



Lunch & Learn

Pathways to Student Success



WED, NOV 15th

Better FAFSA Updates with NCAN

Welcome!



Agenda:

- Ice Breaker
- Announcements and Student Opportunities!
- NCAN Better FAFSA Update - Bill DeBaun

Join us next time!



ICE BREAKER

1. Favorite holiday food or favorite food!
2. Any unique FSA ID or FAFSA events planned for Spring 2024? Share your ideas!



Announcements



FAFSA Alert: the Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) [announced](#) that the 2024-25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), also known as the **Better FAFSA**, will open by **December 31, 2023**.

Announcements

Become a member of the **Arizona College Access Network (AzCAN)** [here](#) and join a passionate network of professionals working to improve the education outcomes for Arizona students!

As a member of AzCAN, you can register for **College Access Professional (CAP) Training courses** during the 2023-2024 school year at no cost.

[2023-2024 CAP Training courses](#)

[CAP Training course registration](#)



Student Alerts!



ASU Program Opportunity!

GCU Vocational Opportunities!



A four-year **leadership development program** designed to augment your studies and growth during your ASU experience

Do you...

- Have a **passion** to serve your community?
- Desire to work in a **network of your peers** to analyze complex challenges?
- **Take initiative** and remain involved in opportunities around you?
- Want to become a **character-driven leader**?

Are you...

- Looking for a **community** of students also passionate about giving back?
- Wanting to learn more about the **private, public and nonprofit** sectors?
- An **incoming freshman student** at ASU?

If you answered YES to the above questions, then you may be a good fit for the Next Generation Service Corps' incoming cohort!

Application available on the ASU Scholarship Portal.

join us

for application requirements, deadlines and program details, visit

psa.asu.edu

or contact us at

ngsc@asu.edu

How to Apply

Application Deadlines



<https://psa.asu.edu>

Incoming Freshmen:

Priority Round *(all applications will be reviewed)*

- Deadline date: January 15

Second Round *(applications will be reviewed as space permits)*

- Deadline date: March 15

Final Round *(applications will be reviewed as space permits)*

- Deadline date: June 1

Transfer Students:

Priority Round *(all applications will be reviewed)*

- Deadline date: March 15

Second Round *(applications will be reviewed as space permits)*

- Deadline date: June 1

Vocational Opportunities!



What Is a Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Machinist?



A Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machinist is a skilled professional who operates and maintains computer-controlled machinery, manufacturing precision parts and components for various industries, which can include:

- Aerospace
- Automotive
- Electronics
- Manufacturing

GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY CAN HELP YOU LAUNCH YOUR CAREER AS A MACHINIST

- Four (4) college-level courses (transferable) to be completed within a 15-week period
- Fully funded tuition for Arizona residents/U.S. citizens (for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024)
- Hands-on real-world applications within courses on GCU's campus in Phoenix, Arizona
- On-campus support, including career preparation and free tutoring

CONTACT ONE OF OUR ADMISSIONS COUNSELORS AT CNC@GCU.EDU TO LEARN MORE!

Grand Canyon University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Approved by the Vice Provost on June 26, 2023. ©2023 Grand Canyon University 23GTR06204



Pre-Apprenticeship for Electricians



Grand Canyon University and Rosendin Electric, Inc. have joined forces to create the Pre-Apprenticeship for Electricians:¹ a unique opportunity that allows students to receive a top-notch electrician pre-apprenticeship education while enjoying the benefits of a traditional college experience. Courses prepare candidates to move into a certified apprenticeship and begin a professional career in a growing field.

PRE-APPRENTICESHIP FOR ELECTRICIANS

- Four (4) college-level courses (transferable) to be completed within a 15-week period
- Fully funded tuition for Arizona residents/U.S. citizens (for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024)
- Hands-on real-world applications within courses on GCU's campus in Phoenix, Arizona
- On-campus support, including career preparation and free tutoring

As of May 2020², the annual wage of \$56,900 for electricians, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Ready to launch your professional career?

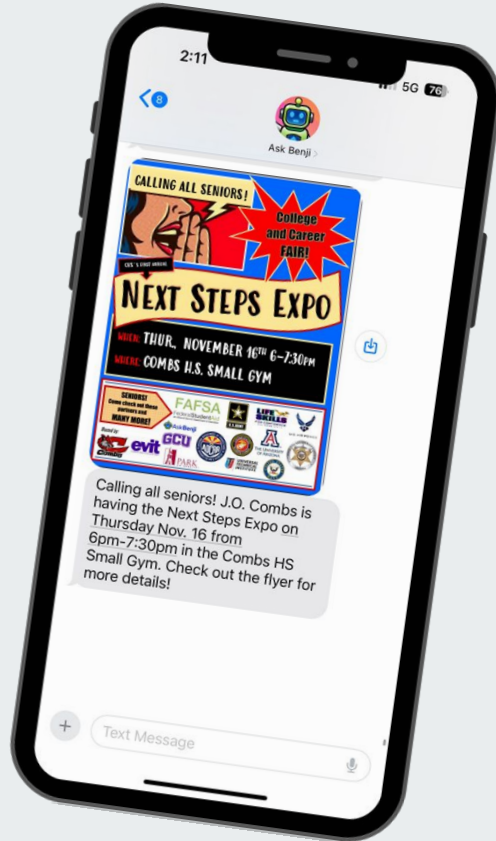
To learn more, scan the QR code or contact one of our admissions counselors at PreApprenticeships@gcu.edu today!



¹This pre-apprenticeship does not lead to licensure.
²The earnings referenced were reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Electricians as of May 2021, retrieved in May 2020 and 2021 may be atypical compared to prior years. The pandemic may also impact the predicted future workforce outcomes including the median using salaries of workers from across the country with varying levels of education and experience and does not reflect the electricians. It does not reflect earnings of workers in one city or region of the country. It also does not reflect a typical entry-level salary midpoint for the range of salaries in a specific occupation. It represents what you would earn if you were paid more money than half the workers in an occupation, and less than half the workers in an occupation. It may give you a basis to estimate what you might earn at some point if you enter this career. You may also wish to compare median salaries if you are considering more than one career path. Grand Canyon University can make no guarantees on individual graduates' salaries as the employer the graduate chooses to apply to, and accept employment from, determines salary not only based on education, but also individual characteristics and skills and fit to that organization (among other categories) against a pool of candidates.

Grand Canyon University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLCommission.org), an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Approved by the Program Manager for the Pre-Apprenticeship for Electricians on April 28, 2023. ©2023 Grand Canyon University 23GTR0265

Ask Benji Alert!



Our team send out nudges to our students about local events (Free resources about FAFSA, college, or career events).

[Join our NEW Facebook Group for Ask Benji Partners](#)

- Follow Benji's Instagram account @benjifafsa for on the go content!
- Look at [our Benji toolkit](#) for parent & student media items (scan or follow link)!



Better FAFSA Updates



**NATIONAL
COLLEGE
ATTAINMENT
NETWORK**

Special Speaker!

Bill DeBaun

Contact: debaunb@ncan.org



GETTING READY FOR THE BETTER FAFSA IN ARIZONA

Content Updated as of 11/15/23



GUIDING YOU
THROUGH THE
BETTER

FAFSA



HI! I'M GLAD TO BE HERE!



