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Contact: Debbie Jemison  
217-789-9340

## **Illinois Bankers Education Services Secures License for The Stock Market Game in Illinois**

Great News! The Stock Market Game™ is back for the 2020-2021 school year! Illinois Bankers Education Services (IBES), a subsidiary of the Illinois Bankers Association, is excited to be the new licensee of The Stock Market Game™ in the state of Illinois.

The SIFMA Foundation's curriculum-based Stock Market Game features a high-tech, online investment simulation of stocks, bonds, mutual funds, ETFs and ESG investments to give students a better understanding of capital markets, global economic trends and fiscal policy.

The Stock Market Game™ explores the fundamentals of personal finance and investing, while practicing content and skills in math, English language arts, economics, social studies, and other subjects. Students build and manage an investment portfolio in a real-world, dynamic marketplace, analyze and make decisions, explore the consequences of their choices, and seek new ways to strategize for success.

Participants and instructors can expect the same friendly service from the same people they've come to know over the years as the licensing of the program moves from Econ Illinois to IBES. Northern Illinois University will remain the program administrator.

Founded in 1977 by academics at Buffalo State, The Stock Market Game™ has since expanded through a national network of educational nonprofit organizations to reach nearly 19 million students. An independent study by Learning Point Associates found that students who participated in The Stock Market Game™ scored significantly higher on mathematics and financial literacy tests than their peers who did not participate. They also found that teachers who taught The Stock Market Game™ reported that the program motivated them to better plan for their own financial futures. The Stock Market Game™ has been named the only program that successfully increased scores on the Jumpstart Coalition's test of high school students' financial literacy.

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**The Stock Market Game**

For more information, visit <https://www.stockmarketgame.org/>. Additionally, more details on how Illinois schools can register for the program will be available soon at <https://www.ilbanker.com/Education-Events/The-Stock-Market-Game>. Illinois banks are encouraged to bring The Stock Market Game™ to their local school districts and partner with them to sponsor the program at no cost to the school. Contact Debbie Kerman at [dkerman@niu.edu](mailto:dkerman@niu.edu) for more information.

*The Illinois Bankers Association is a full-service trade association dedicated to creating a positive business climate that benefits the entire banking industry and the communities they serve. Founded in 1891, the IBA brings together state and national banks and savings banks of all sizes in Illinois. Collectively, the Illinois banking industry employs more than 105,000 people in over 4,300 offices across the state.*