

ROAD TO FINANCIAL READINESS.

Think of your financial journey as a road trip. You'll need a plan to get there, regular fill-ups and maintenance to get where you need to go. You will also have assistance available along the way.



You will receive financial training at each of these Touchpoints:

Initial entry training

Learn about financial readiness, create and understand a spending plan, learn how to read your Leave and Earnings Statement, review your retirement system, and make a plan for paying off debt.

Review your spending plan, maximize savings, minimize debt, understand the impact of your credit score on your long-term plans, and reassess Thrift Savings Plan contributions.

Invest this pay wisely, review your spending plan, maximize savings, minimize debt, and understand the impact on taxes.

First Duty Station

Register for all benefits, complete general financial training, update your financial plan, focus on emergency savings, attend workshops on key topics, and save by using your commissary, fitness center and recreation program offerings.

Permanent Change of Station

Plan ahead for PCS expenses, review changes to your pay, benefits and taxes, consider cost-of-living expenses, and update your financial plan.

Vesting in Thrift Savings Plan*

Invest as much cash as possible, identify long-term financial goals and create steps to reach them, maximize contributions now for a greater payoff in retirement, and attend workshops on investing offered by your Military and Family Support Center.

Update your financial plan and goals, review insurance policies, reach out to the Exceptional Family Member Program, and revisit your plan for long-term savings.

Register your child in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, update health, dental and life insurance policies, review and adjust your spending plan, and consider opening a college savings plan.

Disabling Sickness or Condition

Birth/Adoption of First Child

Divorce

Update your DEERS information, update paperwork and insurance policies, notify creditors, and review and adjust your spending plan.

Marriage

Register your spouse in DEERS, update health, dental and life insurance policies, identify joint financial goals and adjust your spending plan accordingly.

Leadership Training

Understand the value of financial readiness and its impact on mission readiness, identify financial red flags in your Service members, get to know available financial readiness resources, and understand the impact of debt on job performance, such as on clearances, which could impact promotions.

Pre- and Post-Deployment

Update paperwork and insurance policies, consider freezing your credit report and setting up credit alerts, review and adjust your spending plan, increase savings, understand any changes in pay and allowances, meet with a personal financial manager, and review the Savings Deposit Program.

Transition (separation or retirement)

Examine your goals, spending plan and savings, notify civilian employers (for reserve component members coming off of active duty), meet with your personal financial manager/counselor, attend transition workshops, and review lump-sum options for retired pay, if enrolled in the Blended Retirement System.