Bill DeBaun

*Senior Director of Data and
Strategic Initiatives*

NCAN

debaunb@ncan.org



NCAN WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO

The **National College Attainment Network (NCAN)** pursues its mission by building network capacity, advocating for policy solutions, and supporting systems change

Build field capacity

Bolster knowledge, skills, & competencies of leaders & practitioners through access to best practices, resources, professional development, & network connections.

Advocate for policy solutions

Build the case for research-based state & federal policies that equitably advance postsecondary affordability & completion; **equip members & students to advocate for change.**

Increase Alignment & Collaboration

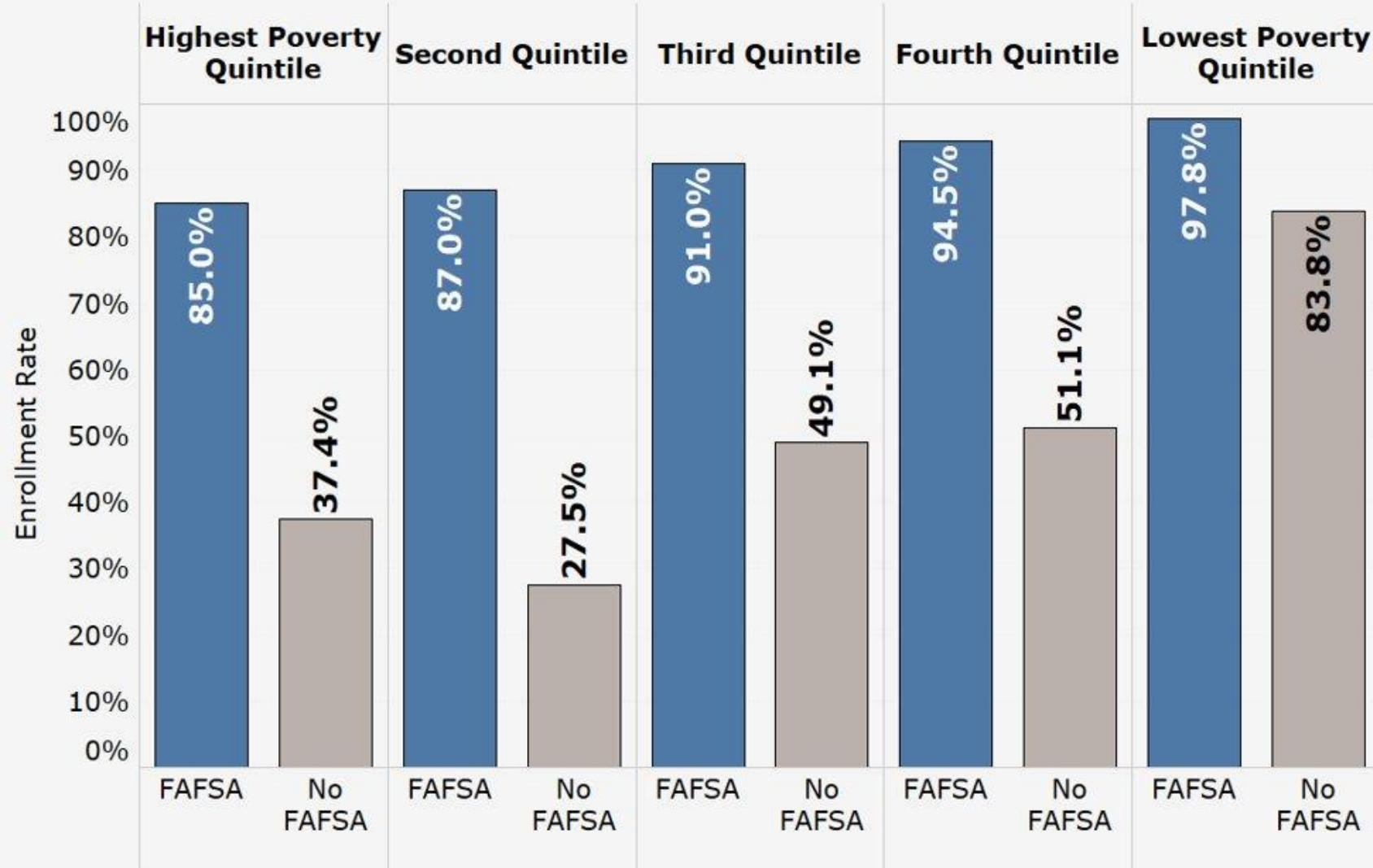
Elevate evidence-based strategies for increasing degree attainment to systems-level leaders (state agencies, districts), & **forge connections across educational orgs & systems.**



FAFSA

12/31*

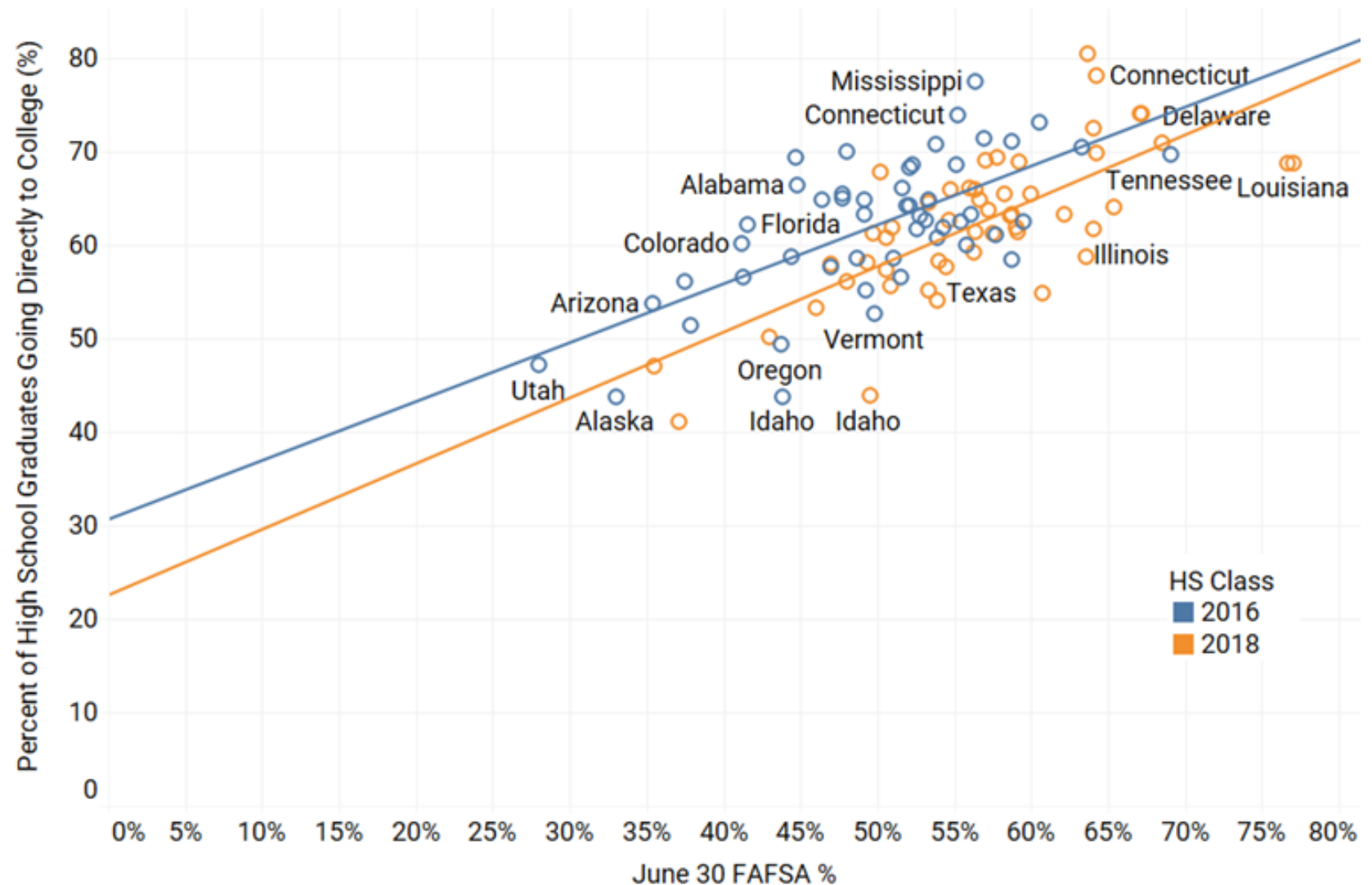
Immediate college enrollment following high school graduation, by percentile of district poverty and FAFSA completion status.



