

Homebuyer Education is the Gold Standard

Idaho Housing and Finance Association

Homeownership: Empowering New Buyers

HFA Staff Contact

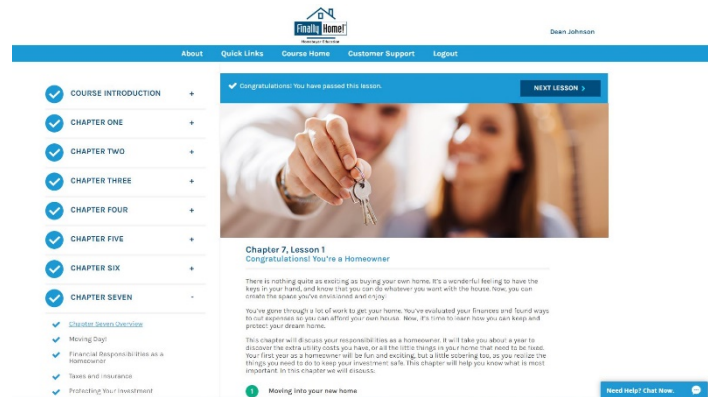
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Strategy

Many potential first-time homebuyers feel homeownership is out of reach. Many are guided by misconceptions about what it takes to purchase their first home. Twenty years ago, Idaho Housing recognized that and started to promote homebuyer education, advocating that homeownership can be affordable. We knew that a standardized program, accessible to all Idahoans, would help them reach their homeownership goals. Thus, the Finally Home!® Homebuyer Education course was born.



Idaho Housing soon realized the educational course would not only help first-time buyers learn about the homebuying process, but would empower them beyond the purchase process and through the life of their loan. Idaho Housing began a mission to make homebuyer education an industry standard, encouraging first-time homebuyers to better understand the process. Over the past year, Idaho Housing has partnered with state housing agencies and hundreds of lenders and REALTORS® across the nation to promote homebuyer education and the benefits of becoming an informed homebuyer.

Innovative

It's proven that homebuyer education improves a borrower's loan performance through the life of the loan. This leaves some to ask: Why aren't all first-time homebuyers taking a homebuyer education course? The simple answer is that many don't know this resource exists or understand the benefits of becoming an informed homebuyer. That's why it is so important to spread awareness to potential homebuyers and work with others in the industry to help promote homebuyer education as the "gold standard" for anyone looking to purchase their first home.

Why Homebuyer Education and its Promotion Matters

Idaho Housing has found that many first-time homebuyers take an education course because it's a requirement of their loan. It's not until they've finished the course that they truly see the benefit. We've found that many who take our Finally Home! Homebuyer Education course also receive down payment and closing cost assistance. Some have even gotten a lower interest rate or better loan terms because they shopped around and knew what questions to ask. The course has even taught some of our participants to wait a little longer before purchasing a house, simply because they couldn't afford one, avoiding what could have ended in an unfortunate circumstance. Idaho Housing has found that an overwhelming number of Finally Home! students indicate they wish they would have known about the program earlier in the process.

The Finally Home! online class gives students all the information they need in a concise interactive way. Here are some of the unique features that make Finally Home! the trusted choice for hundreds of housing industry professionals around the country.

- Finally Home!'s state-of-the-art online curriculum blends easily understandable text, instructional videos, interactive tools, and chapter quizzes in a format that exceeds national industry standards;
- Students have access to multiple channels of communication with a certified counselor, including real-time chat, email, and one-on-one counseling;
- Lenders and Realtors can highlight their services on customizable product pages;
- An intuitive, mobile-friendly design allows students to study on the go;
- Content is tailored to a student's specific state
- Interchangeable English-to-Spanish formats.
- Finally Home!'s certified counselors are committed to supporting graduates, no matter their needs, for the life of their loan.

Idaho Housing is constantly working to improve our Finally Home! Homebuyer Education course to better meet the needs of homebuyers. We continue to work with HFAs, nonprofits, and housing industry experts to ensure the latest trends and information is included in this course. This collaboration is allowing us to spread awareness and promote homebuyer education as a "gold standard." We believe this is an imperative part of the homebuying process.

