

No Dollar Left Behind:

Organizing a Community-Based Approach to FAFSA Completion

September 18, 2018



Welcome!

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Community Engagement and Programs Manager

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 @abolick_FCAN



Today's Panel



Jessica Manchette

Senior Director of
Program Initiatives



FutureMakers Coalition



Douglas Griesenauer

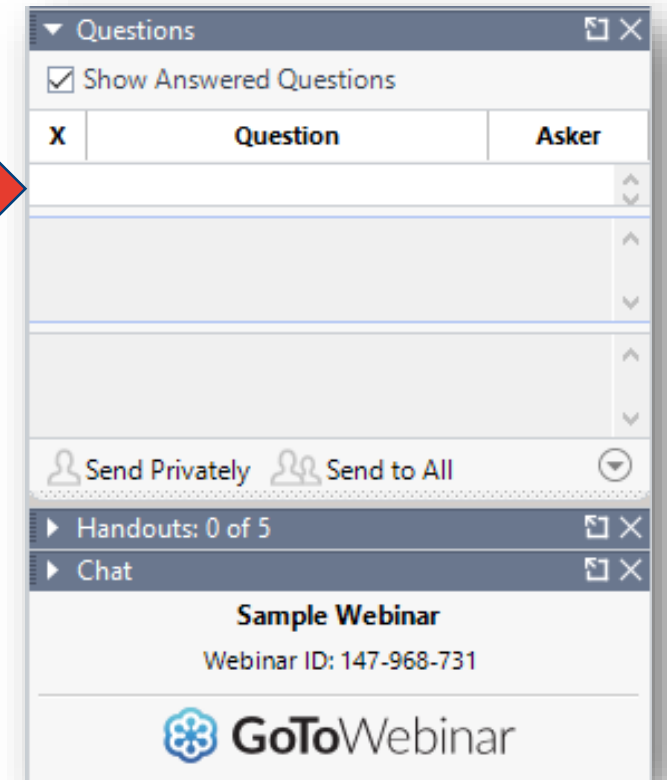
Director of Workforce
Development &
Financial Stability
Initiatives



United Way Suncoast

Questions & Conversation

- Submit your questions
- Share on social media
 - @FLCollegeAccess
 - #FCAN
 - #FAFSACHallenge
 - #FAFSA



This webinar is being recorded; all materials will be available within a week of recording

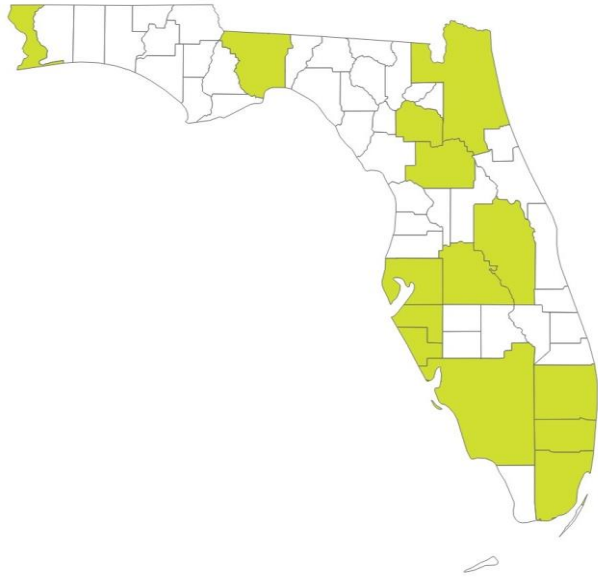
Florida College Access Network

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

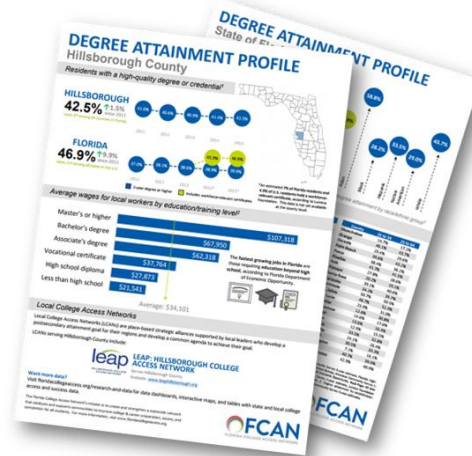
Our vision: At least 60% of working-age Floridians will hold a high-quality postsecondary degree or credential by the year 2025

Our Work

Register at www.floridacollegeaccess.org/initiatives



Local College Access Networks (LCANs)



