

Planning for Internet & Technology Expenses

Technology has become an essential part of our lives. In the 21st century, connecting with others and accessing information easily is necessary for everyday living- this includes planning for internet service at a manageable cost!

Creating a Tech-I Budget

When planning a budget, it is vital to consider Internet and technology numbers as projected costs, as different factors influence Internet and technology expenses. However, the information in this section comes from a study conducted by the US Census Bureau in 2018. Seeing these numbers can help guide your planning.

Off Campus College Students			
Item		Average Cost	Semester Cost
Broadband	Internet	\$30-\$60 (monthly)	\$240-\$300
Laptop		\$600-\$700	-
Tablet		\$100-\$300	-
Internet Router		\$80-\$120	-
Phone Bill		\$100-\$150 (monthly)	\$400-\$750
TOTAL		\$910- \$1,330	\$640- \$1,050

On Campus College Students			
Item		Average Cost	Semester Cost
Broadband		Included	-
Internet Laptop		\$600-\$700 \$100-\$300	-
Tablet		Included	-
Internet Router		\$100-\$150 (monthly)	-
Phone Bill			\$400-\$750
TOTAL		\$400-\$750	

Commonly Asked Questions

- **As an off-campus student, how can I save money on internet and cable?** You can save money on utilities by bundling internet and cable into one bill. Sources: <https://www.bankrate.com>
- **As an off-campus student, what internet services does my apartment complex include?** Check out the fine print on your lease. While some apartment complexes may not include internet service, others include it in your rent. Source: <https://www.cnet.com>
- **How can University students save money on internet and technology?** Review any discount programs offered thru your school. Source: <https://learn.org>

Fact Sheet

92%

Of households in the U.S. had at least one type of computer.

85%

Of households in the U.S. had a broadband internet subscription.

53%

Of households in the U.S. said percent had access to a laptop or desktop computer, smartphone, tablet, and a broadband internet connection.

Source: https://transition.fcc.gov/osp/inc-report/The_Information_Needs_of_Communities.pdf

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