Budgeting Tips

The GO! Fellowship includes most of your expenses related to your volunteer service. The Committee would prefer to have as complete a budget as possible, so that we have a good idea where the money is going and what can be changed if necessary. Most budgets are limited to $4,000-$5,000 so that we can fund the greatest number of students. The committee does take into account financial need, length of service, and other circumstances beyond your control. **It is better to reflect the “real” amount you need than to skimp on the budget.**

As you create your budget, some things you might want to include but are not limited to:

**Program Fees**
- These are usually on the organizations website, pay attention to what it includes

**Airfare**
- Check a website like [www.travelation.com](http://www.travelation.com) or [http://www.studentuniverse.com/](http://www.studentuniverse.com/) or [http://www.expedia.com/](http://www.expedia.com/) or one of the many out there
- **Add 10%** to the cost of the flight you find (historically we have seen airfare go up as much as this)

**Visa Costs**
- Do a Google search for “Country Name visa cost” This will probably return a link to their embassy where you can find out what type of visa you will need and how much it will be.
- Factor in the cost of postage – sometimes as much as $20

**Immunizations**
- Check with the CDC [http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list) for what is required
- You can then call the County Health Department to see how much they will cost
- Generally it is runs from $100-$200 depending on which ones you have had before
- Or, check with your family physician

**Insurance**
- Some programs include this; it is **REQUIRED** for your GO! Fellowship
- Check out [http://www.worldnomads.com/](http://www.worldnomads.com/) for reasonable prices on comprehensive insurance

**Background Check**
- If you are working with children some organizations require that you have a criminal background check.
- Check the organization. There are several out there, but here is one to look at: [http://www.intelius.com/](http://www.intelius.com/)

**Other transportation costs**
- Contact your organization to see what other costs might be

**Estimation of food costs**
- This can vary a lot depending on where you are going and is **often included with your program fees**
- Contact your organization to see what kinds of costs you might have

**(Optional) Estimation of cost for supplies to give to organizations**
- Can include books, school supplies, gifts for host families, etc.

**(Optional) Other personal costs**

Keep in mind that the program with which you are working will be able to help you with what they cover and what they do not. A camera will be loaned to you if you don’t have one.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Wright, [career@austincollege.edu](mailto:career@austincollege.edu) if you have any questions.