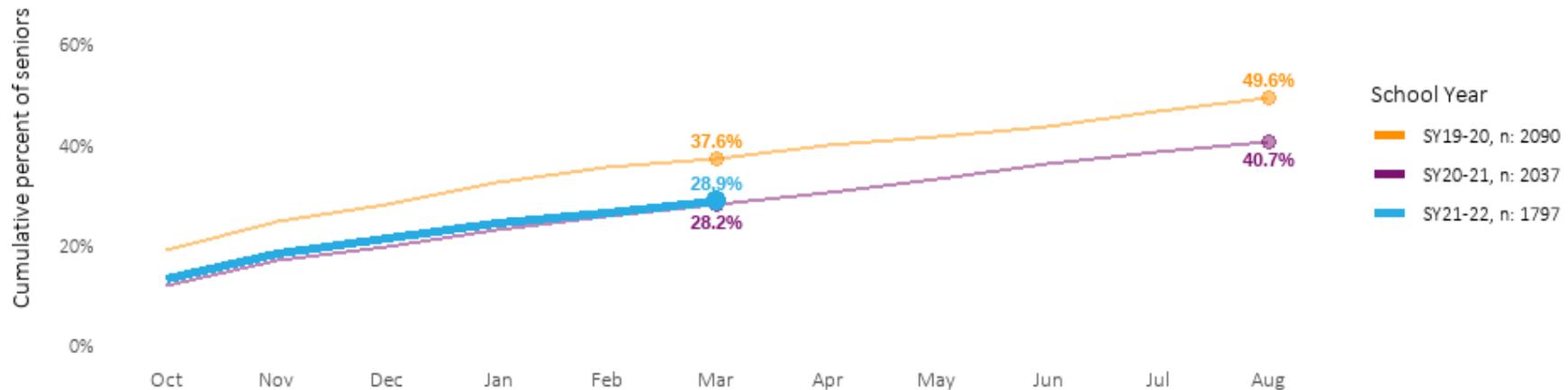


Tulsa Public Schools 2022-2027 Strategic Plan: Goal Monitoring Report

Interim Goal 3.3: Percentage of 12th grade students who complete FAFSA or other approved financial aid application will increase from 41% in 2020 to 70% in 2027.



Students of interest

- Seniors who were enrolled at the end of the school year are included in this measure.
- Seniors who do not complete the FAFSA, including students who are undocumented, are included through their completion of other approved financial aid applications.
- Students who complete other approved financial aid applications are only included if they did not also complete the FAFSA application.

Metric definition

- Students are eligible to begin filling out the free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) on October 1 of their senior year
- Other approved financial aid applications include institutional aid provided by colleges and career schools and private scholarships offered by businesses, foundations, etc.
- School years 19-20 and 20-21 include FAFSAs filled out from October of a student's senior year through the following August
- SY21-22 will be updated with data through August 2022 in this interim goal's next board monitoring report

Insights and anticipated next steps

Insights	Impact	Next Steps
<p>In our 2021 Senior Exit Survey, 45% of seniors surveyed indicated that the Covid-19 pandemic has affected their postsecondary plans. Affordability was one of the top stated concerns.</p>	<p>Since the start of the pandemic, we've seen a decrease in the completion of the FAFSA and other approved financial aid applications. This is a national trend.</p>	<p>We are designing a communication campaign to help families and students understand the importance of financial aid, how to complete the applications, and where they can go to get help. Another goal is to show students that postsecondary training opportunities can be within reach if they take advantage of available aid.</p>
<p>Tracking other approved financial aid is difficult due to the numerous scholarships available to students and the lack of a centralized system to monitor them.</p>	<p>This year, seniors were asked to self report these applications.</p>	<p>We are working on a way to track and monitor the other approved financial aid applications that will provide reliable data and allow counselors to better support students in their search for postsecondary funding.</p>

Percentage of 12th grade students who completed FAFSA or other approved financial aid application, breakdowns by category

