



## 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Dream big.** Imagine yourself in college, shaping your future the way you want it. Then decide no one will hold you back!
- ☐ **Talk to people who have attended college to learn about their experiences.**
- ☐ **Save a little, learn a lot.** It's never too early to start saving for college. Check out [OklahomaMoneyMatters.org](https://OklahomaMoneyMatters.org) for more saving and money management tips, and consider signing up for a college savings account from [Oklahoma529.com](https://Oklahoma529.com). It's generally best to keep most savings in your parent's name.
- ☐ **Learn about Oklahoma's Promise.** Talk to your counselor and visit [OKPromise.org](https://OKPromise.org) to learn about our state's premier scholarship program. You can enroll as early as 8th grade.
- ☐ **Get involved.** Colleges are looking for students who will give a helping hand in their communities. Find an activity that interests you and join in — if not at school, then with a community, religious or social group.
- ☐ **Wise up.** Make wise choices that will help you succeed in life rather than choices that would keep you from reaching your goals.
- ☐ **Focus.** To prepare for high school, consider taking more challenging courses to develop a strong academic foundation.
- ☐ **Ask for help.** If you're struggling in a subject, don't get discouraged. Ask your teacher or parents for help and see about tutoring opportunities.
- ☐ **Start thinking about which jobs interest you.** What kinds of work would suit your interests, abilities, aptitudes, values and learning styles?
- ☐ **Visit a college campus.** Many colleges now offer virtual tours. Find a list of the Oklahoma tours on the [Explore Schools](https://ExploreSchools.okcollegestart.org) page of [OKcollegestart.org](https://OKcollegestart.org).
- ☐ **Keep believing.** College is a challenge, but it's also rewarding! Tell everyone about your plans. Before you know it, they'll be excited, too. For more tips on planning, preparing and paying for college, visit [UCanGo2.org](https://UCanGo2.org) and [OKcollegestart.org](https://OKcollegestart.org).