

FAFSA Challenge Guidelines and Rules

FAFSA Completion Challenge Overview

Public and private high schools in Kentucky are invited to join the Challenge to promote FAFSA completion for the class of 2021 and for the chance to win \$500 for their school! Participating public high schools will compete among other public schools with similar senior class sizes. Private schools will compete against other private schools. Please note: Final groups for public schools may be adjusted slightly after registration closes to ensure there are approximately the same number of participating schools in each group.

- Small public (up to 99)
- Medium public (100-199)
- Large public (200+)
- Private

Two schools from each group will win \$500 (total of eight winners):

- One winner per group for overall highest percentage of FAFSA completions.
- One winner per group for overall highest percentage increase in FAFSA completions during the Challenge period of October 1 to April 29.

The Challenge will begin on October 1, 2021 and go through April 29, 2022. Schools interested in participating in the challenge must register no later than **November 1, 2021**.

Winners will be announced in May 2022.

Challenge Rules

- FAFSA completion results will use high school FAFSA completion data from Federal Student Aid with the closest federal reporting periods to October 1, 2021 and April 29, 2022. High school senior enrollment will come from the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).
- The challenge registration must be completed to be eligible to win.
- Two winners will be chosen from each school group:
 - One winner per group for overall highest percentage of FAFSA completions
 - One winner per group for overall highest percentage increase in FAFSA completions during the Challenge period of October 1 to April 29.
- Each winner will receive \$500 to enhance their school's college-going culture. Winners will be announced no later than May 2022.

FAQs for FAFSA Completion Challenge

- **Who can join the Challenge?**

This competition is for all public and private high schools in Kentucky that register to participate in the Challenge.

- **What do the winning high schools receive?**

Each winning high school will receive \$500 to support a college-going culture. Winners will be announced in May 2022.

In addition, winning high schools will receive a digital badge to place on their website or for use in social media designating them as a Challenge winner.

All participating high schools will receive a digital badge designating them as a Challenge participant.

- **How are the school groups determined?**

Participating public high schools will compete among other schools with similar senior class sizes. Private high schools will compete against other private high schools. Groups were formed by reviewing senior class sizes for all high schools in the state to ensure there are approximately the same number of schools per group. Groups may be adjusted slightly after registration closes to ensure there are approximately the same number of participating schools in each group.

- Small public (up to 99)
- Medium public (100-199)
- Large public (200+)
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- **How will schools be able to check their progress?**

The FAFSA Dashboard on kygoestocollege.com will be updated each time new FAFSA completion data is available from Federal Student Aid (approximately every 7-10 days). On the dashboard, participants will be able to select their school name from a dropdown menu to view their FAFSA completion rates for this cycle compared to the previous cycle. The overall FAFSA completion rate for the state of Kentucky will also be displayed.

- **How can my school receive additional support to help our students complete the FAFSA?**

KHEAA Outreach Counselors are available in every region of the state to assist with FAFSA completion. Find the [contact information](#) for your outreach counselor on kheaa.com. KHEAA will also be providing weekly FAFSA completion webinars now through the end of the summer that will be open to the public to walk students and families through the FAFSA step-by-step.

School counselors or other college access professionals who want to learn more about the FAFSA and the FAFSA completion process will be able to access FAFSA-focused professional development webinars offered by KHEAA now through the end of the summer.

Visit kygoestocollege.com for a full schedule of the student and professional webinars and to register to attend.

- **How can I track which of my students has completed a FAFSA?**

KHEAA participates in the FAFSA Completion Initiative (FCI), a federal program which allows us to share student-level FAFSA completion data with high schools. If your school is already participating, you can continue to draw down your FCI reports as usual. If you are not currently signed up to receive the FCI reports and would like to learn more, please contact Roxanne Lewis at rlewis@kheaa.com.

- **Where can I find more information for my students about the financial aid process?**

Visit kheaa.com for information about planning, preparing and paying for college. You can also order a variety of KHEAA publications for free to distribute to your students. The [order form](#) is under the Counselors tab on kheaa.com, or you can [contact](#) your KHEAA Outreach Counselor. Outreach counselors are also available to provide workshops for your students.

For additional questions about the Challenge or for more information about this or any of KHEAA's Outreach programs, please contact Kim Dolan at kdolan@kheaa.com or Summer Gortney at sgortney@kheaa.com.