Ethnicity	Mid-year SY19-20		Mid-year SY20-21		Mid-year SY21-22	
	%	n	%	n	%	n
African American	37.3%	233	25.8%	143	27.2%	128
Asian	64.9%	24	50.0%	17	54.8%	23
Hispanic/Latinx	29.1%	212	20.0%	142	20.0%	131
Multiracial	40.3%	60	32.9%	52	28.9%	43
Native American	42.9%	36	33.7%	35	28.2%	24
Pacific Islander	*	*	*	*	*	*
White	49.8%	220	39.5%	185	41.4%	167

Multilingual Learner	Mid-year SY19-20		Mid-year SY20-21		Mid-year SY21-22	
	%	n	%	n	%	n
Former	35.9%	156	26.6%	111	28.5%	119
No	42.6%	584	32.8%	444	33.4%	384
Yes	17.2%	45	7.5%	20	6.0%	15

IEP Status	Mid-year SY19-20		Mid-year SY20-21		Mid-year SY21-22	
	%	n	%	n	%	n
No	42.7%	711	31.1%	523	32.2%	479
Yes	18.4%	74	14.5%	52	11.8%	39

Economically Disadvantaged	Mid-year SY19-20		Mid-year SY20-21		Mid-year SY21-22	
	%	n	%	n	%	n
No	48.1%	286	43.3%	206	40.2%	233
Yes	33.9%	499	23.6%	369	23.2%	285

Quadrant	Mid-year SY19-20		Mid-year SY20-21		Mid-year SY21-22	
	%	n	%	n	%	n
1	40.8%	198	28.9%	120	28.7%	100
2	35.0%	168	26.4%	112	22.2%	93
3	31.6%	186	23.3%	145	22.4%	120
4	44.3%	204	34.0%	176	40.2%	187
Out of District	52.7%	29	40.7%	22	36.7%	18

Gender	Mid-year SY19-20		Mid-year SY20-21		Mid-year SY21-22	
	%	n	%	n	%	n
Female	45.7%	451	35.2%	365	34.3%	309
Male	30.9%	334	21.0%	210	22.8%	209

*n sizes less than 10 have been removed to protect individual student data

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The FAFSA and why it matters

The FAFSA is the application through which eligibility for federal student financial aid is assessed. Through the FAFSA, students can gain access to postsecondary education funding including grants, loans, and work-study programs. While submitting the FAFSA does not guarantee that a student will receive federal aid, *failing* to submit the FAFSA usually pushes postsecondary education, including job training, beyond reach. This is why completing the FAFSA is one of the single most important steps that most seniors can take to finance postsecondary educational options. The FAFSA is also widely used by colleges and private scholarship providers as a means to assess financial need for their awards. And most important to our students, Oklahoma also uses the FAFSA to determine eligibility for state aid including the Oklahoma Promise scholarship.

FAFSA-eligible and ineligible students

Students who are citizens and eligible non-citizens can complete the FAFSA. Eligible non-citizens include US nationals, permanent residents, and individuals with an arrival-departure record.

The FAFSA cannot be completed by undocumented students including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients. This makes FAFSA a necessary-but-insufficient tool and planning step for Tulsa Public School seniors. Tulsa Public Schools is working to address this federally imposed limit by identifying and connecting impacted students to available scholarship programs to help cover the costs of postsecondary education.

Promising Practices

- **FAFSA Support Plan** - This year, school counseling teams have collaborated with the college and career advisors to create FAFSA Support Plans. These plans include current FAFSA completion rates, desired goals, and actionable steps to get there. Many of these support plans included targeted outreach to students who began but did not complete the application, information sessions, and one-on-one support.
- **In-Person Assistance to Complete Applications**- We are working on consistently providing timely information to families and students about the importance of financial aid and in-person help with completing applications. Recently, we have been seeing an increase in touchpoints that result in students completing the FAFSA and scholarship applications in our buildings.
- **Supporting Conditions for FAFSA Completion**- Most students applying for FAFSA will be required to include parental tax information so we are working to connect families with community partners that provide tax preparation support. We are also providing timely reminders about the connection between taxes and the FAFSA so that our parents of juniors can begin preparing for their FAFSA window now.