

October 2017

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Save the Date:

ASMC Fall Social will be held on 11/8/17 to celebrate the chapter's 50th Anniversary. A fall social e-mail will be out soon!

October luncheon is TBD. A luncheon e-mail will be out soon!

Future Meeting Announcements:

ASMC Board Meeting on Wednesday October 25, 2017 at 3:00 pm in room 2911G.

**The ASMC Times is the newsletter of the Cleveland Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers. Views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of federal agencies. Items for inclusion are welcome and should be sent to: ASMC Cleveland Chapter, P.O. Box 99907, Cleveland, Ohio 44199-0907. Phone number is (216) 204-7639. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content, length, grammar and spelling."

ASMC CLEVELAND TIMES



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Congratulations on successfully completing another fiscal-year end. The extra work and long hours have paid off. Despite the additional stress, you persevered through it. You adapted to the unexpected. You overcame challenges, obstacles and came together as a team. Reflect on your success and celebrate your accomplishment.

"I know the price of success: dedication, [hard work](#) and an unremitting devotion to the things you want to see happen." –Frank Lloyd Wright

On another note, it's time for the annual Walk For Wishes on Saturday, October 7 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Walk For Wishes is a nationwide Make-A-Wish® fundraiser that celebrates the more than 285,000 wishes that have already been granted, while raising funds for future wishes. It's a family-friendly event powered by wish families, volunteers, donors and friends. You can help bring the life-changing impact of a wish to children in our community who are battling life-threatening medical conditions.

Happy Columbus Day to all. Enjoy the long weekend.

-John

NATIONAL NEWS

An Analysis of the President's 2018 Budget

"Under the President's proposals, budget deficits from 2018 through 2027 would total nearly one-third less than those in CBO's baseline projections, ranging between 2.6 percent and 3.3 percent of GDP, down from 3.6 percent in 2017."

Read the source and summary [HERE](#)

[CDFM Refresher Training Information](#)

[Compendium of Open Office of Inspector General Recommendations to the DoD](#)

[H.R.244 - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017](#)

See more *Defense and Budget Financial Management Highlights on the ASMC website*
(www.asmc.org)



CDFM

The CDFM remains a prestigious credential, as only 14% of the 54,000 defense financial managers currently possess it; only 3% also possess the CDFM-A (Acquisition) credential. For those of you considering pursuit of the CDFM, I urge you to take the steps to achieve this goal now! The demands of the fiscal environment over the past few years certainly indicate that knowledge and analytical skills across the range of FM disciplines is beneficial. The CDFM certification is fundamental to establishing a broad set of financial management skills. It also enables DoD and USCG leaders to be confident in hiring CDFMs or CDFM-As, knowing they have demonstrated initiative and drive in achieving a certification focused upon knowledge and skills directly applicable to requirements of positions within our profession.

Now that the DoD FM Certification Program (DFMCP) has reached its first major milestone and over 32,000 FMers have achieved it, the shift from earning to maintaining the certification has begun. As a reminder, the DFMCP "recommends" and "strongly recommends" that FMers at Level 2 and Level 3 respectively, also obtain a "test-based" certification. The CDFM is among the group of test-based certifications recognized by the DFMCP, and, obviously it is the certification most closely related to the profession of defense financial management. Achieving a test-based certification and maintaining mandatory CPEs, are key-stones of demonstrating professionalism and commitment to high standards.

Whether you are at the journeyman level or an experienced defense financial manager, the CDFM Certification Program offers the type of recognized and prestigious credential that remains relevant, provides a solid foundation supporting professional development, identifies you as an individual with the initiative to enhance your skills, distinguishes you as a respected professional with knowledge across all areas of defense financial management, and increases your employment opportunities within the public and private sector.

CDFM INFORMATION



Module Frequently Asked Questions about the Certified Defense Financial Management Exam

Q: What steps do I have to take in order to enroll for the CDFM exam?

A: You may enroll for the exam online, or by mailing the paper CDFM Enrollment form to ASMC Headquarters. If you are an ASMC member, you may complete the paper CDFM Enrollment form and send it to Jason Ward at Jason.L.Ward53.civ@mail.mil. After your application is accepted, you will receive an Authorization Letter or email from ASMC with your candidate ID number and the procedures to follow in registering for the modules examinations. Enrollment forms may be found at the following website: www.asmc certification.com/certification/cdfmforms/program-enrollment

Q: How long do I have to pass the CDFM exam?

