

Colorado Council for Economic Education



An investment simulation for students in grades 3-12

2016-2017 Teacher's Guide

Fall 2016 Trading Dates:

September 19 to December 2, 2016

Registration deadline: October 10, 2016

First trade deadline: October 17, 2016

Early Spring 2017 Trading Dates:

January 23 to March 31, 2017

Registration deadline: February 6, 2017

First trade deadline: February 13, 2017

Late Spring 2017 Trading Dates:

March 6 to May 12, 2017

Registration deadline: March 27, 2017

First trade deadline: April 3, 2017

Dear Colorado Teacher,

Thank you for registering your students in the Colorado Council for Economic Education *Stock Market Experience*. **We are excited to announce numerous enhancements and new features to the Stock Market Experience this year!** Please see page 5 for more details!

The Stock Market Experience is a real life online simulation for grades 3-12 that advances student academic achievement in the core academic disciplines. This exciting program empowers students with their own virtual \$100,000 investment portfolio. Students work in teams to invest in stocks, mutual funds, bonds and commodities on US and international exchanges over the course of a semester. Student teams compete in statewide and regional divisions by grade level for cash prizes.

Stock Market Experience participants enjoy many features including:

- Real time trading with **streaming** portfolio updates
- Intuitive onsite research tools
- Low transaction fees
- Many trading options including stocks, mutual funds, bonds, commodities, domestic and international markets
- Lesson plans and curriculum support from the Colorado Council for Economic Education
- Free teacher training with both in-person and webinar sessions available
- Customer service provided directly to teachers and students by expert help desk staff during trading hours

Please contact me directly at any time with questions or requests. I look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,



Lisa Vogt
Stock Market Experience Coordinator
Colorado Council for Economic Education
lisa.vogt@ccee.net / (303)832-4764

Overview

This Teacher Guide contains information to help you best understand the different aspects of the Stock Market Experience Program including Rules, Awards Program Details and Best Practices for implementing the program in your classroom.

The Stock Market Experience utilizes a state-of-the-art, intuitive and dynamic software platform from StockTrak that is also used by more than 500 U.S. Universities and Business schools. The technology is continually updated to ensure that it is the top-of-line and user-friendly. Coupled with quality support and resources from the Colorado Council for Economic Education, we are happy to provide this premier stock market classroom experience to you and your students.

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Teacher Training

Stock Market Experience teachers receive FREE teacher training provided by the Colorado Council for Economic Education. Training is presented both in-person as well as by webinar, and is easily accessible to all teachers statewide. Below is a list of training descriptions and available dates. Please register for these sessions online at www.ccee.net

Stock Market Experience Teacher Training

ONSITE Dates and Locations:

Saturday September 10th 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Hosted by  DANIELS FUND

101 Monroe Street Denver, Colorado 80206 [Map](#)

❖ ❖ OR ❖ ❖

Saturday, Saturday September 26th 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Hosted by  ONLINE TRADING
ACADEMY

7535 E Hampden Ave #525, Denver, CO 80231 [Map](#)

Onsite Stock Market Experience Teacher Training is designed for teachers new to the program and teachers wanting a refresher on the program basics and teaching best practices. This class provides a comprehensive review of the functionality of the Stock Market Experience trading portfolio as well as program rules. The training also includes an in-depth review of how to research stocks and get the program started in your classroom. A third component of the class is presented by a Stock Market Experience Mentor Teacher and covers best teaching practices. During this presentation, specific lesson plans will be reviewed. Lesson plans and curriculum tools are provided in this training class.

Stock Market Experience Teacher Training: WEBINAR

Fall Dates: August 23, September 6 and September 14

Time: All sessions from 4:00-5:30 PM

Early and Late Spring Dates and times will be announced at a later date.

Teachers who are new to the Stock Market Experience are strongly encouraged to participate in one of these FREE teacher training webinar sessions. Webinar Stock Market Experience Teacher Training is perfect for all teachers and is very convenient! You need a phone and an internet connection to participate and can join from any location. This 1-hour webinar teacher training session provides a comprehensive review of the functionality of the Stock Market Experience trading portfolio as well as program rules. The training also includes an overview of researching stocks and introducing the program in your classroom. During this presentation, best teaching practices provided by other teachers will be shared. Lesson plans and curriculum tools are provided following this training class.

