# MODULE FIVE: Pay and Entitlements

Lifestyles. Insights. Networking. Knowledge. Skills.

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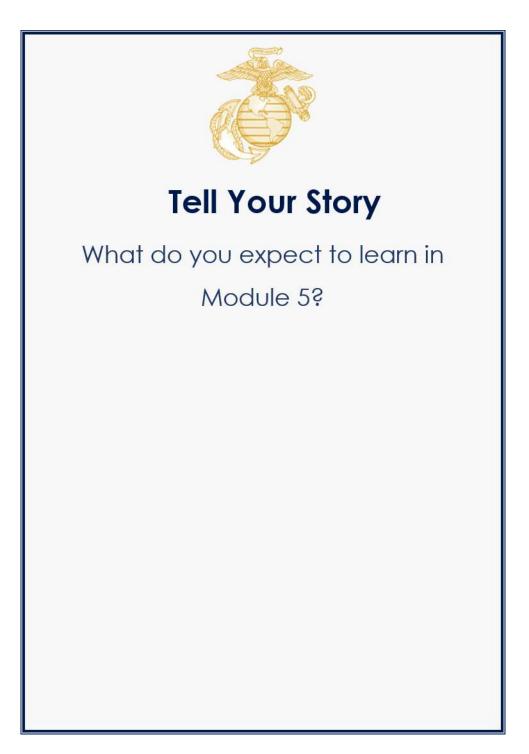
**Foundations** 

Participant Guide





This book belongs to:



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## Welcome!



Finances are important and personal for individuals and families. Knowing how to read and understand a Leave and Earnings Statement (L E S) can aide you in supporting your family's financial goals. The goal of module 5 is to explain the military pay system, including entitlements and earnings.

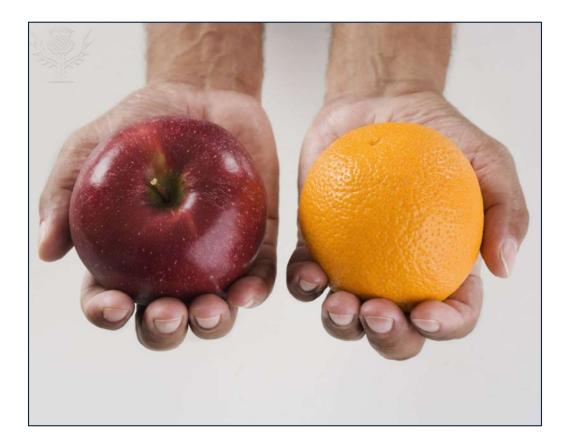
### **Module Objectives**

In this module, you will:

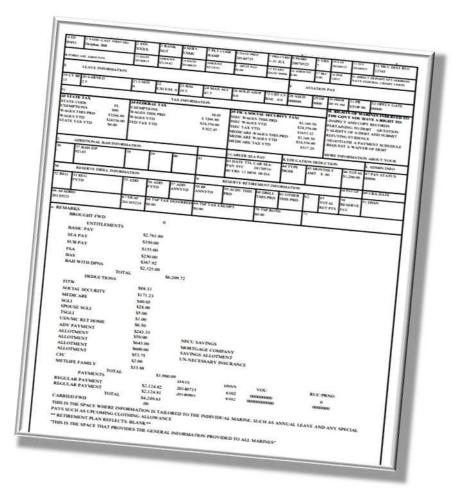
- Read and understand the Leave and Earnings Statement.
- Identify different entitlements and allowances their Marine may receive.
- Explain the basic benefits given to all Service Members and their families.

# Pay vs Allowances

Pay and allowances are different categories of compensation. Taxability is the key difference when we look at these items on the Leave and Earnings Statement (L E S). Anything that ends in Allowance is non-taxable, and anything that ends in Pay is taxable.



# What is an L E S?



Directions: Fill in the blanks on pages 6-8 as the facilitator presents the content.

The Leave and Earnings Statement or L E S is the Marine's

The website that accesses the L E S is

Each L E S has the same formatting, but the information is unique.



True

To access the MyPay website, visit <u>https://mypay.dfas.mil</u>

# Leave and Earnings Statement

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### Identification Information

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### **Administrative Section**

**Directions:** Fill in the blank spaces in the sentences and under each topic with information provided by the course facilitator.

State taxes are based on the

residence of the Marine.