A: You will have two years from the date of your Authorization Letter to complete the three module examinations required for the CDFM Program. There is a fourth, OPTIONAL module that if taken and passed, you will earn a CDFM with an acquisition specialty (CDFM-A).

Q: Do I have to take all three modules at the same time?

A: No. You may take module examinations one at a time, in any combination, or in any order.

Q: What is the difference between the CDFM, CGFM and the Federal Financial Management Certificate Program?

A: ASMC offers the CDFM program to persons interested in displaying proficiency in the core aspects of defense financial management. The CGFM is more applicable to general government financial management – federal, state and local. The Federal Financial Management Certificate Program is offered through Management Concepts and involves taking a variety of courses in order to complete.

Q: What are the benefits of obtaining a CDFM?

A: The Under Secretary of Defense, Robert F. Hale (CDFM) says “earning a CDFM proves that an employee has obtained the knowledge and experience to become certified and adhere to a code of ethics and professionalism.” Additionally, the CDFM may:

- set you apart from others
- lead to career advancement
- give you the opportunity to serve in leadership positions

Q: Is it required to take the Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Course (EDFMTC) in order to sit for the CDFM exam?

A: No, however, the course is a great way to prepare for the exam.

Q: What are the best ways to prepare for the exam?

A: The best way to prepare for the exam depends on your own personal studying methods. The Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Course (EDFMTC) textbook is provided to those who attend the one-week training course. ASMC-Cleveland has two copies of the EDFMTC textbook that may be checked out by ASMC members.

CDFM INFORMATION CONT.

Q: Will passing the CDFM exam get me a promotion?

A: No, a promotion is not guaranteed after passing the CDFM exam.

Q: What are the educational requirements to sit for the exam?

A: You must have a high school diploma or equivalent.

Q: What is the financial management experience requirement to sit for the exam?

A: You do not have to satisfy the experience requirement in order to sit for the exam. However, after you pass the exam, you must satisfy one of the following experience requirements BEFORE being issued your CDFM certificate: Complete 4 years of federal government related financial management experience (with an associate degree or higher) - OR- Complete 3 years of Defense related financial management experience (without a degree) -OR- Complete 2 years of Defense related financial management experience (with an associate, bachelor or higher degree).

Q: If I do not have any financial management experience, can I still enroll in the EDFMT class?

A: Yes.

Q: What are the fees associated with obtaining and maintaining a CDFM?

Enrollment Fee for Non ASMC Members	\$75.00
Enrollment Fee for ASMC Members	\$40.00
Extension of Enrollment Fee for Non ASMC Members	\$85.00
Extension of Enrollment Fee for ASMC Members	\$75.00
Module One Examination	\$99.00
Module Two Examination	\$99.00
Module Three Examination	\$99.00
Module Four Examination	\$99.00
Re-examination per module	\$99.00
Renewal of Certification (Every 24 months after obtaining CDFM)	\$25.00

Q: How do I receive reimbursement for my CDFM Examination fees?

A: You must first fill out a SF1164 with supervisor's signature in Block 8. Along with this form, verification of payment of the exam and verification of passing the exam must be emailed or faxed to DFASCERTIFICATIONREIMBURSEMENT@DFAS.MIL or 317-510-2116/2195.

Q: Are CDFMs required to earn a certain amount of CPEs per year?

A: CDFMs are required to renew their certification with ASMC every two years. CDFMs must complete at least 80 hours of CPE in every 2 year period once the certification has been issued.

Q: As a CDFM, are you required to be a member of ASMC?

A: Members who earned their CDFM are encouraged to maintain their membership with ASMC.

Q: What is the latest version of the Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Class Textbook?

A: As of 2/29/2012, the latest version of Textbook for Module 1-3 is 2013A and for the Module 4 textbook is March 2011.

For more information, please email either Jason Ward at Jason.L.Ward53.civ@mail.mil or Kira Swanson at Kira.Swanson.civ@mail.mil

Member News

Member News

Greetings members!

If you're a DFAS employee who has been wanting to sit for the CDFM exams and you haven't already taken the EDFMT course, now is the time to self-nominate. The next annual class is scheduled for December 11-15, 2017. It fills up quickly as it's only brought on-site once a year, so don't delay!

To self-nominate, visit the DFAS Portal, click the "My DFAS Training Dashboard" link, and search for classes scheduled for Cleveland. Note that the class should be added to your Individual Development Plan (IDP) prior to self-nomination to increase your chances of making the class roster - those with the class in their IDP will receive priority.