Research & Policy



Statewide Initiatives

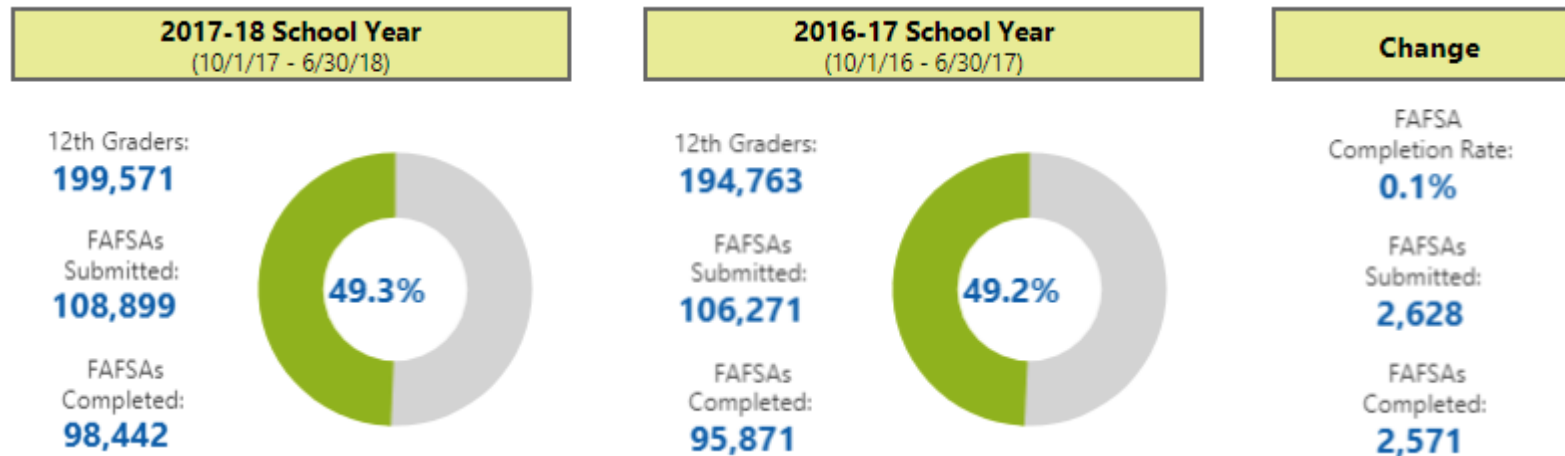
The Florida FAFSA Challenge

- Challenge schools and communities to adopt the goal of increasing FAFSA completion by 5% over the previous year
- Runs October 1-March 31
- Awards for FAFSA Champions, MVP, and Most Improved
- **NEW:** FAFSA Innovator Award



FAFSA in Florida

- Florida ranks #3 in the nation for number of students eligible for a Pell Grant, but #31 for FAFSA completion
- By June 30, 2018, fewer than 50% of Florida public school students had completed the FAFSA



FAFSA is Not Enough

- Nearly 10% of FAFSAs submitted in Florida in 2018 were incomplete or incorrect, making Florida the 4th highest in the nation for FAFSA errors
- If every submitted FAFSA in Florida had been completed, we would have exceeded our 5% goal
- 30% of all FAFSA filers are selected for verification; 50% of low-income students

FAFSA Resources

<http://floridacollegeaccess.org/initiatives/florida-fafsa-challenge/>
<http://www.futuremakerscoalition.com/fafsafirst/>

- FAFSA Challenge Toolkit
- Top FAFSA Mistakes Students Make
- FAFSA Verification Handout
- FAFSA Challenge Data Dashboard
- FAFSA Story Blog Posts
- Webinar: FAFSA is Not Enough

Resources for Completing FAFSA Verification Process

Champions For Learning is happy to share this resource with the community. Champions For Learning is a partner in Future Ready Collier, which is a network of more than 50 organizations, businesses, schools and community members working to ensure every child is ready for Kindergarten, and every young person enters adulthood with a vision and plan to accomplish that vision.

Future Ready Collier is the Collier partner supporting the five-county FutureMakers Coalition, with a goal of ensuring every student graduates with a degree, certificate or ODS.

Helping Students with Common FAFSA Mistakes

Students who file the FAFSA sometimes submit an incomplete or incorrect application, leaving them ineligible to receive aid. According to new data received by FCAN from the U.S. Department of Education (ED), the following are the most common mistakes students made on FAFSAs between October 1, 2016 and November 26, 2017.

Mistake 1: Missing Signatures

To submit a completed FAFSA, dependent students must include their own signature and one of their parent's signatures on the web application.

Students must provide their Social Security number, if they can print it, on the web application.

Missing or Incomplete Information

Students must provide the Simplified Needs Test. These include: net worth, income, and more asset information. This may include: bank accounts, IRAs, etc.

