

## WED, OCTOBER 25

ABOR's AZ College Connect & College Connect
Tempe Updates



#### Agenda:

Icebreaker!

Announcements & Updates

Main Speaker: ABOR's College Connect by Julie Sainz

Special Guest: College Connect Tempe

Outro - Next Lunch & Learn



#### ICE BREAKER

1. What day do you believe the FAFSA Application will open? Drop your guesses in the chat!



2. Any resource(s) or program(s) you are loving this Fall that you want to share? (feel free to give it a shout out! Drop a link if you have it.)



#### **Announcements**

#### **FAFSA Bootcamp Series**

Thursday, October 26, 2023, 10:00-11:00: Preparing for the FAFSA:

Registration link: <a href="https://asu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN">https://asu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN</a> XYG6jPRkSBuXkZJLWq05Ww

Thursday, November 2, 2023, 10:00-11:00: FAFSA 101: Form Overview and Pell Eligibility

Registration link: <a href="https://asu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN">https://asu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN</a> EzAgMcW5ReGcGkNmKoU2NQ

Thursday, November 9, 2023, 10:00-11:00: FAFSA 201: Advanced FAFSA Topics

Registration link: <a href="https://asu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_fYOw2hRKQO-Aj5yKtZftlg">https://asu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_fYOw2hRKQO-Aj5yKtZftlg</a>

November 16, 2023, 10:00-11:00: **Arizona College Connect: New FAFSA database Enhancements and Updates** 

Registration link: <a href="https://asu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN">https://asu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN</a> t9JgU ufRBixCtl19cxAtQ

#### **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** 

#### **Announcements**

#### 2023 Arizona FAFSA Kick-off & AzCAN Launch

The **event** will be held on December 1<sup>st</sup> from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm at the ASU West campus. Breakfast, lunch, and free parking provided. Limited space – register ASAP if you plan to attend the event. Local, state, and national presenters!

Follow link or QR code



## Ask Benji Partner Announcements



Benji sent off its Welcome messaging to our Senior students at <u>our partner schools</u>\*
October 10th @ 2:30 PM

- Join our NEW Facebook Group for Ask Benji Partners
- Follow Benji's Instagram account
   @benjifafsa for on the go content!
- Look at <u>our Benji toolkit</u> for parent & student media items (scan or follow link)!



\*Unless data was delayed



# COLLEGE CONNECT

ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS -



## Presenter

Julie Sainz, Director of FAFSA Program and College Access Initiatives- ABOR



## **Arizona College Connect**

 Innovative FAFSA database that provides authorized high school and district personnel with their student-level FAFSA information and other college attainment data.







The new data portal is funded by Helios Education Foundation and developed through a data partnership with the Arizona Department of Education.

# A Case for Improvement

Students who complete a FAFSA are 84% more likely to enroll in a college or trade school
 8immediately after high school.

Schools that use this data on a consistent base have a 5% or higher FAFSA completion rate than schools that do not use this data.

## AZGRANTS- FAFSA FINISH LINE DATA (former database)

#### **Download Activity**

- 252 schools/districts have a Data Sharing Agreement
- 49% have downloaded the data
- 42% have downloaded 5 or more times.
- 33% have downloaded 10 or more time

#### Challenges

- Accessing the data
- Time-consuming
- Limited high school resources/staff
- "I am not a data expert"
- File uploading difficulty
- What do we do with this data?

# Pell Grant Funding Left on the Table



Total Pell Grant Dollars Left on the Table by the Arizona High School Class of 2021 Graduates:

\$104,475,997

Total Pell Grant Dollars Left on the Table by the Arizona High School Class of 2022 Graduates:

\$100,820,169

Combined Pell Grant Dollars Left on the Table Across Classes of 2021 & 2022 (Arizona High School Graduates):

\$205,296,166

# Setting up Access



Arizona College Connect is an interactive, customized communications portal providing high school leaders with access to students' Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) data and other college attainment information. Completing a FAFSA form is one of the strongest predictors of whether a student will pursue postsecondary education after high school.

