

Overall, your financial plan has some great ideas for investments and goals for your future. Below are some of my suggestions.

Plans After High School:

- Deciding between CCAC and IUP:
 - Saving \$16,000 by attending CCAC might be a good idea if they have the programs you are interested in
 - Another possibility is to attend for 2 years and then transfer to IUP

Plans to Pay for College:

- Applying for loans can be an effective way to pay for college
- Working during college is a good idea to have a steady income and set money aside for savings
- Scholarships:
 - Research scholarships to help pay for college
 - There are so many scholarships available that people don't know about and don't take advantage of

Avoiding Debt:

- Keeping track of your finances and knowing what you can and cannot afford is crucial to stay out of debt
- When paying off your debt, it is always best to pay the highest amount possible
 - This can decrease your number of payments and the amount of interest you have to pay back

Short Term Goals:

- Apartment—You budgeted: \$250/month
 - Living in an apartment is a good idea to save money, especially if you are living with roommates
 - You are probably going to need to budget at least \$400/month
 - Rent often does not include all of your utilities which will be an additional expense to take into consideration
 - Living with roommates can decrease this cost
- Car—You budgeted: \$18,000
 - Buying a used car can decrease this cost
 - It is important to make sure the car is good quality to reduce future payments, but it is not necessary to spend a large amount on your first car

Long Term Goals:

- Children—You budgeted: \$70,000
 - The average cost of raising 1 child in the United States is approximately \$250,000