



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

To Promote Education, Training and Professional Development in All Aspects of Military Comptrollership



January 2021

Washington Chapter

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President's Message

Mr. Stephen Herrera



Happy New Year ASMC Washington D.C. Chapter!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season and were able to spend some quality time with family and friends, even if that meant socially distanced or virtually. I also hope you are starting 2021 with renewed optimism and are ready take-on any new challenges presented to us. Certainly our budget teammates have the significant task of locking the fiscal

year 2022 Budget Estimate Submission position developed under the current administration while knowing we will likely have to open up our financial databases to incorporate changes in priorities identified by the new administration.

In the last ten months this unprecedented pandemic tested our resolve and forced a real-time change to the way we do business. As we found with our ASMC business, it was not without some minor stumbles but because of the adaptability of Financial Managers, we kept our missions going and emerged successfully. This is a testament to the unwavering professionalism of Financial Managers who serve with integrity as the commander's trusted financial advisor.

Despite the pandemic you continue to provide high-quality support to decision makers on budgetary, accounting, financial, cost and economic issues and take care of your teams. I am so proud to be part of a community that strives to continuously improve the quality, efficiency and customer-focus of Defense Department financial services and operations. In the pursuit of excellence, especially in challenging times, we can easily become fixated on our specific financial duties and the five meter task facing us, making it easy to forget to take advantage of the unique opportunities afforded to us.

I challenge you in the next year to take advantage of the opportunities ASMC provides by actively participating and sharing your experiences, successes, and even failures with your fellow members to make us all better professionals. We all miss our face-to-face engagements but until we can be together again, our Chapter is exploring ways to expand our virtual outreach to members by planning to hold less formal virtual engagements in addition to our monthly luncheons. We are also looking to upgrade the way we will deliver our upcoming virtual NCR PDI in March to enhance your experience. Your PDI volunteer committee is hard at work and is thrilled to offer a full day inaugural virtual NCR PDI (7 CPEs).

As we navigate 2021 in still uncertain times, I welcome your feedback, suggestions and solutions to make our Chapter the best we can be now and when we are able to resume more traditional events. We invited the Gulf Coast Chapter to participate in our January luncheon. If that works out well, we will explore sharing our presentations with other chapters. The Washington Chapter is fortunate to have access to many outstanding and relevant speakers. I personally like the idea of providing our broader society more access to these speakers. Thank you for what you do and thank you in advance for a great year to come!

Cheers,
Steve

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Upcoming Events

Date / Time	Upcoming Events / Sponsor / Speaker / CPEs	Location
14 Jan 21/1200-1300	Chapter Luncheon Meeting / USCG / Honorable Troy Edgar / 1 CPE	Virtual Meeting via Zoom
15 Jan 21	Registration Opens for 2021 ASMC NCR Chapter Virtual PDI	Register here
31 Jan 21	Chapter Professional Award Scholarships Submission Deadline	
18 Feb 21/1200-1300	Chapter Luncheon Meeting / Navy / Ms Alaheh Jenkins / 1 CPE	Virtual Meeting via Zoom
25 Feb 21	Mini-course (F7082) Budgeting and Accounting: Making the Connection	Virtual
11 Mar 21	ASMC NCR Virtual PDI	Virtual Meeting via Zoom
15 Apr 21	Chapter Luncheon Meeting / Army / LTG Horlander / 1 CPE	Virtual Meeting via Zoom
22 Apr 21	Mini-course (F3588) Cost-Benefit Analysis	Virtual

Featured Article



COAST GUARD FINANCIAL MODERNIZATION ENTERS CRITICAL STAGE

By LCDR Mark M. Sanchez, CDFM, PMP

LCDR Sanchez serves as Director of Financial Operations in the Office of Reserve Resources, COMDT (CG-R82).

Since its inception in 2002, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has sought to update its financial systems. Over the past 17 years, it has made multiple attempts to modernize and consolidate financial systems without success. Currently, an effort driven by the DHS Financial Systems Modernization initiative to address incompatible processes and antiquated financial management systems is underway. The Coast Guard is set to join the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office and the Transportation Security Administration as the third component within DHS to implement a new financial system in the past five years. Known as a Financial Systems Modernization Solution, the software is a DHS-configured, commercial, off-the-shelf Oracle Federal Financials Enterprise Business Suite that will be hosted and secured at DHS Data Center 2 in Clarksville, Virginia. The benefits of transitioning to this new solution are far reaching, to include the enhancement of mission execution through more efficient business practices in the areas of procurement, finance, accounting, and property management. This effort will ultimately shift the Coast Guard away from customized processes and workarounds to standardized processes that will result in regulation compliance and effective operational support.

