

# STATUS

A game that examines the **impacts of privilege** through a character's generated **gender, ethnicity, education, and background.**

How much privilege would you like?

 = privilege assets

(hardly any)  
**Difficult**



(a little)  
**Intermediate**



(a lot)  
**Easy**



**Randomly Generate**

# Privilege Points Guide

(Less privilege)

(More privilege)

**5-8 points = difficult**

**9-12 points = medium**

**13-15 points = easy**

## Ethnicity:

Ethnicity of color: **3 pts.**

Ethnicity of no color: **5 pts.**

## Gender:

Non-binary: **0 pts.**

Female: **1 pts.**

Male: **2 pts.**

## Education:

No GED: **1 pt.**

GED: **2 pts.**

Some College: **3 pts.**

Grad: **4pts**

## Citizenship:

No: **1 pt.**

Yes: **2 pts.**

## Family support:

No: **0 pt.**

Some: **1 pt.**

Yes: **2 pts.**

## **Intro:**

“Status” gives a player the opportunity to view the world through the lens of varying amounts of privilege, experiencing events such as searching for a job, looking for a home, and buying groceries.

**To win, a player must accumulate \$2,000.  
A player will lose once they hit \$0.**



# Random Character Generation: Difficult (5-8 privilege points)

Randomly Generate

**You will play as:**

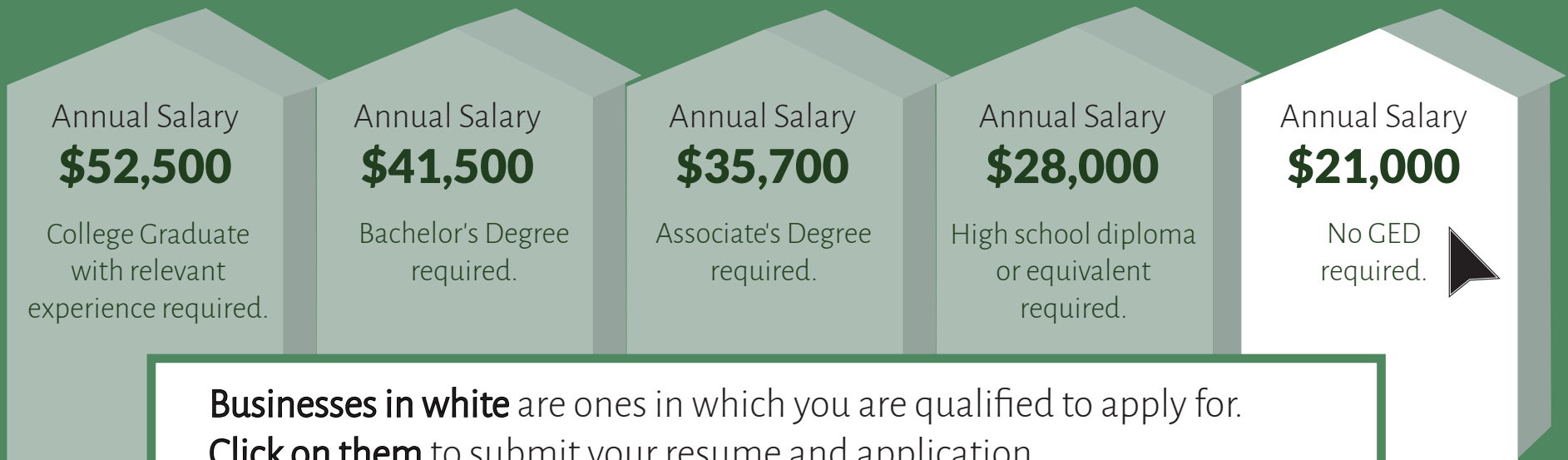
**A woman** <sup>(1)</sup> **of color** <sup>(3)</sup> **without a**  
**GED/equivalent** <sup>(0)</sup>, **citizenship** <sup>(2)</sup>,  
and **some family support** <sup>(1)</sup>  
**(7 total privilege points)**

**Your character has recently moved to a new city and must start from scratch.**

She has a car and a family across the States, but must seek employment and housing while beginning a new chapter in her life.



