

GETTING STARTED



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE IN 2015







USAA ADVICE PRINCIPLES



**Protect your life, loved
ones and possessions.**

Spend less than you earn.

Save enough for emergencies.

Save now for retirement.

Prepare your will.

**Build your financial plan and
update it annually and with
significant life events.**

QUICK START:

FOUR THINGS YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW.

These four things can help jump-start your plan and get you moving in the right direction.

1 | FIND YOUR STARTING POINT.

The first step to creating a strong financial foundation is to know where you stand. Our Financial Readiness Score tool gives you a starting point and shows you ways to build on it. Get your score and action plan at usaa.com/myfinancialscore.

2 | SPEND LESS THAN YOU EARN.

Start a spending plan using a great tool like USAA® Money Manager¹ so you can track your finances and avoid debt. Get started at usaa.com/moneymanager.

3 | SAVE FOR A RAINY DAY.

Build an emergency fund to help keep you out of financial trouble and protect the life you have should something unexpected happen. Map out your savings strategy at usaa.com/goals.

4 | START EARLY, START SMALL.

The earlier you start investing, the more time your money has to grow. Employer-sponsored plans with matching benefits are great ways to get going. With a USAA IRA, you can choose funds that let you invest with just \$50 a month.² Open an IRA at usaa.com/ira.

GET STARTED ON PLANNING FOR YOUR FUTURE.

Congratulations! This is the first step in taking charge of your money and planning for the future. With USAA, you're already on the right track to laying the groundwork that helps you prepare for your financial future.

USAA advises millions of members every year and provides a holistic approach to help meet their individual needs — from insurance to investing and daily money management. Inside you'll find hypothetical examples. While each one is different, you can learn from all of them. Take a look at the stories, and get a glimpse into our approach.

Everything we do is rooted in our core military values of service, loyalty, honesty and integrity — and decades of experience serving current and former military members who have honorably served and their eligible family members. We take the time to get to know you and your needs, and we help create a strategy that works for you.

➤ It starts with a big-picture view of your financial life.

See where you stand financially, and get a personalized action plan to help you take control of your financial world. **Visit usaa.com/myfinancialscore to get going.**

MORE ADVICE IS ALWAYS JUST A CLICK AWAY.

Find personalized solutions, articles, tools, calculators and more to help you plan for the future. Visit **usaa.com/advice**.

¹USAA Money Manager is not an investment advisory service of USAA.

²Systematic investing and automatic contributions are investment strategies and do not protect against losses or guarantee that an investor's goal will be met.



MEET “ISSAC”

Issac is an active duty servicemember

Age: 23

Single

Rents an apartment off base

ISSAC DAVILA

Issac enlisted right out of high school and has been on active duty for the last five years. He's focused on the job at hand and lives in the moment, going from paycheck to paycheck. So he hasn't taken much time to wrap his head around planning or saving. He's thinking about leaving the military, but isn't really aware of everything that's involved or how civilian life might affect his wallet.



PREPARING FOR MILITARY SEPARATION

If you're planning on leaving the military like Issac, our **Military Separation Checklist**, **Military Separation Assessment Tool** and **Job Finder Tool** can help you make informed decisions, prep for the transition and adjust to your new life as a civilian.

➤ **Plan for your military separation at usaa.com/leavingthemilitary.**

Contact a USAA Financial Advisor

Get your Financial Readiness Score and action plan

Set up a budget

Pay down debt

Determine post-military income needs

Assess your insurance needs

Research post-military career fields

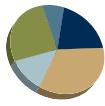
Explore what you can do with your TSP

Information about non-USAA accounts is governed by the User Agreement. USAA's personal financial management services are not sponsored or endorsed by any third party.

¹Systematic investing and automatic contributions are investment strategies and do not protect against losses or guarantee that an investor's goal will be met.

Some mutual funds may require differing initial minimum investment.

The individuals portrayed herein are fictional and are not intended to represent any actual USAA Member. The use of fictional persons should not be viewed as an endorsement of USAA, or any of USAA's products or services, by any actual Member. The scenarios provided herein are for general informational purposes only, should not be considered personalized investment advice or a specific recommendation for your particular situation, and do not guarantee or predict future results.



KNOWING WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

For members like Issac, it's time to take the very first step: Get serious about how you handle your money, and create a spending plan. Look at everything coming in and going out of all your accounts, so you can see where every dollar is being spent. Once you know where your money goes, you can find ways to save.

USAA® Money Manager can help.

