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Governor Martinez Announces Online Financial Education Program for New Mexico Workers and Small Business Owners

SANTA FE – Governor Susana Martinez announced today that the State will make available to New Mexico workers and small business owners the opportunity to participate in a free on-line financial education program.

The Investor Education in Your Workplace Program is an award-winning online financial and investment education program for employers to help educate their employees about long-term savings and investment options, including retirement plans. The State Regulation and Licensing Department's Securities Division received a grant from the nonprofit Investor Protection Trust to provide this service.

"This program will help educate citizens of New Mexico to make informed financial decisions which in turn, has the added benefit of arming investors against financial predators," Governor Martinez said. "Financial literacy is also fraud prevention, serving as a key component in our multi-pronged approach to combating financial exploitation."

The financial education program is available on a first come first serve basis to 500 employees of businesses, corporations and other entities throughout New Mexico, free of charge. The 10-week program will begin in May and end in August 2013.

"Providing financial education to our employees will instill increased confidence, employees can take control of their financial future and security. Now more than ever, financial literacy is vital to our economic recovery," said Regulation and Licensing Supt. J. Dee Dennis Jr.

This is a proven and effective online investment and financial education program that has been implemented nationwide with nearly 400 companies and over 15,000 employees participating. The topics covered in the 10-week online program are comprehensive — from the basics of saving and investing to taxes and retirement planning.

Interested parties can register for an informational webinar online at <u>ww.ieiyw.com/webinar</u>. The webinars will be held Feb. 12, Feb. 20 and Feb. 28, 2013, at 2 p.m. Central Daylight Time.

If you have additional questions not covered in the webinar, please email Bernice Geiger at: <u>Bernice.Geiger@state.nm.us</u> or phone 505-476-4575.

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