New Features & Enhancements

- Mobile-Friendly
- New, Year-long SME competition (not eligible for prizes)
- Streamlined Teacher Portfolios complete with
- One User ID and password to manage multiple sessions
- Messaging board to communicate with students
- Built-in lesson plan features along with assignment tracking
- Downloadable student activity reports
- Tutorial videos on site navigation and investment basics
- Updated lesson plans and PFL articles
- Top stories and Market News
- Complete user guide
- Financial Calculators: Net Worth, Compound Interest, Household budget, Rate of Return and more!

Free Newspaper Subscriptions

As a Stock Market Experience teacher, you can sign-up for a FREE classroom subscription to the electronic *Denver Post*. This is a valuable research tool for students to use. Further, there are many new user-friendly features on the online Denver Post designed specifically for teachers. To sign up for your free online subscription, simply register at www.coloradonie.com. There is no special code required. Click on [e-Edition and then on order](#). Contact Lisa Vogt at sme@ccee.net with any questions that you have regarding your free subscription.



Staying Informed

- **EMAIL: *School e-mail systems often block e-mail from our office.*** As many important messages regarding the Stock Market Experience are delivered via e-mail, please ask your school network administrator or computer technician to allow messages from: sme@ccee.net and registrations@stocktrak.com
- **Facebook and Twitter:** Find relevant lesson plans and news stories on our social media sites. To find CCEE, visit www.ccee.net and click on the 'Like Us' link. ***Facebook and Twitter updates from CCEE automatically update in the right-hand panel of the Stock Market Experience portfolio!*** Be sure to check these updates frequently for important information!!
- **Announcements Box:** Important information for teachers and students will be communicated throughout the trading sessions using the ANNOUNCEMENTS Box in the right-hand column of the Stock Market Experience trading portfolio. Be sure to check this box frequently for important information during your trading sessions!
- **RSS News Feeds:** The right-hand column of your Stock Market Experience portfolio includes streaming RSS News Feeds that provide valuable up-to-the-minute- market news while you are trading.
- **Embedded Video:** Your Stock Market Experience portfolio includes embedded videos in the right-hand column. These videos change frequently and provide educational content from our partners and sponsors.

Stock Market Experience Awards

Statewide Awards: Student teams that place first, second and third overall in the state in their grade division will win cash awards as specified below. Placement is determined by the highest return-on-investment at the close of business on the last day of the tournament.

Awards Per Student (up to 5 students per team)			
	High School	Middle School	Elementary School
1st Place	\$100	\$100	\$100
2nd Place	\$50	\$50	\$50
3rd Place	\$25	\$25	\$25

Regional Winners: – Classroom Celebration!

The student team that places **FIRST OVERALL** in their geographic region will receive \$50 for a Stock Market Experience Classroom Celebration.

(Geographic Regions are Denver Metro, Pikes Peak, NE / North Central, NW / West Central, and South)

State and Regional Winners - Certificates

The Colorado Council for Economic Education will present all state and regional first, second, and third place winners in each age division with personalized award certificates to recognize their success.

Certificates will also be presented to the winning schools.

Teachers may download participation certificates from the CCEE website for any student regardless of placement.

Special Recognition Awards may be made at the discretion of the Colorado Council for Economic Education. These awards will be announced during the competition.

Additional Awards:

State Level TEACHER Awards – Gift Certificates

Each teacher who advises a state level winning team will receive a \$25 gift card from the Colorado Council for Economic Education.

Stock Star Recognition

ccee.net/sme-stock-stars

Students may showcase their investment knowledge by entering the Stock Star writing or video competition.

SME students are encouraged to submit a Stock Star entry form sharing their unique investment strategy, a stock pick that they are especially proud of, or noteworthy account of their Stock Market Experience. This is a great way to incorporate writing into your curriculum.

Alternatively, students can submit a 30-second video either illustrating one of above examples or producing a thank you to our program sponsors in a short creative video. This is an opportunity for your students to incorporate technology into their learning.