- Track spending across all your accounts, even non-USAA ones
- See where your money goes in real time
- Create personalized categories
- Set spending and saving targets based on your goals
- Make adjustments as you go

» **Get started at usaa.com/moneymanager.**



CREATING A SAVINGS CUSHION

Once Issac gets a handle on his spending, his next move will be to make adjustments and start carving out a little for savings. Building an emergency fund to cover three to six months of expenses can help keep unexpected costs from turning into unwanted debt. Set a target amount and use direct deposits or automatic transfers from your checking account into a savings account to get the ball rolling.

» **Build your emergency fund at usaa.com/goals.**



» WHAT'S NEXT?

When you start to get a little money saved up, **find a place to put it to work**. A Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) or Individual Retirement Account (IRA) can be a gateway into investing that offers tax benefits too. With a USAA IRA, you can choose from a variety of funds and **start investing with as little as \$50/month!** **Explore our IRAs at usaa.com/ira.**



MEET “THE PAULINGS”

Jason works as a researcher

Ashley is a homemaker

Ages: Both 25

They have one son, age 2

Renting, but hoping to buy a home

JASON AND ASHLEY PAULING

Jason and Ashley are experiencing many changes. With the exciting birth of their son, they’re adjusting to life as new parents. They want to buy a new home and larger car for their growing family, but increasing expenses are making that a challenge. They’ve drained their savings to prepare a nursery and are spending more on groceries these days. To help cover some of these new costs, Jason stopped contributing to his 401(k). But now that they’re looking toward the future, they’re ready to get back on the path to saving for it.



RAISING A CHILD

On average, it costs over \$245,340 to raise a child until the age of 18.¹ That’s not including the cost of college. How you manage added expenses affects your future. Reexamine your priorities, plan for new costs and avoid overspending on big-ticket items so you have room to save.

➤ Get help preparing for family life at usaa.com/family.



¹ According to “Expenditures on Children by Families,” 2013, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion. Miscellaneous Publication No. 1528-2013, August 2014.

The individuals portrayed herein are fictional and are not intended to represent any actual USAA Member. The use of fictional persons should not be viewed as an endorsement of USAA, or any of USAA’s products or services, by any actual Member. The scenarios provided herein are for general informational purposes only, should not be considered personalized investment advice or a specific recommendation for your particular situation, and do not guarantee or predict future results.



SAVING FOR IMPORTANT THINGS

With growing needs and wants, it's key to stay organized, set realistic goals and plan together to save for what matters. Our Goals Planning Tool puts you in control and helps you with your financial goals.

- Set a savings goal for a new home, car, emergency fund and more
- Contribute what you can, when you can
- Track your progress



➤ Set a goal at usaa.com/goals.

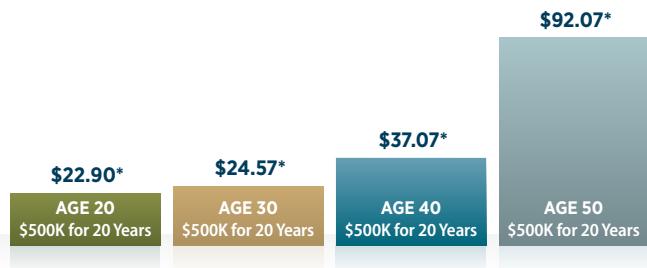


PROTECTING WHAT YOU HAVE AND WHO YOU LOVE

Having a family brings the added responsibility of protecting your financial stability. Life insurance can help make sure your loved ones are taken care of should something unexpected happen to you. Our Life Insurance Calculator shows you how much coverage you may need.

➤ Calculate your needs at usaa.com/lifecalculator.

The younger you are when you buy life insurance, the lower your monthly premium may be.²



*Annual premiums per month.

²USAA Life Level Term V: These quotes are for the best risk class we offer. Risk class is determined by factors such as tobacco use, health, family medical history and lifestyle. Your premium is determined by underwriting review. Coverage is level for the duration of the policy. Premiums remain level for the duration of the Initial Benefit Period, then increase annually while benefits remain the same. Form LLT49045ST 01-05 (may vary by state). In New York, New York Term Series V: Form NLT45861NY 01-04. Call for details on specific policy costs, benefits, limitations and availability in your state.

➤ WHAT'S NEXT?

