

Financial checklist for the new attending

√	Task	Questions for family	MJP notes	Notes
	Blow your first paycheck			
	Fully fund retirement account options (401k, 403b)	Spousal options not being filled during training that now can be?	<i>This is an absolute must and usually results in a match.</i>	
	Disability insurance	What % of my income do we need?	<i>About 80% of my income. Understand group vs individual. Can be over 100%</i>	
	Term life insurance	Run death scenarios (sucks but have to do it). 10-12x AGI	<i>MJP: \$3M policy, 20 year term, \$175/mo Wife: \$1.5M policy, 20 year term, \$80/mo</i>	
	Cash reserve	What is biggest possible unexpected expense?	<i>Minimum: \$25k Optimal: \$50k Too much is missing out on investment.</i>	
	20% savings rate	Do we want to retire on time? Have we fully grasped the ramifications of starting late with savings? Are we going to grow into these paychecks and not be able to dial back?	<i>Confirmed in new GOP tax law</i>	(google this and read about it)
Backdoor IRA			<i>Nice to put a bit of money in here each month. \$500?</i>	
Brokerage			<i>457b – good for me (NM) Solo 401k – moonlighting gig IC status can open up other options</i>	
	Other retirement accounts			
	Umbrella policy	Do we have areas of special liability?	<i>\$1M policy costs \$218/year</i>	
	Consumer debt	How can we make sure we never get into this again?	<i>This needs to go right away and never come back. You could talk me into a reasonable car payment.</i>	
	Student loans	Look at interest payments. Look at cost/year of carrying this debt. Are we comfortable paying \$10k/year in interest?	<i>8%+ treat like consumer debt 6%+ prioritize 4%- probably not the end of the world Beware arguments about “leveraging debt” WCI flowsheet</i>	
	Health insurance	Is a HDHP feasible for us?	<i>Many employers offer HDHP, saves money and gives you another “retirement account.” Probably makes sense for a lot of docs.</i>	
	Home buying	Lots obviously	<i>Never have a mortgage more than 2x your combined annual income. Beware agents.</i>	
	Splurges	What is just “worth it” for us?	<i>Don’t go crazy. Pick a few things and stick w/ them Set reward goals for debt payment.</i>	
	College planning	What amount do we want to give to each kid	<i>IL has one of t the best 529 plan in America!</i>	