Individual Stock Stars will be awarded a \$25 gift card. Student team Stock Stars will be awarded \$50 for a class party. Winners are announced in October and November for the fall session and in February and March for the early spring session. The late spring and year-long sessions are ineligible for prizes.

Eligibility for Awards

Students who participate in the Fall 2016 and Early Spring 2017 trading sessions are eligible for Stock Market Experience awards. No awards will be given for Late Spring and Yearlong sessions.

- Teams must make at least one trade by the dates listed below.
 - Fall session: First trade deadline: October 17, 2016
 - Early spring session: First trade deadline: February 13, 2017
- Teams must also comply with all official rules.
- Accounts will be audited at the end of the game to ensure accuracy. Official results will be announced once the audit is complete.

- If your team suspects an error at any time during the trading period, please submit an online error report as soon as possible. Click on the 'Home' tab and then select '[Contact Us](#)' under 'General Links.'
- To view rankings: Teams must first login. Select 'Rankings' under the 'My Portfolio' tab. Rankings can be viewed three ways:
 - **Overall Rankings:** include all teams in the state. State level awards are based on these rankings.
 - **Division Rankings:** are based on grade level and geographic region in the state. Division rankings are used to determine the teams invited to the awards ceremony (certificate recognition).
 - **Class Rankings:** are based on the teams competing within your class only. You may use these rankings to create your own class competition if you choose. Stock Market Experience does not provide awards based on class ranking.
- **Division Accuracy:** *It is the teacher's responsibility to ensure that his or her teams are competing in the correct division.* This can easily be determined by viewing the Division Rankings which include the names of the schools. If your team of high school students is ranked among middle schools, you are most likely in the wrong division. Please notify sme@ccee.net if you feel that you have been ranked in the wrong division. Teams consisting of cross-division students (i.e. a team of 5th and 6th graders or 8th and 9th graders) must compete in the division based on the highest grade level. Any team that is found to be ranked in the wrong division will be moved to the correct division. All rankings will be adjusted accordingly.

Awards Ceremony

First, second, and third place teams for State and Regional divisions as well as Stock Star winners* will be invited to the Annual SME Awards Ceremony in May. Save the Date announcements and Invitations will be sent via e-mail to these teams prior to the event. Invitees must pre-register as instructed on the invitation, using the registration link provided on the invitation.

*Fall and early spring sessions only

Those invited to attend the awards ceremony at no cost include:

- Winning team members (up to five students, schools may pay for additional students on winning teams)
- 1 Advisor or teacher for winning team (Schools may pay for co-advisors, etc.)
- District Superintendent or School Principal (These tickets can only be used for administration)
- 1 parent guest per winning team member (up to 5 guests per team). Parents may pay for additional parent/guardian and siblings to attend.

Additional guests:

As noted above, each winning team (up to 5 students), the teacher, one school administrator, and one parent/guardian are invited to attend the awards ceremony at no cost. Additional guests may pay to attend the awards ceremony to cover the cost of their admission and food at the reception. The Stock Market Experience makes every effort to keep this cost minimal. However, we must recover our cost for additional guests.

- The Awards Ceremony invitation will include payment instructions for additional guests. The estimated cost is approximately \$20 per guest. An exact cost will be provided on the invitation. This cost pays for admission, the event cost and food and drink at the reception.
- **Additional guests will register on a space-available, first-come, first-serve basis. Please register your guests as soon as possible.**
- Space is limited at the awards ceremony. Once the event reaches capacity, guests will be added to a wait list and notified that they are on a wait list. Payment will not be processed until a guest is moved from the wait list and their reservation is confirmed.
- REFUNDS: CCEE must be notified 48 hours in advance at (303) 752-2323 if a refund is requested. Refunds will not be made after this time. Waiting lists are likely, so please notify CCEE as soon as possible if you are unable to attend.

STOCK MARKET EXPERIENCE RULES

1. Registration and Trading Dates: Please note the registration deadlines for each contest. Teachers may add additional teams until this deadline. Teams must make at least one trade by the trading deadline. Teams who do not begin trading by this deadline will be deleted. The Colorado Council for Economic Education incurs a licensing fee for all teams and will delete inactive teams in an effort to keep program costs down.

