Financial Management

DURATION: 90 minutes

TEACHING METHOD: Discussion and Exercises

READING: Student Guide, linked articles

LESSON OBJECTIVE: This lesson seeks to help students understand and explain the financial regulations, communicate the difference between funding sources, understand financial oversight and responsibilities, and understand the partnerships that help Civil Air Patrol conduct business and missions

DESIRED LEARNING OUTCOMES (DLO):

1. Explain the importance of good financial management practices to CAP.
2. Understand the major points outlined in regulations on payments for mission support (CAPR173-3), fund raising/donations (CAPR-173-4) and IRS 990
3. Discuss the role of the Finance Committee, tools used for financial management, reporting at the region level .
4. Explain how Vanguard funds flow back to CAP members and are utilized.
5. Understand the difference between corporate and appropriated funding.
6. Understand the importance of philanthropy to CAP.

LESSON STRATEGY: This lesson is designed to help students understand financial management at the region and national level.

INSTRUCTOR NOTE: This lesson focuses on finance matters at the region and national levels. Students should complete the assigned Student Guide before coming to the class. This allows you to spend most of your time on discussion questions and any exercises or case studies offered. Survey the students to see how well they've absorbed the materials and adjust your plan as necessary.

REVIEW: Ask the students if they have any questions about the reading. If they have questions, answer them. If not, proceed with a short review. Ask the students to share the most important points from the reading. Encourage students to share stories from their own units. If necessary, develop cases to enhance discussion.

BRIDGE: Financial management and good stewardship are critical to CAP's future as an organization. Executive leaders need to understand corporate funding.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: Feel free to add or adjust questions as necessary to meet the students' needs as well as the unique conditions for your squadron.

Lead off question: Which is CAP's bigger budget, corporate or appropriated?

Supporting Question: What are the restrictions on corporate funding?

Supporting Question: What initiatives are being undertaken with regards to philanthropy and development in CAP?

Supporting Question: How do CAP members benefit from Vangaurd funds?

Supporting Question: Does CAP have any investments? How do we utilize them?

CLOSELY RELATED LESSONS: Federal and State Legislative Affairs

EXERCISE:

Review region budget and financials or the national budget. What surprised you?

Using the region finance information you acquired, make a budget for the region for the next year, for a region activity (region honor academy, RCLS, an NCSA) or for a region staff directorate you would like to lead (Operations, Cadet Programs, Aerospace Education). Share your proposed budget with the instructor for feedback.