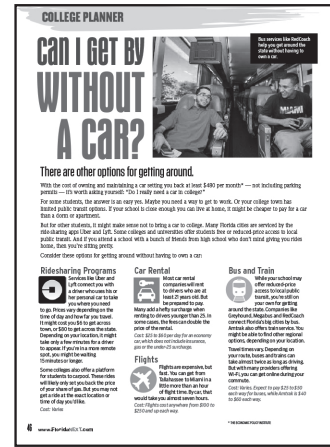




To follow reading and discussion of **Can I Get by Without a Car?** on page 46.



**COLLEGE PLANNER: ACTIVITY 3**

# Can I Get by Without a Car?

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide class into groups of four students.
- Refer students to pages 59–63 in NEXT magazine.
- Assign one category of colleges/universities to each group:
  - State Universities (page 59)
  - State Colleges (pages 60–61)
  - Independent Colleges & Universities of Florida (pages 62 and 63)
  - Private Colleges and Universities (page 63)
- Ask each student in the group to choose one of the colleges/universities in their category to use to complete the activity. (NOTE: If a student has decided which university/college to attend after graduation, allow the student to use the information from that school for the following set of tasks.)
- Read the Student Task sheet with class. Answer questions.
- Students use task sheet to complete this activity.

### Teacher Needs

- NEXT magazine (copies of Get Smart Guide, pages 59-65)
- Laptop/desktop
- Internet access
- Printer
- Copier
- Class set of Student Task sheet

### Student Needs

- Laptop/desktop
- Internet access
- MS Word or MS Excel access
- Student Task sheet

### Florida State Standards

- LAFS.1112.R.1.1.3  
Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text.
- LAFS.1112.R.1.3.7  
Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.
- SS.912.FL.1.3  
Evaluate ways people can make more informed education, job, or career decisions by evaluating the benefits and costs of different choices.

# Can I Get by Without a Car?

Use either MS Word or MS Excel to complete this activity.

**TASK 1:** First look at your personal expenses of owning a car for one year.

- If you have a car, do you have a loan? How much is that loan payment every month? Use this amount to determine the annual cost of the loan.
- How much is the annual cost of your auto insurance?
- What is the average mileage you travel with your car in one year?
- What is the average cost of gasoline per year?
- What is the average cost of maintaining your car, i.e., tires, oil change, etc. for 12 months?

**TASK 2:** Based upon where you live, calculate answers to the following questions:

## **CAR**

- What is the distance from the high school to the university/college?
- How long will it take to drive to the university/college?
- What is the average price of gas, and how much will gas cost to drive to the college?

## **TRAIN/BUS**

- Is there a train or bus with routes to the university/college town from your home?
- What is the distance from home to the train/bus station on both ends? How much will it cost to get to the train /bus station on both ends?
- What is the cost of a one-way train/bus ticket?
- How long (in time) is the train/bus ride?

## **AIRPLANE**

- Is there an airline that flies from an airport near your current location to an airport close to the university/college?
- What is the distance from home to the airport? What is the cost to travel to the airport on both ends (to airport from home and to campus from the airport)?
- What is the cost of a one-way airline ticket?

**TASK 3:** Compare the three modes of transportation. Which have you found to be the most convenient or cost-effective mode of transportation when traveling to and from campus and give your reasons?

**TASK 4:** Now look at what is available on campus versus off campus. Using the university/college website, find out if:

- There is a cost for student parking (consider main campus and dorm facilities) There is public transportation to off campus places such as shops, restaurants, entertainment, etc. What if any is the cost of such transportation and how often does it run.
- Using the website of the university/college, determine what are the on-campus benefits and features where no transportation is needed; such as fast food restaurants, entertainment such as a movie theater.

*The information gathered will have an impact on whether having a car on campus will be cost-effective. Discuss with the class your findings and decision concerning whether can get away without a car at college.*