

Counting
on a
Bright
Future



OCAP Annual Conference

UCanGo2 and FAFSA

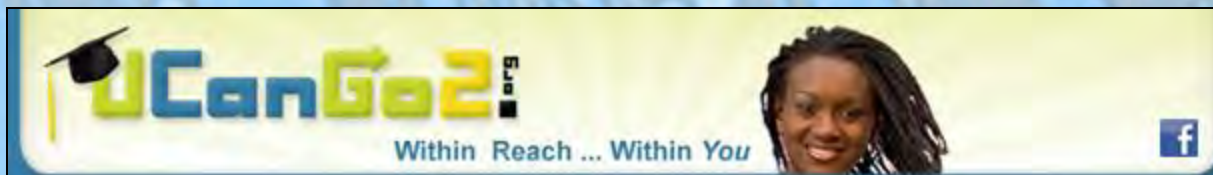
Your Go-To for the
College Countdown

Presented by:
Kelli Kelnar

What Is UCanGo2?

- Year-round college access program for high school and middle school students
- Provides information on how to plan, prepare and pay for college
- Helps families create a college-going culture in the home
- Complements the State Regents' other excellent access programs and services

UCanGo2.org



**It's college
fair time!**

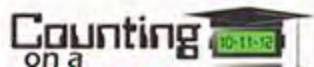
**Find one near you and
download helpful tools**

WITHIN REACH ... WITHIN YOU!

Education beyond high school is possible for everyone. The information throughout this site can help you and your parents prepare, plan and pay for education after high school.

NEWS

10.11.12 OCAP CONFERENCE



Hey, counselors and community partners! Have you signed up for the Oklahoma College Assistance

CALENDAR

UCanGo2 staff will be at the following events:

September 10 - Alva Area-Wide College Fair (Alva)

September 10 - Tonkawa Area-Wide College Fair (Tonkawa)

September 10 - Union College Night (Tulsa)

l Conference

10-11-12

Students

The screenshot shows the UCanGo2.org website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with buttons for STUDENTS, PARENTS, COUNSELORS, PARTNERS, ADULT LEARNERS, and RESOURCES. The main content area is titled 'STUDENTS' and includes a 'STUDENT TOOLBOX' with links to download high and middle school student workbooks, a 'FIND SCHOLARSHIPS' button, and a section for 'VISIT OKLAHOMA'S STUDENT PORTAL' which promotes OkCollegeStart.org. A photo of three students with speech bubbles containing questions about college is also featured.

UCanGo2.org
Within Reach ... Within You

HOME

f

STUDENTS PARENTS COUNSELORS PARTNERS ADULT LEARNERS RESOURCES

STUDENTS

Click below to answer some important college questions!

What's in it for me? How can I make it happen? How can I pay for it?

Have you thought about what you want to be when you grow up? You may dream of becoming a doctor, engineer, teacher, beautician, graphic designer, nurse or welder— all jobs that require education beyond high school. You may have also thought you're not "college material," but you're wrong. College is within your reach!

STUDENT TOOLBOX

DOWNLOAD A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WORKBOOK!

DOWNLOAD A MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT WORKBOOK!

FIND SCHOLARSHIPS

VISIT OKLAHOMA'S STUDENT PORTAL

OkCollegeStart.org makes exploring and applying to Oklahoma colleges quick and easy!

OK COLLEGE START.ORG
FREE COUNSELING

NEWS
Need info about the FAFSA?

Parents

The screenshot shows the UCanGo2 website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a logo featuring a graduation cap and the text "UCanGo2" and "Within Reach ... Within You". A navigation menu below the header includes buttons for "STUDENTS", "PARENTS", "COUNSELORS", "PARTNERS", "ADULT LEARNERS", and "RESOURCES". The main content area is titled "PARENTS" and contains a "PARENT TOOLBOX" section with links for "Early Childhood", "Middle School", and "High School". A "NEWS" section features an article about a free guide titled "From Cradle to College" with a small image of the guide. Below this is a "HELPFUL LINKS" section with the "REACH HIGHER" logo. The right side of the page has a "PARENTS" heading, a paragraph of text, a photo of graduates, and a list of four bullet points.

UCanGo2 Fast
Within Reach ... Within You

Home

STUDENTS PARENTS COUNSELORS PARTNERS ADULT LEARNERS RESOURCES

PARENT TOOLBOX

- ... Early Childhood
- ... Middle School
- ... High School

NEWS

Have you received your free copy of *From Cradle to College*? Our guide helps you learn to build a college-going culture in your home. Contact us today at UCanGo2@ocap.org, 866-443-7420 (toll-free) to get a copy!



HELPFUL LINKS



PARENTS

Parenting doesn't come with an instruction manual. Luckily UCanGo2 is your instructional guide to preparing your child for academic success. Click through the the parent toolbox to learn how to build the value of education with your children and save for college.



Photo courtesy of UCO

Talking about college as a natural part of the education process will help make education after high school an expectation for your child. Here are a few important things to remember when talking about college at home:

- Encourage your child to set goals and discuss what he or she wants to be when he or she grows up and how to make that goal a reality.
- Talk about the future as though you expect education after high school to be a part of it.
- Use the words, "when you go to college," making it an aspiration and an expectation.
- Remember that college doesn't have to mean traditional 4-year schools. There are many different types of schools and programs that will help your child complete education beyond high school.

Counselors

The screenshot shows the UCanGo2.org website. At the top, the logo features a graduation cap and the text "UCanGo2.org" with the tagline "Within Reach ... Within You" and a Facebook icon. Below the logo is a navigation bar with buttons for "STUDENTS", "PARENTS", "COUNSELORS", "PARTNERS", "ADULT LEARNERS", and "RESOURCES". The main content area is titled "COUNSELORS" and contains the following text:

Some of your students have no doubt about going to college. They've been raised in a college-going environment from the day they were born. Their major may be undecided, but it's a given they'll earn an education. On the flip side, you probably have students who don't think they can go to school for numerous reasons, some on the fence about attending and even some who may be 100% against higher education. Understanding where your students are coming from can help you support them as they develop plans for the future.

UCanGo2 aims to help you create a college-going culture in your school by providing you with practical and easy to understand college planning information, which includes the right classes to take, ACT/SAT resources, career exploration, educational programs and paying for school.

We believe that no matter the circumstances, any student with the determination and drive can attend a university, college or technical school and be on a path to a great career.

WORKING WITH PARENTS?

Each family has unique questions and concerns about their child's education after high school. To help you make the most of your time with parents, we've developed tools to assist

On the left side of the page, there are several promotional boxes:

- COUNSELOR TOOLS**
 - ... Middle School
 - ... High School
 - ... Counselor Events
- DOWNLOAD OUR HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR TOOLS!**
- ORDER A FREE HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR KIT!**
- DOWNLOAD OUR MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELOR TOOLS!**
- ORDER A FREE MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELOR KIT!**

Resources

The screenshot shows the UCanGo2.org website. At the top, there is a logo with a graduation cap and the text "UCanGo2.org" and "Within Reach ... Within You". A navigation bar contains buttons for "STUDENTS", "PARENTS", "COUNSELORS", "PARTNERS", "ADULT LEARNERS", and "RESOURCES". The "RESOURCES" section is highlighted. On the left, there is a sidebar with a "WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?" section, a "Subscribe to our resource, news & event updates!" button, a "REQUEST PUBLICATIONS" button, and a "FIND" button. The main content area features a "RESOURCES" heading and five buttons: "PODCASTS", "VIDEOS", "TOOLS", "WEB SITES", and "PUBLICATIONS". Below these, there is a "PODCASTS" section with a list of links.

UCanGo2.org
Within Reach ... Within You

HOME

STUDENTS PARENTS COUNSELORS PARTNERS ADULT LEARNERS RESOURCES

RESOURCES

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?
If you can't find the answers you need on this site, give us a call at 866.443.7420 (toll-free) or e-mail your question to UCanGo2@ocaj.org.

Subscribe to our resource, news & event updates!

REQUEST PUBLICATIONS

FIND

PODCASTS

- FAFSA (MP3)
- Financial Aid (MP3)
- Living on a College Budget (MP3)
- Managing Your Student Loans (MP3)

Scholarships

STUDENT TOOLBOX


SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS FLYER

Download our Scholarship Success flyer for tips about finding and applying for scholarships.



TRIBAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Download our Tribal Scholarships flyer to learn about resources available for Native American students.

 Tribal Scholarships Flyer

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

If you can't find the answers you need on this site, give us a call at 866.443.7420 (toll free) or e-mail your question to UCanGo2@ocap.org.

HELPFUL LINKS



SCHOLARSHIPS

Looking for scholarships? We can help! On this page, you'll find links to various databases, resources and searching tips.

Before you get started, remember to:

- Search for scholarships in a variety of places.
- Begin your research early. Start looking during your sophomore or junior year of high school.
- Make a list of scholarships you want to pursue and apply for as many as you can.
- Read all of the requirements for each application, and then read them again. Be thorough.
- Pay attention to deadlines and submit your applications accordingly.

START YOUR SEARCH HERE

On OKcollegestart.org, you can search for scholarships based on deadline date or category type.



WHERE TO CONTINUE YOUR SEARCH

You shouldn't have to pay for an online scholarship search. Many sites offer free scholarship searches, but you may need to create an account. As with any website, be careful of the information you share. Continue your search with these free websites:

Search by Deadline

October Scholarships

Siemens Competition in Math, Science, and Technology

Deadline: October 1, 2012

Awards range from \$1,000-\$100,000. Partnerships with collegeboard. Work as a team to create a creative project in math, science and technology. Initial material due Oct. 1, 2012.

Website: <http://siemens.collegeboard.org/?affiliateId=rdr&bannerId=siemens>

Scheap Auto Insurance.org

Deadline: October 1, 2012

College students any level. Create a video. Post on Facebook you could win a scholarship for a portion of tuition. See website for more details.

Website: <http://www.cheapautoinsurance.org/commercial-video-scholarship-win-500-to-help-pay-for-college/>

Wendy's High School Heisman Scholarship

Deadline: October 3, 2012

This scholarship is available to student athletes participating in at least one of 33 eligible sports. Applications are available online.

