USAA's Parent Playbook for Money

For many parents, a healthy credit score or lower insurance rates took years to achieve. With a few simple – and often overlooked – actions, parents can translate their success into a sizable head start for their children, sometimes in minutes.

Follow the steps in this guide to help bypass years of effort and set your kids on the road to financial success early.

Quick Wins

Give Your Child a Good Credit Score in 10 Minutes

How: Add your children as an authorized user to your credit card account.

Why: Authorized users get a credit score that build off parents' creditworthiness, no spending required. This includes years of payment and account history, and credit utilization. Your good credit becomes their head start, even before the age of 18.

Typical Cost: Zero.

Did you know:

18% of parents have a child authorized user on their USAA Bank credit card.

751 the average credit score of a USAA parent with a child authorized user.

Lock In Your Kids' Future Insurability

How: Establish life insurance coverage for your child(ren), whether through a rider on your own policy or through a juvenile policy.

Why: As parents, we want to protect our kids today while opening doors for them tomorrow. Getting life insurance for children when it's easiest and least expensive ensures they'll have coverage later in life, even if their health changes. And, many policies can gain cash value, or provide options to grow coverage later, which can be helpful down the line.

Did you know:

About **14%** of parents with a USAA life insurance policy have a child rider.

The average age of children covered by a USAA juvenile permanent policy is **11**.

Level Up

Give Kids a Safe Way to Manage Money

How: Open a youth banking account, linked to your own checking account.

Why: Few things build confidence with money like real-life experience. A youth account helps teens manage pocket money or paychecks while parental controls provide added safety and oversight.

Overdraft Fees: Zero.

Did you know:

You can set alerts, see account summaries and more on a youth account – just like an adult account.

Help Lower Your Teen's Auto Insurance Rates

How: Use telematics to encourage (and incentivize) safe driving behaviors.

Why: Better behaviors = fewer accidents and tickets = lower rates. Also, healthy driving habits, as measured by USAA SafePilot, can lead to discounts. More safety on the roads means more savings for you.

Average Discount: $203 for a six-month policy.

Did you know:

You can lower rates up to using USAA's SafePilot product. **30%**

"These small actions can translate into a significant head start for children. Many parents don't realize they can leverage their own financial standing to provide their children with a foundation of insurability and creditworthiness that can last a lifetime. This can provide their children with financial advantages as they start their independent lives, helping them bypass initial obstacles to financial security."

Josh Andrews,
Advice Director, USAA

Ready to Go Even Deeper?

529 Savings Plans: Save for educational expenses with tax benefits.

Post-9/11 GI Bill: Transfer some or all of your unused benefits to children.

Investment and Insurance Products are:
• Not Insured by the FDIC or Any Federal Government Agency
• Not a Deposit or Other Obligation of, or Guaranteed by, the Bank
• Subject to Investment Risks, Including Possible Loss of the Principal Amount Invested.
• USAA means United Services Automobile Association and its affiliates.
Message and data rates may apply.
USAA Bank is a Federal Savings Bank.
USAA Bank products offered by USAA Federal Savings Bank. Member FDIC. Credit card, mortgage and other lending products not FDIC-insured.
USAA Federal Savings Bank offers deposit, credit card, consumer lending, mortgage, and other banking products and services. USAA Federal Savings Bank is a Member of FDIC. Credit card, mortgage and other lending products not FDIC-insured.