

# Civics and Economics

# Social Sciences Curriculum Guide

Dinwiddie County Public Schools provides each student the opportunity to become a productive citizen, engaging the entire community in the educational needs of our children.

# Civics and Economics Curriculum Guide

- The DCPS Curriculum Guide contains key concepts and SOL numbers for each week. These skill areas must be cross referenced with the DOE Enhanced Scope and Sequence and DOE Curriculum Framework.
- Grade Level(s): 8
- Prerequisite: U.S. History I & II
- Course Description: The standards for Civics and Economics examine the roles the citizens play in the political, governmental, and economic systems in the United States. Students will examine the constitutions of Virginia and the United States, will identify the rights, duties, and responsibilities of citizens, and will describe the structure and operation of government at the local, state, and national levels. Students will investigate the process by which decisions are made in the American market economy and explain the government's role in it. The standards identify personal character traits, such as patriotism, respect for the law, willingness to perform public service, and a sense of civic duty, that facilitate thoughtful and effective active participation in the civic life of an increasingly diverse democratic society. Civic education also emphasizes the intellectual and practical skills required for responsible citizenship. Students will practice these skills both inside and outside the classroom as they extend their understanding of the essential knowledge defined by the standards for Civics and Economics.

Virginia Department of Education Curriculum Frameworks

Virginia Department of Education Curriculum Standards

Nine Weeks	Approximate Number of Days Taught	Торіс	Targeted SOL
1st	2	Introduction to class and pre-test	All SOLs
1st	16	Foundations of Government	CE.2a,b,c,d
1st	14	Citizenship	CE. 3a,b,c,d,e CE. 4a,b,c,d,e,f
1st	12	Federalism	CE. 7a,b,c,d CE. 8 a,b,c CE. 10 a,b,c,d
2nd	44	Federalism Continued	CE. 7a,b,c,d CE. 8 a,b,c CE. 10 a,b,c,d
3rd	16	Political Parties	CE. 5a,b,c,d,e,f CE. 9a,b,c

3rd	24	Economics	CE. 11a,b,c, CE. 12a,b,c,d CE. 13 a-f CE. 14 a-f
4th	30	Review	All SOL's

Curriculum Information	Essential Knowledge and Skills Key Vocabulary	Essential Questions and Understandings Teacher Notes and Elaborations
SOL Reporting Category:  Topic: Foundations of Government  Virginia SOL: CE. 2 a.) explaining the fundamental principles of consent of the governed, limited government, rule of law, democracy, and representative government b.) explaining the significance of the charters of the Virginia Company of London, the Virginia Declaration of Rights, the		
Declaration of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, the		Essential Understandings: Fundamental political principles define and shape American constitutional
Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, and the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights	Purposes of the United States' Government	American constitutional government is founded on concepts articulated in earlier documents, including the charters of the Virginia Company of London, the
<b>c.)</b> identifying the purposes for the Constitution of the United States as stated in its Preamble.	Constitution of the United States  Constitution of Virginia	Virginia Declaration of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom.
<b>d.</b> ) identifying the procedures for amending the Constitution of	Essential Skills:	The Preamble of a constitution sets forth the goals and purposes to be served by the government.

Vincinia and the Constitution of	Farming and intermed unincome and	The constitutions of Vications and the Haritan Construction in the Advanced
Virginia and the Constitution of	Examine and interpret primary and	The constitutions of Virginia and the United States can be amended through
the United States	secondary source documents. (CE.1a)	processes outlined in the constitutions.
	Distinguish between relevant and	The Virginia constitution has been rewritten several times.
		The virginia constitution has been rewritten several times.
	irrelevant information. (CE.1d)	
	Review information for accuracy,	
	separating fact from opinion. (CE.1e)	Teacher Notes and Elaborations:
		Page Urage:
		Resources:

