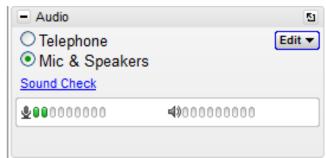
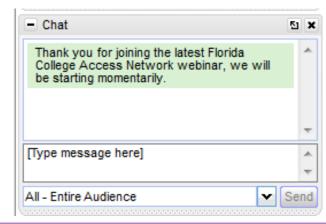
### Thank you for joining us for today's webinar!

Check Audio: Click "Mic & Speakers" to use computer audio or Telephone to call conference line



**To Ask Questions:** Use the "Chat" feature in control panel





research • communication • advocacy • support

#### Note:

This webinar is being recorded, all webinar registrants will receive a link to view the webinar and slides used

## Announcing the Florida FAFSA Challenge!

FLORIDA COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK





# About the Florida College Access Network



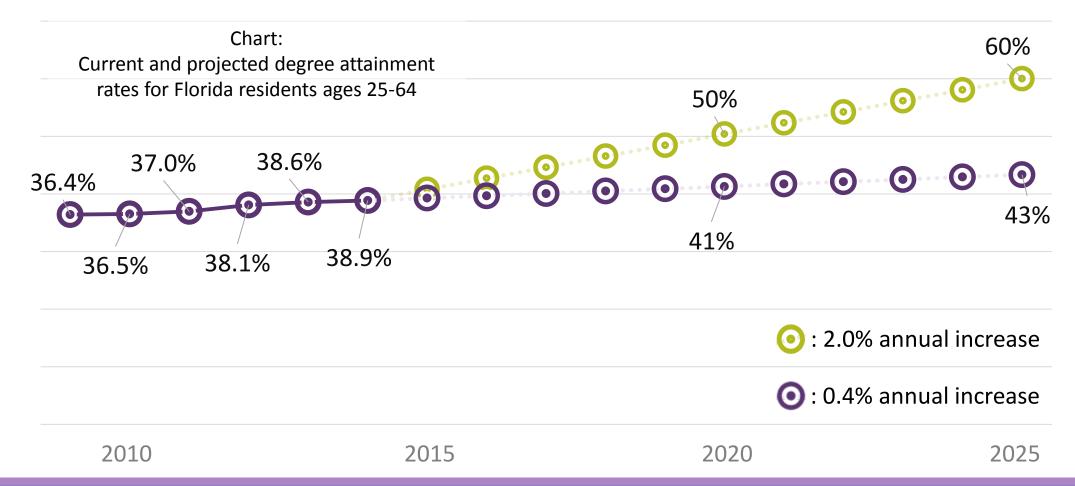
**Our Mission:** To create and strengthen a statewide network that catalyzes and supports communities to improve college and career readiness, access, and completion for all students.

**Our Vision:** At least 60% of working-age Floridians will hold a high-quality post-secondary degree or credential by the year 2025.



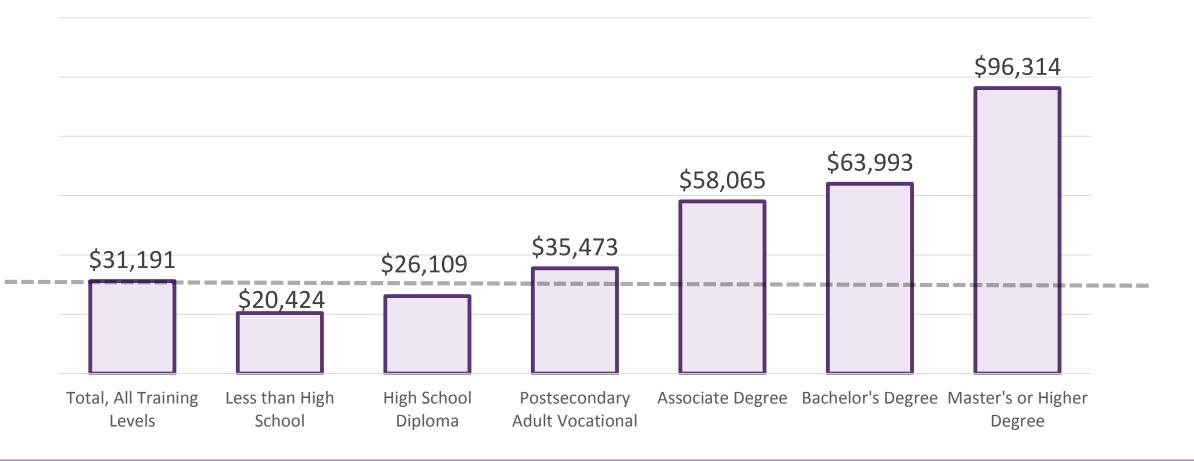
# research • communication • advocacy • support

