

STUDENT STACKS

Your guide to better financial understanding

Office of Student Financial Literacy
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NEW YEAR, NEW BUCKET LIST

Turning the corner on a new year brings the opportunity to change and improve on the choices made last year. People tend to make resolutions that they don't keep. I make an annual bucket list and each item becomes a SMART goal.

To make a goal, the first step is to have a clear target. If it is too broad, the goal becomes hard to attain. Next, the goal needs to be measured. Quantifying the goal creates a data-driven response that allows the individual to take action as needed and be measured. Third, a SMART goal must be attainable. Setting the bar too high encourages failure. Setting realistic yet challenging goals can be reached. Be real in setting goals while stretching yourself. The fourth step is relevant. The goal should improve upon the person's life and be connected to the current stage. A student saving an emergency fund (\$500-\$1000 as a student) or putting money aside for interviews is relevant for the current stage in life. The last step to a SMART goal is to put a time limit. When creating a yearly bucket list, the deadline is established. Specify times to progress monitor. For example, in a year-long goal, one may decide to check progress quarterly.

What choices can you improve this year? Can you reduce your student loan debt by returning money, live on a student budget, reduce your housing costs, or attend the Spring Money Series. Start your 2023 bucket list now.

SMART GOALS

S

PECIFIC

Plan effectively with specific targets in mind.



M

EASUREABLE

Track your progress and reevaluate along the way.



A

TTAINABLE

Set realistic goals that are challenging but achievable.



R

ELEVANT

Ensure the goal serves a relevant purpose.



T

IME

Specify a deadline, monitor progress and reevaluate.



Source: Canva

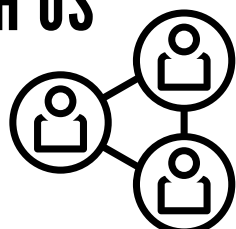
CONNECT WITH US

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“
 If you aim at
 nothing, you
 will hit it every
 time.
 - Zig Ziglar
 ”

DREAMS

Understanding your finances empowers you to fulfill many of your dreams, such as owning a home, taking a dream vacation, or retiring.

Saving early for your retirement means you will be able to retire sooner. Creating a vacation envelope that puts away a small amount each month generates a sinking fund to take a debt-free vacation. Imagine the feeling of returning from vacation with no lingering bills to pay for past vacation fun.

Start dreaming now about professional, financial, and personal goals. Create SMART goals to help you make incremental steps towards achieving them. Join us virtually on January 18th via Teams to learn more about creating SMART goals.

1:1 COUNSELING

Our office provides 1:1 counseling. Schedule an appointment in-person or virtually. We can discuss your financial dreams and help you get on the path to improving your finances and meeting your SMART goals.

Book appointments online.

JANUARY JOIN US CHALLENGE

J is for January's Join Us Challenge. Join us 3x in January to be entered to win a \$20 gift card.

Join us for:

1. A 1:1 counseling session to share your financial SMART goal for the year.
 2. Our *How to be SMART: Goal Setting* presentation on 1/18 virtually at noon.
 3. Books n' Banter to discuss *Automatic Millionaire*.
- Complete all three by 1/31/23.**

SPRING CHALLENGE

Improve your understanding of personal finance by joining us for the Spring Financial Literacy Series. **Complete the series to be entered to win Apple AirPods!**

Spring 2023 Financial Literacy Series:

18 January	12:00 PM	How to be SMART: Goal Setting Virtual: Teams
16 February	12:00 PM	Housing: Don't Bust Your Budget Wellness Center Auditorium Room #204 (Lunch Provided)
21 March	12:00 PM	Auto Loans & Insurance Virtual: Teams
11 April	12:00 PM	The Lowdown on 401ks & Retirement Wellness Center Auditorium Room #204 (Lunch Provided)



SCAN TO VIEW EVENTS

