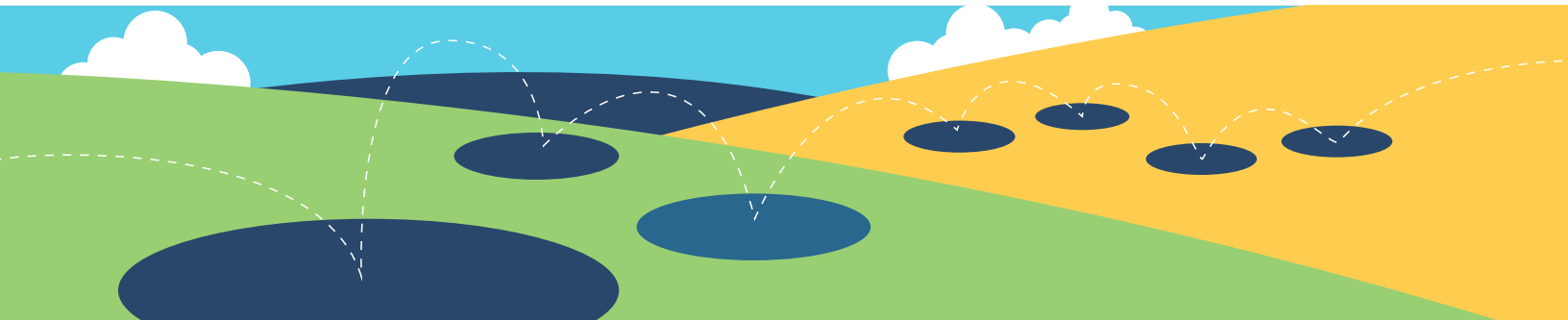




A Helpful Checklist

Follow these steps to a healthy financial future.



1. Start Small and Build Momentum

WHAT TO DO

- ☐ Build an [emergency fund](#) between \$1,000 and \$5,000 to cover unexpected expenses
- ☐ Make a [household budget](#) and evaluate where you can afford to cut costs
- ☐ Enroll in your employer-sponsored retirement plan, saving up to your company's match, if available
- ☐ Contribute to a [health savings account \(HSA\)](#) to cover anticipated current-year medical expenses (if you are enrolled in a high-deductible health plan)

WHY IT MATTERS

Taking control of your day-to-day budget can allow you to focus on the long term.

2. Free Yourself From Short-Term, High-Interest Debt

WHAT TO DO

- ☐ Make a plan to [pay down credit card debt](#)
- ☐ Use your emergency fund instead of credit cards to offset any surprise costs
- ☐ Pay off small balances first; your early success will keep you motivated

WHY IT MATTERS

Eliminating short-term, high-interest credit card debt frees up money to save each month.

3. Tackle Long-Term Debt

WHAT TO DO

- ☐ Consider refinancing your mortgage, student loans, or auto loans to lower interest rates
- ☐ Lessen the burden of future debt by [saving in a tax-advantaged 529 college savings plan](#)

WHY IT MATTERS

Getting rid of long-term debt can help you maximize your savings potential.

4. Balance Remaining Financial Needs

WHAT TO DO

- ☐ Pay off your mortgage and any other long-term debts
- ☐ Give to your favorite charity through [annual donations or a planned gift](#)
- ☐ Establish a financial legacy for your family through estate planning

WHY IT MATTERS

Managing your wealth ensures your hard-earned money goes where you want it.

5. Aim for Higher Savings Goals

WHAT TO DO

- ☐ Gradually increase your retirement savings to a suggested goal of [15% of your annual pay](#); any employer contributions, if provided, count toward the 15% savings goal; over time, maximize your savings by contributing up to the IRS annual limit, and, if applicable, take advantage of any catch-up contributions
- ☐ Gradually increase your [HSA savings](#) to maximize the annual contribution limit
- ☐ Revisit your [emergency fund](#) to cover three to six months of expenses

WHY IT MATTERS

Increasing your savings to the recommended levels can prepare you for the future you imagine.



Don't put your future on hold to pay for today.

Learn more at rps.troweprice.com. From the homepage, click on the Financial Wellness tab.