

SOUTH DAKOTA
JULY 2021

2021-22 FAFSA COMPLETIONS



POLICY CHANGES TO SELECTIVE SERVICE AND DRUG CONVICTION QUESTIONS ON FAFSA

Students completing the FAFSA for the next couple of years will see questions about Selective Service and drug convictions, but no matter how students answer the questions, it will not impact their financial aid.

The U.S. Department of Education is implementing some new rules that were part of the FAFSA Simplification Act that was passed by Congress in December 2020. The Act allowed the Department of Education to remove the answers to those questions when considering a student's eligibility for federal financial aid.

FAFSA COMPLETIONS INCREASE

The number of FAFSA completions in South Dakota has increased 2 percent this year compared to the same time last year. South Dakota now has the 4th highest increase of any state, a significant achievement as recovery from the pandemic continues.

South Dakota is also doing well in the percentage of 2021 seniors who completed the FAFSA. With 54 percent of 2021 high school seniors completing the FAFSA, South Dakota ranks 19th among all states. Nationally, FAFSA completions dropped 5.1 percent as of July 2, 2021 compared to the same time last year.



TOP SCHOOLS

These South Dakota schools have increased FAFSA completion the most when comparing this school year to last year:

- Corsica-Stickney High School - 133.3%
- Alcester-Hudson High School - 128.6%
- Plankinton High School - 128.6%
- Bridgewater Emery High School - 125%
- Red Cloud - 125%