After a big life change, get a handle on your daily expenses first, and then **recommit to your long-term goals**. Find a way to at least take advantage of your employer's 401(k) matching benefits. Then look to save for your child's future. Retirement savings should come before college savings. **Get started at usaa.com/investing.**



MEET “THE CLARKS”

Both are active duty servicemembers;
Keith is currently deployed

Ages: 30 and 32

They have one daughter, age 5

Recently purchased a home

MICHELLE AND KEITH CLARK

Michelle and Keith have been through many of the same life changes the Paulings have experienced. With the added responsibilities of providing for their family, making home and car payments, and the challenges of living in a dual active duty family, the Clarks are in a rough spot financially and debt is starting to mount. While Keith is deployed, the couple's income is getting a boost from combat pay and tax advantages, but Michelle is struggling to find a way to make the most of it.



ATTACKING DEBT HEAD ON

When you're dealing with debt, it's hard to build for the future. The first step to getting out of debt is to quit adding more. Build a small emergency fund to create a savings cushion, and then use any extra income to take down your debt and get your goals back on track. Focus on your highest-interest debt first. Our Debt Manager Tool can show you how to do it.

1. Plug in all your credit and loan balances.
2. See what you're paying now.
3. Get suggestions on how to pay your debt more efficiently.

➤ **Start tackling your debt at usaa.com/debt.**



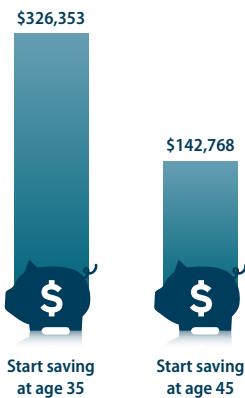
The individuals portrayed herein are fictional and are not intended to represent any actual USAA Member. The use of fictional persons should not be viewed as an endorsement of USAA, or any of USAA's products or services, by any actual Member. The scenarios provided herein are for general informational purposes only, should not be considered personalized investment advice or a specific recommendation for your particular situation, and do not guarantee or predict future results.



KEEPING YOUR FUTURE IN SIGHT

While handling debt is priority one, it's crucial to keep an eye on saving for your future. Start early, start small, and stay committed to keep your goals within reach. TSPs, 401(k)s and IRAs are great ways to do it.

➤ **Get started at usaa.com/investing.**



Total savings at age 65

Both save \$100 a month. Example assumes 8% rate of return. Examples given are hypothetical illustrations and not necessarily an indication of the benefits or features of any USAA product.



TARGETING YOUR RETIREMENT GOALS

Retirement may seem far away right now, but it's never too early to start planning for the day you want to settle down and stop working. Our Target Retirement Funds¹ offer a simplified solution to help you invest for the future with a goal in mind. And with systematic investing, you can open an account with just \$500 and contribute as little as \$50 a month.²

➤ **Invest for the future at usaa.com/targetfund.**

Consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the USAA Mutual Funds carefully before investing. Download a prospectus containing this and other information about the funds from USAA Investment Management Company, Distributor. Read it carefully before investing.

As interest rates rise, existing bond prices fall.

Investing in securities products involves risk, including possible loss of principal.

¹The risks of the Target Retirement Funds reflect the risks of the underlying funds in which the funds invest. The target date is the approximate date when investors plan to start withdrawing their money for retirement purposes. In general, the Target Retirement Funds' investment program assumes funds will start being withdrawn for retirement purposes at age 65. The principal value of the Target Retirement Funds is not guaranteed at any time, including at the target date. The funds' objectives do not change over time. Mutual fund operating expenses apply and continue throughout the life of the fund. Rebalancing does not protect against a loss or guarantee that an investor's goal will be met. Diversification is a technique to help reduce risk. There is no absolute guarantee that diversification will protect against a loss of income. Asset allocation does not protect against a loss or guarantee that an investor's goal will be met.

²Systematic investing and automatic contributions are investment strategies and do not protect against losses or guarantee that an investor's goal will be met.

➤ WHAT'S NEXT?

Once you get your debt under control, **start using those savings to invest for the future.** You can make automatic contributions every month, so you won't even miss the money. Put time on your side and invest early and often.

Get started at usaa.com/investing.

Investments/Insurance: Not FDIC Insured • Not Bank Issued, Guaranteed or Underwritten • May Lose Value

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

USAA products are available only in those jurisdictions where USAA is authorized to sell them.

Use of the term "member" or "membership" does not convey any eligibility rights for auto and property insurance products or legal or ownership rights in USAA. Membership eligibility and product restrictions apply and are subject to change.

There may be tax consequences associated with the transfer of assets. Indirect transfers may be subject to taxation and penalties. Consult with your own advisors regarding your particular situation.

