



Financial Skills Development

"Save a part of your income and begin now, for the man with a surplus controls circumstances and the man without a surplus is controlled by circumstances."- Henry Buckley

Call the Airman & Family Readiness Center at 480-5100 and make an appointment. Let us help you develop financial plans to meet your goals and plan for your future.

Counseling Opportunities

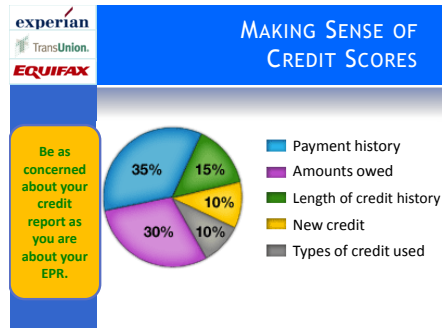
Spending, Saving, and Debt Reduction Planning

Individual financial counseling is offered to assist service members and their families in strengthening, understanding and evaluating their personal financial needs. A trained financial consultant will assist with goal setting, basic budgeting

education on debt reduction and financial planning. Our goal is to equip, motivate and empower our customers to become financially sound.

Credit Report Assistance

Need help with your credit report? We can access and review your credit report for errors and assist with correcting those errors. In addition, we can access your Fair Isaac & Company Score, (FICO) to educate you on how potential lenders may view your credit worthiness and discuss the benefits of maintaining good credit. <http://www.annualcreditreport.com/>



Thrift Savings Plan

Do you have questions about the Thrift Savings Plan, (TSP)? Let the Airman & Family Readiness Center help take the mystery out of TSP. For information about how to get started, the various fund, and the benefits of the Lifecycle fund, please contact the A&FRC to schedule a one-on-one appointment.

<https://www.tsp.gov/>

Ditching the Dorms

Ditching the dorms is targeted toward single first-term Airmen. A comprehensive spending plan is completed to determine the Airman's current financial status as well as a projected spending plan that will include utilities, increase fuel, renters insurance etc. The briefing will also cover paying bills in Germany, benefits of the UTAP program and how to read your LES.

<http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/bah.cfm>

Car Buying

A one-on-one evaluation is conducted to assess an individual's ability to buy and maintain a car in Germany. Things to consider: cost of the loan, fuel, maintenance, insurance etc.

Classes Offered

Professional Development

First Term Airmen Course (FTAC) is tailored to meet the needs of new service members. Basic budgeting, debt reduction, identity theft, overseas banking, reading and understanding your LES, local resources, identity theft, online scams, Thrift Savings Plan/investment, retirement options and much more.

First Duty Station Lieutenants briefing is designed to provide the new officer with financial information from a leadership perspective. This is a mandatory briefing which is offered on a one-to-one basis by appointment.

Wealth Building with TSP

This class provides an in-depth review of the Thrift Savings Plan, including investment options, rates of return, withdrawal and loan options. Also addressed are the basic concepts behind developing an investment strategy and retirement planning.

<https://www.tsp.gov/>

Managing Your Money

A representative from Service Credit Union will teach you ways to control your spending, reduce your debt, keep more of your cash for yourself, and provide insight into choosing the financial institution that is right for you. <https://www.servicecu.org/>

Marriage & Money

Do you and your spouse have different views about money? Do you find yourself disagreeing about how the finances should be handled? If so, this class is for you. This class is designed to educate couples on how they each view money and how to effectively communicate about it.

Local Currency

The monetary unit in Germany is the Euro. Exchange rates change daily and are given over the Armed Forces Radio and Television Network (AFRTS) and posted at the local banking facilities (<http://www.dodcommunitybank.com/>, <https://www.servicecu.org/>). You can also access the rate via the AFN FACEBOOK page, <http://www.facebook.com/pages/AFN-The-Eagle-Morning-Show-With-Demarrio-Spence/82276883519>. The Euro is divided into 100 cents. To determine the cost of an item in dollars, simply divide the price by the exchange rate. In Germany, goods are subject to a 19% value added tax (VAT). If a purchase exceeds 25 Euro after tax, U.S. Forces personnel may, if the merchant agrees, obtain tax relief. This requires the use of a VAT form which is available through your installation VAT office. The goods and services purchased must be for personal use only.

It's Your Move Investment Training

This class helps participants develop a personal investment strategy. From preparing to invest to selecting investment opportunities, this course covers it all!

Education Financial Planning Workshop

Participants explore ways to pay for college/post secondary education. Topics include: scholarship search, tax credits, 529 plans, work study, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) program. <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

Other

Our Personal Financial Readiness team is available to provide a wide array of financial briefings. Check out our quarterly calendar for current offerings or submit requests for topics to Airman and Family Readiness Center's FACEBOOK account at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Airman-and-Family-Readiness-Center-Ramstein-AB/221064367936746>

Financial Institutions

Service Credit Union and Community Bank are full-service financial institutions in the KMC. They also provide foreign currency exchanges (<http://www.dodcommunitybank.com/>; <https://www.servicecu.org/>). Service Credit Union is also a part of the shared branch system allowing members of participating credit unions to access their accounts through one of the several local branches.

Links

<https://www.creditreport.com/> (get three free credit reports a year)

<http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/> (calculators and allowance charts)

<https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> (read your LES every pay period)

www.dfas.mil (your homepage for official money and military information)

<http://www.military.com/money> (personal finance tips and education for military members)

<http://themilitarywallet.com/> (personal finance for the military)

<http://www.letsgo-europe.com/Germany/military/banking.html> (local currency & banking)

<http://www.kiplinger.com/reports/military-families/> (personal finance for military families)

<http://www.daveramsey.com/military/home/> (addresses specific military concerns regarding finances)

<http://www.dodcommunitybank.com/> (Community Bank's home page)

<https://www.servicecu.org/> (Service Credit Union's homepage)

<https://www.tsp.gov/> (information on the Thrift Savings Plan)

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/> (information on completing the FAFSA)

www.militaryonesource.mil (free resources on personal finance and many other military related concerns)

<http://www.afcrossroads.com/> (free resources for the military community)

<http://militarymoneymight.com/> (blog on military money matters)