



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

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Indiana Reaches 60 Percent FAFSA Filing Goal for Second Year in a Row
Nearly 61 Percent of Indiana High School Seniors Have Filed the 2026-2027 FAFSA

(INDIANAPOLIS) – Over 60 percent of Indiana high school seniors from the class of 2026 have filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). That's more than 50,000 students who have now unlocked millions of dollars in both state and federal aid to help them pay for college.

In 2023, [Indiana Commission for Higher Education](#) (Commission) set a goal to reach a 60 percent FAFSA completion rate for high school seniors. In the first two years after setting that goal, Indiana reached 54 percent and 58 percent in 2023 and 2024 respectively, before achieving the 60 percent goal for the first time last year. Filings for the class of 2026 have now surpassed last year's numbers by nearly 400 additional students. Individuals can view Indiana's FAFSA filing rate by region, county, or school using the Commission's [FAFSA Completion Dashboard](#).

"After recent updates to the FAFSA application process, it is easier than ever for Hoosiers to complete one application that connects them with need-based resources to support their education," said Governor Mike Braun. "As we work to ensure students and parents see a strong return on investment when choosing higher education, completing the FAFSA can be a key driver in making any path more affordable, whether a student pursues a short-term credential, a bachelor's degree, or beyond."

To support the statewide goal, [319 Indiana high schools](#) achieved 60 percent FAFSA completion rates for their graduating students. To recognize their work, each school has received a badge to display on their website, email signatures, and social media.

"For many students, completing the FAFSA is the first step in unlocking their postsecondary degree," said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education. "With millions of dollars in financial aid available to Hoosier students and families, filing the FAFSA helps make college more accessible and affordable, helping students see what is possible for their future. Thanks to the dedicated work of families, educators, school counselors, and community partners, more and more students are completing the FAFSA each year, thus helping more Hoosiers achieve their dreams."

Additionally, 73 percent of 21st Century Scholars have completed the FAFSA, a requirement to earn the state's promise scholarship, which covers tuition and fees for up to four years at any Indiana public institution and partial tuition and fees at Indiana private institutions. This is a one percentage-point increase over last year's cohort.

Three years ago, Indiana became the eighth state to adopt a FAFSA completion requirement for high school seniors with opt-out provisions available. Now, over a dozen states have implemented a similar requirement. Since this legislation, Indiana has seen steady growth in filings.

While Indiana's state FAFSA priority deadline has passed, students can still file and should double check that their form is complete, error-free, and processed by their selected institutions. Free FAFSA filing assistance remains available through the following resources:

- **Commission for Higher Education:** Connect with a Regional Outreach Coordinator at www.learnmoreindiana.org/contact
- **INvestEd:** Email outreach@investedindiana.org or call 317-715-9007
- **U.S. Department of Education:** Call 1-800-4-FED-AID

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About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Created in 1971, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (CHE, Commission) is the State's higher education coordinating agency, driven to improve economic and social mobility for fellow Hoosiers through postsecondary education and training, and is a part of Governor Mike Braun's Office of Education. The Commission also administers Indiana's state financial aid programs, including [21st Century Scholars](#), which celebrated 35 years in 2025.