



High School Heroes Webinar: FAFSA

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Building a Future for Kansas Families, Businesses and the Economy



High School Counselor Resources

ABOUT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DATA STUDENTS UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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FAFSA Completion Challenge
FAFSA Resources
Free Expression Statement
High School Counselor
Information for Students and Prospective Students

BUILDING A FUTURE

Strategic plan for the public higher education
Future helps Kansas families, supports
economic prosperity.

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR RESOURCES

If you are a high school or college counselor looking to help students enter or navigate postsecondary education, many resources are available to you and your students. Explore some of the common options below.

Apply for College



Learn more about the resources available to help high school students apply to colleges and universities in the state.

Learn about Scholarships



The Board of Regents administers several state scholarships available to students at colleges and universities across Kansas. Explore some of the options available for your students.

Discover Degree Options and Costs



Qualified Admissions



HIGH SCHOOL HEROES WEBINAR SERIES

September - April, the first Tuesday of each month

Webinars are designed to provide you with the latest and most accurate information about college and supporting students, covering advising tips and tricks, KBOR resources, guidance lesson resources, strategies for shortening time to degree completion, degree maps, FAFSA news, and more

[Register Now](#)

September: Essential KBOR Resources for You and Your Students
Featuring: Important Websites and Resources for Year-Round Student Support

October: Unlocking Student Success: Expert Advising Tips and Tricks
Featuring: Best Practices in Advising to Leverage Dual Credit Options

November: Demystifying FAFSA: Essential Updates and Insights
Featuring: Important updates, resources, impact of the FAFSA, and the FAFSA Completion Challenge

December: Fast Track to Degree: Accelerating Success During High School
Featuring: AP and Cambridge International



Advising Resources for High Schools

THE KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
1925

ABOUT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DATA STUDENTS UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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ADVISING RESOURCES

We aim to empower advisors in guiding students through the insights to enhance your support as they navigate their path to it.

See Transfer Options

More than 100 courses transfer seamlessly across the 32 public colleges and universities in Kansas. Help your students explore those transfer options and discover their path to degree completion.

Systemwide General **Concurrent**

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- Advising Resources**
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ACADEMIC DEGREE MAPS

Academic Degree Maps are term-by-term sample course schedules that specify milestones, courses, and special requirements that are necessary for facilitating on-time completion.

[Link to Institutions Academic Degree Maps](#)

[Allen Community College](#)

[Barton Community College](#)

[Butler Community College](#)

[Cloud County Community College](#)

[Coffeyville Community College](#)

[Colby Community College](#)

[Cowley Community College](#)

[Dodge City Community College](#)

[Emporia State University](#)

[Flint Hills Technical College](#)

[Fort Hays | North Central](#)

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[Fort Hays State University](#)

[Fort Scott Community College](#)

[Garden City Community College](#)

[Highland Community College](#)



Agenda

- Welcome
- Kansas FAFSA Profile
- 2025-2026 FAFSA Progress Update
- FAFSA Terminology
- Dependency Status Questions
- Types of Aid
- FAFSA Resources
- FAFSA Completion Challenge

