

NORTH DAKOTA FAFSA UPDATE

JANUARY 2026

MORE NORTH DAKOTA STUDENTS COMPLETING THE FAFSA

North Dakota high school seniors are completing the FAFSA this year at a much higher rate, according to the latest data.

More than 26% of this year's seniors have completed a 2026-27 FAFSA, according to the state's FAFSA completion tracking project. The National College Attainment Network's [FAFSA Tracker](#) shows an 8.8% increase over the prior year. Sixty percent of the districts that participate in [North Dakota's FAFSA Completion Project](#) have FAFSA completions meeting or exceeding the state completion rate.

Nationally, 32.9% of high school seniors have completed a 2026-27 FAFSA, a 9.8% increase compared to last year.



REVIEWING THE FAFSA SUBMISSION SUMMARY

After successfully completing your FAFSA, remember to celebrate, and then review your FAFSA Submission Summary!

- ✓ You will receive an email (if a valid email address was provided) 1-3 days after you submit your FAFSA, notifying you that you have a FAFSA Submission Summary to review.
- ✓ Log in to your account at [StudentAid.gov](#) to review the Summary. If you didn't receive (or missed) the email, just log in to your account at [StudentAid.gov](#) to see if you have a Summary waiting.
- ✓ The FAFSA Submission Summary has these tabs to review: Eligibility, Overview, FAFSA Form Answers, School Information, Next Steps.
- ✓ If you take any action on your FAFSA Submission Summary, such as adding another college, changing information, or correcting a mistake, make sure you "SUBMIT" the changes so that they will be processed and the colleges you listed will be notified.



LOWER EARNINGS INDICATOR ADDED TO FAFSA

Students completing the FAFSA now have additional information when deciding which college to attend. The U.S. Department of Education announced the implementation of a new lower earnings indicator with the FAFSA.

This indicator—only applicable to first-year undergraduate students—provides students with additional information about the typical earnings of graduates from the colleges they are considering. Students who have selected schools with lower earnings will receive the notice after they have submitted the FAFSA.

In announcing the new indicator, the Department said it "should not be interpreted as the Department passing normative judgment on what institutions are worthy of attendance, or the expected return on investment of attending a particular institution."