

# Go for the Goal

Introductory Level



## What do you do you intend to achieve?

Making a winning kick, graduating high school, buying your first car and acing a class are all typical goals teens want to accomplish. Understanding what you want and how to get what you want are important steps in achieving your hopes and dreams.

**A goal is something a person intends to accomplish.**



Go for the Goal

## Goals are like using Google Maps

**Would you drive across the country without your phone?**



Driving across the country could be a learning adventure that is rich in enjoyment. Traveling without a map could leave you lost or in unwanted areas and even in dangerous situations. Goals help you:

- Focus
- Have direction
- Keep the end in mind
- Use resources wisely

Goals help you make better choices.

## Short-Term or Long-Term

Is your goal going to take a year or more?

**Short-Term – one year or less**

- Improving grades at school
- Making the basketball team
- Saving money to buy a new phone

**Long-Term – more than one year**

- Attending college
- Getting a great job
- Buying a new car

What is a short-term goal you have?

Go for the Goal

## Making goals reality

Writing down goals, as you did above, is a great start to achieving what you want. There is a system to help you have an even better path to achieving your goal and that is to use the SMART system.



Read an article about goals at [www.consumerjungle.org](http://www.consumerjungle.org)

Specific	Measurable	Attainable	Realistic	Time Bound
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• State exactly what is to be done</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Include how the goal can be measured</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Determine steps to reach the goal</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do not set goals for something unrealistic</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• State when the goal will be met</li></ul>
<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>T</b>

Write a short-term goal following the SMART system below:



A financial goal is a specific objective achieved through financial planning.