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Smart Investing: Reference Strategies and Resources

Learn how librarians can take advantage of “*Smart Investing: Reference Strategies and Resources*,” a self-paced course to promote confidence and competence in responding to library customers’ questions on personal finance and investments.

This online training course was originally developed for Santa Clara County Library District (SCCLD) reference staff. It is available to all Nebraska librarians who would like to improve their reference strategies and knowledge of financial literacy concepts and resources. As a result of taking this course, you will be introduced to many useful web resources and will be directed to readings that will cover language, definitions, and concepts in a variety of financial areas, including:

- Personal financial planning and budgeting
- Banking and banking products
- Basics of investment
- Investing in stocks, bonds, and mutual funds
- Evaluating stocks using company and industry information
- Mortgages, short sales, first-time home buying, and real estate as an investment
- Retirement accounts, including IRAs and 401(k)s

To supplement the information found in the Santa Clara curriculum, the Nebraska Library Commission has prepared a few helpful documents directing you to links to Nebraska-related sites and agencies.

This online curriculum is being offered as part of the Nebraska Library Commission and Northeast Library System’s “Smart Investing @ your library® Builds Nebraska Communities” project funded by a \$100,000 FINRA Investor Education Foundation grant. Although the 23 public libraries participating in that project will benefit by receiving Financial Literacy Resource Kits and receiving customer financial literacy training in their libraries later this year, all of Nebraska’s public libraries are welcome to participate in the Santa Clara librarian online training. Starting this summer, all Nebraska libraries will also be invited to direct your customers to participate in the 4-week online Smart Investing @your Library® Training, written by Iowa State University Extension and available through the Nebraska Library Commission’s **NCampus**.