



MC&FP FACT SHEET

Data

- ✓ In 2011, the typical workers with a bachelor's degree earned about \$1,000 a week, roughly two-thirds more than those with only a high school diploma.
- ✓ In 2011, the unemployment rate for workers with a bachelor's degree was 4.9 percent, about half of the rate for people with only a high school diploma.

Additional Information

Personal Financial Management Programs and Military and Family Support Centers

www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil

Military OneSource

www.militaryonesource.mil

Good Debt Enhances Earning Potential

Background

The Department of Defense provides a range of services to assist service members and their families in navigating today's complex financial environment and to help them achieve financial stability. As part of its ongoing Financial Readiness Campaign, DoD conducts regular outreach to educate military audiences about various financial readiness topics and to raise awareness about available financial readiness services and support. Investing in education is a positive use of debt and an investment in the future to expand job opportunities and increase earning potential.

Highlights

Helping service members and their families become informed about how educational debt can be a good investment contributes to overall financial readiness.

- A December 2012 report written by the Departments of Treasury and Education, "The Economics of Higher Education," demonstrates that investing in education expands job opportunities, boosts America's competitiveness, and supports the kind of income mobility that is fundamental to a growing economy.
- Financial stability takes consistent action over time; taking small steps to pay off education debt while adding to their savings can help service members and their families reach their educational and financial goals.
- The DoD provides a range of tools and services, including personal financial counselors, to help military families reduce debt and achieve savings goals. Personal financial counseling services are available through [Military OneSource](#) and installation military and family support centers, helping families learn about budgeting, financial planning, developing a spending plan and the overall management of personal finances.

