

Budget Worksheet

Using a budget will help you develop good spending habits while in law school. Budgeting requires you to pay close attention to how and where you spend your money. Below is a budgeting worksheet to assist you in creating a realistic budget.

Step 1. Determine Your Living Expenses

Housing	Per Month	x 10 Months (Aug-May)
Mortgage/Rent	\$	\$
Home/Renter's Insurance	\$	\$
Gas/Electric	\$	\$
Internet	\$	\$
Phone	\$	\$
Water	\$	\$
Other Utilities	\$	\$
Subtotal	\$	\$

Food		
Groceries	\$	\$
Fast Food/Dining Out	\$	\$
Subtotal	\$	\$

Transportation		
Car Payment	\$	\$
Car Insurance	\$	\$
Gas/Fuel	\$	\$
SIUC 2023-24 Commuter Parking Decal	\$	\$
Other Transportation	\$	\$
Subtotal	\$	\$

Personal Expenses/Misc.		
Apparel	\$	\$
Health & Beauty (Hair/Skin/Makeup)	\$	\$
Household Supplies (Cleaning/Laundry)	\$	\$
Other Personal/Misc.	\$	\$
Subtotal	\$	\$

Other Bills		
Childcare Expenses	\$	\$
Credit Card Payment	\$	\$
Doctor/Dentist/Prescription	\$	\$
Other Bills:	\$	\$
Subtotal	\$	\$

Your living expenses (itemized in Step 1) cannot exceed the law student budget set forth by the SIUC Financial Aid Office, which, for the first year of law school, is \$15,835 (on campus) and \$16,416 (off campus) for 10 months.

Additional allowable expenses may increase your student budget. Allowable expenses include medical expenses, licensed daycare, computer purchase, and bar exam costs. Allowable expenses are determined and approved by the SIUC Financial Aid Office.

Step 2. Determine Your Total Expenses

2023-24 Tuition	\$
2023-24 Fees	\$
2023-24 Student Health Insurance Fee*	\$
2023-24 Books & Supplies	\$
Total Living Expenses from Step 1 (Aug-May)	\$
Total Expenses	\$

*Students who have comparable coverage may waive this fee.

Step 3. Determine Your Student Loan Amount

You will need to file a FAFSA and include SIUC (001758) as a school of choice. SIUC does not have an institutional financial aid application. You will be notified via your siu.edu email when your financial aid award letter is available. Login to SalukiNet (salukinet.siu.edu) to view your SIUC Financial Aid Award Letter.

Funding Source(s)	
Scholarship(s)	\$
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$ 20,500
Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan	\$
Total Funding	\$

The total funding cannot exceed the law student budget, or cost of attendance, set forth by the SIUC Financial Aid Office.

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans are available to law students and are not based on financial need. The maximum amount a student can receive per academic year is \$20,500. Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan, a credit-based loan, is not based on financial need. More information about the Federal Direct Loan Program can be found online at studentloans.gov.

Student loans are intended to cover the educational costs for the student only. In addition, loans are not meant to include relocation expenses, security deposits, or personal debts. Therefore, you may need to pay for these expenses in advance, along with the first month of your living expenses, before your fall semester refund is disbursed. Loans are processed 10 days before the start of each semester.

For scholarship questions, contact Tammy in the Office of Admissions at tammy@siu.edu or (618) 453-8767.

For student loan questions, contact the SIUC Financial Aid Office at fao@siu.edu or (618) 453-4334.