

Testing Your Financial Situation
Source: Mapping Your Future Website (modified)

How will you know if things are getting out of control....this self-quiz will tell you that you need to do something different? Check off all of the following items that apply to you.

- ✓ I can barely make ends meet with my current income.
- ✓ I put off medical and dental appointments because I can't afford them.
- ✓ I find it difficult to save while I am in school.
- ✓ I use my savings account to pay my bills.
- ✓ I have been denied credit.
- ✓ I took out a new loan to pay off an old loan.
- ✓ I have skipped a regular monthly payment on a credit card or other debt.
- ✓ I have overdrawn my checking account on occasion.
- ✓ I have taken a cash advance on a credit card to make payment on school loans or other debt.
- ✓ I charge daily living expenses, like shampoo and soap.
- ✓ Life without credit cards is unthinkable?
- ✓ I use my credit cards for purchases fewer than 5.00.
- ✓ My credit cards are at or near there credit limits.
- ✓ Do you worry a lot about money?
- ✓ I have had to borrow money for recurring expenses such as taxes or insurance payments?

If you check 3 or more of these statements, you might need to consider ways to help organize and establish a clear budget. The goal should be to pay off the debt and start saving some money.