Missing or Incorrect Date of Birth Missing

Students must provide the date of birth for both parents. If the date of birth is missing for one or both parents, it will result in the application being flagged for review. Instead, enter 000000000.

Members

Students who are married or have a dependent spouse are automatically considered dependent students. If you are a dependent student, you must provide the name and Social Security number of your spouse or dependent spouse. If you are a dependent student who is not married and does not have a dependent spouse, you must provide the name and Social Security number of your biological or adoptive parent(s). If you are a dependent student who is not married and does not have a dependent spouse, you must provide the name and Social Security number of your biological or adoptive parent(s).

Financial Aid Office

Students who are dependent students must request a copy of their financial aid office's verification letter. You must request a copy of your financial aid office's verification letter. You must request a copy of your financial aid office's verification letter. You must request a copy of your financial aid office's verification letter.

Future Ready Collier

Future Ready Collier is a network of more than 50 organizations, businesses, schools and community members working to ensure every child is ready for Kindergarten, and every young person enters adulthood with a vision and plan to accomplish that vision.

The Florida FAFSA Challenge

2017-18 FAFSA Completion Toolkit

FLORIDA
COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK

FAFSA Stories

Contact Amy Bolick

abolick@floridacollegeaccess.org



Community Partner Perspective

Douglas Griesenauer

LIVE UNITED®



  
unitedwaysuncoast.org





LEAP's vision is to reach 60% of working age adults (age 25-64) in Tampa Bay holding degrees and credentials by 2025.

LEAP Tampa Bay Partners



unitedwaysuncoast.org



United Way Suncoast

How does United Way help?

- Recruits volunteers
- Reaches parents or adult FAFSA recipients through other programming
- Provides volunteer trainings
- Shares lessons learned



Value of Cross-trained volunteers



Who is a good volunteer?

- Anyone!
 - The biggest hurdle is demystifying the difficulties of FAFSA
 - That being said, easy sells are those who are already comfortable with FAFSA or government documents
 - Retired individuals are always golden
 - College students are good, if they're the right ones



Value to Cross-aware programs

- VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) volunteers can be aware of anyone taking Education credits to ensure that complete FAFSA
- SNAP recipients completing forms can be informed of FAFSA if they disclose college-bound family members
- FAFSA clients can be referred to free tax prep services if they express frustration at tax section of FAFSA

- **BE AWARE OF ADULT FAFSA USERS!**
 - (aka non-high school)



Training details

- Held in the community
- Typically one LCAN community member and one College Financial Aid staff
- About two hours long (can be longer or shorter)
 - First quarter is gathering buy-in and building confidence
 - Middle two quarters is educating on details and special circumstances
 - Last quarter is just them practicing
 - Expect LOTS of questions



A typical volunteer training:

- Who helps make this happen? – sharing partnerships
- Why should we care? – setting the stage
- Common things to watch for – the real stuff
 - Student Dependency Status
 - Who counts as ‘Parents’ for the FAFSA?
 - Undocumented Parents or Students
 - What counts as Income & Assets?
- Line-by-line review – practice time!



As low-income rates rise, FAFSA completion goes down slightly



FAFSA Lab Example – Armwood High School

FAFSA Completion Rates 2016-17 (Oct. – Mar.)

