



**THE
EDUCATION
FUND**

FOR EXCELLENCE IN MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2020-2021

Ideas With **IMPACT**



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**The Power of
Good Credit**

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The Power of Good Credit

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Goals and Objectives

As an educator, I want the lesson to be realistic and current. Teaching about credit scores from the textbook is very boring to the students. They are curious and would like to know why it is important to have good credit. There are many formulas in the textbook so this project can be made more simplistic or more advanced. I focused on letting the students pick how to do their research and what sources to use. They had to document all of their findings. After their research, they had to declare how they would proceed when they turned 18. Much to our surprise, they learned how disasters in one's life can ruin their credit.

After they learned what was good credit and bad credit they had to find out how this happened to someone. This was a goal as well, to make the students aware that they can fail or succeed for many reasons. It can be for many unexpected reasons and they need to be prepared

They became engaged with each other, other teachers, and their parents during this project. They asked everyone about their credit scores. I learned that two of teachers had poor credit and honestly told the students how it happened and didn't quite know how to fix it. It was a very exciting time of the year. Instead of scolding the students to put their phones away, I knew finally that were looking at something educational. It was very exciting and refreshing to hear the students saying that this actually something that they will use in life.

We completed the assignments in the text to master the mathematical skills but they wanted real time steps on what to do as soon as they turned 18.

I left the presentation part up to the students. If they struggled, I allowed some handwritten projects. Others used charts, tables and some used bullets. They used various sources.

Since this was time consuming it was worth one test grade.

The had to create fake scenarios of an 18 year building good credit and another example of someone ruined their credit when they turned 18.

Several students asked me to type a worksheet with directions although we had gone over several examples. I called it Credit Project Directions. In addition to several talented students, I have students who struggled as they were different levels of ESOL or SPED disorders. They were able to assist each other as I was able to help individuals as needed.

Florida State Standards

MAFS.912.A-CED.1.1: Create equations and inequalities in one variable and use them to solve problems. Include equations arising from linear and quadratic functions and simple rational, absolute, and exponential functions.

MAFS.912.A-CED. 1.4: Rearrange formulas to highlight a quantity of interest, using the same reasoning as in solving equations.

MAFS.912.A-SSE.1.1: Interpret expressions that represent quantity in terms of its context.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