WHY
FAFSA
COMPLETION
MATTERS
SO
MUCH!

WHY FAFSA COMPLETION MATTERS SO MUCH

FAFSA Completion by June and Immediate College Enrollment, High School Classes of 2016 and 2018



Source: NCAN FAFSA Tracker;
NCHEMS HigherEdInfo.org

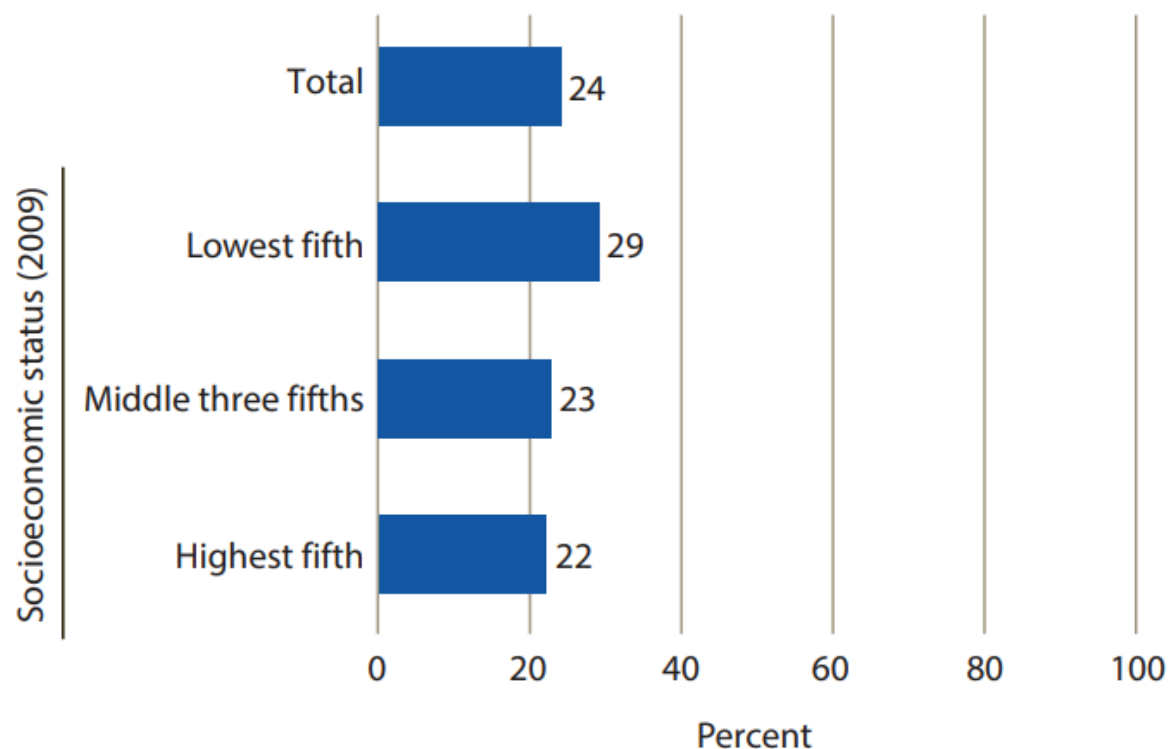
FAFSA COMPLETION CAN BE THE CANARY IN THE COAL MINE

High School Class	National FAFSA Completion Rate	Year-Over-Year FAFSA % Change	National First Fall Enrollment Rate
2018	54.0%	+1.9%	64%
2019	53.8%	-0.5%	62.9%
2020	52.0%	-3.7%	59.9%
2021	49.9%	-4.8%	58.8%
2022	52.1%	+4.6%	60.0%

Source: NCAN FAFSA Tracker, NSCRC HS Benchmarks Reports

FAFSA COMPLETION IS OFTEN DEEPLY INEQUITABLE (PT. 1)

Percentage of fall 2009 ninth-graders who did not complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), by socioeconomic status: 2013

