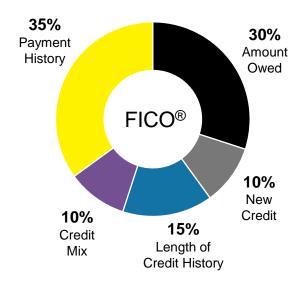
# Beginning Your Financial Journey

#### **Good Credit Matters**

# Using Credit Wisely Lower Debt-to-Income Ratios Better Credit Scores More Options Lower Interest Rates

## **Tips to Improve Your Credit**

- 1. Keep balances low
- 2. Pay off debt
- 3. Pay bills on time
- 4. Open new accounts only as needed
- 5. Don't open too many accounts too rapidly



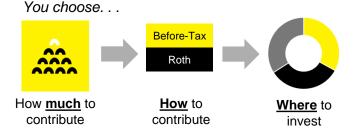
#### Own vs. Lease an Automobile

Own Lease Advantages Yours to keep Lower monthly payment Unlimited miles Not tied down Resale value Afford a more Cheaper overall expensive car **Disadvantages** Must return the car Can become "underwater" Subject to fees for Higher up-front costs damages Afford "less" car Limited miles Maintenance costs

# **Establish an Emergency Fund**

- Save 3–6 months of living expenses
- Should be easily accessible and stable
- Include in budget as a "Needed" expense

#### **Invest for Retirement**



## Stay On Track & Get Help

- Keep a budget to manage your expenses.
- Set financial goals and save for them.
- Pay down debt using either the lowest cost or build momentum strategies.
- Is your investment strategy still appropriate for your situation?
- Get pre-qualified, work with agent for home.
- Receive a pay raise or promotion? Save it.
- Get answers to your questions by working with an Alight Financial Advisor.

Benefits website: CatBenefitsCenter.com
Benefits Center: 877-228-4010 Mon-Fri, 8AM – 6PM CT

Information here is provided solely to supplement the "Beginning Your Financial Journey" presentation. This information should not be considered advice, and your information may warrant consideration of other alternatives. Please speak with your financial advisor and/or tax advisor.