#### Where are we now?



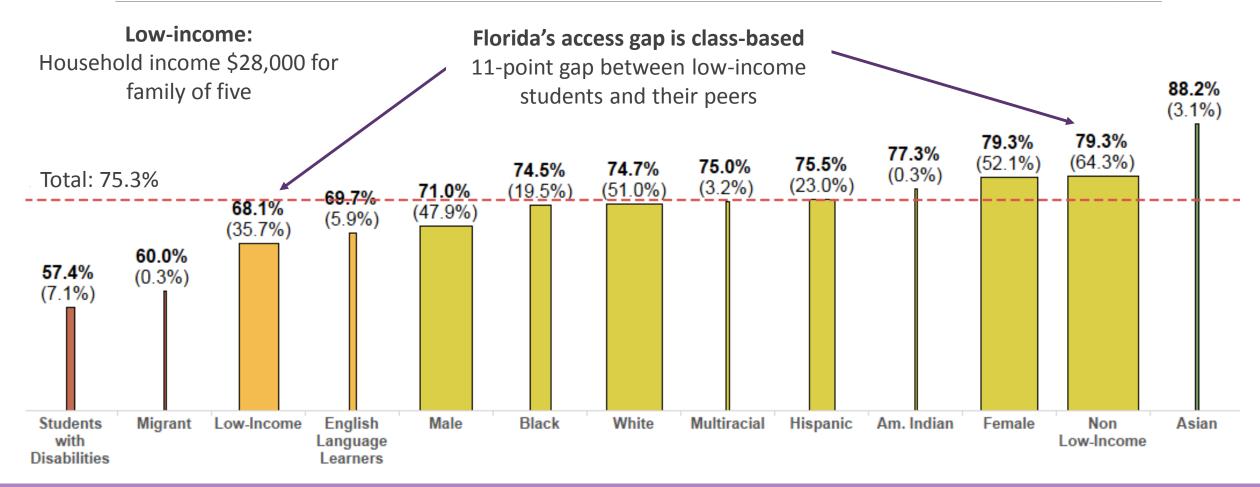


### Economic Opportunities through Education





## State of college access in Florida





## Why is FAFSA completion important?

Access to college is virtually dependent on one's ability to secure financial assistance for college

In Florida, 87% of first-year students receive some form of financial aid to pay for college (higher than national average, 83%)

Determining the cost of college is challenging and depends on knowing both <a href="what"><u>what</u></a> you're paying for and <a href="https://www.nowing.com/how">how</a> you're paying for it.



## Why is FAFSA completion important?

Based on our estimates...

Florida's high school graduates leave behind

#### over \$100 million in Pell grant money annually

by simply not completing the FAFSA

Money left on the table results in college opportunity gap for low-income students

# FAFSA Completion and College Going Rates in Florida: New Analysis

Math gains for low 25%

Writing FCAT score



# Regression formula including 19 school level variables describes 75% of variance in school level college going rates

The strongest predictor...