This innovative new tool is made possible through funding from Helios Education Foundation and a data partnership with the Arizona Department of Education.

To gain access to the data:

- 1. High school principals need to sign a data-sharing agreement. If your school already has an agreement you can skip this step. (Click here to view a list of schools/districts with an agreement in place)
- 2. Once the data-sharing agreement is signed, authorized users can sign up to access the data.

Enroll your high school

Request an account

Log in

For questions, refer to our FAQs below or contact us at Info@ArizonaCollegeConnect.org



Existing agreements prior to the new database will be transferred to Arizona College Connect.



Data Sharing Agreements are valid for 5 years- until a renewal agreement is needed.

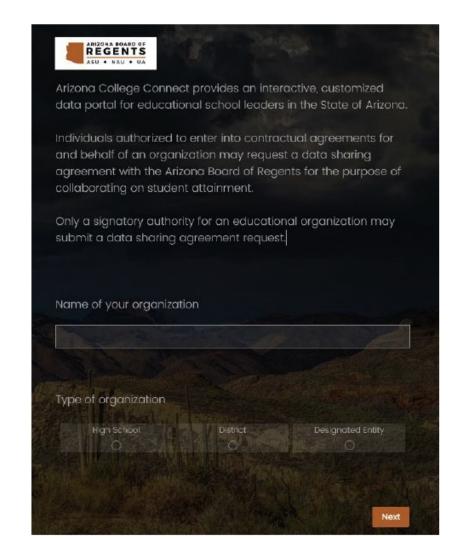


User Agreements do not expire.

# Data Sharing Agreement

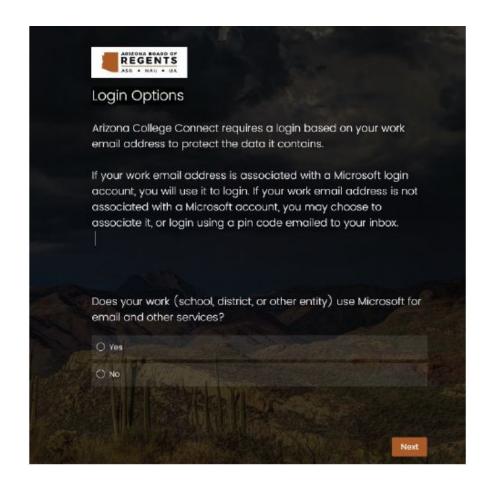
- 1. Complete Online Form
- 2. Email sent to Principal to sign
- 3. ABOR signs agreement
- 4. Access is set up

Users can be added



## User Agreement

- 1. Complete online form
- 2. Emails are sent to the principal to authorize your access.
- 3. The account is set up
- 4. The user receives an email from <a href="mailto:info@arizonacollegeconnect.org">info@arizonacollegeconnect.org</a> with log in information



# Phase I Implementation

Electronic
Data-Sharing and User
Agreements

Preloaded High School Senior Rosters

Edit and Add student functions

Weekly FAFSA Completion Status Data

Student Demographic Data

FAFSA Completion Status Reports and Graphs Updated Nightly

Instant Partial Match Edit Updates FAFSA Resources/Tools

Targeted Outreach



## Senior Rosters

- Data from ADE- uploaded once each school year
- All Seniors rosters can be edited by authorized high school and district users
- Delete or Add Student Records
- Adjust Enrollment Count and FAFSA Completion Rate
- Rosters will be loaded in November 2023
- The FAFSA will launch in December 2023

## New Features

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# Better FAFSA Form Updates

Arizona College Connect has is updated to accept the NEW 2024-25 Better FAFSA Form updates and new layout



## Communication

Data Driven Emails Campaigns to Authorized Users regarding high school FAFSA activity

Examples:

Schools FAFSA Completion Rate has increased compared to last year

Less students are completing the FAFSA this school year.