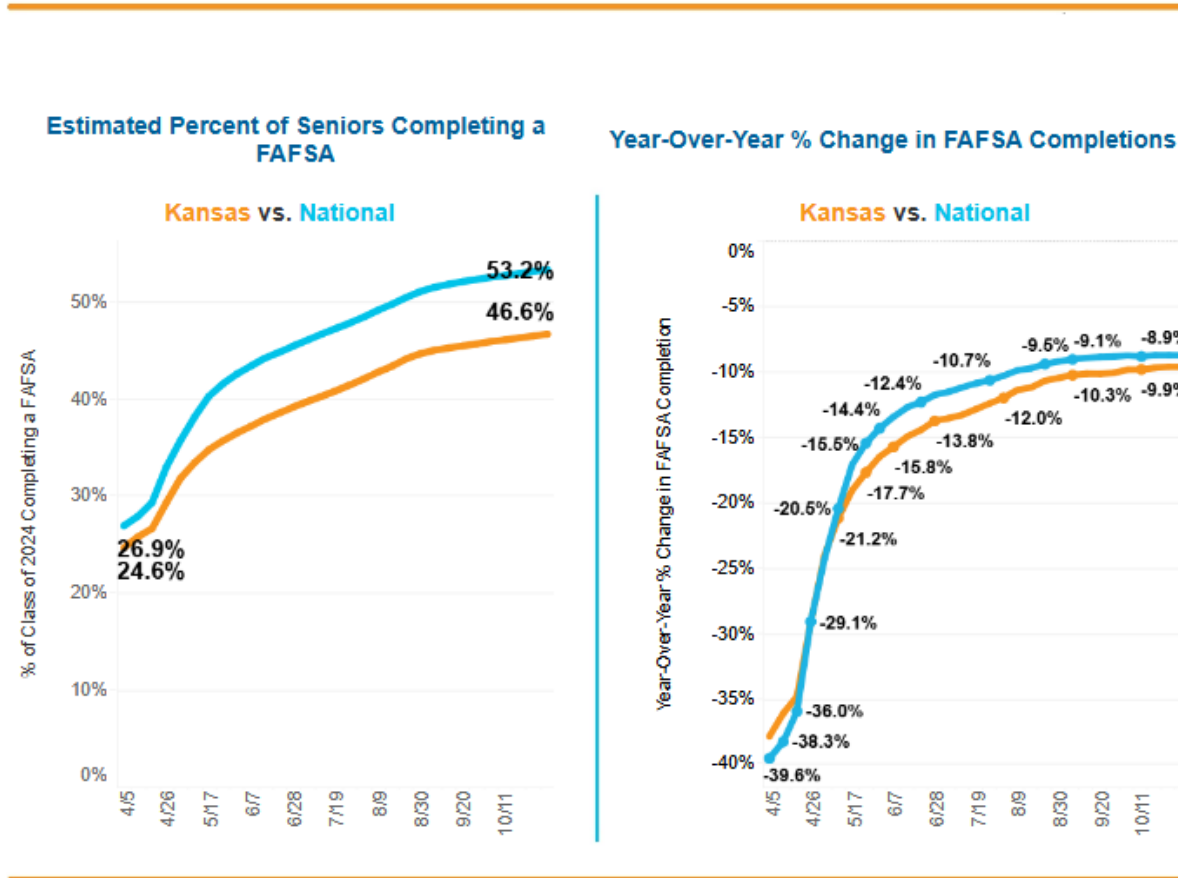




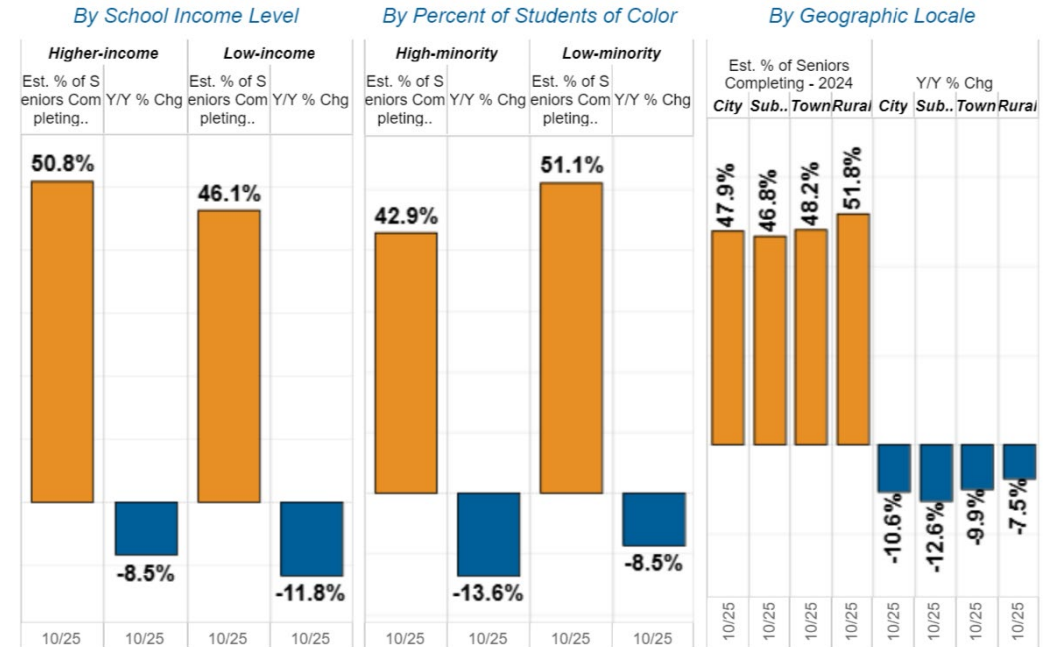
Kansas FAFSA Profile

State Profile: Kansas

Through **October 25, 2024**, **46.6%** of the **high school class of 2024** in Kansas has completed a FAFSA. There have been **17,990** completions in Kansas, a **-9.7%** change (**-1,925 completions**) compared to last academic year.