Continued next page.



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Featured Article

Continued from previous page.

Beginning in 2014, the Coast Guard began making preparations for use of the new solution. It has now entered a critical stage in its financial modernization efforts as it begins to prepare for implementation on October 1, 2021. In order to prepare the organization for the new solution, the Coast Guard stood up a Financial Management and Procurement Services (FMPS) program to shift the Coast Guard away from current work-around processes and into standardized processes. The FMPS program is comprised of four teams; Integration, Business Process Re-Engineering (BPR), Financial Management Service Improvement Initiative, and Data Strategy, to help guide the transition. Under the direction of Deputy Assistant Commandant for Resources (CG-8D) Mr. Craig Bennet, each team has a specific role with a shared goal to ensure the organization is ready to begin utilizing the new solution upon implementation.

In order to align the Coast Guard with more effective ways to support operations and prepare users and commands for the new solution, the BPR team began leading and implementing systematic changes in 2015. The purpose of the BPR initiative is to reduce the administrative burden on field units, achieve economies of scale, and ensure audit compliance through improved internal controls and accountability of resources. This required all units within the organization to be categorized into three separate tiers based upon unit type. Units were systematically phased in according to their tier level. Tier 1 kicked-off in 2015 and over the past five years, front line units—such as Districts, Bases, and Air Stations—have organized into Regional Support Teams that provide financial management, property management, and procurement-contracting services. The Coast Guard evaluated the effectiveness of new business processes and applied best practices at each implementation milestone to continually make improvements throughout the project. Tier 2 kicked-off on October 1, 2020 consisting of the Force Readiness Command and its subunits, Areas, Area shore units, and District Cutters. The Areas are creating two separate Area Support Teams (ASTs), an Atlantic Area AST and a Pacific Coast AST, with a scheduled go-live of February 1, 2021. Tier 3 will conclude the BPR initiative with implementation of major cutters and all remaining shore units on October 1, 2021. All three tier levels will vary slightly in their organizational support construct, but will still have the BPR tenets of standardized processes, service lines, and segregation of duties.

As the Coast Guard approaches this historic transition to a new financial management solution, it will continue to evaluate how it can improve support services across all lines of business. The Coast Guard's efforts will undoubtedly remain focused on strong lines of communication and tailored training for users as it approaches each implementation milestone. And just as the Coast Guard has adapted to changing threats and challenging conditions over the course of its 230 year history, it once again stands ready to meet the challenges of modern financial stewardship.



