

Balance debt, saving, and investing

Juggling paying off debts and saving for your goals can be stressful, especially if you're not sure where to start. This stepby-step guide can help you decide what to tackle first.



Investing involves risk, including the risk of loss.

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Make all your minimum payments

Always make at least the minimum What? payment on all debts on time

Whv? Protect your credit score and avoid late fees and compounding interest charges

> **Download the Manage Your Debt Activity Sheet**

Build up a cash buffer

What? Save up an initial cash buffer of \$1,000 or one month's rent,

whichever is greater

Whv? If occasional bumps arise, you won't risk missing regular bills

Watch the Build an Emergency **Fund video**



Capture the full employer match

What? Contribute enough to your workplace

retirement plan to capture your

employer's match

Not taking advantage of the match leaves "free money" on the table



Why?

Login to NetBenefits® to get your employer's full match



What? Now it's time to pay more than the monthly minimums on your highest-rate card first, then second highest, and so on

Why? Chip away at credit card balances at a manageable pace



Learn two strategies for paying down debt



Fully fund your emergency savings

Aim to save at least 3-6 months' worth of essential expenses in cash for easy access

This cash is a safety net that protects you from falling back on credit during

life's curveballs

Get four things to know about building emergency savings



What? If interest on your debt is more than 6%,

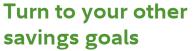
focus on paying it down before you invest

more in retirement

Why? Find the best use for additional (unmatched)

dollars

□ Download the Manage Your Debt Activity Sheet



What? Start saving for other goals like a vacations, home renovations, building your investment portfolio, a

new car or something else

Why? Once your debt, retirement savings and safety net are strong, you can start turning to other goals