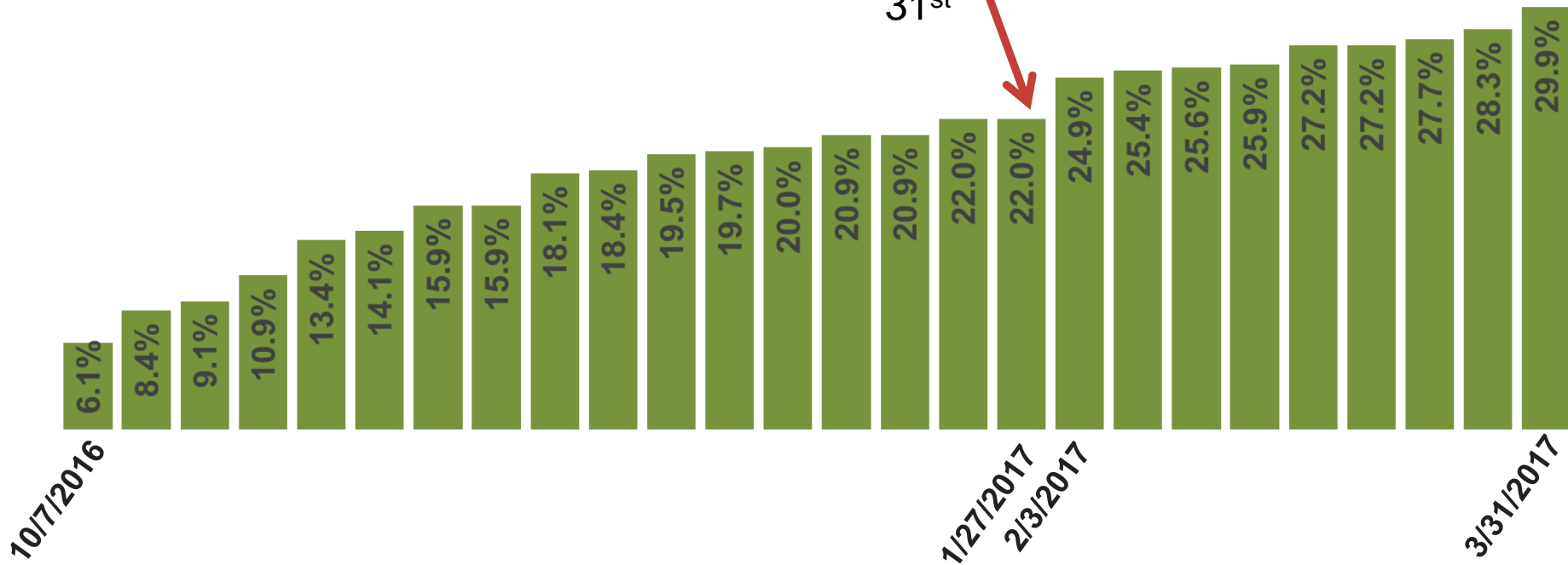


12th graders: **555**

Low-income rate: **60.1%**

LEAP FAFSA Lab @
Armwood HS, Jan.

31st



How Can I Help Increase FAFSA Completion Rates?

- Volunteer to attend county-wide College Nights and Financial Aid Nights to share information about FAFSA completion -- already scheduled for the fall and seeking volunteers
- Volunteer for college-hosted FAFSA Labs to provide technical support
- Volunteer at individual school events to provide information and technical support:
 - Day-long College Application Days
 - FAFSA Labs scheduled at schools during the day, evening or on Saturdays
 - Many schools already have these events scheduled and are seeking volunteers
 - More events are being added to the schedule – so stay posted



Practice Time!!

FAFSA Demo System <http://fafsademo.test.ed.gov/>
user name: eddemo
password: fafsatest

SSN: 966-08-3013

Last Name: Lastname

First Name: Maxine

Date of Birth: 11/02/2000

NOTE NEW BIRTHDATE!!

FSA ID username: newuser33

FSA ID Password: Firstyear33



I can help!

Online FAFSA training:

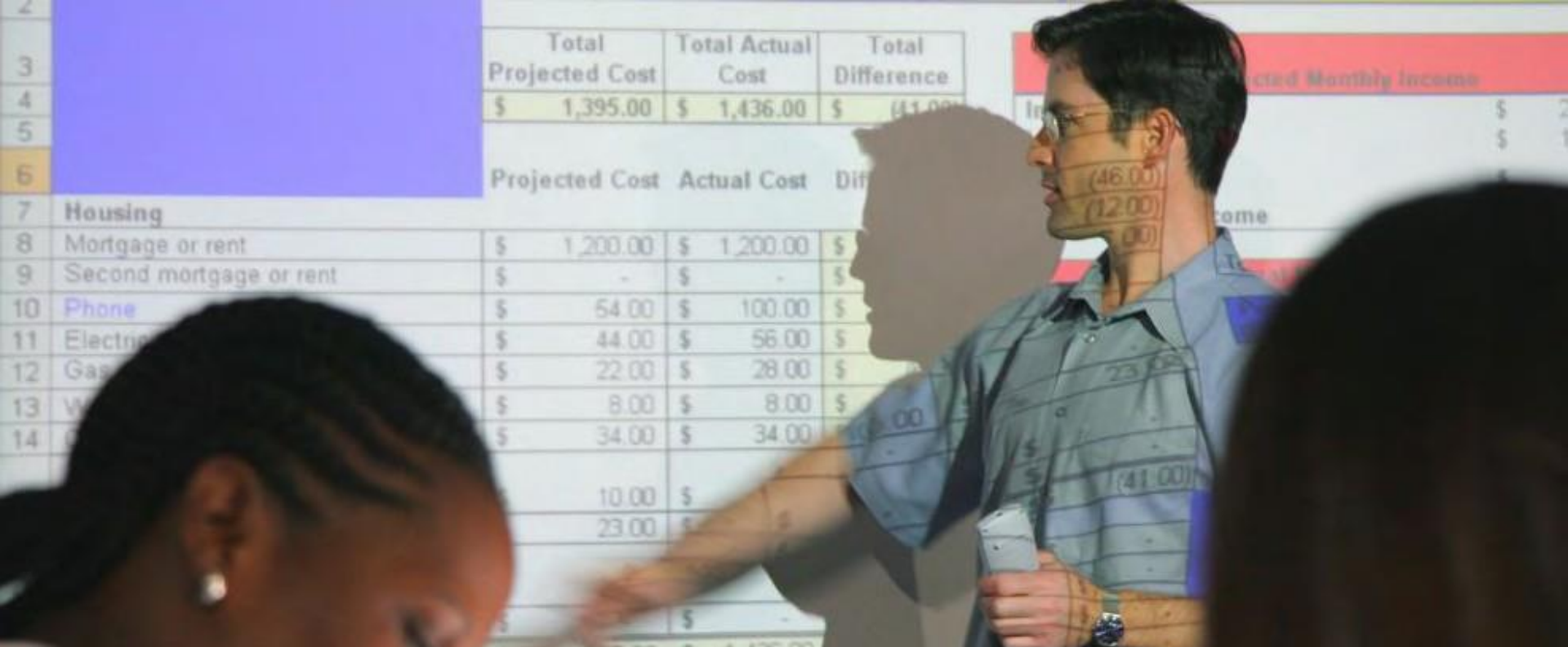
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQPVNmltMfM&t=1880s>

