

## Your Question:

You asked for information related to states that mandate FAFSA completion as a high school graduation requirement.

## Our Response:

There have been several initiatives at both the federal and state levels to boost the completion of the FAFSA in recent years. In 2014, the U.S. Department of Education launched the [FAFSA Completion Initiative](#), which led several states to develop programs and initiatives to support FAFSA completion. **Minnesota's** [Office of Higher Education](#) (OHE) began participating in this federal initiative in the 2016-17 academic year, using a web portal that allows participating schools and districts to review students' FAFSA completion progress. **Nebraska's** [Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education](#) also participated in the FAFSA Completion Initiative, which allowed the commission to provide FAFSA completion information to school districts, high schools and other designated entities. Over the last few years, states have begun efforts to mandate FAFSA completion as a graduation requirement in addition to initiatives encouraging the practice.

In the 2021-22 state legislative sessions, 13 states have considered 14 bills related to enacting completion of the FAFSA as a high school graduation requirement. During this session, **Colorado** [enacted](#) an option for local education agencies to adopt a requirement and receive grant funding to support FAFSA completion efforts. Overall, only one state, **Louisiana** has [implemented](#) a statewide requirement mandating FAFSA completion. [Alabama](#), [California](#), [Illinois](#) and [Texas](#) have enacted a statewide FAFSA requirement, but those requirements have yet to be implemented. States that have proposed or enacted mandatory FAFSA requirements have generally provided waivers to allow students to opt out of mandatory FAFSA completion under certain circumstances. Learn more about specific state efforts in our [FAFSA for Graduation series](#) on Ed Note.

## State Examples

The following legislation highlights state action since the start of 2022 regarding mandatory FAFSA completion for high school graduation.

### **Florida**

[H.B. 979](#) would establish a requirement for the completion of the FAFSA as a high school graduation requirement beginning in the 2022-23 school year for students entering grade nine.

### **Kentucky**

[H.B. 126](#) would establish a requirement for the completion of the FAFSA as a high school graduation requirement beginning in the 2023-24 school year.

### **New York**

[S. 5409](#) would establish a requirement for the completion of the FAFSA as a high school graduation requirement.

## Oklahoma

[H.B. 3507](#) would establish a task force to study the feasibility of mandating FAFSA completion as a high school requirement.