Curriculum Information	Essential Knowledge and Skills Key Vocabulary	Essential Questions and Understandings Teacher Notes and Elaborations
SOL Reporting Category:	Essential Knowledge:	Essential Questions:
	The Fourteenth Amendment to the	How does an individual become a citizen?
Topic:	Constitution of the United States of	
Citizenship	America defines citizenship as	What fundamental rights and liberties are guaranteed in the First and Fourteenth
	follows: "All persons born or	Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America?
Virginia SOL:	naturalized in the United States, and	
CE. 3	subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are	What civic duties are expected of all citizens?
<b>a.)</b> describing the processes by	citizens of the United States and the	
which an individual becomes a	state wherein they reside."	What are the ways individuals demonstrate responsible citizenship?
citizen of the United States		
<b>b.</b> ) describing the First	Means of Obtaining Citizenship	In what ways do citizens participate in community service?
Amendment freedoms of religion,	By birth	
speech, press, assembly, and	By naturalization	How do individuals demonstrate thoughtful and effective participation in civic
petition, and the rights guaranteed		life?
by due process and equal	First Amendment Freedoms:	
protection of the laws	• Speech	Essential Understandings:
c.) describing the duties of	• Press	A citizen is an individual with certain rights and duties under a government and
citizenship, including obeying the	<ul> <li>Religion</li> </ul>	who, by birth or by choice, owes allegiance to that government.
laws, paying taxes, defending the	<ul> <li>Assemble</li> </ul>	
nation, and serving in court	<ul> <li>Petition</li> </ul>	The Constitution of the United States of America establishes and protects the
<b>d.)</b> examining the responsibilities		citizens' fundamental rights and liberties.
of citizenship, including	Duties of Citizens	
registering and voting,		Few rights, if any, are considered absolute.
communicating with government	Responsibilities of Citizens	
officials, participating in political		For government to be effective, citizens must fulfill their civic duties.
campaigns, keeping informed	Ways for Citizens to Participate in	
about current issues, and	Community Service	A basic responsibility of citizenship is to contribute to the common good.

respecting differing opinions in a diverse society

**e.)** evaluating how civic and social duties address community needs and serve the public good

#### CE.4

- a) practicing trustworthiness and honesty;
- b) practicing courtesy and respect for the rights of others;
- c) practicing responsibility, accountability, and self-reliance;
- d) practicing respect for the law;
- e) practicing patriotism;
- f) practicing decision making;
- g) practicing service to the school and/or local community

Personal Traits of Good Citizens

#### **Essential Skills**:

Examine and interpret primary and secondary source documents. (CE.1a)

Create and explain maps, diagrams, tables, charts, graphs, and spreadsheets. (CE.1b)

Analyze political cartoons, political advertisements, pictures, and other graphic media. (CE.1c)

Distinguish between relevant and irrelevant information. (CE.1d)

Review information for accuracy, separating fact from opinion. (CE.1e)

Identify a problem, weigh the expected costs and benefits and possible consequences of proposed solutions, and recommend solutions, using a decision-making model. (CE.1f)

Formulate an informed, carefully reasoned position on a community issue. (CE.1g)

A democratic society requires the active participation of its citizens.

Thoughtful and effective participation in civic life depends upon the exercise of good citizenship

### **Teacher Notes and Elaborations**:

## Resources:

Curriculum Information	Essential Knowledge and Skills Key Vocabulary	Essential Questions and Understandings Teacher Notes and Elaborations
SOL Reporting Category:	Essential Knowledge:	Essential Questions:
	The Legislative Branch	What is the structure of the national government as set out in the United States
Topic:	The Executive Branch	Constitution?
Federalism	The Judicial Branch	
		What are the powers of the national government?
Virginia SOL:	Separation of Powers	
CE. 6	Checks and Balances	How do the separation of powers and the system of checks and balances protect
a.) describing the structure and		against an abuse of power by any one branch of the national government?
powers of the national government	Legislative Powers	
b.) explaining the principle of		Which branch of the national government has the power to pass laws?
separation of powers and the	Lawmaking Process in Congress	
operation of checks and balances		How does Congress make laws?
c.) explaining and/or simulating the	The Virginia Constitution	
lawmaking process		How can citizens learn the importance of the individual's participation in the
GD 7	The Executive Branch Governor,	policymaking process?
CE.7	Lt. Governor, and Attorney General	
a.) describing the structure and		What is the structure of Virginia's state government?
powers of the state government	The Judicial Branch	
b.) explaining the relationship of		What are some of the powers of the three branches of state government?
state governments to the national	The Legislative Branch General	
government in the federal system	Assembly	How does the Constitution of the United States of America outline the division
c.) explaining and/or simulating the		and sharing of powers between the national and state governments?
lawmaking process	The Primary Responsibilities of Each	
d.) describing the roles and powers of the executive branch and	Level of Government	Which branch of the Virginia state government has the power to pass laws?
regulatory boards	The Law-making Process in the	How does the Virginia General Assembly make laws?
	Virginia General Assembly	
		What are the roles and powers of the executive branch at the state level?