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November 2020 Meeting Recap

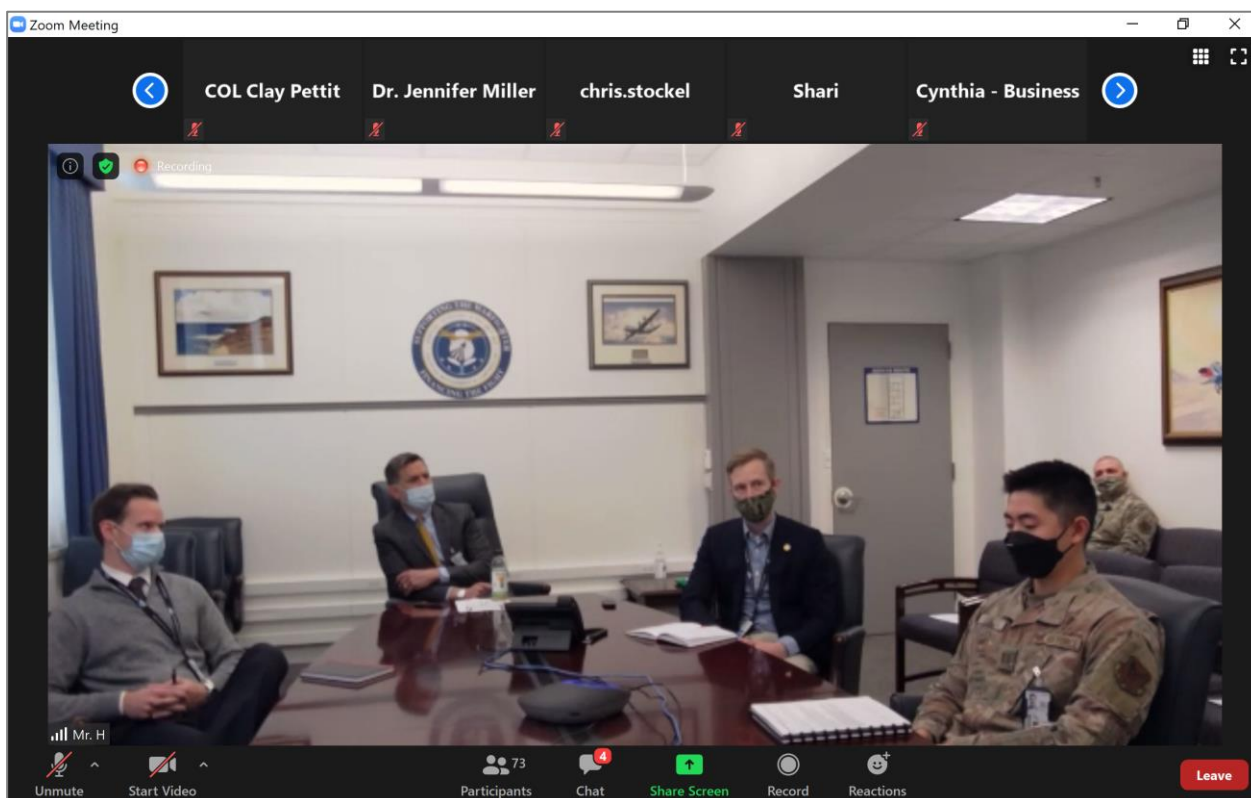
Speaker: *Virtual Panel Led by Mr. Cody Ferguson*
ASMC Washington Chapter Early Careerist Chair

Topic: *The Critical Role of the Early Careerist in Financial Management*

Time: *12:00 pm – 1:00 pm*

Date: *Thursday, 19 November 2020*

Mr. Cody Ferguson led a panel discussion of the benefits to getting involved in the ASMC Early Careerist program. Please see next page for details on how to make a difference and take your DoD or USCG FM career to the next level!



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Early Careerist News

Calling All ASMC Early Careerists

ELIGIBILITY:

Anyone with less than ten years of experience in their current profession may join.

Why You Should Join:

As a future government or industry leader in Defense or US Coast Guard FM, ensure your training needs are met with:

- ❖ Social and Networking Events with other Early Careerists, as well as Senior Leaders
- ❖ The opportunity to correspond and collaborate with a Senior Mentor/Coach
- ❖ Cost-effective training and education to obtain CPEs and highly valued Certified Defense Financial Manager test-based credential
- ❖ In-person ASMC Monthly Luncheons at a discounted rate (when they resume)
- ❖ An active community of cohorts within the ASMC National Engage Platform - Early Careerist Forum (details to follow)

Upcoming Events/Engagement:

- ❖ ASMC National Engage - Early Careerist forum (details to follow)
- ❖ February Early Careerist virtual happy hour / informational session (details to follow)
- ❖ ASMC NCR PDI Early Careerist virtual booth (March 11th 2021)
- ❖ ASMC NCR PDI Early Careerist virtual round table (March 11th 2021 3:45-4:45pm)
- ❖ Please email us about opportunities and how to get involved!

Bios/Contact Information:

Cody Ferguson, Chairman of Early Careerists

cody.a.ferguson9.civ@mail.mil

Cody Ferguson is a Staff Accountant and Executive Analytics Portfolio lead on the Advana program with 6 years of experience working in DoD. He started his career in DoD as a Trainee in the DON's FM Career Program before moving to the DON Budget Office and ultimately OUSD(C) after completing his Master's Degree in Forensic Accounting.

Matt Ledder, Vice Chairman of Early Careerists

mledder@definitivelogic.com

Matt Ledder is a Financial Consultant/System Engineer with two years of experience at Definitive Logic. He has a strong academic background, including a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and a Master's Degree in Information Technology Management. He has worked on agile financial reporting and management solution implementations for both federal and commercial organizations, including DHS, ARC, HUD, DAI, and ICF.