My slides are always up for grabs – just ask:

- dgriesenauer@uwsuncoast.org

Happy to work with other communities (United Ways especially) on how they can best partner with their LCAN or community (if no LCAN available)





Total Projected Cost	Total Actual Cost	Total Difference
\$ 1,395.00	\$ 1,436.00	\$ (41.00)

Projected Cost	Actual Cost	Difference
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7	Housing			
8	Mortgage or rent	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$
9	Second mortgage or rent	\$ -	\$ -	\$
10	Phone	\$ 54.00	\$ 100.00	\$
11	Electric	\$ 44.00	\$ 56.00	\$
12	Gas	\$ 22.00	\$ 28.00	\$
13	Water	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00	\$
14		\$ 34.00	\$ 34.00	\$
		10.00	\$	
		23.00	\$	

UNITED WAY FIGHTS FOR THE EDUCATION AND FINANCIAL STABILITY OF EVERY PERSON IN OUR COMMUNITY.

LIVE UNITED[®]



  
unitedwaysuncoast.org





FUTURE READY COLLIER

FutureMakers Coalition Partner

www.FutureReadyCollier.org



A network of more than 60 organizations, businesses, schools and community members working to ensure every child is ready for Kindergarten, and every young person enters adulthood with a vision and plan to accomplish that vision.



FutureMakers Coalition

Goal:

To transform Southwest Florida's workforce by increasing the number of college degrees, certificates or other high-quality credentials from 27 percent to 55 percent by 2025.



Resources



CCPS | Portal School Sites Translate Sign In

CCPS Collier County Public Schools

STUDENTS PARENTS STAFF COMMUNITY

ABOUT US DEPARTMENTS & DIVISIONS HUMAN RESOURCES EMPLOYMENT SCHOOLS CONTACT US

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Home
- List of Scholarships
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA Tutorial)
 - Create an FSA ID Guide (English)
 - Create an FSA ID Guide (Creole)
 - Create an FSA ID Guide (Spanish)
- Student Scholarship Application Form
- College Night Schools Financial Aid Links
- Application for Bright Futures
- Scholarship Volunteer Center for Bright Futures
- Steps on How to Apply for Scholarships
- Types of Financial Aid
- How to Apply for Financial Aid
- Reporting Scams
- Community Service Pre-Approval Documentation Form
- Scholarship Provider Form
- Champions for Learning Community Resource
- Community Foundation Community Resource
- Florida College Access Network Community Resource
- 10 Top Ways Students Can Have More Money This School Year
- Savings Guide for College Students

FAFSA OPENS ON OCTOBER 1, 2018

- o **The 2019-20 FAFSA can be filed as early as October 1, 2018.** The earlier you submit the FAFSA, the more opportunities for financial aid for your student.
- o **Income and tax information from 2017 will be used.**
- o **See the resource links to the right for information on how to obtain an FSA ID and how to complete the FAFSA.**

- 7 Easy Steps to the FAFSA
- Submit a FAFSA
- Create an FSA ID Guide (English)
- Create an FSA ID Guide (Spanish)
- Create an FSA ID Guide (Creole)
- Dependent vs Independent Students Reporting Parents Information
- Filling Out the FAFSA: Listing Colleges and Schools
- Filling Out the FAFSA: Signing the FAFSA
- Filling Out the FAFSA: StartProviding Basic Information
- FSA ID Frequently Asked Questions
- Six Things to Do After Filing the FAFSA (English)
- Six Things to Do After Filing the FAFSA (Spanish)
- The FSA ID: Your First Step to Getting Financial Aid for College
- Federal Financial Aid for a Student with a Disability
- Undocumented Students
- Who Is My "Parent" When I Fill Out the FAFSA?



