email: jdavidson2@unl.edu or rbarnard3@unl.edu
Website: nebraskacouncil.unl.edu

Or

Your State Coordinators: (<https://financechallenge.unl.edu/>)