



## FINANCIAL READINESS

The Army is dedicated to providing Soldiers and their Families with high-quality food, resources, financial education, and counseling throughout their careers.

## MAKE YOUR DOLLARS STRETCH:

- Understand your financial well-being for better budgeting. Start with learning your <u>financial well-being score</u>.
- Access free financial counseling services. <u>Financial</u> <u>Counselors</u> can help you create a spending plan, manage personal finances and credit/debt management.
- Enroll in <u>prevention education classes</u> to learn about consumer affairs and personal financial management.
- Apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps). Visit <a href="http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/state-directory">http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/state-directory</a> or speak with a Financial Counselor on your installation. For additional information, visit <a href="food-Security Resources">Food Security Resources</a> and Support Programs.
- Enroll in the <u>Women, Infants and Children (WIC)</u>
   program. WIC provides supplemental food, health

- care referrals, and nutrition education for pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age 5 who are found to be at nutritional risk.
- Apply for the <u>Basic Needs Allowance (BNA)</u>, which provides a supplemental monthly allowance for eligible service members with dependents who qualify.
- Attend "Meals in Minutes" classes to learn how to prepare affordable, nutritious meals at your installation's Army/Armed Forces Wellness Centers.
- Use on-base dining facilities whenever possible.
   Spouses and dependents of Soldiers in pay grades
   E-1 through E-4 can eat at dining facilities at the discount rate.
- Remember <u>emergency</u> financial assistance is available for eligible categories of assistance.

## **RESOURCES**

- Visit Army's website for financial literacy "Secure the Financial Frontline" at www.FinancialFrontline.org.
- Find free, professional counselors at <a href="https://finred.usalearning.gov/pfcMap">https://finred.usalearning.gov/pfcMap</a> and <a href="https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/">https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/</a>.
- Learn more about the Financial Readiness Program (FRP). Contact your local installation ACS center or Family Service Center for more information, or visit the resource locator library at <a href="https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/benefit-library/resource-locator">https://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/benefit-library/resource-locator</a>.
- Get educated on Army Emergency Relief programs like grants, interest-free loans, and scholarships to promote readiness
  and help relieve financial distress of Soldiers and their Families. <a href="https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org/offices/">https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org/offices/</a>.