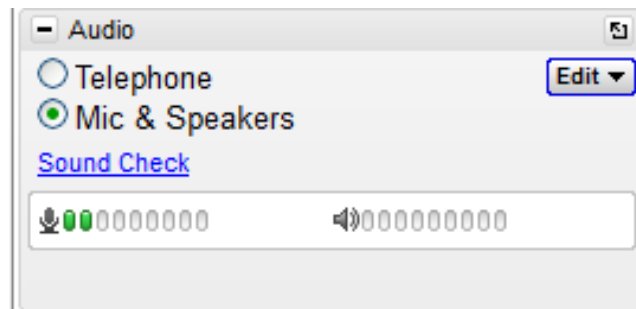
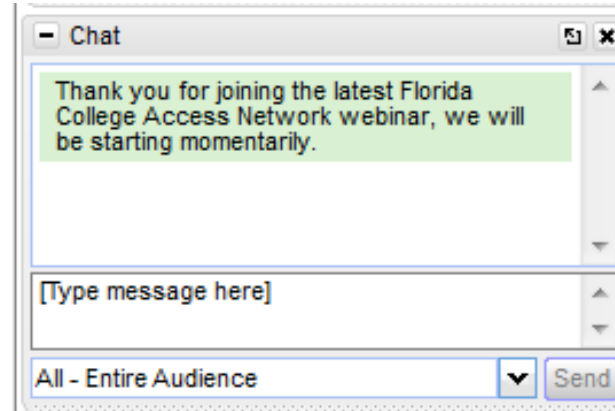


Thank you for joining us for today's webinar!

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



To Ask Questions: Use the “Chat” or “Questions” feature in the control panel



Note:

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

College Ready Florida



**FLORIDA
COLLEGE
DECISION
DAY**

FLORIDA COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK

MARCH 2016

Florida College Access Network: Who We Are



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.



Florida CAN's Guiding Values



College is postsecondary education

College readiness is career readiness

College is for everyone

College is a public good

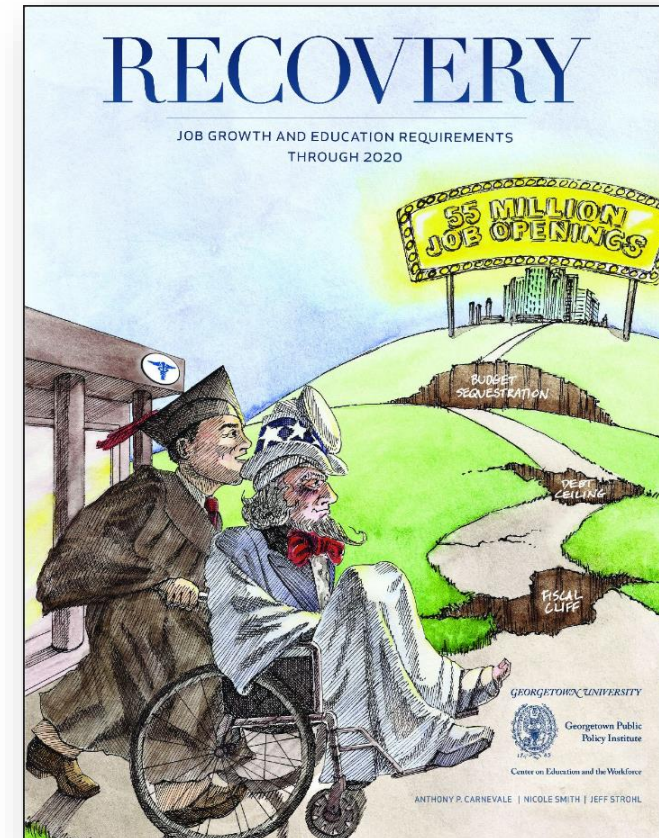
Reaching Goal 2025 will require collective action



