**The New Credit Card Regulations**

**JOIN FEFE ON FACEBOOK!**
**HELP US REACH 500 FANS ON FACEBOOK AND WIN!!!**

**Become a FEFE Facebook fan and win!**
Once we reach 500 Facebook fans, we will draw the name of one lucky FEFE Facebook fan to win a Life Of... simulation set (valued at $150). Suggest your friends and colleagues to become a FEFE Facebook Fan! You have to be a FEFE Facebook fan to qualify for the contest!


---

**MARCH NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS**

- 2010 National Training information. Page 2
- FEFE Specialized Training Information. Page 3
- Find out more about the new credit card regulations! Page 4
- Stay in the loop with the help of TCAI’s Speaker Series! Page 4
- Check out online resources to enhance your classroom! Page 5
- Learn more about the FEFE Credit Report lesson plan and the new Credit Card lesson plan coming soon. Page 5
- Meet two FEFE National Master Educators. Page 6
- Frequently Asked Questions. Page 7
- Check out new resources on our Web site! Page 7
- Consumer Jungle Fraud of the Month—Extended warranty scams. Page 8
YOU’re INVITED to HELP INSPIRE FUTURE GENERATIONS!
JOIN US for these PREMIER EDUCATOR-DESIGNED TRAININGS

Join us this summer at Family Economics and Financial Education Trainings designed “by educators…for educators” giving educators the skills and confidence to teach financial education, ultimately empowering future generations to be financially literate and savvy consumers. FEFE now brings you two different comprehensive trainings, the National Training in June and East Coast Training in August. Both are designed to provide educators with all of the resources needed to immediately implement a semester-long course, designed especially with educators new to FEFE in mind. FEFE’s training model:

- Provides interactive workshops led by current classroom educators, our FEFE National Master Educator Team, modeling lesson plan activities
- Creates networking opportunities for meaningful and relevant discussions about best practices within the financial literacy classroom
- Offers an abundance of ready-to-teach curriculum materials designed by educators

THE NATIONAL TRAINING
JUNE 14-17 IN TUCSON, ARIZONA

Here’s why you need to be a part of our memorable four-day national training experience in Tucson, AZ at the world class Westin La Paloma, June 14-17. Features unique only to the FEFE National Training are:

- Benefit from the generous support of TCA, Inc. to give you a $1,500 value, priced at just $550 which includes 4 days of meals, lodging and an abundance of curriculum.
- Learn from the entire team of all 13 FEFE National Master Educators.
- Hear from new nationally recognized speakers just announced!
  - Corey Stone, Center for Financial Services Innovation
  - Deborah Haynes, founder of the FEFE program
- Network with educators from across the county.

JOIN US at…

THE EAST COAST TRAINING,
AUGUST 3-5 IN HUNT VALLEY, MD

Maryland State Department of Education and FEFE have teamed up to give you an intensive training experience modeled after the National Training. Here’s what you will need to know about the East Coast Training:

- Benefit from a value priced registration of just $380 which includes 3 days of meals and an abundance of curriculum thanks to the Maryland State Department of Education for joining the Executive Circle of FEFE Educator Training Partners.
- Feel rewarded through amenities offered by the Baltimore Marriott Hunt Valley Inn.
  - Lodging is not included in the registration fee.
- Experience hands-on activity-based sessions led by the traveling team of select FEFE National Master Educators.
- Learn from an incredible line-up of keynote speakers including leading national experts from the Center for Financial Services Innovation.

REGISTER Today!
1ST 10 TO REGISTER RECEIVE A FREE ANSWER KEY BINDER

Need financial support to attend a training? Check out FEFE’s Building Local Partners Packet today!
## Specialized Training Opportunities

**Designed & Delivered by the FEFE National Master Educators for Educators**

### Credit in Today's Society

**Federal Reserve Bank in Baltimore**  
**April 30, 2010**

With regulations and products constantly changing, this content oriented training is sure to provide you with insight regarding the complex world of credit. This intensive one-day training showcases national experts providing timely and applicable information. By attending this event you will benefit from a deeper understanding of credit topics as well as receive instructional materials and activities that are sure to engage your audience as you integrate the content into the learning environment.

