



Your dream, your plan, your future

Navigating Your Financial Future offers many free financial resources such as online workshops, helpful links, recorded presentations, a monthly E-newsletter, and more!

Questions?

Visit www.NavigatingYourFuture.org and select the "Contact Us" tab to request additional assistance from an Outreach Representative.

Additional Resources:

www.MappingYourFuture.org

www.MyMoney.gov



www.NavigatingYourFuture.org

Scan the QR code with your SMART phone to access our site.



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STEP #1
Set financial goals.

Use the SMART goal setting technique to clarify your short term and long term goals.

- Specific
- Measurable
- Achievable
- Realistic
- Time based

LIVE BELOW YOUR INCOME.

STEP #2
Organize expenses.

Gather receipts, student loan payment information, and monthly bills. Separate into two categories.

FIXED expenses:
same amount each month

VARIABLE expenses:
amount changes monthly



STEP #3
Create a budget.
(on paper, computer, or phone)

Income minus Expenses = Profit (Loss)

Sample Monthly Budget:

Income:		
Take home pay	\$ 900	
Financial Aid	\$ 800	
Total Income		\$1,700
Expenses:		
(FIXED)		
Rent	\$ 550	
Cell Phone	\$ 75	
Car Insurance	\$ 150	
Savings	\$ 50	
(VARIABLE)		
Food	\$ 300	
Utilities	\$ 90	
Credit Card	\$ 100	
Clothing	\$ 50	
Gas	\$ 80	
Entertainment	\$ 100	
Total Expenses		<u>\$1,545</u>
Income minus Expenses:		\$ 155

(Save this extra money or start an emergency fund)



STEP #4
Evaluate the cash flow.

Where can you save money?

Do expenses reflect the financial goals you have?

How can income be increased?

LIVE BELOW YOUR INCOME.

STEP #5
Store records in a safe place.

Keep copies of student loan information, account statements, applications, and other important documents in a safe place to protect against identity theft.

