



Taking on a leadership role in the Army comes with many responsibilities. One of which is to ensure financial readiness in order to sustain mission readiness. This checklist can help you, as a new or seasoned leader in the Army, prepare to handle the challenges that come with your leadership role.

HANDOUTS

- ✓ The Need for PFM
- ✓ Financial Warning Signs
- ✓ Military Retirement

Soldiers tend to have increased financial management issues for a number of reasons, including: age, lifestyle and access to credit. Soldiers tend to move away from home and their support system at a younger age than the general population. Deployments, frequent moves, and difficulties maintaining spouse employment can increase financial challenges. Easy access to credit without a solid understanding of managing credit can also factor into financial problems.



PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- Be aware of the unique financial issues affecting the military lifestyle. Review "The Need for PFM" handout for more information on Personal Financial Management.
- Obtain and retain security clearances. Check each of your three major credit reports at www.annualcreditreport.com. Effective 31 October 2019, Soldiers will be able to request free credit monitoring services from the nationwide credit reporting agencies, under certain conditions.
- Know the resources available to assist your Soldier. Help is available at the Army Community Service Center (ACS), Military OneSource <https://www.militaryonesource.mil>, and through the Army Emergency Relief, (AER).
- Understand that Soldiers will be required to complete financial training at various career milestones and life events.

These events include: Initial Entry Training, First Duty Station, Subsequent Duty Station (for Soldiers in paygrades E-4 or below and O-3 or below), Promotion (for Soldiers in paygrades E-5 or below and O-4 or below), Vesting in TSP, Major Life Event (Marriage, Divorce, New Child, Disability), Leadership Training, Pre- and Post-Deployment, Entitlement to Continuation Pay, and Transition.



FINANCIAL WARNING SIGNS

- Know your role and responsibilities as leader in the Army. Review the "Financial Warning Signs" handout for more information on financial risk factors.
- Know the common financial risk factors and how they can impact a Soldier.
- Learn how to identify Soldiers at risk of financial troubles.

