# SETA - User Manual

Smart Expense Tracker Application (SETA)

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# 1 What is SETA?

SETA (Smart Expense Tracker Application) is a desktop application designed to help users manage personal finances by tracking income and expenses. Key features include:

- Tracking spending by category.
- Monitoring income sources.
- Managing financial accounts (checking, savings, cash, etc.).
- Defining recurring transactions (bills, subscriptions).
- Setting financial plans (budgets and savings goals).
- Visualizing financial data via a customizable dashboard.
- Importing and exporting data.

SETA aims to provide a clear overview of financial situations to support informed decision-making.

# 2 Getting SETA on Your Computer

Users can install SETA using pre-built releases or build it from the source code.

## 2.1 Option A: Download from GitHub Releases (Recommended)

This is the simplest method for most users.

1. Navigate to the SETA GitHub Releases page: `https://github.com/sokinpui/3100_project/releases`
2. Locate the latest release version.
3. Download the appropriate file for your operating system:
   - **Windows:** Download the `.exe` file (e.g., `SETA-Setup-1.2.3.exe`). Double-click the installer and follow the on-screen instructions.
   - **macOS:** Download the `.dmg` file (e.g., `SETA-1.2.3.dmg`).
     - Double-click the `.dmg` file to open it.
     - Drag the `SETA.app` icon into your `Applications` folder.
     - **Important Note on Unsigned Apps:** As this application is not signed through the Apple Developer Program, macOS may initially block it. If you see a warning about an "unidentified developer" or that the app is "damaged", you may need to manually approve it **at your own risk**. Open the Terminal application and run the following command (replace `SETA.app` if you renamed it):

       ```
       xattr -cr /Applications/SETA.app
       ```

       This command removes quarantine attributes. You should now be able to open SETA, possibly after a one-time confirmation prompt from macOS. *Only perform this action for applications you trust.*
   - **Linux:** Download the `.AppImage` file (e.g., `SETA-1.2.3.AppImage`).
     - Make the file executable (e.g., via file properties or using `chmod +x SETA-1.2.3.AppImage` in the terminal).
     - Double-click the `.AppImage` file to run SETA.

# 3 First Steps: Logging In & The Interface

Upon launching SETA, users are presented with the **Login** screen. New users must select **Sign Up**, complete the registration form, and verify their email address via a link sent to their inbox before logging in.

The main interface consists of:

- **Sidebar (Left):** Contains navigation links to different modules such as `Dashboard`, `Expenses`, `Income`, `Accounts`, `Planning`, `Settings`, etc.
- **Content Area (Right):** Displays the content and controls for the currently selected module.

# 4 Core Concepts: Managing Your Finances

SETA organizes financial data into distinct categories:

## 4.1 Expenses

Track money spent (e.g., groceries, rent).

1. Navigate to **Expenses** via the sidebar.
2. Use the **Add New Expense** form to input Amount, Date, Category (select from predefined list or choose "Others" and specify), and optional Description.
3. Click **Add Expense**.
4. View, sort, and delete entries in the **Expense History** table.

## 4.2 Income

Track money received (e.g., salary, gifts).

1. Navigate to **Income** via the sidebar.
2. Use the **Add New Income** form to input Amount, Date, Source, optional Description, and optionally link to an Account.
3. Click **Add Income**.
4. View history in the table.

## 4.3 Accounts

Define financial holding locations (e.g., Checking, Savings, Cash).

1. Navigate to **Accounts** via the sidebar.
2. Use the **Add New Account** form to input Name, Type, Starting Balance, and the corresponding "Balance As Of Date".
3. Click **Add Account**.
4. View defined accounts. Income and Recurring Items can optionally be linked to these accounts.

### 4.4 Recurring Items (Bills & Subscriptions)

Define regular transactions (e.g., rent, salary).

1. Navigate to **Recurring Items** via the sidebar.
2. Use the **Add New Recurring Item** form to input Name, Amount, Category, Frequency (Daily, Weekly, Monthly, etc.), Start Date, optional End Date, Description, and linked Account.
3. Click **Add Recurring Item**.
4. View defined rules. This data feeds the "Upcoming Bills" widget on the dashboard.

### 4.5 Planning (Budgets & Goals)

Set financial targets.

1. Navigate to **Planning** via the sidebar.
2. Use the **Budgets** tab to define spending limits per category/period.
3. Use the **Goals** tab to define savings targets (target amount, current amount, optional target date).
4. Monitor progress via relevant dashboard widgets ("Budget Overview," "Goal Progress").

## 5 Using the Dynamic Dashboard

The **Dashboard** provides a customizable overview of financial data through widgets. Refer to the *Dashboard Widget Documentation* for details on each widget.

- **Adding/Removing Widgets:** Use the **Manage Widgets** button to select which widgets are displayed.
- **Moving & Resizing:** Click and drag widget title bars to move. Drag the bottom-right corner to resize.
- **Time Period Selector:** Use the controls (typically top-left) to set the date range for data displayed in most widgets (e.g., "Last 30 Days", "Current Month", "Custom Range").
- **Filtering Data:** Use the **Data Filters** widget (if added) to refine data shown in other widgets by Category/Source and/or Amount range. Clear selections in the filter widget to reset the view to the full time period.

## 6 Importing & Exporting Data

### 6.1 Importing Expenses/Income from CSV

Import data from external sources.

1. Navigate to **Import Data** (or similar) via the sidebar.
2. Separate sections are provided for Expense and Income CSV import.
3. Prepare a CSV file with required columns (e.g., `date`, `amount`, `category_name` for expenses; `date`, `amount`, `source` for income). Date format: `YYYY-MM-DD`. Optional columns like `description` can be included.
4. Click **Select CSV File** in the appropriate section.
5. Click **Upload and Process**.
6. Review the import summary indicating success count and any skipped rows/errors.

### 6.2 Exporting Full Data Backup (JSON)

Create a backup of all your SETA data.

1. Navigate to **Settings** via the sidebar.
2. Locate the **Data Management** section.
3. Under **Export Data**, click **Export All Data**.
4. A `.json` file containing all data (expenses, income, accounts, budgets, goals, recurring items) will be downloaded. Store this file securely.

### 6.3 Importing Full Data Backup (JSON)

Restore data from a `.json` backup.

1. Navigate to **Settings** -> **Data Management**.
2. Under **Import Data**, carefully read the **WARNING**. **Importing will DELETE all current data in the application and REPLACE it with the file's content. This action cannot be undone.**
3. Click **Select Backup File (.json)** and choose your backup file.
4. Click **Import Data**.
5. Confirm the data replacement in the subsequent dialog **only if you are certain**.
6. SETA will process the file. A restart might be necessary to reflect changes fully.

## 7 Managing Your Licence Key

Advanced features like Custom Reports require an active licence key.

1. Navigate to **Settings** -> **Licence Management**.
2. View your current status ("Active", "Inactive", "Not Set").
3. To update, enter your full licence key (format: XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX) into the **Enter Licence Key** field.
4. Click **Update Licence**. The key will be validated.
5. Review the success or error message. A restart may be required for changes to take full effect.

## 8 Generating Custom Reports (Licence Required)

Generate tailored reports with an active licence.

1. Navigate to **Custom Reports** via the sidebar (may show a lock icon if licence is inactive).
2. Select desired **Data Types** (Expenses, Income, etc.) using checkboxes.
3. Configure Options:
   - Set the **Time Period** using the selector.
   - Choose the **Output Format** (CSV, Excel, PDF).
4. Click **Generate Report**.
5. The report file will be generated and downloaded.