**YOUR FINANCIAL PLAN FOR CAREER, LIFE AND LEARNING GOALS**

Additional resources - Personal Budget Calculator: <https://www.schoolroom.ca/StudentZone/Calculators/HomeBudget/>

It is important that you understand the **cost of living** and how much it will cost you personally to live. You must ensure you have enough revenue coming in to cover your expenses. This activity is intended to help you research and gain understanding of potential income, expenses and support during your first year after high school.

**TASK: Complete a practice personal annual budget estimating your cost of living for the first year after graduation.**

**ACCOMODATION and LIVING EXPENSES***.*

* + 1. If you intend to rent an apartment, check apartment rental sites to find out the cost of rent, and determine whether or not utilities are included. Calculate expenses associated with food, transportation, rent, communications, utilities, etc..
		2. If you intend to share accommodation, calculate expenses associated with your portion of food, transportation, rent, communications, utilities, etc..
		3. If you intend to live at home, calculate and list your portion of living expenses such as, food, rent, utilities, communication, transportation, clothing, etc. … it would also be beneficial to calculate the “value” of living at home in terms of what your rent expense would be if you had to pay it to live at home.
		4. If you intend to live “in Residence” then check on the university or college website to find out the cost of residence and whether it would be economical for you to purchase a “meal plan”.

**INCOME and SUPPORT**

* + 1. Do you, or will you have part-time employment or student loans to cover costs?
		2. If your parents are paying any of your costs, whether at home or elsewhere, including rent, food, communication, etc.., include this contribution as “family support” under REVENUE and itemize it (list the specific things).
		3. If you are eligible, consider supports for your education and living expenses from bursaries, scholarships, and/or band.
		4. If you are eligible, consider programs for free or low-cost post-secondary education for students (see your school counsellor for more information)
* Remember, you are typically at post-secondary school for eight months. For this budget, you need to calculate your expenses for an entire year.
* Be realistic. Take the time to ensure that the Budget you are creating is actually a useful tool upon which you can base some financial decisions.
* Consider asking your parents/guardians for help in making a determination about how much things might cost, and/or how much your portion of things cost currently

**NOTE:** Not all expense categories apply to everyone – Some of you will be attending post-secondary training. Some of you will be working at a full-time job. Some will purchase tools for trade school. Some will travel. Some will invest in a professional wardrobe. Some will buy assets such as furniture, a computer, or even a house.

\*\***Only fill in the categories that apply to your particular situation for next year\*\***

**Sample Budget**

Below is a “Sample Budget”. Study it and use it to guide you as you complete your own version in the blank form that follows. Calculate your own cost of living for the year following graduation.

**NOTE:** This is an ANNUAL budget: You must determine your overall YEARLY cost. The “monthly” column is simply for your convenience. For example, if your monthly rent is $800.00, your annual rent is 800 x 12 = $9,600.00. If you will be living at home, rent-free for the summer months, *note that in your budget*.

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| **NAME: Sam Budgetski DATE:** *2021/2022 .***My intentions:** *I am a college student living at home to save money. I work weekends.* |
| **PERSONAL ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FIRST YEAR AFTER MY GRADUATION:** What Revenue sources will I have and what Expenses will I have over the next year? |
|  |
| **REVENUE** | **MONTHLY INCOME** | **ANNUAL** **INCOME** | **NOTES/CONSIDERATIONS** |
| Employment net Income  | **$ 720.00** | **$ 8 640.00** | **(AFTER taxes) (not taxable)** |
| Personal Savings |  | **$ n/a** | **$** |
| Family Support \*\*\* | **$1,000.00** | **$12 000** | ***My family covers my rent and expenses marked with \*. I added that up to determine my family support revenue.***  |
| Agency (Support) |  |  |  |
| Gifts |  |  |  |
| Scholarships |  | **$ 1 000.00** | *Scholarship from AB Society* |
| Bursaries |  |  |  |
| Awards |  |  |  |
| Education Savings Plan |  | **$ 3 800.00** | **$15 200.00. ($3 800.00 per year)** |
| Loans |  |  |  |
| **Other (explain)** |  |  | **My parents will pay the costs noted with \* \*(family support revenue) =** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL**  | **$1,720.00**  |  **$25 440.00.**  | **(My total MONTHLY and ANNUAL INCOME Including money paid by my family)** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **EXPENSES** | **MONTHLY COSTS** | **ANNUAL COSTS** | **Notes** |
| Food \*\* | **$ 250.00** | **$ 3,000.00** | Vegetables/fruit, grain products, milk products, meat products *(cost to my parents)* |
| Miscellaneous: \*\*Personal CareLaundry/Utilities | **$ 155.00** | **$ 1,860.00** | Haircuts, toothpaste, soaps, body & hair care, toilet & tissue paper, personal hygiene, cleaning supplies, other (laundry soap, softener, dryer sheets, machine use) *(I pay half. My parents cover the other expenses)* |
| Accommodation \*\* | **$ 350.00** | **$ 4,200.00** | ***choose from:*** apartment, basement suite, room and board in a house, post-secondary residence, rent cost paid by parents:  |
| Utilities \*\* |  **“all-in”** |  | Natural gas, electricity, water, sewer, other… |
| My portion of cable and internet. \*\* | **$ 200.00** | **$ 2,400.00** | Cable, satellite, internet (*My family pays for this.)* |
| Transportation | **$ 250.00** | **$ 3,000.00** | ***Itemize this list with individual costs:*** Transit, bikes, cost of vehicle, parking, gas, insurance, repairs/maintenance, car pool or public transportation; bus fare; airfare; ferry fare; other *(I pay for this)* |
| Health Fees \* | **$ 30.00** | $ 360.00  | ***Itemize this list with individual costs:*** Medical &, dental fees, eye care, prescriptions, other (make sure you are covered. Many universities automatically include costs of a medical plan in tuition) *(Through University/College, my family pays for this.)* |
| Communications | **$ 55.00** | **$ 660.00** | Land line, mobile plan, internet, stamps (*I pay)* |
| Entertainment | **$ 100.00** | **$ 1,200.00** | movies, concerts, TV., music, dining out, birthday and other gifts, travelling, parties… *(I pay)* |
| Coffee  | **$ 56.00** | **$ 672.00** | All those daily cups of coffee… or other treats… $2.00 PER DAY *(I pay)* |
| Fitness |  |  | Free at the college |
| Clothing | **$ 50.00** | **$ 600.00** | Clothes, shoes/boots, coats, other. *I pay for this* |
| Asset Purchases |  | **$ 1,200.00** | Computer, recreation equipment, electronic devices, new laptop, other *(I pay)* |

