

Spring Break

So you're a typical college student, and you want to leave the frigid cold of Spokane and fly with your friends to the warm, gorgeous sands of Florida, Mexico, or California in March, but don't know how to save for it. We can help you with a few tips and websites for saving money with out becoming a hermit!



Just for Students

- **Discounts:** Everyone knows that college students don't have a lot of money, so many places offer college discounts. There are some spring break companies that allow students to plan a spring break on a budget, and even go for free by working for the company. They work with airlines, hotels and event planners to give you an unforgettable trip on a budget.
- **Alternative trips:** Want to have a memorable spring break, but don't want to go to the beaches, or can't afford to? Road trips, camping trips, or a big city trip might be up your alley. If you don't want to spend any money and want to help others, try a volunteer spring break option instead. Gonzaga's Mission Possible, United Way, Break Away and others have Spring Break alternatives for students.
- **Cruises:** Although this may not be cheaper than going to Florida, there are cruises specifically discounted for students, and many allow you to cram people into a room, saving everyone in your group money.

Saving money, a little at a time...

While your waiting for that gorgeous vacation to come, here are ways to save money while you're at school.

- **Save on gas:** Instead of driving to school, walk, ride a bike, or carpool.
- **Say no to McDonalds:** Even though fast food is a staple for college students, it adds up. Cooking, going to the COG, and packing lunches will save you money.
- **Collect your change:** Drop your change into a piggy bank everyday for some extra cash in March.
- **Turn off those appliances:** Run your dishwasher at night, unplug your cell charger, microwave, and coffee pot when you aren't using them; it can save you up to a \$100.
- **Discounted fun:** Everyone wants to spend time with friends, but instead of heading out to a movie, or the bars; plan a game night at home, use happy hours if you do go out, or take advantage of events on campus. It will all save you money, without causing you to miss out on quality time with your friends.

Having fun in the sun on a budget

All-inclusive resorts: Although they may be pricey up front, they might save money in the long run. Most resorts include airfare, hotel, dining

and drinks; and sometimes, events and day trips. If you don't want to worry about paying for anything while on your trip, this is for you.

Condos vs. Hotels: If you are traveling with a big group sometimes a condo or cabin may be cheaper. Condos will hold more people for the price, and having a kitchen to cook meals in while staying at the condo can be a great way to save money.

Nightlife fun: Going out can be fun on vacation, but also expensive. Try not to go to clubs or bars with covers, look for drink and food specials, or skip the drinks at the club and just enjoy the scene.

FAFSA REMINDER!!

The priority FAFSA filing deadline for the 09-10 year at Gonzaga was February 1.

Please fill out your FAFSA as soon as possible if you haven't already done so

Contact the Financial Aid Office at 509-313-6582 if you have any questions about your FAFSA.



Resources & Reference Information (information was taken from some of the following sites for this newsletter)

- <http://www.studentcity.com>
- <http://www.liveunited.org>
- <http://www.paradiseparties.com>
- <http://www.energysavers.gov/tips.html>
- <http://www.allinclusiveresorts.net>
- <http://www.gocollege.com> (most information came from this site)
- <http://www.gonzaga.edu/Student-Life/Get-Involved/Community-Action-and-Service-Learning/CCASL-programs/Mission-Possible/default.asp>

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If you have any questions about this newsletter or suggestions for future newsletter topics, please e-mail Katy Jones, Grant Coordinator:

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