



South Dakota College Application Week

Parent Checklist: January

This month there is one critical to do item that you can help your student with. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opened October 1, and the sooner your student fills it out online, the more money she/he may be able to receive in the form of grants and loans for college. Consider attending a FAFSA workshop this month or contacting a Jump Start Access Advisor to get hands-on help.

Complete the FAFSA.

- Make sure your student has ALL of the information necessary to complete the FAFSA including tax returns and social security numbers.
- You will also need to register for your own FSA ID.

Continue applying for scholarships.

- Talk to your student about updating the list the scholarships they plan to apply for.
- Make sure your student has their transcripts, test scores, letters of recommendation, essays, and other necessary documents finalized and ready to be submitted.

Make a summer plan.

- Encourage your student to apply for summer enrichment programs, internships, or jobs.
- Talk to a Jump Start Access Advisor about South Dakota Jump Start.
- Many college orientation programs take place during the summer, so help students make their plans accordingly.

This month's conversation starter: "What are your goals for the summer?"