District Pacing Guide

THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

FINANCIAL ALGEBRA

2020 - 2021

Course Code: 120038701

1st Nine Weeks	2nd Nine Weeks	3rd Nine Weeks	4th Nine Weeks																																																																																	
<p>- Introduction to Online Learning</p> <p>I. Discretionary Expenses and Essential Expenses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Discretionary Expenses B. Travel Expenses C. Entertainment Expenses D. Vacation Expenses E. Personal Expenses <p>II. Banking Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Checking Accounts B. Reconcile a Bank Statement C. Savings Accounts D. Explore Compound Interest E. Compound Interest Formula F. Continuous Compounding G. Future Value of Investments H. Present Value of Investments I. The Term of a Single Deposit Account J. The Terms of a Systematic Account <p>III. Consumer Credit</p> <p>STEM Lessons - Model Eliciting Activities CollegeReview.com</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Introduction to Consumer Credit B. Loans C. Student Loans D. Loan Calculations and Regression E. Credit Cards F. Credit Card Statement G. Average Daily Balance <p>IV. Automobile Ownership</p> <p>STEM Lessons - Model Eliciting Activities Hybrid-Electric Vehicles vs. Gasoline-Powered Vehicles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Automobile Ads B. Automobile Transactions C. Automobile Insurance D. Probability: The Basis of Insurance E. Linear Automobile Depreciation F. Historical and Exponential Depreciation G. Driving Data H. Driving Safety Data I. Accident Investigation Data <p>V. Employment Basics</p> <p>STEM Lessons - Model Eliciting Activities Looking for the Best Employment Option</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Look for Employment B. Pay Periods and Hourly Rates C. Commissions, Royalties, and Piecework Pay D. Employee Benefits E. Social Security and Medicare <p>VI. Income Taxes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Tax Tables, Worksheets, and Schedules B. Modeling Tax Schedules C. Income Statements D. Forms 1040EZ and 1040A E. Form 1040 and Schedules A & B <p>VII. Independent Living</p> <p>STEM Lessons - Model Eliciting Activities Shopping for a Home Mortgage Loan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Finding a Place to Live B. Reading a Floor Plan C. Mortgage Application Process D. Purchasing a Home E. Mortgage Points F. Rentals, Condominiums, and Cooperatives G. Home Maintenance and Improvement <p>VIII. The Stock Market</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Business Organizations B. Stock Market Data C. Stock Market Data Charts D. Trends in Stock Closing Prices E. Stock Market Ticker F. Stock Transactions G. Stock Transaction Fees H. Stock Splits I. Dividend Income <p>IX. Modeling a Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Inventions B. Market Research C. Supply and Demand D. Fixed and Variable Expenses E. Graphs of Expense and Revenue Functions F. Breakeven Analysis G. The Profit Equation H. Mathematically Modeling a Business I. Optimal Outcomes <p>X. Planning for Retirement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Retirement Income from Savings B. Social Security Benefits C. Pensions D. Life Insurance E. Investment Diversification <p>XI. Prepare a Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Utility Expenses B. Electronic Utilities C. Charting a Budget D. Cash Flow and Budgeting E. Budget Matrices 	<p>Total Days Allotted for Instruction, Testing, and "Catch-up" Days:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Topic</th> <th>T</th> <th>B</th> <th>Dates</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Topic ~</td> <td>5</td> <td>2</td> <td>08/31-09/04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Topic I</td> <td>10</td> <td>5</td> <td>09/08-09/21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Topic II</td> <td>14</td> <td>7</td> <td>09/22-10/12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Topic III</td> <td>8</td> <td>4</td> <td>10/13-10/22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>37</td> <td>18</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Topic	T	B	Dates	Topic ~	5	2	08/31-09/04	Topic I	10	5	09/08-09/21	Topic II	14	7	09/22-10/12	Topic III	8	4	10/13-10/22	Total	37	18		<p>Total Days Allotted for Instruction, Testing, and "Catch-up" Days:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Topic</th> <th>T</th> <th>B</th> <th>Dates</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Topic IV</td> <td>20</td> <td>10</td> <td>10/26-11/24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Topic V</td> <td>15</td> <td>7</td> <td>11/30-12/18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Topic VI</td> <td>14</td> <td>7</td> <td>01/04-01/22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>49</td> <td>24</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Topic	T	B	Dates	Topic IV	20	10	10/26-11/24	Topic V	15	7	11/30-12/18	Topic VI	14	7	01/04-01/22	Total	49	24		<p>Total Days Allotted for Instruction, Testing, and "Catch-up" Days:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Topic</th> <th>T</th> <th>B</th> <th>Dates</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Topic VII</td> <td>21</td> <td>10</td> <td>01/25-02/23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Topic VIII</td> <td>22</td> <td>11</td> <td>02/24-03/25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>43</td> <td>21</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Topic	T	B	Dates	Topic VII	21	10	01/25-02/23	Topic VIII	22	11	02/24-03/25	Total	43	21		<p>Total Days Allotted for Instruction, Testing, and "Catch-up" Days:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Topic</th> <th>T</th> <th>B</th> <th>Dates</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Topic IX</td> <td>20</td> <td>10</td> <td>04/05-04/30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Topic X</td> <td>15</td> <td>7</td> <td>05/03-05/21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Topic XI</td> <td>12</td> <td>6</td> <td>05/24-06/09</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>47</td> <td>23</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Topic	T	B	Dates	Topic IX	20	10	04/05-04/30	Topic X	15	7	05/03-05/21	Topic XI	12	6	05/24-06/09	Total	47	23	
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Lesson Plan and Step by Step Guide for Implementing

Make sure you are familiar with chapter 3 in textbook before you begin

Speak to a banker for tips for students

Find a few funny anecdotal stories to tell the students that they will remember.

