FAFSA FORM & FORMULA CHANGES
CHANGES ARE COMING! ARE YOU READY?

- Two pieces of federal legislation were passed that enabled the coming changes
  - **Future Act:** Expands access to federal student aid, and mandates Federal Student Aid to use data directly from the IRS-Passed December 2019
  - **FAFSA Simplification Act** included with the Consolidated Appropriations Act – Passed December 2020
  - Was to have started this year but an amendment moved to next FAFSA cycle
IMPLEMENTATION FOR 2024-2025

- Streamline the FAFSA Form
- Expanding access to IRS information for majority of filers
- Two ways to determine Pell eligibility - SAI formula or Federal Poverty Tables
- Replacing the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) with the Student Aid Index (SAI)
STREAMLINING THE FORM

- **EVERYONE** will be required to click a permission box at the beginning of the form to allow their financial information to be transferred into the FAFSA form—including non-tax filers.
- Process **REQUIRES** transferring of data from IRS whenever possible.
- Very limited paths for people to manually enter their financial data—separated couples, non-US tax filers, undocumented parents.
- Number of questions has been reduced.
STREAMLINING THE FORM

- Will confirm non-filers and hopefully eliminate Non-filer letters required for the verification process.
- Everyone with a separate tax form will have to log-in and grant permission-married filing separately for example.
- At no time during completing the form, on the FAFSA summary or on the Student Aid Report will you see any of the numbers transferred-”Transferred from the IRS”
- Will not have any opportunity to make corrections to these numbers.
THE STUDENT AID INDEX (SAI)

- New name for the EFC
  - Better reflects the output from the FAFSA as an index, not as a reflection of what a family can or will pay
- SAI could be as low as -$1500, allowing neediest students to receive aid in excess of the Cost of Attendance
  - Non-tax filing families will receive automatic -$1500 SAI
- SAI determines eligibility for all other types of federal student aid except maximum and minimum Pell awards from the Federal Poverty Tables
PELL GRANT – DETERMINING ELIBILITY

• Two ways to qualify for a Pell grant
• Will use federal Poverty Tables that match the income year to be reported on the FAFSA- next year 2022 income information and 2022 Poverty Table
• Pell eligibility determination:
  • Is the student eligible for Max Pell per the Poverty Table?
  • Is the student eligible for Pell by SAI?
  • Is the student eligible by Min Pell per the Poverty Table?
• Max/Min Pell is determined by family size, family composition, and AGI
  • Family composition- one or two parent household- for dependent students
  • Different tables for independent students-married or with dependents
• Students will receive the most generous Pell Grant for which they are eligible, either by SAI or the new min/max Pell measures
• Family size (not household size anymore) will be based on number of people claimed as exemptions on tax forms filed.
• Will be an option to modify that number if it no longer is an accurate reflection of family size.
• Parent info to be provided on the FAFSA will no longer be defined as primary custodial parent. New definition is “parent which provided the greater portion of the student’s financial support”.
• SAI will no longer be divided by number in college.
• If required to report assets, the family would have to report the net value of any business or family farm — no more exemptions for number of business employees or farms on which the family residence is located.
FORMULA CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- May require high percentage of families to utilize the question that allows you to change family size-births, deaths, college graduates, criteria in divorce decrees, tax filing choices
- With new definition of which parent(s) information belongs on the form-may or may not be the custodial parent, may cause tense situations between student and parent, may modify eligibility for student
- How will non-custodial parents feel about having to complete the FAFSA?
- Current college students may need to change which parent to report
- Loss of eligibility for federal, state and institutional grants
FORMULA CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- With number in college removed from the formula-many students may have SAI double or triple with no change in family income
- Student may see reduction or loss of Pell Grant or state need-based grant
- Will Ohio make any adjustments? To be seen.
- Will colleges make any adjustments for current students so to not lose enrollments?
- How do you explain changes in financial need when the family income did not change?
Families with AGI >$60,000 will be required to report assets ($50K now).

What effect will it have on SAI when reporting all business net worth and family farm values? Most likely higher SAI with no income change.

How will we guide families to estimate business/farm net worth value?