Website: <http://www.wendyshighschoolheisman.com/>

Hispanic Scholarship Fund

Deadline: October 15, 2012

Must be a Hispanic American. Minimum GPA 3.0. US Citizen of permanent resident.

Website: <http://www.hsf.net/>

ASME-IPTI's Petroleum Division Scholarships 2012

Deadline: October 15, 2012

Here's a scholarship for students in high school or college. If you have an interest in petroleum engineering, check it out.

Website: <http://www.scholarships360.org/2012/06/20/asme-iptis-petroleum-division-scholarships-2012/>

Scholastic Art Writing Contest

Deadline: October 17, 2012

7th-12th grade-\$10,000. Register online and submit works to local agency. 30 categories. Deadlines dependent on type of entry.

Website: <http://www.artandwriting.org/Scholarships/AllianceScholarships>

Horatio Alger Association Scholarship Program

Deadline: October 25, 2012

The scholarship programs provide financial assistance to students throughout the nation who have financial need and have exhibited integrity and perseverance in overcoming personal adversity.

Website: <https://www.horatioalger.org/scholarships/index.cfm>

Coca-Cola Scholars Program

Deadline: October 31, 2012

Students sought who demonstrate leadership in school, commitment to community, academic achievement, in addition to part-time

Search by Category

Paying for College Menu

- ▶ How Much Does College Cost?
- ▶ Planning Ahead for the Cost of College
- ▶ Types of Aid
- ▶ Sample Financial Aid Package
- ▶ Tips for Applying for Financial Aid
- ▶ Tips for Borrowing and Repaying Student Loans
- ▶ FAQs About Financial Aid
- ▶ Start Your FAFSA
- ▶ Glossary of Acronyms and Terms
- ▶ [Related Financial Aid Websites](#)
- ▶ Financial Aid Tools
- ▶ Financial Aid Publications
- ▶ Managing Your Money
- ▶ Ask an Expert

Related Financial Aid Sites

UCANGO2

UCANGO2.org offers general financial aid information from the Oklahoma College Assistance Program.

U.S. Department of Education Financial Aid Information

College.gov is a site where you can learn how to pay for college, why you should go, what you need to do to get there and how to talk to your family about college.

Note: The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education have provided links to several financial aid websites and hope they are helpful. However, the State Regents cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy or content of these pages or guarantee full access to them. Before starting a scholarship search, we suggest you read the U.S. Department of Education and Federal Trade Commission information on scholarship scams in an effort to protect yourself from being victimized.

Corporate-Sponsored

- Chesapeake Scholars
- Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation
- Cox Connects Education Scholarships
- Dell Scholars
- Dish Networks
- GM Automotive Service Educational Program (ASEP)/Body Service Educational Program (BSEP) Scholarships
- Intel Science Talent Search
- Microsoft Scholarships
- Wal-Mart Good Works Scholarships

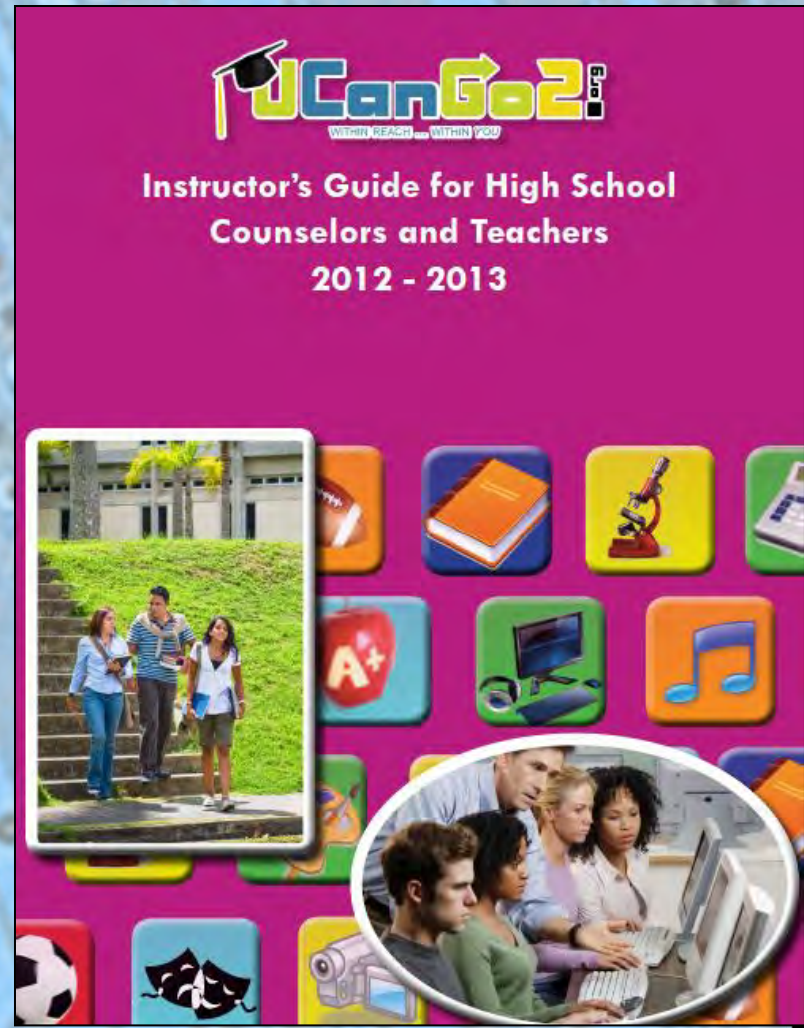
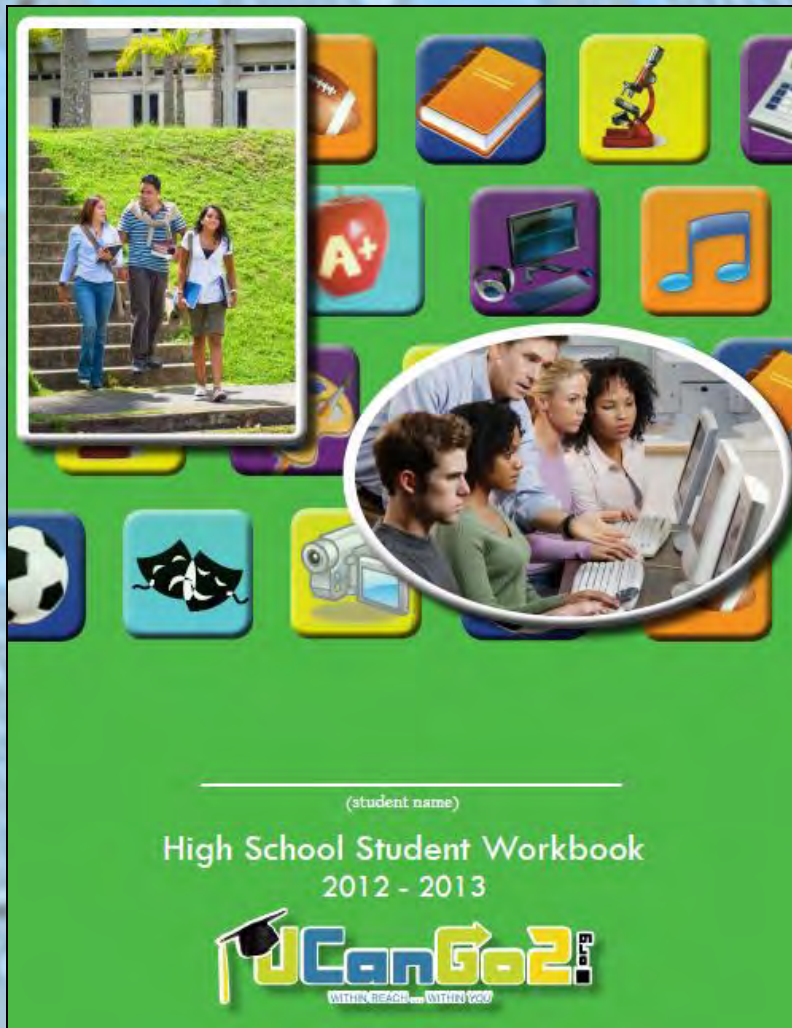
Community/Civic Service

- Americorps
- The Gates Millennium Scholars
- Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation
- James Madison Graduate Fellowships
- United States Department of Agriculture
- Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Voice of Democracy Scholarship

Discipline/Major

- Accounting Scholarships
- Actuarial Scholarships
- American Psychological Association
- Educational Foundation for Women in Accounting
- Morris K. Udall Environmental Scholarships
- National Federation of Paralegal Associations/West Scholarship
- Plant Protection and Quarantine William Helms Scholarship Program
- Teach for America
- USDA/APHIS Saul T. Wilson Jr. Scholarship (veterinary services)

UCanGo2 High School Workbooks



High School Student Workbook

Covers five main areas of college planning:

- Why Go To College?
- What Do I Want To Be?
- How Do I Get There?
- Where Do I Go?
- How Do I Pay For It?

Why Go To College?

SECTION 1: Why Go To College?



Why Go To College?

Understanding the Value of Higher Education

What comes to mind when you think about college? Some students can't wait for classes to begin, but others may have reservations. Are you excited and looking forward to a new place with new faces? Or do your thoughts sound more like this?

- I don't like high school. Why would I want to go to college?
- I don't know what I want to do with my life so there's no point going to school.
- College is too expensive. There's no way I can afford it.
- I don't need a degree. I can make more money if I get a job right now.
- No one in my family has ever gone to college so I shouldn't go either.
- I'm afraid I won't fit in.

Whatever you're feeling, you're not alone. The thought of college brings up different feelings for different people. Fear, excitement, anticipation—you name it, someone has experienced it.


Use the space provided on the next page to jot down ideas, thoughts and feelings you have about education after high school or getting a degree. Positive or negative, write them down here.

Ice Breaker

Using the first letter of your first name describe how you feel about going to college.

