In support of DeKalb, Lee & LaSalle Counties’ Money Smart Week® the Illinois Community Credit Union and Target are sponsoring the 2017 Money Smart Kid Essay Contest. Students in grades 6-8 are encouraged to answer this year’s Money Smart Question (see below) with an essay of 300 words or less. Three finalists will be selected and videotaped reading their winning essays. Videos may be shared at the Money Smart Week Kick-Off breakfast. Prizes will be awarded to three finalists. Prizes include a $500 scholarship for 1st place, a $300 scholarship for 2nd place and a $200 scholarship for 3rd place.

2017 Money Smart Kid Essay Question

Do you think there is a connection between financial health and physical health? Please explain your answer. And what can a city, state or national policymaker do to help promote financially healthier citizens?

Guidelines

Candidates Must:
- Be a student in grades 6-8 in their school.
- Have knowledge of money management skills (decision-making related to spending and saving, investing, use of credit, etc.) appropriate for their age and grade level
- Demonstrate how they practice good money management skills in their daily lives
- Be articulate—able to speak in front of large groups and cameras, and respond well to questions
- Live in DeKalb, Lee or LaSalle counties

To Apply

- Student must have parent or guardian permission to apply and participate.
- Student must write an essay (300 words or less) on the assigned topic.
- Essays must be typed on plain white paper, double-spaced. The MoneySmart Kid Application Form must be attached to the essay pages.
- The essay must be the work of the student submitting the essay.
- The application form must be signed by the teacher and a parent/guardian.
- The essay and application should be mailed, faxed or emailed as a PDF or scanned attachment to:

Money Smart Kid Committee Members

Dawn Littlefield Kishwaukee United Way
Randi Napientek Northern Illinois University
Beth Metzler Econ IL
Amy Youngberg Junior Achievement
Kim Morris Illinois Community Credit Union

Go to moneysmartweek.niu.edu to download the application and to access other materials, including relevant lesson plans.
## Application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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School

School Address

City | Zip | Phone
---|-----|------

Home Address

City | Zip | Phone
---|-----|------

Teacher

Email

Parent/Guardian

Email

(If Applicable)

I vouch that the attached essay is fully the work of

(Student Name)

(Teacher Signature) (Date)

I vouch that the attached essay is fully and solely the work of my child,

(Student Name)

(Parent/GuardianSignature) (Date)

and I give permission for him/her to participate in the activities of Money Smart Week 2017, including consent to release photos and personal information for media and promotional purposes.

(Parent/GuardianSignature) (Date)

Fill out this form, making sure to include all information requested, sign the form as indicated, and attach it to the front of the essay. For more information, see MONEYSMARTWEEK.NIU.EDU