



**For Immediate Release:**  
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## **FIVE WAYS TO CELEBRATE APRIL AS FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH**

*Five Simple Steps Anyone Can Take This Month to Improve Their Financial Status for Years Ahead*

Washington, DC – America Saves celebrates National Financial Literacy Month, recognized in April, by sharing five ways individuals can take financial action by saving money, reducing debt, and building wealth.

### **1. Sign Up for Text Messages for a Chance to Win \$100**

America Saves has partnered with SaveUp to reward individuals who sign up for America Saves text message reminders. SaveUp rewards individuals for saving money or paying off debt. Prizes include sponsored prizes like scholarships, vacations, gift cards, and even a \$2 million jackpot. One lucky America Saver will also win a \$100 America Saves drawing to be held on April 30, 2014. [Enter By Pledging to Save Today!](#)

### **2. Attend a Money Smart Week Event**

America Saves and Money Smart Week are teaming up to help you achieve your saving goals. The concept is simple and easy. First, take action by [pledging or re-pledging to save](#). Then attend [a Money Smart Week event](#) in your area to learn more about saving and to help you realize your saving goals.

### **3. Check on Your Retirement Savings as Part of National Retirement Planning Week**

To ensure individuals have enough money saved for a comfortable retirement America Saves encourages everyone to give their [retirement savings a check up](#) as part of [National Retirement Planning Week](#), which will take place from April 7 to 11.

### **4. Save a Portion of Your Tax Refund**

Use [tax form 8888](#) to directly deposit your tax refund (or part of it) to one or more accounts at a bank or other financial institution (such as a mutual fund, brokerage firm, or credit union). This form can also be used to buy up to \$5,000 in paper series I savings bonds.

### **5. Assess Your Savings**

Individuals can review their current saving strategies and find new ways to save with the America Saves [Assess Your Savings Plan tool](#). The new tool allows individuals to quickly review their savings situation by answering a simple series of yes/no questions and presents them with the next steps to save successfully.

*America Saves, a campaign managed by the nonprofit Consumer Federation of America, seeks to motivate, encourage, and support low- to moderate-income households to save money, reduce debt, and build wealth. Non-profit, government, and corporate groups participate in America Saves nationally and through local, regional, and statewide campaigns around the country. America Saves encourages individuals and families to take the America Saves pledge and organizations to promote savings year-round and during America Saves Week. Learn more at [americasaves.org](#) and [americasavesweek.org](#).*