



Financial Fitness Act

Over the past 20 years, the cost of college in America has risen drastically, leading to a significant increase in student loan debt. **Today, the average individual owes \$37,088 in federal student loans.**

This growing financial burden has significant racial and social equity implications. **Black, Latino, American Indian, and Alaskan Natives borrow at rates above their white peers.** Additionally, debt among first-generation college students and older adults has increased as many take on college debt for their children and grandchildren.

Providing student borrowers and families with the knowledge to make wise decisions will better secure their financial futures. The Financial Fitness Act will furnish the tools necessary to empower well-informed financial choices.

The Financial Fitness Act directs the Department of Education to establish a personal finance education portal on a centralized website accessible to student borrowers and their families. The portal will include information about:

- Core financial literacy concepts such as earning, saving, investing, spending, and borrowing
- How to distinguish between Federal and private student loans
- Managing student loan repayments
- Federal student loan forgiveness options
- Budgeting and credit usage
- Types of retirement savings accounts
- Other personal finance concepts determined relevant by the Secretary of Education

Every student should have the opportunity to build knowledge and awareness of financial literacy before taking on student loan debt. The Financial Fitness Act will provide these resources to individuals, allowing them to make well-informed decisions that will impact their economic futures.