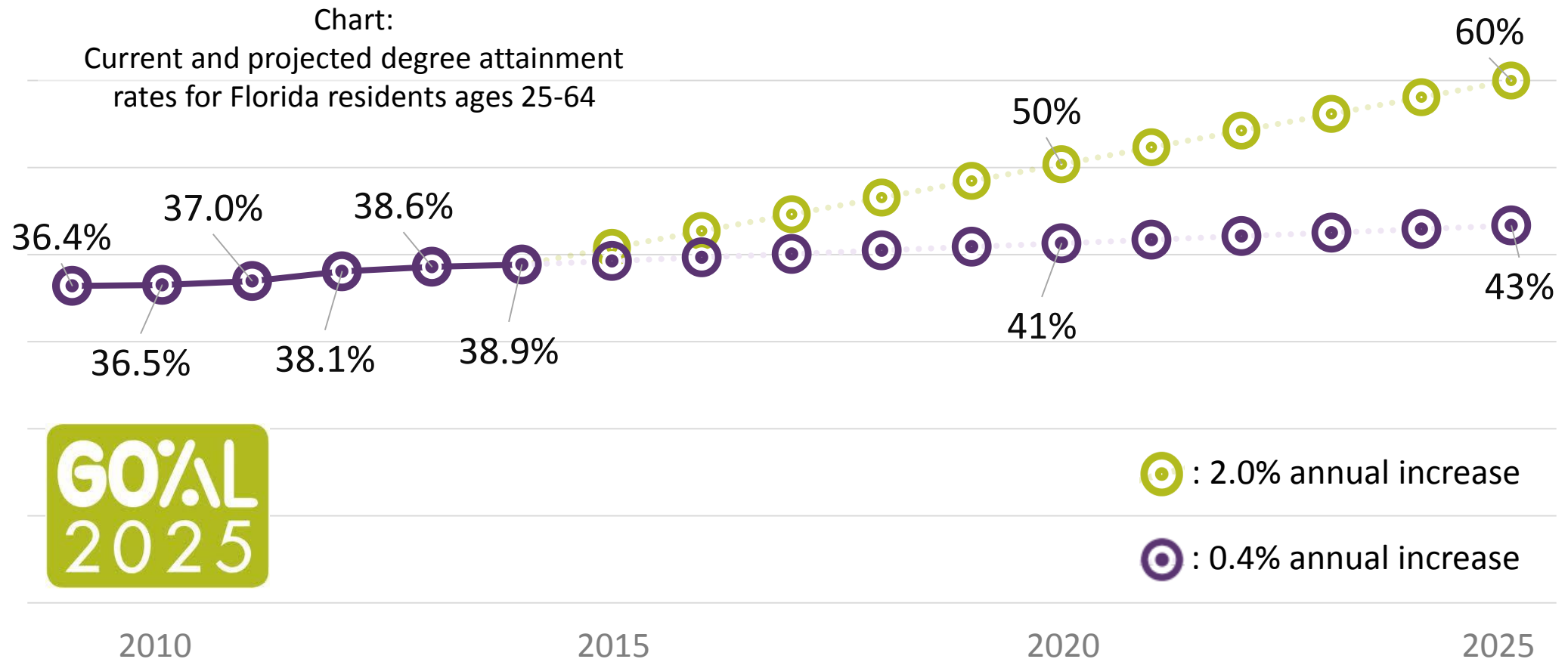
The Big Goal: 60% Attainment

Recent reports on the economy and workforce requirements project future job openings will disproportionately favor those who have some form of postsecondary education or training.

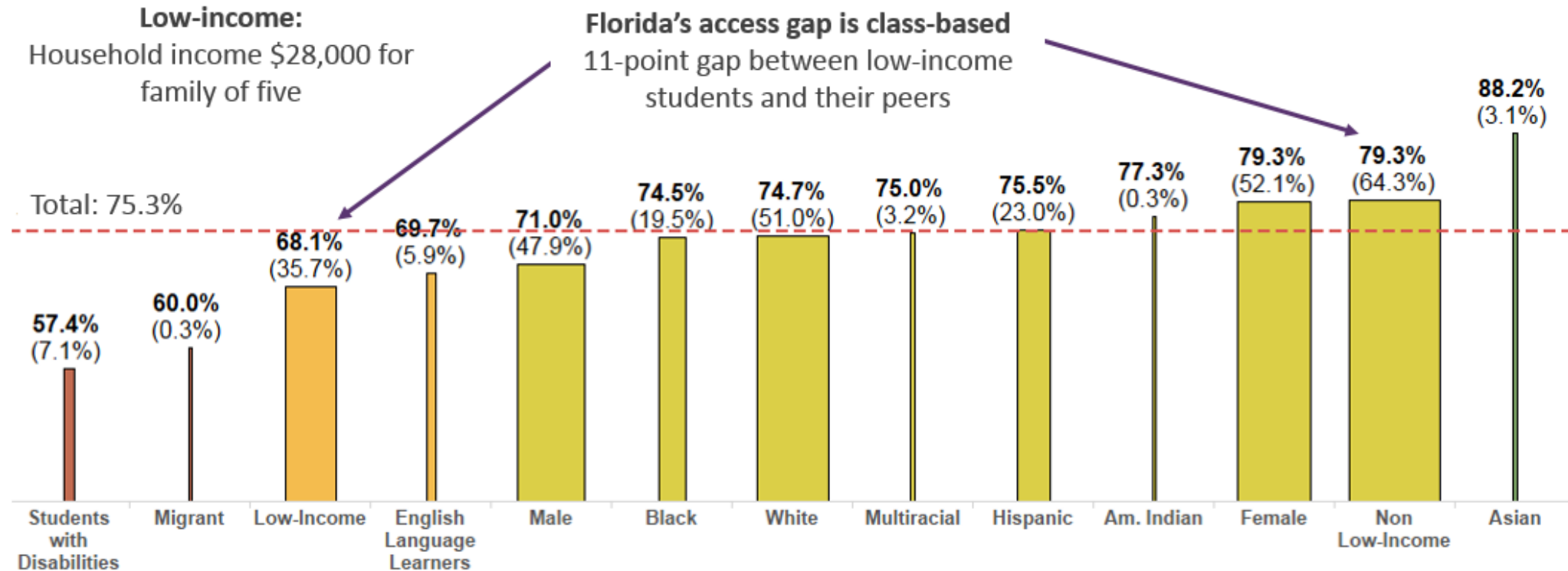
Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce predicts by 2020, 65 percent of jobs in Florida will require a postsecondary education.



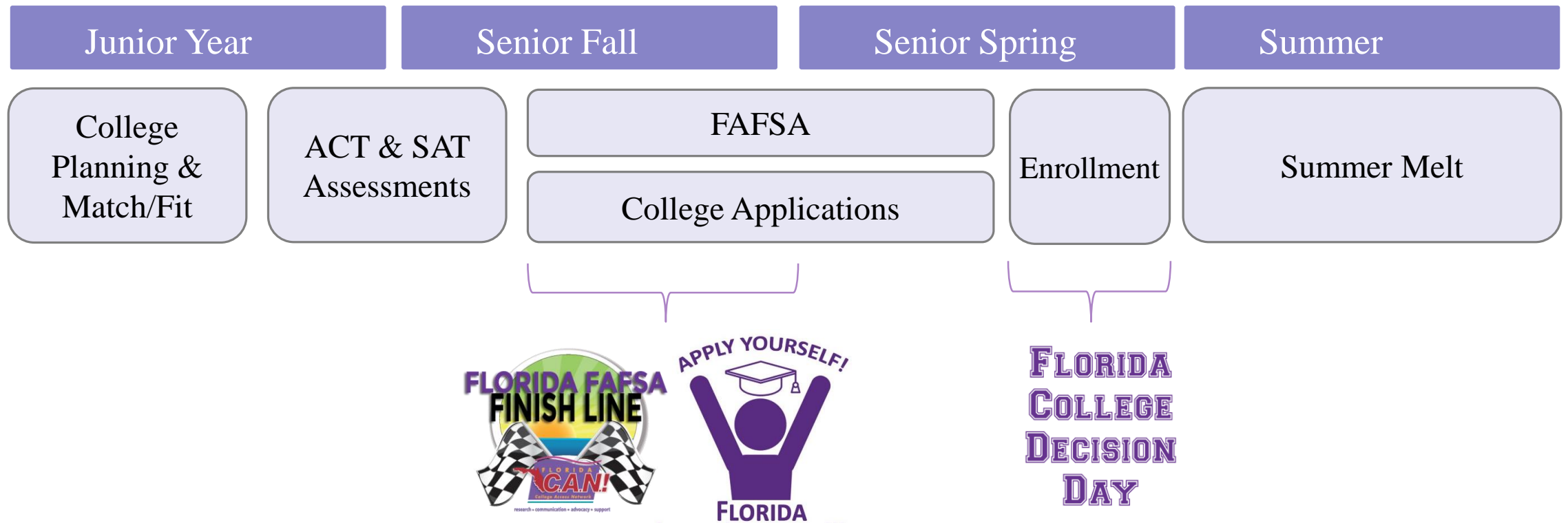
Where are we now?



