

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



**PROCLAMATION**

Financial literacy can tremendously benefit the public by leading to wiser decision-making and creating greater opportunities to build more stable lives. It can help protect us from consumer fraud and mismanagement of funds, and it prepares us to meet unexpected situations including health care emergencies and job loss. In addition, financial literacy can help us better plan for the future, whether that future may include a growing family, buying a home, starting a business or paying for college.

It is also important to be aware of the many resources available to help pay for a college education. California's institutions of higher education prepare millions of students for successful, fulfilling careers with the help of some outstanding financial aid programs. One such resource is the Cal Grant program. While Cal Grant applications have a well-known deadline of March 2, there is a different deadline – September 2 – for those applying to community colleges. For more information on Cal Grants, as well as other state and federal financial aid programs, please visit [www.icanaffordcollege.com](http://www.icanaffordcollege.com) or your campus' financial aid office.

Throughout this month, the state Department of Financial Institutions and Department of Corporations will partner with educational and governmental entities, private sector financial institutions, community groups and others to offer free education services and programs in support of their year-long theme, "Start learning today for a strong financial tomorrow. Financial literacy: It pays."

I encourage all Californians to take advantage of these and other state financial aid and literacy resources. Doing so will help give you the knowledge and tools you need to budget, save, invest, manage your finances and prepare for the future.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim April 2008, as "Financial Aid and Literacy Month."

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 25th day of March 2008.



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
Governor of California

ATTEST:

DEBRA BOWEN  
Secretary of State