Contest	Trading Dates	Registration Deadline	First Trading Deadline
Fall 2016	September 19 – December 2	October 7	October 17
Early Spring 2017	January 23 – March 31	February 10	February 13
Late Spring 2017	March 6 – May 12	March 24	April 3
Yearlong	September 19, 2016 – May 12, 2017	October 7, 2016	October 17, 2016

2. Teacher Teams: Teachers are automatically registered for their own Stock Market Experience account when you register student teams. We encourage all teachers to participate with the students. Students and teachers agree that this adds a fun and educational component to the classroom experience. Teacher accounts are not eligible for awards.

3. After Hours Trading: Participants may place orders any time after market close one business day prior to the Trading Start date. Those orders will execute at the market open on the Trading Start date.

4. Initial Cash Balance: At the beginning of the session, student teams will be given an initial cash balance of \$100,000 fictitious funds in their Stock Market Experience portfolio account that can be used to make simulated buy or sell transactions using real market pricing as described in more detail below. Limit one Stock Market Experience account per eligible person.

5. Eligible Securities: The Stock Market Experience offers a wide variety of stock, mutual funds, bonds, and commodities traded on U.S. and international markets. To see which stock exchanges are available for this simulation click on "[Trade Stocks](#)" under the "Make a Trade" tab and then see table with different exchanges.

6. Order Types and Trade Execution:

- Market, limit, and stop orders will be accepted for stock orders.
- Trades may be placed for as little as one share per transaction with a minimum price of \$5.00.

- You can trade up to half of the actual daily volume. Volume is the number of shares traded in a security or an entire market during a given period of time. It is simply the amount of shares that trade hands from sellers to buyers as a measure of activity. Most sites such as Yahoo! Finance will display the volume when you look up a quote.
- All orders for North American stocks are executed at the real-time bid/ask prices as provided by our data vendor when placed during market hours.
- Due to exchange rules, the web page will display a delayed price estimate of the price until 15-20 minutes has elapsed.
- The transaction will automatically appear in the trader's portfolio and transaction History.
- Market orders placed while the markets are closed or before the market opens will be executed as market conditions permit shortly after the market opens.
- If the stock requested that day has not traded that day then the trade will be cancelled.
- Trades placed after-market hours can be viewed in the Pending Orders screen.
- Pending orders can be cancelled until 9:25 am ET on the day the trade is scheduled for execution.
- Pending market orders placed on halted stocks will be cancelled if trading does not resume by the end of the day.
- Limit and stop orders may be placed as "Day" orders which are good for the day only, or as "GTC" orders, which are good until cancelled. You must choose which one you prefer when placing your order.
- If a participant does not have adequate cash or buying power to process a trade, then the numbers of shares will be adjusted to allow the trade to be filled as best it can.
- Participants cannot cancel market orders placed during market hours.
- Participants may invest a maximum of 25% of their simulated portfolio value in any one stock or mutual fund.

7. Commissions: Each trade will incur a broker commission fee of \$10.00 which will be subtracted from the portfolio cash balance.

8. Buying on Margin: Participants can borrow an additional \$100,000.

9. Splits, Dividends, and other Corporate Actions: Most stock splits, dividends, and other corporate actions reported by the news wires will be accounted for after the markets have closed and prior to the next market opening. These situations may cause account values to be misrepresented until the reconciliation occurs for next open business day.

10. Trading Halts: Halted, restricted, and blocked stocks will not be available for trading. Any trade that is confirmed after trading has been halted will be reversed.

11. Discrepancies: Participants should report any account discrepancy within one (1) week from the transaction date. The Colorado Stock Market Experience Support Services Group will, at its sole

discretion investigate and adjust any legitimate discrepancy. Discrepancies reported after one (1) week may or may not be adjusted. To contact the [Support Services Group](#) click on the link provided on the bottom of the FAQ page and fill out the brief form. Replies are usually sent within 24 hours by return e-mail.

12. Transaction Limits: Participants may invest a maximum of 25% of their simulated portfolio value in any one stock, mutual fund, commodity or bond.

