



MC&FP FACT SHEET

Data

- ✓ *Financial education has a positive impact on service members' retirement savings and other financial incomes.*
- ✓ *In 2012, the Federal Trade Commission's top complaint categories from the military community included identify theft, imposter scams and lottery scams.*

Additional information

Military Consumer

<http://www.military.ncpw.gov>

Personal Financial Management Programs

<http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil>

The Federal Trade Commission

<http://www.ftc.gov>

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

<http://www.consumerfinance.gov>

Military Consumer Campaign

Background

Frequent relocation, a steady paycheck, separation from family and friends, and the stresses of deployment can make military households an attractive target for scam artists. The Department of Defense has teamed up with the Federal Trade Commission and is collaborating with other organizations to launch Military Consumer, a campaign to empower the military community with tips and tools to be informed consumers and promote their financial readiness.

Highlights

- Eliminating scams through aggressive enforcement and an ongoing educational campaign are key parts of improving consumer protection.
- Important educational components of the campaign include teaching the military community about reading the fine print, being aware of scams, becoming savvy consumers, etc.
- There are special protections in place to help service members and their families avoid scams, fight identity theft and report consumer protection issues.
 - Military Consumer offers free resources from more than 30 federal, state and municipal agencies, consumer advocates and military support organizations.
 - The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau informs service members about scams and enables them to make online complaints about financial products or services.
 - The Federal Trade Commission offers current information on scams and consumer protection issues.
- Military families can contact Military OneSource (800-342-9647) to meet with a personal financial counselor or reach out to their local Personal Financial Management Program.