Florida's Access Gap



The College Access Calendar



Apply Yourself Florida



Part of the American College Application Campaign

A national effort to increase the number of first-generation and low-income students pursuing a college degree or other higher education credential, by **helping high school seniors navigate the complex college admissions process** and **ensuring that they apply to at least one postsecondary institution** (2-year or 4-year college, certificate program, or vocational school).



Apply Yourself Florida



Schools **dedicate time and space during the normal school day to a college application event.**

- Students will have the opportunity to fill out their college applications with the **support of volunteers**
- Students will be encouraged to apply to the school with the **best match and fit**
- The event should be **open to all graduating seniors**, with a special focus on engaging first-generation students, students from low-income families, and students who may otherwise not apply to college
- Also an opportunity to build a **college-going culture** for all students



School Commitments



Core Commitments

- Designate a site coordinator as the primary point person for your event.
- Dedicate time and space (such as the school computer lab) during normal school hours in which all graduating seniors will have the opportunity to successfully submit at least one application.
- Keep a record of the number of students who completed applications and how many each student completed, and report key data to FCAN.

School Commitments



Recommended Commitments

- Identify a school-wide team to support the site coordinator in implementing the event. This may include school staff as well as community volunteers.
- Engage families and the community
- Create a college-going culture for all students through activities leading up to the event.
- Ensure students are prepared to participate prior to the event
- Follow up with students after the event to ensure that applications are complete.

Florida CAN Support

- Planning Resources: Planning guide, templates
- Student Resources
- Training
- Promotional Materials
- Technical Assistance

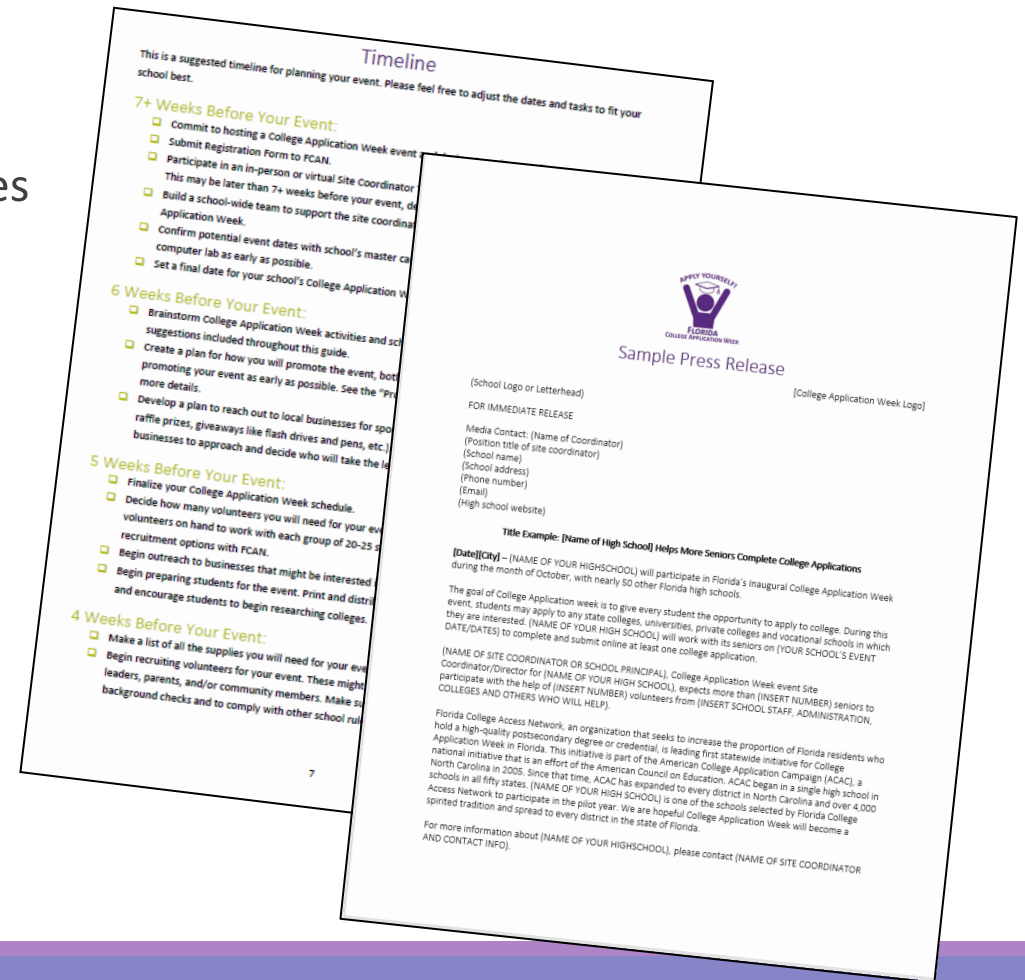


Tools & Resources



Site Coordinator Guide

- Planning timeline
- Suggested college-going culture activities & templates
- Resources to help prepare students
- Student/family letter templates
- Volunteer recruitment tips & templates
- Business outreach tips & templates
- Sample press releases
- Flyers
- ... & more!

