What is STARS?

Invest Ed® STARS (Students Tracking and Researching the Stock Market) is a program created and implemented by the Oklahoma Department of Securities that is designed to promote investor education of Oklahoma students.

STARS teaches students grades 9-12 how to:

- Research investments
- Assess risk
- Set financial goals
- Create online stock portfolios
- Avoid financial fraud

STARS differs from other programs because the focus of the stock portfolio project is on long-term investing principles, not short-term performance gains. Performance is assessed on what the student learns, not the value of the portfolio at the end of the program. In addition, the student portfolio continues to be accessible to the student after leaving the classroom. Consequently, STARS provides students the opportunity to review their portfolios five or ten years later, giving them the ability to truly see the importance of long-term investing, the time value of money, and the compounding of interest.

Did You Know?

- The vast majority of Americans live paycheck to paycheck.
- If a student receives investor education, they are more likely to save for retirement in their future.

Student Testimonial

“Little did I know that the lessons provided by the Invest Ed® program that I learned in this course would be more relevant to my life than any math equation, science experiment, or vocabulary word.”

— A FORMER STARS STUDENT

investedok.org
STUDENTS COMPETE ACROSS THE STATE

Students who compete must write a paper detailing what they have learned. The STARS program provides a generous monetary award to five regional winners and one state winner each award period.

STARS TEACHER RESOURCES

All necessary teaching materials and resources are provided to STARS teachers through:

- Videos
- PowerPoint presentations
- Quizzes

STARS staff is available to answer questions.

WHAT IS REQUIRED TO TEACH STARS?

Any teacher can teach the STARS program. Oklahoma teachers are eligible to receive a stipend for teaching the STARS program if certain requirements are met.

BECOMING STIPEND ELIGIBLE

To become a stipend eligible STARS teacher, you are required to attend a teacher training workshop. This workshop is offered during the summer and is taught by a subject-matter expert.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Students can participate even if their school does not offer the program.

STARS has an educator on staff that will lead students through the program. Students can go to investedok.org to learn more.

A FEW TOPICS THAT ARE COVERED

- Fraud awareness
- Psychology of investing
- Risk management
- Researching securities professionals
- Stock market terminology

Experience the NEW & IMPROVED STARS program

investedok.org

Testimonials

“The STARS program is a way to introduce students to new concepts such as the time value of money, financial fraud education, and early planning for retirement. All are life skills that my students need to be exposed to and will benefit from. While writing the required report, students must set goals, meet a deadline, and use critical thinking skills in completing the challenge. As a teacher it is most gratifying when students come back and tell you they are participating in their company’s 401(k) plan or that they have begun investing in a Roth IRA.”

BOB BAILEY

Personal Financial Literacy Teacher
Weatherford High School

“A FORMER STARS STUDENT

This class has taught me more in one semester than I have learned all year in some of my other classes.