Recognition to high schools throughout the FAFSA Cycle



Increase in FAFSA completion



Increase in FAFSA completion among specific student populations



Embedded FAFSA MVP
Challenge Awards Most Improved

## Badging



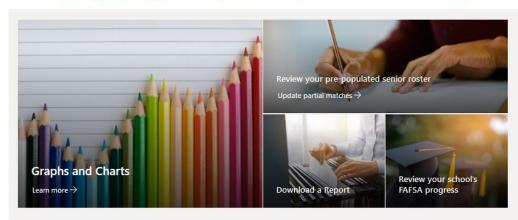
Reports V

Roster v

\* FAFSA Resources V







#### Welcome to Arizona College Connect

Julie Sainz

#### Test High School



**FAFSA Completion Rate** 

#### News and announcements

+ Add v







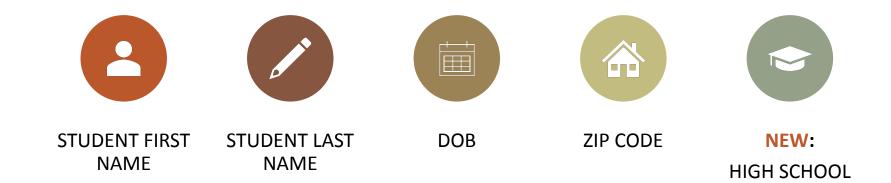
See all

Upcoming events

+ Add event

Create an event

1 of 5



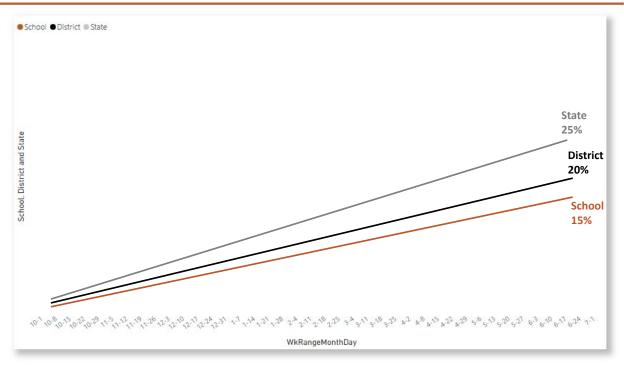
## **Enhanced Matching Criteria**

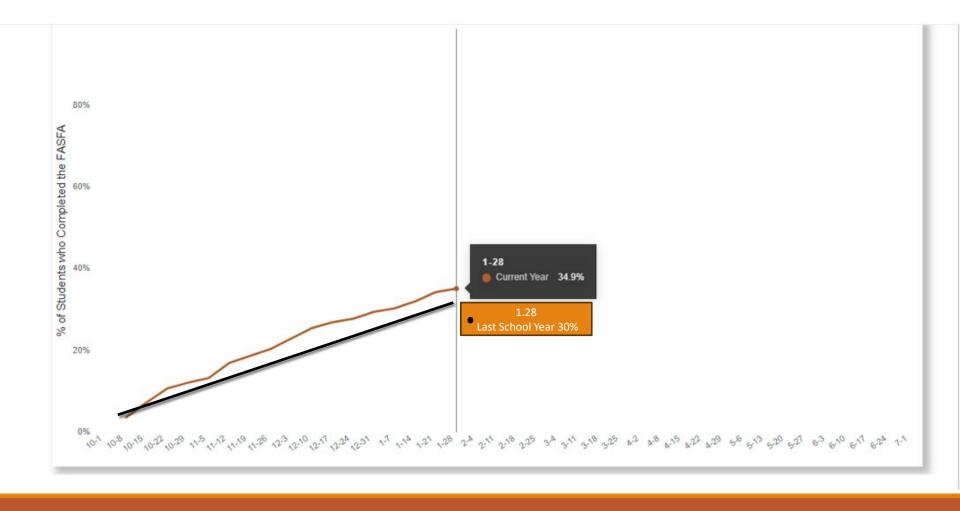
### Added Data on Reports

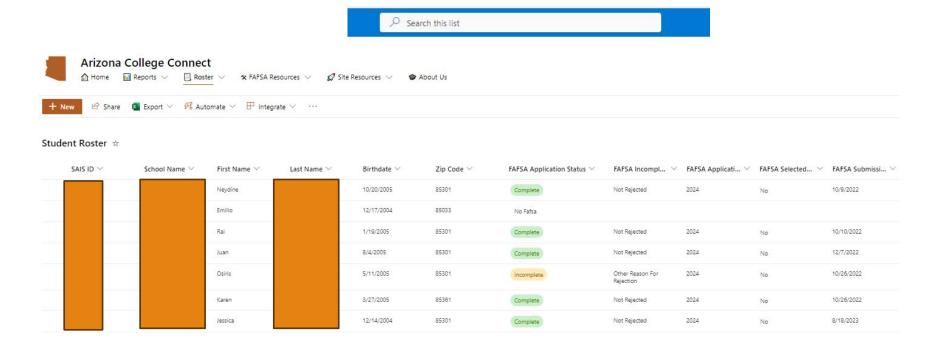
#### FAFSA Completions Benchmarking

Data provided by Arizona Board of Regents
Last Update Date & Time: 10/11/2023 03:02:35 AM

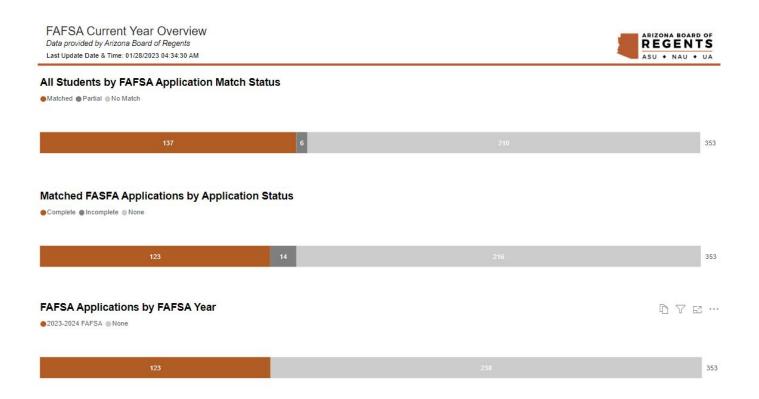








## Faster upload times and Filtering



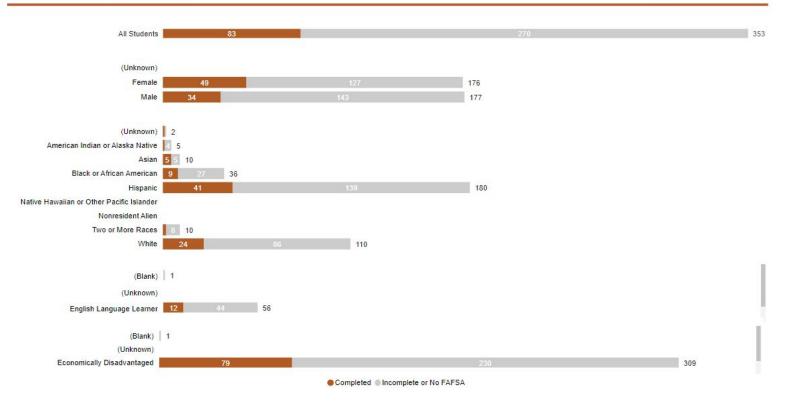
## Report: Current Year Overview

#### FAFSA Completions by Demographics

Data provided by Arizona Board of Regents

Last Update Date & Time: 12/09/2022 04:03:41 AM







Confirm that your high school has a data-sharing agreement on file

2

Confirm that you have a user agreement on file

3

In November, a communicator will be sent out to all authorized users notifying them that their senior rosters have been loaded

4

Review and edit your senior rosters if needed.

5

December 2023- FAFSA Launches

## Things to do Now

#### **ANALYTICS**

257

**Active Data-Sharing Agreements** 

**377** 

Individual Users Set-up Since Launch (Oct 2022)

An increase of 28 data-sharing agreements when compared the previous system

82%

**Usage Rate** 

Captures over 50% of the Arizona high school senior population

#### **TESTIMONIAL**

"As a Career Specialist, I use the Arizona College Connect System to provide weekly updates on our FAFSA applications progress, and I appreciate how the database is effective, efficient, and a very useful tool."

