

ThinkFirst

National Injury Prevention Foundation

Budgeting

Depending on the size, location and goals of a local ThinkFirst Program, a typical annual budget may range from less than \$1,000 for programs doing a handful of presentations to between \$30,000 and \$80,000 for more ambitious efforts. An important consideration is that it is perfectly acceptable to start small and build your program on the recognition that it receives. Don't be put off by the size and organization of the large programs that have been underway for several years.

Many of the costs related to program operation are one-time material purchases, such as films, while other materials, such as wheelchairs or a spine model may already be available on loan from the sponsoring medical center. Also, if the hospital provides in-kind office space and some access to telephone, Xeroxing and postage, the need for additional hard funding may be reduced.

Generally, the major expenses for conducting the basic school program are the coordinator's salary, and speaker fees for the brain or spinal cord injured, introductory, and paramedic speakers. Other major expenses, depending on the type of program can include T-shirts and other give-aways; initial equipment purchase; and rental or purchase of a van to transport the obstacle course.

The following are two sample annual budgets for local programs. Your budget will likely incorporate elements from each, depending on the needs of your program. Note especially individual line items, which may be applicable to small programs just starting out.

Sample budget number 1 does not reflect the cost of the coordinator's salary and office space that is donated by the host medical center. It also assumes that audio visual equipment is available from the medical center and need not be purchased.

Sample budget number 2 includes salary for a full-time coordinator. Please note that budgets often fall somewhere between the two. Many chapters compensate the directors' for a part time position.

Funding

Sources of funding include grants, individual and corporate donations, hospital contributions, special events, foundation and state, city or county funds.

SAMPLE #1 (In US Dollars)

ThinkFirst Program Local Chapter Start-Up Budget #1

Program Supplies:

Training Fee – Due with chapter application \$2000

Additional ThinkFirst for Kids packets – 5 @ \$199 995

Speaker Fees:

Stipend of \$45/day x 10 programs 450

Sub-Total \$3445

Other:

Classroom supplements -
brain and spinal cord models, luggage cart, carrying case,
wireless remote, etc. 600

Student hand-out -
wallet cards (1,000 @ .10 each) 100

Total \$4,145

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