



# MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR MONEY

## WHILE IN COLLEGE

### Why is it important to have a Spending Plan?

A common barrier to education is finances. While a student is in college, they have to balance college expenses with daily living expenses. Having a spending plan will help you to anticipate expenses throughout the semester and will help you plan how to best use your scholarship/grant/student loan money.

### How to develop a Spending Plan

- Look at your pay stubs, check book, bank statement, credit card statement and bills for the last two to three months. Use this information to make sure you are including all income and expenses in your spending plan.
- Be honest with yourself about where your money is going.
- Think of your spending plan as a way to help you manage your money over the course of a semester. You may modify your spending plan at any time.
- If you have more money going out than coming in then you should consider ways to increase your income or decrease your expenses. The resources listed below can help you with this process.

## RESOURCES

**Access Arkansas** – This website allows you to see if you are eligible for 20 programs sponsored by DHS without visiting the DHS Office. If you are eligible, you may also complete an application online. Website: <https://access.arkansas.gov/>

**Career Pathways**- Provides financial assistance to parents who want to increase their education to enter high demand/high wage jobs. Website: [http://www.pulaskitech.edu/current\\_students/career\\_pathways/](http://www.pulaskitech.edu/current_students/career_pathways/)

**Community Assistance Program Prescription Drug Discount Card** - Free to anyone at the Information Desk in the Campus Center. This card may offer some prescriptions cheaper than your current insurance/Medicaid coverage. Discounts range from 10-80%. This card is accepted at over 80% of all pharmacies in the U.S. ANYONE can use this card regardless of income. You cannot use the discount card and your insurance together on a medication purchase. Use either one or the other based on the lowest price between the two.

Check Prescription Pricing - [www.communityassistanceprogram.info](http://www.communityassistanceprogram.info)

**Financial Coaching** – PTC has seven certified Financial Coaches on staff. This service is free to ANY PTC student. If you are experiencing financial trouble or wish to improve your credit score, thinking of purchasing a car or house, or need to get out of debt then financial coaching may be beneficial to you.

Please contact Michelle Anderson to schedule a financial coaching session. Michelle's office is located behind the Information Desk in the Campus Center. She may also be reached via e-mail [manderson@pulaskitech.edu](mailto:manderson@pulaskitech.edu) or 501-812-2750.

**TRIO Scholars** – Student must be first-generation college student (neither parent has a baccalaureate), meet income requirements based on family size, and/or be a student with a documented disability.

Website: [http://www.pulaskitech.edu/current\\_students/TRIO/trio\\_scholars\\_home.asp](http://www.pulaskitech.edu/current_students/TRIO/trio_scholars_home.asp)