13. Day Trading: Teams do not have the ability to buy and sell the same securities during the same day.

14. Short Selling: Teams do have the ability to Short Sell.

15. Interest: You will earn interest on positive cash balances in your account and interest will be charged to your account for margin loans. Interest Earn rate = 3%. Interest Charge Rate = 8%.

16. Trades that result from cases of stolen passwords, those submitted by a team member without the consent of his or her team mates, and / or trades that result due to human error will not be deleted from accounts under any circumstances.

17. Trades that result from cases of stolen passwords, those submitted by a team member without the consent of his or her team mates, and / or trades that result due to human error will not be deleted from accounts under any circumstances.

18. Some of your trades may not be private. The Stock Market Experience site will display the last trade placed by a team on the ranking page.

19. Awards will be made based on portfolio value. The rankings posted on www.stockmarketexperience.org will determine which teams receive awards and are invited to the awards ceremony.

20. Stock Market Experience advisors must be responsible adults 18 years or older. In no case may they be a matriculated student in grades K-12. Teams that do not comply will be removed from the portfolio rankings.

21. The authority to remove a team from the rankings lies solely with the team's Stock Market Experience Coordinator and the Colorado Council for Economic Education.

22. In the event of an error on the part of StockTrak and/or coordinator organization, their liability to a participant shall be limited to the refund of registration or other fees paid. (During 2016-2017, registration cost is free).

NYSE 2016-2017 Holiday Schedule

Normally the hours for the New York Stock Exchange are from 9:30AM to 4:00PM ET (7:30AM – 2:00PM Mountain time) Monday through Friday. However, the stock market does close for certain holidays and occasionally for other extraordinary events.

2016	2017	Holidays	Status
January 1	January 1 Observed January 2	New Year's Day	Closed
January 18	January 16	MLK Jr. Day	Closed
February 15	February 20	Presidents Day	Closed
March 25	April 14	Good Friday	Closed
May 30	May 29	Memorial Day	Closed
July 4	July 4	Independence Day	Closed
September 5	September 4	Labor Day	Closed
November 24	November 23	Thanksgiving Day	Closed
November 25	November 24	Early Close USA	1:30 p.m. (ET)
December 25 Observed December 26	December 25	Christmas Day	Closed

Getting Started in the Stock Market Experience

All first-time teachers are encouraged to attend a FREE teacher training session. These sessions are offered both online using webinar technology and onsite / in person. Webinar training can be accessed from any location with an internet connection and phone line. On-site training includes a presentation from a mentor teacher on best practices related to teaching the Stock Market Experience. Both formats include lesson plans and content related to managing and presenting the program in your classroom. You can register for these training sessions at <http://www.ccee.net/stock-market-experience/>

Registration: Register your teams online at www.stockmarketexperience.org. Teams should consist of no more than 5 members due to award allocation. Once registered, you will receive an e-mail confirmation with your team ID numbers and passwords. Students can log into their portfolio at www.stockmarketexperience.org using the ID and password that you assign to them.

How Much Time do I need? It takes three or four class periods to introduce students to the Stock Market Experience. This can be started before the session officially begins. Once the game starts, students have the opportunity to post trades as often as they like. Because students have access to their online portfolios 24 hours a day, seven days a week from any computer with internet access, teachers have the flexibility of choosing how much or how little class time is devoted to the program.

Preparing to Trade:

Before the session officially opens for trading, you can begin preparing your students for the Stock Market Experience. Below is a list of suggested discussion topics and activities that will prepare your students. Additional lesson plans and activities are provided to teachers who participate in teacher training sessions.

- **Pre-Test:** A pre-test covering key investment concepts and vocabulary can be helpful in customizing your presentation of the Stock Market Experience to students based on their knowledge and understanding. This information is also valuable in measuring student learning when concluding the program with a post-test. Email sme@ccee.net
- **Risk Assessment:** Investors have varying levels of risk tolerance. Students may find that within their team, each person may have a different level of risk tolerance related to investing. Completing a risk assessment together can help prepare the students for working together to make important investment decisions during the Stock Market Experience. A variety of risk assessment tools exist. One to try is the Investment Risk Tolerance Quiz at <http://njaes.rutgers.edu/money/riskquiz>. This quiz helps students determine their preference for risk when investing as well as their preference for investment alternatives.