#### CE.8

- **a.)** describing the structure and powers of the local government
- **b.)** explaining the relationship of local government to the state government
- **c.)** explaining and/or simulating the lawmaking process

#### CE.10

- a.) describing the organization of the United States judicial system as consisting of state and federal courts with original and appellate jurisdiction
- b.) The judicial function is exercised in a dual court system, which consists of state courts and federal courts.
- c.) comparing and contrasting civil and criminal cases.
- d.) explaining how due process protections seek to ensure justice

The Primary Issues in the Law-making Process at the State Level

Roles of the Governor of Virginia

- Formal
- Informal

Cabinet secretaries and departments, agencies, commissions, and regulatory boards

The units of local government in Virginia are counties, towns, and cities. Local governments exercise legislative, executive, and judicial powers.

Virginia local governments exercise defined and limited powers, including the power to

- enforce state and local laws
- promote public health
- protect public safety
- educate children
- protect the environment
- regulate land use
- levy and collect taxes

All powers of local governments in Virginia are given to them by the

What are the units of local government in Virginia?

Which officials are locally elected?

Which powers do local government exercise?

What is the relationship between the state government and local governments in Virginia?

How do localities enact ordinances?

How are federal courts organized, and what jurisdiction does each exercise?

How are state courts organized, and what jurisdiction does each exercise?

What is judicial review?

How are criminal and civil cases similar and different?

How do the due process protections ensure justice?

# **Essential Understandings**:

The Constitution of the United States defines the structure and powers of the national government.

The powers held by government are divided between the national government in Washington, D.C., and the governments of the 50 states.

The powers of the national government are separated among three branches of the government in ways that limit any one branch from abusing its power. Constitution of Virginia and acts of the General Assembly.

Not all counties and cities are given the same powers. Cities have charters listing their powers

An elected board of supervisors is the local legislative body in counties and is responsible for passing laws (ordinances) for the county.

An elected council is the local legislative body in independent cities and incorporated towns.

Individuals can have the greatest influence on the decisions made by local government officials

The United States has a court system whose organization and jurisdiction are derived from the Constitution of the United States and federal laws.

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals
- U.S. District Court:

Officials who are elected to serve in the national legislature make laws.

National laws are made by Congress.

All citizens can learn the importance of the individual's participation in the policymaking process through direct participation and simulations.

The form of government of the Commonwealth of Virginia is established by the Virginia Constitution.

Legislative, executive, and judicial powers are separated at the state level of government.

The Constitution of the United States of America establishes the principle of federalism, which is the division of power between the states and the national government.

The expansion of the national government's powers into areas traditionally reserved to the states has altered the relationship of states to the national government.

Members of the Virginia General Assembly are elected to make state laws.

The units of local governments in Virginia are political subdivisions created by the General Assembly.

The authority of local governments in Virginia is derived from the state.

Counties, cities, and towns adopt and enforce ordinances to provide services for their residents.

Virginia Court System:	All citizens can learn the importance of the individual's participation in the
<ul> <li>Virginia Supreme Court</li> </ul>	policymaking process through direct participation and simulations.
<ul> <li>Court of Appeals of Virginia</li> </ul>	
Circuit court	The judicial function is exercised in a dual court system, which consists of state
<ul> <li>General district court, and</li> </ul>	courts and federal courts.
juvenile and domestic	
relations court	The power of judicial review is an important check on the legislative and
	executive branches of government
Judicial Review	
	Courts resolve two kinds of legal conflicts—civil and criminal
Marbury v. Madison established the	Courts resolve two kinds of regar confinets.
principle of judicial review at the	The right to due process of law is outlined in the 5th and 14th Amendments to
national level.	the Constitution of the United States of America.
national level.	the Constitution of the Officed States of America.
The Constitution of the United States	
of America is the supreme law of the	Teacher Notes and Elaborations:
land.	Teacher Notes and Elaborations.
land.	
State laws must conform to the	
	Resources:
Virginia and United States	
constitutions	
Criminal Cases	
Procedure for Criminal Cases	
G: 11 G	
Civil Cases	
Procedure for Civil Cases	
Due Process Protections	

# **Essential Skills**:

Examine and interpret primary and secondary documents (CE.1a)

Create and explain diagrams, tables, and charts. (CE.1b)

Analyze political cartoons, political advertisements, pictures, and other graphic media. (CE.1c)

