



NATIONAL FAFSA WEEK OF ACTION

APRIL 15-19, 2024



National FAFSA Week of Action – April 15-19, 2024: The U.S. Department of Education and the Biden-Harris White House have announced that April 15-19 is the National FAFSA Week of Action. High school counselors, principals, superintendents, after-school programs, parent groups, non-profit organizations, and other local and state organizations are coming together to help encourage high school seniors to submit the new and improved Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form, known as the Better FAFSA. Stakeholders from across the country have submitted over 200 commitments in advance of the Week of Action sharing how they will support in-person and virtual efforts to drive FAFSA submissions.

Background: The Department has made transformational changes to the FAFSA form, an application that students and families need to complete to apply for federal student aid, such as federal grants, work-study funds, and loans. Simplified and streamlined, the Better FAFSA will provide more aid to more students than ever before to help pay for college. Submitting the Better FAFSA form is free, takes many students under 30 minutes, and gives them access to the largest source of federal financial aid to help pay for higher education. The Better FAFSA ensures 665,000 more students will receive Federal Pell Grants to pay for college, and that more than 1.7 million additional students will receive the maximum Pell Grant.

How to get involved: High school counselors, principals and other school leaders, superintendents, after school programs, parent groups, non-profit organizations, and other local and state education organizations are invited to join the national effort to help raise awareness about the Better FAFSA and support submissions leading up to and through the National FAFSA Week of Action.

Potential actions organizations can take may include:

- Host an in-person or virtual FAFSA Week of Action FAFSA submission event.
- Email, text, or send push notifications to your audiences with information about the Better FAFSA and how to submit the form.
- Include Better FAFSA and FAFSA Week of Action information into your newsletters, webinars, upcoming events/conferences or resource sites.

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#FAFSFASTBREAK
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FAFSA WEEK OF ACTION: WAYS TO ENGAGE

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High School Counselors

- Carve out 30 minutes during the school day for on-site FAFSA clinics.
- Host in-person/virtual workshops that walk students and parents/families through the process.
- Share Better FAFSA resources including ["How To" Videos](#), [FAFSA Pro-Tips](#), [FAFSA Toolkit for Students & Families](#) via newsletters, announcements, school TV screens, and across social media.
- Call and text students and parents to explain the importance of and steps to submit a FAFSA.
- Distribute QR codes to students and parents to schedule time for 1:1 help completing the FAFSA.
- Print [toolkits](#), post, and hand out in high traffic areas such as sporting and other school events.
- Hold a special assembly for all high school seniors sharing FAFSA resources and deadlines.
- Host a FAFSA Night/Weekend.

Superintendents, High School Principals and Other School Leaders

- Host in-person and virtual workshops to walk students and parents/families through the process.
- Promote district-wide FAFSA Challenges and celebrate the high school that has highest rate and greatest increases of FAFSA submissions – weekly!
- Share Better FAFSA resources including ["How To" Videos](#), [FAFSA Pro-Tips](#), [FAFSA Toolkit for Students & Families](#) via newsletters and across social media.
- Distribute QR codes to students and parents to schedule time for 1:1 help completing the FAFSA.
- Post progress updates on social media spotlighting which high school is leading the district and which is making the biggest jump week to week.
- Hang [toolkits](#) in high traffic areas and hand out at sporting and other school events.
- Host a district wide meeting for all high school seniors to share FAFSA resources and deadlines.

Non-profits, Community Organizations, and Philanthropy

- Share FAFSA [toolkits](#) with afterschool program directors and providers, including tutors and mentors so they can work 1:1 with students to submit their FAFSA.
- Host a FAFSA event afterschool and/or during the weekend.
- Organize workshops, webinars, or share information at community events.
- Email/send text messages to your membership/email lists.
- Amplify the Better FAFSA on social media channels and/or publish a blog post highlighting students who have completed the form.
- Incorporate information on submitting the Better FAFSA during events with students and parents/families, and on your website.

Elected Officials

- Host a statewide or citywide FAFSA submission effort.
- Host a city vs. city or state vs. state FAFSA competition (recognizing those with the biggest increases in completion).
- Share Better FAFSA resources including ["How To" Videos](#), [FAFSA Pro-Tips](#), [FAFSA Toolkit for Students & Families](#) via newsletters and across social media.
- Post state or district FAFSA submission rankings on social media.
- Promote FAFSA Nights on social media.
- Invite schools and local education organizations to come together to host a FAFSA night or event.
- Issue a city-wide or statewide proclamation declaring that April is Financial Aid Month, and/or that April 15-19 is FAFSA Week of Action.

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