Common Errors on the FAFSA

What will your high school completion status be when you begin college in the 2019-2020 school year?

High school diploma ▼

What will your college grade level be when you begin the 2019-2020 school year?

Never attended college/1st yr. ▼

What degree or certificate will you be working on when you begin the 2019-2020 school year?

1st bachelor's degree ▼

Are you interested in being considered for work-study? Yes ▼

Will you have your first bachelor's degree before you begin the 2019-2020 school year? No ▼

FAFSA Tips For Florida Students



- List up to 10 schools on the FAFSA
 - You can include schools that you have not yet applied or been accepted to
- List a Florida Public State College/University FIRST to ensure eligibility for state aid
 - Schools can not see the order of schools on a students FAFSA
 - Schools can not see the other schools listed on a students FAFSA

District-Wide Financial Aid Night



Collier County Public Schools

VIRTUAL FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION NIGHT

Thursday, September 13, 2018

5 - 6 pm: FSA ID Labs Open

6 - 8 pm: Financial Aid Presentations
Q&A Session

PARENTS - Do you have questions on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and other financial aid available for students?

The second annual Virtual Financial Aid Information Night will be held *LIVE* at multiple locations throughout the District. Experts will be available to share important financial aid information and help you understand the process of applying for the FAFSA. Topics will include:

[Creating an FSA ID](#)

[Required documents for the FAFSA](#)

[Important application deadlines](#)

[Types of financial aid](#)

[Searching for scholarship opportunities](#)

[Financial aid myths vs facts](#)

CCPS is holding this districtwide virtual event so parents can attend on one date at any of the locations listed below. The event will also be streamed *LIVE* online and on The Education Channel (cable 99).

LOCATIONS

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administrative Center
5775 Osceola Trail, Naples

Golden Gate High School
925 Titan Way, Naples

Gulf Coast High School
7878 Shark Way, Naples

Immokalee High School
701 Immokalee Drive, Immokalee

Lely High School
1 Lely High School Blvd., Naples

Lorenzo Walker Technical High School
3702 Estey Avenue, Naples

Naples High School
100 Golden Eagle Circle, Naples

Palmetto Ridge High School
1655 Victory Lane, Naples

SPEAKERS

Sharon Bayata
Education/Scholarship Director
Community Foundation of Collier County

Tiziana Marchante
Assistant Director, Financial Aid
Florida SouthWestern State College

Jessica Manchette
Senior Director of Program Initiatives
Champions For Learning



College Night



Monday, September 17, 2018
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Golden Gate High School Gym
(2925 Titan Way, Naples)

Visit with college and university
representatives from throughout the country!

**STUDENT
REGISTRATION**
Log in to Naviance

**PARENT/GUARDIAN
REGISTRATION**
Register by visiting
collierschools.com/CollegeNightRegister



FAFSA Completion Events



FAFSA Completion Events

Need help with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)?

Get free on-site help in completing the FAFSA and speak with financial aid professionals about resources available to pay for higher education.

Saturday, October 6, 2018

Lorenzo Walker Technical High School
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
3702 Estey Avenue - Naples, FL

Saturday, October 27, 2018

Immokalee High School
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
701 Immokalee Drive - Immokalee, FL

Saturday, November 10, 2018

Gulf Coast High School
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
7878 Shark Way - Naples, FL

Who should attend?

Dependent students: (generally those under 24) need to attend with a parent or legal guardian. Parent(s) or legal guardian must bring the tax information listed below and the items listed on the "Things You Need to Bring" checklist.

Independent students: (24 and over) will not require a parent's income, but must bring the tax information listed below and the items listed on the "Things You Need to Bring" checklist.

