



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

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



January 2022

Washington Chapter

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President's Message

Rear Admiral Mark J. Fedor, U.S. Coast Guard



Greetings to Members and Supporters of the American Society of Military Comptrollers,

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and were able to take some personal time to recharge, refit, and reconnect with friends and family. The Omicron variant has certainly spread with amazing speed but I'm confident we'll be able to weather this next storm and learn to live with this endemic virus. In the military and homeland security financial management communities, we don't have the luxury of timeouts as we must constantly adapt and overcome obstacles to ensure our teams can meet a variety of global challenges. You should be proud of your contributions to our Nation's safety, security, and prosperity.

Like you, I'm hopeful for a full appropriation following the end of the current Continuing Resolution on 18 February. That will at least provide more stability to plan for the future. In the Coast Guard, we've had an extremely busy fall as we transitioned to a new, Oracle-based, integrated financial management system culminating in "going live" on 17 Dec 2021. While that was a momentous occasion for us after years of planning and several false starts, we're now faced with learning how to operate with this new tool. We're confident this will make us a more efficient Service and better stewards of the taxpayers' dollars, but we still have to overcome the peculiarities of a shiny new tool and make it work to meet our unique operational needs. It's exciting and daunting as I'm sure many of our readers can attest when embarking on a major organizational change.

It's also an exciting time for the ASMC and the Washington Chapter with new possibilities, challenges, and opportunities on the horizon. First, thank you to Deb Del Mar, Charles Morse, and Yelenda Baker for spearheading our annual Holiday Party at the Army-Navy Country Club on 09 December. It was a beautiful venue and it appeared that folks truly enjoyed the camaraderie of personal engagements. We were grateful to the many folks that brought this event to fruition including our corporate members for their sponsorship of raffle donations, Mr. Jeff Norris for organizing the Capital Food Bank donations, and of course the United States Marines for their ongoing efforts with Toys for Tots. It was also a pleasure to hear from the Honorable Mike McCord (Under Secretary of Defense Comptroller/CFO) and Ms. Audrey Davis our ASMC National President.

Another person who was able to attend was Mr. Rich Brady, the new CEO of ASMC. Rich recently retired after a stellar career in the Marine Corps and is filling the vacancy left when Al Runnels retired. We're grateful to have him in a critical leadership role for the ASMC. Rich is taking a new and innovative look at all of ASMC's operations which will certainly have positive ramifications for the Washington Chapter. We look forward to working with both Rich and Ms. Davis as we chart a new course in 2022 and beyond. Welcome aboard Rich!

President's Message Continued Next Page

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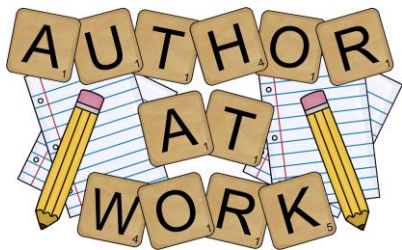
As I mentioned at the outset, the Omicron variant is the latest COVID variable that we have to manage. It is undoubtedly giving some folks pause as they contemplate returning to the workplace or participating in other in-person engagements. This will all play out according to the virus' timeline (the "adversary" always has a say in conflicts) but we're optimistic the vaccines can limit hospitalizations and more severe outcomes. However, it will take a few months for the Omicron timeline to fully reveal itself so in the Washington Chapter, we'll have to adjust to that unknown. One of my goals as the Chapter president was to move us towards more in-person activities and I still would like to do that. However, we have to acknowledge that the Omicron uncertainty, coupled with the increased cost of hybrid events (simultaneous in-person and virtual availability), may alter those plans. Moving forward, we will keep our options open but may default to more virtual engagements especially if venues require a substantial, up-front payment for hybrid gatherings. We will actively monitor the pulse of both our members and corporate sponsors so we can create safe and fruitful ASMC venues. I firmly believe we – the Washington Chapter of ASMC – are stronger and more effective when we're together but we'll compensate for shifting COVID tides and currents as we start 2022. I appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we continue to navigate around these shoals.

As a traditional undertaking at this time of year, I offer a potential New Year's resolution as talking with a young financial management professional about the benefits of ASMC membership. In addition to enhancing one's academic credentials and linking to a strong professional network, the ASMC serves a higher purpose. People, especially new professionals, hunger to be part of groups with a broader meaning. They aspire to be part of something larger than themselves, provide value to a noteworthy cause, and help their country make positive strides in a dynamic environment. That's the reason many of us volunteered to wear the uniform or serve in the federal government so hopefully we can pass that sentiment along to those sitting on the membership fence. We owe that to the next generation.

I look forward to advancing the ASMC's and the Washington Chapter's goals in the new year along with all of you. I hope 2022 is productive and healthy for the entire ASMC family. All the best to you and your families.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Fedor



If you would like to write an article for the ASMC Washington Chapter newsletter, please contact your Service representative or the [newsletter editor](#).



