

TAKE COMMAND

PROJECT OUTLINE & DESCRIPTION

REQUIREMENT

- 2016 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) mandated financial literacy training be provided to all service personnel
- NDAA mandate outlined 15 touchpoints (11 career and 4 life)
 - A touchpoint is an event in a career or life when the servicemember is provided (touched with) the relevant financial education they need at that point
 - 11 career touchpoints were defined as follows:
 1. During initial training or upon graduation
 2. Arrival at first duty station
 3. Assignment to subsequent duty station or significant PCS (E-4 and below and O-3 and below)
 4. Upon promotion to E-5 or below or O-3 or below
 5. Eligible to vest in TSP
 6. Entitled to receive continuation pay
 7. During leadership training
 8. During pre-deployment training and post deployment training
 9. Transition from active to reserve status
 10. Separation from service
 11. Retirement from active duty
 - 4 life touchpoints
 1. Disabling illness or injury
 2. Getting engaged/married
 3. Birth of 1st child
 4. Getting divorced

CURRENT STATUS

- First Command Educational Foundational (FCEF) is developing the *Take Command* curriculum to address all NDAA requirements with the following parameters:
 - Comprehensive and online
 - Proof of student completion
 - Reporting mechanisms for services to measure program success
 - Competency-based design to provide flexibility to the student and service
 - (Pending) Continuing education and college credit awarded through Norwich University
- United States Coast Guard currently conducting pilot program to test curriculum

TAKE COMMAND COURSE OUTLINE

- Our curriculum Consists of 16 learning paths to align with NDAA touchpoints, (Current FCEF plan is to present pre/post deployment as a learning path)
 - Learning path is the same as a touchpoint
 - A learning path is the method used in Blackboard Learning Management System to group courses together
 - Learning path is the term for “touchpoint” seen by students
- Each learning path (touchpoint) will have 1 or more courses
 - Current estimate is 25 courses total across all 16 learning paths
- Each course will have one or more lessons
 - Current estimate is 135 lessons across all 16 learning paths
- Example pathway: Initial Training/Upon graduation: Completion time - 4 hours
 - Consists of 6 Courses/29 lessons
 1. Financial Risks Faced by Servicemembers (7 lessons)
 2. Your Attitudes, Your Habits, Your Money (4 lessons)
 3. Understanding Your Payslip (5 lessons)
 4. Create a Basic Spending Plan (4 lessons)
 5. Introduction to a Financial Plan (4 lessons)
 6. Understanding Banking Services (5 lessons)
 - Time
 1. Lesson: Our goal is to keep each lesson at 3 – 10 minutes long
 2. Course: Our goal is for each course to take 45-60 minutes.

TAKE COMMAND REQUIREMENTS

- Curriculum is competency-based
- The competency is assessed via a final test
- Passing grade for each assessment is 80%
 - Student may take assessment as many times as necessary to achieve 80%
 - For each area missed, feedback refers the student to lessons to review
 - Student will decide if they review content before attempting re-assessment
 - Each assessment consists of at least one core question plus questions from a pool of questions
 - Each retake of the assessment will randomly select questions (outside of the core) from question pools
 - Question order and response order is randomized
- Course requirements mandatory for each student
 - Initial survey for each learning path
 - Baseline knowledge pre-test for each course
 - Final assessment per course
 - Course feedback surveys (lesson surveys are offered, but not required)
- Printable certificates are available per each course and each learning path

TAKE COMMAND SCREENSHOTS

- Student has been assigned Initial Entry learning path by FCEF Administrator
- Following screenshot examples are provided:
 - Student Landing Page
 - Course Landing Page (Financial Risks Faced by Servicemembers)
 - Lesson Selected from Menu (1. Facts and Factors)
 - Lesson Exercise (2. Predatory Lending)

STUDENT LANDING PAGE

Student can easily see progress through assigned courses

Clicking the course name launches the course page

Assigned Learning Paths (Touch points) appear as tabs with the courses listed and completion status.

COURSE LANDING PAGE

Brief description of the course and where to find course completion instructions.

LESSON SELECTED FROM THE MENU

The screenshot shows the First Command Educational Foundation website. On the left is a navigation menu with sections: '0105 Financial Risks Faced by Servicemembers', 'Welcome', 'Getting Started', 'Pre-Test', 'Lessons', 'Instructions', 'Course Completion'. Under 'Lessons', items 1 through 7 are listed. A mouse cursor is over '1. Facts and Factors'. The main content area shows the selected lesson page for '1. Facts and Factors', including an introduction and a 'Lesson 1 Student Comments' section. Three callout boxes provide additional information: one at the top right states 'Lessons are 3 - 10 minutes, with interesting visuals, audio and interactive exercises.'; one pointing to the 'Lesson 1 Student Comments' section states 'Feedback at the lesson level is optional.'; and one pointing to the menu item states 'Student selects a lesson from the menu in any order.'

LESSON EXERCISE

The screenshot shows the 'Predatory Lending' lesson exercise interface. It features a 'Menu' bar at the top left and an 'Exit' button at the top right. The main area is titled 'Explore' and contains a 'File' tab with a 'BACKGROUND:' section (describing a trip and a \$500 need) and a 'CHALLENGE:' section (asking for the best choice). Below the challenge is a 'Review the lesson' button. To the right are four choice buttons: 'Consider a loan from Sam's Title Loans', 'Consider borrowing money from friends and family', 'Consider using your credit card and paying it off within the year', and 'Consider waiting until next year'. A callout box points to the choice buttons, stating 'Student selects a choice and receives feedback.'