Review information for accuracy, separating fact from opinion. (CE.1e)

Identify a problem, weigh the expected costs and benefits and possible consequences of proposed solutions, and recommend solutions, using a decision-making model. (CE.1f)

Formulate an informed, carefully reasoned position on a community issue. (Note: Students should practice the legislative process through direct involvement and/or simulations.) (CE.1g)

Curriculum Information	Essential Knowledge and Skills Key Vocabulary	Essential Questions and Understandings Teacher Notes and Elaborations
SOL Reporting Category:	Essential Knowledge:	Essential Questions:
Topic:	Functions of Political Parties	What roles do political parties play in the American political process?
Political Parties  Virginia SOL:	Similarities Between Political Parties	How are the two major political parties similar, and how do they differ?
CE.5 <b>a.</b> ) describing the functions of	Differences Between Political Parties	How do third parties differ from the two major parties?
political parties <b>b.)</b> comparing the similarities and	Third Parties	A two-party system characterizes the American political process.
differences of political parties c.) analyzing campaigns for	Strategies for evaluating campaign speeches, literature, and	How do citizens make informed choices in elections?
elective office, with emphasis on the role of the media	advertisements for accuracy:  • Separating fact from opinion	How does the media play a role in the political process?
<b>d.)</b> examining the role of campaign contributions and costs	<ul><li>Detecting bias</li><li>Evaluating sources</li></ul>	How has the high cost of getting elected changed campaigning for public office?
<b>e.)</b> describing voter registration and participation	Identifying propaganda	What are the qualifications for voter registration in Virginia?
<b>f.)</b> describing the role of the Electoral College in the election of	Mass Media Roles in Elections	What factors influence voter registration and turnout?
the president and vice president	Rising Campaign Costs	How does the Electoral College select the president and vice president of the United States?
CE.9 <b>a.</b> ) examining the impact of the	Campaign Finance Reform	What influence do the media have on public policy and policymakers?
media on public opinion and public policy	Qualifications to Register to Vote in Virginia	How do individuals and interest groups influence policymakers?
<b>b.</b> ) describing how individuals and		
interest groups influence public policy	How to Register to Vote in Virginia	Which international issues and events would require local government officials to act?

<b>c.)</b> describing the impact of
international issues and events on
local decision making

Factors in Predicting Which Citizens will Vote:

- Education
- Age
- Income

Reasons Why Citizens Fail to Vote:

- Lack of Interest
- Failure to Register

#### **Electoral College Process**

- A slate of electors for each state is chosen by popular vote.
- Most states have a winner-take-all system.
- The electors meet to vote for president and vice president

The winner-take-all system leads to the targeting of densely populated states for campaigning, although candidates must pay attention to less populated states whose electoral votes may make the difference in tight elections.

The number of electors of each state is based on the size of the state's Congressional representation, which is based on the state's population.

# **Essential Understandings**:

Political parties play a key role in government and provide opportunities for citizens to participate in the political process.

Although third parties rarely win elections, they can play an important role in public politics.

Voters evaluate information presented in political campaigns to make reasoned choices among candidates.

The media play an important role in the political process.

Running for political office is expensive.

Voting is a basic responsibility of citizenship.

Voter registration is required before a citizen may vote.

The number of citizens who register and vote is related to how important election issues are to citizens.

The Electoral College process is used to select the president and vice president of the United States.

The media informs policymakers and influences public policy.

Individuals and interest groups influence public policy

Local governments may be required to formulate, adopt, and implement public policies in response to international issues and events.

The requirement for a majority vote to win in the Electoral College favors a two-party system.

