Sample Budgets

*Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’-By World* and the GA Series of Books

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There are four books in the Getting Ahead series:

1. *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’-By-World*, the original workbook and accompanying Facilitator Notes. This is used in many institutions and communities, first published in 2004 and revised twice since then.
2. *Getting Ahead in the Workplace*, for people preparing to enter the workforce and those in entry level jobs, published in 2015.
3. *Getting Ahead while Getting Out*, the pre-release workbook and accompanying User Guide used by correctional facilitates, Bridges collaboratives and/or reentry programs. Published in 2015.
4. *Investigations into Economic Class in America*, for first generation low-income post-secondary students, published in 2011.

Below are two sample budgets: one that includes the cost of payments to GA investigators and one that doesn’t. Payments are the highest line item in the budget so it’s necessary to provide two samples. The first sample includes the cost of payments to Getting Ahead Investigators. The complete rationale for paying investigators can be found in the Facilitator Notes for Getting Ahead. In short, investigators are paid because they act as a focus group that generates much needed information to planners in institutions and communities that design programs for people in poverty.

Two books in the GA series pay investigators and two don’t. The first two in the list above, Getting Ahead, the original workbook, and *Getting Ahead in the Workplace* do require that investigators be paid.

The two books that don’t pay investigators are *Getting Ahead while Getting Out* and *Investigations into Economic Class in America.* In prisons and colleges there is no mechanism for making payments for participation.

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| Sample Budget for  Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’-By World &  Getting Ahead in the Workplace | | |
| Line Item | Expense | Description |
| Payments @ $25 per session, per investigator | $4,800 | $25 x 16 session = $400 per person  12 people x $400 = $4,800 |
| Getting Ahead Workbooks | 214.00 | Workbook $19.50, 10 or more $16.50  $16.50 x 12 = $198, shipping 8% = $15.84 |
| Facilitator | Local decision | GA facilitators are often volunteers so the cost can be zero. Some facilitators are employees with GA a part of their duties. Some sites pay facilitators; recommend that facilitators be paid locally determined self-sufficient wages. GA sessions are 2.5 to 3.0 hours. 16 sessions x 3 = 48 hours. Facilitators spend considerable time recruiting, doing orientation, preparation for each session, and data management. Facilitators may put as much time into these activities as they do into facilitating. |
| Supplies | Local  decision | Necessary supplies: flip chart paper, plain paper, manila folders for each investigator, pens, big supply of markers.  Optional supplies: calendars, inexpensive calculators, extra art supplies |
| Meeting space  Transportation  Childcare | Local decision | Most GA sites find donated meeting space in libraries, community centers, and churches.  Partnering organizations, volunteers and GA investigators often help with transportation and childcare. |
| Food | Local  decision | Optional but highly recommended. Food brings people together and if the sessions are in the evening, food is necessary. Partnering organizations and volunteers often provide the food. |
| One time and administrative costs | | |
| One time cost of GA Facilitator Training: two three-hour online sessions. | $299 | Onsite facilitator training also available.  Online and onsite training includes the cost of the GA workbooks and accompanying Facilitator Notes for each facilitator. |
| Data collection, report writing, evaluation | Local decision | It’s highly recommended that Bridges and GA initiatives collect data and conduct evaluations. National organizations provide affordable GA specific data collection systems.  <http://www.ahaprocess.com/evaluations-research-best-practices-results/> |

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| Sample Budget for  Getting Ahead while Getting Out  Investigations into Economic Class in America | | |
| Line Item | Expense | Description |
| Getting Out Workbooks  Investigations workbook | $214.00  333.00 | Workbook $19.50, 10 or more $16.50  $16.50 x 12 = $198, shipping 8% = $15.84 total $213.84 ($214)  Workbook $32.50, 10 or more $27.75  $27.75 x 12 = $333.00 |
| Facilitator | Local decision | Facilitators for Getting Out are often volunteers so the cost can be zero. Some facilitators are employees are faculty. Some sites pay facilitators; recommend that facilitators be paid locally determined self-sufficient wages. GA sessions are 2.5 to 3.0 hours. 16 sessions x 3 = 48 hours.  Facilitators spend considerable time recruiting, doing orientation, preparation for each session, and data management. Facilitators may put as much time into these activities as they do into facilitating. |
| Supplies | Local  decision | Necessary supplies: flip chart paper, plain paper, manila folders for each investigator, pens and a big supply of markers.  Optional supplies: calendars, inexpensive calculators, extra art supplies |
| Meeting space  Transportation  Childcare | Local decision | No cost |
| Food | Local  decision | Optional. Correctional facilities often provide food; with permission some food has been brought in by facilitators. Cost covered by partnering organizations or donations.  Optional. On campus food may be provided if budgets and time allow. |
| One time and administrative costs | | |
| GA Facilitator Training: two three-hour online sessions. | $299 | Onsite facilitator training also available.  Onsite and online facilitator training includes the cost of the Getting Out workbook and Users Guide and the Investigations workbook and Facilitator Notes for each facilitator. |
| Data collection, report writing, evaluation | Local decision | It’s highly recommended that Bridges and GA initiatives collect data and conduct evaluations. National organizations provide affordable GA specific data collection systems.  <http://www.ahaprocess.com/evaluations-research-best-practices-results/> |