-Danielle Padia, Career Specialist, Ironwood High School



#### SITE ANALYTICS

#### Over 13,000 site visits

Over the Last 90 Days

311

**Unique viewers** 

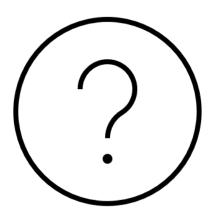
#### **TESTIMONIAL**

"Working with ABOR has provided a sense of security for our school data. If I have any issues, they are always a phone call away for helping us. They listen, and work to help resolve any issues with Arizona College Connect. I love collaborating with the ABOR team. The data we receive is valuable and has many reports we can request for our school and district data."

Zulema Fragoso, High School Counselor, Nogales High School. 2023 Arizona Counselor of the Year



## **Questions?**





## Thank You



Julie.Sainz@azregents.edu



For Questions regarding Arizona College Connect, please email:

Info@arizonacollegeconnect.org

## **College Connect Tempe**

#### Contact

Adrian Cascio - Education, Career & Family Services Supervisor

- Adrian Cascio@tempe.gov
- 480-858-2460



Mavigate your path to college and career success.



## Thank you for attending!

**Our next Lunch and Learn!** 

NCAN's Better FAFSA

WED, NOV 15

@11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Register for our next event!





Mavigate your path to college and career success.

# Connecting Students & Families











College Connect provides free advising services to assist students with their post-graduation goals and any college/career pathway.



We serve any students regardless of where they live, what school they attend, what age they are, and their school status.











We offer advising on campus, virtually and at the Tempe Public Library.



#### At the counseling centers of:

- Corona Del Sol
- Desert Vista
- Marcos De Niza (bilingual available)
- McClintock
- Mountain Pointe
- Tempe High (bilingual available)





## Advisors can assist with:

- Financial aid & FAFSA
- Applying for Scholarships
- College applications
- Career readiness (resumes, interviewing, etc)
- College & Career Exploration
- Refer to college & career reps
- Connecting to resources





# College Connect Scholarships

Each winner is awarded \$1,000!



#### **College Connect Scholarship**

8 high school students chosen





# The Hon. Robin Arredondo-Savage ROTC/Military Scholarship

Current student (10-12 grade) with a plan to participate in ROTC in college or serve in the US military



# Ron Pies Environmental Justice Scholarship

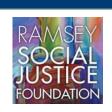
Current student (11-12 grade) with a desire to make an impact in the area of environmental justice

#### **PFC George Kirk Scholarship**

Current Native American students (11-12 grade) with a plan to pursue a post-secondary pathway

\*Students must attend at least one workshop or a 1:1 advisor meeting for any scholarship opportunity





# Program Support



**FUNDERS** 

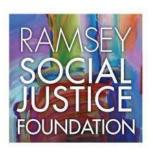








SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS





IN-KIND PARTNERS





















## **Outreach Efforts**

- Hosting virtual evening workshops
- Provide messaging focused on parents Attend various evening school & community events
- Present to 8<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms
- Monthly E-Blasts/Newsletters





# **Upcoming Events**



6:45 AM - 5:30 PM

Human Services College Connect

Northern Arizona University Tour



9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Human Services College Connect

Arizona State University Tour



6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Human Services College Connect

How to Prepare for the FAFSA



8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Human Services College Connect

University of Arizona Campus Tour



# 







## Goals

- Develop Tempe's future workforce
- Provide professional development opportunities to high school students
- Help businesses build workforce



## Summer Internship Overview



Match 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students with Tempe businesses

**6- week internship program working**120 hours over the summer

Paid at \$14/ hour

# **Questions/Comments**

#### **Contact**

- Adrian Cascio-Education, Career & Family Services Supervisor
- Adrian Cascio@tempe.gov
- 480-858-2460

Tempe.gov/CollegeConnect



