In support of Money Smart Week® 2016 Illinois, taking place April 22-29 - the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and its partner organizations are presenting the Money Smart Kid Essay Contest, sponsored by Soy Capital Bank and Trust. Students in grades 5-8 are encouraged to answer the Money Smart Question for their age group (see below) with an essay of 300 words or less. Six finalists will be selected to attend the Money Smart Kick-Off Breakfast on April 22 and one student will be named this year’s Money Smart Kid for Champaign County. The winner will be awarded a $500 scholarship sponsored by Soy Capital Bank and Trust. Two runners-up will be awarded a $250 scholarship sponsored by Soy Capital Bank and Trust. In addition, a number of finalists will receive a $50 award from the Economic Awareness Council.

Students may apply individually or through their class. Teachers are encouraged to use the Money Smart Kid contest as a classroom activity. Participation in the Money Smart Kid contest is an excellent applied writing practice for students. All classes who participate will receive bags of shredded money from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago for each participating student.

2016 Money Smart Kid Essay Question:
From time to time, families face a medical emergency - where there are additional expenses and possibly the parent/guardian can not work temporarily. How can families best prepare for such events before they happen?

Guidelines
Candidates Must:
- Be a student in grades 5-8 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 able to “think on their feet”— responding to questions from business leaders and media
- Be articulate—able to speak in front of large groups and cameras, and respond well to questions
- Live in the Champaign County

To Apply
- Student must be recommended by a teacher using the attached form. (Note: official school sponsorship is not required)
- 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 Money Smart 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.
- No teacher may sign more than three recommendations.
- The essay and application should be mailed, faxed or emailed as a PDF or scanned attachment to:
  Rita McCoy
  Office of Public Engagement
  University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
  330 Illini Union Bookstore
  807 S. Wright St.
  Champaign, IL 61820 USA
  TEL: 217-244-1189 / FAX: 217-333-9898
  Email: rmccoy@illinois.edu

All essays become the property of the Money Smart Committee and may be used by Committee members to promote financial literacy. All submissions must be received by April 7, 2016.

Timeline
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<td>April 7</td>
<td>Deadline for essay submission</td>
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<td>April 12</td>
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<td>Notify winners, make arrangements</td>
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Money Smart Kid Committee Members
- Karilyn Sonka (Co-chair) Economic Awareness Council
- Dennis Donaldson Village of Savoy
- Leslie Wranovics Soy Capital Bank and Trust
- Keely Ashman (Co-chair) Office of Public Engagement
- Rita McCoy Office of Public Engagement
- Chris Whippo Retired Nurse Educator

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APPLICATION

Student Name __________________________ Age __________________ Grade __________________

School ________________________________

School address _________________________

City __________________ Zip ___________ Phone __________________

Home address __________________________

City __________________ Zip ___________ Phone __________________

Teacher _______________________________

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/Guardian Signature) ___________________ (Date) ___________________

and I give permission for him/her to participate in the activities of Money Smart Week 2016, including consent to release photos and personal information for media and promotional purposes.

MoneySmartWeek.org

Money Smart Week 2016

Champaign County