

# Money Saving Strategies for College Students

Heading back to campus? There are so many ways that college students can reduce their costs and "find" more money by using the handy tools and tips below.

**1. Save on textbooks** — Save hundreds each semester by renting college text books or buying used at [Chegg.com](http://Chegg.com), [textbooks.com](http://textbooks.com), [campusbooks.com](http://campusbooks.com), and [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). You can also search for open source textbooks at sites like [StudentPIRGs.org](http://StudentPIRGs.org), [OERCommons.org](http://OERCommons.org), [CNX.org](http://CNX.org), or [Wikibooks.org](http://Wikibooks.org).

**Money-Saving Tip:** You can also make money by selling your books on these sites.



**2. Money-Saving Sites** — Save money on everyday expenses and fun activities through sites like Groupon and Living Social. Also use [Retail Me Not](http://RetailMeNot.com), and [Slickdeals](http://Slickdeals.com), [Rakuten](http://Rakuten.com) to find coupons or discounts on most of your purchases.

**3. Free calculators** — Go to [Dinkytown's comprehensive calculator list](http://Dinkytown.com) or [Bankrate's calculators](http://Bankrate.com) to find easy calculators of all types throughout your college years and beyond.

**4. Save on movies** — While date night at the movies is fun, it's also expensive. Save money by streaming online. [Here's a list of sites](#) with lots of free options for movies and tv programming.



**5. Student ID** — Get the most out of your ID for discounts at student and sports activities, access to free events, local entertainment discounts, interesting lectures, mass transit, etc. **Money-Saving Tip:** Always ask for a student discount wherever you shop. Even if it's not posted, the retailer or restaurant may offer it.

**6. Ditch the car** — Cars are a huge expense (gas, maintenance, insurance, registration, parking, etc.). To save money, ditch the car and live close to campus, use mass transit, use ride-sharing or bike-sharing programs, or join a car club service like [Zipcar](http://Zipcar.com).



## 7. Free or low-cost productivity apps and programs:

- [Apps for recording lectures](#)
- [Flashcard apps](#) to help you study, learn, and strengthen your memory.
- [News reader apps](#) to stay informed and up to date by creating different pages based on your interests.
- [Diigo](#) is a powerful research tool to help students highlight and bookmark text and images on the Web. You can also create sticky notes and share resources about Web sites with other users.

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