Brainstorm with the students to see what they already know from their life experiences and from their parents.

Tell them not to discuss specifics as personal finances are private

Describe the purpose of the project, importance of the project, and the outline as described on the worksheet.

Discuss how, when and where they will conduct their research

Discuss what they are expected to do on presentation day

Ask for parental input if applicable

Request a Teach-A- Thon partner from Ed. Fund as a guest speaker or invite a banker as a guest speaker

Show off your credit score if it is impressive and tell them how long it took to get there.

Enjoy the student's conversations and express how this will change their future!!!

Directions for Students

Credit Project

Part 1

Discuss and brainstorm in class what you know about your credit score. What is it that you don't know about good credit vs. bad credit. Discuss with your partner or small group.

Part 2

Look at guidelines for project worksheet and discuss how you will acquire this information. Will you look online, ask parents, older siblings, or a banker? Discuss what else you need to know to be prepared in life other than what is on the outline of the worksheet.

Part 3

Discuss the timelines and consequences of good credit vs. bad credit. Review the items in our Financial Alg. textbook in ch 3 pages 147- 207. Decide the manner of presentation . Read highlights from your project, use a power point, tell a valuable example of a relevant life lesson regarding credit. Prepare for your presentation date assigned.

Credit Project Outline for Students

The project must be typed and double spaced. Font size 12 and New Times Roman.

Be sure to cite your work, websites, sources in Work Sited on the last page The project must be at least two pages in length not including the Work Sited page.

Be sure address the following topics/ questions:

What are the 3 major credit bureaus?

What is their contact information and why would someone need to contact them?

What is the lowest credit score? What is the highest credit score?

At what age do you start receiving a credit score?

How do you clean your credit?

How long does it take to clean your credit?

What does it mean if you are default on your loan?

You will have to be present in class to present. Be ready to present and submit for a grade.

Resources

Students used their cell phones. Many had iPhones and a few had Samsung cell phones. Only one student used her tablet in class and one used her Apple laptop (Mac).

The students had been trained and required to bring their own portable chargers (back up batteries) for their cell phones as the classroom I was assigned only had two working outlets. They nicely shared their back up chargers (portable batteries) with each other.

I supplied blank copy paper if they needed it. I obtained a few reams from the Ed. Fund Ocean Bank warehouse therefore it was no cost to meet. You can buy a cheap ream of copy paper at Walmart for \$5.

I have a box 30 rulers in my classroom. I obtained these several years ago at the Ed. Fund Ocean Bank warehouse. You can purchase 30 rulers for approximately \$30 or less.

I paid for the Sun Sentinel newspaper which was delivered to my home which costs me \$38.92 for 6 months. You may be able to use any newspaper which is delivered to your school already and that you can share with another teacher. You can also just buy the newspaper for the 1 month you are working on this unit. I had to use the newspaper as I did not have a Promethean board or smart board in my classroom for the entire year. I could not pull up graphs, data and discuss as a large group for basic understanding at the beginning of the project.

I used the textbook assigned for the Financial Algebra course in MDCPS for a framework and reference for two formulas used and basic vocabulary in the unit.

I easily located the Florida Standards for my project from the Pacing Guides in the Financial Alg. course under the 1st 9 weeks.

I used the a banking app on my iPhone. They used their banking app or credit karma. They do not have credit as they are not old enough but I could show them where to look for future. They were able to easily do this in minutes.

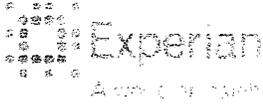
The students needed to be able to print the project either printed at home or in our media center for 5 cents per page. I did not print their projects for them.