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January Meeting



Speaker: *Mr. Troy D. Edgar*

Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security

Time: *1200-1300*

Date: *Thursday, 14 January 2021*

Location: *Virtual via Zoom; [click here to register](#)*



Troy D. Edgar was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on May 12, 2020 after serving as the Associate Deputy Under Secretary of Management. As CFO, he is responsible for the fiscal management, integrity and accountability of the Department's \$90 billion budget supporting 240,000 employees. Mr. Edgar oversees ten financial divisions spanning program and cost analysis, budget, financial and risk management, financial operations, policy, transformation, Government Accountability Office & Office of Inspector General liaison and workforce development.

Mr. Edgar is a U.S. Navy veteran with more than 30 years of business and executive experience providing leadership and advisory services to companies in the aerospace and defense, automotive, consumer and industrial products, construction, entertainment, government sector, high tech, software and telecommunications industries.

Prior to DHS, he was the President, Chief Executive Officer and founder of Global Conductor, a privately held management consulting firm providing operational strategy and transformation to dozens of Fortune 500 organizations across many industries. He was also the Chief Executive Officer of Global Conductor Construction Corporation, a construction and engineering company which provided boring, excavation and placement of underground 4G/5G telecommunication infrastructure. Together, these companies generated over \$150 million in revenues and employed over 250 people.

Mr. Edgar has served on the Board of Directors for many organizations including as the Chairman of the Orange County Sanitation District, Treasurer of the Casa Youth Shelter, Vice Chairman of the Orangeline High Speed Rail Authority, Tenet Healthcare (LAMC), Orange County Public Library, Orange County Fire Authority, State of California Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, and the Southern California Association of Government.

Prior to Global Conductor, he spent nearly a decade in the aerospace industry at Boeing where he was the Chief Financial Officer of a \$3.5 billion military aircraft logistics division which employed more than 10,000 employees. He also held key positions within manufacturing, logistics, information technology and procurement including to help lead the merger between McDonnell Douglas and Boeing and the privatization of Kelly Air Force Base. He later went on to advise Fortune 500 companies as a practice leader at Price Waterhouse in the areas of corporate restructuring, shared services and large-scale enterprise resource planning programs. He also helped lead the acquisition integration of Coopers & Lybrand to form PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Mr. Edgar earned his Bachelor of Science and an M.B.A. from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. He also maintains his General Engineering license in California. He is a frequent TV, radio and published news contributor as well as an industry speaker and guest lecturer at universities, professional organizations and conferences on subjects that include leadership, global program management, organizational change and operations strategy.

Mr. Edgar was the Mayor of Los Alamitos, California and an elected and appointed county official for over 12 years. Public service and philanthropy continue to be very important to him and his wife Betty.



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2021 ASMC Virtual National Capital Region PDI
Transformation & Technology: Push Your Limits!



Our **2021 ASMC National Capital Region Professional Development Institute (PDI)** is a partnership across key ASMC Washington metropolitan area chapters - to optimize our enterprise education and learning, dialogue, networking, as well as enhance our fund-raising for charities and scholarships.

Last year, we had to regrettably cancel our event due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. This year's event will be 100% virtual, which is **free** for government personnel and active duty military. This one-time free registration opportunity is also provided to non-ASMC members who are encouraged to [join ASMC](#) for year-round training and professional development benefits. Join more than 1,500 government and industry professionals on **11 March 2021** who are expected to attend this excellent professional development event to hear from DoD and Department of Homeland Security Financial Management leaders.

The theme for the 2021 ASMC National Capital Region PDI is: *"Transformation & Technology: Push Your Limits!"*

The DoD Financial Management triumvirate – military, civilian, and contractor professionals – has been challenged and funded by DoD Leaders since 2001 to effectively transform legacy operations, achieve audit, and enhance professional advancement. We have prepared long and hard to bring a world-class educational event to the National Capital Region (and beyond) ASMC community. 2021 is our time to push the limits of Transformation and Technology, casting aside conservatism, apprehension, and the status quo for real change - to achieve transformational outcomes and maximize funds to support the warfighter.

2021 NCR PDI [Registration](#) will open on 15 January 2021



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ASMC Virtual Community Service Event

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

12PM – 2PM via Microsoft Teams Meeting



Let's get together again and make history! Please donate your time and participate in a virtual Transcribe-a-Thon for the Smithsonian museums!