- Jane = joyous
- Nancy = nervous
- Robert = reluctant

Student Concerns



My Thoughts

Use the space provided in your workbook to jot down ideas, thoughts and feelings you have about getting a college degree or certification.

Positive or negative, write them all down.



Common Concerns

I don't like high school. Why would I want to go to college?

more freedom

more choices

new opportunities

Common Concerns

I don't know what I want to do with my life so there's no point going to college.

College is an opportunity to explore your likes, dislikes and talents. Take different types of classes and explore new activities to learn about yourself.

Common Concerns

College is too expensive.
There's no way I can afford it.

College costs in terms of tuition, books and time,
but it's a smart investment in your future.

Financial aid comes in many forms, including
grants, scholarships, work-study and student
loans.

What's In It For Me?



Higher
Income

Better
Benefits

More
Job
Security

What's In It For Me?

Degree vs. On-the-Job Training

Associate or Bachelor's Degree		On-the-Job Training	
Electrician	\$19.71	Electrician's Apprentice	\$11.80
Registered Nurse	\$25.70	Nursing Assistant	\$9.68
Court Reporter	\$21.87	Court Clerk	\$12.74
Art Director	\$22.96	Set/Exhibit Designer	\$7.74
Veterinarian	\$34.29	Veterinary Assistant	\$10.67
Psychologist	\$39.91	Psychiatric Aide	\$10.31
Police Detective	\$26.75	Security Guard	\$11.71

What Do I Want To Be?



SECTION 2: What Do I Want to Be?

What Do I Want To Be?

Exploring Careers and College Majors

Have you known from second grade you wanted to be a carpenter? Or are you panicking because you don't know what you want to do after high school? Some students know early in their childhood what career path they'll follow. For others, the discovery process takes longer.

No matter which category you fit into, this section will help you explore your interests, skills and strengths so you can decide what options fit you best.

Career vs. Job

What's the difference between a career and a job, you ask? Basically, a job is a short-term, paid position. A career is a long-term profession that typically requires educational training. You may currently have a job, something that helps you and your family pay for school clothes or your cellphone, but once you graduate you'll want to decide on a career, an occupation that allows you to use your unique skills and strengths.

With many career possibilities, how do you make a decision? What career path do you follow? How do you get there from here? Well, the first step is to assess your interests and skills.

Investigate Your Interests

In the spaces provided on the next page, jot down your responses to the following questions. If answered honestly, these questions should give you a fairly accurate snapshot of your interests.

Don't forget to think about your volunteer experience when answering these questions. Volunteering is a great way to try new activities that could lead to a potential career interest. Plus, you're giving back to your community, which makes it a win-win situation.

Ice Breaker

What are you really good at?

How could these skills
translate to a career?

Job vs. Career

Job - A regular activity performed in exchange for payment that may be a short-term position

Career - A long-term profession that typically requires specialized training

Ask Yourself

- What are your hobbies?
- Do you work after school or on weekends?
- What do you like most about your job?
- What's the one thing you would do for the rest of your life, even if no one paid you?

Career Quiz

Check out the career quiz link in this section of your UCanGo2 Student Workbook, called *DreamIt – DoIt.com*.

The quiz results show your best career categories and career options.

You may also wish to visit the career quiz on the Okcollegestart.org website.



Plan for College

Explore Colleges

Career Center

Paying for College

Test Prep

Applications & Transcripts

My Info

Print This Page

Career Center

The OKcollegestart.org Career Center aims to help you identify and prepare for a career that suits your skills, values, interests, and personality.

Research shows that people are happier if they make concrete progress toward their goals. This Career Center is designed with that progress in mind. Read, explore and utilize the following sections to help you discover your dreams as well as to determine, pursue, and attain your goals.

Search for careers by keyword:

→ [General Career Information](#)

Get a quick overview of the challenges and opportunities you face in choosing a career as well as information on how to use this Career Center.

→ [Career Self-Assessment](#)

Answer questionnaires to assess your skills, values, interests and personality.

→ [Student-Career Matching Assistant](#)

Determine which careers match your interests.

→ [Career Lists](#)

Browse jobs and learn all about them including related majors and matching schools.

→ [Links to Other Career Resources](#)

Visit other website resources for information on jobs.

→ [My Careers](#)

**Explore career options at
OKcollegestart.org**

Career Plan Options



Degree/Certification:
Veterinary Medicine/
Veterinary Technician

Possible careers:

veterinarian; livestock market
forecaster; animal industry
advertising; animal sanctuary
caretaker; zoological curator

Career Plan Options



Degree: Math

Possible careers:

accountant; actuary;
air traffic controller;
climate analyst;
bank examiner;
appraiser; forensic
analyst; financial
planner; teacher

Career Plan

Your career plan should include:

- a specific goal
- the training required
- a list of skills needed
- work and activities to help gain experience
- a plan of action for accomplishing your goal

Sample Career Plan

Career Goals

1. Obtain a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and have my own private practice working with farm animals.
2. Acquire a license to practice by passing the North American Veterinary Licensing exam.

Requirements

- Complete a pre-vet undergraduate degree
- Work-related experience

Skills Needed

- Compassion for animals
- Decision-making
- Communication
- Management
- Manual dexterity
- Problem-solving
- Critical thinking



Current Skills and Interests

- Work summers with a local veterinarian
- Live on and help operate a family farm
- Member of the local 4-H Club, which includes raising a cow from birth to exhibit at livestock shows

Plan of Action

- Earn a bachelor's degree in animal science with a high GPA
- Apply for entrance into the DVM program at the earliest time allowed
- Volunteer to work at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital at my university
- Join industry and campus organizations

Ten Most Popular Occupations in Oklahoma Requiring a Bachelor's Degree or Higher

Occupation	Average Hourly Salary	Average Annual Salary
Veterinarians	\$34.29	\$71,300
Personal Financial Advisors	\$30.01	\$62,400
Physicians Assistants	\$38.08	\$79,200
Financial Examiners	\$31.90	\$66,400
Computer Software Developers, Applications	\$30.97	\$64,400
Cost Estimators	\$24.75	\$51,500
Survey Researchers	\$13.05	\$27,100
Petroleum Engineers	\$55.80	\$116,100
Cartographers and Photogrammetrists	\$21.61	\$44,900
Physical Therapists	\$34.95	\$72,700

Ten Most Popular Occupations in Oklahoma Requiring an Associate Degree or Certification

Occupation	Average Hourly Salary	Average Annual Salary
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$12.11	\$25,200
Medical Equipment Repairers	\$17.62	\$36,600
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$17.66	\$36,700
Radiation Therapists	\$31.67	\$65,900
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	\$18.55	\$38,600
Surgical Technologists	\$15.71	\$32,700
Respiratory Therapists	\$22.70	\$47,200
Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Powerhouse, Substation and Relay	\$25.98	\$54,000
Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers	\$11.72	\$24,400
Physical Therapist Assistants	\$22.31	\$46,400

How Do I Get There?



Photo provided by Southwestern Oklahoma State University

SECTION 3: How Do I Get There?

How Do I Get There?

Preparing and Planning for My Next Step

Have you ever traveled somewhere without a road map or GPS? It's hard to navigate the twists and turns without a plan in place, isn't it? Preparing for college is no different. You'll need to develop a strategy to make sure you reach your ultimate destination ... a degree!

Help make your road to college a smooth journey by putting into practice the suggestions in this section. Be sure to visit with your counselor about attending college or a technical school. Your counselor can provide information about nearby schools, classes offered, admission requirements and much more. It's never too early to start planning for your future!

Take the Right Classes

If you plan to attend a public college or university in Oklahoma, you must take certain courses during high school. These courses will prepare you for college, and you'll learn valuable skills in case you decide to enter the workforce after graduation. In addition to these courses, some educational institutions recommend you take an extra unit in math, an additional unit in lab science and two units in speech or fine arts (music, art or drama).

The list of courses provided in this workbook is subject to change. Visit OKcollegestart.org to find the most up-to-date list and school-specific requirements. Check out the Explore Colleges tab for more information.



Tools to Use
Check out the worksheet on page 22 to track the courses you've already taken.

Ice Breaker

Pick one item from your pocket, purse, wallet or body (jewelry, belt, etc.) and explain to the class how that item will help you plan and prepare for college.

- **an ink pen** = helps me practice my admissions essay
- **lip gloss** = helps me look polished during a job interview so I can save money for living expenses
- **glasses** = help me see the board so I can take good notes during class

How Do I Get There?

- Outlines college entrance requirements and ACT/SAT testing
 - Free practice tests on OKcollegestart.org
- Explains the benefits of good study habits
- Covers ways to save on college costs
 - Concurrent enrollment
 - AP courses
 - Cooperative Alliance

Take the Right Classes

If you plan to attend a public college or university in Oklahoma, you need to take certain courses during high school.

Visit OKcollegestart.org to find school-specific requirements.

Take the Right Classes

Subject	Units Required	Courses
English	4 units	Grammar, composition and literature
Mathematics	3 units	Algebra I, Algebra II, geometry, math analysis, trigonometry, pre-calculus, calculus and Advanced Placement Statistics
Laboratory Science	3 units	Biology, chemistry, physics or any lab science certified by the school district; general science courses don't qualify
History and Citizenship Skills	3 units	Including one unit of American history and two units from the subjects of history, government, geography, economics, civics and/or non-Western culture
Other	2 units	From any of the subjects above or from computer science or foreign language
Total	15 units	Remember - requirements may change and they may be different for private institutions. Always check with your counselor for details.

Track It

Tracking My Classes & Achievements

Jot down your volunteer work and achievements, and track the classes you've taken and the ones you need to take to meet entrance requirements for college. For example, did you take American history the spring semester of your junior year? Write it down here. Refer back to the list of required courses on page 18 to see what classes you need to take. Also, visit OKcollegestart.org to track this information online.

	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Fall Classes				
Spring Classes				
Honors and Awards				
Volunteer Work, Jobs, and Extra Curricular Activities				

Oklahoma's Promise

EARN FREE COLLEGE TUITION
It's Oklahoma's Promise!