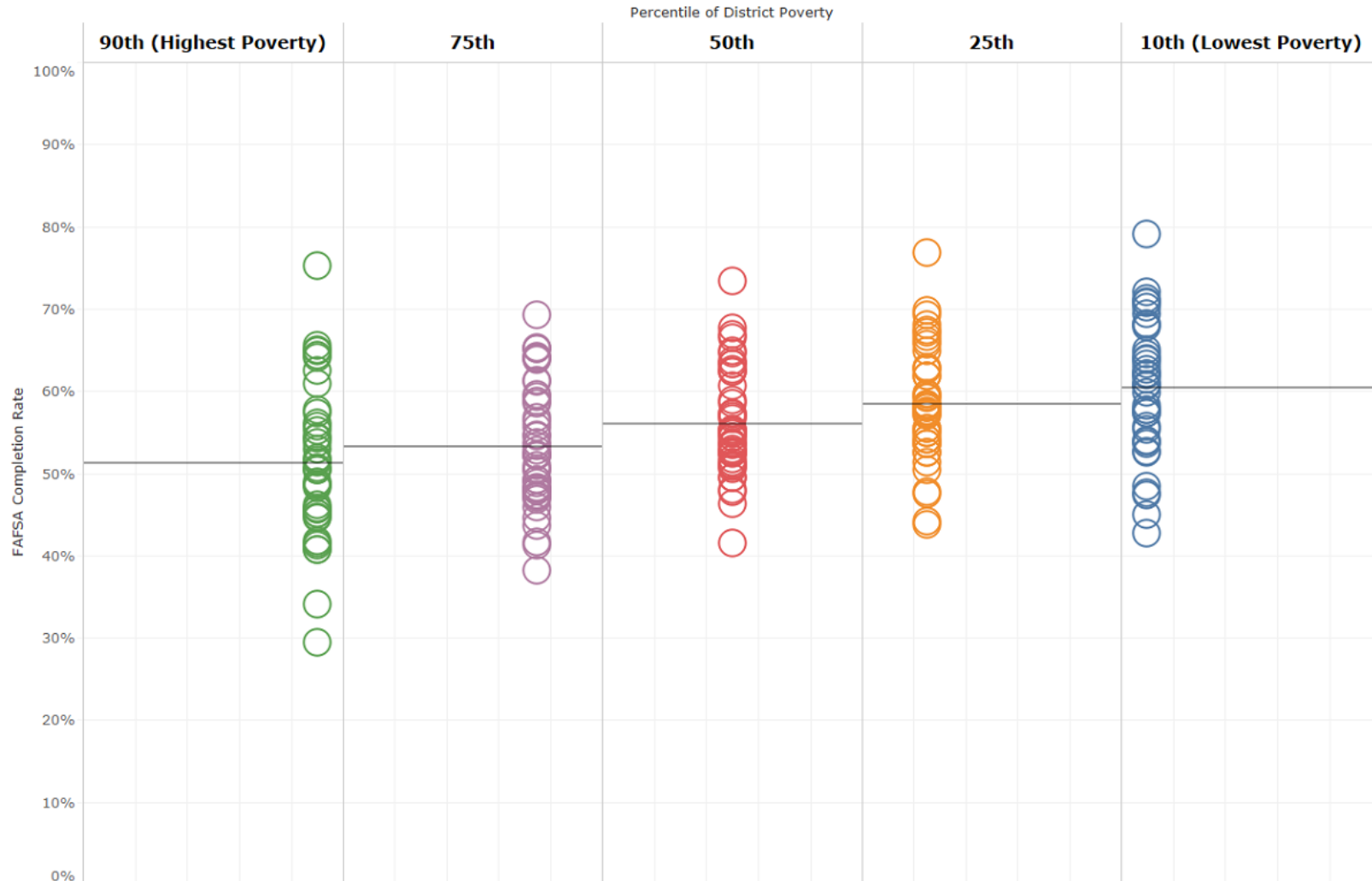


Source: [NCES](#)




FAFSA COMPLETION IS OFTEN DEEPLY INEQUITABLE (PT. 2)

Average FAFSA Completion Rate by Percentile of District Poverty






NOT COMPLETING THE FAFSA COSTS STATES (AND STUDENTS) MONEY



CLASS OF 2022 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES
TOTAL IN THE **U.S.A**

WHO WERE UNABLE TO COMPLETE
THE FAFSA **LEFT**

\$3.58 Billion
IN PELL GRANTS
ON THE TABLE





CLASS OF 2022 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES
IN **ARIZONA**

WHO WERE UNABLE TO COMPLETE
THE FAFSA **LEFT**

\$101 MILLION
IN PELL GRANTS
ON THE TABLE





That \$101 million is equal to

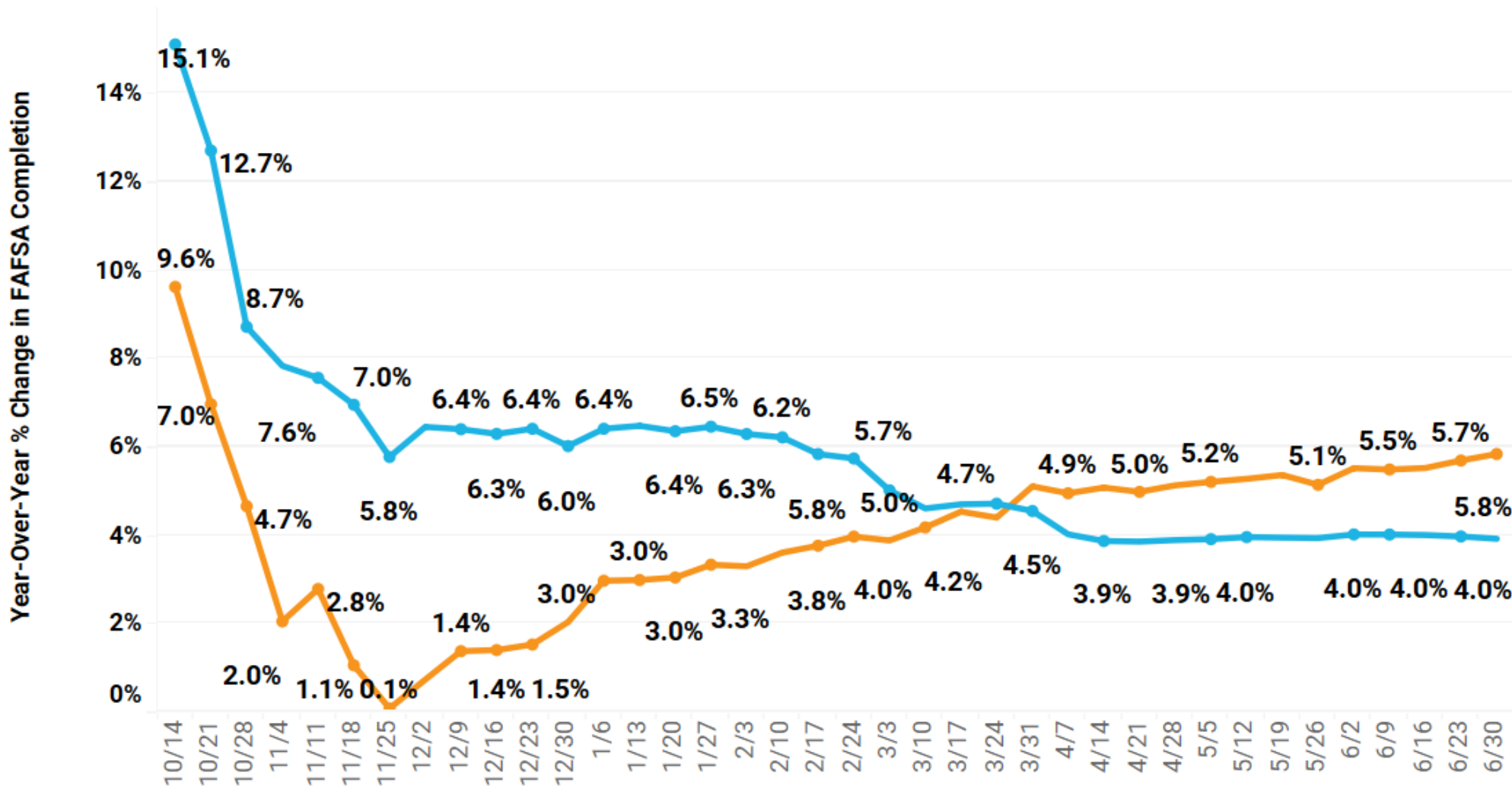
439%

**•of the \$23 million Arizona
invested in non-loan student
financial aid in 2022**

HOW DID THE CLASS OF 2023 DO?