Can or will colleges consider this as a special circumstance?
NEW OPTION FOR STUDENTS

- Creates a “provisional” independent student if they believe they should be due to unusual circumstances and do not/cannot report parent financial information
- Student will receive estimated SAI and Pell Grant eligibility notice
- Financial aid office will be required to notify students of process and timeline for the dependency appeal process
- If appeal is not granted-student will have to provide parent information to be eligible for aid other than an unsubsidized student loan
ITEMS NO LONGER REQUIRED

- Cash support and other money paid on behalf of the student (529s in other people’s names)
- Veteran’s education benefits
- Workman’s compensation
- Selective Service question
- Drug Conviction question

**NOTE:** Child support received will be moved to asset section of the form—families that do not need to report assets means this won’t be reported.
COUNSELOR CONSIDERATIONS

- May wish to update right now any resources, presentations or college information for your current juniors
- May wish to consider holding a financial aid information night this spring AND next fall
- Encourage households with two parents to each get an FSA ID so either/both can complete the FAFSA
- Develop messaging to parents with older college students that things are changing and warn the parents of your current seniors that what happens this year will be different next year
- Throw out all old materials for the Class of 2023 when right after graduation
- Sign up for every training or webinar offered next year when much more information will be available
- Warn you principal/supervisor now that you will need professional development time next year
Formula for FAFSA: LOUISIANA’s Recipe
AGENDA FOR
TODAY’S PRESENTATION

01 Discuss an Overview of the FAFSA Policy

02 Discuss How to Support Counselors & Families

03 Discuss Promising FAFSA Completion Practice

04 Discuss the Importance of Data Integration
The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) is a Program of the Louisiana Board of Regents, that strives to be Louisiana’s first choice for college access by promoting, preparing for and providing equity of college access. LOSFA administers the state’s scholarship and grant programs and the state’s Internal Revenue Code Section 529 college savings program.
The Board of Regents is a state agency created by the 1974 Louisiana Constitution and coordinates all public higher education in Louisiana. The 15 volunteer members of the Board of Regents are appointed by the Governor to six-year, overlapping terms, with at least one (but not more than two) Regents drawn from each of Louisiana’s seven Congressional districts.

In addition, the Louisiana Council of Student Body Presidents appoints one student member as its representative on the board.
Financial Aid Policy

- Facilitate Major Stakeholders
- Determine Barriers & Supports
- Obtain Necessary Approval
- Implement with Opt-out Options
Supporting Professional School Counselors

- Involve in Planning
- Connect with Professional Development Opportunities (Continuing Education Units CEUs)
- Provide Additional Financial Aid Supports
- Celebrate Successes
Supporting Professional School Counselors

Strategies

One thing I would do to motivate our students is provide incentives for everything. Students love to receive free things whether it's a shirt or food. I set [FAFSA] workshops throughout the year, and I pressured the students to participate in all the workshops. At these workshops, I fed the students and parents. The students also received a free senior t-shirt.

It feels really good to know that I'm a part of this ranking (Louisiana #1 in FAFSA completion) and to know that I was first in my district really make me feel great!!!!

Constance Clark-Wilson

GEAR UP Coordinator and Administrative Assistant
Carroll High School
Supporting Professional School Counselors

Strategies

The importance of higher education is continually reinforced at Zwolle High School. We kept a list of students that had not completed the FAFSA and reminders were sent via texts, robo calls, and announcements.
Supporting Professional School Counselors

**Strategies**

What worked well for me during COVID-19 was to set up appointments with families using an online calendar program and Eventbrite. I would post the Eventbrite dates for families to sign up. The days were every Monday and Wednesday of the month from 4:00-6:00 PM. Twice a month I would have a Tuesday during the school day between 9:00 AM-12:00 PM and on Saturday between 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. I started in October and work through December. During the Thanksgiving Break and Winter Break (December), I would also schedule meeting with families during this time providing two options for families to sign up. Usually, a weekday during the week of the break or a Saturday either before or after the holiday break. Parent who had a scheduling conflict I would meet when they were available. This plan worked well for me and the families. Next year, go back to posting the students that completed the FAFSA picture embedded in a $100 bill and post the completion rate.

