

Senior Checklist



Visit UCanGo2.org
for tools to help you
plan, prepare and pay
for college!

Fall Checklist

- Take action now.** Continue to explore opportunities to earn college credit while in high school. Talk to your counselor about concurrent enrollment.
- Stay on track.** Review courses with your counselor to make sure you're meeting high school graduation and entrance requirements for the school(s) that interests you. Remember to update your High School Planner at OKcollegestart.org.
- Learn more.** Attend college fairs, college planning sessions and financial aid information sessions for answers to your questions.
- Study.** Keep making the effort to maintain your grades. These habits will come in handy during your college coursework.
- Keep saving.** Continue to plug money into your Oklahoma 529 plan (OK4Saving.org) or other savings account. It's generally best to keep most savings in the parent's name.
- Sign up.** Register for the fall ACT and/or SAT tests. Find test locations and dates at UCanGo2.org/Students.
- Narrow your choices.** Many students select three to five schools to apply to, including their "dream" school, their "safety" school and two or three other choices.
- Take a tour.** If you haven't already, visit schools that are a good match to your abilities and career interests. Use the tools found on UCanGo2.org to make your campus visit a success.
- Go for free money.** Search and apply for grants and scholarships. Check out OCAP.org and UCanGo2.org for helpful links. Be sure to check with local civic organizations or employers for additional scholarship sources. Talk with your counselor about potential options. Websites like FastWeb.com and Scholarships.com are also good resources.
- Research aid.** Check for specific information about college costs and any other financial aid that may be available at UCanGo2.org and in our Are You Looking for Money booklet.
- Fill it out.** Decide which college(s) you're interested in attending and submit admission and financial aid applications. Be aware of deadlines.
- Send it in.** If you haven't already done so, make sure your official test scores are being sent to the school(s) to which you're applying.

Spring Checklist

- Talk taxes.** Make sure you and your parent(s) have completed your income tax forms as soon after Jan. 1 as possible in anticipation of completing financial aid applications, some of which have very early deadlines.
- Get a PIN.** Request a federal Personal Identification Number (PIN) at PIN.ed.gov. This PIN is used throughout the federal aid process, including for completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Fill out the FAFSA.** Complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after Jan. 1. Apply online each year at FAFSA.gov. You'll use your PIN to access and electronically sign the FAFSA. Apply for grants and scholarships early since funding is limited and deadlines are tight.
- Check in.** Contact the admission office at the school(s) you may attend to make sure they've received your information.
- Look for the SAR.** Review the information provided on your Student Aid Report (SAR), which is sent to you after you file the FAFSA, for accuracy. Any inaccurate items need to be corrected and returned for processing.
- Call to confirm.** Contact the financial aid office at the school(s) you'd like to attend to make sure they've received your information.
- Take the test.** You've studied hard, so take the exams for any AP and other honors-level subjects.
- Ask for it.** Request that your high school send your final transcript to the school(s) to which you applied.
- Keep an eye open.** Watch your mailbox or email for FAFSA results and/or award letters. Many award letters are sent via e-mail. You may want to check with the school you plan to attend and ask how this information will be sent.
- Mark your calendar.** You'll probably receive an acceptance or denial letter from the school(s) you applied to by April 15. Compare your acceptance letters, financial aid and scholarship offers.
- Sign and send.** Promptly accept your financial award letter, if required. You don't have to accept all loan funds offered to you; borrow only what you need!

Summer Checklist

- Pay attention to the MPN.** Complete the Master Promissory Note (MPN) to accept any necessary federal loan you've been offered. If you have questions, contact your educational institution or the Department of Education's Direct Loan Servicing department at 800.848.0979.
- Decisions, decisions.** If you've been accepted to multiple schools, make a decision and notify the school you plan to attend as soon as possible. You may be required to pay a nonrefundable deposit to secure your spot.
- Waiting game.** You may be placed on a waiting list for an opening at the school. If so, contact the school to let them know you're still interested.