Build strong financial habits with resources from TIAA, PERA and more [1]

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In addition to traditional benefits, such as health insurance and retirement plans, benefits-eligible employees at the University of Colorado can use a wide range of expert information and tools to help protect and grow their money.

Review the resources below to see what's available and be sure to register for upcoming webinars.

TIAA webinars and resources

The university's mandatory 401(a) [3] and voluntary 403(b) retirement accounts are administered by TIAA. TIAA offers several on-demand resources, including:

- Free one-on-one financial consultations [4] — available in-person, by video conference or over the phone.
- Student loan repayment assistance [5] in partnership with Savi.
- A Financial Essentials [6] video series.
- Recordings of CU employee live webinars [7].

TIAA also hosts monthly financial wellness webinars for CU employees to help them manage their finances, from day-to-day budgeting to long-term savings goals like retirement and college expenses.

See the schedule of TIAA's fall webinars below and register for the sessions relevant to you!

Sept. 24 — What is an annuity: Know the basics
Noon MT

Annuities have been around for more than 2,000 years. But many people don't know much about them. Professionals from TIAA will talk about today's annuities, what makes them unique and how they can help provide financial security for life as part of a long-term financial plan.

Register now [8]

Oct. 22 — Staying safe online: Avoiding cybersecurity threats

Noon MT

Scams are increasing in frequency and format. With knowledge, you can help protect your information and your financial future. In this session, you’ll learn how to stay safe from online attacks, avoid scams designed to compromise your assets and information, and navigate the changing security landscape.

Register now [9]

Nov. 18 — Budgeting workshop: Build smart financial habits for success
Noon MT

Join CU and TIAA for a budgeting workshop and reset your money mindset with a solid financial foundation. This practical session will walk you through the essential building blocks of smart money management to help you feel more confident and in control. This webinar can help you prepare for the upcoming payday schedule change [10].

Register now [11]

PERA webinars and resources

Classified staff and those with prior PERA-eligible state employment may be enrolled in one of the PERA-administered retirement plans — Defined Contribution (DC) [12] or Defined Benefit (DB) [13]. Additionally, all benefits-eligible employees can opt to enroll in one of PERA’s two voluntary retirement accounts [14], the 401(k) and 457 plans.

PERA offers an extensive webinar library [15] for all plan types, including many videos in Spanish. You can either view recorded webinars or register for live ones. Use PERA’s interactive tool [16] to help you decide which webinars to prioritize if you’re not sure where to start.

Don't miss upcomign live webinars:

Purchasing Service Credit Webinar
Sept. 18 at 9 a.m. MT
Nov. 4 at 9:30 a.m. MT

For PERA members still working for a PERA employer and interested in purchasing service credit in their PERA Defined Benefit plan. This workshop helps you determine your eligibility to purchase service credit, the cost of purchasing and how to calculate the effect purchasing service credit could have on your monthly benefit in retirement. Purchasing service credit may help you become eligible to retire sooner, increase your retirement benefit or both, depending on your situation. Learn how the process works and whether it's right for you.

Register now [17]

Enrolling in PERAPlus
Sept. 11 at noon MT
Oct. 2 at 9 a.m. MT
Nov. 11 at noon MT
Dec. 15 at noon MT

No matter what mandatory retirement plan you're enrolled in, PERAPlus 401(k) and 457 volntary plans can help you save more for retirement while offering valuable tax advantages. In the Enrolling in PERAPlus Workshop, hosts will walk you through the easy steps to start saving more for your retirement. Learn how simple it can be to take advantage of a PERAPlus plan and begin building a stronger financial future today.

Register now [18]

Additionally, the PERA resources page [19] includes calculators, plan-specific documents, necessary plan forms, frequently asked questions and more.

CollegeInvest webinars

Colorado offers tax-advantaged 529 college savings plans, managed by CollegeInvest, to help individuals and families save for higher education costs. CollegeInvest hosts quarterly webinars, where attendees receive $50 toward a new 529 account just for participating.

Additionally, the First Step Program [20] helps new parents jumpstart savings with a $121 initial contribution to new accounts for any child born or adopted in Colorado on or after January 1, 2020. Parents or legal guardians who start an account for an eligible child **by Dec. 31, 2026,** can take advantage of this unique one-time benefit. The First Step Program will match your contributions up to $500 per year for three years — up to **$1,500 total** — giving families an even stronger boost as they begin building education savings.

CollegeInvest Webinar dates and registration

- Sept. 15 [21]
- Nov. 18 [22]

retirement [23], TIAA [24], PERA [25]
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