

# Decision Partners, Inc.

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Dear COE Conference Attendees,

Thank you for stopping by our booth to learn more about Decision Partners and our financial literacy program for students served by TRIO programs.

As you may know, the HEOA now requires schools receiving Student Support Services grants to provide financial literacy education. When taught correctly, financial literacy education can help students avoid the negative economic, social, and academic consequences of uninformed spending decisions. Credit cards in particular are a major problem for college students, and one in three now graduate with \$10,000 or more in high interest debt – not to mention the scores of damaged credit reports that reduce post-college employment opportunities and increase the cost of future borrowing.

Decision Partners is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing state-of-art financial education services that are the most effective and engaging available. Our solutions allow you to provide critical financial education programs to entire populations of students, while also customizing the experience to each individual student. Financial Literacy 101 is an interactive, multimedia experience that offers more than brochures, one-time lectures or simple web pages. The course offers a personalized linear curriculum that not only covers important financial topics every student should master, but also integrates proven strategies that help students question their (often mistaken) assumptions about spending, saving, and debt – the first step to safer decision-making. In addition, students love the course with over 90% reporting that they would recommend it to a friend.

With college implementations ranging from "University 101" courses to Satisfactory Academic Progress programs, and national implementations including both state and federally-funded programs, we understand the need for an easy to manage solution. The Financial Literacy 101 program includes much more than student access to the online course; it also includes a real-time administrative control panel for monitoring student progress and exporting compliance data, a comprehensive administrator training guide, aggregate survey reporting capability, materials for parents, and presentation/discussion materials for group sessions.

Choosing Financial Literacy 101 is not only an easy decision, it's the right decision for your students. Developed under the guidance of senior financial aid staff members from Duke University, our course has been recognized by the President's Commission on Financial Literacy as an "innovative and effective program", endorsed by leading organizations such as the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) and College Parents of America, and was recently covered in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

As you prepare to incorporate financial literacy into your TRIO program, we hope you will consider making Financial Literacy 101 the cornerstone of your efforts and include a funding request for it in your fall SSS grant proposal. To learn more, please contact us or visit [www.decisionpartners.org](http://www.decisionpartners.org).

Sincerely,



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