

# CASH for COLLEGE

LearnMoreIndiana.org

## My College Budget

Tuition is just the beginning of college costs. When you think about paying for college, make sure you factor in average room and board if you plan to live on campus, books, technology and student activity fees. Don't forget other possible costs, too, such as transportation (gas and mileage for a car, or even a plane ticket), fraternity or sorority fees or special equipment for specific majors. Look at your lifestyle, too, and don't forget to account for extra expenses like entertainment costs, food like coffee and pizza and clothing.

Use the budget exercise below to start thinking about college expenses. Some expenses may not apply to your situation — if you live in a dorm or at home, for example, you won't have to figure in electricity or water — but they are items to think about for the future.

### My Budget

**Remember, college students are supposed to be frugal. Keep your eyes on graduating with as little debt as possible so you can enjoy your paycheck — and a good life — after you graduate. Instead of spending, find creative ways to save.**

**Some tips:**

**Buy used** textbooks or, better yet, borrow or trade the books you and your classmates need, or rent books whenever possible.

**Walk** or ride your bike. It's great exercise and a way to live green, not to mention a lot cheaper than driving and parking a car.

**Skip** pricey bottled water, \$3 coffee drinks and off-campus food if you've already paid for the college meal plan. Stay fit — financially and without the infamous "freshman 15" weight gain — by skipping fatty pizza and popping some popcorn instead, too.

**Think** about how to save money over four years of college, not just freshman year. Are costs higher or lower if you move off campus? Can you take on-campus jobs, like being a residential advisor in a dorm, to cut housing expenses?

#### Education

Tuition and Fees .....	\$ _____
Books .....	\$ _____
School Supplies .....	\$ _____
Other.....	\$ _____
<b>Subtotal .....</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

#### Housing

Room and Board .....	\$ _____
Electricity .....	\$ _____
Gas .....	\$ _____
Water.....	\$ _____
Phone .....	\$ _____
Cable .....	\$ _____
Internet.....	\$ _____
Other.....	\$ _____
<b>Subtotal .....</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

#### Transportation

Car Payments .....	\$ _____
Gas .....	\$ _____
maintenance.....	\$ _____
License & Registration Fees.....	\$ _____
Auto Insurance .....	\$ _____
Campus Parking Fees .....	\$ _____
Public Transportation Fees .....	\$ _____
Train or Plane Ticket Home.....	\$ _____
Other.....	\$ _____
<b>Subtotal .....</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

#### GRAND TOTAL .....

#### Food

Campus meal Plan.....	\$ _____
Groceries.....	\$ _____
Dining Out.....	\$ _____
Other.....	\$ _____
<b>Subtotal .....</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

#### Entertainment

movies .....	\$ _____
Sports Events .....	\$ _____
Special Events .....	\$ _____
Downloads (Music, Movies).....	\$ _____
Health Club memberships.....	\$ _____
Other.....	\$ _____
<b>Subtotal .....</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

#### Other

Clothing / Shoes .....	\$ _____
Personal Care.....	\$ _____
Laundry / Dry Cleaning.....	\$ _____
Gifts.....	\$ _____
Daycare.....	\$ _____
Baby / Pet Sitters .....	\$ _____
medication .....	\$ _____
Dental Care.....	\$ _____
Other.....	\$ _____
Other.....	\$ _____
Other.....	\$ _____
<b>Subtotal .....</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

#### GRAND TOTAL .....

