

Inspiration

- Our team was inspired by the growing need for financial literacy among students in Botswana.
- Seeing how FNB Botswana supports youth-focused programs and simplifies banking through tools like eWallet, we wanted to build something educational and interactive.
- We noticed many of our peers struggled with budgeting and saving, and there were few local tools designed specifically for students.
- EduBank was our way of turning real financial challenges into a learning experience practical, local, and student-focused.

What it does

It blends personal finance, banking simulation, and interactive learning into one platform making it the perfect training ground for financially savvy future adults.

How we built it

- EduBank was developed as a web-based finance toolkit using Laravel (PHP) and Django (Python) for the backend.
- The frontend was built using HTML, CSS
- phpMyAdmin was used to manage the MySQL database, which stored user accounts, transactions, budget data, and credit simulation history.

Challenges we ran into

- Choosing between Laravel and Django based on the strengths of each for different features and developer familiarity.
- Designing financial logic that is realistic yet simple enough for students to grasp.
- Ensuring data consistency between budgeting, savings, and simulated bank accounts.
- Managing time and feature scope, especially for extra features like gamification and group saving.
- Creating clean and readable dashboards without overwhelming users

Accomplishments that we're proud of

- Built a functional and educational web app focused on student financial literacy.
- Created a working credit score simulator that helps students understand long-term financial consequences.
- Integrated budgeting, saving, and banking simulation into a unified platform.
- Delivered a responsive UI with data visualizations for spending and savings insights.

What we learned

- Laravel and Django both offer powerful structures for building secure, scalable apps.

- Real-time feedback and visual insights significantly improve user engagement and understanding.
- Financial simulations can make abstract concepts like credit scores and interest more concrete.
- Proper database management and testing are crucial in apps involving calculations and sensitive data.
- User experience design is as important as functionality, especially in educational tools.

What's next for EduBank

- Convert the web app into a mobile experience using Progressive Web App (PWA) or Android WebView.
- Add gamification through point-based rewards for budgeting and saving consistency.
- Build collaborative tools like group saving goals and expense splitting with roommates or friends.
- Integrate real-world finance APIs in the future for optional account syncing and deeper insights.
- Partner with universities and financial educators to promote EduBank as a learning resource.