

VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTIONS



Thank you for participating in Test Drive...Next Stop Reality! Your job as a volunteer will be to guide students through making purchases while they create a monthly "adult" budget.

Students are approximately 25 years old, have chosen an occupation, and have determined their net monthly income. They may be single, single with a child, married, or married with a child. These important life details should be displayed on their name tags. If not, the front page of their Student Status Packets will list this information. Their life status will be a factor in what they will need to purchase from your station.

Utilities

Every student will visit your table to pay for utilities such as heating, cooling, electricity, water, gas, and garbage for the home or rental unit they chose at the Housing station.

Ask, "Did you purchase a home or are you renting?"

The Utilities Station Guides are organized with purchased homes on one sheet and rentals on the other. By asking which type of home the student is living in, you can determine which guide to use for your discussion.

- Help students find their home on the guide sheet. They may need to refer to the Housing section on page 1 of their Road Map if they do not remember which home they chose.
- The cost for each home includes garbage, water, electricity and/or gas. The costs for this scenario are averaged based the size of the home. Briefly discuss things that can cause these numbers to vary (mainly the size of the home and the number of people living in it). You may point out larger homes cost more to heat and cool than smaller homes.
- **Active Duty Military pay \$0 for Utilities** (but it is still important to discuss prices with them so they have an understanding of the cost of utilities).
- ***Note: At the Housing station (which students visit before coming to Utilities), students who are single and renting are given the option to live with a roommate. If they chose to have a roommate, they will pay half of the Utility payment listed on the Station Guide for their particular rental.***
- After finding their home choice, students will record the corresponding cost on their Road Map and then write it in their Transaction Register in their Student Status Packet and subtract it from their balance.

Acknowledge the transaction by placing a stamp in the right column of the Utilities section of their Road Map.

Utilities is on page 3 of the Road Map

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