- **Who should attend:** Anyone!  
- **Registration:** $50 (includes lunch and a curriculum binder)  
- **Register by:** April 2, 2010

### Three-Day Training

**Ames, IA**  
**July 14-16, 2010**

FEFE has teamed up with Iowa State University Extension to design a training with educators in mind. Educators will receive comprehensive instruction about FEFE’s vast array of educator-oriented resources, experience the activities as each lesson is modeled by current classroom instructors and discuss best practices for success.

- **Who should attend:** Family finance educators (first priority to Iowa)  
- **Registration:** $465 (includes meals and the Take Charge of Your Finances semester/tri-semester curriculum binder as well as a best practice binder)  
- **Register by:** June 11

### One-Day Training

**Columbus, OH**  
**July 28, 2010**

Ohio Career & Technical Education and FEFE are working together to offer an intensive one-day training. This highly interactive, jam packed, training is designed to provide educators with a deep understanding of how to access FEFE’s ready-to-teach curriculum. In addition, participants will engage in experiencing and discussing several of FEFE’s most popular lesson plans modeled by FEFE National Master Educators.

- **Who should attend:** Ohio FCS and Business educators  
- **Registration:** $125 (includes breakfast, lunch and a curriculum binder)  
- **Register by:** June 1

### New/Updated Resources

**Hunt Valley, MD**  
**August 4, 2010**

Providing up-to-date, ready-to-teach lesson plans is a guiding principle of the FEFE program. In collaboration with the Maryland State Department of Education, this training is designed to engage educators previously trained by FEFE through modeling activities from new or updated FEFE lesson plans and discussing best practices when teaching financial education. Recently revised lesson plans you will want to learn more about include savings unit, consumer protection, and FEFE active learning tools.

- **Who should attend:** Anyone who has previously attended a FEFE 3 or 4-day training  
- **Registration:** $150 (includes breakfast, lunch and a curriculum binder)  
- **Register by:** July 3, 2010

### Two-Day Training

**Roscommon, MI**  
**August 16-17, 2010**

The Michigan State Board of Education has approved courses such as “personal finance” to qualify for the fourth-year math credit in Michigan if the course content focuses on family financial planning and life skills. This FEFE training sponsored by FCSEM will provide educators with the skills to teach financial education so future generations will be financially literate and savvy consumers.

- **Who should attend:** MI FCS educators (first priority then open to all others)  
- **Registration:** $487 (includes meals, lodging and the Take Charge of Your Finances semester/tri-semester curriculum binder as well as a best practice binder)  
- **Register by:** July 1, 2010

Don’t miss FEFE delivered workshops at several other professional development opportunities this summer including:

- **July 12—Pennsylvania** Governors Institute  
- **July 21 & 22—North Carolina** Career & Technical Education  
- **August 3—Kansas** Career & Technical Education
The Federal Reserve Board has created instructional materials and a Web site about the new credit card regulations. Important things to know include:

1. **No interest rate increases for the first year.** Your credit card company cannot increase your rate for the first 12 months after you open an account. There are some exceptions:
   - If your card has a variable interest rate tied to an index; your rate can go up whenever the index goes up.
   - If there is an introductory rate, it must be in place for at least 6 months; after that your rate can revert to the “go-to” rate the company disclosed when you got the card.
   - If you are more than 60 days late in paying your bill, your rate can go up.
   - If you are in a workout agreement and you don’t make your payments as agreed, your rate can go up.

2. **Increased rates apply only to new charges.** If your credit card company does raise your interest rate after the first year, the new rate will apply only to new charges you make. If you have a balance, your old interest rate will apply to that balance.

3. **Restrictions on over-the-limit transactions.** You must tell your credit card company that you want it to allow transactions that will take you over your credit limit. Otherwise, if a transaction would take you over your limit, it may be turned down. If you do not opt-in to over-the-limit transactions and your credit card company allows one to go through, it cannot charge you an over-the-limit fee.
   - If you opt-in to allowing transactions that take you over your credit limit, your credit card company can impose only one fee per billing cycle. You can revoke your opt-in at any time.

4. **Caps on high-fee cards.** If your credit card company requires you to pay fees (such as an annual fee or application fee), those fees cannot total more than 25% of the initial credit limit. For example, if your initial credit limit is $500, the fees for the first year cannot be more than $125. This limit does not apply to penalty fees, such as penalties for late payments.

