Slope Calculator Activity

For this activity, you will use RUReady.ND.gov to determine the projected entry-level wage you will be earning and compare it with the amount of student loans you expect to have.

2. Click the Financial Aid Calculators section. Choose the Student Loans Over Projected Earnings (SLOPE) Calculator.
3. Read the information provided, then click Start the SLOPE Calculator.

- As an example, use one of the following for this worksheet (check one):
  - Architecture and Engineering Occupations; Civil Engineer (Career Outlook page 18)
  - Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations; Radiologic Technologist (Career Outlook page 32)
  - Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations; Bus and Truck Mechanic and Diesel Engine Specialist (Career Outlook page 50)

4. Enter the college start and graduation dates in the calculator.
5. Using the dropdown boxes, select the career category and occupation you chose from the examples listed above.
6. Leave the dropdown at “no” for the “Will you pay interest on Direct Unsubsidized Loans during school?”
7. Leave all loans set at the default interest rate, loan term and minimum payment amounts. Click Next
8. Enter 3500 under Direct Subsidized Loans for the number of years you anticipate being in college.
9. Enter 5500 under Direct Unsubsidized Loans for the same number of years of college.

Example:

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<th>YEAR</th>
<th>FR</th>
<th>SO</th>
<th>JR</th>
<th>SR</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>DIRECT SUBSIDIZED LOANS</th>
<th>DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED LOANS</th>
<th>DIRECT PLUS LOANS</th>
<th>OTHER/ALTERNATIVE LOANS</th>
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</thead>
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<td></td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>5500</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Answer the following questions about your potential loan:

1. What is your **Total Loans Loan Balance**? ______________________

2. What is your **Total Loans Monthly Payment**? ______________________

3. What is the **total amount that you will pay** if you take out these loans? ______________________

4. What is the **SLOPE percentage** (8% or less is a safe SLOPE)? ______________________

5. Using the ND Postsecondary Programs Estimated on-Campus Budget information on page 55 of the Career Outlook, what is the **Total Annual Cost** of attending the school of your choice? ______________________

6. Multiply one year of the **Total Annual Cost** times the number of years you expect to attend college.
   
   What is the total amount? ______________________

   
   **Repeat this activity with a career and college of your choice.**

   
   **Career:** ________________________________

   
   **Answer the following questions about your potential loan:**

   1. What is your **Total Loans Loan Balance**? ______________________

   2. What is your **Total Loans Monthly Payment**? ______________________

   3. What is the **total amount that you will pay** if you take out these loans? ______________________

   4. What is the **SLOPE percentage** (8% or less is a safe SLOPE)? ______________________

   5. Using page 55 of the Career Outlook, what is the **Total Annual Cost** of attending the school of your choice? ______________________

   6. Multiply one year of the **Total Annual Cost** times the number of years you expect to attend college.
      
      What is the total amount? ______________________