YEAR-OVER-YEAR PERCENT CHANGE IN FAFSA COMPLETIONS, 2023-24 FAFSA CYCLE

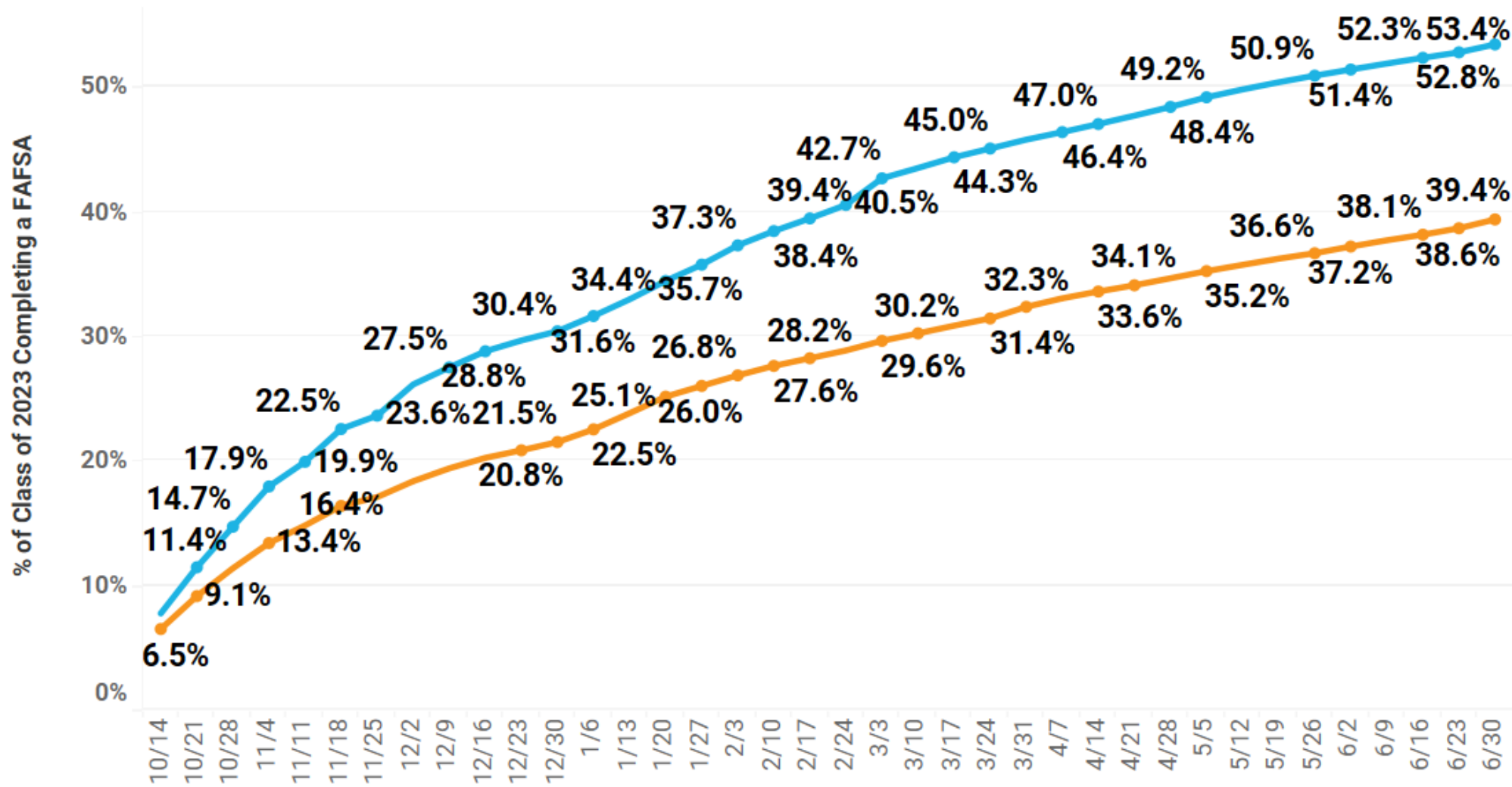
Arizona vs. National



ARIZONA
 (+5.8%)
 WAS UP
 AND SEEING A
 LARGER FAFSA
 INCREASE
 THAN THE
NATION
 OVERALL
 (+3.9%)

PERCENT OF SENIORS COMPLETING A FAFSA, 2023-24 FAFSA CYCLE

Arizona vs. National



HOWEVER(!),
FEWER
ARIZONA
SENIORS
(39.4%)
COMPLETED
THAN
U.S. SENIORS
(53.4%)

% OF SENIORS COMPLETING A FAFSA

YEAR-OVER-YEAR % CHANGE

1	2	3	4	5
TN	LA	DC	IL	DE
67.3%	67.3%	62.8%	62.8%	62.4%

1	2	3	4	5
ME	CA	WA	DC	ID
11.6%	11.1%	7.7%	7.2%	7.0%

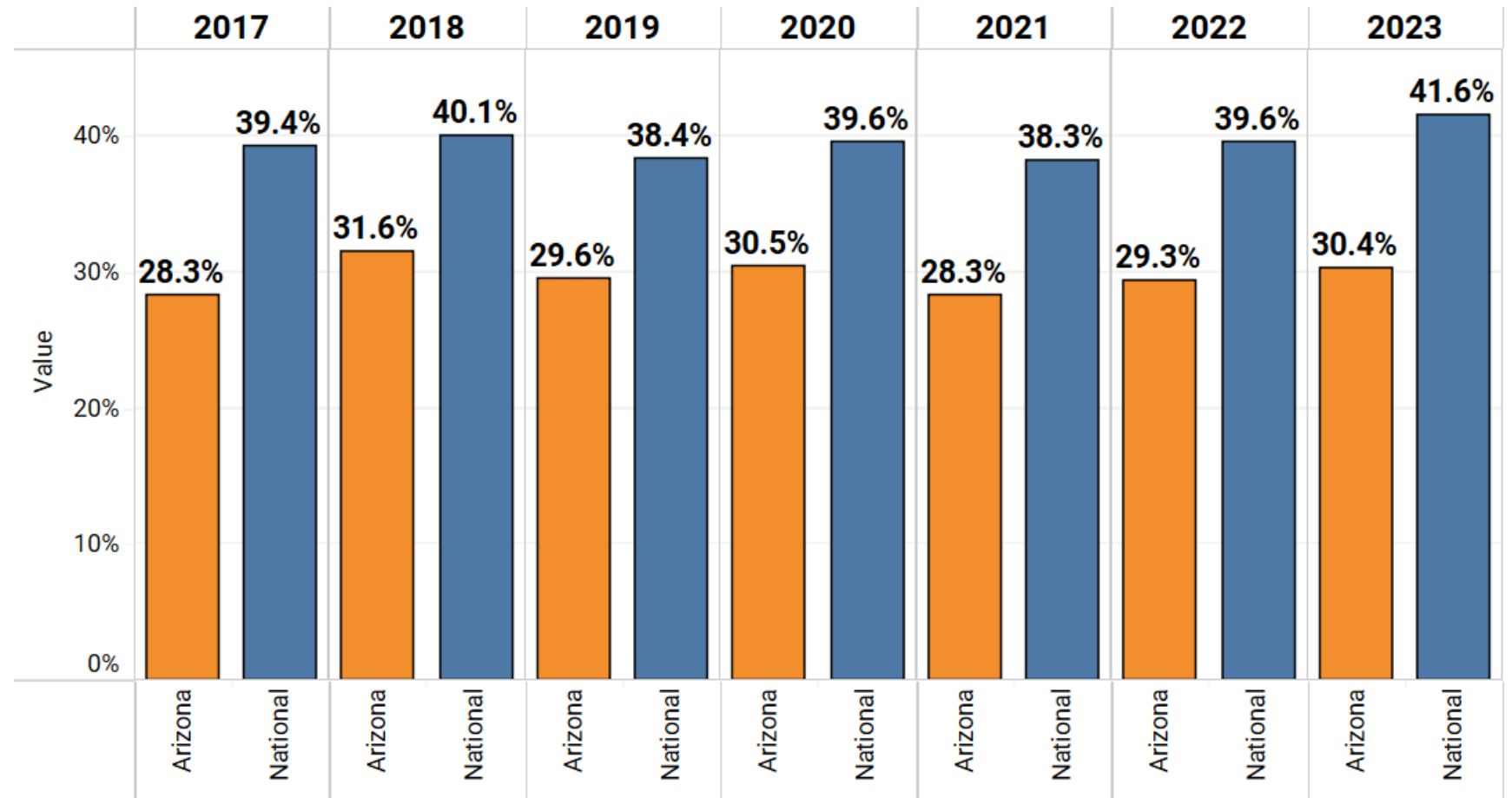




PERCENT OF SENIORS COMPLETING A FAFSA BY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS

