



Finance Newsletter



A monthly newsletter published by the 267th Finance Battalion for U.S. Army, Alaska

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Welcome!!

The Finance Newsletter is designed to inform unit commanders, PACs, and Soldiers about current finance issues. Issues include: new finance procedures, current procedures that need to be re-emphasized and changes on the horizon. We recommend units post the Finance Newsletter on their bulletin boards. If you have any questions about the information in this newsletter, please contact your local finance office.

NEED A LEAVE AND EARNING STATEMENT (LES)?

The myPay website now offers 12 months worth of Leave and Earning Statements to Soldiers- 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Log on to myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> to access your last 12 Leave and Earning Statements.

THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN (TSP) NEWS

The next TSP open season is 15 October through 31 December. Soldiers can start or change TSP contributions during this period by using myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> or submitting form TSP-1 to your unit personnel office. Form TSP-1 is available on the TSP website at www.tsp.gov.

TSP has added toll free telephone service to TSP participants and beneficiaries. 1-877-968-3778 (1-TSP-YOU-FRST) for the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands. 1-504-255-8777 for all other international calls.

POWERS OF ATTORNEY

A General Power of Attorney allows family members or a designated representative to receive Leave and Earnings Statements. A General or Special Power of Attorney, with specific language that authorizes changes to military pay, allows an individual to make changes at the finance office. The Judge Advocate General (JAG) offers free Power of Attorney services.

GOVERNMENT TRAVEL CARD

Split disbursement is an easy way of paying government travel card expenses and reduces travel card delinquency. Military travelers who use their government travel charge cards (Bank of America Visa) for TDY expenses must use split disbursement when they file their travel claims. Although not mandatory for civilians, they are encouraged to use split disbursement. Reviewing officials must ensure that all military travelers check the split disbursement box and include an amount in block #1 of the Travel Voucher (DD 1351-2).

PCS ENTITLEMENT NEWS

Effective 1 October, Soldiers married to Soldiers that travel on Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders in the same Privately Owned Conveyance (POC) each receive \$0.15 per mile.

UCFR TIP OF THE MONTH INCENTIVE PAY VERIFICATION

INC PAY (Incentive Pay/Special Duty Assignment Pay)- Soldiers entitled to incentive and special pay will have a “YES” in this column of the Unit Commander’s Finance Report (UCFR). Leaders must verify the actual incentive pay that Soldiers draw by reviewing their LES. Soldiers must be on orders and qualified to continue receipt of the entitlement. If this column is incorrect, annotate it on the UCFR and attach a copy of supporting documents and return to finance.

Incentive Pay examples:

Parachute Duty Pay
Hostile Fire Pay/Imminent Danger Pay
Hardship Duty Pay
Foreign Language Proficiency Pay
Demolition Duty Pay
Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay
Aviation Career Incentive Pay

Special Duty Assignment Pay examples:

Career Counselor
Drill Sergeant
Recruiter

In addition to the UCFR, other leaders in the chain of command (1SG, PL, PSG, SL, Section Leader, etc.) should review/verify Soldiers LES information to identify potential pay problems to the chain of command. Know your Soldiers!

TSP RATES OF RETURN

The following chart displays the rates of return for each of the five funds (G, F, C, S, I) available through TSP for the time period listed (September 2004). Rates are updated monthly. Visit <http://www.tsp.gov> for more information.

	G	F	C	S	I
Sep '04	0.38%	0.29%	1.11%	3.92%	2.05%
Last 12 Months	4.34%	3.61%	13.87%	18.21%	21.63%
Last 10 Years	6.04%	6.95%	10.99%	9.70%	4.32%

FINANCE OFFICE EVENTS

267th Finance Battalion will have minimal staffing on the following dates:

- FRA, 19-31 October due to RED CYCLE.
- FWA, 3-5 Nov FTX.
- FRA/FWA, 11-14 November closed due to Veteran’s Day.
- FRA/FWA, 25-28 November due to Thanksgiving.
- FRA & FWA, every Thursday due to Sergeants’ Time Training (STT).

Visit Our Web Site @

<http://www.usarak.army.mil/267FB/267FB.htm>

Log on and find out about pay tables, regulations, and links to other great sites.

Finance Office Points of Contact		
Office	FRA	FWA
Det Commander	384-2300	353-1336
Det Sergeant	384-2023	353-1390
NCOIC, Military Pay	384-2023	353-1419
Customer Service	384-1172	353-1307 353-1365
Inprocessing/Outprocessing	384-0310	353-1342 353-1387
Travel	384-1163	353-1302
Travel Fax	384-1027	353-1443

ARCTIC PAYMASTERS!

////Original Signed////
STEVEN W. KELLY
LTC, FC
Commanding