my classroom economy
powered by Vanguard

Frequently Asked Questions

About My Classroom Economy

Q: What is My Classroom Economy (MyCE)?
A: MyCE is a free classroom management and financial literacy tool for K–12 students. It uses experiential learning to teach the concepts of EARN, SAVE and SPEND while supporting positive classroom behaviors.

Q: Is MyCE really free?
A: Yes, both the paper version and digital version are completely free—for school leaders, teachers and students. There are no hidden fees or premium tiers. We designed it this way because we believe every student deserves access to life-changing financial education, regardless of background. It's our way of helping the next generation build confidence, capability, and lasting financial well-being.

Q: Does MyCE replace curriculum time?
A: No. MyCE is designed to overlay, not interrupt, existing curriculum. It is commonly used as a classroom behavior management and engagement tool.

Q: Is MyCE designed for students with different academic abilities?
A: Yes. MyCE is highly flexible and offers multiple difficulty levels, allowing teachers to tailor the experience to their students' needs. The program allows for a wide range of flexibility and suggests different features for students at different grade levels.

Q: What are students learning in MyCE, and how does it support financial literacy?
A: Students gain hands-on experience with the core concepts of EARN, SAVE and SPEND. The program emphasizes *earning income, budgeting and understanding cost*. As a result, students finish with a deeper understanding of these topics, greater confidence in financial decision-making, and reflections they can carry into their futures.

Q: Is it customizable and safe?
A: Yes. Teachers tailor the experience to their curriculum, and student data is protected with minimal collection. The program is free, classroom-based, and designed for all backgrounds and future paths.

Q: Is MyCE available in Spanish?
A: Yes! MyCE digital is available in Spanish. Select the  icon to change the language from English to Spanish. Your language preference will not save, so each time you log back in to MyCE in a different tab, you will need to change the language again from the default.

Q: Is MyCE available as an app?
A: No, there is not an app.

Q: Is there an option for a non-digital experience?
A: Yes! We have pdf kits that you can download from our training materials section of the myclassroomeconomy.org website and set up your classroom based off that. You can also request a paper kit to be sent to you, which Vanguard will mail out to you at no cost.

Feedback & Support

Q: I need help or have feedback—what should I do?
A: We're here to help. If you're experiencing an issue, or if you have any feedback you would like to share, you can contact us here with a brief description and our team will review and respond.

For School Leaders

Q: What is the school leader experience for MyCE?
A: It is a set of tools that enable a school leader, who wants to implement this classroom management/financial literacy tool, to easily facilitate mass adoption of MyCE and also provides a comprehensive dashboard with detailed insights into both adoption, behavioral and financial literacy outcomes of participants.

Q: Who can create a school leader account within MyCE?
A: A formal school leader, like a principal, assistant principal, superintendent, director of curriculum etc. or a teacher or staff member leading the charge for their school/districts financial literacy and/or classroom management efforts can create a school leader account.

Q: Can I invite other schoolteachers or administrators into My Classroom Economy?
A: Yes! Go to the Teachers tab and select Invite Teachers & Pending Invites. Teachers you invite will receive an email and can sign up for My Classroom Economy and join your shared school account. If a user is set up as a School/Organization (aka School Leader), they can view a summary of all the teachers, students, and classrooms within the school account.

Q: How can I track my students' behavior through the experience?
A: The classroom behavior tab will allow you to see the Bonus & Fine ratio and the top positive and negative behaviors (basically the most popular bonuses and fines given out in the classroom). You can use this to identify any positive or negative trends within the program. Underneath the chart you will also be able to review the weekly classroom activity of fines and bonuses.

Q: How will I track how MyCE impacts my students' understanding of financial concepts?A: The financial literacy tab allows you to see how many of your students hit specific milestones, how timely they were for their bill payments, what their savings ratio was and success hitting savings goals and finally their pre- and post-assessment scores.

Q: Can I still run one or more classrooms as a School Leader?
A: Yes! School Leaders can still run classrooms similar to a teacher.

For Teachers

Getting Started & Setup

Q: How do I get started?
A: Visit My Classroom Economy for a program overview. There you can register for the digital experience and then create a classroom, add students, and manage their login credentials in your classroom settings.

Q: Can I customize the simulation?
A: Yes! Most aspects of the program including jobs, salaries, bills, bonuses, fines, milestones, and properties are fully customizable.

Q: Can I change the start or end date of my classroom?
A: Yes.This can be updated within the "Manage my classroom" option. Select "Edit classroom details" to change the classroom name, grade, start date or end date.

Q: How do I change the settings of MyCE?
A: Within your classroom, go to "View my Economy". Here you will see the different sections within your individual classroom. Each section has a carrot icon pointing to the right. Select that icon in the section you want to edit to see the editable options available to you.

Q: How do I launch the program?
A: After customizing the economy settings, you will want to assign jobs to your students by clicking "Jobs & Paychecks" on the teacher dashboard. Once student jobs are assigned, you can begin the economy with your students.