# Level 1: Find a Job



**Businesses in white** are ones in which you are qualified to apply for. **Click on them** to submit your resume and application.

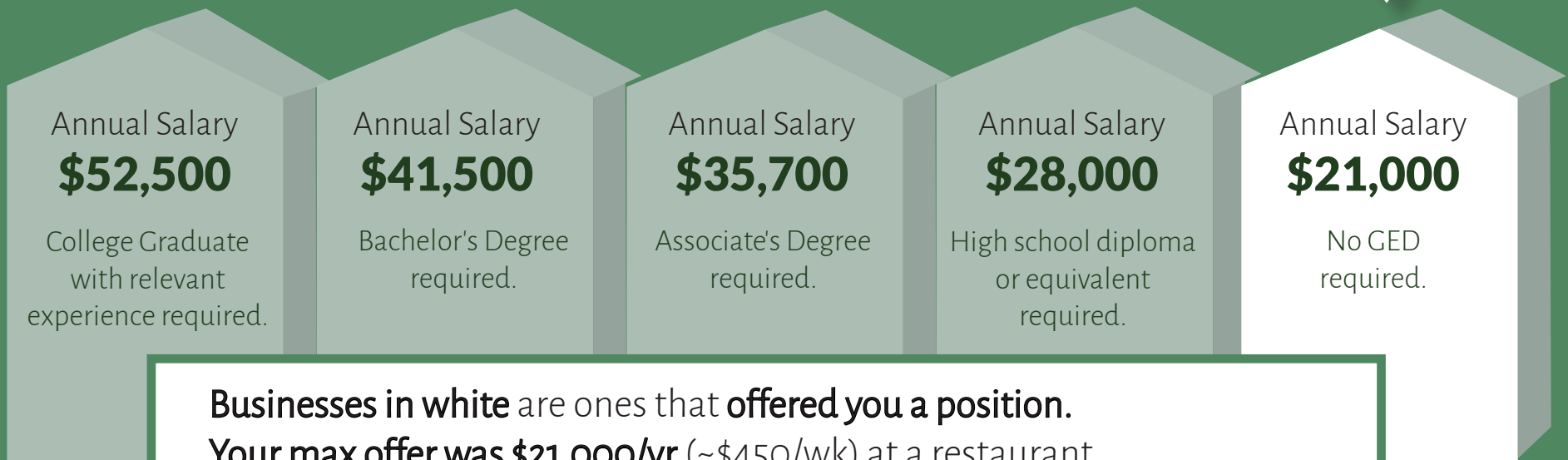


Because you do not have a GED or equivalent, you are only qualified to apply for 1 out of 5 open positions.

Individuals without a GED or equivalent make an average of **\$20,000 annually**.

**Balance: \$17.00**

# Level 1: Find a Job



**Businesses in white** are ones that **offered you a position.**  
Your max offer was **\$21,000/yr** (~\$450/wk) at a restaurant.



Luckily, you have received an offer for the one position you were eligible to apply for.

Now that you have a job secured, you must look for a place to live...

**Continue**

**Balance: \$17.00**

# You're Hungry...



You are very hungry, but only have \$17.00. You start work tomorrow.



You want to save every penny you can, but you also have to eat. You can either buy a small meal at the store or eat a protein bar you found in your bag.

**Balance: \$17.00**



# First Day of Work



**It's your first shift** The restaurant provides free meals during your breaks.



You will need to accumulate more money in order to go grocery shopping. You still only have less than \$20 to spend before your next paycheck. For now, you must rely on the food you can eat and take home from your shifts.

**Continue**

**Balance: \$17.00**

# Level 2: Find a Place to Live

Room Share  
**\$500/m**

1 bed Apartment  
**\$1,100/m**

2 bed House  
**\$2.200/m**

The room share option and 1 bed apartment option are the only properties in your price range. Read below to find out more.

