

Message to FMNet Members from COL Eric F. Zellars:

Teammates,

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as the 39th Commandant of the United States Army Financial Management School and Chief of the Finance Corps. The past two years have been challenging and extremely rewarding. I can't think of a better way to end my tenure as a Soldier, than serving the Finance Corps. All credit, for any measure of success the Army Financial Management School achieved during my tenure, should be bestowed upon the committed Soldiers and Civilians of the Soldier Support Institute, the Army Financial Management School, and the Operational Force. They work tirelessly each day to ensure our FM community is trained, relevant, and ready. These are the true heroes.

I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve this great nation in uniform and to serve with exceptional Soldiers and Civilians who make our Army and our country great.

Kathy and I wish you all the best. Take Care and Godspeed.

"To Support and Serve"

"Learn To Do By Doing"

"Cash is King"

v/r,

Eric F. Zellars

"Soldier for Life"

View the FMNet Message in HTML at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-417937> in order to take advantage of milBook capabilities.

Announcements:

1. **(NEW) CHANGE OF COMMANDANT.** On the eve of Colonel Zellars' retirement, we thank him for his service and leadership as the 39th Commandant of the Army Financial Management School, and wish the best for him and Kathy. In turn, we welcome Colonel Hoerner as the 40th Commandant and his wife Debbie, and we are eager for what the future holds. Visit the FMS One Stop (www.finance.army.mil) to find out more about Colonel Hoerner from his biography under the "Leader" tab towards the top or in the Command Group section on the left.

2. **(NEW) AIT GRADUATION.** Please welcome and congratulate the newest members of the Finance Corps and Regiment. Twenty-three Soldiers of class 014-17 graduated from Financial Management Technician Advanced Individual Training (AIT) during a ceremony on 19 October, led throughout by their instructor SSG (P) John L. Bradshaw. These Soldiers are now authorized to wear the Finance Corps branch insignia and the Regimental Crest. Congratulations to: SPC Josias Sanchez the Distinguished Honor Graduate, PFC Kent R. Shelton the Class Values awardee and Commandant's List recipient, PFC Jacob L. White the Distinguished Leadership awardee and Commandant's List, PFC Carlos D. Garfias Commandant's List recipient, PVT Wyatt C. Miller the Iron Soldier awardee, and all graduating Soldiers on their achievement of successfully completing AIT. Welcome to the Corps and we look forward to seeing you in our formations.

FMNet Moderator Point of Contact:

Grant Robitzsch

Office: (803) 751-3877 -or- virgil.g.robitzsch.ctr@mail.mil

General News and Information:

1. **(NEW)** SMA SENDS. Starting 1 January 2018, Active Duty Service members with fewer than 12 years of service as of 31 December 2017, and those Reserve Component Service members with less than 4,320 points will have until 31 December 2018 to decide to remain in the current system or opt into the Blended Retirement System. Read the rest of SMA Dailey's message at <https://benningnews.org/2017/10/26/brs-training/>
2. **(NEW)** MILITARY PAY TRANSITION. From the S1NET: IPPS-A is coming! To streamline the transition of responsibility for the administration of Military Pay to the HR community, the Army G-1 and USAFMCOM are deploying a Military Pay Transition Course for HR Professionals throughout the Army. This transition course begins as a pilot on 30 October with the intent of going Army wide in the spring of 2018. The information, courseware and associated documentation is available on S1NET at: <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/community/spaces/apf/s1net/military-pay-transition-training-for-hr-professionals/>
3. **(NEW)** NEWS FROM THE FIELD. "Around the Corps" is a new feature on the FMNet for you to share good news, stories, or ideas. Take advantage of this feature and contribute a discussion, document, blog entry, or an idea. Look to the FMNet for the dropdown menu to make your selection and keep other Financial Managers informed of what is going on.
4. **(NEW)** GCSS-A. In the November-December 2017 issue of Army Sustainment Magazine, BG Rodney Fogg's article "GCSS-Army: Providing Big Data for Readiness" describes how GCSS-A provides materiel management information allowing commanders to make decisions concerning sustainment functions. <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-414132>
5. **(NEW)** JOIN THE DISCUSSIONS. Read through two recent threads on the FMNet and weigh-in with your perspective of operating in a degraded environment (<https://www.milsuite.mil/book/thread/187681>) and one FMNet Member's inquiry of best practices of funds control (<https://www.milsuite.mil/book/thread/187327>)

