VISION FINANCE GROUP

Financial Literacy Guide

Practical member learning resource

Member guide • September 2026

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1. Budget before you spend

- Write down expected income and essential costs before the month begins.
- Separate needs, obligations, savings and discretionary spending.
- Compare actual spending with the plan at month-end.

2. Make saving automatic

- Treat saving as a planned commitment, not what remains after spending.
- Track your Vision Finance Group savings balance and reconcile your records.
- Build separate emergency reserves where possible.

3. Understand the cost of a Vision Finance Group loan

- Total outstanding principal, including a proposed loan, is limited to 2× verified savings and remains subject to approval and repayment assessment.
- The current ordinary member-loan interest rate is 15%. Its applicable period and calculation method are documented in the Lending Policy and each written loan agreement. Every processed ordinary member loan also carries a separate MWK 20,000 processing fee.
- Before borrowing, calculate the total cash needed for repayment and the timing of that cash.

4. Understand the benefit-sharing model

- 30% of interest actually received is the borrower's benefit, ordinarily payable or creditable after full settlement of the related loan unless validly agreed otherwise.
- 20% of interest actually received strengthens the VFG Group-owned fund for approved Group purposes and investments.
- 50% of interest actually received is divided equally among other eligible individual members, excluding the borrower and the Group-owned fund.

5. Keep business and household money separate

- Use separate records for business and personal cash.
- Track sales, costs, stock, receivables and cash movement.
- Pay yourself deliberately instead of taking money from the business without recording it.

6. Borrow only with a repayment source

- Link borrowing to a specific use and a credible repayment source.
- Stress-test the plan for delayed sales, lower income or unexpected costs.
- Avoid taking one loan merely to service another unless there is a credible recovery plan.

7. Protect your payment information

- Verify the recipient details before sending funds.
- Keep transaction references until your payment is posted to the correct record.
- Never share PINs, passwords or one-time codes.

8. Use group accountability well

- Raise a likely repayment problem early.
- Ask questions when a balance or allocation is unclear.
- Respect the confidentiality of other members' financial information.

Quick example
If MWK 30,000 of loan interest has actually been received, MWK 9,000 goes to the borrower, MWK 6,000 to Vision Finance Group and MWK 15,000 is shared equally among all other eligible members. This example demonstrates the 30% / 20% / 50% allocation only. The interest calculation itself follows the approved Lending Policy and written loan agreement. The MWK 20,000 processing fee is separate.