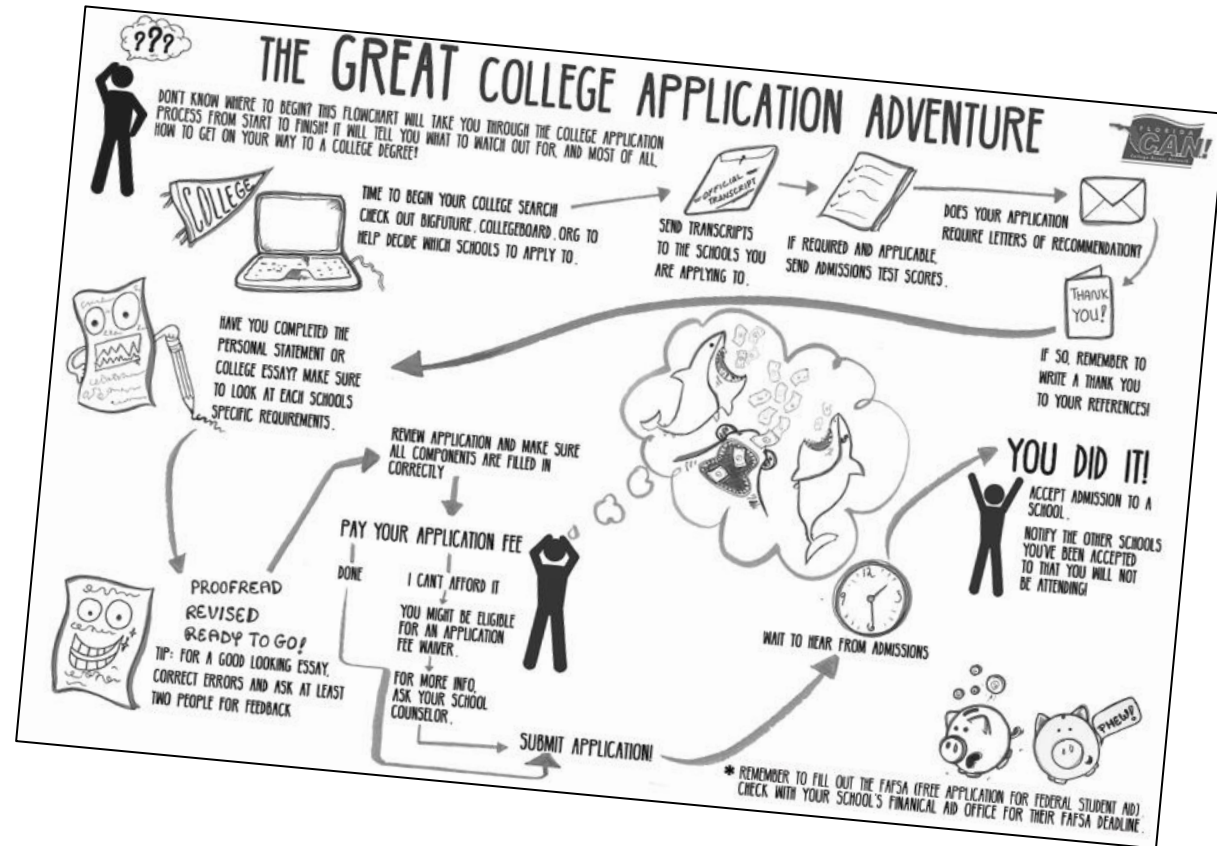


Tools & Resources



research • communication • advocacy • support

B	I	N	G	O
Attended a 4-Year College	Lived at Home While Attending College	Worked Full-Time While Attending College	Is Still Close Friends with <u>His/Her</u> College Roommate	Studied Abroad While in College
Attended a College in Florida	Went to College on a Scholarship	Changed Majors 2 or More Times	Attended a 2-Year College	Majored in Math
Majored in Science	Attended an Out-of-State College	FREE SPACE	Worked for the School Newspaper, TV Station, or Radio Station in College	Met <u>His/Her</u> Partner in College
Lived on Campus	Is Currently Enrolled in a College Program or Course	Had a Mentor or Other Close Advisor in College	Was President or Leader of a School Club	Has Completed Graduate School
Attended 2 or More Colleges	Wishes They Were Still in College	Ate Ramen Noodles Several Times a Week While in College	Played Sports in College	Took Out Student Loans to Pay for College



Tools & Resources



research • communication • advocacy • support

Apply Yourself Guide

- Fit, Match & Cost Worksheet
- Top 3 Colleges Worksheet
- College Application Checklist
- Mock College Application
- College Essay Tips
- Residency Information
- Fee Waiver Information
- Next Steps

College Fit, Match & Cost

Complete this form for each college you are considering using the BigFuture College Search tool at bigfuture.collegeboard.org.

