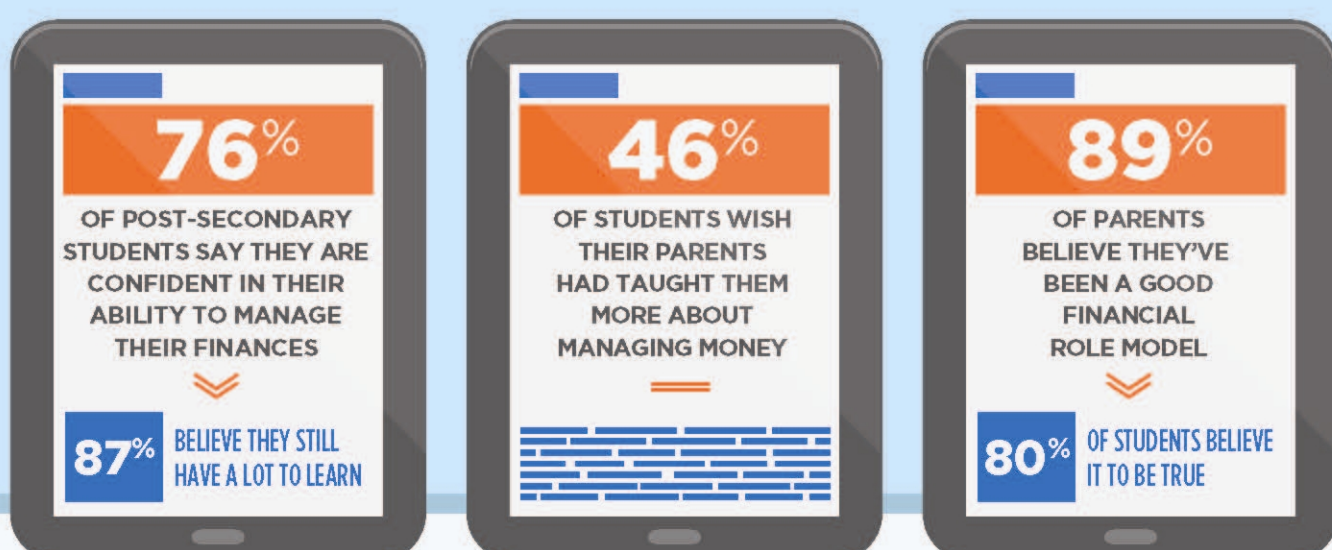




## Are post-secondary students making the grade when it comes to credit knowledge?

### HOW CONFIDENT ARE STUDENTS WHEN IT COMES TO MANAGING THEIR MONEY?



FEEL THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN A GOOD CREDIT RATING.

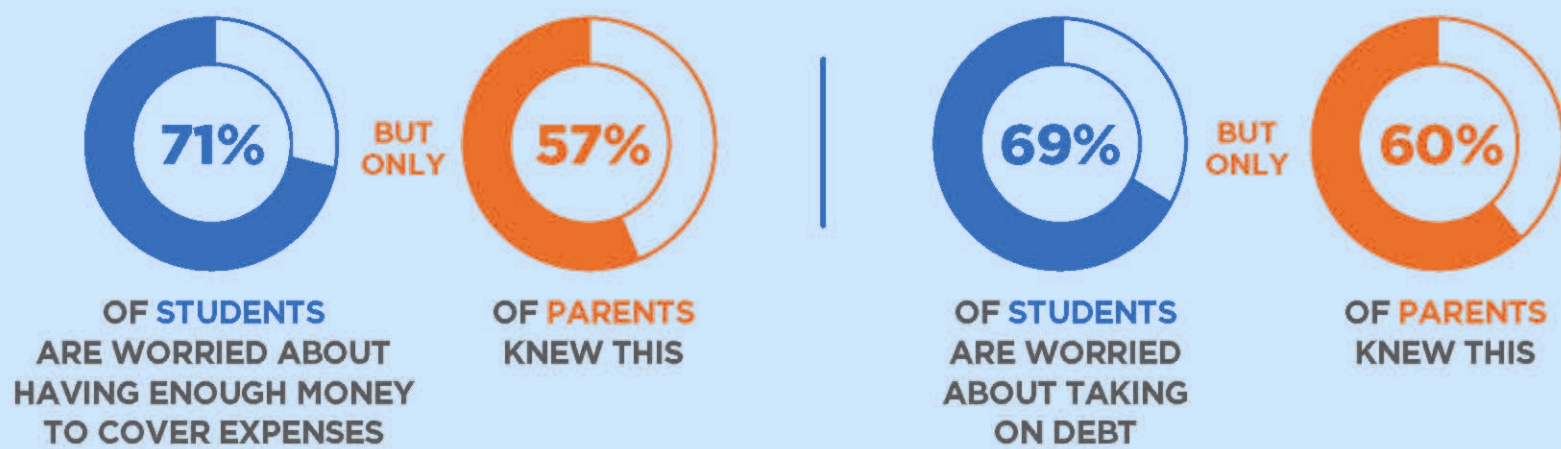
**BUT,** DO THEY UNDERSTAND WHAT IT TAKES TO GET THERE?

### DO PARENTS & STUDENTS KNOW WHAT REALLY AFFECTS A CREDIT SCORE?

#### CREDIT KNOWLEDGE REPORT CARD

	TRUE/FALSE?	STUDENTS	PARENTS
Borrowing money after you graduate is easier if you establish a good credit rating while you are a student	TRUE	73% KNEW THIS GRADE: B	78% KNEW THIS GRADE: B+
There is no harm in paying your bills late as long as it only happens occasionally	FALSE	70% KNEW THIS GRADE: B	83% KNEW THIS GRADE: A
Your credit score is affected by your age, income and gender	FALSE	36% KNEW THIS GRADE: F	48% KNEW THIS GRADE: F
The higher a person's income, the better their credit score is likely to be	FALSE	49% KNEW THIS GRADE: F	74% KNEW THIS GRADE: B
Applying for a lot of different credit cards can hurt your credit score	TRUE	50% KNEW THIS GRADE: D	63% KNEW THIS GRADE: C
When you get married, your credit scores are merged	FALSE	46% KNEW THIS GRADE: F	57% KNEW THIS GRADE: D

### WHY PARENTS AND STUDENTS NEED TO HAVE 'THE TALK'



### TIPS FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS HOW TO BUILD - AND MAINTAIN - A STRONG CREDIT HISTORY

Your credit score is calculated based on a number of factors. Here are the five that affect your score:

- **Payment history.** Whether or not you pay your bills on time is the most important factor in your credit score. Try to pay them by the deadline - even the ones that seem small and insignificant.
- **Amount owed.** If you're close to your credit card limit, you're at a higher risk to your lender. While it's always best to pay off credit card balances in full, making at least the minimum payment is a must.
- **Credit history.** The longer your history, the more accurate your credit score will be. If you've just started using credit your score will be lower, but you can build it over time, and starting now will put you in good shape to borrow for larger items down the road.
- **Credit applications.** If you apply for more or new credit often, it could be a warning sign to lenders that you're having some financial difficulty. Limit the number of times you apply for credit in a short period of time.
- **Types of credit.** Having different kinds of accounts shows you have experience managing a mix of credit. This is a fairly minor factor to your score, so it's not worth opening additional credit accounts simply to add depth to your credit mix.