We invite you to join your fellow ASMC Washington Chapter members as we transcribe digitized collections from the Smithsonian museums. We had a successful event this past September transcribing for the Smithsonian museums that we decided to offer this event again for those that may have missed the opportunity or would like to volunteer again. Explore and enhance historical collections from around the Smithsonian by transcribing historical documents. Started in 2013, the Transcription Center is a freely accessible website connecting volunteers across the world with digitized Smithsonian collections that need to be or already have been transcribed. Volunteers will look at a scanned image usually containing a handwritten note and type it into a text box without any changes and it is a great way to learn about history in detail! With the help of volunteers like you, the Smithsonian Institution will be able to display historically accurate information in the museums for countless individuals seeking to connect with the past. No previous experience is required and all information will be provided in advance of the event.

We are looking for volunteers to join us for the virtual Transcribe-a-Thon!

Please send an email to Jeff Norris (jnorris@kpmg.com) and Chris Pritchett (cpritchett@kpmg.com), both fellow ASMC Washington Chapter members, if you are interested in joining our Teams meeting virtual Transcribe-a-Thon, no later than February 4, 2021.

Additional information about the Transcription Center at the Smithsonian Institution can be found at <https://transcription.si.edu/about>.



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ASMC Washington Chapter Scholarship Awards:

Continued professional and personal development is a core tenet of ASMC. In an effort to offset the personal cost of continuing education & training, the Washington Chapter will provide five annual scholarships of \$1000 to current ASMC members of the following grades/rank:

- GS-07-12, All Enlisted, O-1 to O-3 Officers: (5) \$1000 annual scholarships

Application Requirements: To be considered, each applicants will submit a 1-3 page letter explaining why they are deserving of a scholarship to achieve their goal of a degree/certification related to business or public policy. Applications need to include full name, rank/grade, current position/title, degree/certification being pursued, course provider, and personal contact information.

The narrative of the application must include information in each of the areas below:

- Participation/Membership in ASMC
- Community Service/Volunteer Work
- GPA/Academic Achievement
- Professional Achievement/Awards
- Course Work to Current Position

Submission Deadline: The cut-off date for applications is **31 January, 2021**. Applications submitted after this date will not be eligible for the scholarship consideration this year.

Submission Instructions: Applications should be submitted via electronic mail to Mario R. Beckles at the following two addresses: scholarships@washington-asmc.org and mario.r.beckles@gmail.com.

Scholarship Award: Scholarship winners will be notified in by 1 April of their selection. If the Scholarship Committee forwards a regional winners applications to ASMC National for competition for the National Scholarship as well, they may receive notification before 1 April. All scholarship award winners will be announced at the April (2021) luncheon.

Scholarship Selection: The Scholarship Committee will evaluate applications based on the individuals accomplishments in each of the areas required for the narrative, with ASMC participation and membership being the most heavily weighted. Additionally, writing mechanics such as grammar, spelling and prose will be factored in.

If you have any questions or need more information please email Mario R. Beckles at mario.r.beckles@gmail.com



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Training & Education

The ASMC Washington Chapter is sponsoring the following mini-courses at no cost to our members.

MINI-COURSE (F7082)

Budgeting and Accounting: Making the Connection

This mini-course is designed for junior DoD or contract employees from various backgrounds: accountants who want insight into DoD budgeting, budgeteers who want insight into DoD Accounting, and systems people who want a basic understanding of DoD budgeting and accounting so they can implement new financial systems.

DoD Certification Level 2

COMPETENCY: Concepts, Policies and Principles of Budget – 2.5 hrs (PL3)

February 25, 2021

Two Virtual Sessions Available

- AM SESSION 8:30-11:30 AM
- PM SESSION 12:30-3:30 PM

Register by February 12, 2021

FREE for ASMC Members!

MINI-COURSE (F3588)

Cost-Benefit Analysis

This mini-course will introduce cost-benefit analysis and how it is used to support decision-making in the organization, thereby increasing public welfare and improving efficiency.

DoD Certification Level 2

COMPETENCY: Financial Management Analysis – 2.5 hrs (PL3)

April 22, 2021

Two Virtual Sessions Available

- AM SESSION 8:30-11:30 AM
- PM SESSION 12:30-3:30 PM

Register by April 9, 2021

VIRTUAL

Please visit ManagementConcepts.com/pm_elearning_sysreq for the hardware and software requirements.



To register, visit Learn.ManagementConcepts.com/ASMC/Register

Due to high demand, please notify Management Concepts if you are not able to attend after registering.