A few websites that the students discovered and liked to use www.myfico.com, www.payplan.com, www.debt.com, www.thebalance.com, www.experian.com, www.creditkarma.com

Three years ago, my guest speaker was a banker who discussed how to get approved for a commercial business loan. Two years ago, I had a stock broker who spent the entire class teaching the basics of the stock market. This past year I had a banker teach the value of credit scores and effects of bad credit. I acquired these guest speakers as part of the Teach-A-Thon program with the Ed. Fund. You could invite a banker to be your guest speaker as long as they are approved by the school district in advance.

I will include sample projects, and photos from last year. The students and their parents signed a video release to be photographed.

I did not plan a field trip although I am sure a field trip to a bank near the school would be very easy to tackle. We have 3 within walking distance of our school.



Logout

Report Summary

Potentially Negative Items

Accounts in Good Standing

Requests for Your Credit History

Personal Information

Your Personal Statement

Credit Score



Important Note: Print this page or write down your report number and date for future reference. You will need your report number if you contact Experian.

Learn more about your credit score

Credit Score report prepared for **THERESA A BORGES**

Your report number is [REDACTED]

Report date: **March 27, 2013**

Credit Score Toolkit:

- [See my credit report](#)
- [Print my credit score](#)
- [Share my report number](#)
- [Learn more about credit scores](#)
- [My next steps](#)



Compare Wells Fargo credit options



ABOUT THIS SCORE: This credit score is based on the *VantageScore* model using a range of 300-850 (custom *VantageScore*). Your custom *VantageScore* is generated from information in your personal Experian credit report. This information is run through a scoring model that uses your credit behavior and current credit relationships to predict likely future behavior. Your credit score changes as the elements in your personal credit report change. You can continue to access your score through this promotion for 90 days.

Your custom *VantageScore* is:

797

on a scale of 300 – 850



- Print a copy of your report and score
- Carefully review your report for accuracy
- Prepare questions if you meet with a Wells Fargo banker

Important Note: Please print this page or write down your Credit Score for future reference.

See your **Score** **Now**.

YOUR custom VantageScore EXPLANATION

Percentile: Your credit rating ranks higher than 83% of U.S. consumers.



Key factors that lower your custom VantageScore:

- **The available credit on your open revolving credit accounts is too low.** Your report shows that the available credit across your open, recently reported revolving accounts such as a credit card is too low. Having low available credit amounts on revolving accounts has a negative impact on your credit score.
- **The balances on your open accounts are too high in comparison to their credit limits.** Your report shows that the ratio of balances-to-credit limits across your open credit accounts or loans is too high. Having a high proportion of balances-to-credit limits on accounts has a negative impact on your credit score.
- **The amount paid on your open real estate accounts is too low.** The balance amount paid down across your open real estate accounts, such as a mortgage, is too low. Paying down the balances can have a positive impact on your credit score.
- **The maximum credit amount on your open bank credit card accounts is too low.** The maximum credit limit amount across your open credit card accounts is too low. Having low credit limits has a negative impact on your credit score.
- **The number of inquiries on your credit report impacted your score, but their effect was not significant.** Your report shows one or more inquiries on file. Each time a potential lender pulls your credit report for review, an inquiry is placed on your file. While having inquiries on file does affect your score, the impact is minimal.

Credit Project

*What are the 3 major bureaus?

Equifax, Experian and Transunion; that compete to capture, update and store credit histories on most U.S. consumers.

*What is their contact information?

Equifax: 1-866-349-5191

TransUnion:1-800-916-8800

Experian:1-800-509-8495

*What is the lowest credit score?

Falls in a range that goes up to 850. The lowest credit score in this range is 300. But the reality is that almost nobody has a score that low.

*What is the highest credit score?

850 using the FICO model. However, any score over 740 is generally considered to be great.

*How do you clean your credit? How long does it take to repair your credit?

To clean up your credit report, you'll need to order copies of your report from the three major credit bureaus, review the reports for inaccuracies or old information, and then ask the credit bureaus to correct the information.

*How long does it take to repair your credit?