YOUR FACE HERE

APPLY ONLINE!
WWW.OKPROMISE.ORG

Oklahoma's Promise
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

Who May Apply
Applicants must be:
 • Oklahoma residents.
 • 8th, 9th- or 10th-grade students (homeschool students must apply while age 13, 14 or 15).
 • Students whose parents earn \$30,000 or less per year.
 • Students who promise to meet the requirements of the program.
 • Special income families apply to certain adopted children and children in the custody of oversteparents if legal guardians.

The Promise
Upon completion of the program's requirements, you will earn:
 • Free tuition at an Oklahoma public two-year college or four-year university.
 • OR a portion of tuition at an accredited Oklahoma private college or university.
 • OR a portion of tuition for courses at public technology centers that are approved for credit transfer at an Associate in Applied Science degree at a public college.
 (The Oklahoma's Promise scholarship is also not used for fees, books, supplies, or room and board.)

For more information go to www.okpromise.org or scan here with your smartphone.

Find us on Facebook

PROGRAM CREATED BY THE OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE AND ADMINISTERED BY THE OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

¡OBTÉN GRATIS LA MATRÍCULA DE LA UNIVERSIDAD!
¡Es la Promesa de Oklahoma!



TU CARA AQUÍ

¡APLICA EN LÍNEA!
WWW.OKPROMISE.ORG

¿CÓMO APLICAR?
 • En línea en www.okpromise.org.
 • Fídelo una solicitud a tu consejero escolar.

OBTÉN MÁS INFORMACIÓN
 • www.okpromise.org
 • okpromise@okhs.edu
 • (800) 454-1640
 • (252-9152 en OMC)

Find us on Facebook

CONFERENCIA Y ADMINISTRADO POR LOS REGENTES DEL ESTADO DE OKLAHOMA PARA ESTUDIOS SUPERIORES

Study Skills

In Class

- listen carefully and ask questions
- take notes and write clearly
- write down assignments and due dates

At Home

- turn off the TV, iPad and cell phone
- get in a routine
- organize your desk, papers and supplies
- schedule time to study when you're at your best; waiting until midnight the night before a big exam isn't a good idea
- study the most difficult subject first

ACT

- Stands for **American College Testing**
- More common in Oklahoma than the SAT
- Composed of four sections:
 - ✓ English skills
 - ✓ math skills
 - ✓ reading comprehension skills
 - ✓ science reasoning skills
 - ✓ writing (optional)
- Scores range from 1 to 36
- National average score 21.1
- Register online at ACTstudent.org

SAT

- Stands for **Scholastic Aptitude Test**
- Three sections:
 - ✓ writing
 - ✓ critical reading
 - ✓ mathematics
- Scores range from 600 to 2400
- Average overall national score is 1500
- Register online and find future test dates at SAT.CollegeBoard.org

Oklahoma Test Score Requirements

Minimum ACT/SAT scores required at some Oklahoma institutions

Oklahoma State University	ACT 24 or SAT 1090
University of Oklahoma	ACT 24 or SAT 1090
University of Science & Arts of OK	ACT 24 or SAT 1090
Most regional universities	ACT 20 or SAT 940
Most community colleges	Open enrollment

Go The Extra Mile

Extracurricular activities (volunteering, school-related or community-related) can give you an edge during the college admission and scholarship process.



High School Checklists

Senior Checklist



UCanGo2!



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 IM ACT and/or SAT tests. Find test locations and dates on UCanGo2.org/Student.
- 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 the money. Search and apply for grants and scholarships. Check out GOAP.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 colleges 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.

Junior Checklist



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

Fall Checklist

- Keep talking. Continue your conversations with your guidance counselor, teachers, family members or other trusted adults about your plans after high school. Talk with family and friends about their educational choices.
- Get smart. Enroll in AP and other honors-level classes, if possible.
- Enroll now. Sign up for college credit courses while in high school. Discuss concurrent enrollment with your counselor.
- See for yourself. Attend a college fair event in your area. These events offer families a chance to talk with schools and financial aid providers. Visit UCanGo2.org to find the College Fair Worksheet with great questions to help you at the fair.
- Add it to your calendar. Visit UCanGo2.org/Student to find dates for the ACT, SAT, PSAT and AP (Advanced Placement) or other honors-level exams being offered. These exams are important college preparation steps.
- Do a thorough review. Ask for a preview of your academic record and profile and evaluate yourself. Look for gaps or weaknesses and seek advice from your counselor about ways to improve your profile.
- Decide on an exam. ACT or SAT? Contact the school you plan to attend and ask which test they prefer. Once you decide which exam to take, sign up and prepare for it by using the Test Prep section found at OKCollegeStart.org.
- Get in. Investigate admission requirements for your chosen school(s).
- Post-it. Remember the PSAT. Register and take the PSAT exam offered in October. This score is required for several national scholarships, including the National Merit Scholarship.
- Pare it down. Narrow your list of schools based on research you've already completed. Your list will probably include three to five schools.
- Get aid. Financial aid, that is. Start researching your grant, scholarship and student loan options by checking out the [Are You Looking for Money](#) booklet in the Resources section of UCanGo2.org.
- Talk taxes. Find tax tips for you and your parent(s) on the Hope Scholarship Tax Credit and Lifetime Learning Tax Credit at IRS.gov.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 12816 and any other applicable laws, prohibits any institution of higher education from discriminating on the basis of race, sex, age, origin, ancestry, residence or residence in any of the public, private or parochial. This includes but is not limited to admission, employment, financial aid and related services. This publication, printed by OSDE, is based on the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, as established by Title 70, Section 2002, Statutes 2002. Copyright 2002. PSAT names have been printed as a matter of expediency. OSDE. Copyright has been deposited with the following: Copyright of the Oklahoma Department of Education. This publication was produced by OSDE.

Sophomore Checklist



UCanGo2!



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

- Keep it up. Study hard to keep your grades up.
- Save money. Sign up for a college savings account from Oklahoma's 529 college savings plan (OK4Saving.org) or continue to add money to an existing account. It's generally best to keep most savings in the parent's name.
- Last chance. Don't miss out on Oklahoma's Promise! If you didn't sign up in the 8th or 9th grade, visit OKPromise.org for program requirements and to sign up for this scholarship program.
- Talk it up. Continue your conversations with your guidance counselor, teachers, family members or other trusted adults about your plans after high school. Talk with family and friends about their educational choices.
- Know what you need. Review what courses you'll need to take to satisfy the requirements of the school you're interested in attending. Visit OKHigherEd.org to learn more.
- Get smart. Investigate AP and other honors-level courses to know what's available and if you're eligible to enroll.
- File it away. Keep updating your "My Future" file, which should contain the following items:
 - Copies of report cards
 - Lists of awards and honors
 - Lists of paid or volunteer school and community activities
 - Skill assessment quizzes and results
- Be active. Continue participating in extracurricular activities and volunteer work. Many admissions officers look for students who actively participate in their school and community.
- Keep it up. Stay involved in academic enrichment programs, summer workshops and camps with specialty focuses such as music, arts, science, etc. Check out the free Summer Academies offered to 8th-12th grade students. Spend time at an Oklahoma college or university and learn about electronics, engineering, forensic science and much more. Contact OKHigherEd.org/Summer-Academies or call 800.858.1840 for more information.
- PLAN. Take the PLAN test (ACTStudent.org/plan) to help you prepare for the ACT, which you can take during your junior year. The test evaluates your skills in English, math, reading and science reasoning. Ask your school counselor for more information.
- Hit the books. Study for standardized tests like the ACT and SAT. Visit the Test Prep section on OKCollegeStart.org for helpful resources. Visit UCanGo2.org/Student to find links for test locations and dates.
- Look into it. Investigate your concurrent enrollment options. You may be able to enroll in college as a junior or senior, if you meet certain requirements. Check with your counselor for more information.
- Jot it down. Write a pros and cons list of schools you're interested in attending. Be sure to evaluate degree programs, location, cost, etc. Need help? Check out the Explore Colleges section of OKCollegeStart.org.

Freshman Checklist



UCanGo2!

- Study hard. Build good study habits to keep your grades in top-top shape.
- Save money. Sign up for a college savings account from Oklahoma's 529 college savings plan (OK4Saving.org) or continue to add money to an existing account. It's generally best to keep most savings in the parent's name.
- Sign up for Oklahoma's Promise. If you didn't apply during 8th grade, visit OKPromise.org for program requirements and to sign up for this scholarship program.
- Talk it up. Discuss your future plans with your guidance counselor, teachers, family members or other trusted adults.
- Take the right classes. To be college-bound, your class schedule should contain at least four college-preparatory classes per year, including:
 - 4 units of English
 - 3 units of math (at or above Algebra I)
 - 3 units of laboratory science
 - 3 units of history/civics/social studies
 - 2 units of electives from the areas above or foreign language or computer science
 Some educational institutions recommend you take an extra unit in math, an additional unit in lab science and two units in speech or the arts (music, art or drama).
- Check it out. Investigate college entrance requirements at OKCollegeStart.org.
- Track it. Use the High School Planner found at OKCollegeStart.org to keep track of your courses and grades. Invite your counselor to view your online High School Planner to help keep you on track for success.
- File it away. Create a "My Future" file which should contain the following items:
 - Copies of report cards
 - Lists of awards and honors
 - Lists of paid or volunteer school and community activities
 - Skill assessment quizzes and results
- Think about it. Start thinking about possible careers that interest you. If you don't know what you want to do, check out the Career Quiz Worksheet under the Resources tab at UCanGo2.org to get some ideas.
- Get smart. Investigate AP and other honors-level courses to know what's available and if you're eligible to enroll.

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

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 12816 and any other applicable laws, prohibits any institution of higher education from discriminating on the basis of race, sex, age, origin, ancestry, residence or residence in any of the public, private or parochial. This includes but is not limited to admission, employment, financial aid and related services. This publication, printed by OSDE, is based on the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, as established by Title 70, Section 2002, Statutes 2002. Copyright 2002. PSAT names have been printed as a matter of expediency. OSDE. Copyright has been deposited with the following: Copyright of the Oklahoma Department of Education. This publication was produced by OSDE.



