

April is Financial Literacy Month

Celebrated annually, this month serves to highlight the importance of strengthening financial literacy skills, no matter our age.

The financial education of our youth equips them with skills to become financially confident and responsible adults. I am excited to provide resources to assist in growing understanding about budgeting, saving and spending. Teaching financial education to children helps them gain the skills needed to plan for the future and to instill confidence to make sound financial decisions in adulthood.

Linked below are free Financial Bingo boards to help teach children various financial skills and lessons. Each board is designed with activities and talking points specific for their unique age group about topics including savings goals, earning, borrowing and much more. Complete five across, down or diagonally to get a bingo!

Elementary Bingo Board

Middle School Bingo Board

High School Bingo Board

Elementary Board – 2/page

Middle School Board – 2/page

High School Board – 2/page

There are even more resources to explore on my <u>Financial Education and Empowerment webpage</u> than just the Financial Bingo boards. With games, lessons, talking points and apps, there are resources for all ages!

Throughout Financial Literacy Month, join me on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> or <u>Instagram</u> for even more information, articles, games and videos about various financial literacy topics like budgeting, debt relief, retirement savings, credit scores and more.

Instagram

Twitter

Facebook

Tax Time and Tax Savings with College Savings Iowa





While taxes may not be at the top of your list of exciting things to read about, it is exciting to share a tax-saving benefit the College Savings Iowa 529 plan offers Iowa taxpayers. If you are an Iowa taxpayer and haven't yet submitted your 2022 Iowa taxes, account contributions can be made until May 1, 2023 to meet the 2022 tax-deductible amount of \$3,522 per beneficiary account.

lowa taxpayers will be able to deduct up to \$3,785 per beneficiary account from their 2023 state taxes.

About College Savings Iowa

College Savings Iowa is the State's direct-sold 529 plan and helps families save for the costs of education on a tax-advantaged basis. Funds in an account can be used for tuition, room and board, books, supplies and other qualified education-related expenses. Read the Program Description for more information about the Plan.

ABLE Age Adjustment Act to Benefit Millions

<u>IAble</u>, lowa's Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) plan, provides individuals with disabilities and people in their support system a way to save above asset caps for disability-related expenses without compromising their eligibility for certain federal assistance programs, like Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid. In December, the Age Adjustment Act for ABLE plans was passed, which will raise the eligibility age for the onset of a disability from age 26 to 46. Beginning in January 2026, 6.2 million more people, including more than 1 million veterans, will have the ability to benefit from an ABLE account; this also includes people with multiple sclerosis and other neurological conditions often diagnosed after their mid-twenties.

Learn More About IAble in Our Upcoming Webinar

As a way to help individuals with disabilities pursue financial freedom, IAble is proud to support Financial Literacy Month in April. To celebrate, IAble is partnering with the Iowa DD Council to offer a <u>free webinar</u> April 5 from 5-6 p.m. covering topics like IAble enrollment updates, the ABLE Age Adjustment Act and more. Click the button below to register.

Register

In Case You Missed It

The Great Iowa Treasure Hunt had great success returning funds to past and present Iowans on National Unclaimed Property Day, celebrated annually on February 1. From January 29 to February 6, the Great Iowa Treasure Hunt had over 10,000 claims submitted totaling over \$4 million! This year's largest claim was for over \$400,000! Over 415,000 properties for past and present Iowans were added to our list in 2022, so even if you've searched for your name before, it could be beneficial to search again at GreatIowaTreasureHunt.gov. You never know what might be waiting for you!

