



Personal Finances and Budgeting

CAREGIVER #1:
I know what you're thinking...

CAREGIVER #2:
College is how much?!

CAREGIVER #3:
I can't pay for my kid's education.

CAREGIVER #4:
We can't afford it.

CAREGIVER #5:
A budget?

CAREGIVER #3:
I don't even know how to make a budget.

CAREGIVER #1:
Relax. I've been there.

CAREGIVER #2:
We've all been there.

CAREGIVER #4:
The good news is...

CAREGIVER #3:
...you can help.

CAREGIVER #1:
I helped him graduate without a lot of debt.

CAREGIVER #2:
Your student can do it too. With a plan.

CAREGIVER #4:
That plan is called a budget.

NARRATOR:
The good news is your student can do it...with a plan.

That plan is called a budget. And you can begin by sitting with your child and start writing it on paper.

The first step in building a budget is figuring out what are going to be your child's college expenses. Expenses or costs are things like tuition, housing, books, groceries, clothing, and gas for the car. And let's face it. The car will break down. So include in the budget money for unexpected expenses.

The next step is to determine how to pay for them. For most, covering all college expenses can't be done through ordinary wages or salary. The good news is there are many forms of "financial aid" programs available if you apply. To apply requires paperwork, time and commitment. The types most often offered through government, school and private groups are scholarships, grants or student loans.

Don't let the fear of college expenses stop you from encouraging your student to pursue their dreams of a career. By making a budget and plan, and helping your student stick to it, they will realize their dreams. For more information on how to prepare a budget plan see any of the following resources sites:

mappingyourfuture.org
starthere4loans.nd.gov

Find a College

ndus.edu
nd-can.com
aihec.org
college.gov

Pay for College

fafsa.gov
nd-can.com
studentaid.ed.gov

Prepare for College

nd-can.com
actstudent.org
collegeboard.org

For more information, call 1.800.554.2717.

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