Where Do I Go?



Photo provided by Southwestern Oklahoma State University

SECTION 4: Where Do I Go?

Where Do I Go?

Researching Institutions and Programs

College isn't one-size-fits-all. You'll need to do a little research to decide which institution is the best fit for you academically, socially and financially.

Researching colleges isn't like researching your term paper! Of course, you'll want to get as many facts as possible (cost, size, location, etc.) but don't rely on facts alone. Choosing a college or technical school is a personal and emotional decision, too.

Ready to discover a place that'll prepare you for a successful future? Let's get started!

You're Just Not My Type (Of School)

Oklahoma has many types of schools. To decide what's right for you, it's important to understand the different types of schools available and what they have to offer. Review the information on the next page to learn how four-year universities differ from technology centers.




Photo provided by Southeastern Oklahoma State University

Ice Breaker

BINGO

Walk around the room and look for people who fit the statements listed on your card. Write their name in the space provided.

The first person to get bingo wins!

B	I	N	G	O
I'm the first person in my family to go to college	I want to go to a four-year university	I'm concurrently enrolled in college right now	I've already taken the ACT/SAT exam	I want to get a degree in education
I've already applied for a few grants and scholarships	My family is involved in my college planning process	I want to go to a school that's close to home	I want to attend a two-year school	I know what the FAFSA is
My brother or sister is currently in college	I want to join a campus club	 Free Space	I've developed a career plan	I've attended at least one college campus tour
I want to live on campus	I'll work at least part-time when I attend college	I've researched entrance requirements for school	I want to attend school far away from home	I've attended a local college fair
My friends and I plan to attend the same school	I want to attend a proprietary or trade school	I need to live off campus	I'd like to play college sports	Someone I know graduated from the college I plan to attend

Where Do I Go?

- Provides research tips to help students make an informed choice
- Explains how to set up a successful college visit
- Supplies a list of questions to ask at various offices on a school campus

What's My Type?

- Community College
- Four-year University
- Online school
- Private school
- Professional or Technical Branch
- Proprietary school
- Public school
- Regional University
- Research University
- Technology Center
- Theological school
- Two-year College
- Tribal College

Location, Location, Location

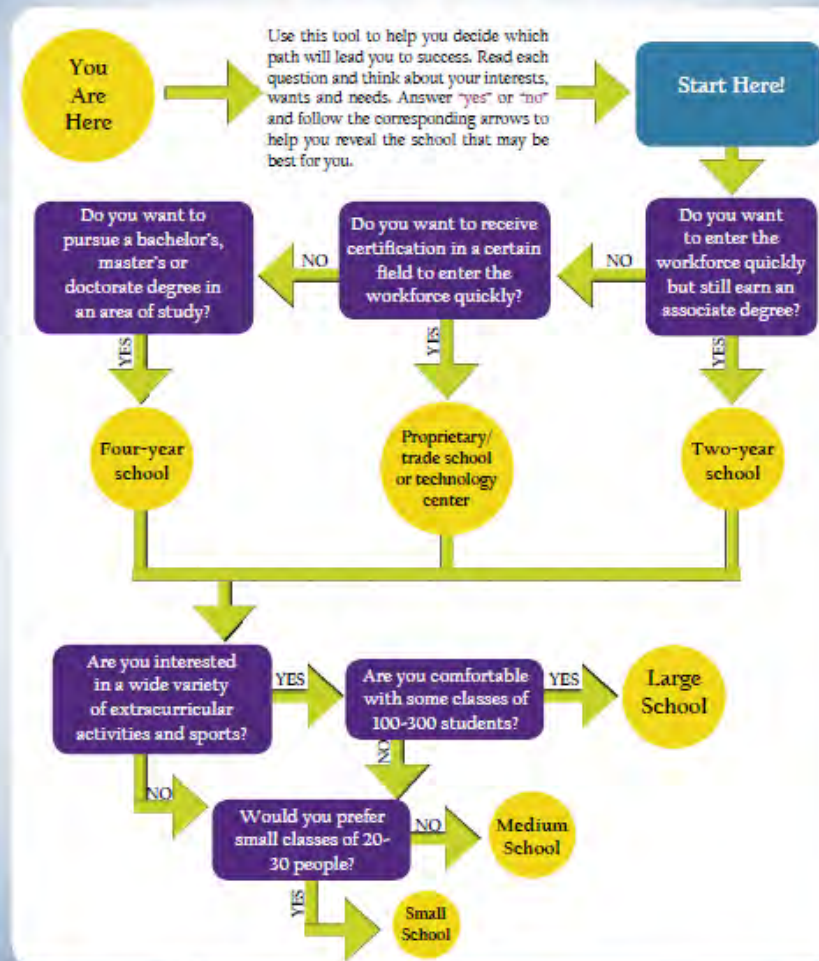
Urban

Suburban

Rural

How Do I Choose?

Picking a College Decision Tree



Things To Consider

- Campus size
- Affordability
- Courses offered
- Admission requirements
- Location

Campus Visits

Places to Visit on Campus

...nce to ask questions about getting that application in on time. These are the people who will make the initial decisions about your qualifications. Make sure you are aware of deadlines and you'll need to attach to your application, such as high school transcripts, letters of reference and ...

Financial Aid Office
The financial aid office help you locate scholarships, grants, work-study and student loan oppo... help you fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and answer important... to pay for college. Ask how and where you make your tuition payments.

Advising Office
Every college or professional school has a different method for providing academic advising. Find out wh... classes you'll need to achieve your degree.

Campus Child Care
If you're also a parent, you may want to inquire about child care. Even if you have already establish... while you're in class, you may find great deals on fees or hours that fit your class schedule.

Career Services Office
The Career Services office and visit with you who are also parents may want to inquire about child care. Even if you have already establish... while you're in class, you may find great deals on fees or hours that fit your class schedule.

Dormitory Services
The Housing office to learn about the dormitory... what classes to take is only one step in the process. Find the Career Services office and visit... in school. Here you can learn the many ways you can market your degree in the workforce.

Financial Aid Office
The financial aid office help you locate scholarships, grants, work-study and student loan oppo... help you fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and answer important... to pay for college. Ask how and where you make your tuition payments.

Health Clinic
Learn what options are available to you if you get sick while at school. Ask how much... health insurance for students.

Surrounding Community
Explore off campus to locate important businesses and services you may need. Get... it's easy to get around.

Campus Visit Checklist

While on your campus visit, talk to as many people as you can and get a feel for the atmosphere. Don't pass up a chance to ask questions. Use this campus visit checklist to assist you during your campus tours.

- Visit the school's website to learn how to set up a campus tour. Tours are usually held throughout the day so you may need to plan your day around this.
- Schedule interviews with campus officials in admission, academic advising, housing and in your field of study.
- Don't forget campus maps and your list of questions for each campus office.
- Grab any financial aid or application forms you may need.
- Talk to coaches or sponsors of activities you're interested in.
- Scan bulletin boards to see what activities are available. This is also a good way to get a feel for jobs available in the area.
- Eat in the cafeteria or around campus to check out the food available to you.
- Visit the dormitory if you plan to live on campus. Ask about rules concerning what you can and can't bring with you.
- Talk with students about the campus and ask questions. Pick up a school newspaper to get an idea of the campus culture.
- Visit the college bookstore to price new and used books and check websites that sell new and used textbooks.



Getting Answers

Getting to campus for a visit is easy enough. Leaving with all your questions answered can be a challenge. Take this opportunity to list questions you may have for each department you visit.

Admission Office

What are my chances of being admitted?

Financial Aid Office

What are the deadlines for school scholarships?

Registrar's Office

How many credits could I take per semester?

Residence Life Office

What are the rules for students and do you offer any special services?

Health Services

What health services do you offer?

Library

What services do you offer?

Housing Office

What meal plans are available?

Health Clinic

1. What types of services do you offer?
2. _____
3. _____

Student Life Office

1. How many student organizations do you have and how can I get involved?
2. _____
3. _____

Parking and Transportation Office

1. Can I take the bus to class if I live off-campus?
2. _____
3. _____

Library

1. What's the policy for checking out books?
2. _____
3. _____

Housing Office

1. What meal plans are available? What can I buy with them?
2. _____
3. _____

How Do I Pay For It?

SECTION 5: How Do I Pay For It?



Photo provided by the University of Oklahoma

How Do I Pay For It?

Finding and Getting Financial Aid

Grants, scholarships and student loans ... oh my! Ever feel just a little bit overwhelmed by the thought of paying for college?

If you're wondering how to pay for school or where to look for money, don't worry! In Oklahoma, there are several resources available to help you and your family plan for and manage the cost of earning a college degree. Plus, the cost of attending an Oklahoma state college or university is among the lowest in the nation.

College Costs

How much does school cost? It depends on the type of institution you plan to attend. In 2011-2012, the cost per year ranged from \$2,587 for career technology centers to \$15,895 for a research university. The full cost of attendance typically includes more than just tuition and books. Most schools charge fees and many offer on-campus housing and meals, which become part of the total expense. Check out the [Paying for College](#) tab on [OKCollegestart.org](#) to find the current academic year's cost at most Oklahoma state schools.

Getting Aid. Financial Aid. That Is.

Education after high school is an investment in your future. Fortunately, financial aid is available to help almost everyone manage the cost. To be considered for federal and state financial aid you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This form is available after Jan. 1 and must be completed each year you're requesting aid for college. If you're starting college in the fall of 2013, you'll want to complete your first FAFSA in January 2013, or as soon as possible thereafter. Contact any financial aid office if you have questions about completing the FAFSA. You can apply online at [FAFSA.gov](#) or get a paper copy by calling 800.4.FED.AID (toll free). Beware of businesses that offer to help you fill out this form for a fee.

How Do I Pay For It?

- Provides a review of current college expenses
- Explains the different categories of financial aid available
- Describes the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) with tips for completing the application

Paying For College

- College is an investment in your future
- Many forms of financial aid are available to help you pay for your education

What's Financial Aid?