Est. % of Seniors Completing a FAFSA & Year-Over-Year % Change in FAFSA Completions by High School Characteristics (Kansas)





2025-2026 FAFSA Progress Update

- Ensuring the form functions as intended when launched.
- Increasing transparency.
 - Consistent meetings and updates with state leadership, higher ed institutions, etc
- Improving resources for students and families to assist them in navigating the form.
- Providing additional resources to counselors, institutions, states, and other critical partners.
- Ensuring the call center has sufficient capacity to handle outreach from and provide accurate information to students and families.
- Improving the user experience for students and families.
- Providing additional outreach and support for students and families.





FAFSA Terminology

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Student Aid Index (SAI): Calculated based on the information provided on the FAFSA; Used to determine if a student is eligible for a Pell grant/other grants that require financial need

Financial Need: $COA - SAI = \text{Financial Need}$

Enrollment Intensity: How many credit hours the student is enrolled in

Full-Time: Typically 12 or more credit hours

Part Time: Typically less than 12 credit hours

Cost of Attendance (COA): An estimated budget of how much it costs a student to attend a college

Limits how much they can get in aid

Includes tuition, fees, housing, food, books/supplies, personal and transportation expenses

Dependent Student: Required to put parent info on their FAFSA

Has nothing to do with being a dependent on parent taxes

Parent is **unwilling** to put info on FAFSA = unsubsidized loan only

Independent Student: Does not include parent info on the FAFSA

Has nothing to do with being a dependent on parent taxes





Dependency Status Questions

- 24 years old and up
- Graduate Student
- Veteran/Active-duty military
- Married
- Children or other dependents
- Both parents deceased
- Foster care after age 13
- Dependent/Ward of the court after age 13
- Emancipated Minor
- Legal Guardianship
- Homelessness or at risk of being homeless
- Unusual circumstances

If a student cannot answer yes to any of these questions, they must report parent info on the FAFSA.





Types of Aid

- **Grants**

- Pell/Federal
- State
- Institutional

- **Scholarships**

- Institutional
- State
 - https://www.kansasregents.org/students/student_financial_aid
- Outside/Private:
 - <https://kansasstatetreasurer.com/scholarshop.html>

- **Work Study**

- Federal
- State – KS 4-year public universities

- **Loans**

- Federal
 - Subsidized Direct Loan
 - Unsubsidized Direct Loan
 - Parent PLUS
 - Graduate PLUS
- Private





FAFSA Resources

- [FAFSA Data Access](#)
- FAFSA Priority Deadlines:
 - Kansas: April 1st
 - Check with each institution until this page is updated: https://kasfaa.org/financial_aid_costs_tuition.php
- KASFAA: FAFSA walk-through recording and webinars to support Counselors
 - https://kasfaa.org/counselor_training.php
- NCAN: Step-by-step resources, slides to use for events, checklist, FAFSA simulation (prototype), FAQs, etc
 - <https://www.ncan.org/page/fafsa>
- FSA Financial Aid Toolkit: Tips and resources for hosting an event, resource library with various content, etc
 - <https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/>
 - <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/electronic-announcements/2024-10-30/resources-assist-preparation-2025-26-fafsa-cycle>
- FSA publications: fact sheets in English and Spanish, online tools, etc
 - <https://studentaid.gov/resources>
- Request an Interpreter
 - <https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out/request-interpreter>





FAFSA Completion Challenge

- Our goal is for all Kansas high schools to move toward a FAFSA completion rate of 70% FAFSA Completion
 - In 2024, 18 high schools were recognized for [70% FAFSA Completions](#)
- In 2023, there were [96 Kansas High Schools with a FAFSA Completion percentage above 60%](#).
- FAFSA Challenge Structure:
 - The Kansas FAFSA Challenge will be active from October 1, or when the FAFSA opens, until June 30 each year.
 - We use senior class size data as reported to KSDE, and the FAFSA completion numbers for this year as reported by [FAFSA state-wide data](#).
 - The winning schools will be announced and recognized annually by both the Kansas Board of Regents and the Kansas State Board of Education.
- Kansas FAFSA Tracker
 - Your school's FAFSA Completion Rate and comparison to prior cycle
 - <https://kansas.fafsatracker.com/>





Questions?