What to do 3-5 days BEFORE going to a FAFSA Completion Event

- Student AND parents need to obtain their FSA ID at <https://fsaid.ed.gov>

If you have filed your 2017 tax return, bring:

- Your (an applicable parents' or spouse's) most recent Federal income tax return
 - IRS Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ
 - Foreign tax return, or
 - Tax return from Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Marshall Islands, the Federal States of Micronesia

If you have NOT filed your 2017 tax return, bring

- All applicable W-2 forms
- A list of all income earned not listed on a W-2 form

Things you need to bring

- You and your parent need to bring your FSA IDs
- Social Security numbers for you and your parents (if they have one)
- 2017 Federal income tax return for you and/or your parents (or W-2s and records of money earned if you/your parents did not file in 2017)
- If you are not a U.S. Citizen, bring your Alien Registration Number

PRIVACY

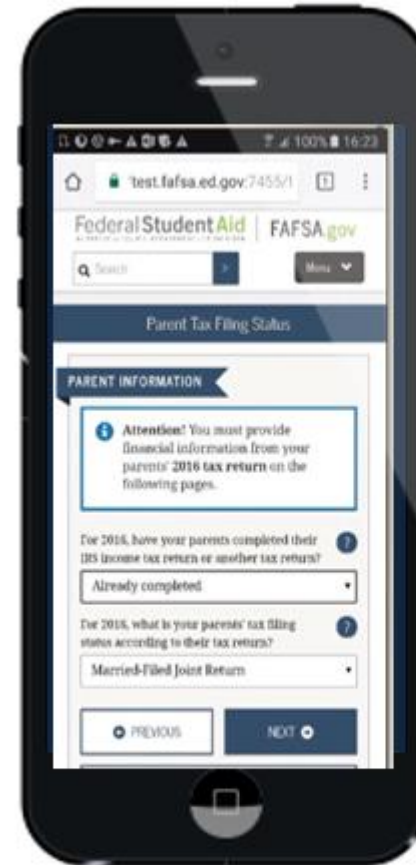
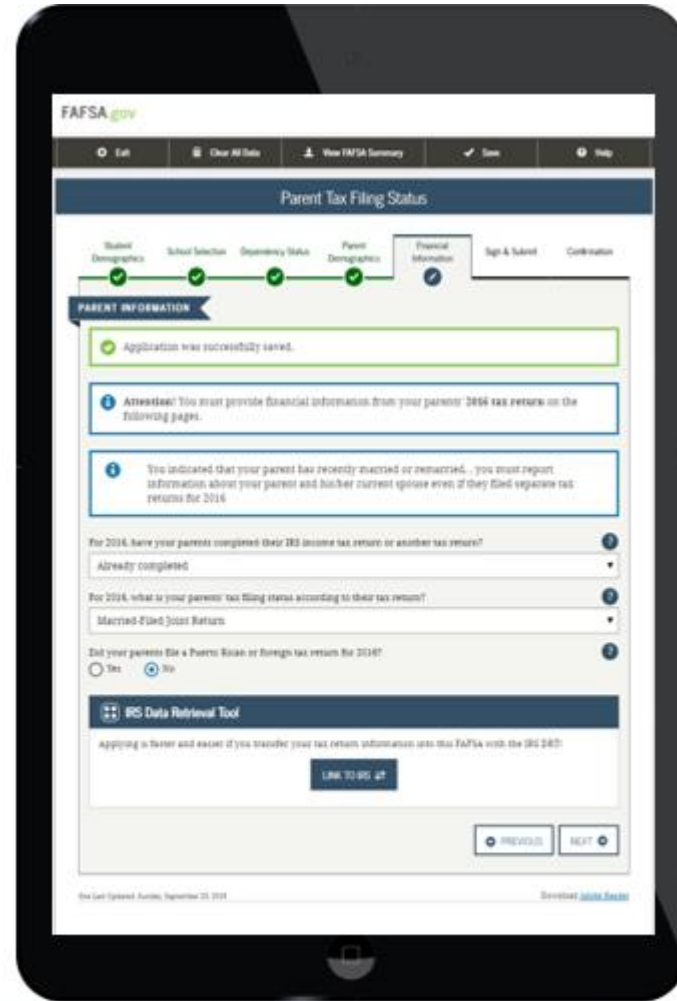
All information reviewed by volunteers will be kept private and confidential and will not be used for any purpose other than helping the students and families apply for financial aid. Student and family identities will be protected to the best extent possible, and none of the information being requested will be sent to vendors for other purposes besides applying for aid.



