

Talking to Service Members About

the Financial Well-Being Assessment

Financial readiness is a key element of mission readiness – but how do you know if your service members are on track financially? With the Department of Defense Financial Well-Being Assessment, service members can gauge their financial well-being and access resources to build their knowledge.



The Secretary of Defense's Nov. 17, 2021, memorandum, "[Strengthening Economic Security in the Force](#)," directed development of the Financial Well-Being Assessment. Through a series of 12 simple questions, the easy-to-use self-assessment takes a holistic look at financial well-being – now and in the future. Whether newly enlisted or more senior in their military career, service members and leaders at all levels can use the assessment to identify their financial strengths and areas where they have room to grow.

Fast Facts:

- The Financial Well-Being Assessment aligns with the [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's foundational work](#) on the four financial areas: present and future financial security and present and future freedom of choice.
- The assessment is available on the Office of Financial Readiness website in both digital and downloadable versions.
- Service members are encouraged to take the assessment once per year or whenever their financial situation changes.
- Answers are anonymous and the assessment does not track data.
- Service members can access follow-on resources after receiving their score or at any time on the resources page.

Resources and Links

- The Financial Well-Being Assessment: <https://finred.usalearning.gov/FWBA>
- Digital Version: <https://finred.usalearning.gov/FWBA/DigitalTool>
- Downloadable Version: <https://finred.usalearning.gov/assets/downloads/FINRED-FWBA-TK.pdf>
- Assessment Resources: <https://finred.usalearning.gov/FWBA/Resources>
- Military Leaders Economic Security Toolkit: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/leaders-service-providers/economic-security>

How to Start the Conversation

- "What does 'financial well-being' mean to you?"
 - *This question may be more effective if you preface it by sharing what financial well-being means to you.*
- "How would you rate your financial well-being?"
- "How often do you check on your financial well-being? What methods do you use?"
- "What is one of your financial strengths?"
- "What is an area where you think you have room to improve?"
- "Have you heard about the DoD Financial Well-Being Assessment?"
 - *This question may be more effective if you have already completed the self-assessment and share your thoughts on its value to encourage the service member to try it.*
- "Did you know you can get your financial well-being score in less than 10 minutes?"
- "Have you talked to a personal financial manager or counselor about your financial well-being?"
 - *Remind service members that they and their immediate family members are eligible to receive no-cost, unbiased financial counseling, education and training at any point in their military journey.*

- Download our mobile app, Sen\$e, for finances at your fingertips. Find it in the [Google Play](#) and [iOS app](#) stores.
- Personal financial managers and counselors can help continue the conversation. Share this contact information for your local PFM or PFC:

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