

CreditSmart®



**A Guide to Better Credit, Money Management,
and Responsible Homeownership**



We make home possible®

Consumer Workbook

About Freddie Mac

Freddie Mac is a stockholder-owned corporation established by Congress in 1970 to support homeownership and rental housing. Freddie Mac purchases single-family and multifamily residential mortgages and mortgage-related securities, which it finances primarily by issuing mortgage-related securities and debt instruments in the capital markets. Over the years, Freddie Mac has made home possible more than 50 million times, ensuring financing for one in six homebuyers and more than four million renters. For additional information about Freddie Mac, visit www.FreddieMac.com.



Freddie Mac Brings You

CreditSmart®

Dear Workshop Participant:

Welcome to CreditSmart®, Freddie Mac's premier financial education curriculum, designed to help you learn how to build and maintain better credit, and prepare for successful long-term homeownership.

At Freddie Mac, we are dedicated to opening doors to homeownership for millions of families across the United States. We recognize how important it is for consumers to have the information and the tools that will help them achieve their financial goals and dreams, including the dream of homeownership. And at Freddie Mac, we believe that the single most effective way to start preparing people for homeownership is to educate them about the importance of using credit wisely. Establishing and maintaining good credit is essential for building a sound financial future.

Freddie Mac's curriculum is designed to help you increase your financial literacy by providing life-long money management skills. It provides important information about credit and money management and how to avoid financial traps; insight into how lenders assess credit histories; and how credit plays a profound role in achieving your financial goal of buying a home and ensuring a successful long-term homeownership.

As a workshop participant, you'll be using this Consumer Workbook to follow along through the 12 modules with your instructor, refer to case study examples and sample documents, and complete the curriculum worksheets.

In addition to attending a workshop like this one, you can also access an abridged version of the curriculum on the Internet at www.FreddieMac.com/creditsmart.

Freddie Mac also offers CreditSmart Asian, a three-part series of multilingual guidebooks, available in Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and English. CreditSmart Asian provides culturally relevant information on the value of a positive credit history, the homeownership process, and the responsibilities of owning a home. To learn more, visit www.FreddieMac.com/creditsmart.

On behalf of Freddie Mac and our CreditSmart affiliates, thank you for participating in our CreditSmart workshop. We wish you great success as you gain the skills and information necessary to achieve homeownership and build a sound financial future.

Freddie Mac thankfully acknowledges all those who contributed to the research, development, and testing of CreditSmart, CreditSmart Español, and CreditSmart Asian.

CreditSmart

- Five of the nation’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities:
 - Benedict College
 - Clark Atlanta University
 - Florida A & M
 - Howard University
 - St. Augustine’s College

CreditSmart Español

- Cuban American National Council (CNC)
- Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU)
- League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
- National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals (NAHREP)
- National Council of La Raza (NCLR)
- National Puerto Rican Coalition (NPRC)
- United States Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI)

CreditSmart Asian

- Asian Americans for Equality
- Boat People SOS
- Chhaya
- Chinese American Citizens League
- Filipinos for Affirmative Action
- Korean Churches for Community Development
- National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development (National CAPACD)
- National Congress of Vietnamese Americans
- National Korean American Service & Education Consortium, Inc.

*Freddie Mac also wishes to acknowledge the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) for the use of information from its adult financial literacy curriculum, **Money Smart** in Module 4, “Banking Services: An Important Step.”*

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