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Kansas Securities Commissioner Accepting 2015 Investor Education Grant Applications

TOPEKA, Kan., (April 2, 2015) --- Kansas Securities Commissioner Josh Ney has announced that applications are now open for his agency's 2015 investor education grant cycle. The deadline for applications to be received by the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner (KSC) is June 15, 2015.

The KSC develops and implements financial literacy and investor education initiatives to inform the public about investing in securities and the prevention of securities fraud. As part of this mission, the commissioner regularly collaborates with organizations interested in expanding investor and financial education in the state.

"Our community and state-wide partners in financial education are on the front-lines each day helping Kansans better understand how to manage and grow their assets," said Ney. "Through this grant program and other KSC financial literacy initiatives, I look forward to broadening our citizens' access to basic money management tools and wisdom."

Recent analysis by a leading financial education website* reported that Kansas ranks in the top 10 states for awareness and understanding of finances. However, researchers noted that most Kansans struggle significantly when it comes to putting their financial knowledge into practice. In 2015, grants will be awarded based on several factors, including project applicability to informing Kansans about investing and securities fraud, creativity and ingenuity, but grant reviewers will also take particular interest in proposed outcome measures which support, through demonstration, the development of sound financial practices by program participants.

A total of \$78,000 was awarded for the grants last year through the KSC Investor Education and Protection Fund. Last year's recipients included Communities in Schools, Housing and Credit Counseling of Topeka, Junior Achievement of Kansas, the Kansas Council on Economic Education, Liberal Area Coalition for Families, and the North Central- Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging, Inc.

For questions about the grants, contact Shannon Stone, Director of Investor Education, at Shannon.Stone@ksc.ks.gov or go to: ksc.ks.gov/Grants.

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The mission of the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner (KSC) is to protect and inform Kansas investors; to promote integrity, fairness, and full disclosure in financial services; and to foster capital formation.

* Financial literacy research findings through: [WalletHub.com](http://wallethub.com)
<http://wallethub.com/edu/most-and-least-financially-literate-states/3337/>