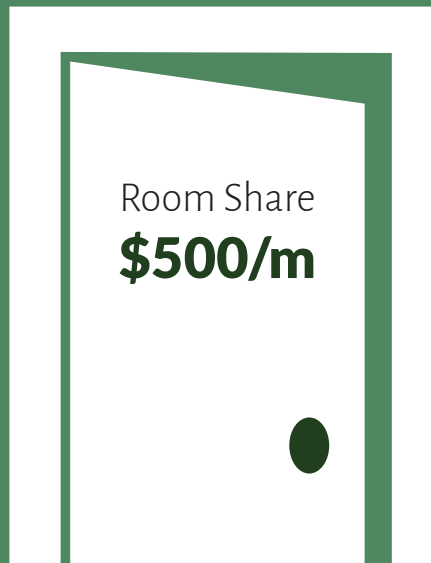


You find three available properties near the restaurant that you work at. While the room share is only \$500, you would need to share all other spaces and amenities with others. The apartment is in a high-crime area, and the home is simply out of your price range.

**Continue**

**Balance: \$17.00**

# Level 2: Find a Place to Live



You have selected the 1 bedroom apartment.



Your monthly rent will comprise much of your paycheck, so be sure to spend your money wisely. Because of the high-crime rate, you need to remember to lock your doors and

**Continue**

**Balance: \$17.00**

# Level 2: Find a Place to Live



**Ask family for help**

(You'll have to pay them back)

**Be homeless**

(Until you have enough saved)

**You will need to pay first & last month's rent: \$2,200.**

You have two options listed above.

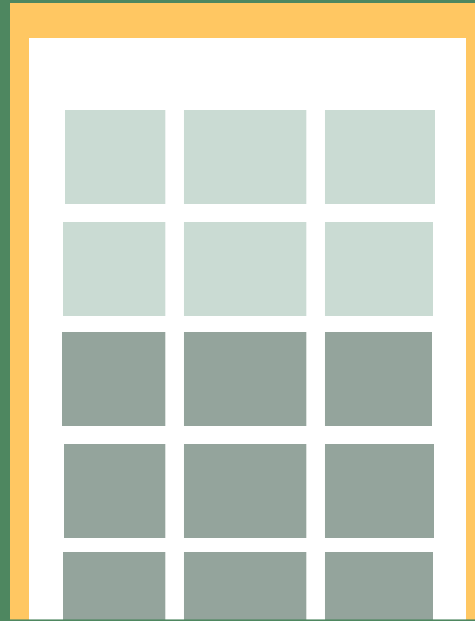


\$2,200 is a lot of money. Your family is in a tight spot, but is willing to help you if you pay them back within 2 months. Your only other option is to be homeless and seek shelter until you've saved enough.

What do you do?

**Balance: \$17.00**

# Level 2: Find a Place to Live



Your family has loaned you the \$2,200 you need for rent.



Your family needs this money, too. Make sure to pay them back as soon as you can.

With this money, you're able to sign the lease on your apartment.

**Sign the lease**  
pay \$2,200

**Balance: \$2217.00**

# New Balance Update

**New Balance: \$17.00**

You only have \$17 left in your account after signing the lease.



Payday is soon, but you will need to preserve this cash as much as you can.

**Continue**



# Payday



The restaurant pays you on the 15th and last day of each month.  
**Including tips, you received \$1,095.**



Your new balance after paying first & last month's rent (with your family's help) and receiving your first 2-week paycheck is just over \$1,200. You want to begin paying your family back.

**Continue**

**Balance: \$1,212.00**

# Payday



**All**  
(\$2,200)

**Half**  
(\$1,100)

**Third**  
(\$733)

How much will you pay your family back now?



You don't have enough to pay your family back completely, and while you do have enough to pay them half, you will need to maintain a sufficient balance to pay for groceries, food, gas, and of course, rent.

**Balance: \$1,212.00**



# New Balance Update

\$1,095

\$-733

**New Balance: \$362.00**

You've paid your family back a fair amount, they will be pleased.



Use your remaining balance wisely, as you will still need to pay your family back in addition to other expenses.

**Continue**

# Level 4: Grocery Shopping



You now have money for grocery shopping! How much will you buy?

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You know that you will have to send your family another payment, as well as pay rent soon, so you can't spend very much.

How much do you choose to buy?