Ways the media play an important role in setting the public agenda

Ways individuals influence public policy

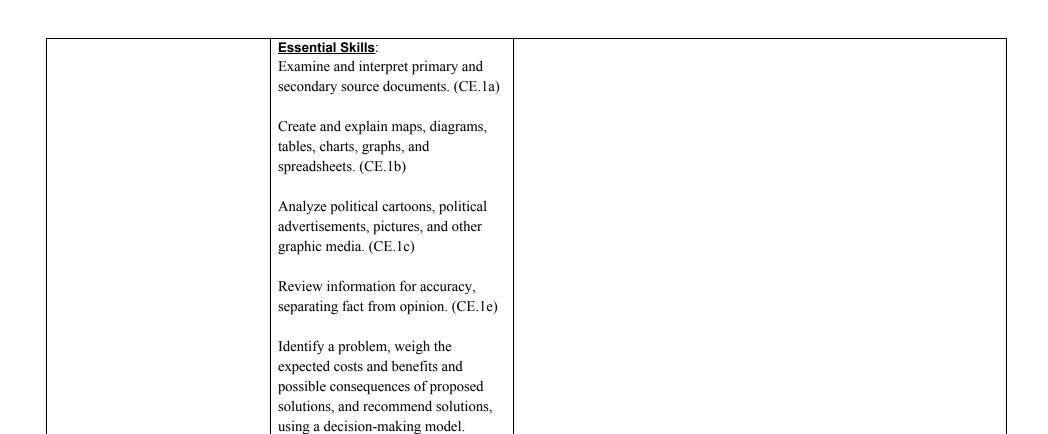
- Participating in politics (voting, campaigning, seeking office)
- Expressing opinions (lobbying, demonstrating, writing letters)
- Joining interest groups

Ways interest groups influence public policy

- Identifying issues
- Making political contributions
- Lobbying government officials

International issues and events that would require policy decisions by local government officials

Resources:



(CE.1f)

Curriculum Information	Essential Knowledge and Skills Key Vocabulary	Essential Questions and Understandings Teacher Notes and Elaborations
SOL Reporting Category:	Essential Knowledge:	Essential Questions:
Topic: Economics	Scarcity Resources Choice	How do people deal with scarcity, resources, choice, opportunity cost, price, incentives, supply and demand, production, and consumption?
Virginia SOL: CE.11	Opportunity Price Incentives	What are the basic economic questions all societies must answer?  What are the basic characteristics of traditional, free market, command, and
a.) Local governments may be required to formulate, adopt, and	Supply and Demand Production	mixed economies?
implement public policies in response to international issues and	Consumption	How does each type of economy answer the three basic questions?
<ul><li>events.</li><li>b.) comparing the differences</li><li>among traditional, free market,</li></ul>	The three basic questions of economics	What are the essential characteristics of the United States economy?
command, and mixed economies.  c.) describing the characteristics of	<ul><li>What will be produced?</li><li>Who will produce it?</li></ul>	What are the basic types of profit-seeking business structures?
the United States economy, including limited government,	<ul><li>For whom will it be produced?</li></ul>	What is an entrepreneur?
private property, profit, and competition	Characteristics of major economic systems	How do resources, goods and services, and money flow among individuals, businesses, and governments in a market economy?
CE. 12 <b>a.)</b> describing the types of business	No country relies exclusively on markets to deal with the	How do financial institutions make the deposits of savers available to borrowers?
organizations and the role of	economic problem of scarcity.	Why do Virginia and the United States trade with other nations?
<ul><li>entrepreneurship</li><li>b.) explaining the circular flow</li></ul>	Traditional Economy Free Market Economy	What is the impact of technological innovation on world trade?
that shows how consumers	Command Economy Mixed Economy	How does the United States government promote and regulate marketplace competition?

(households), businesses	Characteristics of the United States'	
(producers), and markets interact	Economy	What types of goods and services do governments provide?
<b>c.</b> ) explaining how financial		
institutions channel funds from	Basic types of business ownership	How do governments pay for the goods and services they provide?
savers to borrowers		
<b>d.</b> ) examining the relationship of	Entrepreneur	How does the government influence economic activity?
Virginia and the United States to		
the global economy, with emphasis	Economic Flow	What is the role of the Federal Reserve System?
on the impact of technological		
innovations	Private Financial Institutions	What is the role of the United States government in protecting consumer rights
		and property rights?
CE.13	Reasons States and Nations Trade	
a.) examining competition in the		Why does the government issue currency and coins?
marketplace	Impact of Technological Innovations	
<b>b.)</b> explaining how government		Which government agencies are responsible for creating money?
provides certain goods and	Ways the Government Promotes	
services	Marketplace Competition	What is the role of self-assessment in career planning?
<b>c.</b> ) describing the impact of		
taxation, including an	Government Agencies the Regulate	What is the role of work ethic in determining career success?
understanding of the reasons for	Business	
the 16th Amendment, spending,		What is the relationship among skills, education, and income?
and borrowing	Characteristics of Most Goods and	
<b>d.)</b> explaining how the Federal	Services Provided by the Government	What influence do advances in technology have on the workplace?
Reserve System acts as the	<ul> <li>Provide benefits to many</li> </ul>	For and all the decease of the con-
nation's central bank	simultaneously	Essential Understandings:  People make choices about how to use limited resources, decide the ownership
<b>e.)</b> describing the protection of	Would not likely be available	of resources, and structure markets for the distribution of goods and services
consumer rights and property	if individuals had to provide	of resources, and structure markets for the distribution of goods and services
rights	them	Every country must develop an economic system to determine how to use its
	• Include such things as	limited productive resources.
	interstate highways, postal	minica productive resources.
	service, and national defense	

