

NACP Dolphin Alumni Network

6th & 7th Grade Check List



Fall (September – December)

- Make sure you have a 'College Bound' Folder organized where you keep your transcripts (list of grades) letter of recommendations and scholarship essays!
- This is the time to develop good study habits and use your planner!
- Update or open your profile on the www.csumentor.edu
- Complete the 'Free and Reduced Lunch form EVERY year.
- Sign up for Hispanic Scholarship Fund (www.hsf.net) if you qualify
 - Fastweb.com - www.zinch.com - www.scholarships360.org
 - Freetestprep.com (To prepare for the PSAT test)

- 7th graders with a 3.5GPA or better, review the JK Young Scholars Program

- Make an appointment to visit your counselor and introduce yourself
 - **Ask**, "I am very interested in getting ready for college as soon as possible. May I get information about advanced classes, clubs or programs that will help me reach my goal? Avid Program?"
 - **Ask**: Are you aware of any scholarships available to middle school students?

- During Thanksgiving break start your personal statement:
 - Why do you want to go to college?
 - What things have you and your family overcome, or will overcome, in order for you to reach your collegiate goals?

Winter Break

- 7th Graders with a 3.5 or better, complete your application to the Jack Kent Young Scholars Program before the January deadline. (www.jkcf.org). Get letters of recommendation.
- Continue working on 2 - 3 scholarships during the winter break
- Meet an advisor to review your essays and applications.

Winter (January – March)

- Begin to select clubs to join if you haven't already. Don't join too many but choose the ones you will stay in for your entire middle school time (and possibly move into leadership positions).



- Start your Resume of Activities: Track any and all volunteer hours and extracurricular activities you have been doing since the 4th grade.

Spring

- Select three people to write letters of recommendation for you. These should be people you have worked closely with (a club advisor, teacher who you have helped often, dean of students that knows you, etc). Prepare a cover sheet to ask them (on NACP's Alumni Corner webpage). You can ask them to write it at the end of your 7th grade year or in 8th grade.
- Start getting your summer activities figured out. You should be either volunteering somewhere, doing a camp, starting a mini business, or other productive activities.

Spring Break

- Work on scholarships that are available to middle school students.
- Read! Rest!

End of your 7th grade year

- Visit your counselor and review your academic progress. Ask for an unofficial copy of your complete 6th and 7th grade transcript and GPA. Confirm that your 8th grade year classes are challenging and will keep you on track for your collegiate goals.

Summer

- Take a week off and REST!
- Keeping reading grade level and above grade level books
- Set a goal to prepare 2 or 3 scholarship applications to send out.
- Review learned material to get ready for your next year.
- Start 'fun' studying for the PSAT's with freetestprep.com

Things to do throughout the year!

- Your education is priority. If you need help, SPEAK UP and ask your teachers for extra help.
- Learn about extra tutoring, study groups or create a study group with ***focused*** friends to stay on top of your academics.
- Keep an open discussion about all that is happening at school with your parents. They are on your side, so keep them informed.