Name of College: _____

FIT

Location of College (City, State): _____

Size of College: _____

4-year or 2-year? _____

Public or Private? _____

Do they offer my major? _____

% Students that return sophomore year: _____

What services are available on campus? _____

How does the college fit your preferences? _____

MATCH

How selective is this college? _____

Have I taken the required high school courses? _____

How does my GPA compare with the average? _____

How do my test scores compare with the average? _____

Comparing my academic record to the college's requirements: _____

COST

Total estimated cost to attend: \$ _____

% freshmen with need who received aid: _____

% of need met through scholarships/grants: _____

My calculated net price: \$ _____

Does the cost seem reasonable? _____

I plan on applying to _____

College Application Worksheet

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Legal Name: _____

Any Other Names Used: (for transcripts, etc): _____

Social Security Number: _____

Address: _____

Place of Birth: _____

If you are not a citizen, what type of visa do you hold, or if you are a permanent resident, what is your alien registration number? _____

**If you are a permanent resident, you will need to attach a copy of your visa or I-94 card to the application.

Gender: ☐ M ☐ F Race/Ethnicity: _____

Are you an active duty service member? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Are you a veteran? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Are you a dependent who is eligible for benefits? ☐ YES ☐ NO

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Type of Application: _____ Term: _____

Planned Major: _____

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

Name of School: _____

City: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

(3) YOU DID IT! Now what?

Next steps after you've applied to college.

Congratulations—you've applied to college!! You've taken the first step in going to college, but you're not done yet. Here are some tips and reminders for what to do once you've filled out the application:

- ✓ **Make sure your application fee has been paid.** If you completed an online application, you likely paid your application fee using a credit card when you submitted the application. If you submitted a paper application, make sure you sent in a check to cover your application fee. Some schools don't require an application fee. Keep track of what institutions you paid a fee to as well as the method of payment and delivery. If you are using a fee waiver, make sure that you submitted it according to the college's procedures.
- ✓ **Make sure your transcripts have been sent.** Follow up with the colleges where you have applied to ensure they received your transcript and all the necessary documents that went along with your application.
- ✓ **Create a PIN for your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).** Students will need a "FSA ID," which consists of a user-created username and password, to apply for federal financial aid. Do this early—you'll need it every year you apply! To create a FSA ID, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- ✓ **Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).** You CAN afford to go to college—fill out the FAFSA to unlock thousands of dollars in grants and loans. At some Florida colleges, the deadline to receive some forms of aid is March 1, so get your application in early. However, be sure to complete the form even if you don't meet your school's deadline, as you might still qualify for federal aid. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov to complete your application, or ask your school counselor for assistance. Some communities offer programs, such as College Goal Sunday and financial aid nights, to help students and their families with the financial aid application process.
- ✓ **Apply for Florida state grants and scholarships.** In addition to the grants and loans available through the federal government, the State of Florida offers a variety of merit- and need-based scholarship and grant programs. These include Bright Futures, First Generation Matching Grant, and Florida Student Assistance Grant. Learn more at www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org.
- ✓ **Apply for scholarships.** There are thousands of scholarship dollars available, based on both need and merit. Contact your local community foundation, local education foundation, ask your school counselor, and research local scholarships available in your community and national scholarships.



Many schools take advantage of Apply Yourself Florida as a time to build excitement around college, with college-going culture activities that involve everyone!



Last year's Apply Yourself Florida events!



LOCAL NEWS



Sebring High holds its first College Application Week



From left: Sebring High senior Timothy Rodriguez observes as school volunteer George Hensley assists senior Joshua Lester on Monday during Sebring High School's inaugural College Application Week. The goal of this effort, with the help of more than 25 volunteers, is to give every senior the opportunity to apply to college.

Credit: Highlands Today

At Sebring High School, former Sebring mayor George Henley volunteered to help students complete their college applications.



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Florida and Lakeland's civic health, prosperity, and success in creating good jobs for its citizens depends on its ability to increase college success for all students, including low-income and first generation college-goers, adult learners, and students of color; and

WHEREAS, Florida Prosperity Partnership is an organization that has engaged the collaborative conversation with community leaders that college is for everyone. The College is 4 Everyone college access network has joined the national effort to increase the number of first-generation and low-income students pursuing a college degree or other higher education credential; and

WHEREAS, the College is 4 Everyone network is established to empower and strengthen community partnerships to improve the College Access, Career Preparation and College Completion for students in the city of Lakeland and around Simpson Park; and

WHEREAS, the College is 4 Everyone network maintains a voice and presence in the community informing and supporting students to be the college going culture that helps to impact the increasing demand for post-secondary education and training.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, R. HOWARD WIGGS, Mayor of the City of Lakeland, do hereby proclaim October 17-23, 2015 as

COLLEGE APPLICATION WEEK

in the City of Lakeland and commend the College is 4 Everyone network whose work benefits our entire community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Lakeland to be affixed this 5th day of October 2015.



R. Howard Wiggs, Mayor
Lakeland, Florida

In Lakeland, a community organization supporting College Application Week was able to get an official proclamation from the mayor.



**Students across the state
were excited to show off their
“I Applied” stickers.**



Florida FAFSA Challenge



A friendly competition between schools and districts, with the goal of increasing the proportion of high school seniors that complete the FAFSA

Encourages schools and districts to set a FAFSA completion goal 5% higher than their rate as of March 31, 2015 (or a goal that fits their school), and gives awards to those that make significant strides in FAFSA completion

Aims to recognize schools and districts for what they're already doing, and link them to the resources they need to boost FAFSA completion



Award Categories



The Winners Circle

- “MVP” (Highest FAFSA completion rate through March 31st)
- “Most Improved” (Highest improvement in their FAFSA completion rate since March 31st)
- “Fastest Lap” (Beat their FAFSA completion rate from last year by 5% in the fewest amount of days; must have a FAFSA completion rate of at least 20% in 2016 to qualify)

Champions

Florida schools and districts that set and achieve a FAFSA completion goal through March 31, 2016. Schools must register to qualify.

