



South Dakota College Application Week

Parent Checklist: March

This month is a bit of a break in the college and financial aid application process! Students should keep applying for scholarships and make sure their FAFSA information is correct. Most importantly, students need to continue to do well in school – it's easy to start slacking off as a second semester senior, but it's important to finish the year strong. Make sure your student knows you expect the best of them in this last push until the end of the year.

- Confirm FAFSA information.**
 - The Student Aid Report is a summary of what your student filled out on the FAFSA – offer to go over the information to make sure that everything is correct and make any changes (like updating tax information once you've filed taxes) if necessary by March 15. Note that you will need to file your taxes as early as possible this year; try to do so before the April 15 deadline if you can.
- Keep applying for scholarships.**
 - Continue to encourage and support your student in applying to scholarships.
- Confirm summer plans.**
 - Encourage your student to apply for summer enrichment programs, internships or jobs.
 - Contact a Jump Start Access Advisor for information about South Dakota Jump Start.
 - Many college orientation programs take place during the summer, so help students make their plans accordingly.
- Keep up grades & continue participating in extracurriculars.**
 - Colleges (and scholarship applications) look at second semester grades – so make sure your student continues to work hard in school. No slacking!

This month's conversation starter: "Now that all the major application deadlines have passed, what are you doing to ensure you stay on track this spring?"