Change in reading readiness

Completed college prep curriculum

Free/reduced price lunch rate

Change in HS graduation rate

School minority rate

Attendance/Absenteeism

**FAFSA** 

**Completion Rate** 

Change in math readiness

Postsecondary readiness in math

Reading FCAT score

Reading gains for low 25%

Math FCAT score

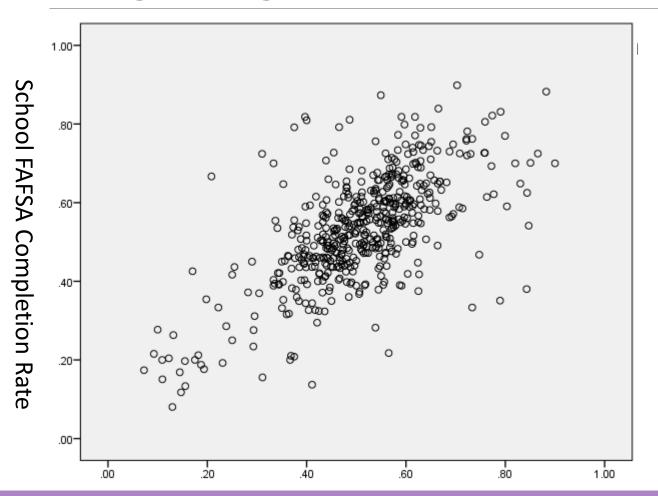
High School Graduation Rate

Postsecondary readiness in reading

For every 10% a school increases it's FAFSA completion rate, it's college going rate increases by 3%

# FAFSA Completion and College Going Rates in Florida





Correlation R = .665

"Strong, positive relationship"

In other words, on average, the higher a school's FAFSA completion rate, the higher it's college going rate

Why?

**School College Going Rate** 



### FAFSA Completion Rates for H.S. Graduates

	2012-13 Cycle	2013-14 Cycle	2014-15 Cycle	2015-16 Cycle
Florida	50.8%	53.5%	49.6%	50.9%
United States	54.4%	56.3%	56.1%	55.5%

4.6% gap between Florida and U.S.

Highest FAFSA completion rate for 2015-16 aid cycle: Washington, D.C (75.6%)

Lowest FAFSA completion rate for 2015-16 aid cycle: Utah (29.5%)

Florida ranks 35<sup>th</sup> among all states in FAFSA completion



## How many are Pell eligible?

	2012-13 Cycle	2013-14 Cycle	2014-15 Cycle	2015-16 Cycle
Florida	57%	58%	59%	59%
United States	52%	52%	52%	51%

Represents percent of Pell eligible applications by graduates who completed a FAFSA

Florida 5<sup>th</sup> highest state in Pell eligibility

Max Pell Grant award for this year is about \$5,700

Average Pell Grant award is \$3,515 (2012-13)

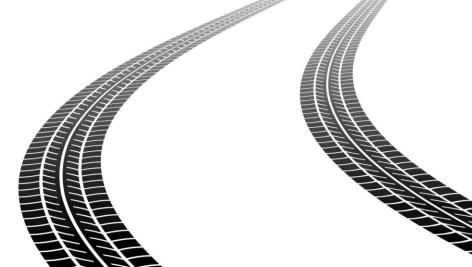
Compared to other states, FAFSA completions in Florida are very likely to yield free money for college!





- 1. "MVP" (Have the highest FAFSA completion rate through March 31st)
- 2. "Most Improved" (Improved their FAFSA completion rate the most compared to last year through March 31st)
- 3. "Fastest Lap" (Beats their FAFSA completion rate from last year by 5% in the fewest amount of days)\*









#### Challenge will last from January 1 to March 31 – how come?

Students who file the FAFSA in January, February or March receive more than twice as much state/institutional grant funding, on average, as students who file the FAFSA later







#### **Champions**

Florida schools and districts that set and achieve a FAFSA completion goal will have school's name listed in a press release and on Florida CAN's website with your accomplishment with a certificate to your school.

\*\*\*Schools must register at this link to be recognized\*\*\*

#### **All-Stars**

Any Florida schools or district that exceeds FAFSA completion by at least 5% over last year will get their name listed on the Florida CAN website with your rate of improvement with a certificate for year school.