Respectfully,
ASMC Cleveland's CDFM Subcommittee



Save money on your CDFM Enrollment Fee

Have you been looking for ways to give your resume an edge, or thinking about honing your financial management skills? If you haven't already, consider earning your Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) certification.

There has never been a better time to enroll in the CDFM Program! For the month of October, the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) is discounting the CDFM enrollment fee for ASMC members. ASMC members who enroll in the CDFM Program for the first time pay half price – just \$20! The regular enrollment fee for members is \$40, while the non-member rate is \$75.

If you're not currently an ASMC member, join today to take advantage of the \$20 enrollment fee. That means \$60 will get you a 1-year membership plus 2 years of enrollment in the CDFM program! Note that enrollment in the CDFM Program is *required* in order to sit for CDFM Exams.

Visit <http://www.asmconline.org/membership/join/> to become an ASMC member.

Visit www.asmconline.org/CDFMenroll to sign up for the CDFM Program in October.

Questions about the CDFM Program or Certification? Contact ASMC Cleveland's CDFM Committee: Jason Ward (jason.l.ward53.civ@mail.mil), Kira Swanson (kira.swanson.civ@mail.mil), and Brenda Banks-Hammonds (brenda.d.banks-hammonds.civ@mail.mil) for additional information.

Questions about becoming a member? Contact the ASMC Cleveland Chapter Vice President of Membership, Lillian Powell (lillian.d.powell.civ@mail.mil).

Member News

Member News

Greetings Members,

Please join ASMC on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo for the Walk for Wishes. Walk For Wishes is a nationwide Make-A-Wish fundraiser that celebrates the more than 285,000 wishes that have already been granted, while raising funds for future wishes. It's a family-friendly event powered by wish families, volunteers, donors and friends. By participating and fundraising, you help bring the life-changing impact of a wish to children in our community who are battling life-threatening medical conditions. A wish experience can truly change a child's life, and you can help.

Event Date: Oct 7, 2017

Event Location: Cleveland Metroparks Zoo Event Address: 3900 Wildlife Way Cleveland, OH 44109 Registrations Fees: No fees, but participants are encouraged to raise \$10 to help cover the cost of their entrance into the zoo in order to help grant more wishes.

T-Shirt information: Raise \$100+ and earn an official Walk For Wishes t-shirt!

Event Registration: 7:30am

Event Start Time: 9:00am

Event End Time: 11:30am

Length of Walk: 1 mile

Parking Info: Free parking in the zoo parking lot Are Pets Allowed? No

For more information, please visit the event homepage at:

http://site.wish.org/site/TR?fr_id=2490&pg=entry#.WcVVp2ffOrQ



Member News

Member News

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - Melissa Gill



By: Dan Goliat

Ladies and gentleman, meet Melissa Gill, one of our newest ASMC-CL Chapter members. Melissa is still fairly new to DFAS-CL, as she and her family moved to Cleveland a little over a year ago from Denver, Colorado. She came on board in June of 2016 as an Accountant in AM&C for the Navy Working Capital Fund. She currently is a member of the Leaders in Motion (LIM) program and just finished her rotation in the Departmental Reporting - Undistributed Analysis Division. She is currently working on a Green Belt Project that improves the reconciliation process of the Field Level Accounts Receivable Data (FLARD) to the Unadjusted Trial Balance (UTB). Melissa has a Bachelors Degree in Accounting.

She became a member of ASMC in September 2017 at the recommendation of her mentor and several co-workers. She looks forward to the guest speakers that ASMC has and learning valuable information through them. Melissa also looks forward to obtaining her CDFM.

When Melissa is away from the office she enjoys traveling, interior decorating, sports, church and most importantly spending time with family. She has two boys that are her world.

Favorite Quote:

“Let all that you do be done in love.” - 1 Corinthians 16:14”



Member News

Member News

PHOTO GALLERY FROM RECENT ASMC EVENTS



A picture of the September luncheon crowd.



Deputy Director of Retired and Annuitant Pay Julie Burandt-Partin speaks on "Personal Engagement and Accountability" at the September luncheon.

Member News

Member News



ASMC -CL Chapter VP of Programs Lance Jones presents Julie Burandt-Partin with a Certificate of Appreciation at the September Luncheon.

MEMBER NEWS BULLETIN BOARD

- Dan Goliat obtained his CompTIA Security+ Certification
- Lane Jones, Jason Ward, and Shana Rose all received promotions to Supervisors in Accounting Operations
- Please welcome the newest members of ASMC-CL Chapter: Melissa Gill, Kathryn Huynh, Chris Nadaud, Dzaghig Pounardijian, Tara Simmons, Travis Harris.



