

# CreditSmart®



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

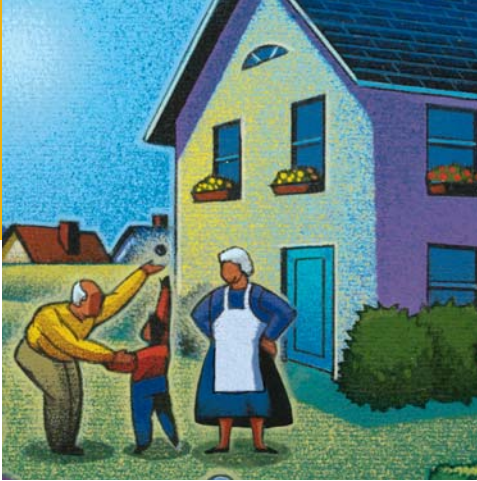


We make home possible®

*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](http://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](http://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](http://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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## Module 1: Your Credit and Why It Is Important

Presentation Slides .....	1
Questions to Think About Before Taking on Additional Debt .....	9
The Impact of Interest Rates on the True Cost of a Loan .....	9
Sample Amortization Schedules.....	10
Examples of a Home Mortgage Payment.....	11

## Module 2: Managing Your Money

Presentation Slides .....	15
Needs Versus Wants Worksheet .....	27
Steps for Developing a Successful Spending Plan .....	28
Calculating Income .....	29
Example Calculations of Net Monthly Income .....	29
Sample Spending Plan Worksheet .....	30
Sample Expenditure Tracking Worksheet .....	34
Expenditure Tracking Worksheet.....	35
Tips for Spending Wisely for Gift Giving .....	36
Tips for Saving Money .....	36

## Module 3: Goal Setting

Presentation Slides .....	39
Tips for Setting Goals .....	42
Goal Setting Worksheet .....	43

## Module 4: Banking Services: An Important Step

Presentation Slides .....	47
Tips When You're Visiting a Financial Institution .....	51
Choosing a Financial Institution .....	51
Reasons Why You Should Keep Your Money in a Financial Institution .....	52
Advantages of Using a Financial Institution.....	52
Checking Accounts .....	54
Sample Checkbook Register .....	56
Choosing an Account .....	57

## Module 5: Establishing and Maintaining Good Credit

Presentation Slides .....	61
Items Needed to Request Your Credit Report .....	75
Apply for Credit in Your Own Name .....	76
Think Carefully Before You Co-Sign for a Loan .....	77
Credit Report— for Creditor Use Document .....	78
Credit Report Samples.....	83
Credit Laws .....	88
Fair Debt Collection .....	89
Correcting Credit Report Errors .....	92
Sample Dispute Letter .....	94

## Module 6: Understanding Credit Scoring

Presentation Slides .....	97
Credit Scoring Factors and Ratings .....	104
Tips to Help You Maintain and Improve Your Credit Score .....	105

## Module 7: Thinking Like a Lender

Presentation Slides .....	109
Verifying Income Through Tax Returns .....	113
Calculating Your Debt-to-Income Ratio .....	114
Mortgage Affordability Worksheets .....	115
Debt Worksheets .....	118
Cash and Asset Worksheets .....	120
Sample Financial Statement .....	122

## Module 8: Avoiding Credit Traps

Presentation Slides .....	129
Predatory Lending, Abusive Practices, and Scams.....	140
Financial Institutions: Alternatives to Check Cashing Businesses .....	141
Identity Theft .....	141
“Top 10 List” of Internet Scams.....	143
Tips From the Federal Trade Commission.....	143
Tips for Protecting Yourself Against Telephone Solicitation Scams .....	144
Home Equity Loans and Lines of Credit .....	145
Prepayment Penalty Mortgages .....	146

## Module 9: Restoring Your Credit

Presentation Slides .....	149
Tips for Coping With a Financial Crisis .....	154
Fraudulent Use of Your Credit.....	155

## Module 10: Planning for Your Future

Presentation Slides .....	159
Examine Your Values .....	163
Make a List of Your Values (Worksheet) .....	163
Steps to Financial Success .....	164
Personal Financial Task Checklist.....	165

## Module 11: Becoming a Homeowner

Presentation Slides .....	169
Are You Ready to Buy a Home? .....	179
Why Own a Home? .....	180
Maintenance and Replacement Costs Worksheet .....	181
Finding a Mortgage Lender .....	182
Types of Mortgages .....	183
Affordable, Low-Down-Payment Mortgages.....	184
Other Flexibilities .....	185
Other Options.....	185
Finding a Real Estate Professional.....	186
Homeownership Education and Credit Counseling.....	187

## Module 12: Preserving Homeownership: Protecting Your Home Investment

Presentation Slides .....	191
Ways to Borrow Against Your Home Equity .....	201
Maintaining, Repairing, and Improving Your Home .....	203
Emergency Preparedness .....	204
Homeowner Beware—Avoiding Financial Traps .....	205
How Do Homeowners Get into Trouble? .....	207
What To Do if You Find Yourself in Trouble .....	208
Foreclosure Prevention.....	209

Glossary of Terms .....	213
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