Financial Scholars

Financial Scholars to Pay Nearly $200,000 Directly to Pennsylvania and Connecticut Teachers for Professional Learning

PHILADELPHIA, PA November 3, 2026 Financial Scholars is distributing more than $128,000 directly to 121 personal finance teachers across Pennsylvania and Connecticut this week, compensating educators for time spent strengthening their knowledge, skills, and classroom practice. An additional $60,000 in stipends is planned for the second half of the 2026-27 school year, bringing total planned direct payments to teachers to nearly $200,000.

These stipends are part of Financial Scholars' broader investment in economic mobility and financial empowerment, including the people, resources, facilities, and ongoing support required to design and deliver high-quality professional learning for personal finance teachers.

As states expand financial education requirements, Financial Scholars believes that access to a course is only the starting point. The quality of instruction and positive lifelong impact of the class depends on the preparation, confidence, and ongoing support of the teachers delivering it.

Financial Scholars builds long-term relationships with educators through paid professional development, ongoing coaching, and responsive, on-demand support. Teachers also become part of a connected community of personal finance educators who share ideas, troubleshoot challenges, and build the confidence to succeed together.

“After teaching personal finance for 18 years, I know firsthand how much teachers are asked to do, and how rarely they're given the time, resources and support to teach a new subject,” said Danielle Hernandez, Senior Program Director at Financial Scholars. “I wish I'd had access to this kind of investment in my own growth as an educator. I'm incredibly proud that we can give our teachers the training they need and, just as importantly, compensate them for the time they dedicate to that work. When we invest in teachers, we're investing in every student who walks into their classrooms.”

The payments come at a pivotal moment for financial education. Both Pennsylvania and Connecticut’s new personal finance graduation requirements are being implemented in the 2026-27 school year. Financial Scholars works with schools across both states, with a particular focus on historically under-resourced communities where sustained investment in teachers and instructional quality expands educational opportunity.

About Financial Scholars

Financial Scholars is a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing economic inequity through financial empowerment education. Serving schools and communities across Pennsylvania and Connecticut, Financial Scholars invests in educators, supports high-quality financial education, and extends learning beyond the classroom to help students and families build financial knowledge, confidence, and generational wealth.