Financial aid is money to help you pay educational costs, such as:

- Tuition
- Fees
- Books
- Room and board
- Transportation
- Personal expenses

Ice Breaker



What was the total amount of financial aid awarded by Oklahoma State University during the 2011-2012 academic year? This includes all grants, loans and scholarships in their undergraduate, graduate and veterinary programs.

Over \$260 million

FAFSA Facts

- Complete the FAFSA every year you need financial aid for college
- Complete the FAFSA as soon after January 1st as possible to meet deadlines
- Fill out the form online, if possible
- Sign electronically with a Personal Identification Number (PIN)
- Never pay to complete this form; it's a FREE application

FAFSA.gov

The screenshot shows the FAFSA.gov homepage. At the top left is the logo with the text "START HERE GO FURTHER FEDERAL STUDENT AID". To the right is the "FAFSA Free Application for Federal Student Aid" logo. Below these are navigation icons for Home, About Us, Student Aid on the Web, PIN Step, Contact Us, and Browse Help. A search bar is located on the right with the text "Enter on the web or phone" and a "SEARCH" button. Below the navigation is a large banner image of diverse students. The banner text reads "Get help paying for college" and "Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)". A prominent orange "Start Here" button is centered in the banner. To the right of the button is a list of links: "Start or continue your FAFSA", "Correct your FAFSA", and "Check the status of your FAFSA, and more...". Below the banner are three main sections: "Deadlines" (information about your deadlines), "School Code Search" (find your college's school code), and "FAFSA Filing Options" (learn about other options). To the right of these is an "Announcements" section with a message about the new 2012-2013 FAFSA. Below that is a "Thinking About College?" section with two video thumbnails: "Use FAFSA4caster to see how federal student aid can help you pay for college" and "Watch real students share why they are going to college." At the bottom left, it says "We last updated Sunday, January 1, 2012". At the bottom right, there is a maintenance notice: "Due to scheduled site maintenance, FAFSA on the Web will be unavailable every Sunday from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. (Eastern Time). We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause."

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Why Online?

- Quicker processing time
 - 3-5 days vs. 4-6 weeks for paper FAFSA
- **Help and Hints** boxes provided with every question
- Saves time and helps you meet deadlines
- Electronically sign using your Personal Identification Number (PIN)

Student Demographics

→
Use your full name as shown on your Social Security card

STUDENT

Student Demographic Information

Your last name: Student Your first name: Sally Your middle initial: S

Your Social Security Number: 123-45-6789

Your date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy): 12/13/1995

Are you male or female?
 Male Female

Your permanent mailing address (include apt. number): 2012 Scholarship Lane

Your city (and country if not U.S.): Oklahoma City Your state: Oklahoma

Your ZIP code: 73103

Have you lived in Oklahoma for at least 5 years?
 Yes No

Your permanent telephone number: (405) 234-4239

Your e-mail address: kkelnar@ocap.org Re-enter your e-mail address: kkelnar@ocap.org

What is your marital status as of today?
I am single

Do you have driver's license information that you want to provide?
 Yes No

PREVIOUS NEXT

NEED HELP? SAVE CLEAR ALL DATA VIEW FAFSA SUMMARY EXIT

Help and Hints

Student's Marital Status
Question 16

You must select the answer that describes your marital status as of the day you will sign your FAFSA. If your marital status changes after you submit your FAFSA, check with your college's financial aid office.

[More>>>](#)

←
Help and Hints boxes are located on each screen to assist you

School Selection

→
You can send your FAFSA to 10 different schools.

If you don't know the school's 6-digit code, you can search by School Name, City or State.

STUDENT

School Selection

You can add up to 10 colleges to your FAFSA. If you know your college's school code, use the option to the right to search. If you need help finding your college, use the state (required), city (optional), and school name (optional) fields to begin your search.

State: Federal School Code:

City: (optional) OR

School Name: (optional)

[Search Tips](#)

Select a school from the Search Results table and click Add>> to add a school to the Selected Schools table.

Search Results: 2

Sort By: Best Match School Name
<input type="checkbox"/> AUTRY TECHNOLOGY CENTER ENID, OK Federal School Code: 013530 <input type="button" value="i"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> ENID BEAUTY COLLEGE ENID, OK Federal School Code: 013879 <input type="button" value="i"/>

Select up to 10 schools

AUTRY TECHNOLOGY CENTER ENID, OK Federal School Code: 013530 <input type="button" value="Remove"/>
ENID BEAUTY COLLEGE ENID, OK Federal School Code: 013879 <input type="button" value="Remove"/>

Dependent or Independent?

STUDENT

Dependency Determination

Application was successfully saved.

Were you born before January 1, 1989?

Yes No

As of today, are you married?

Yes No

At the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, or graduate certificate, etc.)?

Yes No

Do you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013?

Yes No

Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2013?

Yes No

Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?

Yes No

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

Yes No

At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?

Yes No

As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor?

Yes No

As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you in legal guardianship?

Yes No

On or after July 1, 2011, were you homeless or were you at risk of being homeless?

Yes No

Help and Hints

Student Born Before January 1, 1989?

Question 45

The answer to this question is pre-filled based on your answer to the date of birth question earlier in the application.

Your answers to these questions will determine your dependency status.

Dependency Status

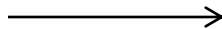
- **Dependent students** must provide parental information
- **Independent students** aren't required to show parental information unless requested by their school

IRS Data Retrieval

- While completing the FAFSA online, applicants may submit a real-time request to IRS for tax data
- IRS will authenticate taxpayer's identity
- If match found, IRS sends real-time results to applicant in a new window
- Applicants choose whether or not to transfer tax data to FAFSA

IRS Data Retrieval

Click here to transfer your tax information to the FAFSA form.



IRS.gov Español

Student 2011 Federal Income Tax Information

The information below is your tax information that will help you answer some of the questions on the FAFSA.

	My Tax Information	FAFSA Question Numbers ?
Tax Year	2011	
Name(s)	Ashley L Battles	
Social Security Number	*** - ** - 3794	
Filing Status	Head of Household	
Type of Tax Return Filed	1040A	Question 33 on the FAFSA
Adjusted Gross Income	\$8,067	Question 35 on the FAFSA
Income Earned From Work ?	\$8,067	Question 38 on the FAFSA
Income Tax	\$0	Question 36 on the FAFSA
IRS Exemptions	2	Question 37 on the FAFSA
Education Credits	\$0	Question 43a on the FAFSA
IRA Deductions and Payments	\$0	Question 44b on the FAFSA
Tax-Exempt Interest Income	\$0	Question 44d on the FAFSA
Untaxed IRA Distributions ?	\$0	Question 44e on the FAFSA
Untaxed Pensions ?	\$0	Question 44f on the FAFSA

Print this page for your records before choosing an option below.

Transfer My Tax Information into the FAFSA ?

The tax information provided above will populate the answers to the appropriate FAFSA questions. After the FAFSA is populated your IRS session will end and you will return to your FAFSA. Check this box if you are choosing to transfer your information. Transfer Now ?

Do Not Transfer My Tax Information and Return to the FAFSA ?

By clicking the "Do Not Transfer" button, you are choosing not to transfer your tax information electronically. Your IRS session will end and you will return to your FAFSA. You may still use this tax information to input the data into your FAFSA. Do Not Transfer ?

Financial Need

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{Cost of Attendance} \\ - \text{Expected Family Contribution} \\ - \text{Other Aid} \\ \hline \text{Financial Need} \end{array}$$

Types of Financial Aid

Grants and scholarships

- considered gift aid
- typically don't have to be repaid

Federal work-study

- allows students to work at their school or at authorized sites to earn money for school

Student loans

- low cost, flexible federal student loan options should be exhausted before considering “private” or “alternative” loans
- loans must be repaid with interest

State Financial Aid

Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant (OTAG)

- Apply through the FAFSA
- Application deadline March 1, 2013
- \$1,000 annual maximum for public schools;
\$1,300 annual maximum for private schools
- Need-based

Scholarships

5 tips for Scholarship Success

1

Don't wait. Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) every year you need aid. Many students don't realize they may qualify for federal aid such as grants, scholarships, work-study or low-cost student loans. Learn more at FAFSA.gov.

Be prepared. Consider starting a "my future" file for important college planning documents like report cards, ACT and/or SAT scores, letters of recommendation and documentation of community service projects and extracurricular activities. These documents will come in handy when completing scholarship applications and tracking your achievements.

2

Do your research. Set up an appointment with your school counselor to talk about your scholarship options or contact your local financial aid office for free resources. You can also call the State Regents' Student Information Hotline at 800.858.1840 (toll-free) or e-mail studentinfo@osrbe.edu to learn more about financial aid.

Additional information about scholarships can be found under the Paying for College tab at OKCollegeStart.org. Numerous other Web sites offer free resources and scholarship searches, including:

FastWeb.com	Scholarship-Monkey.com
SchoolSoup.com	ScholarshipExperts.com
FinAid.org	Scholarships4School.com

Do the "write" thing. Many scholarships require an essay, but don't let that discourage you. Preparing scholarship essays can often be a fun experience because it gives you the opportunity to write about interesting topics like your future goals or a favorite service project. Also, statistically speaking, scholarships that require essays have fewer applicants, which means you have a greater chance of winning the prize.

5

Don't miss the boat. Nothing's worse than writing a great scholarship essay only to realize you've missed the deadline. Apply for as many scholarships as you can and keep track of the requirements for each one so you don't miss out on free money by forgetting to include your transcript or submitting your application after the deadline.



The College Assistance Program
A Division of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education is an executive body of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education is an executive body of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education is an executive body of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education is an executive body of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Tribal Scholarship Websites

Many Native American tribes fund scholarships for college-bound members. Here's a quick list of links to some* of the scholarships available:

- » ComancheNation.com/education
- » CaddoNation-nsn.gov/departments/education/higher_ed.html
- » KickapooTribeOfOklahoma.com/forms.html
- » PeoriaTribe.com/programs/education.php
- » ChickasawEducationServices.com/index_90.htm
- » Cherokee.org/services/179/Page/Default.aspx
- » ASTribe.com/education.html (Absentee Shawnee)
- » ChoctawNation-sap.com/onosoholarship.shtml
- » KawNation.com/programs/educational/socialservices.php
- » MiamiNation.com/mto/edu.html
- » C-A-Tribes.org (Cheyenne-Arapaho)
- » DelawareNation.com
- » MuscogeeNation-nsn.gov (Creek)
- » SeminoleNation.com
- » QuapawTribe.com/index.aspx?nid=100

*A list of tribal offices throughout Oklahoma can be found at www.ok.gov/oklahoma-tribes. For specific information, members should contact their tribal office.



