Chopping through FAFSA issues, completion, and the IFAA

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24-25 FAFSA Changes

- **FSA ID or studentaid.gov account**
  - Multiple parents may need FSA ID
  - Those without SS #s will be able to get an FSA ID
  - FSA IDs need to be verified/confirmed to use FULLY on the FAFSA

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24-25 FAFSA Changes

- **Who is considered a Parent Contributor**
  - If parents are divorced or separated, use the parent that provided the most financial support in the last 12 months

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24-25 FAFSA Changes

- **Role Based Form**
  - Each contributor will only see questions associated with their role
  - Once each contributor has completed the questions for their role, the FAFSA will be considered submitted

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24-25 FAFSA Changes

- **Direct Data Exchange with the IRS**
  - Data Retrieval tool no longer used

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24-25 FAFSA Changes

- **Family Size**
  - New name for Household Size
  - Based on the number of exemptions claimed on the taxes
  - Following question to allow this number to be modified if needed

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24-25 FAFSA Changes

- **Student Aid Index (SAI)**
  - Replaces the EFC
  - Minimum is now -1500
  - -1500 will not result in larger Pell Grant
  - Colleges still can not award more than the Cost of Attendance

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24-25 FAFSA Changes

- **Multiple Students in College**
  - SAI formula removes the # in college from the calculation
  - Could mean significant change in SAI and less aid for some students

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24-25 FAFSA Changes

- **Business & Farm Value**
  - No exemptions
  - Will have significant change in SAI and amount of aid for some students

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Issues

- **2024-25 FAFSA Issues Alert**
  - https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/topics/fafsa-simplification-information/2024-25-fafsa-issue-alerts

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Issues

- **Parents without Social Security Numbers**
  - Not until first half of March did this get resolved
  - Many families had to do paper forms to beat Priority Dates

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Issues

- **Student with Alien Registration Number ending in "0"**
  - Could not complete form
  - Been told to use SS # or scramble their Alien Registration # to not end in "0"

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Issues

- **Independent Student getting in a "loop" and being taken back to the "Parent pose a risk"**
  - Not been able to get this resolved that we know of as of yet

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Issues

- **Unable to move on from Parent Invite page because it says that parent may have FSA ID and to check info**
  - Need to log in with the Parent FSA ID and go to SETTINGS to see if they have something not matching for FIRST NAME, LAST NAME, DOB or SS #

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Issues

- **Student says "YES" to applying for UNSUB Loan accidentally and submits their section**
  - Going to need to make a Correction but only able to after their FAFSA is processed

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Issues

- **Corrections cannot be made until the "first half of April"**
  - Patience
  - More Patience
  - Follow the Yellow Brick

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ICAN Resources

- **To make a virtual or in person appt**
  - www.icansucceed.org/apt

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ICAN Resources

- **Wednesday Webinars and recorded presentations**
  - https://www.icansucceed.org/about-ican/services/virtual-events
  - May 15: Understanding Financial Aid Packages and Covering College Costs

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ICAN Resources

- **FAFSA Trainings (Geared for 2025-26 FAFSA)**
  - Held in June, August, September, October
  - Usually on a Wednesday from 8:30am-12:00pm

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ICAN Resources

- **Fall Kick Off Week with Bureau of Iowa College Aid**
  - This year it will be held the week of September 16th
  - One night designated for each High School Grade Level
  - Leads up to the Golden Circle College Fair on Sunday Sept. 22

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State of Iowa FAFSA Goals

State of Iowa FAFSA Goal: 60%

FAFSA Submissions through March 22, 2024:
- Current: **35.6%**
- Total submissions: **15,033**
  - This is a **-21.6%** change compared to last academic year

Iowa is currently **16th** in the nation for % of seniors submitting FAFSA
- 33.7% of the high school class of 2024 as submitted a FAFSA (-28.8 change) nationally

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Iowa College Aid Completion Strategies & Resources

- **FAFSA Completion Events**
  - Encouraging & assisting high schools with events
- **Virtual Coach Texting Program**
  - Individualized, text message support
- **AmeriCorps College Coaches**
  - Offer individualized, virtual FAFSA completion appointments
  - Offer in-person assistance to high schools
- **FAFSA Completion Reports**
  - Automated, weekly report to high schools with student-leve completion data

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Iowa College Aid Completion Strategies & Resources

- **FAFSA Week of Action**
  - April 15-19
  - ICA & ICAN promoting FAFSA completion through the state
  - Offering resources & guidance to schools & students
- **Iowa FAFSA Dashboard**
  - School-level FAFSA completion data
  - Historical comparisons, year to year
  - fafsa.iowa.gov

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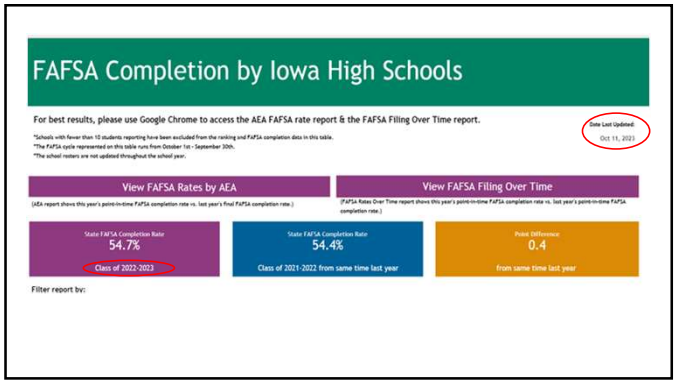

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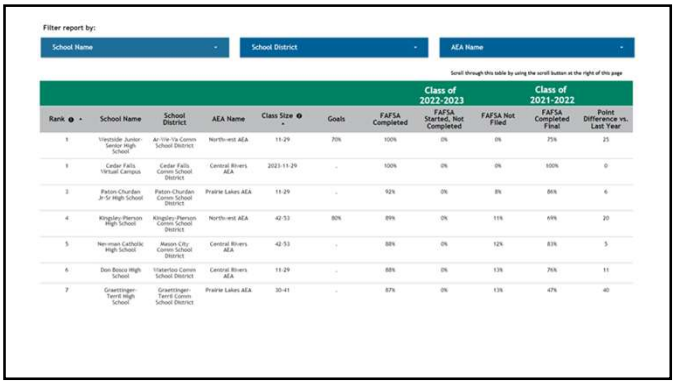

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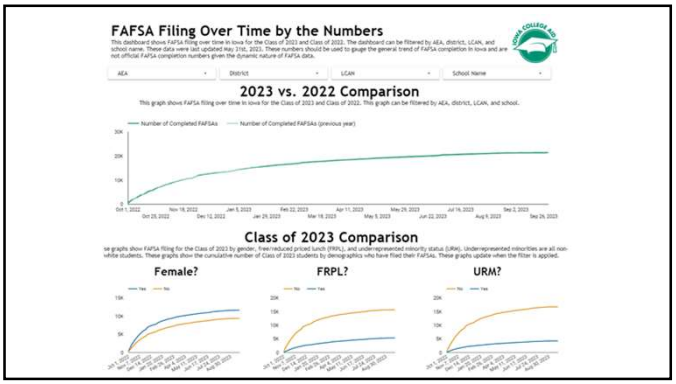

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Iowa Financial Aid Application

- **Application Processing Interface (API)**
  - Address
  - DOB
  - Phone
  - Other General Information
- **Iowa one of only a handful of states that participated**
- **Not Available on the 24-25 FAFSA**
  - Unsure if this will continue

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Questions?

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