

Other Items to Budget for while at SIUE

Please note - Additional information about car rental, public transportation in this area, and entertainment costs can be found on the links entitled “Transportation in the Edwardsville Area,” and “Shopping and Recreational Activities in the Area.”

Transportation –

Public transportation is not highly developed in our area, so the following information may be useful to you -

- **There is a bus service called Madison County Transit** that provides transportation around the Madison County area, including Edwardsville. It is free to use on campus, however when riding off campus there is a small fee of approximately \$1.50 one way. Many students use this bus to go to the store and restaurants in Edwardsville. More information can be found on their website at www.mct.org.
- **Zipcar** is a fairly new service for the SIUE community. It is a rental car service where you register on their website (www.zipcar.com) and pay a membership fee. You will receive a membership card in the mail which is used to access the cars when you reserve one. The cars are located here on the SIUE campus in the Morris University Center parking lot B. You reserve the car when needed, use your card for vehicle access, and return the car to the same location when done. For more information on this program, please visit their website listed above.
- Some exchange students frequently team up with a group of friends and buy or rent cars. If you buy a car, please remember that you will incur costs beyond the purchase price of the vehicle, such as insurance, vehicle registration taxes, license plates, gasoline, parking, and perhaps maintenance. Without knowing what kind of car you will buy, it is difficult to estimate these costs; however, a general estimate of past exchange students' expenditures on these types of expenses would be about \$150 per vehicle per month. If you plan to drive long distances, of course, you will spend more on fuel.

Food –

- Please plan for about \$10-\$15/day while you are here.

Linens and Household Items –

- We will give you a mattress pad, a set of bed sheets, blanket, pillow, washcloth, and towel for use while you are here. You may want to bring or buy extra towels.
- If you want an additional blanket or a duvet, you can probably find something basic for between \$10 and \$35 at a local department store.
- Students sometimes need to buy cleaning supplies for their apts., especially if they live in an apartment where their roommate does not already have those things.
 - Students who have roommates from this area usually find that their roommates have already brought some cleaning supplies for the apartment.

- If a group of 3 or 4 exchange students decide to live together in the same apartment, they will probably need to provide all of their own household supplies.

*Reminder: You will be billed by Housing for early arrivals. You will also be charged \$60 for an orientation fee by the University.