

## Connecticut Personal Finance Model Curriculum

<b>Unit of Study: Goals and Financial Planning</b>	<b>Lesson Title: Understanding Your Paycheck</b>	<b>Anticipated Time Frame: 3-5 Hours</b>
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<b><u>Standard(s)</u></b> (Content Standard 2) Use a career plan to develop personal income potential.	
<b><u>Learning Objective(s)</u> – Students will:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Calculate net pay.</li><li>○ Explain the effect on take-home pay of changing the allowances claimed on an “Employees’ Withholding Allowance Certificate” (IRS Form W-4).</li><li>○ Analyze and prepare a federal and state income tax return.</li></ul>	<b><u>Diversity: Enrichment for all students</u></b> Ask students how payroll deductions might be different in another country.
<b><u>Assessment and Feedback to Learners</u></b> <b><i>Informal/Formative:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Paycheck stub worksheet</li><li>○ Paycheck crossword puzzle (vocab)</li><li>○ Sample W-4 form</li><li>○ Paycheck math worksheet</li><li>○ Note-taking guide</li></ul> <b><i>Formal/Summative:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Reviewing a paycheck quiz</li><li>○ “Where Did All the Earnings Go” game and response sheet</li></ul>	
<b><u>Teacher Actions –</u></b>  <b><i>Initiation:</i></b> Play song “Money, Money, Money” for few minutes. Give out play money or pretend paychecks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ What do you think are some of the advantages and disadvantages of getting paid by paycheck vs. cash?</li><li>○ What if you are the employer?</li></ul> <b><i>Instructional Input and Differentiation:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ PowerPoint slides for discussion; students use note-taking guide</li><li>○ Students fill out a W-4 form</li><li>○ Complete paychecks worksheet</li><li>○ Complete paycheck stub worksheet</li><li>○ Form groups and complete “Where Did All the Earnings Go” activity</li></ul> <b><i>Closure:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Review key terms of day’s lesson</li><li>○ Exit slip—write one concept you learned today about paychecks</li></ul>	

<u>Key Terms/Vocabulary –</u>	<u>Materials (M) / Resources(R)</u>
<p> Pay Period  Gross Pay  Net Pay  Deductions  Federal Withholding Tax  State Withholding tax  FICA  Social Security  Retirement Plan  Medical  Year-to-Date  State Withholding Tax  Retirement Plan/401K  Year-to-Date  Employee  Employer </p>	<p>(M)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Blank W-4 form</li> <li>o Movie “The Pursuit of Happiness” Chapter 20, 4 mins.</li> <li>o Understanding Your Paycheck note-taking guide</li> <li>o Power point presentation</li> <li>o Understanding your paycheck information sheet</li> <li>o Where did all your earnings go activity/handouts</li> <li>o Paychecks Math worksheet</li> </ul> <p>(R)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Web site <a href="http://fefe.arizona.edu/materials/understanding-your-paycheck-lesson-plan">http://fefe.arizona.edu/materials/understanding-your-paycheck-lesson-plan</a> (PowerPoint slides and handouts for this lesson)</li> <li>o Web site <a href="http://fefe.arizona.edu/lessonplans/integrating-music">http://fefe.arizona.edu/lessonplans/integrating-music</a> (links to songs related to finance and money)</li> <li>o Web site <a href="http://www.irs.gov">www.irs.gov</a>. (government tax forms may be downloaded including FORM W-4)</li> <li>o Web site <a href="http://www.ssa.gov/online/ss-5.html">www.ssa.gov/online/ss-5.html</a> (application for social security card Form SS-5)</li> <li>o Web site w/simulation on how to complete W-4 Forms <a href="http://www.irs.gov/app/understandingtaxes/how/mod01/sim_mod01_01.jsp">www.irs.gov/app/understandingtaxes/how/mod01/sim_mod01_01.jsp</a></li> <li>o Web site <a href="http://uscis.gov">http://uscis.gov</a> (U.S. Citizenship and Immigration services)</li> <li>o Web site <a href="http://www.nypirg.org/Consumer/cards/payroll.html">www.nypirg.org/Consumer/cards/payroll.html</a> (“Pricey Plastics; NYPIRG report and survey of plastic card fees)</li> </ul>