**On Sundy Barjon**
Senior Counselor (Fall Semester)
Selma Karr High School
Supporting Professional School Counselors

WHAT FEDERAL AND STATE STUDENT AID
COULD I QUALIFY FOR
IF I COMPLETE THE

FAFSA
Now?

1. PELL GRANT
   up to $6,495

2. WORK
   STUDY
   (Amount Varies)

3. LOUISIANA
   GO GRANT
   up to $3,000

4. LOANS
   for undergraduate up to
   $12,500
   for graduate/professional
   student up to
   $20,500

5. PRIVATE
   SCHOLARSHIPS
   (Amount Varies)

6. SCHOLARSHIPS
   AND GRANTS
   FROM COLLEGE
   OR UNIVERSITY
   (Amount Varies)
Supporting Students & Families

- Public Service Announcement (PSA)
- Connect with the Community
- Match & Fit (Connection to Purpose)
- In-person and Virtual Options
- Telephone Support
- Provide Incentives
Supporting Students & Families

1. Aptitude Match - What are you good at doing?
2. Academic Match - Who has your major? Where can you get in today?
3. Cost of Choice Match - Where can you complete with the least amount of loan debt or no loan debt?
4. Social and Emotional Match - What are your obligations?
5. Retention Match - Where are students finishing?
Promising Practice

- FAFSA Ambassadors
- District-wide FAFSA Completion
- Partner Involvement
- Social Media
- Event Coupling
- Incentives
Promising Practice: Event Coupling & Incentives

Event Coupling
- College Application Events
- Senior Pictures
- Ring Ceremony
- Sporting Events
- Report Card/Other Meetings

Incentives
- T-shirts
- Grad Supply Vouchers
- Grad Fee Reduction
- Grad/Prom Tickets
- Donated Gift Cards
Promising Practice: Events

2018 FAFSA Tournament
December 26-29, 2018
Lee Magnet High School
12/26: 12pm - 7pm
12/27: 12pm - 7pm
12/28: 3pm - 7pm
12/29: 3pm - 7pm

Fix Your FAFSA
June 29th • 10am-2pm
EBR Parish Library
7711 Goodwood Blvd
Baton Rouge, LA 70806
(Meet Us in the Teen Area)

FAFSA Night
October 13th • 6-8 PM
Held at Your High School
Mandatory for All Seniors
Integrating Data

- FAFSA Completion Project
- Compete to Complete
- Student Transcript System
MONTHLY CHAMPION

NORTHEAST HIGH SCHOOL

1st Place

CURRENT RANKINGS

1ST
ISTROUMA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

2ND
NORTHDALE SUPERINTENDENT’S ACADEMY

3RD
BATON ROUGE MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL

4TH
LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL

5TH
MENTORSHIP STEAM ACADEMY

6TH
GLEN OAKS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

7TH
WOOLLAHN HIGH SCHOOL

8TH
NORTHEAST HIGH SCHOOL

100%

ISTROUMA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
LOSFA also uses Signal Vine Text Messaging to connect with students and families. To receive important information and updates from LOSFA, sign up for Signal Vine by texting “LOSFA” to 50065.
LEX is LOSFA’s virtual response assistant

LEX is available on LOSFA’s Website at [www.mylosfa.la.gov](http://www.mylosfa.la.gov)

Available 24/7 to answer questions about TOPS
I KNOW I CAN

FAFSA COMPLETION

Katina Fullen
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OUR MISSION

To inspire, enable, and support central Ohio students in pursuing and completing a college education.

- Founded in 1988 in Columbus, OH
- Partners with five central Ohio school districts including: Columbus City Schools, Groveport Madison Schools, Reynoldsburg City Schools, South-Western City Schools, and Whitehall City Schools
- Recipient of ODHE’s FAFSA ‘22 Grant
FAFSA IS EVERYONE’S BUSINESS!
HOW DO WE CONTINUE TO INCREASE FAFSA COMPLETION

Access to Funding and Resources

Simple, Consistent Messaging

Professional Development Beyond The Usual