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Lunch

Sign up for ISAC's e-messaging at
www.isac.org/emessaging/

Visit ISAC's Professional Development page to register for upcoming webinars!
www.isac.org/pd/webinars

The Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Limited Waiver ends on October 31, 2022! Learn more at
www.isac.org/pslf



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Recognizing and Supporting Schools Through the Financial Aid Application Graduation Requirement





ISAC

Eduardo Brambila
Managing Director, Capacity Development
Illinois Student Assistance Commission

Illinois' FAFSA Completion

- New state high of 71.78% for public high schools
- Includes FAFSA & Alternative App for Class of 2022
- Last year high of 67%

Recognition of Excellence Awards

Recognition Level	Completion Rate (%) October 1, 2021 – July 31, 2022	# of Schools Recognized
 Platinum	≥ 95%	66
 Gold	≥ 85%	109
 Silver	≥ 75%	112
 Bronze	≥ 65%	178
Total		465

How Illinois Compares to Other States

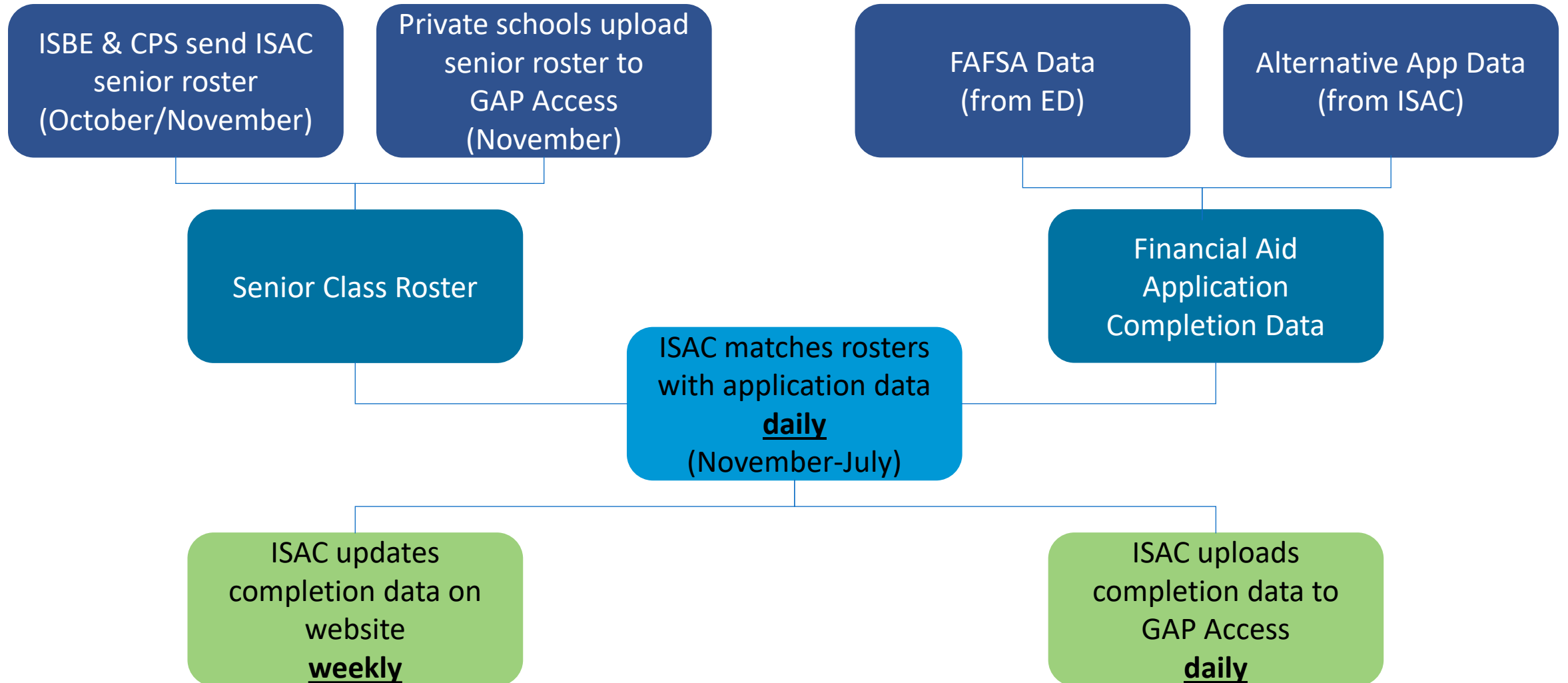
- The national average of FAFSA completion is 57.2%
- Note: NCAN includes all Illinois High Schools (public and private) students who have filed a FAFSA but does NOT include those who have filed an Alt App)

1 LA 70.5%	2 TN 69.5%	3 DC 68.6%	4 MS 68.5%	5 DE 67.7%	1 TX 20.4%	2 AL 17.6%	3 NM 7.9%	4 CA 7.6%	5 ME 6.8%
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	Current Rank	% of Seniors Completing
Louisiana	1	70.5%
Tennessee	2	69.5%
Washington, D.C.	3	68.6%
Mississippi	4	68.5%
Delaware	5	67.7%
Texas	6	66.8%
Illinois	7	65.7%
New York	8	64.6%
Alabama	9	63.9%
New Jersey	10	63.5%

	Current Rank	% Change
Texas	1	20.4%
Alabama	2	17.6%
New Mexico	3	7.9%
California	4	7.6%
Maine	5	6.8%
Oregon	6	6.3%
Montana	7	4.8%
Mississippi	8	4.8%
Delaware	9	4.7%
Arizona	10	4.6%