- **Stock Market Experience Learning Center:** Once your students log into their portfolio, they can access the [Learning Center](#). The Learning Center is updated continually with valuable information and key topics related to investing. As the students are preparing to trade, you may want to allocate time for them to research topics in the Learning Center and report back to the class about what they learn.
- **Vocabulary and Key Topics:** Developing an understanding of the ‘language of investing’ is especially helpful in preparing students for the Stock Market Experience. Often times, this can be accomplished through an activity or assignment that the students complete in their teams. The Stock Market Experience Learn Center includes a comprehensive online [glossary](#) that students can use. Additional vocabulary activities can be found at http://ccee.net/sme_teacher_resources.htm Other key topics that you may want to discuss prior to trading include *What is a company?* *What is a stock?* and *Diversification*.
- **Researching Stocks:** Research and evaluation of investment options is an essential skill for Stock Market Experience participants. Students can begin to research stocks before the trading session opens and identify investments that they want to watch or invest in once the session opens. Information is available at http://ccee.net/sme_teacher_resources.htm to assist students with the research process.
- **Stock Market Experience Rules:** It is helpful for students to understand the rules of the Stock Market Experience before they begin to trade. Students can access the rules online at the Stock Market Experience website.
- **Stock Market Experience Project:** Many teachers will assign a Stock Market Experience project to students. Often times this project has multiple steps that are completed during the course of a trading session. Ideas for projects can be found on the [SME Teacher Resource Page](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The Colorado Council for Economic Education has compiled a list of frequently asked questions regarding the Stock Market Experience. Use this guide as a starting point to answer any of your Stock Market Experience questions. Please feel free to email **The Colorado Council for Economic Education's Stock Market Experience Coordinator at sme@ccee.net** for any further clarifications or questions you may have.

How much class time does it take?

- It takes three or four class periods to introduce students to the Stock Market Experience, which can be started before the trading session officially begins. Once the trading session starts, students have the opportunity to post trades as often as they like. Because students have access to their online portfolios 24 hours a day, seven days a week from any computer with internet access, teachers have the flexibility of choosing how much or how little class time is devoted to the program.

How is the Stock Market Experience program integrated into core subjects?

- The Stock Market Experience can be adjusted to suit any teacher's needs. The flexibility of the program allows teachers to use it with a variety of subjects including: Social Studies, Math, Business, Technology, Family/Consumer Sciences, and Economics. It can be integrated into regular classrooms, school clubs, after school programs, and gifted and talented programs.

How can the Stock Market Experience help your students?

- **Business Education Teachers:** Use the Stock Market Experience to teach students the characteristics of the business cycle and a market system, the role of business, consumers and government in our economy, how supply and demand interact to determine prices, how to use technology to maintain, manipulate and report financial information, and more.
- **Elementary and Gifted and Talented Teachers:** Use the Stock Market Experience to reinforce math skills and to introduce children to the value of investing and saving for the future. Students also develop important life skills in group decision making, conflict resolution, data collection and analysis, problem solving, critical thinking, and more.
- **Financial Education Teachers:** Use the Stock Market Experience to help students learn how to apply strategies for creating wealth and building assets, how to develop financial goals and budgets, how to analyze and balance risk against benefits, about the purposes and services of financial institutions, and more.

- **Math Teachers:** Students will see real-world applications as they learn to use ratios, decimals, estimating skills, fractions, amounts of money, percentages, basic computation. Students also learn data analysis and probability, and more.
- **Social Studies and Economics Teachers:** The Stock Market Experience will reinforce your introduction of financial markets and institutions, supply and demand, profit and loss, opportunity cost, risk and return, and more.
- **Students are not the only ones to benefit.** Teachers improve their financial and economic understanding as well! If you are new to investing yourself and are hesitant to offer the Stock Market Experience to your students, we offer free teacher training programs to teach you the basics of saving and investing and tips to help you get started using the Stock Market Experience in your classroom.

Does the program help me meet Colorado academic standards?

- The Stock Market Experience program helps meet requirements of Colorado's new Personal Financial Literacy (PFL) standards. The program also meets standards in Economics, Mathematics and even Language Arts! Contact sme@ccee.net for more information about standards alignment. Below is a list of recent studies that found positive results in student academic performance in economics, financial literacy, and mathematics among students who participated in stock market simulation programs.