All-Stars

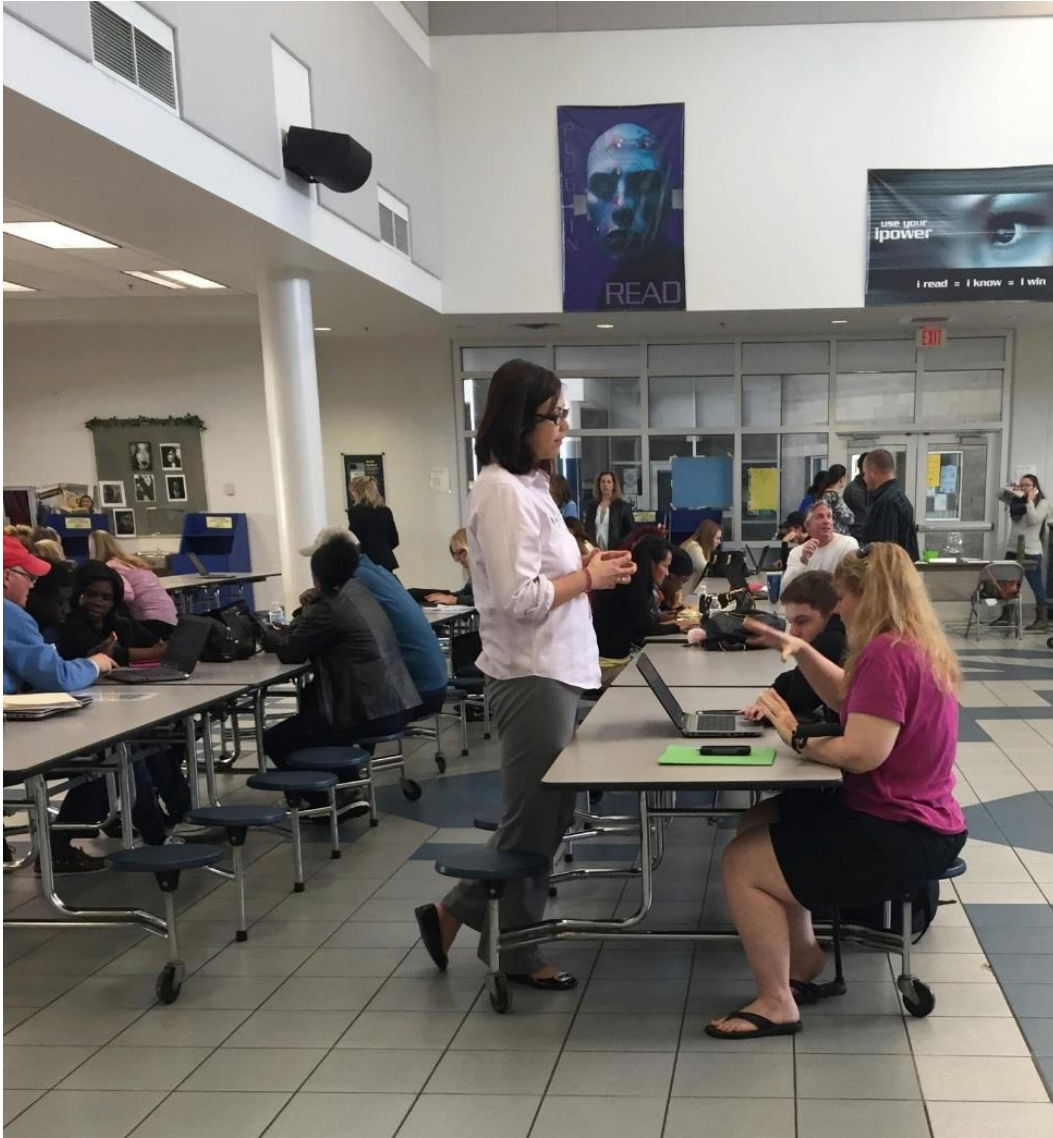
All Florida schools and districts that boost FAFSA completion by at least 5% from last year.

*Must have FAFSA completion rate of at least 20% to be eligible

Key Strategies



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



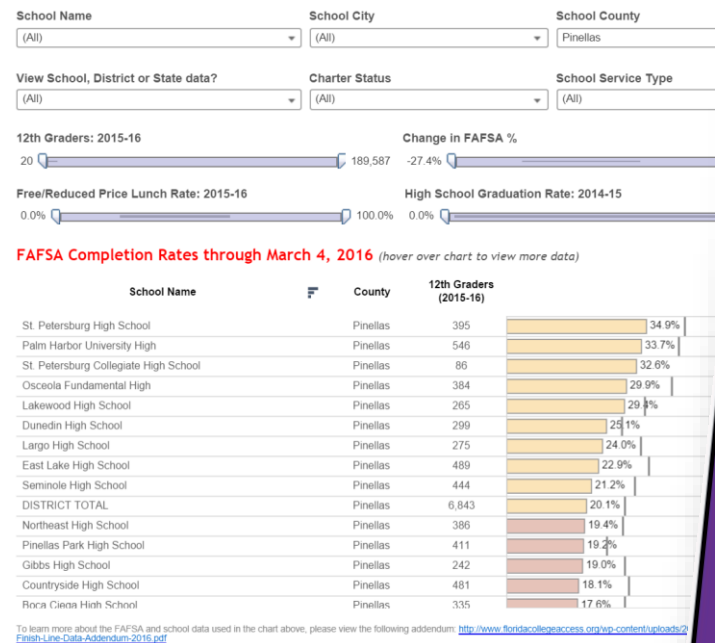
The Talent4Tomorrow Partnership's local college access network hosted a highly successful FAFSA night at North Port High. An impressive 75 families from across Sarasota participated in the event.



“Fill out your FAFSA. Free Money, Free Candy!”
Nova High School in Davie, Florida created a “sweet rewards” candy buffet for students who complete the FAFSA .