Data Processing



FAFSA Completion Initiative/GAP Access



- Track FAFSA, Alternative App, and Nonparticipation Forms in GAP
- Use the ISAC roster for ISBE compliance (export feature available)
- Full GAP Access User Guide available at www.isac.org/gap-access/#guide

GAP Access Completion Data

School Administration Programs

FAFSA Completion

School Summary

Some High School-12345

Address
123 Some Street
Chicago, il 60000

Phone
773-123-0000
Principal
John Smith

Contact
Walter Smith
773-211-0000
ws@dd12@org

Approval
Closed
Demo Loaded
CPS
CITE

Filter

Select	Opt Out Waiver	Last Name	First Name	MI	DOB	FAFSA Status	Initial FAFSA Received Date	MAP Elig @1st Choice College
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			K	07/24/2003	Filed, has EFC	10/09/2020	N
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			A	02/17/2003	Filed, has EFC	12/09/2020	N
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				04/26/2003	No FAFSA Filed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			T	06/12/2003	Filed, has EFC	01/31/2021	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			P	11/03/2002	Filed, has EFC	10/03/2020	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			E	03/30/2003	Filed, has EFC	10/10/2020	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				08/31/2003	Filed, has EFC	10/03/2020	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			G	06/15/2003	Filed, has EFC	11/06/2020	N
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				02/01/2003	Filed, has EFC	10/24/2020	

Add Delete Selected Save Changes Excel Report Back

How to Participate in Recognition Awards

- Public schools
 - Automatically considered
 - ISBE and CPS will provide data set to prepopulate rosters for Class of 2023 in GAP Access in October 2022
- Private schools
 - Opt-in by uploading a senior roster anytime between November 2022 and July 2023
- ISAC will provide application match information on GAP access beginning the first week of November 2022
- Schools should monitor their school rosters and make any updates as necessary to ensure the most accurate and up-to-date enrollment information

3 Ways ISAC Supports You



Professional
Development



ISACorps



College
Changes
Everything
(CCE) Month
Campaign

Professional Development

- Virtual
 - Monthly webinars
 - Financial Aid Certification
 - Postsecondary and Career Expectations (PaCE)
- In-person
- Events
 - FAFSA Symposium
 - PaCE Symposium
- Training by Request
- Schedule and requests at www.isac.org/pd



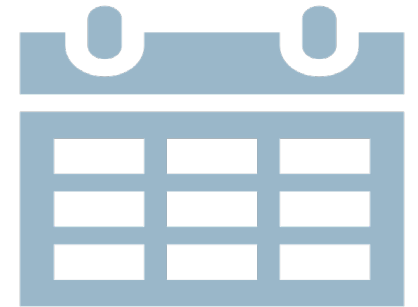
ISACorps

- Near-peer mentors throughout the state
- Offer one-on-one support to students and families
- College application completion
- Financial aid application completion
- Presentations
- Find your Corps member at www.isac.org/isacorps



CCE Month Campaign

- Free ISACorps support
 - College application activities
 - Financial aid application completion
- To be considered a CCE site for 2022
 - Host a financial aid application completion workshop and a college application workshop
 - Workshops must be held between Labor Day and Thanksgiving
- CCE Month Toolkit and sign up available at www.collegechangeseverything.org



Connect with Us!

isac.outreachtraining@illinois.gov

www.isac.org/pd



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Heather Lueken
School Counseling Principal Consultant
Illinois State Board of Education

FAFSA Graduation Requirement

- Public Act 101-0180 requires public high school students to complete a financial aid application as a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma
- Three ways to meet requirement
 - Complete a FAFSA
 - Complete an Alternative App
 - File a Nonparticipation Form (waiver)
 - Must be signed by a parent/guardian, or
 - Student, if 18 years old or emancipated

Purpose of the Requirement

- Completing a FAFSA is a strong predictor for postsecondary enrollment
- Intended to help students understand their postsecondary options
- Should not be perceived as an additional barrier – it is an **opportunity!**
 - Not intended to keep students from graduating
 - If student is unable to submit a FAFSA or waiver, a school principal can attest that a good faith effort was made to assist a student to submit an application or waiver
- Waivers should not be presented as the only option for compliance

Compliance with FAFSA Requirement



- ISBE is developing a submission plan for data reporting to ensure schools are in compliance
 - Plan will be available by end of October
 - Will be posted on ISBE website
- If you are not already participating in ISAC's FAFSA Completion Initiative, it is to your advantage to sign-up to use GAP Access
- GAP Access allows you to download a report that can be used to show compliance

Nonparticipation Form Page 1

- Explanation of the graduation requirement
- Student and parent information
- Certification statement
- Signature section

Nonparticipation Form Page 2

Outlines Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- Explanation of what the FAFSA is
- Benefits of filing a FAFSA
- FAFSA data protection
- How to get assistance

Changes to Nonparticipation Form



- Form will be updated each year to reflect new dates and program amounts (MAP, Pell)
- Each year, the new form will be made available no earlier than October 1st (same time as FAFSA and Alternative App)
- Changes to the 2022-23 Nonparticipation Form
 - **Added to certification/signature section:** I also understand that by not completing a FAFSA or Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid I will not be considered for the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP) Grant of up to \$7,200 or the Federal Pell Grant of up to \$6,895.
 - **Added to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): Question:** “If I submit the Nonparticipation Form, can I still file a financial aid application at a later time?” **Answer:** Yes! You can change your mind at any time. Submitting a Nonparticipation Form does not preclude you from submitting a FAFSA or Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid later.

Best Practices

- Keep Nonparticipation Form in student's permanent file
- Track Nonparticipation Forms in GAP Access
- Remind students they can change their mind, if they decide to file a FAFSA or Alternative App
- Send non-financial aid questions to fafsa@isbe.net

Thank you!



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