Federal Taxes:

Social Security:

Rights of Marines indebted to the Government:

BAH Zip:

Sea Pay relates to being

Education deductions:

### **Reserve and TSP**

Directions: Fill in the blank spaces with information provided by the course facilitator.

TSP is the acronym for a federally sponsored		plan that stands for
TSP offers the same type of employees under	and plans.	that many private companies offer their

The

(PFM) can assist with

understanding TSP. PFM offers training and education, counseling and information and referrals to commands, service members and military families.

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### **Entitlements and Deductions**

**Directions:** Fill in the blank spaces with information provided by the course facilitator.

#### Entitlements are amounts

, while deductions are the amounts

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L.I.N.K.S. FOUNDATIONS

MODULE FIVE

#### **Pay Entitlements**

**Directions:** Fill in the blank spaces with information provided by the course facilitator.

Base Pay is determined by

and

Proficiency Pay is extra pay that is granted due to proficiency in a designated militaryorFor example, a Marine that becomes proficient in diving.

Pay can be paid for certain hazardous

assignments including demolitions work, flight deck duty, parachuting, flight pay, etc.

**Hostile Fire/Imminent Danger Pay** is for Marines serving within an officially declared fire/imminent danger zones. This is

Duty Assignment Pay (SDA) is given to Marines who choose to undertake duties such as recruiting duty or becoming a drill instructor. This special pay is



### Allowance Entitlements Basic Allowance for Housing

- Non-taxable allowance given to offset the cost of housing.
- Depends upon pay grade, dependents/family members, and duty location (not where the family lives).
- Set by surveyed area rental properties.



NOTES:		

BAH is an allowance based on geographic duty location, pay grade, and dependent status. Therefore, B A H will be higher in high-cost areas and lower in low-cost areas.

B A H is adjusted annually and is based on actual cost-of-living surveys for specific areas defined by zip codes. B A H is intended to pay 80-85% of rental housing costs including utilities. Marines and their families who spending less than their B A H will not have their allowance reduced.

Marines living in Public/Private Venture (PPV) housing will note on their L E S that B A H is given as an entitlement then subtracted as a deduction.

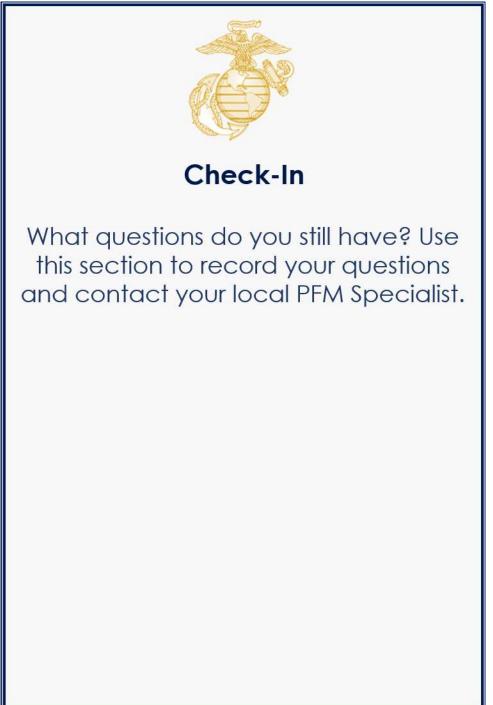
# L.I.N.K.S. FOUNDATIONS Additional Entitlements

**Directions:** Complete the table and the topics about Basic Allowance for Housing Entitlements using the information provided by the course facilitator.

Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)	Clothing Allowance	Dislocation Allowance (DLA)
Family Separation Allowance	Overseas Housing Allowance	Cost of Living Allowance
(FAS)	(OHA)	(COLA)

#### Enlistment/Reenlistment Bonus

No Pay Due



# LI.N.K.S. FOUNDATIONS Standard Deductions

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**Directions:** Complete the table and the topics about Standard Deductions using the information provided by the course facilitator.

Entitlements are amounts

while **deductions** are the amounts

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)	Dental Insurance	Allotments	Government Indebtedness

Visit <u>https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil</u> for more information about SGLI benefits by clicking on 'Manage My SGLI.' You can visit the TRICARE website for more information about dental benefits.

# **Blended Retirement System**



The TSP was covered in the previous section, but not the Blended Retirement System (BRS). Remember the TSP is like a company's 401(k). The BRS is different.