Q: Can bills be set to automatically be paid instead of telling the students to manually pay?
A: Yes. Bills start on a default of manual, but the payment process can be changed to automatic.

Q: How do I view students self-assessment scores?
A: From your classroom go to “Manage my classroom”. The page defaults to Students but there is a second tab for Self-assessment. Select that and you will see the students and their scores for the Pre and Post assessments if/when they have taken them.

Q: Is there a maximum number of students I can have in a classroom?
A: Yes, there is a 50 student maximum for each classroom.

Q: Is there a way for students to help monitor/maintain cash going into/out of other students accounts to help better manage my time?
A: Yes! The banker role allows one student to manage other students bank accounts. This role can be assigned to multiple students. Also, the Fine Officer can manage assigning fines to the students within the class to save you time.

Student Accounts & Login Support
Q: Can students create their own accounts?
A: No, teachers create student accounts when setting up the classroom. Students use the username and temporary password provided to them by the teacher to log in and set their own permanent password on first use.

Q: What student data is required to get started?
A: We take data privacy seriously and collect only what’s necessary: a first name, plus a teacher-created or system-generated username and password. We do not collect student email addresses, phone numbers, or other personal information. Last name may be added in the future, but only with continued commitment to the highest standards of data protection.

Q: What if a student forgets their password?
A: You can reset student passwords at any time from “Manage my classroom” page. Simply find the student, click "Reset Password," and click “Save Changes” at the bottom right of the window. Then click “Show” and share the new temporary password with them.

Simulation Mechanics
Q: How can I monitor student progress?
A: You will be able to monitor your students’ progress towards goals, the amount they have saved, any fines or bonuses they have received and view their bills (rent for example).

Q: What do I do if I need to change the school my account is associated with?
A: Go to your “School Settings” from your main log-in home screen. Click on the “Change School” button to search for and associate with a different school. *Classroom and student information will not be carried over to the new school*.

Q: How do paychecks work?
A: Paychecks can be processed automatically or manually. Automatic deposit is the default and they will be processed on an overnight batch schedule based on the classroom start date.

Q: Can students have multiple jobs?
A: Yes. Students can hold multiple jobs, and the same job can be assigned to multiple students.

Q: Are there reports I can share with administrators or parents?
A: Yes. Teachers can filter, download, and print reports related to jobs, income, bills, student balances, and milestones.

Teacher Responses for Student Questions

Q: What is My Classroom Economy?
A: It's a hands-on program tailored for grades K-12 that simulates a microeconomy where you EARN a paycheck and learn how to SAVE and SPEND **your** money.

Q: How do I log in?
A: Use the username and temporary password your teacher gives you. On your first login, create a permanent password. We collect minimal data to protect your privacy.

Q: What do I do first?
A: Take the pre-assessment to identify a baseline of where your financial readiness knowledge is currently at. Discuss with your teacher what job you should be assigned and set your savings goals.

Q: What happens during the program?
A: After your teacher starts **the economy**, you'll earn paychecks based on the job(s) assigned to you. Throughout the program, you may earn bonuses, have to pay for fines and will have chances to spend your income or save it towards your saving goals.

Q: How do I earn money?
A: You earn money by completing classroom jobs and through bonuses your teacher awards for positive behaviors.

Q: I don't have enough cash to pay my rent/fee. What happens?
A: Unpaid bills will stay as outstanding requests until they are paid. Your teacher may also discuss other options.

Q: Can I change jobs during the program?
A: Yes! Your teacher can change you and your classmates' job assignments or even assign **additional jobs**.

Q: What is property and why does it cost money?
A: Property represents things like desks, lockers or laptops. You rent that property and, in some cases, may have the opportunity to even purchase it. Renting or owning that property costs money (rent costs, maintenance costs if you own etc.), just like in real life.

Q: What happens at the end?
A: At the end of the program, you should review your goals and transfer any money to unfinished goals to try to complete them and earn those rewards. Your teacher may also facilitate discussions with you and your classmates about what you learned. You will also take a post-assessment exam to measure your learning over the course of the program and provide feedback to improve the program for more students.

Q: What do I do if I forget my password?
A: Contact your teacher. They can reset your password and give you a new temporary one. After logging in, you'll be prompted to create a new permanent password.

Q: Can I change my username?
A: No,usernames are assigned by your teacher and cannot be changed. But you can update your display name in your profile settings if your teacher has enabled that feature.

Q: I am participating in My Classroom Economy across a few different classrooms, each time I have to register. Why?
A: Each My Classroom Economy is independent of any others. As such, if you start in a new classroom you will need to register.

Need More Help?

Q: These FAQs are helpful, but my question still isn't answered. What should I do?
A: We recommend reviewing the **Terms & Conditions** and **Privacy Notice**. For additional support, please use the Contact Us form.