Check for Updates at WWW.WASHINGTON-ASMC.ORG or contact your Service Secretary



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ASMC National News



American Society of Military Comptrollers

To promote education, training and professional development in all aspects of military comptrollership.

ASMC Value Proposition

ASMC supports	A global community of defense financial managers, military comptrollers, and corporate members
Who need	Convenient, affordable, and collaborative opportunities for leadership and education that further enable the support of warfighters, the National Military Strategy, and the overall federal financial management (FM) profession, while enhancing their career development
By providing	Educational materials, training courses, the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) certification; leadership opportunities at National and Chapter levels, opportunities to enhance communication skills and contribute to the federal FM body of knowledge; and in-person and virtual access to a global network of peers, and a knowledgeable and customer service-oriented staff
As a result	Financial managers who are members or certificants of ASMC are equipped with the latest innovations, industry knowledge, and best practices; possess a broader understanding of defense FM policies and operations; and differentiate themselves as highly qualified candidates for positions within the DoD, the United States Coast Guard, other federal agencies, and the private sector
Because of	ASMC's status as a premier defense financial management education provider, it is recognized as a prestigious organization for leaders and other individuals serving in or supporting the defense FM community
Unlike	Competitive membership organizations or educational programs that provide products and services to the financial management profession but do not offer ASMC's unique specialization in military comptrollership



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ASMC National News

Congratulations to our Washington Chapter members who took home CY2019 National Individual and Team awards!

Budgeting – Major Command – Distinguished: Major Allen F. Dismuke, Jr.

Comptroller – Distinguished: Denise C. Dennis, CDFM

Resource Management – Distinguished - Dr. Ann M. Tipton, CDFM

Essay Contest

First: Scott W. Bauer, CDFM-A

Second: Lt Col John R. Forbes

Third: Christopher Babcock, CDFM-A



Small Team – Meritorious – Private Sector Care Shortfall Team Billing Team: Defense Health Headquarters (DHA/J8)

Washington Chapter: Five Star Recognition Award

Washington Chapter: Absolute Membership Growth Award

ASMC Member Community



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All Member Community

[Community Home](#) [Discussion](#) 797 [Library](#) 49 [Events](#) 0 [Members](#) 14.1K

Most Recently Updated 50 per page

Thread Subject	Replies	Last Post
Addressing FY21 NDAA & DOD Budgeting Requirements with CPM Solutions	0	23 hours ago by Matthew Kawamoto
ICE - Three Keys to Success at Work: Integrity, Commitment, and Excellence	8	8 days ago by Melissa Blacketer

Connect with the ASMC Member Community!



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ASMC offers the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) educational program and certification designation to those persons desiring to demonstrate proficiency in the core aspects of Defense Financial Management.



For more information, visit: <http://www.asmconline.org/certification/cdfm-information/>

Congratulations to our newest CDFMs!

Julio Arriaza

Pamela Breland

Henry Crusoe

Hobart Kistler

Marvin Kon

James Moore

Helena Robinson

Jacqueline Thomas

Brandon Thrasher

While most candidates in the CDFM program are civilian or military/reserve members of the Department of Defense, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps or employees of defense contractors or suppliers, the CDFM program is open to all candidates who have a high school diploma (or equivalent) and meet the following work experience qualifications:

Have the required number of years of defense-related financial management experience outlined below:

- **Two (2) years if you hold an Associate's degree or higher;** or
- **Three (3) years if you do not have a degree.**

OR

Do not have defense-related financial management experience, but can meet the following criteria outlined below:

- **Four (4) years of Federal government-related financial management experience;** and
- **An Associate's degree or higher.**

There are three steps involved with earning your CDFM:

1. Enroll in the CDFM Program. Your enrollment is valid for two (2) years, during which time you must take, and successfully pass, the three CDFM module examinations.

2. Submit Your Verification of Financial Management Experience Form. This form, which must be signed by a supervisor who can verify your work experience, must be returned to ASMC after enrolling in the CDFM program. You do not have to submit this form prior to taking a CDFM examination, but it is required prior to the awarding of the CDFM designation.

3. Purchase and Schedule the CDFM Examinations. Be sure to carefully – and completely – read the criteria associated with each testing option for the CDFM examinations. Failure to do so can result in the purchase of the wrong CDFM examination and/or the inability to test at your preferred location



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To Promote Education, Training and Professional Development in All Aspects of Military Comptrollership

January 2021

Washington Chapter



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