

Treasury Releases Report on Financial Education for Students

June 14, 2019

Washington – The U.S. Department of the Treasury today released a report on behalf of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC). The report, *Best Practices for Financial Education at Institutions of Higher Education*, provides recommendations for higher education institutions to deliver effective financial literacy education and resources to help students make informed decisions and avoid pitfalls associated with financing education. This report advances FLEC’s mission to prepare students to make sound financial choices in order to succeed in the workforce.

“It is vital for our higher education institutions to offer students the resources and information they need to make financial decisions that best fit their needs and career aspirations,” said Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin. “I am proud of the FLEC’s work and its thorough report, which is a great guide for colleges and universities to help them improve their students’ financial outcomes.”

Upon passage of the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act (S.2155) in May 2018, FLEC was required to establish best practices for institutions of higher education to teach financial literacy skills and provide information to assist when making decisions related to student borrowing. By improving consistency and transparency related to the cost of financing education and promoting greater financial capability, institutions of higher education can empower students and their families to make the best financial decision possible.

To reach their findings, The Treasury Department and the Department of Education, as well as other FLEC agency members, thoroughly reviewed research on financial education and consulted with a broad array of experts, practitioner, and stakeholders. Consultations included academic and institutions of higher education, nonprofits, state and local governments, trade associations, and other private sector entities.

Best practices for evidence-based, effective financial education covered in the report include:

- Providing clear, timely and customized information to inform student borrowing
- Effectively engaging students in financial literacy and education

- Targeting different student populations by use of national, institutional and individual data
- Communicating importance of graduation and major on repayment of student loans
- Preparing students to meet financial obligations upon graduation

The full analysis and complete list of recommendations can be found in the [report](#). 

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