The Debt Manager Tool is intended to help users evaluate their current debt situation and to provide illustrative examples of how to reduce debt based on the basic information entered. The Tool does not consider detailed individual situations or facts and does not request information about or consider the effect of the delinquency or default status of any debt entered into the Tool. It does not take into account inflation, an increase or decrease in interest rates over time, or additional purchases or increases in the debt balances listed. The Tool is not intended to and should not be construed to provide credit counseling or offer any tax, legal or financial advice. Before taking action, seek personalized advice from a qualified professional.

USAA or its affiliates do not provide tax advice. Taxpayers should seek advice based upon their own particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor.

Investments provided by USAA Investment Management Company and USAA Financial Advisors, Inc., both registered broker dealers.

Financial planning services and financial advice provided by USAA Financial Planning Services Insurance Agency, Inc. (known as USAA Financial Insurance Agency in California, License # 0E36312), a registered investment adviser and insurance agency, and its wholly owned subsidiary, USAA Financial Advisors, Inc., a registered broker dealer.

A Financial Readiness Score should not be used as the primary basis for making investment or financial decisions. A Financial Readiness Score provides a basic assessment based upon your answers to questions, but it does not guarantee financial success or replace more detailed financial planning. Consider your own financial circumstances and goals carefully before investing or purchasing financial products. Before making any decision, consult your own tax, financial or legal advisors regarding your situation.

Life insurance and annuities provided by USAA Life Insurance Company, San Antonio, TX, and in New York by USAA Life Insurance Company of New York, Highland Falls, NY. All insurance products are subject to state availability, issue limitations, and contractual terms and conditions. Each company has sole financial responsibility for its own products.

The contents of this document are not intended to be, and are not, legal or tax advice. The applicable tax law is complex, the penalties for non-compliance are severe, and the applicable tax law of your state may differ from federal tax law. Therefore, you should consult your tax and legal advisors regarding your specific situation.

No Department of Defense or government agency endorsement.

USAA means United Services Automobile Association and its affiliates.

© 2015 USAA. 207397-0115

CHECKLIST:

IT'S TIME TO TAKE ACTION.

Now that you've read the stories and thought about your own situation, it's your turn to start planning for your future. Call a USAA Financial Advisor at 800-235-0482 to discuss your goals, and use this checklist to help guide you along the way.

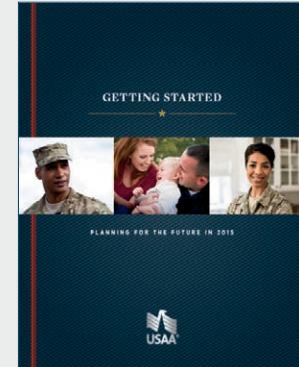
- Talk to a USAA Financial Advisor
- Get your Financial Readiness Score and action plan
- Create a spending plan
- Build an emergency fund
- Invest in your employer-sponsored plan
- Reduce your debt
- Open a retirement account
- Research your investment choices
- Examine your life/health insurance needs
- Prepare for your child's education costs
- Map out a military separation plan

ADVICE FOR EVERY STAGE OF LIFE.

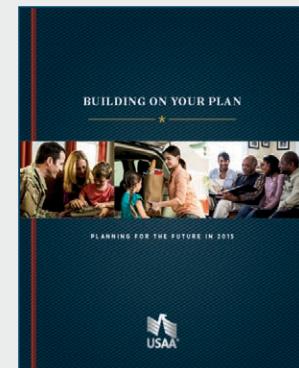
At USAA, we're here every step of the way to help you reach your goals. For more advice about planning for the future, check out our other guides.

➤ **Visit usaa.com/planningguide or call 800-235-0482 to get yours today.**

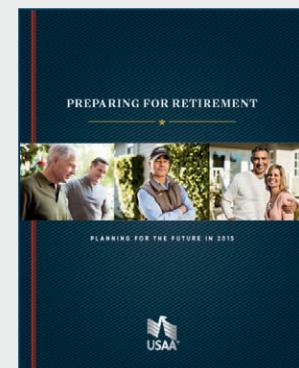
YOU
ARE
HERE



GETTING STARTED



BUILDING ON YOUR PLAN



PREPARING FOR RETIREMENT





9800 Fredericksburg Road
San Antonio, TX 78288

© 2015 USAA. 207397-0115

Talk to a USAA Financial Advisor today.

CALL 800-235-0482
OR VISIT USAA.COM/RETIREMENT