Takes about three to six months to resolve all the disputes that the average consumer needs to make. Of course, if you only have a few mistakes to correct or you repair your credit every year, it may not take as long; you might be done in just over one month.

*What happens when you declare bankruptcy?

Basically, this puts a block on your debt to keep creditors from collecting. While the stay is in place, they can't garnish your wages, deduct money from your bank account, or go after any secured assets.

*What does it mean if you are default on your loan?

Loan default occurs when a borrower fails to pay back a debt according to the initial arrangement. In the case of most consumer loans, this means that successive payments have been missed over the course of weeks or months.

Work Sited:

<https://www.myfico.com/Credit-Education/Questions/why-are-my-credit-scores-different-for-3-credit-bureaus>

<https://www.aprfinder.com/credit-bureau-phone-numbers>

<https://www.experian.com/blogs/ask-experian/what-is-the-lowest-credit-score/>

<https://www.creditsesame.com/blog/credit-score/what-is-the-highest-credit-score/>

<https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/steps-to-cleaning-your-credit-report.html>

<https://www.debt.com/credit-repair/how-long-does-credit-repair-take/>

<https://twocents.lifehacker.com/what-really-happens-when-you-file-for-bankruptcy-1781919974>

<https://www.valuepenguin.com/loans/what-does-it-mean-to-default-on-a-loan>

October 7, 2019
Period 7
Financial Algebra Credit Project

*at drama
field trip*

What are the three major Credit bureaus?

The three major credit bureaus are Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion.

What is their contact information?

Equifax-

Call them at +1-888- 202-4025 and dial number 6 on the keypad if your calling about a personal credit report and you will then be connected to a Customer Service Rep.

Email them at cust.serv@equifax.com

Experian-

Call them at 714- 830-7000 and give them the 10-digit number in your credit Experian credit report. Then you will be connected to a Experian Customer Service Agent.

TransUnion-

Call them at 800-916-8800 dial 4, then dial 2 and you then will be connected to a live person. To put a hold on your account you can call 888-909-8872.

What is the lowest credit score?

The lowest credit score one can have is a 300. However no one has a score that low. L

What is the highest credit score?

The highest credit score one can have is a 850.

How do you clean your Credit?

To Clean up your credit you'll have to order a copy of your report from each of the three major bureaus, review the reports for inaccuracies or past info, then ask the credit bureaus to fix the information.

How long does it take to repair your credit?

To repair your credit it can take about 3 to 6 months to resolve all of the disputes that the average consumer needs to make. If you only have a few mistakes on that need to be fixed or you were on top of fixing it every year it may not take as long. If you have never tried to fix your credit and have a lot of things that may need to be fixed it can take a little while longer.

What happens when you declare bankruptcy?

Declaring bankruptcy grants you what's called an automatic stay. Which basically a block on your debt to keep the creditors from trying to collect their money.. They won't be able to take money from your account, garnish your wages or go after any of your other personal assets. You then will have time to work with the court and the creditors to figure out the next steps.

What does it mean if you are default on your loan?

Loan defaults occurs when you fail to pay back the loan you originated agreed to. Most consumer loans have had missed payments from weeks or months at a time. However you have a period between missing your payment and having a loan default it is called delinquency. The delinquency period gives you time to avoid default by contacting your loan servicer or making up for your missed payments.

Work Cited-

1. <https://www.valuepenguin.com/loans/what-does-it-mean-to-default-on-a-loan#default>
2. <https://www.experian.com/blogs/ask-experian/what-happens-when-you-file-bankruptcy/>
3. <https://www.equifax.com/support/contacts/>
4. <https://www.transunion.com/customer-support/support>
5. <https://www.experian.com/help/>
6. <https://www.myfico.com/Credit-Education/Questions/why-are-my-credit-scores-different-for-3-credit-bureaus>
7. <https://www.experian.com/blogs/ask-experian/what-is-the-lowest-credit-score/>
8. <https://www.creditsesame.com/blog/credit-score/what-is-the-highest-credit-score/>

Period #3
Credit Project

✓ = where admit

1. What are the 3 major bureaus?

There are three major credit agencies in the United States: **Equifax**, **Experian**, and **TransUnion**.

