



Money Smart for Adults: Disability-Related Topics

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A. Topics in *Scenarios for Financial Inclusion: Supplement for Instructors/Trainers*

Instructors can use this resource to promote discussion during training sessions. There are four scenarios featuring individuals with disabilities considering financial decisions:

- Ming has Down syndrome and wants to open a checking account
- Portia is blind and learns about ABLE accounts
- Terrence has multiple sclerosis and needs to modify his home
- Juan has a service-connected disability and would like to buy a house

B. Topics in Instructor Guides (IG) and Participant Guides (PG)

These documents include several disability-related topics:

| Money Smart for Adults | Page in IG | Page in PG |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Module 2: You Can Bank On It | -- | -- |
| Section 1: Financial Products, Services, and Providers | -- | -- |
| • Discusses accessing bank services | 15 | 5 |
| • Includes “My Needs and Access” in <i>Apply It: My Banking Checklist</i> | 26 | 10 |
| • Includes “Third Party Access” in <i>Apply It: My Banking Checklist</i> | 29 | 13 |
| Section 3: Managing an Account | -- | -- |
| • Discusses ATM accessibility features | 57 | 32 |
| Section 4: Prepaid Cards | -- | -- |
| • Discusses electronic benefit transfer | 65 | 34 |
| Module 3: Your Income and Expenses | -- | -- |
| Section 1: Income | -- | -- |
| • Discusses public benefits or entitlements that pay money, and other benefits or entitlements as types of income | 12 - 13 | 3 |
| • Discusses electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards | 17 | 5 |
| Section 2: Expenses | -- | -- |
| • Discusses resource and asset limits related to public benefits | 33 - 34 | 15 |
| Module 4: Your Spending and Saving Plan | -- | -- |
| Section 1: Making a Monthly Spending and Saving Plan | -- | -- |
| • Discusses public benefits or entitlements that pay money, and other benefits or entitlements as types of income | 12 | -- |
| Module 5: Your Savings | -- | -- |
| Section 5: Saving and Public Benefits (the entire section) | 50 - 57 | 26 - 30 |
| • Includes resource limits on public benefits and information on special accounts, including ABLE Accounts, special needs trusts, pooled special needs trust, Plan to Achieve Self- Support (PASS), and matched savings accounts | -- | -- |

| Money Smart for Adults | Page in IG | Page in PG |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Module 7: Borrowing Basics | -- | |
| Section 3: Borrowing When Someone Helps You Manage Your Money (the entire section) | 33 - 37 | 16 - 17 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses the responsibilities of the person helping another person | -- | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses issues when borrowing money with someone’s help | -- | -- |
| Module 8: Managing Debt | -- | -- |
| Section 5: Dealing with Student Loan Debt | -- | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentions the total and permanent disability discharge program for federal student loans | 59 | 33 |
| Module 11: Protecting Your Identity and Other Assets | -- | -- |
| Section 2: Identity Theft and Fraud | -- | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses mobility or dexterity considerations when using ATMs, and cautions when sharing PINs with personal attendants to reduce risk of identity theft | 24 | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses alternatives to having people read mail for individuals who are blind or visually impaired, to reduce risk of identity theft | 25 | -- |
| Module 12: Making Housing Decisions | -- | -- |
| Section 1: What Are My Options? | -- | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home features included in <i>Apply It: Making Housing Decisions—What Do I Need and Want?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Strong disability community and disability-related services ✓ Distance to supportive people ✓ Accessibility features ✓ Location and size of bedrooms and bathrooms—are they accessible and large enough to accommodate mobility devices? ✓ Wide hallways, accessible countertops and storage, grab railings | 13 - 16 | 4 - 6 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasons for renting include that the rental may already have accessibility accommodations you may need, such as lower countertops and wider hallways | 17 | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasons for buying include that you may have more direct control of the modifications to your home to make it accessible | 19 | -- |
| Section 3: What’s Next If I Decide to Rent? | -- | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses importance of distance to supportive people and accessibility features for people with disabilities | 37 | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses reasonable modifications and reasonable accommodations | 45-46 | 38-39 |
| Module 14: Disasters—Financial Preparation and Recovery | -- | -- |
| Section 1: Preparing Financially for Disasters | -- | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentions that renter’s insurance and homeowners insurance might not cover expensive items, such as mobility devices like scooters, electric wheelchairs, or other accessibility devices and recommends adding a rider, if needed | 17 - 18 | 6 - 7 |

| Money Smart for Adults | Page in IG | Page in PG |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentions that the amount of homeowner’s insurance should include the value of accessibility devices | 18 | 7 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discusses direct deposit, including for public benefits | 21 | 9 |
| Section 2: Recovering Financially from Disasters | -- | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes finding batteries or chargers for hearing aids and mobility devices as first priority steps to recovering from a disaster | 26 | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes finding out how to repair, replace, or borrow replacements for assistive technology in discussion of how to recover from damage to your property | 28 | -- |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes contacting your benefits providers and exploring public benefits you may be eligible to receive in discussion of how to recover from a disaster affecting your income or job | 29 | -- |

C. Inclusive Examples Throughout *Money Smart for Adults*

In addition to the above information, relevant items and topics are found throughout the curriculum:

Module 3: Your Income and Expenses

- Public Benefits are included as a source of income in *Apply It: My Monthly Income Log*
- Personal Care Attendant and Service Animal Expenses are included as expenses in *Apply It: My Monthly Expense Log*

