Unnamed area

SLIDING SCALE FEE GUIDANCE

STEP 1:
Read the prompts in green, blue, yellow, and orange. Take a note of ones that are true or close to true for you

- **family assets / roadblocks**
- **earned assets & debts**
- **privilege & roadblocks**
- **income**

Step 2: Identify if prompts that are true for you are higher or lower on the chart, to see what sliding scale level you might land at.

Sliding scale levels

- Higher / Top
- Full fee
- Low - Middle
- Lower / Bottom

These would nudge you higher on the scale ...

Select higher on the sliding fee scale if you had more prompts here.

These would nudge you lower on the scale ...

Select lower on the sliding fee scale if if you had more prompts here.

I live mostly or all off unearned / gifted income

I live partially off unearned income

Family has many assets, like investments – I have access and gave it away– someone else paid or pays my rent/ mortgage– I choose to work or not

I choose to work part time or for less pay since I need less money/ have external support

Family has many assets, like a paid-off house and/or parents have retirement accounts

Family of origin has assets, like a house they are paying

I help my family with $

I support others besides myself on my income

My family has few assets

Family has no assets

no family or access to family

I have high earning power (even if im not exercising it today)

My career is stable and moving forward

Student loans for professional or post-secondary education in my current field

Student loans and most people in my family have higher education

I have a graduate degee

someone in my family explained how careers work

I have a bachelors degree

I have student loans and I was among the first in my family to go to college

Career? What career?

Currently accruing survival credit card debt

I have a degree(s) without having had loans.

I choose to go out to eat / drink weekly or more.

I can cover my basic needs + some extras regularly

I'm able bodied

struggling to pay more than minimums on debt

I can cover my basic needs regularly

I give unpaid volunteer time to community

I have non-optional health care costs to cover

I struggle to cover basic needs regularly

My race, ethnicity, skin color or gender doesn't impact my income

My race, ethnicity, skin color or gender(s) does impact my income

I'm sick or disabled and that impacts my ability to work / earn money.

Employed make over $140k

OR I make a high income relative to my home's average income

Employed, make $100 - $140k

Employed, make $85-100k

OR I make a middle income relative to my home's average income

Employed make $50 - 85k

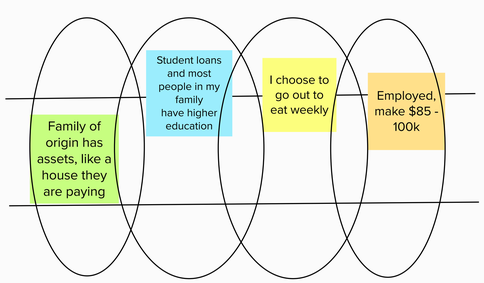
Employed, make $25-50k

OR I make a low income relative to my home's average income

Unemployed with UI or employed marginally

Unemployed + no UI– employed less than marginally

AN EXAMPLE



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Full fee

NOTES ON USING THIS SCALE

This is a guide, not a prescription. You know your financial reality better than anyone or any scale, period.

There are **lots of experiences and situations not covered here** - place yourself as you best can, being honest and self-loving.

It's ok to have resources! And it's ok not to have them. That's what a scale is meant to account for.

Please use this as an **opportunity to examine your resources (or lack thereof)** and situation holistically and generationally.

Often we find that folks who've experienced early-life abundance who are *currently temporarily scarce* select lower on the scale than people who've experienced early-life scarcity who are temporarily abundant. That's not what's supposed to happen -- and it doesn't create a sustainable practice for the practitioner.

By Hadassah Damien, Ride Free Fearless Money, Made: 2018 - updated 2024 - (c) creative commons share alike