Florida CAN Support

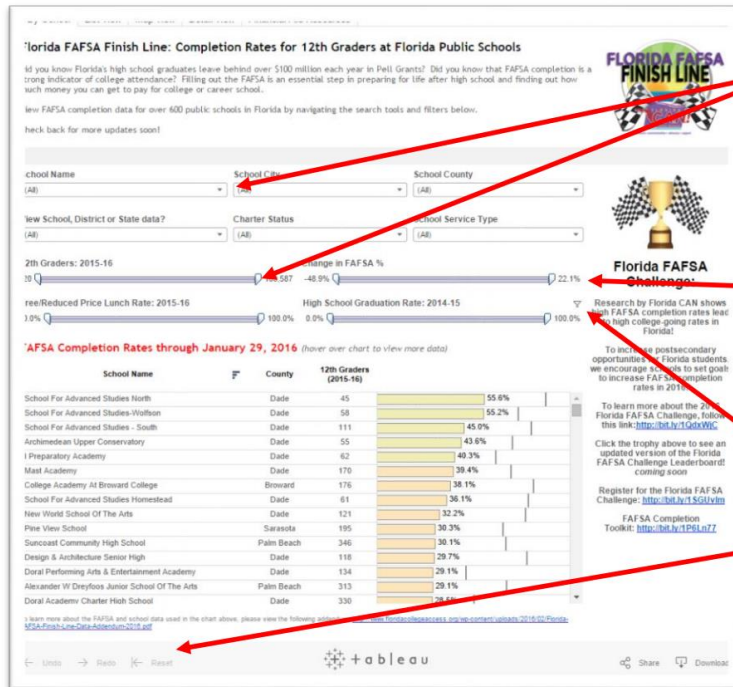
- Data Dashboard
- Leaderboard
- FAFSA Completion Toolkit
- Weekly Coordinator Emails
- Technical Support



New FAFSA Finish Line for 2016



1. Use filters to find schools and make meaningful comparisons

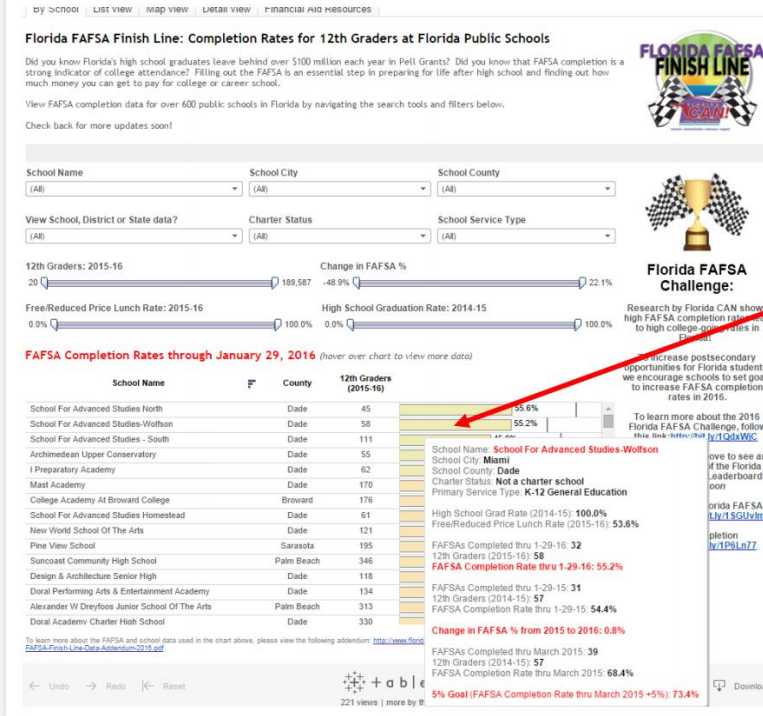


Use filters by selecting the drop down boxes or “sliders” to find specific schools or groups of schools.

You can manually move the sliders or click on the numbers and change them to change the selection of schools that appear in the chart below.

To reset the filters and view all the data, click the small “filter” icon located above each data filter or the “reset” button at the bottom left-hand corner of the dashboard.

3. Hover over data to view details and additional information



The FAFSA Finish Line allows users to view additional data on schools included in the dashboard.

To view additional data, use your cursor to roll over or hover the data displayed on the chart as showed in the image.

These pop-ups are called “Tooltips” and show “directory” information and historical data for schools included in the dashboard.

Leaderboard Updated Weekly!

Florida FAFSA Challenge Leaderboard: January 29, 2016



"MVP" (Highest FAFSA Completion Rate)

*** Large schools: More than 416 12th graders ***

Rank	School	City	County	12th Graders (2015-16)	FAFSAs Completed	FAFSA Completion Rate
1.	Terra Environmental Research Institute	Miami	Dade	451	119	26.4%
2.	Coral Gables Senior High School	Coral Gables	Dade	816	176	21.6%
3.	Coral Reef Senior High School	Miami	Dade	702	139	19.8%
4.	Nova High School	Davie	Broward	512	100	19.5%
5.	Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High	Miami	Dade	535	103	19.3%
6.	Cypress Bay High School	Weston	Broward	1,117	200	17.9%
7.	Riverview High School	Sarasota	Sarasota	554	98	17.7%
8.	Wellington High School	Wellington	Palm Beach	545	93	17.1%
9.	Palm Harbor University High	Palm Harbor	Pinellas	546	90	16.5%
10.	Hialeah Gardens Senior High School	Hialeah Gardens	Dade	689	113	16.4%

Notes: To view FAFSA completion data for all public schools in Florida and learn more about how Florida CAN calculates FAFSA Completion Rates, visit the [FAFSA Finish Line data dashboard](#) and accompanying [data addendum](#).

Large Leaderboard:



Highest FAFSA Completion Rate)

Schools: Between 166 and 415 12th graders ***

City	County	12th Graders (2015-16)	FAFSAs Completed	FAFSA Completion Rate
Bay Biscayne	Dade	170	67	39.4%
Davie	Broward	176	67	38.1%
Osprey	Sarasota	195	59	30.3%
Viera Beach	Palm Beach	346	104	30.1%
West Palm Beach	Palm Beach	313	91	29.1%
Doral	Dade	330	94	28.5%
Pompano Beach	Broward	270	71	26.3%
Hialeah	Dade	236	61	25.8%
Miami Lakes	Dade	360	91	25.3%
Coral Springs	Broward	220	52	23.6%

Schools in Florida and learn more about how Florida CAN calculates FAFSA Completion Rates, visit the [data addendum](#).

