



The Navajo Nation  
Office of the President and Vice President

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Navajo Nation and the Office of the Arizona State Treasurer  
recognize the month of April as “Financial Literacy Month”**

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – On Monday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez, Vice President Myron Lizer, and Arizona State Treasurer Kimberly Yee issued a joint proclamation recognizing the month of April 2021 as “Financial Literacy Month.” The proclamation calls for the Navajo Nation and State of Arizona to partner in order to raise awareness about the importance of financial education and literacy to empower Navajo families and communities to build financial strength and increase economic opportunities.

The Navajo Nation and the Office of the Arizona State Treasurer encourage educational institutions, nonprofits, and human services agencies to focus on the importance of financial literacy to help families improve their personal and household economic stability and success.

“Financial Literacy Month is a great opportunity to develop more skills and obtain more knowledge to secure a healthy financial future for yourselves and your loved ones. Take the time to spark a discussion in your home with your children about saving, spending, budgeting, credit scores, charitable giving, and financial security. All parents want their children to have the best opportunities in life and financial literacy plays a major role in that. This doesn’t necessarily mean you want them to have the best brand clothes and the latest or coolest gadgets, but it should serve to establish a strong financial foundation for them to build upon to help fund their education, own a home, and plan for retirement. Those are the long-term benefits that our Navajo people should focus on,” said President Nez.

The proclamation states, “Native American citizens suffer from higher levels of financial vulnerability than many other citizen groups, according to a 2017 FINRA Investor Education Foundation report” and “nearly four out of 10 American families lack financial literacy and support, according to a 2021 analysis.”

“In June 2019, the first-ever Statewide Task Force on Financial Literacy was established within the Office of the Arizona State Treasurer to advance financial literacy throughout the state of Arizona to ensure that all Arizonans can attain proficiency in basic money management. As a member of the Task Force, it is very important to voice issues that impact our tribal nations, including

finances. Through the partnership with Treasurer Yee, many opportunities and resources are made more accessible for families and students to begin a successful financial journey,” said Vice President Lizer.

Financial literacy continues to be a priority of the Office of the President and Vice President and the Office of the First Lady and Second Lady.

“Making smart, informed financial decisions will position us well to achieve financial freedom and success,” said Arizona State Treasurer Kimberly Yee. “Thank you to Navajo Nation President Nez and Vice President Lizer for partnering with my administration to educate and encourage Navajo families to build their financial awareness and save for their future.”

On the first day of Financial Literacy Month, Arizona State Treasurer Kimberly Yee launched the Financial Education Portal on the Arizona State Treasurer’s Office website which provides free resources and planning tools to learn practical money management principles. For more information, please visit the portal at <https://www.aztreasury.gov/financial-education>.

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THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE OFFICE  
OF THE ARIZONA STATE TREASURER



# Proclamation

## RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2021 AS “FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH”

The Navajo Nation and the Office of the Arizona State Treasurer recognize the month of April 2021 as “Financial Literacy Month” to encourage Arizona and Navajo Nation citizens to learn more about financial opportunities and strategies to empower families and communities to become more financially capable and to build a stronger, prosperous and economically resilient financial future.

**WHEREAS**, the United States established April as Financial Literacy Month in 2003 and proclaims April 2021 as National Financial Capability Month; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Arizona joined 18 other states in adopting April as Financial Literacy Month in 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly four out of ten American families lack financial literacy and support, according to a 2021 analysis; and

**WHEREAS**, Native American citizens suffer from higher levels of financial vulnerability than many other citizen groups, according to a 2017 FINRA Investor Education Foundation report; and

**WHEREAS**, the January 2019 State of the Navajo Nation Address listed financial literacy as a priority of the Office of the President and Vice President and the Office of the First and Second Lady; and

**WHEREAS**, in June 2019, the first-ever Statewide Task Force on Financial Literacy was established within the Office of the Arizona State Treasurer to advance financial literacy throughout the state of Arizona to ensure that all Arizonans can attain proficiency in basic money management; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the Arizona State Treasurer has partnered with Navajo Nation government and education leaders to encourage Navajo families to save money for the needs of a child’s future education through the AZ529, Arizona’s Education Savings Plan college and educational savings program; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of the Navajo Nation have been represented on both the Statewide Task Force on Financial Literacy and the AZ529 Plan Advisory Committee since their establishment; and

**NOW THEREFORE, I, JONATHAN NEZ**, President of the Navajo Nation, **I, MYRON LIZER**, Vice President of the Navajo Nation, and **I, KIMBERLY YEE**, Treasurer of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as “FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH.” We encourage citizens and leaders throughout the Navajo Nation to observe this month through thoughtful reflection, learning and action.

PROCLAIMED THIS 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2021

  
Jonathan Nez, *President*  
THE NAVAJO NATION

  
Myron Lizer, *Vice President*  
THE NAVAJO NATION

  
Kimberly Yee, *Treasurer*  
STATE OF ARIZONA