

Getting Your Piece of the Pie

FAFSA Completion Talking Points



- To apply for federal student aid—such as federal grants, work study positions and loans—students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Completing and submitting the FAFSA is free and easier than ever, and it gives students access to the largest source of financial aid.
 - On average, the application takes students 30 minutes to complete.
 - Students should complete the FAFSA whether they apply to a university, college or a career technical school.
 - To receive aid through their education, students must complete the application each year.
- Many Colorado colleges and universities use FAFSA information to determine eligibility for state and school aid, and some private financial aid providers may use FAFSA information to determine for private aid opportunities.
- Completion of the FAFSA may help predict a student's success in postsecondary education. Studies show that 90 percent of high school seniors who complete FAFSA attend college directly after high school, compared to just 55 percent seniors who do not complete.

- Every year, \$2.7 billion is left on the table for students who are eligible to receive Pell Grant but do not complete the FAFSA. In Colorado, that amounts to about \$92 million in unclaimed aid over the last two years.
- By 2020, nearly 75 percent of Colorado jobs will require a college degree or certificate. We need to encourage all Coloradans to reach higher, and FAFSA is the first step!

Social Media Resources

We want as many Coloradans as possible to file the FAFSA. Students, educators, parents and community leaders can promote **Get Your Piece of the Pie** through social media using the hashtags below. Make sure to tag us, too!

Signature Hashtag: #HungryForFAFSA, #PieChallengeCO

Additional Hashtags: #CORises, #edcolo

CDHE FAFSA Video: https://youtu.be/uOP_HMCCpwg



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U.S. Department of Education Web Toolkit

- <https://blog.ed.gov/topic/federal-student-aid/>
- <https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/outreach/social-media/digital-resources.jsp>