#### Use the toolkit!

- 1. Set a goal and track your data
- 2. Hold a FAFSA event
- 3. Promote the importance of FAFSA completion to students and families
- 4. Text students with reminders
- 5. Provide incentives and engage in friendly competition
- 6. Collaborate with community partners and prions

### FAFSA Finish Line Data Tool



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#### **Features:**

School, county and state level data all in one place

Layout makes for easier comparisons

11 different chart filters can be used to create meaningful groups

"Change from last year" filter can show what schools made biggest improvements

Financial Aid Resources tab at the top

#### Florida FAFSA Finish Line: Completion Rates for 12th Graders at Florida Public Schools What's free and could get you up to \$5,775 in Pell Grants for college? That's right -- the FAFSA! View FAFSA completion data for over 500 public schools in Florida by navigating the search tools and filters below. To read more about FAFSA completion and how Florida students can access thousands of dollars in state and federal aid, click the image of the document to the right, View School, District, or State School Name School City School County Florida FAFSA Challenge Leaderboard: Charter School Status School Type Magnet Status School Grade: 2014 ▼ (All) (All) 12th Graders: 2014-15 High School Graduation Rates: 2013-14 186,878 Free/Reduced Price Lunch Rate: 2014-15 Change in FAFSA Completion % From Last Year **Highest FAFSA** Completion Rate: The faster students complete the FAFSA, the more money they are likely to get! Has your school met the 5% goal? District: (Check back January 2016 for updates) 2. School (416+ students): 3. School (166 to 415 students) School Name Graders: 4. School (20 to 165 students): 171 College Academy At BCC 5% Goal: 81.0% Most Improved 36 Somerset Arts Conservatory 5% Goal: 57.8% Broward **FAFSA Completion Rate:** Pompano Beach High School Broward 288 5% Goal: 55.7% 5% Goal: 48.8% City/Pembroke Pines Charter High School 413 Broward District: Cypress Bay High School 1.079 5% Goal: 47.6% 2. School (416+ students): City Of Coral Springs Charter 205 5% Goal: 47.0% 3. School (166 to 415 students): 170 4. School (20 to 165 students): William T. Mcfatter Technical College 5% Goal: 46.2% 503 Nova High School Broward 5% Goal: 41.6% Fastest to the 5% Goal: Somerset Academy Charter High 233 5% Goal: 41.5% Broward West Broward High School Broward 682 5% Goal: 41.2% 461 Fort Lauderdale High School Broward 5% Goal: 40.4% 2. School (416+ students): Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School 696 5% Goal: 38.6% 3. School (166 to 415 students): International School Of Broward 55 5% Goal: 37.7% 4. School (20 to 165 students): 538 Cooper City High School Broward 5% Goal: 37.0% FAFSA Completion Rate: 2015-16 \* o learn more about the FAFSA and school data used in the chart above, please view the following addendum: http://www.floridacollegeaccess.org/wp-content/up-

#### **Quick Tips:**

View district and state level data by making selection in "Level" filter

Scroll over chart area to reveal school characteristic data

High school graduation rates and undocumented students matter

School Name: City/Pembroke Pines Charter High School

School City: Pembroke Pines

School County: Broward

Primary Service Type: General Education

Charter Status: Charter school

Magnet Status: Not a magnet school/program

School Grade (2014): A

College-going Rate (2012): 79.2%
Free/Reduced Price Lunch Rate (2014-15): 31.4%
High School Graduation Rate (2013-14): 92.9%

FAFSAs Completed thru March 31, 2015: **181**12th Graders (2014-15): **413**FAFSA Completion Rate thru July 3, 2015: **44%** 

FAFSA Completion Rate through March 31, 2015 plus 5% (GOAL): 48.8%

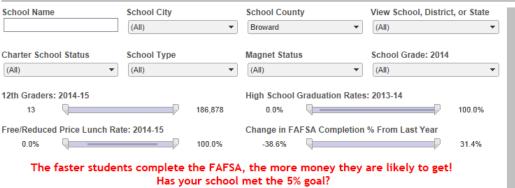
Progress to the 5% Goal:

#### Florida FAFSA Finish Line: Completion Rates for 12th Graders at Florida Public Schools

What's free and could get you up to \$5,775 in Pell Grants for college? That's right -- the FAFSA! View FAFSA completion data for over 500 public schools in Florida by navigating the search tools and filters below. To read more about FAFSA completion and how Florida students can access thousands of dollars in state and federal aid, click the image of the document to the right.







