

# College Checklist #2: Financial Preparation

Living on a budget isn't impossible, but it's easier if you've done some planning before you head off on your own. Here's how to prep at home:

- First off: figure out where your tuition money is coming from (scholarships, grants, work study, job, parents, savings, etc.).
- Create your budget so necessary expenses are covered (books, car payments, insurance, etc.) and you know how much money is left over after expenses.
- Decide on how much you'll spend on other necessities, like food and college costs (events, fees, etc.).
- Open a bank account / make sure you have all your banking details.
- Use a banking or budgeting app to keep track of your spending.
- Stick to your budget in the months leading up to college—remember, practice makes perfect!
- Look at your bank statements each month.
- Oh and start reading articles on The Visible Guide :)