



WPI

Dollars and \$ense

Financial Wellness Newsletter, B-term 2016

Financial Literacy Workshops:

Upcoming sessions...

Identity Theft

Wed. Nov. 9th

4:00 – 5:00pm

Salisbury Labs #115

Younger Americans are more susceptible to ID theft & scams. Join us to learn how scammers are attacking the younger generations & what the government is doing about it. Learn how to protect yourself from potential future losses. Your identity & money should remain yours!

Dinner will be provided & prizes will be raffled!

Register now on [Regi25](#), [Facebook](#), or [TechSync](#)!

Investing

Wed. Dec. 7th

12:00 – 1:00pm

Campus Center, Odeum B

Do you have questions about what to do with your money, how to make the most of it, get more of it, & set yourself up for financial wellness? This interactive workshop will help you to create the foundation for mastering your money. Kelly Lannan, *Fidelity Investment Director of Young Investors*, will take you through core concepts to conquer your money plan & answer any of your questions.

Lunch will be provided and prizes will be raffled!

Register now on [Regi25](#), [Facebook](#), or [TechSync](#)!



We'll be having more sessions throughout the year! Keep an eye out at: www.wpi.edu/+FinLit

Suggestions for workshops:

Send us an email at FinLit@wpi.edu

Stay fru-ghoul this fall...

Sorry we had to...

All bad puns aside, as we prepare for the upcoming holiday spending splurge that seems inevitable, it's important to stay responsible with your spending. That's where we come in! Read on for some tips, things to be aware of, and be sure to attend our FinLit sessions (see left hand column) for more opportunities to grow your financial knowledge.

File Your 2017-2018 FAFSA Now!

"Prior-Prior Year" Brings Exciting Changes

With changes to how the FAFSA operates, you can file your 2017-2018 FAFSA now rather than waiting until January 1st!

Starting with the upcoming academic year, the FAFSA opens on October 1st each year instead of a few months later on January 1st. You can file the FAFSA at fafsa.ed.gov – or see more information on this process [here](#).

Additionally, the federal government has changed the tax year that the FAFSA uses in its calculations to "prior-prior year (PPY)." This means that when you complete your 2017-2018 FAFSA, you will use your 2015 tax information – the same tax year you used to file your 2016-2017 FAFSA.

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND COLLEGE FROM	YOU WILL SUBMIT THIS FAFSA	YOU CAN SUBMIT THE FAFSA FROM	USING INCOME AND TAX INFORMATION FROM
July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016	2015–16	January 1, 2015–June 30, 2016	2014
July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017	2016–17	January 1, 2016–June 30, 2017	2015
July 1, 2017–June 30, 2018	2017–18	October 1, 2016–June 30, 2018	2015
July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019	2018–19	October 1, 2017–June 30, 2019	2016

These changes are designed to make it easier for students and parents to file tax information instead of rushing to get their tax documents filed to the federal government every spring. In most cases, families should have their 2015 federal income taxes complete, even those that used a tax filing extension.

When filing the FAFSA, families can use the Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) to transfer the tax information directly from the IRS, which helps eliminate errors in filing the FAFSA.

The Office of Student Aid & Financial Literacy strongly encourages families to complete the 2017-2018 FAFSA as early as possible – just go to fafsa.ed.gov. Please ensure you are completing the **2017-2018** FAFSA, not the 2016-2017!

Savings Challenge #8

Tweet us your savings accomplishments!

This term we want you to get social about your savings! We challenge you to say no to at least one purchase this term and be proud of it! If you're feeling extra frugal, try doing this once a week all term long.

Tweet us a picture of the purchase(s) you said no to at @WPIFinancialAid using the hashtag #SavingsChallenge. Every tweet will get you an entry into our End-of-Year Grand Prize drawing. See the left hand column for more info!



Win our Grand Prize!

Last year, Yamaris Terrero Martinez '17 & Jacob Zizmor '16 each won a pair of Beats By Dre headphones! You could win big too! Every time you come to one of our FinLit workshops your name will be entered to win our End-of-Year Grand Prize! What will it be this year?...Stay tuned! The more workshops you attend the better your chances...

Have suggestions for the prize? Send us an email at finlit@wpi.edu.



Spring Bills:

Spring bills will be emailed out in early December & will be due in early January. As always, keep an eye on your WPI email so you're always kept up to date.

All billing questions should be directed to the Bursar's Office.



CashCourse:

As a WPI student you are eligible to take advantage of CashCourse for free! This site offers tons of free resources to help you manage your finances. Everything from creating a budget to comparing job offers. Sign up today at www.cashcourse.org



Contact Us:

Office of Student Aid & Financial Literacy
2nd Floor, Bartlett Center
Phone: 508-831-5469
Email: FinAid@wpi.edu
www.wpi.edu/+FinAid
Mon. – Fri. 8:00am – 5:00pm

Our office will be closed from Nov. 23rd through Nov. 25th for Thanksgiving break.

Financial Literacy Ambassadors

Welcome to our new team members!

This year we have welcomed three new team members to team #WPIFinLit! We are very excited to have Lindsey Stevens '20, Maiya Mitchell '20, and Obianuli Obiora '18 on our side! You will be seeing all three around campus promoting our events, gathering information, filming videos, hanging with @WPIDozer, and so much more! We're looking forward to some awesome collaboration, guys!

2013 Cohort Default Rates Released

WPI grads continue to make us proud!

Every year the Department of Education releases the annual Cohort Default Rates. This year the national rate is 11.3%. This means that of all the students in the country who entered repayment in 2013, 11.3% of those students have fallen into default on their student loans. That is a very scary number, but as always WPI students shine. Our institutional default rate is only 1.9% (the average rate among Massachusetts schools is 6.1%), which means that our students are graduating and finding great jobs that allow them to successfully repay any loans that they may have borrowed during their time here. Our default rate has even gone down from last year, when our rate was 2.2%! We couldn't be more proud!

Super Fru-Ghoul Halloween Costumes

Halloween is less than a week away...if you're too busy to search for the perfect costume (and don't want to spend a bucket load doing so), then look no further!

Grab some orange foundation & a fake plant from the Dollar Store:



Popsicle sticks & a fisherman's hat = instant Wilson:



Bonus points for wearing this one to our next FinLit session:



Glue plastic bugs to nylons for this creepy look:



Comfort & warmth = Three Blind Mice:



Cut up a cheap umbrella = bat:



Source: Buzzfeed.com