



Equity for All Students to
Achieve Their Full Potential

Statewide FAFSA Support

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Text Benji

Benji is Arizona's free digital FAFSA assistant. Text Benji with your questions about FAFSA and financial aid and receive immediate answers.

[Text Benji](#)



Arizona FAFSA Hotline

Students and families can call the Arizona FAFSA Hotline between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday for free support with FAFSA completion, college applications and next steps for enrollment.

[Call Now](#)



Schedule an Appointment

Students and families can schedule a one-on-one appointment with a local FAFSA expert. All appointments take place virtually via Zoom, Google Meet or Microsoft Teams.

[Schedule](#)

Statewide FAFSA Support



[Click here for more info on Ask Benji](#)

Text 602-786-8171 to Get Started

What is Ask Benji?

Benji is a first-of-its-kind chatbot, specifically designed to help Arizona students, parents, and educators get quick answers to a wide variety of questions about the FAFSA, the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school.



AZ FAFSA HOTLINE

Arizona FAFSA Hotline



This service is available in English (**1-833-AzFAFSA**) and Spanish (1-833-MiFAFSA) and is staffed by higher ed and college access experts from ASU, Be A Leader Foundation, AdviseAZ and AzCAN.



AZ FAFSA APPOINTMENTS

[Click here to schedule an appointment](#)



Statewide FAFSA Completion Support

Arizona Statewide Virtual FAFSA Assistance

🕒 1 hr

Hello! We look forward to helping you submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which provides federal financial aid and is also used to determine school-based aid for your college or university education (including trade and vocational schools). All appointments take place virtually via Zoom, Google Meet or Microsoft TEAMS.

After you register for an appointment, please look at the confirmation email to see the materials that you'll need to have ready for your meeting.

To complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you will need:

Select a Date & Time



November 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Time zone

🌐 Arizona, Yukon Time (12:10pm) ▾

AZ College Access Center



[City of Phoenix-
College Depot](#)



[College Connect-
Tempe](#)



[Be a Leader
Foundation](#)



[Northern Arizona
College Access
Center](#)



[Regional College
Access Center](#)



[Pima College
FAFSA Support](#)

MENU OF FAFSA TECHNICAL SUPPORT STATEWIDE

- [CAP \(College Access Professional Training Schedule\) 2022-2023](#)
- [Statewide FAFSA Kick-Off 2022](#)
- [Register for the AZ Counselor Spring Training-April 19, 2023](#)
- [Counselor Toolkit with Resource Links](#)
- AZ FAFSA Boot Camp 2022 Training
 - [Before the FAFSA](#)
 - [FAFSA 101](#)
 - [FAFSA 201](#)
 - [After the FAFSA](#)





ARIZONA

FAFSA CHALLENGE

Arizona FAFSA Challenge- Initiative to promote FAFSA Completion Among Arizona High School seniors.

- Established in 2018
- In partnership with the Governor's Office of Education

Arizona FAFSA Coalition – Statewide FAFSA group made up of postsecondary, community, and college access partners. Over 25 organizations make up the coalition. Create and promote FAFSA resources, trainings, workshops, and programs to promote FAFSA completion statewide.

- Established in 2019



ARIZONA FAFSA CHALLENGE

The Arizona FAFSA Challenge is a statewide initiative to increase FAFSA completions from high school seniors. The more students from your school who apply, the better your school ranks.

Most Valuable Player

The Most Valuable Player trophy is awarded to the schools with the highest FAFSA completion rate within their senior enrollment.

Student Awards:

Three laptops will be awarded to each of the MVP schools to award to three high school seniors of their choice who have completed a FAFSA.

Incentives:

MVP Trophy Winners will be featured on the CollegeReadyAZ.com website, social media and in the AZ FAFSA Challenge Newsletter.

Most Improved

The Most Improved award is given to the school with the most improved FAFSA completion rate within their senior enrollment.

Student Awards:

Three laptops will be awarded to each of the most improved schools to award to three high school seniors of their choice who have completed a FAFSA.

Incentives:

Most Improved Trophy Winners will be featured on the CollegeReadyAZ.com website, social media and in the AZ FAFSA Challenge Newsletter.

Innovative Player

The Innovative Player award recognizes Arizona high schools throughout the school year for their innovative efforts and work toward FAFSA completion. The award recognizes Arizona high schools each month during the school year for their innovative efforts and work toward FAFSA completion.

Anyone can submit a **nomination** - counselors, teachers, students, parents and the community are encouraged to nominate a deserving high school!

Nominate your school [here](#).

Student Awards:

Students from each winning school will be eligible to apply for a \$500 scholarship. One winner from each Innovative Player school will be awarded a scholarship courtesy of the Benji-FAFSA chatbot and Education Forward Arizona.

Student Awards:

- Complete a FAFSA.
- Complete at least one college or vocational school application.
- Must be a student at an Innovative Player School.
- Submit a 500-word essay on why the FAFSA is important.

School Awards:

- Featured in the AZ FAFSA Challenge Newsletter.
- University/college swag.
- Featured in a FAFSA Best Practices Webinar.





ARIZONA FAFSA CHALLENGE

- Highlight FAFSA Best Practices
- Monthly FAFSA Newsletter



Arizona College Connect

Provides an interactive, customized communications portal to provide high school leaders with access to their student-level FAFSA data and other college attainment information.



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



Why improvements are needed

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

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?

Streamline and Automate the Process

Phase I, (Fall 2022)

- Developing a new FAFSA Database
- Push out student-level FAFSA data to authorized high school personnel
- High School FAFSA Completion Progress
- Milestones
- Badges/Achievements
- Customized FAFSA Resources and Helpful Tips
- Student Messaging and Communications

Phase II- (Spring 2023)

- Community Partner Engagement
 - scholarships
 - program communications
 - targeted resources
 - etc.

Phase III (Fall 2023)

- Expand to include College Attainment Data
- Additional FAFSA updates and features

ARIZONA COLLEGE CONNECT

Database Overview

Review your pre-populated senior roster

Update partial matches →

Plan your FAFSA activities

Start from here

Learn How in the Use

Review my list of high s

View & Update FAFSA p

Examine FAFSA progres

Upcoming events

+ Add event

APR 1 3 AZ Promise Prog Sat, Apr 1, All day

and announcements

Welcome to Arizona College Connect

Arizona College Connect is an interactive, customized...

September 17

Moon Valley Success Factors

Moon Valley High School received state recognition from the...

WHAT IS THE FAFSA?

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opens the door of opportunity for students to pay for

AZ Regents Twitter

Arizona Board ... As part of the New Initiative, @ASU p entrepreneurs to ASU's state-of-the facilities.

The ASU Core Res companies advan and product deve