Be Scholarship Ready

- Make a list of possible scholarships.
- Apply for as many as you can.
- Study hard.
- Volunteer.
- Participate in extracurricular activities.
- Follow social media.

Try These Tips

- Clean up your Facebook page
- Be complete and on time
- Watch for scholarship announcements through your email
- Set up a Google Alert
- 'Like' Facebook sites that may offer scholarships
- Send a written thank you note

Search For It

- UCanGo2.org
- Okcollegestart.org
- FastWeb.com
- OCCF.org
- Scholarships360.org
- CollegeAnswer.com
- ScholarshipExperts.com
- FinAid.org



Increase Your Chances

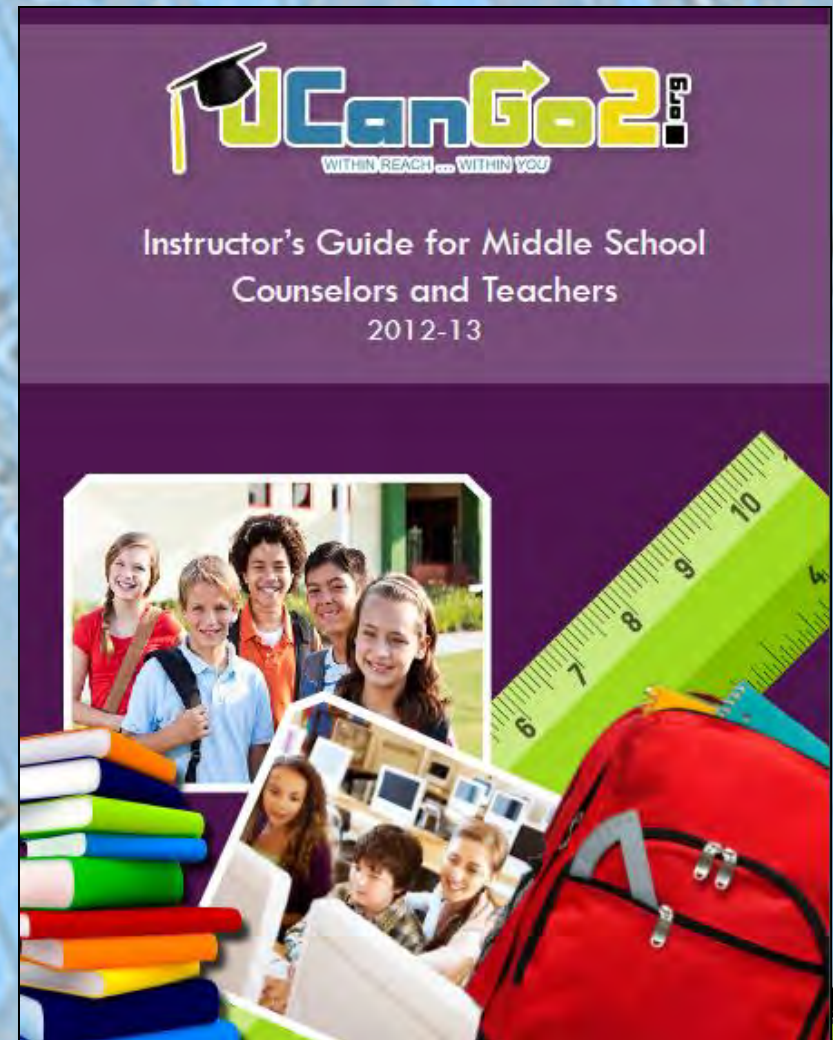
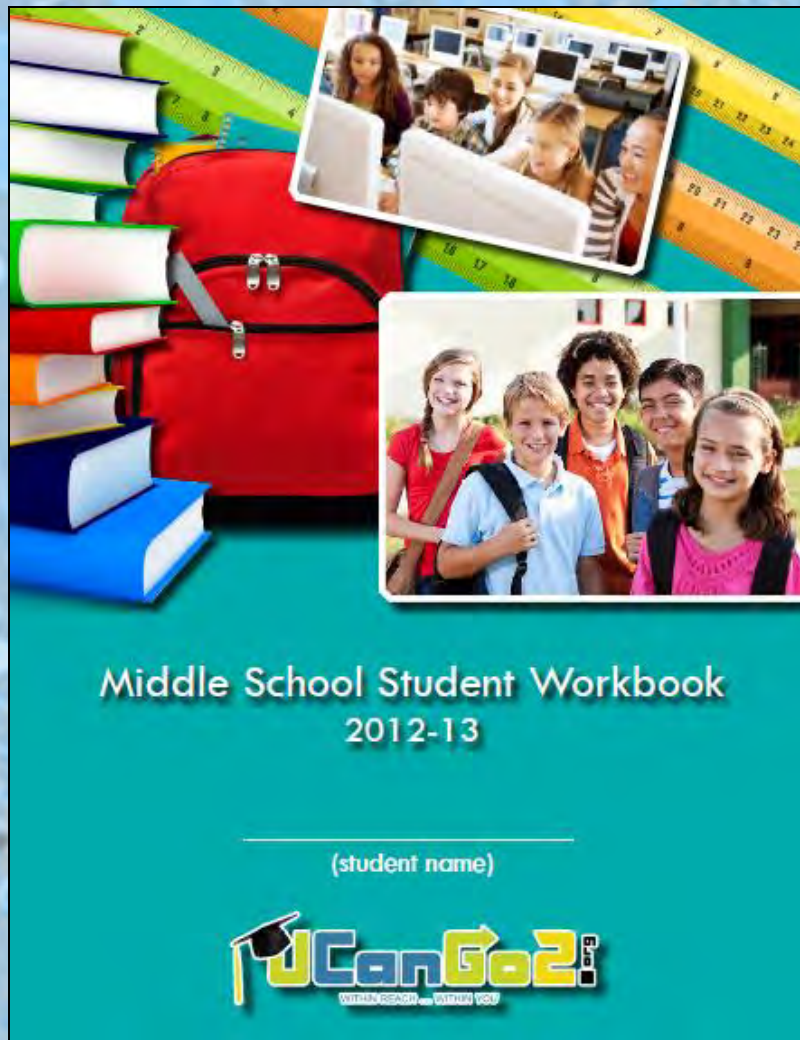
If *ABC Company* offers a scholarship:

- 100 students may receive the application
- 75 students will fill out the one page form
- 50 students will submit the one page form along with an essay
- Less than 25 students will submit the form, essay, resume and letters of recommendation

College Planning Publications



UCanGo2 Middle School Workbooks



Middle School Workbook

Covers four main areas of preparing for high school and college:

- Where Am I Headed?
- Why Should I Go?
- Where Do I Start?
- How Do I Get There?

Where Am I Headed?

Section 1: Where Am I Headed?

Do you ever daydream about the future? Ever think about what you'd like to do after high school? Maybe you like to imagine the life you're going to lead, the house where you'll live or the car you'll drive. Maybe you picture yourself as a doctor, judge, artist, entertainer or truck driver.

If you have a goal, good for you! You're one step ahead of the game. If you haven't decided on one yet, no worries. The great news is you don't have to plan out the rest of your life right now. You have plenty of time to make those decisions. But it's never too early to start imagining the things you'll do and the places you'll go.

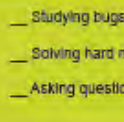
One way to get started is to think about your hobbies or special interests. What do you like to do with your free time? It's possible these activities could lead you to a career that you'd enjoy.

Check out the following pages to identify activities that you think sound interesting. You don't have to be good at the activities—just check them if you think they're something you'd like to explore or learn more about.

After some exploration, you'll be able to see if you're a persuader, thinker, organizer, creator, helper or doer. By identifying your interests and figuring out which category fits you best, you just might find a career that can help make your dreams come true.



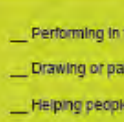
- Supervising people
- Saving and managing money
- Being elected class president
- Selling something
- Convincing people to do things your way
- Talking to people at a party



- Studying bugs or plants
- Learning about the solar system
- Solving hard math problems
- Reading about art or music
- Asking questions
- Participating in a science fair



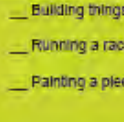
- Being organized
- Creating a filing system
- Using a cash register
- Paying attention to details
- Following directions
- Working with numbers



- Performing in front of an audience
- Redecorating your room
- Drawing or painting a picture
- Learning a foreign language
- Helping people solve problems
- Using your imagination



- Volunteering with a charity
- Making people laugh
- Babysitting or teaching children
- Joining a club
- Working with older people
- Planning events or activities



- Building things with your hands
- Doing outdoor activities
- Running a race
- Studying animals
- Painting a piece of furniture
- Playing with a chemistry set

Why Should I Go?

Section 2: Why Should I Go?

College? Why Not?

Here are some common reasons middle school students don't want to go to college. Do any of these reasons sound like something you might say?

- ✓ I don't like school, so why go to college?
- ✓ I don't know what I want to do after high school.
- ✓ I'm just in middle school—why think about college now?
- ✓ No one in my family has ever gone to college, so why should I?
- ✓ What if I don't fit in?



What other concerns do you have about going to college?

Why Should I Go?

- Do you ever wonder what high school will be like?
- Do you think about where you'll go to college?
- Do you have plans for a fun job or a great place to live?

No matter what you think about your future, education plays a very important part! As a middle school student, you should know it's never too early to start looking ahead. Middle school is a steppingstone into high school. Your success now and all through your high school years will help as you enter your next phase of life—college! Right now it's probably hard to imagine where you'll be in a year or two, much less 10 or 20 years down the road. By attending college immediately after high school, you can get a head start on answering those important questions.

