



# SENIOR CHECKLIST

## FALL CHECKLIST



### FAFSA Time!

- **Get Your StudentAid.gov account.** FAFSA applicants must create a [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) account prior to starting the FAFSA. This username and password will be used throughout the financial aid process to access and sign the FAFSA, sign student loan applications, view your financial aid history, and more.
- **Complete the FAFSA.** The FAFSA is your first step in applying for federal and state financial aid. Complete the 2026-27 FAFSA in October at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov). You'll need your StudentAid.gov account to access and electronically sign the FAFSA. If you're a dependent student, one or both of your parents will also need to create a StudentAid.gov account. Oklahoma's Promise students must complete the FAFSA annually in order to receive their funding.
- **Look for Your FAFSA Submission Summary.** After you submit the FAFSA, you'll receive a FAFSA Submission Summary via email or postal mail. Review the information provided on the summary for accuracy. If you find errors, correct the data at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) or by contacting your college financial aid office.
- **Learn about Financial Aid.** Research grants, work-study and student loan information at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) and [OKcollegestart.org](https://okcollegestart.org).



### Counselor Communication

- **Select special classes.** Consider taking Advanced Placement or concurrent enrollment courses this year. Talk to your counselor now about your options. These classes are worth checking out because some offer college credit, which could save you time and money in the long run.
- **Study.** Just like your parents said, good grades matter! Stay committed and maintain your grades. These habits will carry over to your college coursework. Find [The Perfect 10 Study Habits](https://ucango2.org) at UCanGo2.org.
- **Stay on Track.** Review your class schedule with your counselor to make sure you're meeting the high school graduation requirements, Oklahoma's Promise coursework and GPA expectations, and college entrance requirements for the institutions that interest you. Check out the [College Preparatory/Work Ready Curriculum Standards](https://okcollegestart.org) to see Oklahoma's graduation requirements.



### College Connection

- **Learn More.** Attend college fairs in your area (use our [College Fair Worksheet](https://ucango2.org) as your guide), meet with college recruiters and bring an adult to a FAFSA event at your school to get answers to your questions about enrollment and paying for college.
- **Choose Your Top Picks.** Narrow your list of potential colleges based on your research. Your list will probably include three to five colleges; however, you can submit your FAFSA results to up to 20 institutions.
- **Take a Tour.** Visit campuses that are a good match for your abilities and career interests. Use the tools found at UCanGo2.org such as [Making the Most of Campus Visits](https://okcollegestart.org) to ensure your campus visits are successful. Many colleges offer virtual tours if you're unable to visit in person. Review our list of Oklahoma institutions that offer virtual tours at [OKcollegestart.org](https://okcollegestart.org).
- **Fill It Out.** Submit college admission applications to your top choices. Be aware of all application deadlines and fees. Your high school may host a College Application Week so ask your counselor for details. You can also practice your college application with a [sample application](https://okcollegestart.org) form on OKcollegestart.org.
- **ACT On It.** Make sure your official ACT and/or SAT test scores are sent to the campuses to which you're applying. Need to take the ACT or SAT again? Try the sample practice tests on [OKcollegestart.org](https://okcollegestart.org) to increase your score. Find test locations and dates at [ACT.org](https://act.org) and [SAT.org](https://sat.org).

## Scholarships and Savings

- **Go For Scholarship Success.** Scholarships are considered FREE money and may fill the financial gap when covering your educational expenses. Check out [UCanGo2.org](http://UCanGo2.org), [OKcollegestart.org](http://OKcollegestart.org), and many other search engines to find a list of trusted scholarship websites. Find the Path to Scholarship Success, a Scholarship Tracker and Scholarship Essay Writing Tips at [UCanGo2.org](http://UCanGo2.org).
- **Apply for Oklahoma's Promise!** If you haven't already applied, visit [okpromise.org](http://okpromise.org) to sign up for this scholarship program. Graduating seniors have until December 31 to apply.
- **Keep Saving.** Continue to add money to your Oklahoma 529 college savings plan ([Oklahoma529.com](http://Oklahoma529.com)) or other savings account. It's generally best to keep most savings in your parent(s)' name(s).

## SPRING CHECKLIST

---

### Heading to Graduation

- **Don't Forget!** You must complete the [FAFSA](http://FAFSA) prior to graduation.
- **Check In.** Contact the financial aid and admission offices at the institution(s) you may attend to make sure they've received all of your information.
- **Ask For It.** Request that your high school send your final transcript, ACT and SAT scores, ICAP results, and all pertinent information to the colleges or career technology centers you may wish to attend.
- **Keep an Eye Open.** Watch your email or mailbox for FAFSA results, otherwise known as your FAFSA Submission Summary. If all information appears to be correct, check for financial aid offers that will be sent to you from the institutions listed on your FAFSA. These offers will list the amounts and types of aid you're eligible to receive. Some campuses send their offers electronically.

## SUMMER CHECKLIST

---

### Final Countdown

- **Make Your Choice.** If you've been accepted to multiple colleges, make a decision and notify the campus you plan to attend as soon as possible. You may be required to pay a nonrefundable deposit to secure your spot.
- **Confirm Your Interest.** You may be placed on a waiting list for an opening at a particular campus. If so, make your decision and let them know if you're still interested.
- **Be ready.** Participate in any summer orientation programs for incoming college freshmen.

Visit [UCanGo2.org](http://UCanGo2.org) for tools to help you plan, prepare and pay for college!

