Becoming an independent adult requires the individual to understand the costs associated with living. You will be completing this packet using the website listed below to determine the annual income you will need to support your lifestyle. Please complete the packet as you answer the questions on the website. Note: This website does NOT save your information.


Once there, click on the play button in the “1 Reality Check” section and complete this packet as you navigate through the website.

A. Housing and Furnishings
Where do you want to live (city, town, state)?

________________________________________________________________________________________

Type of Housing (apartment, house, etcetera):

________________________________________________________________________________________

Monthly Housing Payment:

________________________________________________________________________________________

Total Housing Costs: ___________________________

B. Utilities
Mobile phone  __________
Internet             __________
Cable                __________
Electricity          __________
Water/Gas        __________
Phone              __________

Total Utilities Cost: _____________________________

C. Transportation
How would you like to travel to and from work (walk, bike, bus, or car)?

________________________________________________________________________________________

If you want to own your own car:
    Type of automobile you choose: ______________________________________________________
    Auto Cost:
        Includes monthly car payment, insurance, gasoline, and maintenance _____________________________

If you prefer public transportation:
    Public Transportation Cost: __________________________________________________________

Total Transportation Cost: _____________________________
D. Clothing
What type of clothing budget do you want?

______________________________________________________________

Clothing Cost:

______________________________________________________________

Shoes:

______________________________________________________________

Total Clothing Cost: ________________________________

E. Health Care
What type of Health Care plan would you choose?

______________________________________________________________

Insurance Cost:

______________________________________________________________

Dental Cost:

______________________________________________________________

Doctor’s Visits:

______________________________________________________________

Total Health Care Costs: ________________________________

F. Food and Other Personal Care Items
Personal items like soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc., as well as cleaning supplies, toilet paper, and paper towels.

Monthly Food Cost:

______________________________________________________________

Monthly Personal Care Cost:

______________________________________________________________

Total Food and Other Personal Care Items Cost: __________________

G. Recreation and Entertainment
You need recreation and entertainment to make life fun. Things to consider when calculating your monthly budget are: dining out, entertaining friends, movies, concerts, sporting events, books, newspapers, magazines, music, videos, and hobbies.

Total Monthly Recreation and Entertainment Cost: __________________

H. Extras - Additional Expenditures
List the “extras” you plan on including in your monthly budget and their cost below.

Total Additional Expenditures Cost: ______________________________

I. Miscellaneous Items
List miscellaneous expenses below.

Total Miscellaneous Cost: ____________________________
J. Savings

Savings Plan: ______________________________

K. Student Loan Debt

What type of degree do you plan to attain? _____________________________________________________________

What is the annual cost for that education? ______________________________________________________________

Monthly Loan Payment: ______________________________

Final Totals

Add your A – K Totals.

What are your total monthly expenses? _________________________________________________________________

What are your total annual expenses? (multiply by monthly expenses by 12) _________________________________

What does the website says your annual income needs to be? _______________________________________________

Independent Activity

When you have completed this packet, take some time to navigate through the rest of the website clicking on the other two sections titled “2 Future Salary” and “3 Occupation Direct”.

In the space provided, list 3 careers (include salaries) that you find interesting:

1. __________________________________________________________

2. __________________________________________________________

3. __________________________________________________________

Next, click on one of the careers and list some of the skills necessary for this career.

Career selected: ______________________________

Necessary Skills:

1. __________________________________________________________

2. __________________________________________________________

3. __________________________________________________________