In the past, the Marine could retire once they hit 20 years of active duty and be paid a percentage of their base pay. There were a few different options, but the main point was that if a Marine left before hitting the 20 year mark they would have no retirement besides what they chose to put in their TSP. That has now changed and the BRS was born.

The BRS now gives Marines and all Service Members the opportunity to have a retirement that they can take with them no matter if they spend 2 years or 30 years in the Marines. Electing into the BRS is a very individualized choice based on each Marine and their family. Make an appointment with your installation PFM to learn more about the BRS.

# G.I. Bill





Visit the Base Education Center for all GI Bill inquiries at <a href="https://usmc-mccs.org/services/education/voluntary-education/">https://usmc-mccs.org/services/education/voluntary-education/</a>

- Provides up to 36 months of education benefits with 90 days of active duty service.
- Unused education benefits are transferrable to spouses and children dependents.

- Covers college classes and vocational training.
- Service Members must have at least 6 years of service and commit to an additional four years to transfer benefits.

**Did You Know?** Tuition Assistance (T A) is available for Service Members who are on active duty prior to using their GI Bill.

NOTES:

# **Glossary of Key Terms**

Allotments	Means by which Marines may have certain amounts of money taken directly from their monthly paycheck and sent to a specified place to pay a bill or obligation.
Aviation Pay	Pay of field (pilots and crew) aviators.
ВАН	Basic Allowance for Housing is a non-taxable allowance given to offset the cost of housing when government-sponsored housing is not received.
B A H Zip	The zip code in this box is important because it is what drives the amount of BAH the Marine receives.
BAS	<b>Basic Allowance for Subsistence</b> is a non-taxable allowance meant to offset costs for a Marine's meals.
Base Pay	Standard pay that is based on rank and time in grade/service.
BRS	<b>Blended Retirement System</b> is a retirement system that allows members portability of retirement funds.
Clothing Allowance	Allowance that is provided to enlisted personnel to enable them to care for and replace their uniforms.
COLA	<b>Cost of Living Allowance</b> is an allowance given to Marines who live in high-cost areas overseas and within in the continental United States. COLA is calculated by rank, years of service, and family member status (up to 5).
DLA	<b>Dislocation Allowance</b> is pay that is provided to Marines on Permanent Change of Station (P C S) orders.
G I Bill	A 36-month educational benefit allotted to Service Members who have served a minimum of 90 days active duty after September 10, 2001.
Government Indebtedness	Monies owed to the government due to overpayment or advances.
Hazardous Duty Pay	Pay given for certain hazardous assignments including demolitions work, flight deck duty, parachuting, flight pay, and others.
Hostile Fire/Imminent Danger Pay	Non-taxable pay for Marines serving in an officially declared hostile fire/imminent danger zone(s).
Leave	Marines accrue 2.5 days of leave per month.

#### L.I.N.K.S. FOUNDATIONS

LES	Leave Earning Statement is a military pay stub.
No Pay Due	When a Marine does not receive pay due to circumstances like liquidation of Government indebtedness or incarceration.
ОНА	<b>Overseas Housing Allowance</b> is a housing subsidy that is provided to overseas Service Members instead of BAH.
PFMP	<b>Personal Financial Management Program</b> is the program that provides financial planning resources and counseling services.
Proficiency Pay	Extra pay for proficiency in a designated specialty or skill.
Rights of Marines Indebted to the Government	Withholdings from earnings due to overpayment by the government
S D A	Special Duty Assignment Pay is taxable additional earnings given to Marines who opt
	for recruiting or drill instructor billets.
Sea Pay	For recruiting or drill instructor billets. Pay related to deployments on a ship.
Sea Pay S G L I	
	Pay related to deployments on a ship. Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance is a low-cost group life insurance for Marines
SGLI	<ul> <li>Pay related to deployments on a ship.</li> <li>Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance is a low-cost group life insurance for Marines on active duty.</li> <li>Marines enrolled in the Direct Deposit Program (D D P) can receive a portion of their</li> </ul>

# Notes

# LET'S CONNECT!

Use this page to network with some of your fellow L.I.N.K.S. spouses.

Name:	Name:	
Tel. No:	Tel. No:	
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L . I . N . K . S .

Empowering Marines, Sailors, and their families, by providing the skills and resources necessary to navigate the military lifestyle.