5. **Protections for underage consumers.** If you are under 21, you will need to show that you are able to make payments, or you will need a cosigner, in order to open a credit card account.
   - If you are under age 21 and have a card with a cosigner and want an increase in the credit limit, your cosigner must agree in writing to the increase.

This Federal Reserve Web site also gives an interactive feature for how to read your credit card statement and a Credit Card Repayment Calculator.
We are on the lookout for Web based resources. Here is what we found for you to check out this month!

**Credit Card Simulator** – Use this simulator to choose a credit card, make purchases, then make payments learning how long it will take to pay the credit card off! [http://www.channelone.com/life/swf_credit/](http://www.channelone.com/life/swf_credit/)

**The Bad Credit Hotel** – Explore the Bad Credit Hotel while learning about credit! This resource is from the US Treasury. [http://www.controlyourcredit.gov/#frontdesk/02](http://www.controlyourcredit.gov/#frontdesk/02)

**A Crash Course in Credit** – This is an article from the Boston Globe about a program for High School students that teaches about the dangers of credit cards and ends in a mock bankruptcy trial! [http://www.boston.com/business/personalfinance/articles/2008/05/06/a_crap_course_in_credit/?page=1](http://www.boston.com/business/personalfinance/articles/2008/05/06/a_crap_course_in_credit/?page=1)

**What Is your Credit Card IQ?** – This quiz, from Northwestern Mutual, is a series of questions about credit cards! [http://www.themint.org/teens/what-is-your-credit-card-iq.html](http://www.themint.org/teens/what-is-your-credit-card-iq.html)

**Getting and Using a Credit Card** – An interactive game that focuses on credit cards and credit reports! You choose a profile based on their credit report and then answer questions in order to earn income so that you can make a credit card payment online. [http://www.italladdsup.org/mod1/](http://www.italladdsup.org/mod1/)

**Celebrity Calamity** – In this game, from D2D Fund, players become the financial manager for up and coming celebrities and must effectively use a bank account, debit card, and credit card to manage their money successfully. [http://celebritycalamity.com/](http://celebritycalamity.com/)

---

The new credit card regulations will affect all credit card holders, as well as young adults looking to obtain their first card. In the new [Understanding a Credit Card 1.4.1 Lesson Plan](http://www.fefe.arizona.edu/lessonplans/understanding-a-credit-card-1.4.1) participants will have the opportunity to learn the new laws, understand the effect credit will have on their financial life, and apply their newly acquired knowledge through an interactive web quest with highly reputable websites. This new lesson plan is coming soon.

Do your students know the difference between their credit score and their credit report? Take a look at the [Understanding Credit Reports 1.4.2 Lesson Plan](http://www.fefe.arizona.edu/lessonplans/understanding-credit-reports). Participants will have the opportunity to explore helpful websites such as VISA What’s My Score, or My FICO, in addition to learning important content such as the difference between a credit report and score, common mistakes found on a report, and how to obtain positive credit. The participants become credit detectives while trying to solve a credit case. Download this lesson plan here: [http://www.fefe.arizona.edu/lessonplans/understanding-credit-reports](http://www.fefe.arizona.edu/lessonplans/understanding-credit-reports).
Applying FEFE in a Business Classroom
By Shelly Stanton – Business Educator, Montana

The Family Economics and Financial Education Project (FEFE) is more than just a curriculum; it is a way of thinking about teaching. We are empowered to be creative. I am very fortunate to do just that with what FEFE provides. The curriculum supports me in having fun teaching personal finance while keeping the students engaged.

Although there are specific lessons I use verbatim, I often find myself experimenting with piecing together activities and overlapping lessons into my business courses. A specific example of a favorite FEFE lesson I like to use in Accounting is Understanding your Paycheck 1.13.1. This lesson is an excellent supplement to payroll accounting. FEFE lessons offer modern advancements in content and instruction that a traditional text book does not; such as the payroll card. The corresponding enrichment tools such as the Twister activity in the paycheck lesson is an exciting way to reinforce business concepts and keep students engaged.

Another example of how I integrate the FEFE curriculum into my business classes is through a basic computer course titled Tech Essentials. Career Research 1.1.2 and Comparing Job Offers 1.1.3 both provide ways of applying basic Internet search skills. I also use Microsoft Word and Excel in Comparing Job Offers. When teaching these lessons I use a variety of the corresponding enrichment lessons such as the Bee Movie 5.0.42.