Estimated % of U.S. HS Seniors Completing FAFSA,
Classes of 2017-2023, by ~June 30

**CLASSES
OF
2017-2023**



FAFSA CHANGES

Major Changes for the Better FAFSA

The 24-25 FAFSA will open in
December 2023

New terminology

FSA ID is required

Contributors and consent

Role-based completion

Independent student impacts

Student Aid Index (SAI) vs. Expected
Family Contribution (EFC)

Pell Grant calculations

FAFSA Available in December

What We Know

- Legislation required massive overhaul to FAFSA form and processing system
- **The FAFSA will open on 12/31!**
- We strongly advise prep work: FSA ID set up and Parent Contributor(s) Determined
- **All** practitioners/counselors need training

Implications

- Condensed timeframe for completion, verification, financial aid offers
- FAFSA support will likely not begin until January 2024
- Impact on students in states with FAFSA as graduation requirement
- Priority deadline date confusion for colleges
- Early Decision requirements may vary

Out With The Old – In With The New

What We Know

- **Out:** EFC, SAR, Parent 1, Parent 2, IRS DRT, household size
- **In:** SAI, FAFSA Submission Summary, Parent Spouse, Partner, DDX, Personal, Special, and Unusual Circumstances, Family Size

Implications

- Requires all print and web resources to be updated-high schools and colleges
- Current college students need to be taught new words/high school seniors need to learn the words
- Using old vocabulary may confuse students

FSA ID: Changes to the Process

FOR MANY STUDENTS AND PARENTS, THE FSA ID CREATION PROCESS WILL NOT BE VERY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT IT IS TODAY

Key Changes

- A verified email address will be required
- In two parent households, both parents will need FSA IDs if they do not file taxes as married-filing jointly
- FSA IDs will need to be authenticated with Social Security (takes approximately 3 days) to be fully functional during FAFSA completion
- Parents without SSNs will need to create FSA IDs

Who will need to create an FSA ID?

Students

- All students who are filing the FAFSA will need an FSA ID

For married students:

- Student Spouse
 - Only if the student and their spouse do not file taxes together

For dependent students:

- For parents and/or stepparents who are required to be listed on the FAFSA
 - If they file taxes together only one parent/stepparent will need an FSA ID
 - If they do not file taxes together (including if they are non-filers) both parents/stepparents will need FSA IDs



Screenshot of account creation page

Create an Account

Step 1 of 7

Personal Information

I understand that I'll be required to certify that the information I provide to create an account is true and correct and that I'm the individual who I claim to be.

If I'm not the person I claim to be, I understand that I'm not authorized to proceed and that I should exit this form now. If I provide false or misleading information, I understand that I may be subject to a fine, prison time, or both.

First Name

Middle Initial

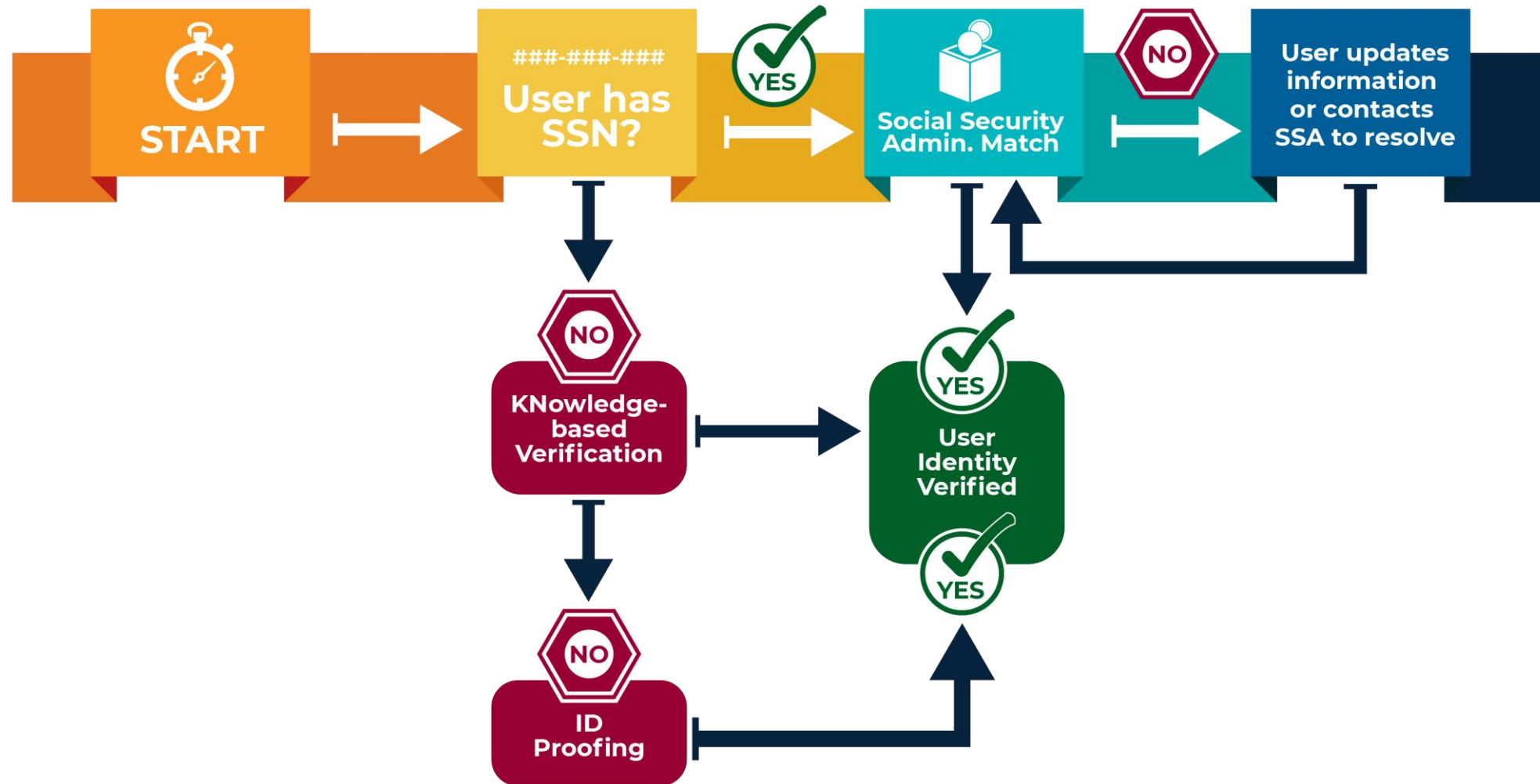
Last Name

Date of Birth
Month: Day: Year:

Social Security Number

I don't have a Social Security number.

Id match & verification flow



Contributors



What we know

- Anyone including information on the FAFSA is a contributor
 - Student
 - Parent(s)
 - Spouse
- Identifying early helps with FSA ID creation
- FAFSA will help determine contributors as certain questions are answered
- Contributor info in invites needs to match to access their section

Implication

- Preconceived notions of what contributor means - On FAFSA it means a contributor of information
- Early identification of contributors needed for FSA ID creation before FAFSA comes out
- Name, DOB, SSN, or mailing address (if no SSN) need to match exactly – best to collect info before starting FAFSA

Parent Wizard Questions

ARE YOUR PARENTS MARRIED TO EACH OTHER?