Challenge Leaderboard:



"MVP" (Highest FAFSA Completion Rate)

Small schools: Fewer than 166 12th graders ***

City	County	12th Graders (2015-16)	FAFSAs Completed	FAFSA Completion Rate
Miami	Dade	45	25	55.6%
Miami	Dade	58	32	55.2%
Miami	Dade	111	50	45.0%
Miami	Dade	55	24	43.6%
Miami	Dade	62	25	40.3%
Homestead	Dade	61	22	36.1%
Miami	Dade	121	39	32.2%
Miami	Dade	118	35	29.7%
Doral	Dade	134	39	29.1%
Miami Shores	Dade	61	17	27.9%

all public schools in Florida and learn more about how Florida CAN calculates FAFSA Completion Rates, visit the [data addendum](#).

FAFSA begins October 1 for next senior class!



CHANGES TO THE FAFSA® PROCESS FOR 2017-18

SUBMIT A FAFSA EARLIER: Students will be able to file a 2017–18 FAFSA as early as Oct. 1, 2016, rather than beginning on Jan. 1, 2017. The earlier submission date will be a permanent change, enabling students to complete and submit a FAFSA as early as October 1 every year. (There is NO CHANGE to the 2016–17 schedule. The 2016-17 FAFSA will become available January 1, 2016.)

USE EARLIER INCOME INFORMATION: Beginning with the 2017–18 FAFSA, students will report income information from an earlier tax year. For example, on the 2017–18 FAFSA, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2015 income information, rather than their 2016 income information. The following table provides a summary of key dates as we transition to using the early FAFSA submission timeframe and earlier tax information.

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND COLLEGE FROM	YOU CAN SUBMIT THE FAFSA FROM	USING TAX INFORMATION FROM
July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016	January 1, 2015–June 30, 2016	2014
July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017	January 1, 2016–June 30, 2017	2015
July 1, 2017–June 30, 2018	October 1, 2016–June 30, 2018	2015
July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019	October 1, 2017–June 30, 2019	2016

Student Level Data



- The Florida Department of Education Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) is working with school districts to make student level FAFSA completion data available to schools.
- Knowing which students have completed the FAFSA can help you identify and reach out to those students who have not. For more information on how school districts can have access to this data, contact Lori Auxier, OSFA Director of Outreach, at lauxier@fldoe.org.

Florida College Decision Day



- Inspired by NCAA Signing Day, also referred to as College Signing Day
- Has spread throughout the country, and is supported by the First Lady's Reach Higher Initiative
- Schools host celebration of students who have committed to their postsecondary plans, open to all students (for example, a pep rally, special breakfast, or lunchtime activity)
- Florida CAN provides planning materials, templates, and technical assistance

**FLORIDA
COLLEGE
DECISION
DAY**

Florida College Decision Day



Why host a decision day event?

- To recognize all students for their postsecondary plans
- To encourage and remind students that it's time to make a decision
- To support the best match and fit for each student
- To influence younger students as they prepare for college
- To support a college-going culture and wrap up the school year with a celebration

Florida College Decision Day



We encourage schools to:

- Recognize ALL students for their postsecondary plans (2-yr, 4-yr, military, postsecondary certificate)
- Hold recognition in front of the high school's entire student body
- Contact local media – encourage publicity beyond the high school community
- Have fun!

Florida College Decision Day



Can take many forms:

- School-wide pep rally
- Community fair
- Lunch-time event

And might include:

- Guest speakers
- School band
- College T-shirts
- Cake or other treats



Get Involved!



For schools:

- Register and find toolkits at www.floridacollegeaccess.org under “Florida Initiatives.”

For school districts:

- Contact me to schedule a training!

For higher ed institutions and community partners:

- If you already have school or district level partners, let them know you’d be willing to support their efforts.
- If you’re interested in connecting with a school or district to support their efforts, contact me!
- Initiatives have been adapted for use by community organizations

Contact Information:

Arianna Pineiro

Special Projects Coordinator, Florida CAN

apineiro@floridacollegeaccess.org | (813) 974-6429



Questions & Discussion...

Type in your questions using the QUESTIONS function on GoToWebinar application



Helios Education Foundation

The Swift Family Foundation

Swift Family Foundation

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

Introducing... FloridaShines: A New Website to Help Students Plan for College

FLORIDA COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK



60%
2025



Compare schools. Get admissions info. Browse degree programs.

Review transcripts. Search libraries. Find an online course.

Find career resources. Explore becoming a Florida educator.

www.FloridaShines.org

Supporting Florida's Undocumented Students

FLORIDA COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK



60%
2025



How can we help students make better college decisions?

FLORIDA COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK



60%
2025

with the federal

working under \$50k
ordered Pell Grants.

and
come
Pell.

A quarter said they had never heard of Pell
before this survey.

Find archived webinar slides and recordings at:
<http://www.floridacollegeaccess.org/events/> or
<http://www.floridacollegeaccess.org/research-and-data/>



Florida FAFSA Challenge

(Hosted by the National College Access Network)

Thursday, March 31st at 2pm

[**Register here**](#)



Choosing the Right College with the College Scorecard

Tuesday, April 12th at 2pm

[**Register here**](#)



BeyondEducation.org: Earnings and Other Outcomes of Florida's Postsecondary Graduates and Completers

Thursday, April 28th at 2pm

[**Register here**](#)

Upcoming Webinars!

Better Together



2016 Florida College Access and Success Summit

May 11–12, 2016 B Resort and Spa, Lake Buena Vista

Registration is open at fcansummit.com!
Early registration ends April 13th



Join the Goal 2025 Movement!

floridacollegeaccess.org

Twitter: @GOAL2025FLORIDA