



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

The White House is encouraging high school counselors, principals and other school leaders, superintendents, after school programs, parent groups, non-profit organizations, and other local and state education organizations to share information with high school seniors on the new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form, known as the Better FAFSA, and support student submission. Simplified and streamlined, the Better FAFSA will provide more aid to more students than ever before to help pay for college.

WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT THE BETTER FAFSA

The U.S. Department of Education recently 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. Completing and submitting the Better FAFSA form is free, takes many students under 30 minutes, and gives students 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.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE TO PROMOTE THE FAFSA WEEK OF ACTION (April 15-19)

We're encouraging high school counselors, principals and other school leaders, superintendents, after school programs, parent groups, non-profit organizations, and other local and state education organizations **to commit to taking action to raise awareness about the Better FAFSA and support submission leading up to and through the FAFSA Week of Action. Potential actions organizations can take may include:**¹

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

Depending on your role and organization, other commitments may include:

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 application process.
- Share Better FAFSA resources including ["How To" Videos](#), [FAFSA Pro-Tips](#), [FAFSA Toolkit for Students & Families](#) via newsletters, school 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 a 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 that walk students and parents/families through the application process step-by-step.
- Promote district-wide FAFSA Challenges and celebrate the high school that has highest rate and greatest increases of FAFSA submissions – weekly!

¹ Any communications should comply with the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, to the extent applicable, and any other applicable laws.

- 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 a 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 Fast Break* 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 Fast Break* submission effort.
- Host a city vs. city or state vs. state FAFSA competition (for example, 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 Fast Break* Nights on social media.
- Invite schools and local education organizations to come together to host a large *FAFSA Fast Break* night.

If you would like to commit to taking one or more of these actions, please complete the form below and email back to Jessica.I.Cardichon@who.eop.gov by 6:00 p.m. ET on April 5, 2024.

Organization Name:		
Point of Contact:	Email Address:	Phone Number:
Organization Type:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educator Member Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> College Access Program	
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent Group	<input type="checkbox"/> National Non-profit or Community Based Organization (local, state, and national)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Civil Rights Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rural Focused Organization		
Commitment(s)		
Leading up to the April 15-19 Week of Action, we are committing to the following actions:	<input type="checkbox"/> Distribute information about FAFSA at an in-person or virtual event. <input type="checkbox"/> Host a webinar to share information about how to fill out the FAFSA. <input type="checkbox"/> Send push notifications, emails, or texts reminding membership about FAFSA deadlines. <input type="checkbox"/> Post about FAFSA on social media <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Throughout the April 15-19 Week of Action, we are committing to the following actions:	<input type="checkbox"/> Distribute information about FAFSA at an in-person or virtual event. <input type="checkbox"/> Host a webinar to share information about how to fill out the FAFSA form. <input type="checkbox"/> Send push notifications, emails, or texts reminding membership about FAFSA deadlines. <input type="checkbox"/> Post about FAFSA on social media <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
FAFSA Completion Goals and Impact		
If you are committing to taking steps leading up to the Week of Action are there any goals you would like to share regarding the number of students completing the FAFSA?	<input type="checkbox"/> We are targeting [number] students submitting the FAFSA by April 19. <input type="checkbox"/> We have set other goals (e.g., number of principals, counselors, parents reached):_____. <input type="checkbox"/> Please check this box if you are willing to share your impact and if the Department of Education and the White House can publicly share your impact during or after the April 15-19 Week of Action.	
If you are committing to take steps during the Week of Action, are there any goals you would like to share regarding the number of students completing the FAFSA?	<input type="checkbox"/> We are targeting [number] students completing the FAFSA during the Week of Action. <input type="checkbox"/> We have set other goals (e.g., number of principals, counselors, parents reached):_____.	
FAFSA Week of Action Event Hosting:		
The U.S. Department of Education (Department) is planning to host an April 15-19 Week of Action . Please indicate whether your organization is interested in hosting an in-person or virtual event. The Department of Education and/or the White House might consider amplifying or visiting some of the events during the Week of Action.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
FAFSA Week of Action Amplification:		
The Biden-Harris Administration is planning to host Week of Action celebrations and may consider amplifying commitments by a number of organizations in a variety of ways. Please indicate whether we can publicly share that your organization is making a commitment (at our discretion):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the Department of Education and/or the White House may publicly share details about our commitment to increase FAFSA enrollment and expected impact. <input type="checkbox"/> No, we would not like to have our efforts shared publicly.		