- If yes, provide information about both parents
- If no, next question

DO THE PARENTS LIVE TOGETHER?

- If yes, provide information about both parents
- If no, next question

DID ONE PARENT PROVIDE MORE FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAN THE OTHER OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS?

- If both parents provided an exact equal amount of financial support or if they don't support the student financially, select "No," and refer to the parent with the greater income or assets in the next question.
- Yes or No, next question

HAS THE PARENT YOU IDENTIFIED IN THE PREVIOUS QUESTION REMARRIED?

- If yes, provide information for the parent and stepparent
- If no, provide information about this parent only

Are the parents married to each other?

Yes No

Do the parents live together?

Yes No

Did one parent provide more financial support than the other parent over the past 12 months?


If both parents provided an exact equal amount of financial support or if they don't support the student financially, select "No," and refer to the parent with the greater income or assets in the next question.

Yes No

Has the parent you identified in the previous question remarried?

Remember, this applies to the parent with the greater income and assets.

Yes No

 **Provide Information for This Parent Only**

Based on your answers in the previous section, you'll need to provide information about only this parent on the FAFSA® form. You can invite this parent to the form and have them complete their required sections.

Consent

What we know

- Everyone needs to consent on the FAFSA
 - U.S. Tax filers
 - Non-tax filers
 - Foreign tax filers
- Consent makes DDX process possible
- Required for federal aid eligibility

Implications

- Fear/confusion about what information is being shared – especially for non-filers
- Non-consenters will get messaging from FSA and no financial aid
- Early FSA ID creation will help! Non-verified FSA IDs can consent, but DDX won't happen until FSA ID is verified

Summary

Your consent and approval is needed to retrieve and disclose federal tax information (FTI). With your consent and approval, we can obtain tax return information automatically from the IRS to help you complete the FAFSA[®] form. If you don't provide consent and approval, you will not be eligible for federal student aid, including grants and loans. You must provide consent and approval even if you didn't file a U.S. federal tax return or any tax return at all.

→ Get your 2022 tax return information for the 2024–25 FAFSA form.

→ Tax return information is required to complete the FAFSA form.

→ FTI is used to determine your eligibility for federal student aid.



Role-based Completion

What we know

- Each contributor has their own section to complete
- Every contributor must consent and sign the FAFSA
- The order in which contributors complete the FAFSA may impact the questions seen in each section
- Last contributor to complete their section can sign & submit the form

Implications

- Multi-factor authentication adds barrier to using FSA IDs
- Parent(s) need to be involved in completing their section
- Even if parent starts and completes student section – student must sign in to sign and consent
- Students may see asset questions but may not impact their SAI if parent is exempt from reporting

Signing & Submitting w/ Role-based Completion

- Other parent information will be required, but tax filing status will determine whether they need to be a contributor with their own FSA ID
 - If married and NOT filing married-filing jointly both parents will need FSA IDs
- The last contributor to provide information will have the opportunity to submit the FAFSA

If **parent** submits FAFSA

- Parent will see a congratulations page with very limited information
- Student will receive email confirmation page with estimated SAI and federal aid eligibility

If **student** submits FAFSA

- Student will see full confirmation page on submission with SAI and estimated federal financial aid eligibility

Pell Grant Calculations

- Two ways to be eligible
- **First:** AGI, family size and family status compared to Poverty Tables
 - Determines Maximum/Minimum Pell Grant
- **Second:** SAI calculated determines grants between minimum and maximum
- **There is no more Pell Table.**
 - **Max. Pell minus SAI = Pell Grant (rounded to nearest \$5)**
- SAI of 0 to -1500 equals the maximum Pell

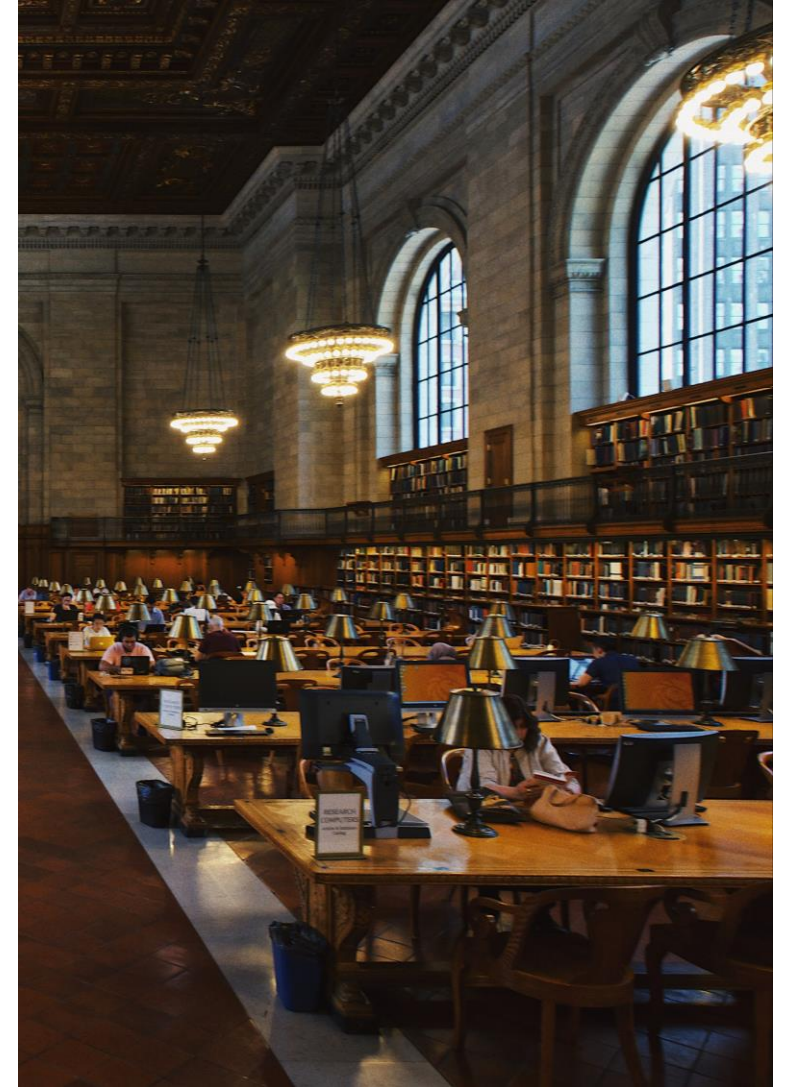


We are all in this together.

Use resources.
Use patience.
Use each other.

What can we do this fall before the FAFSA comes out?

