

8th Grade Must-Do's



Get the skinny on scholarships. Scholarships are called “free money,” because they don’t have to be paid back! They’re given to college students based on financial need, talents or life experience. Your counselor will have information about scholarships available in your area. “Like” UCanGo2 on Facebook to get regular notices of scholarship opportunities.

Socialize. Are you involved in any clubs, special interest or service groups? Find a group that sparks your talents and interests. Keep track of your extracurricular activities for college scholarship applications.

Save away. When you get extra money for work, birthdays or holidays, stash some of it away in your college savings account. See OklahomaMoneyMatters.org for savings ideas.

Make courses count. Choose classes that will give you a head start for high school and college. Current college entrance requirements can be found at OKcollegestart.org.

Grab a partner. Ask an adult to help you research your options to see what would fit best with your college plans. See UCanGo2.org for tips on planning, preparing and paying for college.

Sign up. Students who qualify can sign up for the Oklahoma’s Promise scholarship program in the 8th, 9th or 10th grade. Don’t miss out on earning free full or partial college tuition at an Oklahoma school. Flip this card over for information about eligibility, see your teacher or counselor for details, or visit okpromise.org.

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Oklahoma's Promise is a scholarship program that pays full or partial college tuition at many Oklahoma schools. To see if you might qualify for the program, check every statement below that applies to you and your family.

- My family's income is \$50,000 or less per year (special income provisions apply to certain adopted children and children in the custody of court-appointed legal guardians).
- I'm in the 8th, 9th or 10th grade (or I'm a homeschooled student who is 13, 14 or 15 years old).
- I'm a resident of Oklahoma.
- I can meet the requirements of the Oklahoma's Promise program:
 - ✓ I'll graduate from an Oklahoma high school or homeschool education program.
 - ✓ I'll take 17 units of college-prep high school courses and achieve at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA in those courses.
 - ✓ I'll achieve at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA for all courses in grades 9-12.
 - ✓ I'll attend school regularly.
 - ✓ I'll do my homework.
 - ✓ I'll stay away from drugs and alcohol.
 - ✓ I won't commit criminal or delinquent acts.
 - ✓ I'll meet with a school official to go over my school work and records on a regular basis.
 - ✓ I'll apply for other financial aid during my senior year of high school.
 - ✓ I'll take part in Oklahoma's Promise activities that will help me prepare for college.

If you were able to check all four statements above, be sure to apply for Oklahoma's promise while you're in the 8th, 9th or 10th grade! Check out okpromise.org for more information.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other federal laws and regulations, do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, handicap or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes but is not limited to admission, employment, financial aid and educational services. This publication, printed by Southwestern Stationery, is issued by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, as authorized by 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3206. 6,000 copies have been printed at a cost of approximately \$459. Copies have been deposited with the Publications Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. This publication was produced in August 2011.

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