Engage: Katrina’s Classroom—back to school video and discussion

In this video, your students meet a young woman named Jamie and her friends, all of whom had to evacuate New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina. The young people talk about the important role a budget plays in building savings and being prepared in the face of an emergency. Use the discussion questions at the end of the video to reinforce the content.

Teach: Budgeting basics

Give students a compelling reason to prioritize the important life skill of budgeting. This activity provides a full lesson plan, accompanying PowerPoint presentation, and an extension activity. Use the Why Budget? infographic to reinforce the key parts of a budget. Use the online version or order a print copy of the poster today!
Practice: Budgeting 101 online course

Register as an instructor and then enroll your students in the Budgeting 101 Online Course. Budgeting is the most basic and most important tool in anyone's financial toolbox. With this online course, students are given the hands-on opportunity to create budgets for fictional “Regan” during her sophomore year in nursing school, and later, as a recent graduate with an apartment and a new car. Using either Microsoft Excel or Google Docs, the students download our budgeting tool with space for their own budget as well as the examples they created by establishing Regan’s budget.

Assess: Project-based learning—tracking expenses and creating a budget

Assign this project to your students and instill the daily practice of expense monitoring. They will perform weekly progress checks to determine whether their budget is on target for the month. The project includes a follow-up reflective essay assignment and a grading rubric for easy implementation.