



NFEC

NATIVE
FINANCIAL
EDUCATION
COALITION

April is Financial Literacy Month!

Dear Tribal and Native Leaders:

April is Financial Literacy Month!

Increased financial capability in Native communities is critical for a better future. When Native individuals, families, businesses, and tribes make better financial decisions, it benefits all of us and helps strengthen our economies. Recent large financial settlements, transfer and per capita payments, and increasing tribal and individual businesses mean we must focus our efforts to build financial capability in our youth and young adults, returning veterans, elders, and all tribal citizens.

The **Native Financial Education Coalition (NFEC)** is an alliance of tribes, Native organizations, federal government agencies, private financial institutions, Congressional policymakers, and others committed to improving financial capability in Native communities. **We invite you to join NFEC in recognizing April as National Financial Literacy Month, as designated by Congress in 2004.**

NFEC is pleased to provide this toolkit of resources to help you highlight the importance of financial education in April – and beyond. Please use these materials as needed and adapt for your specific needs:

- ▶ **Talking Points and Key Messages about Financial Education**
- ▶ **Tips for Building Financial Empowerment**
- ▶ **Possible Activities for Financial Literacy Month**
- ▶ **Facts for Financial Education**

Tribal and community leaders can join governors, mayors and other government leaders in issuing proclamations or passing resolutions, and in holding special events and activities, all to recognize financial education's importance. Research shows that Native American youth are less prepared to make informed financial choices than most of their peers, with financial literacy scores consistently among the worst. With 42 percent of the American Indian and Alaska Native population younger than age 25, it is imperative that we empower our young people to better navigate financial decisions, both as individual citizens and as future leaders of our nations.

Please join us, starting with using National Financial Literacy Month, to show your community the importance of financial education. Find the toolkit at www.ncai.org/initiatives/nativefinancial-ed/nfec. For more information, contact nfec@ncai.org or Sherry Salway Black at sblack@ncai.org. And please share with us your success. We would love to hear what actions you take to strengthen your community's financial capability.

Native Financial Education Coalition