<https://www.thebalance.com/who-are-the-three-major-credit-bureaus-960416>

2. What is their contact information?

You can contact them at these numbers:

- ¶ Equifax – 1-866-349-5191
- ¶ TransUnion – 1-800-916-8800
- ¶ Experian – 1-800-509-8495

<https://www.aprfinder.com/credit-bureau-phone-numbers>

3. What is the lowest credit score?

The lowest credit score is 300. But the reality is that almost nobody has a score that low. For the most part, a score below 580 is considered "bad credit".

<https://www.experian.com/blogs/ask-experian/what-is-the-lowest-credit-score/>

4. What is the highest credit score?

The highest credit score is 850.

<https://www.creditkarma.com/advice/i/highest-credit-score/>

5. How do you clean your credit?

The specific steps to credit repair depend on what's on your credit report. Before you can start repairing your credit, you'll need to order your report and review it to stop any negative information. Many credit reports also include an explanation of the things that are negatively affecting your credit. This will give you an idea of what you need to fix to improve your credit. While you may have one or two issues which are negatively impacting your credit score, with a bit of strategy and patience, all credit report issues are fixable.

<https://www.thebalance.com/what-to-fix-on-a-bad-credit-report-960375>

6. How long does it take to repair your credit?

The time it takes to repair your credit can vary widely, depending on a number of factors – from how many mistakes you have to fix to what you want to accomplish once your credit is fixed. Since people often repair their credit with a specific goal in mind – like buying a house or negotiating an interest rate with a creditor – it's important to know how long the process can take

so you can plan ahead effectively. In general, credit repair takes about three to six months to resolve all of the disputes that the average consumer needs to make. Of course, if you only have a few mistakes to correct or you repair your credit every year, it may not take as long; you might be done in just over one month. On the other hand, if you've never corrected your credit and have a large volume of things to dispute, it may take longer.

<https://www.debt.com/credit-repair/how-long-does-credit-repair-take/>

7. What happens when you declare bankruptcy?

When you file for bankruptcy, you get an “automatic stay.” Basically, this puts a block on your debt to keep creditors from collecting. While the stay is in place, they can't garnish your wages, deduct money from your bank account, or go after any secured assets.

<https://twocents.lifehacker.com/what-really-happens-when-you-file-for-bankruptcy-1781919974>

8. What does it mean if you're default on your loan?

Defaulting on a loan is the failure to live up to the terms of a contract. It is the breach of a promise to pay a financial obligation, such as a mortgage or some type of loan that is supposed to be paid in certain amounts at certain times. For consumers, it is the default on a loan taken out personally by a consumer.

<https://www.thebalance.com/what-does-it-mean-to-default-on-a-loan-4684116>

Jason Llerena

Per.3 10/10/19

Credit Project

What are the 3 major credit bureaus?

In the U.S., there are **three** national credit **bureaus** (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) that compete to capture, update and store credit histories on most U.S. consumers. While most of the information collected on consumers by the **three** credit **bureaus** is similar, there are differences.

What is their contact information?

Equifax/Customer service

1 (888) 548-7878

Experian PLC/Customer service

1(888)397-3742

TransUnion/Customer service

1 (800) 916-8800

What is the lowest the credit score?

The FICO® **Score*** which is the most widely used scoring model, falls in a range that goes up to 850. The **lowest credit score** in this range is 300. But the reality is that almost nobody has a **score** that low. For the most part, a **score** below 580 is considered "bad **credit**."

What is the highest credit score?

The **highest credit score** you can achieve (under perfect circumstances) is 850 using the FICO model. However, any **score** over 740 is generally considered to be great and puts you in range for the best interest rates on things like **credit** cards, mortgages and car loans.