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Upcoming Events

Date / Time	Upcoming Events / Sponsor / Speaker / CPEs	Location
18 Jan 22/0730-0830	Early Careerist Coffee Chat Series	Virtual - Register here
20 Jan 22/1200-1300	Chapter Luncheon Meeting / USCG / DHS CFO Panel / 1 CPE	Virtual
4 Feb 22/1200-1300	Community Service Event / Smithsonian Museum Transcription Help	Virtual
17 Feb 22/1200-1300	Chapter Luncheon Meeting / Navy / 1 CPE	Virtual
24 Feb 22/0830-1130 or 1230-1530	Mini-Course on Advanced Leadership Skills (2 sessions available)	Virtual
10 Mar 22/0800-1700	Washington Chapter NCR PDI	Virtual – Register here
15 Apr 22/1200-1300	Deadline for Professional Award Scholarship Nominations	

Community Service Event

Thank you to the over 20 ASMC members who volunteered on December 18, 2021 at the Arlington National Cemetery wreath laying community service event. The volunteers placed wreaths on the graves of our nation's fallen heroes to honor and show our appreciation for their service.



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Featured Article



Coast Guard Goes Live on New Financial System

CAPT Erich Klein, CPA, CGFM, CDFM-A, Deputy for Financial System Transformation (CG-8D)

The Coast Guard went live on a new integrated financial, acquisition, and asset management system on 17 December 2021. This was a significant milestone in a long modernization journey with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The system is a DHS hosted, commercial off-the-shelf solution using Oracle Federal Financials Enterprise Business Suite. Overseen by the DHS Joint Program Management Office, the software suite is called “Financial Systems Modernization Solution,” and is also referred to as FSMS. The system is designed to host three DHS components including the Transportation Security Administration, and the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction office, in addition to the Coast Guard. While the other components had transitioned to FSMS over the past two years, the Coast Guard go-live significantly expands the system’s capabilities and user base, growing from a couple of thousand end-users to more than 16,000.



The architecture of the new system allowed the Coast Guard to eliminate a number of audit deficiencies. The most significant was the consolidation of three general ledger systems into one. While the two logistics systems for both aviation asset maintenance and surface asset maintenance and corresponding inventory control points will be kept in service for a period of time, all accounting transactions from those logistics systems will flow into the FSMS general ledger. FSMS also has interfaces to a human resources system for all military, reserve, and retired pay transactions; a law enforcement system for civil fines and penalties; a new electronic travel system for temporary duty and permanent change of station travel reimbursements; and

a system to manage an oil spill trust fund for response to oil and hazardous materials spills and collection of costs, fines, and penalties to responsible parties, to highlight a few. One of the more challenging interfaces was with the Defense Logistics Agency to support MILSTRIP orders, and that effort has been proven successful. There are also a number of other Coast Guard, DHS, and Treasury systems that interface with FSMS.

In the weeks since December 17th, Coast Guard program owners have been collaborating closely with DHS and the supporting entities to work through system defects, business process improvements, and end user support for new processes. As of early January 2022, there will be significant effort to obtain proficiency and meet stakeholder demands. Nearing completion of development is a data warehouse, called the Financial Management and Procurement Data repository, which will contain legacy data and feeds from FSMS to allow for data analytics and mining. There are also efforts underway to use Robotic Process Automation to bring efficiency to many labor-intensive processes. Having a modern system with a single general ledger will open up opportunities to use newer technologies to capitalize on efficiency and better information to support decision making. While much work remains in front of us, the future is bright!

As the Deputy Director of Financial Operations, CAPT Klein is responsible to the Director for all U.S. Coast Guard financial management, accounting, and financial reporting functions including policy, financial systems, management controls, financial statement preparation, audit coordination, audit remediation, organizational change management, and Finance Center operations.



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November 2021 Meeting Recap



Speaker: ***Mr. Edward C. Gardiner, SES***
*Assistant Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources,
Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps*

Time: ***12:00 pm – 13:00 pm***

Date: ***Thursday, 18 November 2021***

Location: ***Virtual Luncheon via Zoom for Government***

Mr. Edward C. Gardiner serves as the Assistant Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps. His responsibilities include advising the Marine Corps Chief Financial Officer, the Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources, and providing executive control and oversight of the Marine Corps Planning, Programming, Budgeting, Execution and Assessment process. This includes the development, justification and execution of the Marine Corps program and budget valued at \$47 billion per year, and oversight of the Marine Corps financial statements, systems and appropriated funds.

Meeting Recap: The November Washington Chapter monthly meeting allowed us to hear from Mr. Edward C. Gardiner, Assistant Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources, Headquarters, U.S. Marines Corps. Mr. Gardiner began with an introduction of himself in his most recent capacities at ASMC National and within DoD. As many knew, he's a proud advocate of professional development and associations like ASMC but also a long-time senior leader of multiple services and organizations in DoD.

