

PERSONAL FINANCE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

(**Note:** This FAQ will change as more information is provided.)

Q: Where can I find the **legislation** that mandated personal finance as a part of the graduation credit requirement?

A: There are two legislative mandates in **South Carolina** that determine what concepts will be taught in the course. They are SC Code § 59-29-410 (2018) and [Bill S. 16](#) (2022).

Q: What **regulation** has to be amended to change South Carolina graduation requirements?

A: State Board Regulation 43-234, Defined Program, Grades 9–12 and Graduation Requirements has to be amended.

Q: Will students who are currently enrolled (2022-23) in Personal Finance or Business Finance be "**grandfathered**" in and receive the required personal finance credit for graduation? For instance, students enrolled in those courses this year.

A: The personal finance graduation requirement begins in 2023-24 for the entering freshmen class. Students have until **graduation** to earn the credit.

Q: Will the one-half (½) unit Personal Finance course be a **CTE** course?

A: Yes

Q: Since the one-half (½) unit Personal Finance course is in the Finance cluster, can **Perkins** or **EIA** money be used to support the course?

A: Yes. Refer to the 2023-24 Perkins and/or EIA Expenditure Guidelines found on the [CTE Local Application webpage](#).

Q: Can the one-half (½) unit Personal Finance course be a part of a CTE **completer program**?

A: No, one-half (½) unit courses do not count as a part of CTE completer programs.

Q: Once students have received the one-half (½) unit for Personal Finance, do they need to take **another** personal finance course for one (1) Carnegie unit?

A: Yes, if the student is required to take another a personal finance course as part of a CTE completer program.

Q: Can **dual enrollment or local-board approved 1-unit** courses be used to meet the personal finance graduation requirement?

A: 1-unit courses will need to be vetted and approved by OCTESTS using the Advanced Personal Finance, 5131, course standards. An application will need to be submitted March 1, prior to the beginning of the next school year.

Q: What **curriculum** can be used for the one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit Personal Finance course?

A: State and district-approved curriculum that is aligned to the course standards can be used.

Q: Who can **teach** the course?

A: Teachers with the following teacher certifications can teach the course:

4H Business/Marketing
23 Economics +
10 Math +
35 Family and Consumer Science
GLC Grade Level Certification +
+ additional training or courses approved by the OCTESTS

* No longer issued but acceptable on valid certificate

4B Business/Marketing/Computer Technology
44 Accounting and Related Business
48 Accounting and Related Economics
47 Business Education
40 Commerce / Office Occupations
46 Data and Information Processing
32 Distributive Education

Q. Will the teacher certifications for the $\frac{1}{2}$ unit Personal Finance course (5141) also apply to the one-unit, Advanced Personal Finance course (5131)?

A: Yes.

Q: Will teachers be required to attend **professional development** sessions/opportunities?

A: If teachers have never taught personal finance courses, professional development is **required**. Examples may include SC Finance Forum, summer PDs, post-secondary personal finance course, or a vendor-driven PD.

Q: Is the **Economics** course still required for graduation?

A: Yes, the Economics course is still required for graduation credit.

Q: Does personal finance still need to be taught in the **Economics** course?

A: All course academic standards and indicators are to be taught as mandated by the State Board of Education.

Q: There is already a 1-unit course called Personal Finance, course code **5131**. Won't this cause confusion for scheduling in the implementation year for the one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit Personal Finance course?

A: The 1-unit course name will be changed upon committee recommendation in the spring, 2023. Communication will be sent out to all LEAs. The revised course name is Advanced Personal Finance.

Q: Can the one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit course, Personal Finance, be taught in the **8th** grade?

A: The Personal Finance course standards committee recommends that the course be taught in grades 9-12, with a strong recommendation for **11-12**.

Q: Is the one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit course, Personal Finance, course code 5141, the only course that can be used to meet the graduation requirement?

A: No. The following courses have been vetted and can be used to meet the graduation requirement.

Banking Services 5271

Business Finance 5273

Entrepreneurship 5400

Financial Fitness 5812

Advanced Personal Finance (old name: Personal Finance) 1 unit 5131

Securities and Investments 5277

The Office of Career and Technical Education and Student Transition Services

Personal Finance FAQ

August 2023

Q: Can the ½ unit course, Personal Finance, course code 5141, be counted as a CTE elective?

A: It depends on which CTE course will be used to meet the Personal Finance graduation requirement. Locate the high school courses and graduation requirements at this [link](#).

Q: Can we offer a dual credit course to satisfy the graduation requirement?

A: Yes, a dual credit course can be offered if it aligns with one of the one-credit courses approved to meet high school graduation requirement. The CTE Dual Credit for Completer Status Guidelines, found at this [link](#), must be followed to make the request.

Q: What dual enrollment courses have been vetted and could be used to meet the graduation requirement?

A: BAF 101, FINA 369, ECON 110

Q: At the present time, there are no official instructional materials for the Personal Finance, 5141, course since it is a new course. I want to use a textbook. How would I be able to order textbooks for my course?

A: Until new materials become available, schools may order one-year digital access to Advanced Personal Finance (5131), Financial Literacy (2705), or Financial Fitness (5812) through Destiny Textbook Manager.

District selections must be reported before schools place orders for the one-year digital access. The attached current list of reported selections for Personal Finance (5131), Financial Fitness (5812), and Financial Literacy (2705) is attached. If your district needs to report or choose a new selection for Personal Finance (5141), please submit to textbookorder@ed.sc.gov. In addition, attached are lists of free resources. Please contact the Office of Instructional Materials if you have questions or need additional information at textbookorder@ed.sc.gov; 803-832-8210.

Q: Where can I find resources to teach my personal finance course?

A: Both Personal Finance, 5141, and Advanced Personal Finance, 5131, course share a resource page. The [link](#) is found at the bottom of each of the course standards document.

Q: I have heard about the Instruction Hub and that the Personal Finance course is in it. How do I go about accessing the playlists:

A: In order to access the Instruction Hub, you must be provided access from your district Instruction Hub contact person.

Q: I want to use the playlists from the Instruction Hub but I don't know how to download them. Who could I contact for help?

A: Access the Instruction Hub / Professional Development webpage. There is a calendar of regularly-scheduled professional development that teachers can participate to learn how to use the Personal Finance playlists, and on multiple dates.

[Registration Link](#)