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| Education (tuition) and Student Fees |  | **$ 5 000.00** | **CNC UT COURSES:** *RESEARCH as cost will depend on the post-secondary school & program.* *Ex:**CNC = $500/course + fee (approx.)* *UNBC = $600/course + fee (approx..)* |
| Education Books |  | **$ 1,000.00** |  *(I pay this)* |
| Education Supplies |  | **$ 250.00** | Paper, pens, specialty equipment such as tools, additional computer components, other *(I pay this)* |
| **Other** |  |  |  |
| **Savings** |  | **38.00** |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES:**  |  |  **$25 440.00** | **(My Total MONTHLY and ANNUAL EXPENSES)** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **CALCULATE:** **TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME $25 440****MINUS TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSES - $25 440** **0** | **If your revenue exceeds expenses, you have money left over for \*\**savings.***  ***If expenses exceed revenue, you are incurring debt. Either reduce your projected expenses or find another source of income.*** |

**YOUR PRACTICE BUDGET**

Fill in your own budget, being as specific as possible. You are more than welcome to ask your parents or someone else for help. Try to be as realistic as possible – this budget is for your benefit!

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| **NAME: DATE:****My intentions:** |
| **PERSONAL ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FIRST YEAR AFTER MY GRADUATION:** What Revenue sources will I have and what Expenses will I have over the next year? |
| **REVENUE** | **MONTHLY INCOME** | **ANNUAL INCOME** | **NOTES/CONSIDERATIONS** |
| Employment net Income  |  |  | **(AFTER taxes)** |
| Personal Savings |  |  |  |
| Family Support |  |  |  |
| Agency (Support) |  |  | *Local, external, agencies, provincial, other* |
| Gifts |  |  | *Gifts of money from non-family sources* |
| Scholarships |  |  | *Local, external, agencies, provincial, other* |
| Bursaries |  |  |  |
| Awards |  |  |  |
| Education Savings Plan |  |  |  |
| Loans |  |  |  |
| **Other (explain)** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL**  | **$** | **$** | **(My total MONTHLY and ANNUAL INCOME)** |
| **EXPENSES** | **MONTHLY COSTS** | **ANNUAL COSTS** |  |
| Food |  |  | Vegetables/fruit, grain products, milk products, meat products  |
| Personal Care |  |  | Haircuts, toothpaste, soaps, body & hair care, toilet & tissue paper, personal hygiene, cleaning supplies, other  |
| Accommodation  |  |  | ***choose from:*** apartment, basement suite, room and board in a house, post-secondary residence, other.**NOTES/CONSIDERATIONS** |
| Utilities & Laundry |  |  | Natural gas, electricity, water, laundry detergent, softener, etc.. |
| My share of cable and Internet. |  |  |  |
| Transportation |  |  | Transit, bikes, cost of vehicle, parking, gas, insurance, repairs/maintenance, car pool or public transportation; bus fare; airfare; ferry fare; other  |
| Health Fees |  |  | Medical &, dental fees, eye care, prescriptions, other (make sure you are covered. Note: many universities automatically include costs of a medical plan in tuition). |
| Communications |  |  | Land line, cell, internet, stamps  |
| Entertainment |  |  | Movies, concerts, TV, music, dining out, birthday and other gifts, travelling, parties… |
| Coffee  |  |  | All those daily cups of coffee… or other treats… |
| Fitness |  |  |  |
| Clothing |  |  | Clothes, shoes/boots, coats, other  |
| Asset Purchases |  |  | Computer, recreation equipment, electronic devices, other  |
| Education (tuition) and Student Fees |  |  |  |
| Education Books |  |  |  |
| Education Supplies |  |  | Paper, pens, specialty equipment such as tools, additional computer components, other  |
| **Other** |  |  |  |
| **\*\* Savings** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **(My Total MONTHLY and ANNUAL EXPENSES)** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **CALCULATE:** **TOTAL ANNUAL INCOME $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****MINUS TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSES - $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **(Income-Expenses should = 0) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  | **If your revenue exceeds expenses, you have money left over, which you can put into \*\**savings.***  ***If your expenses exceed your revenue, you are incurring debt. Either reduce your projected expenses or find another source of income.*** |

Remember: You cannot spend more money than you have coming in. So, if you find yourself with higher expenses than income, make some decisions. For example, you may have to find ways to cut costs or find another source of income, or consider a student loan….

**REFLECTION**

What did you learn from working on this budget? What were you surprised by?

What are some budgeting challenges you may face in the year after graduation? How might you solve them?