**f.)** recognizing that government creates currency and coins and that there are additional forms of money

#### CE 14

- a) identifying talents, interests, and aspirations that influence career choice:
- **b)** identifying attitudes and behaviors that strengthen the individual work ethic and promote career success;
- c) identifying abilities, skills, and education and the changing supply and demand for them in the economy;
- d) examining the impact of technological change and globalization on career opportunities;
- e) describing the importance of education to lifelong personal finances;
- f) examining the financial responsibilities of citizenship, including evaluating common forms of credit, savings, investments, purchases, contractual agreements, warranties, and guarantees.

Ways Governments Pay for Goods and Services

- Through tax revenue
- Through borrowed funds
- Through fees

Increased government spending may result in higher taxes; decreased government spending may result in lower taxes

The 16th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America authorizes Congress to tax personal and business incomes.

As the central bank of the United States, the Federal Reserve System:

- has the duty to maintain the value of the national currency (dollar)
- regulates banks to ensure the soundness of the banking system and the safety of deposits
- manages the amount of money in the economy to try to keep inflation low and stable
- acts as the federal government's bank.

The key factor in determining the type of economy a country has is the extent of government involvement

The United States economy is primarily a free market economy; but because there is some government involvement it is characterized as a mixed economy.

Government intervenes in a market economy when the perceived benefits of a government policy outweigh the anticipated costs

There are three basic ways that businesses organize to earn profits.

Entrepreneurs play an important role in all three types of business organizations.

Resources, goods and services, and money flow continuously among households, businesses, and markets in the United States economy.

Private financial institutions act as intermediaries between savers and borrowers that include households and business investors.

Virginia and the United States pursue international trade in order to increase wealth.

The government promotes and regulates marketplace competition.

Government provides certain goods and services that individuals and businesses acting alone cannot provide efficiently

The government taxes, borrows, and spends to influence economic activity

The Federal Reserve System is our nation's central bank

Individuals have the right of private ownership, which is protected by negotiated contracts that are enforceable by law.

Government agencies establish guidelines that protect public health and safety.

Consumers may take legal action against violations of consumer rights

Government issues money to facilitate this exchange.

The three types of money generally used in the United States are

- coins
- Federal Reserve notes (currency)
- deposits in bank accounts that can be accessed by checks and debit cards.

Career planning starts with self-assessment.

Employers seek employees who demonstrate the attitudes and behaviors of a strong work ethic.

The United States government passes laws and creates agencies to protect consumer rights and property rights.

Money is defined as anything that is generally accepted as a method of payment

An awareness of personal talents, interests, and aspirations is needed to select a career.

Attitudes and behaviors that support a strong work ethic enhance career success.

There is a correlation among skills, education, and income.

Changes in technology influence the abilities, skills, and education needed in the workforce

#### **Teacher Notes and Elaborations**:

#### Resources:

Higher skill and/or education levels generally lead to higher incomes.

Supply and demand also influence job income.

Employers seek individuals who have kept pace with technological changes by updating their skills.

Technological advancements create new jobs in the workplace.

Technology and information flows permit people to work across international borders. This creates competition from foreign workers for United States jobs but also may create opportunities for United States workers to work for companies based in other countries.

Being fiscally responsible includes making careful spending decisions, saving and investing for the future, having insurance, keeping to a budget, using credit wisely, as well as understanding how contracts, warranties, and guarantees can protect the individual

# **Essential Skills**:

Create and explain maps, diagrams, tables, charts, graphs, and spreadsheets. (CE.1b)

Review information for accuracy, separating fact from opinion. (CE.1e)

Identify a problem, weigh the expected costs and benefits and possible consequences of proposed solutions, and recommend solutions, using a decision-making model. (CE.1f)

Distinguish between relevant and irrelevant information. (CE.1d)

Analyze political cartoons, political advertisements, pictures, and other graphic media. (CE.1c)

Examine and interpret primary and secondary source documents. (CE.1a)