Ahead of his speaking, we got to learn about the knowledge and praise of Mr. Richard Brady, ASMC National's new Chief Executive Officer (position formerly held by Mr. Al Runnels for more than 9 years). Then, Mr. Gardiner transitioned to speaking of a plethora of recent events where financial systems, financial managers, and financial processes have been so critical like the middle east's refugees, various exercises, financial system transitions, and worldwide activities large and small. The updates provided, praise, and realities were a humbling and wholesome reminder of the world we're working and continuing to excel in together.

Please register for the next meeting at
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or contact your Service Secretary



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January 2022 Meeting



Speaker: *DHS CFO Panel Discussion*

Time: *12:00 pm – 13:00 pm*

Date: *Thursday, 20 January 2022*

Location: *Virtual Luncheon via Zoom for Government*

Panel Discussion: “FSMS: Journey to a New System”



Ms. Stacy Marcott became the Deputy Chief Financial Officer (DCFO) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in May 2012, and currently serves as the Acting Chief Financial Officer. In both capacities, Ms. Marcott provides fiscal oversight and leadership of an \$88 billion budget which supports DHS operations and 240,000 personnel worldwide. In her capacity as DCFO, she leads the day to day operations of ten financial divisions and nearly 300 employees.



Mr. Shannon McCullar: Since February of 2020, Shannon McCullar has worked in the Department of Homeland Security as the Director of Financial Systems Modernization and the Program Manager of the Joint Program Management Office (JPMO) in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. He is responsible for managing the acquisition, implementation, and delivery of standardized, compliant, cyber secure financial systems in components across the Department. Prior to this position, he served as an active duty Coast Guard Officer for over 30 years.



Mr. Craig Bennett assumed his current duties as the Deputy Assistant Commandant for Resources and Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the United States Coast Guard in September 2013. He is the principal advisor to the Assistant Commandant for Resources/Chief Financial Officer and senior staff for all budgetary and financial management matters, and serves as the Coast Guard's Chief Risk Officer.

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2022 ASMC Virtual National Capital Region PDI: "Courage for Real Change"

The **2022 ASMC Virtual National Capital Region (NCR) Professional Development Institute (PDI)** will be held on Thursday March 10, 2022. Despite hopes and efforts to hold a hybrid 2022, ongoing COVID uncertainties and significant technological limitations at our contracted venue made a hybrid or in-person event logistically and financially infeasible. This is distressing, as we know it is particularly impactful to our corporate sponsors who value face to face government interaction. With resignation, we will hold the 2022 NCR PDI program using an enhanced format we hope will optimize the "virtual" environment.

NCR PDI is a vibrant engagement across key ASMC Washington metropolitan area chapters to optimize Defense education and professional development, dialogue, networking, as well as fund-raising for charities and scholarships. In the years leading up to COVID, our event sold out with over 1,600 government and industry professionals. PLEASE join us for this commanding virtual experience and a terrific day of learning, discourse, and certification [up to 7 CPEs]. In gratitude of all our corporate members, and for only 2022, all corporate ASMC members can register free of charge along with our government ASMC members! We strongly encourage non-members to join ASMC to enjoy year-around benefits of reasonable membership to include this free training! Please have your ASMC Membership number available during registration.

ASMC membership renewal or join link <https://asmconline.org/membership/renew/>

Our 2022 ASMC Virtual NCR PDI theme is "**Courage for Real Change.**" Defense Financial Management military, civilian, and corporate professionals have been challenged for years by national leaders to effectively transform legacy systems, achieve audit, improve operations, reduce costs, and enhance professional advancement. Our FM transformation playbook, directing diligent preparation and innovation advances, has enabled progress toward the finish line. 2022 is the time for courage - to make progress towards real change.

Thank you for your support of our premier training event! For questions, please contact our Registration/Website Chair Wayne Whiten wayne.whiten@calibresys.com or call 703-797-8831 or 703-509-1544.