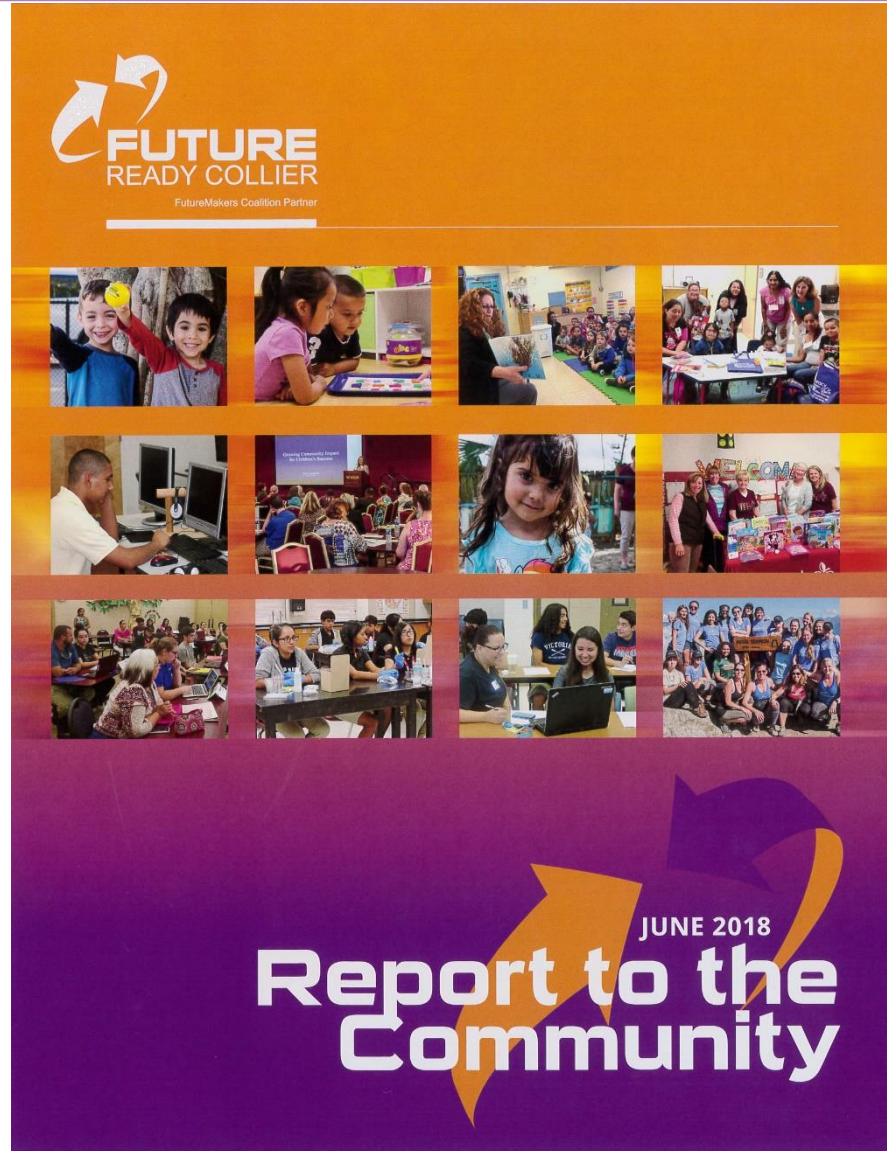
FutureMakers Coalition Partner

Spanish and Creole translation services will be available.

FAFSA Mobile App



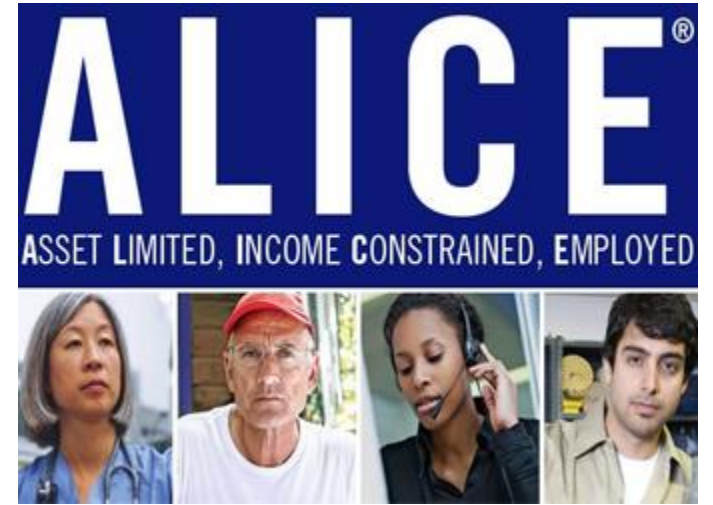
Recently finished report



www.FutureReadyCollier.org

Join us for our next webinar

Meet ALICE: A Look at Florida's Financially Struggling Population and How Communities are Using Data for Change



Tuesday October 2, 1 pm

Register at FloridaCollegeAccess.org/tag/upcoming-webinar/

Questions



@collegeaccess
@FormYourFuture_

#FAFSA
#FAFSACHallenge