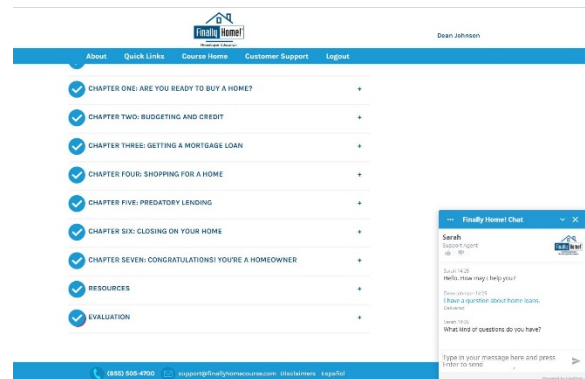
Housing Counseling Resources

HUD-approved housing counseling agencies offer many free services that benefit you both before and after the purchase of your home. This includes credit and financial counseling, information about predatory lending, fair housing compliance, mortgage default counseling, and more. These agencies are there to answer many specific questions about homeownership that you may still have. Please contact an agency in your area for more information! For a current list of HUD-approved housing counseling agencies go to the following link:

<https://apps.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/hcs.cfm>

< Counseling Options

Evaluation >



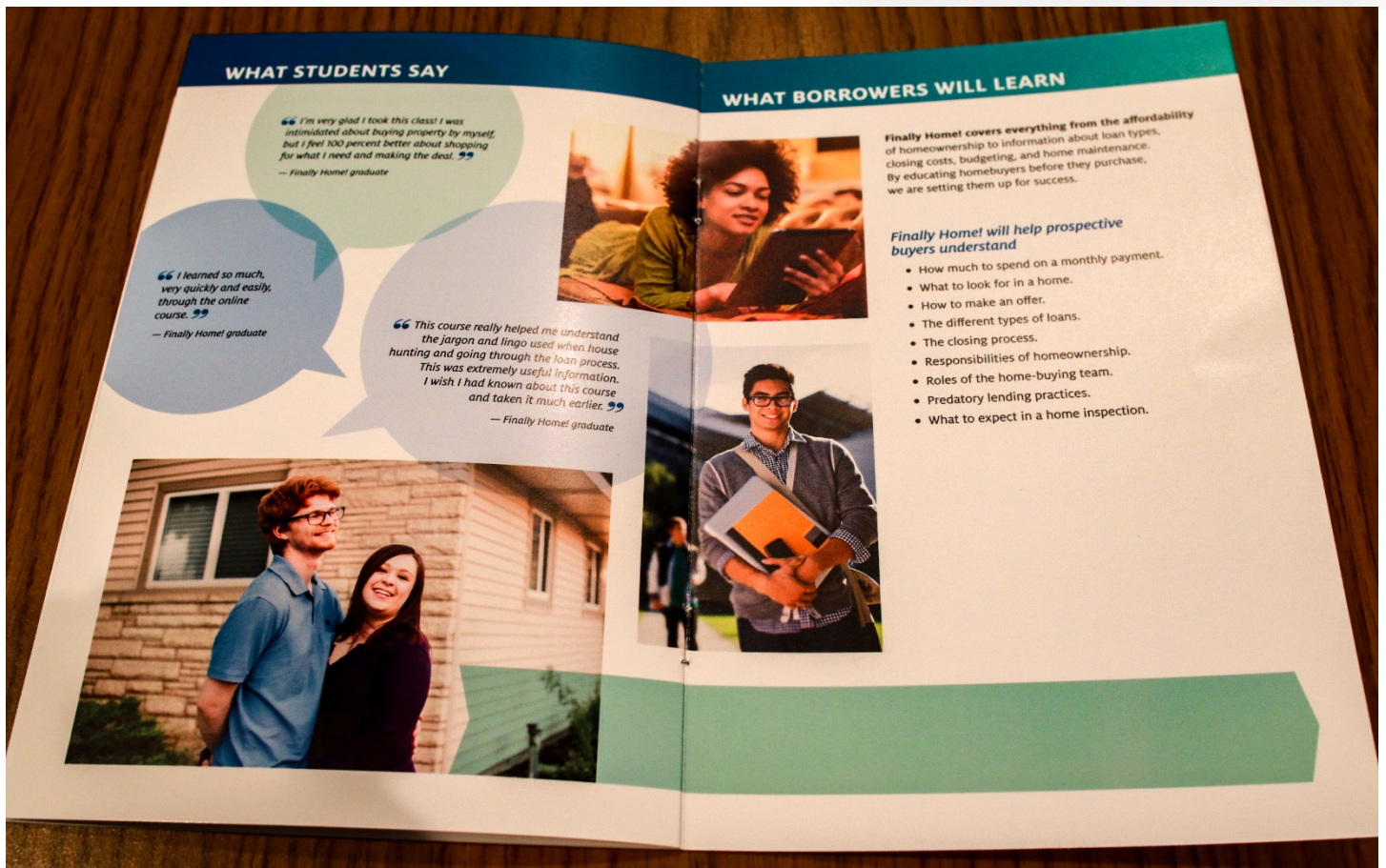
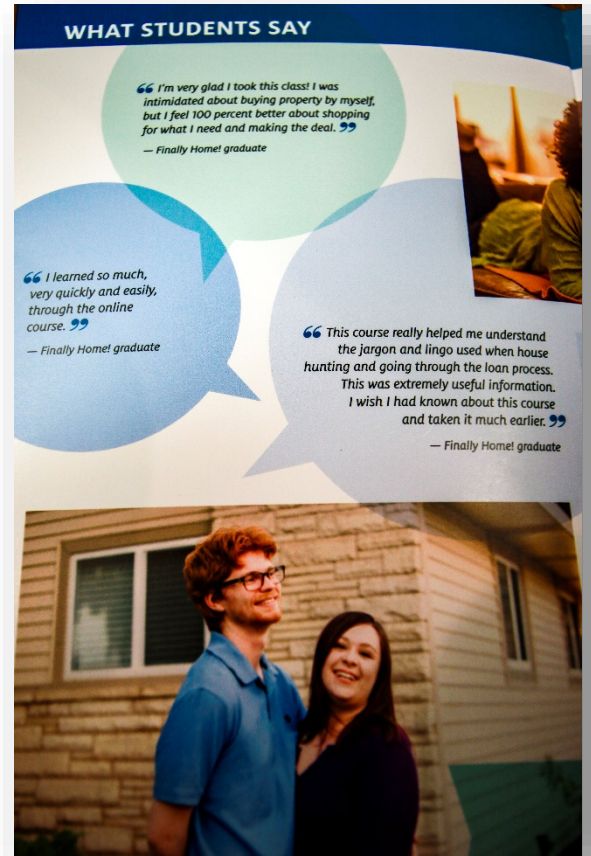
Demonstrates measurable benefits to HFA customers

By educating homebuyers before they purchase, we know we're helping to set them up for success.

We, and our partners, are confident that Finally Home! graduates will understand the home-buying process. They'll know what they can afford, and they will recognize the benefits of turning to qualified industry professionals when they need help.

Working with financially literate consumers streamlines the home-buying process for everyone and helps ensure successful homeownership.

Visual Aids



COZY UP TO HOMEOWNERSHIP



Finally Home! graduates:

- Have lower housing costs
- Make more informed decisions
- Avoid common home-buying errors
- Are more likely to improve their credit

Finally Home! Homebuyer Education is the key to successful and sustainable homeownership. It guides buyers through the home-buying process and empowers them to be comfortable with their homeownership choices. With a leading educational platform, life-of-loan counseling, and HUD-certified staff on hand, **Finally Home!** is the principal choice for homebuyer education needs.



An investment in homebuyer education is time well spent.

Invest in the future today:
finallyhomecourse.com

| support@finallyhomecourse.com

Watch a video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOU2A-vz5f0&t=3s>