(Check back January 2016 for updates)

School Name	School County	12th Graders: <b>7</b> 2014-15		
College Academy At BCC	Broward	171	5% Goal: 81.0%	
Somerset Arts Conservatory	Broward	36	5% Goal: 57.8%	
Pompano Beach High School	Broward	288	5% Goal: 55.7%	
City/Pembroke Pines Charter High School	Broward	413	5% Goal: 48.8%	
Cypress Bay High School	Broward	1,079	5% Goal: 47.6%	
City Of Coral Springs Charter	Broward	205	5% Goal: 47.0%	
William T. Mcfatter Technical College	Broward	170	5% Goal: 46.2%	
Nova High School	Broward	503	5% Goal: 41.6%	
Somerset Academy Charter High	Broward	233	5% Goal: 41.5%	
West Broward High School	Broward	682	5% Goal: 41.2%	
Fort Lauderdale High School	Broward	461	5% Goal: 40.4%	
Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School	Broward	696	5% Goal: 38.6%	
International School Of Broward	Broward	55	5% Goal: 37.7%	
Cooper City High School	Broward	538	5% Goal: 37.0%	
	-		0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100% FAFSA Completion Rate: 2015-16 ★ ₹	

To learn more about the FAFSA and school data used in the chart above, please view the following addendum: http://www.floridacollegeaccess.org/wp-content/up-loads/2014/03/Florida-FAFSA-Finish-Line-Data-Addendum.pdf

#### Florida FAFSA Challenge Leaderboard:



#### Highest FAFSA Completion Rate:

- District:
- 2. School (416+ students):
- 3. School (166 to 415 students):
- 4. School (20 to 165 students):

#### Most Improved FAFSA Completion Rate:

- 1. District:
- 2. School (416+ students):
- 3. School (166 to 415 students):
- 4. School (20 to 165 students):

#### Fastest to the 5% Goal:

- 1. District:
- 2. School (416+ students):
- 3. School (166 to 415 students):
- 4. School (20 to 165 students):





- 1. Move up Florida Financial Aid Application start date to Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> starting in 2016
- 2. Revise Florida's definition for college and career readiness
- 3. Reinforce college affordability and financial literacy discussions in early grades
- 4. Implement student-level FAFSA completion data in every school district
- 5. Require school counselors spend at least 80% of their time toward delivery of services to students
- 6. Further simplify the FAFSA

# Strategies and resources for increasing FAFSA completion in Florida





# Director of Outreach Services Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)

Florida Department of Education

**Lori Auxier** 



#### FAFSA Completion in Florida

# Florida College Access Network FAFSA Completion Webinar

**Lori Auxier, Director of Outreach Services** 

www.FLDOE.org



### Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)

#### Mission

 Administers postsecondary educational state-funded grants, scholarships, and loan forgiveness

 Provides information to students, parents, and high school & postsecondary professionals



### **CGS!Florida**

#### www.navigatingyourfuture.org/cgsflorida/home.aspx

Promote a location near you!

Opportunity to win a \$200 scholarship!

CGS!Florida needs you! Volunteer today!

