COUGAR MONEY MATTERS PRESENTED BY BECU

Basic Spending Plan Worksheet

Semester and Year	
1. Total amount of aid money after tuition & fees have been paid:	
2. The number of months you will use this money to live:	
Divide aid (#1) by the number of months (#2) =	
Other sources of monthly income (job, work study, etc.):	
Total income each month =	

Fixed Monthly Expenses	
Rent	
Utilities	
Garbage	
Internet	
Car Insurance	
Health Insurance	
Renter's Insurance	
Credit Card Payment	
Cell Phone Bill	
Subscriptions: Netflix, Hulu, Spotify, etc.	
Total Fixed Expenses =	

Flexible Monthly Expenses	
Gasoline	
Groceries	
Toiletries (hygiene, hair care, etc.)	
Household items (paper towels, dish soap, etc.)	
Total Flexible Expenses =	

Discretionary Expenses	
Eating Out	
Movies/Entertainment	
Traveling	
Gifts	
Total Discretionary Expenses =	

Overview

- The first step is to determine how much income you have every month in the form of financial aid and/or income from a job.
- How many months you divide your aid into may depend on a number of factors including summer stay, employment, etc.
- If you have a job or work study, you will want to estimate how much you make in a month and add that to the monthly aid figure you determined.

Next, you will need to add up all of the expenses you pay over the course of a month.

- **Fixed expenses** are obligation you have to pay.
- **Flexible expenses** are things you may need, but the cost will vary each month.
- **Discretionary expenses** are things you want, but don't need.

After adding each category of expenses, you will have your total monthly expenses.

Add fixed, flexible, and discretionary expenses to get your total expenses.

Total Fixed	
Total Flexible	
Total Discretionary	
Total Monthly Expenses =	

Subtract your monthly expenses from your month income to see what is left over.

Monthly Income	
(-) Monthly expenses	
Total funds left over =	

For more information please visit:

https://cougarmoneymatters.wsu.edu/