What 21st Century Skills will my students gain from participating in the Stock Market Experience?

- These are some of the skills your students will be learning: Economic and personal financial literacy, resource allocation, diversification and investment strategies, critical thinking, data interpretation, analysis and syntheses through use of models and simulations, problem solving, research skills, oral and written communication, public speaking, leadership, teamwork and collaboration, identifying trends and forecasting possibilities, and student-led inquiry.

How can I measure how well my students are doing?

- Assessment tools are available from the Colorado Council for Economic Education. Have your students take these assessments as a pre- or post-test; or, take the test yourself and see how much you know about investing. Please e-mail sme@ccee.net to request Pre-and Post-test assessment tools for your students.

What level of investment knowledge is required?

- The Stock Market Experience program is designed so students and teachers learn as they go; therefore, minimal knowledge about investing is needed. In fact, The Stock Market Experience serves as a valuable tool to learn basic investing skills.
- The Colorado Stock Market Experience [help desk is here](#) to help if you have any question about investing concepts or need assistance in locating lesson plans to help your students improve their financial future.
- If you are new to investing and are hesitant to offer the Stock Market Experience to your students, we offer [free teacher training programs](#) to teach you the basics of saving and investing and tips to help you get started using the Stock Market Experience in your classroom.
- Stock Market Experience teachers often work with a volunteer from a local investment firm to help them get started. Contact your local investment firm or visit www.ccee.net to [request a volunteer](#) to speak to your class about the basics of savings and investing or other topics of interest.

How do I get started?

- Simply [register your teams](#) online. You will receive an email with usernames and passwords. Please check your junk mail folder if you do not receive them within 2 days of registering. No payment is necessary upon registration.
- The Stock Market Experience is offered for FREE in 2016-2017. We offer free teacher training workshop (either online or in person) for those who wish to participate.

How do my students make trades?

- Trades are made via the [Stock Market Experience web site](#). Students can gain access to accounts on our web site 24 hours a day, seven days a week to review account activity, review class rankings, and research stocks.

What types of resources are provided?

- We provide flexible resources that can stand alone or supplement your existing curriculum.
- [Free teacher training](#) is available to help you make the stock market a real and understandable piece of your economic knowledge. Online training is available year round or attend a face-to-face session held each January and September.
- **Help Desk:** A live help desk is available to answer your questions and assist you in any way. You can also email any questions to sme@ccee.net

- **Free Copies of the Denver Post E-Edition Newspaper:** The Denver Post provides free e-edition newspapers to classroom teachers. Register for your FREE classroom subscription at <http://www.coloradonie.com>
- **Local Volunteers:** SMS teachers often work with a volunteer from a local investment firm to help them get started. Contact your local investment firm or visit http://ccee.net/request_speaker.htm to request a volunteer to speak to your class about the basics of savings and investing or other topics of interest.

What sets us apart from other stock market games?

- Teams compete against other Colorado schools for cash prizes and recognition at the annual Stock Market Experience Awards Ceremony!
- We offer awards including cash awards, stock ownership, certificates, class parties and more that recognize winning teachers and students.
- The Stock Market Experience provides students access to a safe and secure site. Other free simulations include message boards where students can interact and communicate with adults and anyone else who chooses to use the site. The Stock Market Experience site is limited to registered teachers and their students. All accounts can be tracked to a Colorado school and teacher so they are safe for student use.
- The Stock Market Experience offers a live and local help desk .We're here to answer any questions whether it be a question about your portfolio, the rules, or if you are looking for resources to help explain concepts such as short selling or buying on margin. Many other sites offer little or no support.

2016-2017 Stock Market Experience Sponsors



The Denver Post | Boulder Daily Camera | Longmont Times-Call | Loveland Reporter-Herald



Disclaimer

When you sign up with the Colorado Stock Market Experience, you automatically opt in to receive regular email updates about The Colorado Council for Economic Education workshops, programs, special offers and more. You may opt out at any time. Please note: We do not sell, rent, lease or disclose information that identifies you individually or makes it possible for other parties to contact you directly.