- Support students and families in creating FSA IDs
 - Run FSA ID creation events
 - Provide resources
 - Incorporate into financial aid nights
- Elevate other financial aid forms students may need to complete
 - CSS Profile (if applicable)
 - Institutional forms
- Start identifying any special or unusual circumstances
 - Get a head start on identifying students who may need help navigating certain processes
- Encourage scholarship applications
 - Leverage the FAFSA delay to encourage students to start applying to scholarships



FAFSA Toolkit & FSA Resources

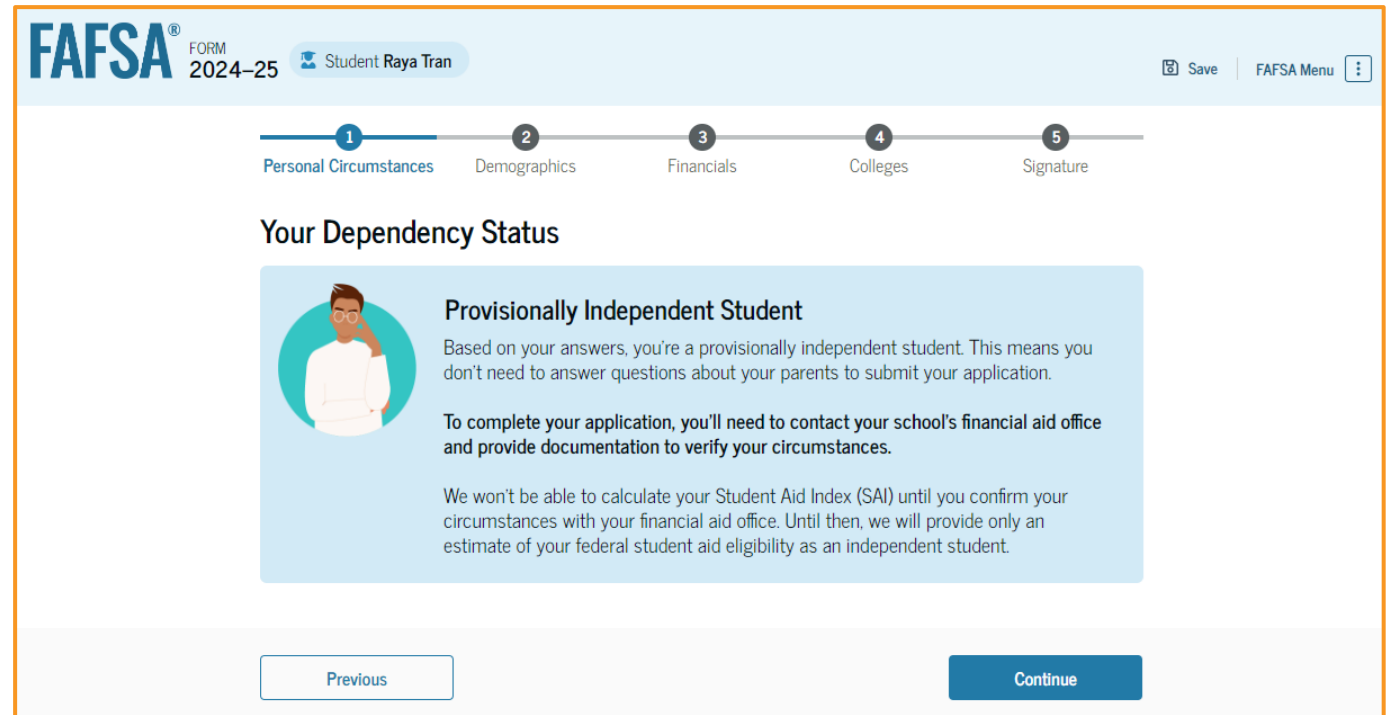
- NCAN's Better FAFSA Website: <https://www.ncan.org/page/better-FAFSA>
 - Contains a variety of toolkits to use for FAFSA training, state policy, partner communications and student/parent awareness
- uAspire Resources: <https://www.uaspire.org/For-Students>
 - Student resources will continue to be updated to reflect the 24-25 FAFSA. Check back regularly for updates
- FAFSA Prototype: <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2023-09-29/announcing-2024-25-fafsa-prototype>
- Financial Aid Estimator: <https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/>
- FSA Financial Aid Toolkit: <https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/resources.jsp>
- NCAN Future FAFSA Training Webinars: <https://www.ncan.org/page/better-FAFSA-webinar-series>



Q&A!

Impact of Provisionally Independent Status

Based on the answers provided by the student, they are considered a provisionally independent student and are not required to provide parent information. The student is able to sign and submit their FAFSA® form, but they will need to contact their school to see what supporting documentation they need to submit. A financial aid administrator at the school will review and make a determination regarding a dependency override. **Until the student's circumstances are verified, Federal Student Aid will only provide the student an estimate of their federal student aid eligibility.**



The screenshot displays the FAFSA 2024-25 application interface for Student Raya Tran. The progress bar at the top indicates five steps: 1. Personal Circumstances (highlighted), 2. Demographics, 3. Financials, 4. Colleges, and 5. Signature. The main content area is titled 'Your Dependency Status' and features a light blue box with an illustration of a student. The text within this box reads: 'Provisionally Independent Student. Based on your answers, you're a provisionally independent student. This means you don't need to answer questions about your parents to submit your application. To complete your application, you'll need to contact your school's financial aid office and provide documentation to verify your circumstances. We won't be able to calculate your Student Aid Index (SAI) until you confirm your circumstances with your financial aid office. Until then, we will provide only an estimate of your federal student aid eligibility as an independent student.' At the bottom of the interface, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

Student Unusual Circumstances

The student is asked if unusual circumstances prevent them from contacting their parent(s). The student selects "Yes."

FAFSA[®] FORM 2024-25 Parent of Raya Tran Save FAFSA Menu

1 Personal Circumstances 2 Demographics 3 Financials 4 Colleges 5 Signature

Student Unusual Circumstances

This information will help us evaluate the student's ability to pay for school.

Do unusual circumstances prevent the student from contacting their parents or would contacting their parents pose a risk to the student?

A student may be experiencing unusual circumstances if they

- left home due to an abusive or threatening environment;
- are abandoned by or estranged from their parents and have not been adopted;
- have refugee or asylee status and are separated from their parents, or their parents are displaced in a foreign country;
- are a victim of human trafficking;
- are incarcerated, or their parents are incarcerated and contact with the parents would pose a risk to the student; or
- are otherwise unable to contact or locate their parents and have not been adopted.

If the student's circumstances resulted in not having a safe and stable place to live, they may be considered a homeless youth and should review the answer to the previous question about being unaccompanied and homeless.

Yes No

Previous Continue



SAI Methodology

What we know

- Can be as low as -1500
- Number in college does not impact SAI
- Net worth of all businesses & farms included as assets
- Asset exemption expanded

Implications

- Negative SAI may confuse students – explanation for what it means is needed
- Potential increases from EFC to SAI due to number in college and business/farm changes – require explanations and potential appeals
- Receipt of federal benefits makes family exempt from report assets

Thank you for attending!

Our next Lunch and Learn!

WED, JAN 17th

@11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Sign up up today!



Lunch & Learn

Pathways to Student Success

Ask Benji AzCAN Education Forward Arizona

VIRTUAL EVENTS

Monthly
@11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Registration Zoom links are attached to each event title, RSVP and share!

Date	Topic	Time
WED, AUG 30	<u>4-yr College Programs & Tribal College Updates</u>	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
WED, SEP 20	<u>TRI U Admission Updates</u>	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
WED, OCT 25	<u>ABOR's AZ College Connect Updates</u>	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
WED, NOV 15	<u>Better FAFSA Updates & Resource Kickoff</u>	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
WED, JAN 17	<u>Better FAFSA "Best" Practices</u>	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
WED, FEB 21	<u>Summer Programs (College and University Resources!)</u>	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
WED, MAR 27	<u>ECAP with AZ Dept. of Education</u>	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Dr. Jennifer Murphy and Graciela Nobles, members of the Education Forward Arizona team, hope to create a community of practice by exploring relevant and insightful topics throughout the 2023-24 academic year.