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PRESS RELEASE  
Florida College Access Network  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wednesday, March 25, 2020

## **FAFSA Challenge deadline extended through end of April**

*The new deadline is Friday, April 24*

We understand that due to the constantly changing nature of COVID-19, students may need more time and support completing their FAFSA as part of the [Florida FAFSA Challenge](#), especially now that support is virtual. We want to provide high schools and districts with more time to adapt to their new environment.

Therefore, the FAFSA Challenge will be extended through the end of April.

The new deadline for the FAFSA Challenge is **Friday, April 24**. Through this extension, every school and county's FAFSA data will continue to be compared to data from March 29, 2019.

Virtual resources can help students complete their FAFSA. The Federal Student Aid YouTube channel offers free [step-by-step tutorials](#) as well as other helpful [videos](#). The department also offers helpful [answers for coronavirus-related questions](#).

The highest-performing schools and districts in the following categories will receive awards and public recognition:

1. **MVP** (highest completion rate through April 24, 2020)
2. **Most Improved** (compared to previous year through April 24, 2020)

We will also recognize "**FAFSA Champions**," which includes all schools and districts that increase their FAFSA completion rate by at least 5% compared to last school year.

The FAFSA Challenge Dashboard and FAFSA Leaderboard will continue to be updated weekly through this FAFSA Challenge extension.

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To learn more about the [Florida FAFSA Challenge](#) and how your school can gain recognition, and possibly a trophy, visit our [Florida Initiatives page](#) for access to our toolkit, resources, email list and much more. If you have any questions regarding the Florida FAFSA Challenge, contact [LaVerne Handfield](#), FCAN's Statewide Programs Coordinator.

### **About Florida College Access Network**

Florida College Access Network (FCAN) is Florida's first collaborative network committed to ensuring all Floridians have the opportunity to achieve an education beyond high school and prosper in Florida's dynamic economy. Our mission is to create and sustain a statewide network that catalyzes and supports communities to increase college and career preparation, access, and completion for all Florida students. For more information, visit [floridacollegeaccess.org](http://floridacollegeaccess.org).

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