Module 4: Your Spending and Saving Plan

- In one of the activities, Walter is blind
- Needing to repair or replace hearing aids is included as a possible reason people might not have enough money to pay bills in full and on time
- Reviewing eligibility for public benefits is included as a possible way to increase income
- Impact on ability to live independently is included as a possible consequence of not paying bills in full and on time
- Personal Care Attendant and Service Animal Expenses are included as expenses in *Apply It: My Spending and Saving Plan*
- Public Benefits are included as a source of income in *Apply It: My Spending and Saving Plan*

Module 7: Borrowing Basics

- In one of the activities, Shandra is trying to get a loan for an accessible van

Module 9: Using Credit Cards

- In one of the activities, Siddharth has a disability that affects his balance and mobility

Module 10: Building Your Financial Future

- An ABLE account is listed as an example of an asset *Try It: Calculating Net Worth*
- Public benefits are mentioned as a way to increase household resources

Module 11: Protecting Your Identity and Other Assets

- Assistive technology is listed as an example of an asset
- The importance of having insurance coverage for a mobility scooter or power wheelchair is noted

Module 12: Making Housing Decisions

- In one of the activities, Sidney uses a wheelchair and likes the accessibility of public transit in his new city.

Module 13: Buying a Home

- Structural changes for accessibility is included as an example of a one-time cost to owning a home
- Personal Care Attendant and Service Animal Expenses are included as examples of monthly expenses other than debt and non-housing expenses
- Public benefits are included as a source of income

Module 14: Disasters—Financial Preparation and Recovery

- *Where to Get More Information or Help* in the Participant Guide mentions where to find information on readiness recommendations for the disability community.

D. Formats

- Money Smart for Adults is currently available in an instructor-led format. We expect to release accessible online learning games and resources later in 2020. These will eventually replace the existing online Money Smart learning game known as the CBI.
- In consultation with members of the d/Deaf and hard of hearing community, we are developing Braille and American Sign Language Money Smart products.

E. Roadmaps

- The *Guide to Presenting Money Smart for Adults* provides several roadmaps. They suggest specific modules and sections to include in your training depending on the needs and interests of your participants.
- Two roadmaps that may be relevant for people with disabilities start on the next page.

Roadmap: Participants with Disabilities

People, including people with disabilities, who want to improve their financial knowledge and well-being can benefit from the full range of topics covered by *Money Smart for Adults*.

In addition, several sections within the curriculum cover topics that may be of special interest to participants with disabilities.

| Module | Section | Time | Importance |
|-----------------------------|---|--------|---|
| 3: Your Income and Expenses | 1: Income | 55 min | Discusses different types of income (including various public benefits or entitlements), ways to receive income, how to read and understand a pay statement, and how to keep track of income. |
| | 2: Expenses | 30 min | Discusses different types of expenses and ways to manage expenses, as well as resource and asset limits related to public benefits. |
| 5: Your Savings | 1: What is Saving? | 25 min | Provides participants with information about the reasons saving money is important and finding money to save. |
| | 5: Saving and Public Benefits | 25 min | Helps participants understand their options for saving money if they receive public benefits. |
| 7: Borrowing Basics | 1: Ways to Borrow Money and What It Costs | 35 min | Provides participants with information about different types of loans and the costs of borrowing. |
| | 3: Borrowing When Someone Helps You Manage Your Money | 10 min | Covers what participants can discuss with people helping them manage their money. |

| Module | Section | Time | Importance |
|--|--|-------------|---|
| 12: Making Housing Decisions | 1: What Are My Options? | 55 min | Guides participants through the process of selecting safe and secure housing that meets accessibility and other needs. |
| | 3: What's Next if I Decide to Rent? | 30 min | Helps participants who choose to rent a home understand the steps they can take to protect themselves in a rental arrangement. Also discusses accessibility accommodations and modifications. |
| 13: Buying a Home | 1: Getting Ready to Own Your Home | 65 min | Helps participants who choose to buy a home understand the homebuying process and determine how much house they can afford. |
| 14: Disasters – Financial Preparation and Recovery | 1: Preparing Financially for Disasters | 35 min | Helps participants save time, money, and stress when a disaster strikes by making financial preparations, including insuring assistive technology. |

You can add other modules and sections that you think would be useful for the participants.

Roadmap: Participants with Cognitive Disabilities

Participants with cognitive disabilities may need more time and support to get the most benefit from financial education. It can be very helpful to break up the training into several sessions. In terms of content, participants with cognitive disabilities will most likely benefit from:

| Module | Section | Time | Importance |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------|---|
| 1: Your Money Values and Influences | 1: Values and Money | 30 min | Guides participants through the process of thinking about their values, and how values relate to financial choices. |
| | 2: Goals and Money | 25 min | Helps participants write goals that can guide their financial choices. |
| 5: Your Savings | 1: What is Saving? | 25 min | Provides participants with information about the reasons saving money is important and finding money to save. |
| | 5: Saving and Public Benefits | 25 min | Helps participants understand their options for saving money if they receive public benefits. |
| 11: Protecting Your Identity and Other Assets | 2: Identity Theft and Fraud | 1 hr 10 min | Guides participants through steps they can take to protect their identity and deal with identity theft and fraud. |

You can add other modules and sections that you think would be useful for the participants.

We welcome your feedback and suggestions to communityaffairs@fdic.gov.

