Frequently Asked Questions
Personal Finance

1. Who has to take the state online Personal Finance test?
   Students graduating in 2010 who are taking a course in which Personal Finance competencies are embedded or students who are attempting to test out must take the test. Districts that have a Personal Finance course may also administer the test to their students.

2. How can students test out of Personal Finance?
   Students may take the state Personal Finance test once per testing window. Students must score at least 90% for their district to award them credit.

3. In what grades may the state online Personal Finance test or a Personal Finance course be taken?
   Grades 10-12.

4. Are students with IEPs required to take the state Personal Finance test if credit is embedded in another course? Are there accommodations?
   Yes. Accommodations are listed in the Online Examiner’s Manual.

5. Where does Personal Finance fit into the curriculum?
   Personal Finance may be credited as a practical arts course, a social studies course or a stand-alone course.

6. Who may teach Personal Finance?
   The school district should choose the most qualified person to teach the course. The instructor must have a valid Missouri teaching certificate.

7. How may Personal Finance be counted for credit?
   It may be counted as one-half credit for practical arts or one-half credit for social studies.

8. What resources are available from DESE for Personal Finance?
   DESE, with the assistance of educators, has developed a list of Personal Finance competencies and a model curriculum. These can be accessed at: http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/personal_finance.htm

9. May districts use student scores on the online Personal Finance test as part of the student’s grade?
   Yes, this is determined by the district.

10. How quickly are the results of the online Personal Finance test given to the student and examiner?
    Test results are generated instantly.

11. Who wrote the questions for the state online Personal Finance test?
    Missouri teachers.

12. Are there state achievement levels for the online Personal Finance test?
    No.

13. How are scores reported to the individual students?
    They are reported percent correct in each of the four strands.

14. Can the test results be downloaded electronically by districts?
    Yes.

15. When are the test windows throughout the year?
    February 17 - April 11, 2008
    May 5 - June 30, 2008

16. What is the cost of the state online Personal Finance test?
    The cost varies by size of district.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District Enrollment</th>
<th>Yearly Access Fee</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-200</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>201-400</td>
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<td>$400</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001-8000+</td>
<td>$500</td>
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17. What is the process for payment?
    The Assessment Resource Center will bill your district when students enter the online testing program. Districts will be billed once per year.
    Make all checks payable to:
    Treasurer-State of Missouri
    Mail to:
    Jeri Lou Zimmerman
    Assistant Director of Finance
    DESE-Division of School Improvement
    P.O. Box 480
    Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

Additional questions may be submitted to Bill Gerling, assistant director of assessment, Bill.Gerling@dese.mo.gov, (573) 751-0398.