

A New Opportunity to Fulfill Algebra Requirement for Graduation



What is the course?

Financial Algebra 1 and Financial Algebra 2 provide an additional math course pathway for high school students. These courses are approved by UCOP as "c" mathematics courses and could be taken in lieu of Algebra 1 and Algebra 2. Each one-year course, using the following real-life topics, addresses the concepts of Algebra 1 and Algebra 2:

- auto insurance
- mortgages
- banking
- credit
- insurance
- mortgages
- banking
- credit
- taxes
- homeownership
- retirement, and
- investing

How do I offer the course?

Schools planning to offer the course in 2018-2019 school year will:

- submit intent to offer Financial Algebra form downloadable at:
<https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/11406>
- identify the teacher(s) who would teach the course and attend the Financial Algebra training

What will students do in Financial Algebra?

Students engage in a variety of relevant and authentic assignments, including:

- Linear automobile depreciation, exponential depreciation, and linear regression calculation
- Modeling income tax schedules
- Exploring simple interest and compound interest formula derivation leading to exponential equation
- Credit and loan calculations regression
- Modeling a business including optimal outcomes - linear programming
- Retirement - future and present value of a single deposit retirement account involving exponential function
- Budget matrices
- Oral presentations
- Evaluation of reports based on data

Students learn through engagement in collaborative learning, problem solving, modeling, application, and critical thinking.

Who may be enrolled in Financial Algebra?

These rigorous courses are suitable for all students (including students with disabilities), especially those interested in finance and business and/or students in Linked Learning and Small Learning Communities with a finance and business focus. Students who take these courses will:

- Increase the tools they have for modeling real world scenarios involving business and finance.
- Make sense of the financial world around them and effectively manage fiscal resources through meaningful mathematical modeling.
- Be prepared for AP Statistics.
- Use mathematics to model and explore the real world of financial phenomena.
- Make data-supported financial decisions, engaging and applying mathematical practices and algebraic concepts.

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