

Young Adult Planning Playbook

VERSION 1.0

Smart money. Strong future.

Essential financial, legal and career moves for college students and young adults



1 PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY

- ✓ Freeze your credit with all three bureaus
- ✓ Turn on Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)
- ✓ Use a password manager and unique passwords
- ✓ Never share verification codes or personal info



☆ Identity theft can follow you for years—protect yourself now.



2 BUILD YOUR CREDIT THE SMART WAY

Start with a debit card and learn spending control. When ready, open your first credit card and follow these tips:

- ✓ Pay every bill on time.
- ✓ Keep your credit card balance below 5% of your credit limit when your statement closes.
- ✓ If you charge more than 5% make a payment BEFORE the statement closing date.

The 5% Rule
EXAMPLE
\$1,000 Credit Limit
↓
Aim to have
\$50 OR LESS
reported on your monthly statement



Check your credit
Review your credit reports for free, once every year at:
annualcreditreport.com

☆ Low credit utilization + on-time payments = better credit scores and lower interest rates on auto loans, apartments & home mortgages.



3 KNOW YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

At age 18, your parents generally lose automatic legal authority. Make sure these are in place:

- ✓ HIPAA Authorization
- ✓ Financial Power of Attorney
- ✓ Beneficiary Designations
- ✓ Medical Power of Attorney
- ✓ Healthcare Directive (Living Will)

☆ These documents ensure trusted people can help you in medical or financial emergency.

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