On a final note, I also use a variety of FEFE active learning tools in all of my courses. The students' favorite activities for reviewing what they have learned are True or False 5.0.9, Fly Swatter Facts 5.0.28 and Jenga 5.0.14. To prepare for the Jenga activity I simply number the blocks to correspond with the number of questions I have created, then I use the textbook study guide for the questions. I keep a print out of these questions on my desk and use them at any lull point as a way to keep the students active and support them in remembering what they learned. Focus Activities 5.0.38 are also an excellent way to reinforce concepts at the start or end of any class period.

Using the FEFE Curriculum in a Variety of Classes
By Tracey Newman – FCS Educator, Missouri

In the state of Missouri, we are fortunate to have a list serve, where Family and Consumer Science (FCS) educators can post questions or pleas for help when trying to find curriculum materials to use within their classrooms. This gives me the opportunity to inform the entire state that if they are not already using the FEFE curriculum, they will soon find out how awesome it is and see the value of it. I always respond with the FEFE Web site (www.fefe.arizona.edu), promoting the incredible resources available free of charge. The curriculum materials and activities created by FEFE are engaging, comprehensive, accurate, thorough, and (sometimes the most important for our students) fun! My favorite feature of the FEFE lessons is how the hard work (researching and designing) is already completed.

The class that I initially started using the FEFE curriculum was not a personal finance course; instead it was a family living course. I wanted students to work through the process of financial decision making as a team. My objective was to help them realize that most families will have a financial decision to make in their lifetime. While searching online I discovered the "Life In" simulation 3.18.4. I quickly realized someone else had already done all the work for me! The "Life In" simulation 3.18.4 gave my students opportunities to not only make financial decisions, but also to understand what is necessary when working with another individual to reach a common goal. A vivid memory I have is printing the Life In… for the first time. Although it was a lot of initial preparation, it was well worth it and made my life easier to deliver such important concepts to my students.

My Child Development students benefit from the Budgeting for a Baby Lesson Plan 1.15.1. In my Nutrition class, students evaluate the actual cost of convenience through multiple lessons in the Foods 8.0 unit. No matter what you teach, the Active Learning Tools have something you can manipulate for any content area; Fly Swatter Facts 5.0.28 is a favorite among my students. Even if your teaching load doesn’t include a personal finance course, there are many opportunities for the FEFE materials to be integrated into other content.
1. Is there a place on the FEFE Web site where I can download the entire curriculum with one click?
   ★ Because all FEFE lesson plans were designed to be taught as stand-alone lessons or grouped into recommended courses to meet educator needs, there is not one spot to download all lesson plans. However there are many ways to search for the curriculum including lists of lessons for each of the 7 curriculum types by unit.

2. Is there any way to make FEFE an online course for students?
   ★ FEFE is not currently an online course, but our Take Charge and Get Ready to Take Charge Student Workbooks are interactive so that students may complete them electronically and submit to an online course.

FEFE Online Poll!

In January, we asked you “What brought you to the FEFE site today?” Here is how 430 of you responded!

Visit www.fefe.arizona.edu now to vote on this month’s poll: “What are you doing to learn more about the policy changes impacting consumer credit?”

NEW ON THE FEFE WEBSITE!

New and Updated Resources
We are always updating curriculum materials and making them available online for immediate download. If you find something in a lesson plan or answer key that seems off, please let us know! Often, we can quickly make a correction and re-post the material. If you are wondering how to tell if something has been updated, there are multiple ways to tell, which are specific to each individual and their download history:

1. On the home page: In the New and Updated Resources section, we record when changes have been made to a lesson plan or answer key so you can see all the latest updates small and large.

2. Download History: In your profile, there is a Download History tab. This new feature has a list, by unit, of the lessons and material that you have downloaded. It will give you several different messages under Download Status: if you have never downloaded that material, it will say “Available,” if there have been no updates since you last downloaded it, it will say “You have the latest version” and if there is an updated version, it will have the revision notes that you can read and you can decide whether to download it.

3. Lesson Plan page: Once you login, each lesson plan page will give the same messages as your Download History page for the download status and whether there are revision notes.

This is a new feature so it will only have your most recent download history!

Do you have a question? Just ask!
Our full-time staff is here to provide assistance.

