

# How to Use Our Sliding Scale

Higher End	Middle	Lower End
I am comfortably able to meet all of my basic needs	I may stress about meeting my basic needs but still regularly achieve them	I frequently stress about meeting basic needs and don't always achieve them
I may have some debt but it does not prohibit attainment of basic needs	I may have some debt but it does not prohibit attainment of basic needs	I have debt and it sometimes prohibits me from meeting my basic needs
I own my home or property OR I rent a higher end property	I rent a home	I rent a lower-end property or have unstable housing
I own or lease a car	I own or lease a car	I do not have a car and/or have limited access to a car or am not always able to afford gas
I am employed or do not need to work to meet my needs	I am employed	I am unemployed or underemployed
I have regular access to health care	I have access to healthcare	I qualify for government assistance including food stamps and healthcare
I have access to financial savings	I might have access to financial savings	I have no access to savings
I have an expendable** income	I have some expendable income	I have no or very limited expendable income
I can always buy new items	I am able to buy some new items and I thrift others	I rarely buy new items because I am unable to afford them
I can afford an annual vacation or take time off	I can take a vacation annually or every few years without financial burden	I cannot afford a vacation or have the ability to take time off without financial burden
<b>\$60- \$50</b>	<b>\$50- \$40</b>	<b>\$40- \$30</b>