#### www.FLDOE.org



## **FAFSA Completion Initiative**

Contact Lori Auxier, Director of Outreach Services 561-389-6346 or <a href="mailto:lori.auxier@fldoe.org">lori.auxier@fldoe.org</a>

www.FLDOE.org



#### **FAFSA** on the Web

- 2016-2017 FAFSA on the Web available on January 1, 2016
  - Limited changes; may see additional modifications once the draft is released
  - IRS Data Retrieval Tool opens early February
  - NEW FSA ID required to log in



#### **FAFSA** on the Web

- 2017-2018 FAFSA on the Web available on October 1, 2016
  - IRS Data Retrieval Tool simultaneously opens
  - Will use prior, prior tax returns (2015)



## **National Training for Counselors and Mentors**

- Workshops are now closed for the 15/16 academic year
  - Download materials online <u>here</u>
  - Webinars available on demand



## www.FLDOE.org









www.FLDOE.org

# Strategies for increasing FAFSA completion in Florida





#### **Ralph Aiello**

Supervisor, School Counseling, BRACE & Academic Advisement
Broward County Public Schools





President Obama request to Superintendent

\$10,000,000 Lost Pell Grants Alone

Approximately 50% Completion Rate

A LOT of effort (input), few additional results (output)



#### Collaboration between:

- High Schools
- ESOL Department
- Broward College
- Broward Education Foundation
- Office of Student Financial Affairs
- USDOE
- Community Agencies
- Other Local Colleges and Universities

## **BRACE** Advisors



**BR**oward

**A**dvisors for

**C**ontinuing

**E**ducation

- Over 20 years in existence
- Paraprofessionals
- Support School Counselors
- College Fairs
- SAT/ACT
- College Applications
- FAFSA
- Bright Futures
- Other Scholarships
- Parent Workshops
- Student Presentations





#### Changing culture!

- Unified focus across the county
- Easy to understand KPIs
- Input vs. Output
- Giving away free money!
- Don't forget about ineligible students...

#### Competition

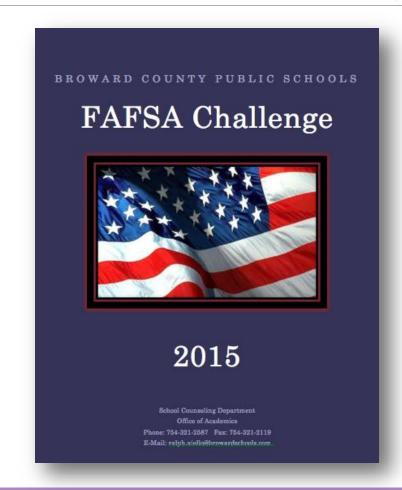
- FAFSA Challenge
- Bi-weekly High School Rankings
- BEF Incentive Prizes
- District Recognitions
- Reach Higher Campaign

## Action Guide



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- Naviance
- Superintendent's "Action Required" Memo
- Annual School Counseling Plan Required Activities
- Events Calendar
- Materials and Resources
- Contact Information
- Professional Development
- Student Signature Brochure
- Marketing Campaign
- Mentoring Partnerships



## Student-by-Student Completion D



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Districts must contact the FLDOE to request access.

Ask your Legal Department who can sign the agreement (Superintendent or Board)

Ensure student confidentiality

Identify schools for access

Cannot export data, so develop methods for manipulating and analyzing the data

Target FRL students for completion

Notify incomplete students of their status

Celebrate success!



## Resources



**USDOE FAFSA Toolkit** 

Florida College Access Network Charts

Naviance

Partner with OSFA and Postsecondary Institutions!



## Naviance



Identify college-bound students to complete the FAFSA

Attempt to integrate the Student-by-Student data for easier reporting

College and Career Readiness Curriculum and Lesson Plans

Road Trip Nation videos on overcoming financial adversity and investing in education

Custom landing pages for step-by-step FAFSA assistance

Student/Parent communication within the system

Data collection surveys for total value of financial aid packages





#### **Lori Auxier**

Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)
Florida Department of Education



#### **Ralph Aiello**

Supervisor, School Counseling, BRACE & Academic Advisement
Broward County Public Schools

Q & A





**Helios Education Foundation** 

**Swift Family Foundation** 

Our work is possible thanks to the generous contributions of our funding partners



#### Find archived webinar slides and recordings at:

http://www.floridacollegeaccess.org/events/or http://www.floridacollegeaccess.org/research-and-data/





### Join the Goal 2025 Movement!

floridacollegeaccess.org

Twitter: @GOAL2025FLORIDA