



Welcome

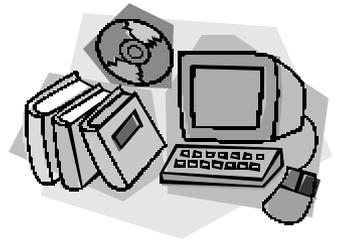
**Hawaii Council on Economic Education
2003 Economic & Financial Literacy Conference
Japanese Cultural Center
August 20, 2003**

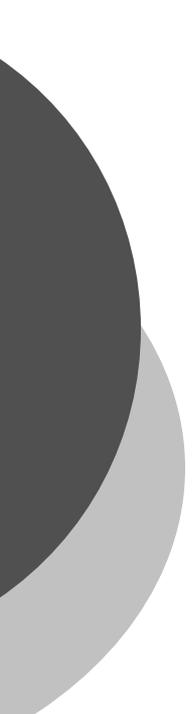
The U.S. Treasury Department's Financial Education Initiatives

**Kristin Smith
Director**

**Office of Financial Education
U.S. Department of the Treasury**

www.treas.gov/financialeducation





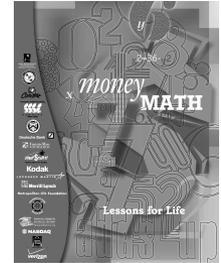
U.S. Treasury Department Office of Financial Education

- ❖ **Established in Spring 2002**
- ❖ **Focuses the Treasury Department's financial education policymaking**
- ❖ **Provides resources to consumers**

Federal Government Financial Education Programs

Money Math: Lessons for Life

Bureau of the Public Debt



H.I.P. Pocket Change

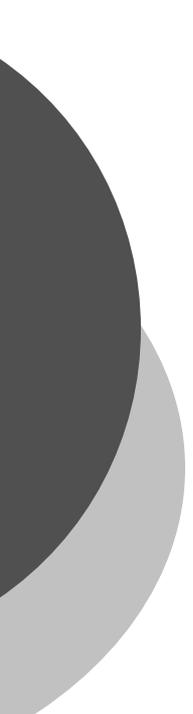
U.S. Mint



Understanding Taxes

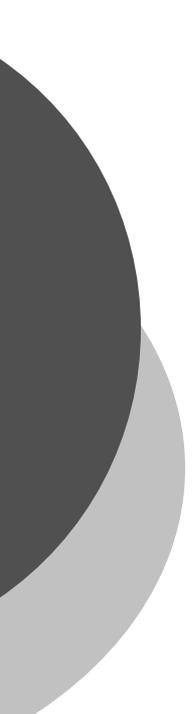
Internal Revenue Service





U.S. Treasury Department Office of Financial Education

- ❖ **Chairs Federal Government Financial Education Coordinating Group**
- ❖ **Collaborates with other Federal government agencies**
- ❖ **Recognizes outstanding financial education programs**

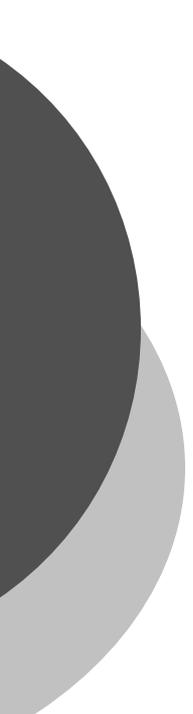


Financial Education Challenges

- ➔ **Figuring out how to reach the people who need financial education with the right programs and resources**
- ➔ **Identifying ways to coordinate efforts and avoid duplication**
- ➔ **Making available resources without providing money**

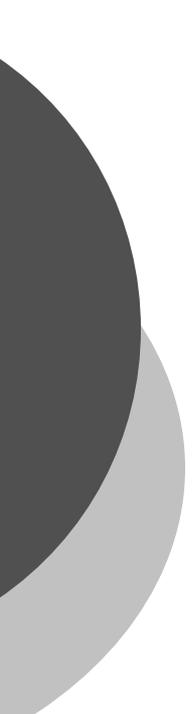
Good News on the National Financial Education Front

- **Recent increase in awareness of the importance of financial education**
- **Vast number of financial education programs & resources available**
- **Emphasis on the effectiveness of financial education**



Advice to Hawaii...

- **Continue to raise awareness about the need for and the importance of financial education**
- **Make it easy for educators to teach personal finance to their students**
- **Help consumers find the tools they need to become competent consumers and informed managers of household wealth**



Conclusion

Working together, we can make a difference and ensure that every individual has the knowledge and skills to effectively manage their financial lives.