

ND FAFSA Completion Project

PURPOSE

The FAFSA Completion Project (FCP) was created to provide schools with student-level FAFSA completion information to assist in guiding individualized conversations about financial aid with students and families. Designated individuals, such as school counselors or others who assist seniors with completing the FAFSA, can use this tool to identify students who may need additional assistance in completing their FAFSA as they navigate the college application process.

GOAL

Completing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is key to accessing higher education for many high school seniors. Research shows that students who complete a FAFSA are more likely to attend a two-year or four-year college or vocational/technical school. The goal is to increase the number of seniors in ND that successfully complete a FAFSA application each year.

WHAT DO SCHOOL DISTRICTS NEED TO DO TO PARTICIPATE?

Complete a Data Use Agreement with the ND University System (NDUS). The Agreement governs the terms and conditions of the Data Provider (NDUS) and the Data Receiver (School District) as they collaborate in the FAFSA Completion Project.

DOES THE SCHOOL DISTRICT (RECEIVER OF THE STUDENT DATA) HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY?

Yes. The school district and users who will be designated to access the student-level data must comply with the terms of the Data Use Agreement. FAFSA data is owned by the U.S. Dept. of Education and strict confidentiality of the data must be maintained. Users agree only to use the data as they work specifically one-on-one with a student.

HOW WILL WE KNOW HOW OUR SCHOOL OR STATE IS PROGRESSING ON FAFSA COMPLETIONS?

This data will be available in *E-Transcripts* for schools that have a valid Data Use Agreement on file each year with the NDUS.

WHO CAN WE CONTACT TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OR LEARN MORE?

FAFSA Completion Project Administrator: NDUS
701-877-5718 or ndfinaid@ndus.edu