How do you clean your credit?

To **clean up your credit** report, you'll need to order copies of **your** report from the three major **credit** bureaus (also called **credit** reporting agencies), review the reports for inaccuracies or old information, and then ask the **credit** bureaus to correct the information.

How long does it take to repair your credit?

In general, **credit repair takes** about three to six months to resolve all of the disputes that the average consumer needs to make. Of course, if you only have **a few** mistakes to correct or you **repair your credit** every year, it may not **take as long**; you might be done in just over one month.

What happens when you declare bankruptcy?

When **you file** for **bankruptcy**, **you** get an "automatic stay." Basically, this puts a block on your debt to keep creditors from collecting. While the stay is in place, they can't garnish your wages, deduct money from your bank account, or go after any secured assets.

What does it mean if you are in default on your loan?

Loan default occurs **when a** borrower fails to pay back **a** debt according to **the** initial arrangement. In **the** case of most consumer **loans**, this **means** that successive payments have been missed over **the** course of weeks or months. **The** period between missing **a loan** payment and having **the loan default is** known as delinquency.

Sources- <https://www.myfico.com/resources/Credit-Education/Questions/why-are-my-credit-scores-different-for-3-credit-bureaus>

<https://www.payplan.com/debt-solutions/bankruptcy/what-happens-when-you-declare/>

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1. In the U.S., there are three national credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion) that compete to capture, update and store credit histories on most U.S. consumers. While most of the information collected on consumers by the three credit bureaus is similar, there are differences. For example, one credit bureau may have unique information captured on a consumer that is not being captured by the other two, or the same data element may be stored or displayed differently by the credit bureaus.

2. To begin with, it's important to understand that there are three major credit bureaus, and each is required by law to provide consumers with a toll-free number that's staffed during regular business hours. The credit bureau phone numbers for each of the credit bureaus are listed below:

- Equifax: 866-349-5191
- TransUnion: 800-916-8800
- Experian: 888-397-3742

You might, however, need to contact them outside of the traditional business hours — or you might want to bypass the automated response — and you can. Here's the contact information for each bureau, if you want to talk to an actual person:

Equifax—Call 888-202-4025 and press number 6 (if you're calling about a personal credit report) and this will connect you with a customer service representative.

TransUnion—Call 800-916-8800, press 4, then press 2, and this will connect you with a live person. To freeze your account, you can call 888-909-8872. The TransUnion dispute customer service line is the same number as listed above (800-916-8800).

Experian—Call 714-830-7000 and provide the 10-number digit on your Experian credit report. Once you've done this, you'll be connected to an Experian customer service representative.

3. The FICO® Score*, which is the most widely used scoring model, falls in a range that goes up to 850. The lowest credit score in this range is 300. But the reality is that almost nobody has a score that low. For the most part, a score below 580 is considered "bad credit."

The highest credit score you can achieve (under perfect circumstances) is 850 using the FICO model. However, any score over 740 is generally considered to be great and puts you in range for the best interest rates on things like credit cards, mortgages and car loans

4. To clean up your credit report, you'll need to order copies of your report from the three major credit bureaus (also called credit reporting agencies), review the reports for inaccuracies or old information, and then ask the credit bureaus to correct the information.

In general, credit repair takes about three to six months to resolve all of the disputes that the average consumer needs to make. Of course, if you only have a few mistakes to correct or report your credit every year, it may not take as long; you might be done in just one month.

5. When you file for bankruptcy, you get an "automatic stay." Basically, this puts a block on your debt to keep creditors from collecting. While the stay is in place, they can't garnish your wages, deduct money from your bank account, or go after any secured assets.

<https://www.myfico.com/resources/Credit-Education/Questions/why-are-my-credit-scores-different-for-3-credit-bureaus>

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<https://www.debt.com/credit-repair/how-long-does-credit-repair-take/>

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<https://www.valhugpenguin.com/loans/what-does-it-mean-to-default-on-a-loan/#default>