Upcoming Events (times are Eastern Time):

1. GFEBs Scheduled Maintenance – primary GFEBs application (ERP), Business Intelligence (BI), and Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) tool tentatively unavailable from Saturday, 28 October at 1600 to Sunday, 29 October at 1800 for Production Maintenance. Also, bookmark the GFEBs FY18 Functional Processes calendar on AKO at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/doc/43701499> to view planned maintenances and other events. To receive emails of scheduled outages or if you have any questions, please contact the GFEBs Helpdesk at Army.GFEBs.Helpdesk@mail.mil or 1-866-757-9771 (+1-541-429-6442 internationally). Users can also submit Helpdesk requests through Self-Service at <https://remedyweb.gfebs-erp.army.mil>
2. SYSTEM OUTAGE. The Ultimate Training Environment System (UTES) is unavailable due to scheduled maintenance from 18 through 28 December 2017, 30 March through 7 April 2018, 22 through 30 June 2018, and 21 through 29 September 2018.

Training Opportunities:


1. DEFENSE COMPTROLLERSHIP PROGRAM (DCP). The suspense date to submit application packets for the DCP is 31 October 2017. Visit <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-399954> for more information.


2. USAFMCOM hosts mandatory Quarterly Electronic-Commerce Systems Training at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston for select personnel of FORSCOM deploying Financial Management Organizations from 13 to 17 November 2017. For planning purposes, Calendar Year 2018 class dates are scheduled for 5 to 9 February, 7 to 11 May, 13 to 17 August, or 5 to 9 November 2018. The training audience is limited to 30 attendees and deploying units should contact Mr. Charles 'Tony' Taylor, USAFMCOM EagleCash Program Manager, at their earliest opportunity to schedule course attendance (317) 212-5378, DSN (312) 699-5378, or charles.a.taylor40.civ@mail.mil. A typical course agenda depicting the training subjects and outline is available at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-340991>

MILPER, ALARACT, Army Directives, DFAS, & FORSCOM Resource Management Messages:

1. MILPER Messages are available on the HRC MILPER web page at <https://www.hrc.army.mil/milper/all>
2. ALARACTs are on AKO at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/550282>
3. Army Directives are on the Army Publishing Directorate at <http://www.apd.army.mil/ProductMaps/PubForm/ArmyDir.aspx>
4. DFAS MilPay Messages are available at <https://dfas4dod.dfas.mil/centers/dfasin/library/milpay/policy17/index.htm>
5. **(UPDATED)** DFAS Manual 7097.01, <https://www.asafm.army.mil/dfas.aspx?doc=7097.01>, and DFAS-IN 37-100, <https://www.asafm.army.mil/dfas.aspx?doc=37-100>, with change 12 dated 24 and 25 October, respectively. DFAS-IN 37-1 available at <https://www.asafm.army.mil/dfas.aspx?doc=37-1>
6. FORSCOM Resource Management Messages are available at <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/community/spaces/afms/brigade-s8/content?filterID=contentstatus%5Bpublished%5D~category%5Bforscom-resource-management-messages%5D>

Social Media: Send the links to your peers.

 Join **and Follow** the FMNet by visiting the Army Financial Management School's milBook Community <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/community/spaces/afms>. Sign-in to milSuite with your CAC (signing in establishes your milSuite account if you do not have one). When you reach the FMNet (the Army Financial Management School Community milBook page) look for the "Join" widget on the left and click it. Next, click "Follow" in the upper right and select the option best fitting the manner you desire to follow activity on the FMNet. Approval is automatic. Make sure the above web address is in the browser's address bar after logging-in when looking for the 'join' button.

 Visit the FMtube for video job aids **and subscribe** to receive updates <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrFUP9pi9QR6d4mDZ4-cW8Q>



FM One Stop: Visit the FM One Stop, the Home of the Army Financial Management School, where you will find training resource websites you frequently use <http://www.finance.army.mil/>