{ Middle school is a steppingstone into high school. Your success now and all through your high school years will help as you enter your next phase of life—college! }

Let's Be Practical: Money Talks

Write down what you think each of these items might cost each month. Then ask a parent or another adult what they believe the figures should be.

	You say:	Adult says:
Groceries	_____	_____
Car payment	_____	_____
Rent/house payment	_____	_____
Utilities (gas, electricity, phone, trash, water)	_____	_____
Insurance (health, auto, etc.)	_____	_____
Totals:	_____	_____

Now take a look at the totals. Are you surprised? Keep in mind there are often more expenses during the month that aren't even listed here; car tags, pet food, magazines and entertainment are some good examples. To be able to meet expenses every month, adults have to earn at least enough to pay their bills.

Don't be discouraged by the totals above. This is where it pays to start planning for your future. Now you'll get a chance to see how education after high school can increase your earning power!

With moderate on-the-job training, you could be a(n)...	Hourly Wage	With a technical school, associate, bachelor's or higher degree, you could be a(n)...	Hourly Wage
Electrician's Helper	\$12.05	Electrician	\$19.28
Nursing Aide	\$9.88	Physician's Assistant	\$37.37
Court Clerk	\$12.77	Court Reporter	\$25.17
Set/Exhibit Designer	\$10.58	Art Director	\$33.01
Fast Food Cook	\$8.17	Chef/Head Cook	\$17.42
Receptionist/Information Clerk	\$10.75	Human Resources Manager	\$29.90
Record Clerk	\$11.01	Diagnostic Medical Sonographer	\$28.27
Veterinary Assistant	\$9.95	Veterinarian	\$38.54
Psychiatric Aide	\$11.03	Psychologist	\$36.60
Security Guard	\$12.29	Detective	\$25.28

Where Do I Start?

Section 3: Where Do I Start?

A famous Oklahoman, Will Rogers, once said, "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there." You've thought about going to college after you finish high school, so you're on the right track. Now it's time to decide how you will get there. College may seem like it's still a long way off, but each step you take in your education from now on is a step toward college. It's important to set your goals and plan the steps you'll take to reach them. As you begin setting your goals, remember to "Think SMART!"

A SMART goal* is a goal that's **Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant** and **Time-based**. It's a goal that's very clear and easily understood.

SPECIFIC

The goal must clearly state what is to be achieved, by whom, where and when it is to be achieved.

Example: I want to save \$250 by the end of next year.

MEASURABLE

Measurability applies to your goal at the end and the steps to be taken along the way to reaching the goal. It answers the question of quantity: How much? How often? How many?

Example: I'll need to save \$3 from my allowance each week and save \$94 by eating less junk food and by doing extra jobs around the house, like weed eating, painting or baby-sitting.

ATTAINABLE

You should be sure the goals you set are achievable or you'll get discouraged, and you probably won't reach them.

Example: If my allowance is \$5 a week and I save \$3 a week, I won't have much money left over to spend on other things that I need.

RELEVANT

Your goals must be related to what you want to achieve—not only right now, but further on down the road.

Example: Saving \$250 or more each year will be a huge step in paying for college.

TIME-BASED

If you've got a deadline, you can break your goal down into pieces that will be much easier to accomplish. If you keep reaching the smaller goals, it'll be much easier to reach the big one at just the right time.

Example: By making monthly deposits into my savings account, I plan to save \$250 by Dec. 31.

*Adapted from *The Power of SMART Goals: Using Goals to Improve Student Learning* by Jan O'Neill and Anne Conzemius, Bloomington, IN: Solution Tree Press, 2001.

Study Habits

Since you're already "thinking smart," let's talk about your study habits. Whether the school year has just begun or you're somewhere in the middle, you can start practicing good study habits right now. Here are some ways to help you improve your study time and your grades.



1. **Find the best place to study.** You need a place with good lighting, which will reduce eyestrain and keep you from getting tired too fast. Some people need absolute quiet when they study; some need music in the background. The key is to have an area that allows you to see well, to concentrate and to spread out your books and papers so you can get organized. Find a desk, kitchen table or bed, and keep away from distractions like food, TV, phones or pets.
2. **Don't wait until the last minute.** Study a little every night instead of cramming late the night before a test.
3. **Study more frequently, for shorter time periods.** Four half-hour study sessions are much better than one two-hour session.
4. **Begin study time with your most challenging subject.** Start with your most difficult assignment since this is when you have the most mental energy. It may also require the most effort from you.
5. **Take a break.** If you find you're losing concentration, get up and move around. Stretch or get a drink. You'll be more alert when you start studying again.
6. **Organize every class.** Use a separate binder, folder or notebook for each of your classes. You need a place for notes, handouts and homework assignments for each class. Stuffing all of your papers together into one folder or inside your book bag is a sure way to misplace an important homework assignment.

How Do I Get There?

Section 4: How Do I Get There?

The Road from Middle School to High School

It may seem like it's too early to think about college, but it's not. Your journey to college can begin today. Going to college can give you more advantages in life. It can help you find a rewarding career with better pay and give you opportunities you wouldn't have if you stopped your education after graduating from high school. It's true your high school courses and grades are the ones that will count for getting into college, but the courses you take in middle school are the building blocks for high school. For example, if you take more challenging math classes in middle school, you'll be learning the basics that will prepare you for more advanced math and science courses in high school, which will help you succeed on college entrance exams.



Have you considered taking a foreign language course in middle school, if it's available? Many college programs require two years of foreign language. Taking a foreign language in middle school can give you a head start on mastering a new language.

While you're in middle school and high school, you'll also have chances to participate in activities outside of regular class work, such as sports, clubs, music and community service projects. Take advantage of these extracurricular activities, and keep a record of everything you do. Colleges like to see students with experience in different settings outside the classroom. Be sure to ask your teacher or counselor about enrolling in the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship program when you're in the 8th, 9th or 10th grade. You'll learn more about Oklahoma's Promise on pages 17 and 18.



The Road from High School to College

You can go to college. You just have to be willing to work hard, take the right classes in high school and earn the right grades to continue your education. Your teachers and counselors will have an up-to-date list of courses required for college admission. Check in with an adviser often to make sure you're taking the classes you need, and don't forget to keep track of all your extracurricular activities for scholarship applications. You can

keep track of your classes online at OKcollegestart.org, or you can download and print a copy of our *Tracking Your Classes & Achievements* worksheet in the *Resources* section at UCanGo2.org.

#College2 Student Handbook 14

Paying for College

College is an important investment in your future. Yes, it can be expensive, but you may not be aware that the cost of attending an Oklahoma state college or university is among the lowest in the nation. Don't let the cost of higher education keep you from reaching your goals. Here are three important things to remember when planning for college expenses:

1. Save whatever you can.

It's not too late to start saving for college! Ask your parents and grandparents to check into the Oklahoma 529 College Savings Plan, a tax-deferred program that can help your family save for your college education. For more information, visit OK4saving.org.

Do YOU have a savings account? Look at what can happen when you save just \$20 a month from now to age 18.

College Savings Forecast

Age you begin saving	\$20 per month to age 18	\$30 per month to age 18	\$50 per month to age 18	\$100 per month to age 18
Birth	\$6,894	\$10,476	\$17,460	\$34,920
5 Years Old	\$4,362	\$6,573	\$10,955	\$21,911
10 Years Old	\$2,555	\$3,832	\$6,387	\$12,774
15 Years Old	\$756	\$1,163	\$1,938	\$3,876

2. Learn all you can about financial aid.


Most students need some help paying for college. State agencies, the U.S. Department of Education and even individual colleges provide financial assistance to help you meet the expenses of higher education. Recently, federal programs have increased the amount of financial aid available for middle- and low-income families.

Financial aid is money that's available to help you and your family manage the cost of college. Some types of financial aid are:

- ✓ Grants
- ✓ Scholarships
- ✓ Work-study
- ✓ Student loans

Middle School Checklists

6th Grade Must-Do's



No excuses! If you think you're not smart enough for college or you can't afford it, think again! Decide right now you CAN go to college.

Be nosy. Ask adults about their jobs. Did their jobs require any education beyond high school? What advice do they have for you about going to college?

Keep the change. Instead of spending every penny you've got, try tucking your spare change away in a savings account. Learn more about your college savings options at OK4Saving.org and OklahomaMoneyMatters.org. Share this information with your parents, too.

Give it a try. Take school seriously. Do your homework, and turn it in on time. Study before tests. Ask questions if you don't understand something.


Speak for yourself. Tell the important people in your life you want to go to college. A little support goes a long way! For more tips on planning, preparing and paying for college, go to UCanGo2.org.

Know who your fans are. There are many people in your fan club, like parents, family, teachers, counselors, coaches, and friends from your community or place of worship. Ask them for help when you need it.

Some of the members of my fan club are _____

UCanGo2!

7th Grade Must-Do's



Dream big. Imagine yourself in college, shaping your future the way you want it to be. Then decide no one will hold you back!

Save a little, learn a lot. Instead of grabbing a snack from the vending machine every day, bring a snack from home as often as you can. Pocket your snack money, and put it in your college savings account. Check out OklahomaMoneyMatters.org for more saving tips.

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 ones that would keep you from reaching your goals.

Ask for help. If you're struggling in a subject, don't get discouraged. Ask your teacher for help, and see about tutoring opportunities.

Keep believing. College is a challenge, but it's also full of rewards! Tell everyone about your plans. Before you know it, they'll be excited, too.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in accordance with Title VI and Title VIII 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, marital 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, published by OHEC, is owned by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, an authority under Title 53, Section 102B, O.S. and copies have been printed as a result of agreement with OHEC. Copies have been deposited with the Publication Clearinghouse of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. This publication was produced in U.S.A.

UCanGo2!

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 9th or 10th grade. Don't miss out on 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 OKPromisize.org.

UCanGo2!

Contact Us

**Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
Oklahoma College Assistance Program
Outreach Department
Kelli Kelnar**



**405.234.4239
866.443.7420 (toll free)
UCanGo2@ocap.org**