ASMC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

ASMC Board Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2017
Last Wednesday of the month, 3:00-4:00PM 2911G

Attendees: John Giammo, Elena Baykal, Jessica Ciccolini, Lillian Powell, Shana Rose, Lance Jones, Jason Denmeade, Lynn Zielaskiewicz

Membership

Next membership drive (coffee/donuts) either 10/11 or 10/18
ASMC Presentation for LIMs on 10/5
We have 7 new members this quarter
Retention/Renewal e-mails sent out on a consistent basis

Nominations

EDFMT Training Announced
E-mail will be sent to all members with information to self-nominate
CDFM discount article will be posted in Oct Newsletter
Scholarship invoice sent to Kearney & Company for sponsorship
There will be 2 Member Scholarships
Looking for input (questions/ideas) for Essay
\$1,000, \$500
Interest survey went out to CDFM/CDFM-A's regarding Pilot testing for new CDFM modules
Response due back to CDFM committee by 10/4

Community Service

Wags for Warriors collection extended through 9/28
Walk for Wishes on 10/7

Treasurer

Working to collect fees for those who missed September Luncheon

Secretary

Newsletter will be distributed week of 10/2
Shared Drive Access will be processed for updates
5-Star Access link provided by Elena for self-registration for John/Shana

Other

DFAS Bridgelines: If you have an issue calling in please keep trying. It is a known issue.

ASMC - Cleveland Chapter
 Finance Report
 Chapter Year 2016/2017
 Fourth Quarter Report
 April 01, 2017 - June 30, 2017

Earnings/ Receipts

Interest Earned	\$	40.73
Luncheons	\$	963.00
Social Events		
Office Expenses		
Conferences/Seminars	\$	16,453.15
Membership Rebates and Dues Collections	\$	1,600.00
Sponsorship		
Miscellaneous		
Total	\$	<u>19,056.88</u>

Expenses

Membership Dues & Subscriptions		
Luncheons	\$	1,339.33
Social Events	\$	52.72
Conferences/Seminars	\$	12,489.46
Scholarship	\$	1,250.00
Gifts		
Office Expenses	\$	82.21
Charitable Contributions		
Promotional	\$	77.82
Miscellaneous		
Total	\$	<u>15,291.54</u>

Beginning Balance: 1 April 2017	\$	<u>25,240.70</u>
Add Earnings/Receipts	\$	19,056.88
Subtract Expenses	\$	<u>(15,291.54)</u>
Ending Balance: 30 June 2017	\$	<u>29,006.04</u>

ASMC CLEVELAND TIMES STAFF

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Visit Us Online At:

<http://www.asmc-cleveland.org/>

ASMC Cleveland Chapter

<http://www.asmonline.org/>

ASMC National

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	John Giammo
President-Elect	Elena Baykal
Vice President—Membership	Lillian Powell
Vice President—Programs	Lance Jones
Vice President—Nominations	Jessica Ciccolini
Treasurer	Matt Pfarr
Secretary	Shana Rose
Past President's Advisory Board	Lou Ockunzzi Frankie Denmeade
	Jessica Ciccolini Jason Denmeade
	Jaelyn Donadio Bryan Conway

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Membership Committee	LCDR Brad Braunaugh
Membership Committee	Jim Caywood
Membership Committee	Jane Mullins
Membership Committee	Perlita Arnold
Membership Committee	Lucinda Holden
Membership Committee	Seung (Jay) Choi
Membership Committee	Julie Coghlan
Education/Scholarship Committee	Kari Vescio
Education/Scholarship Committee	Kelsey Zifzal
Education/Scholarship Committee	Kristen Bendzuck
Treasurer Committee	Gerald Whitsett
Treasurer Committee	Stan Foster
Luncheon Committee	Paul Cotton
Luncheon Committee	Paul Cotton
Special Events Committee	Ashley Platko
Special Events Committee	Jessica Huff
Community Service Committee	Ryan Serne
Community Service Committee	Rechelle Williams
Community Service Committee	Frankie Denmeade
Community Service Committee	Kira Swanson
CDFM Committee	Brenda Banks-Hammonds
CDFM Committee	Jason Ward
CDFM Committee	Dominique Bray
Military Liaison Committee	VACANT
Marketing Committee	Lance Jones
Local PDI	LCDR Brad Braunaugh
Webmaster Committee	