Vr,
Debra Del Mar

2022 NCR PDI [Registration](#)



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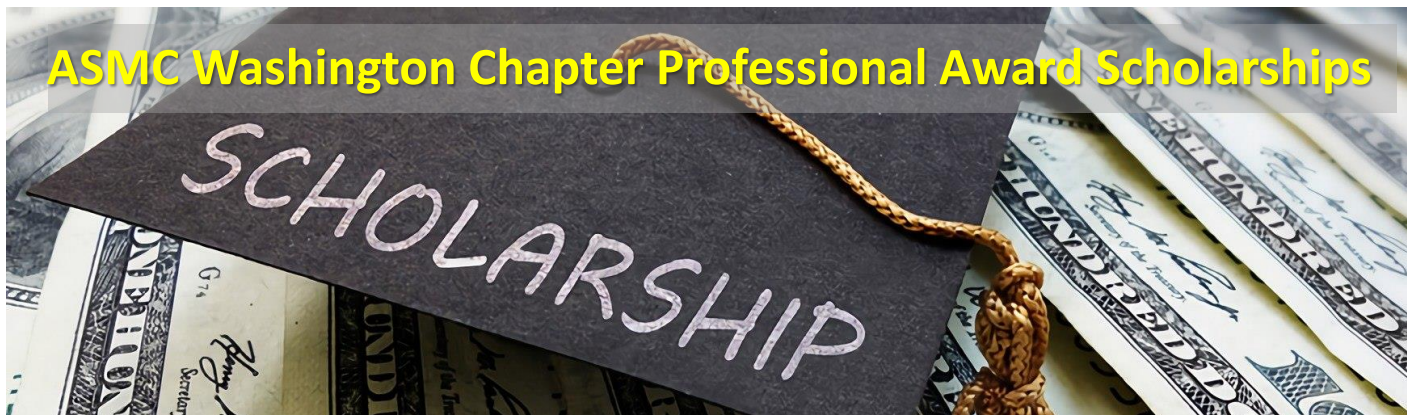
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Chapter News

ASMC Washington Chapter Professional Award Scholarships



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-07-15, All Enlisted, O-1 to O-6 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 now 15 April, 2022. 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 May of their selection. All scholarship award winners will be announced at the May (2022) 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 additional information please email Mario R. Beckles at mario.r.beckles@gmail.com



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Chapter News

ASMC Virtual Community Service Event

**Friday, February 4, 2022
12PM – 2PM via Microsoft Teams Meeting**

Let's get together and make history!



We invite you to join your fellow ASMC Washington Chapter members as we transcribe digitized collections from the Smithsonian museums from the comfort of your home or office. You are welcome to join for the entire time or part of the time and you can continue transcribing after the event or later.

This is an outstanding opportunity to learn more about our history by transcribing historical documents. Volunteers will look at a scanned image of a document usually containing handwritten and/or typed information and document what they see for future viewing and research. No previous experience is required and all information will be provided in advance of the event.

To sign up for this exciting event, please send an email to Jeff Norris (jnorris@kpmg.com) and Chris Pritchett (cpritchett@kpmg.com), both fellow ASMC Washington Chapter members no later than February 2, 2022.

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



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Early Careerist News



ASMC Washington Chapter Early Careerists Coffee Chat Series

Date/Time: Tuesday 18 January 2022 from 0730-0830 (1 CPE) – including Q&A

Location: Virtual via ZoomGov invitation (free) below

Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1608023106?pwd=ODN5enQ2bDBLeF3MUNRS0NoTIVFdz09>

Meeting ID: 160 802 3106

Passcode: 452569

One tap mobile

+16692545252,,1608023106#,,,,*452569# US (San Jose)

+16468287666,,1608023106#,,,,*452569# US (New York)

Dial by your location

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+1 646 828 7666 US (New York)

+1 551 285 1373 US

+1 669 216 1590 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 160 802 3106

Passcode: 452569

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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)

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

MINI-COURSE (FML4451)

Advanced Leadership Skills and Techniques

This mini-course examines key leadership concepts that address leading change and leading people — two important roles for today's DoD financial managers. The session explores the differences between leadership and management, best practices for change management, ethics and value-based leadership, and the role of creativity in leading change and leading people.

DoD Certification Level 3
COMPETENCY: Developing Others (Lead People) (PL5)

February 24, 2022

Two Virtual Sessions Available

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

Register by February 11, 2022

VIRTUAL

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



To register, visit ManagementConcepts.com/ASMC-registration

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

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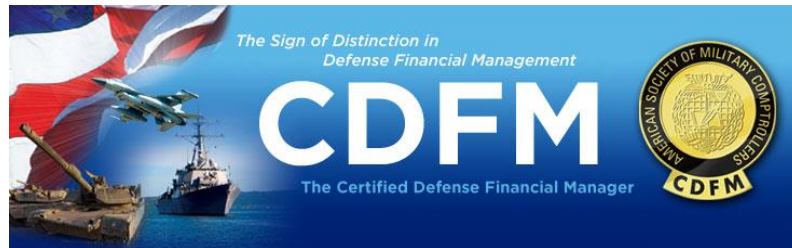
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ASMC offers the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) educational program and certification designation to those persons desiring to demonstrate proficiency in the core aspects of Defense Financial Management.



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

Congratulations to our newest Washington Chapter CDFMs!

Colby Dawson
April Dereus
Dominick Iacobucci
Robert Kenning

Severina Kinsley
Devin Nesbitt
Collin Setzer

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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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

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

January 2022

Washington Chapter



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