



2024-2025

Rapid City  
Stevens High School

## **Personal Finance**

### **RCAS Policies/Procedures:**

Students will be required to follow all RCAS policies and procedures. To view the RCAS High School Student Handbook, click [handbook](#).

### **Course Description:**

Managing your personal finances can be an interesting and challenging task. This hands-on and engaging money-management course focuses on budgeting and financial management such as managing bank accounts, paying taxes, and retirement. Plus, you learn the ins and outs of buying insurance, cars, and housing as well as managing your credit and identity.

### **Textbook:**

NexGen Personal Finance

### **Required Resources:**

<https://www.ngpf.org/courses/semester-course>

**“Limited Choice” Resources:** (students will be asked to choose at least one title from this list)

N/A

### **Student Choice:**

Will student be asked to choose additional reading material from the classroom or school library?

No

## **Essential Questions:**

- Indicator #1: Analyze elements that affect personal income.
- Indicator #2: Implement processes involved in managing personal finances.
- Indicator #3: Use an informed decision-making process to manage credit and debt.
- Indicator #4: Evaluate savings and investment options to meet short- and long-term goals.
- Indicator #5: Use appropriate and cost-effective risk management strategies.

## **Essential Learning Intentions:**

How do behavioral biases influence financial decisions?

What role do advertisements, commercials, and influencers play in shaping consumer behavior?

How do you open and manage an online checking account?

How do you balance and reconcile a checking account?

What are the differences between checking and savings accounts?

How do you identify and plan for short-term and long-term savings goals?

How do you identify and fill out basic tax forms?

What are the differences between state and federal taxes, and what are their implications?

What is the purpose and process of completing the FAFSA?

What are the various methods to finance a college education?

How do you identify and compare different types of credit, such as credit cards, auto loans, student loans, and mortgages?

Why are credit scores and credit reports important?

What strategies can you use for managing debt and protecting against identity theft?

What are the different investment options, including bonds, stocks, and mutual funds?

How do you create a post-high school budget and plan for major living expenses?