Visit www.fefe.arizona.edu now to vote on this month’s poll: “What are you doing to learn more about the policy changes impacting consumer credit?”

FEFE Updates

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is there a place on the FEFE Web site where I can download the entire curriculum with one click?
   ★ Because all FEFE lesson plans were designed to be taught as stand-alone lessons or grouped into recommended courses to meet educator needs, there is not one spot to download all lesson plans. However there are many ways to search for the curriculum including lists of lessons for each of the 7 curriculum types by unit.

2. Is there any way to make FEFE an online course for students?
   ★ FEFE is not currently an online course, but our Take Charge and Get Ready to Take Charge Student Workbooks are interactive so that students may complete them electronically and submit to an online course.

FEFE Online Poll!

In January, we asked you “What brought you to the FEFE site today?” Here is how 430 of you responded!

Visit www.fefe.arizona.edu now to vote on this month’s poll: “What are you doing to learn more about the policy changes impacting consumer credit?”

NEW ON THE FEFE WEBSITE!

New and Updated Resources
We are always updating curriculum materials and making them available online for immediate download. If you find something in a lesson plan or answer key that seems off, please let us know! Often, we can quickly make a correction and re-post the material. If you are wondering how to tell if something has been updated, there are multiple ways to tell, which are specific to each individual and their download history:

1. On the home page: In the New and Updated Resources section, we record when changes have been made to a lesson plan or answer key so you can see all the latest updates small and large.

2. Download History: In your profile, there is a Download History tab. This new feature has a list, by unit, of the lessons and material that you have downloaded. It will give you several different messages under Download Status: if you have never downloaded that material, it will say “Available,” if there have been no updates since you last downloaded it, it will say “You have the latest version” and if there is an updated version, it will have the revision notes that you can read and you can decide whether to download it.

3. Lesson Plan page: Once you login, each lesson plan page will give the same messages as your Download History page for the download status and whether there are revision notes.

This is a new feature so it will only have your most recent download history!
Beware of Extended Warranty Scams

The Hook
Post cards sent through the mail (sometimes even a phone call) from a company called Extended Warranty Services EWS listing your make and model of your car and even listing the Customer ID number. The threat of financial liability is the main hook.

The Scam
You receive this post card in the mail with current information about your car. The post card reads: "IMPORTANT VEHICLE NOTICE" for your 2008 Honda Accord (or whatever car you are currently driving). The front of the postcard lists your Customer ID No. and a Deadline Date (usually a very short period of time). On the back of the card it states: "Call Now to Activate your Vehicle Service Contract." Below in bold, underlined words, reads: "Your Risks: If you choose NOT to take action, you will be FINANCIALLY LIABLE..." It goes on to say: "ACT NOW you still have time to ACTIVATE extended out-of-warranty vehicle coverage."

Any responsible car owner would feel threatened and motivated to call immediately to avoid losing the warranty protection and avoid the potential financial liability. This is an incredibly scary statement designed to induce one into taking immediate action. It is all the more convincing since it appears to come from the auto manufacturer.

The Whole Story
The EWS is not an Auto Manufacturer (nor associated with one), but simply a company that has been formed to sell expensive and very limited extended warranties with very little, or no benefit. This company receives personal information by purchasing it from the vehicle manufacturer. By using the words "financially liable", EWS implies that if you don’t call and take their extended warranty option you have somehow breached a contract and that you would be financially liable for any repairs to your car.

An actual case was reported to the Better Business Bureau and the Attorney General’s office of the home state of the incident. It was reported that an Extended Warranty Service employee called and made a sale by implying that this was the customer’s last chance of getting an extended warranty. After receiving some heat on this issue, EWS stated that they fired the employee, and decided to change its name to Endurance Warranties Service. Even with the new name, they continue to stay in business with the threat of financial liability.

The Lesson
Don’t ever be intimidated by threatening language that implies you will have “financial liability" if you don’t buy some type of product. Beware of any of these very expensive and usually poor investments, called extended warranties on any product you own. If you are inclined to purchase, first check it out thoroughly through Consumer Reports or some other reputable consumer evaluation service. When in doubt: don’t sign up for it. If you happen to come across one of these post cards (or a phone call) that states false and misleading information, contact the Better Business Bureau and your state Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Office to report.