**Balance: \$362.00**

# Inventory of Groceries



With \$200, you were able to purchase the **bare essentials** to get you through the next couple of weeks.



You were able to purchase absolute necessities such as toiletries, cooking supplies, noodles, some snacks, breakfast items, protein bars, and some fresh produce among other things. You also needed to fill your gas tank which cost you an additional \$25.

[Continue](#)

# New Balance Update

**New Balance: \$137.00**

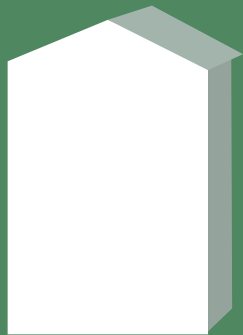
You only have \$162 in your account. You will need to save this as your next paycheck will need to go towards rent.



Use your remaining balance wisely, as you will still need to pay your family back in addition to other expenses.

**Continue**

# Payday



**All**  
(\$1,467)

**Half**  
(\$733)

**Third**  
(\$487)

**It's payday again! You now have \$1,249.**

Your family really needs money, they're in a tight spot financially.



You will need to pay rent tomorrow, so you cannot pay your family back too much. If you pay them back 1/3, you may be able to reasonably get an advance on your pay-check in order to pay for rent.

**Balance: \$1,249.00**

# New Balance Update

**New Balance: \$762.00**

You only have \$762 in your account. **You will need to request at least a \$415 advance to get you through the remainder of the month.**

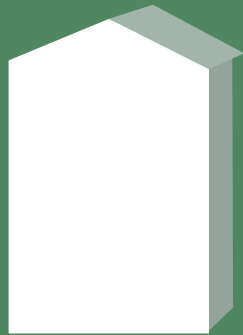


You need to keep up with your rent payment so you don't get evicted. To pay it, you'll need at least \$340 extra. You will need to ask for more just to get you through the remainder of the month.

**Request Advance**

**Risk Eviction**

# Level 5: Request Advance



The restaurant isn't doing too well, so your boss was only able to offer you a maximum advance of \$350.



You didn't receive your total amount requested, but this advance will pay the rent so you have a place to live. Unfortunately, after rent is taken tomorrow, you'll be left with only dollars. Luckily you can eat for free at the restaurant. Hopefully nothing unexpected happens.

**Balance: \$1,112.00**

# Level 6: Rent is Due



You must pay rent today.



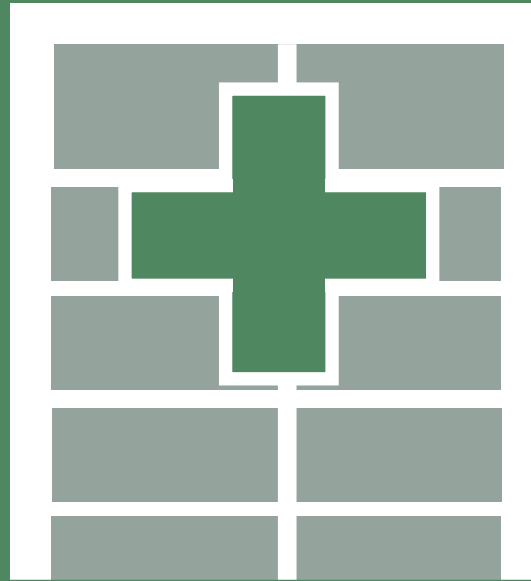
Paying rent has left you with \$12. You should save this and spend it only out of necessity.

**Continue**

**Balance: \$12.00**



# Level 7: Medical Emergency



While heading to your car, a mugger pushed you into a ditch. You can't get up. Someone close by called an ambulance.



Despite your request to not go to a hospital, a bystander called for help. You have no health insurance and are horrified about your hospital bill.

**Continue**

**Balance: \$12.00**

# Level 7: Medical Emergency



You've learned that your leg is badly broken and that you need to stay in the hospital to receive care.



The restaurant unfortunately does not provide you with any medical coverage. You have no choice other than to receive the care you need.

**Accept \$2,300  
in medical bills**

**Balance: \$-2312.00**

**Balance: \$-2312.00**

**Status: You lost.**