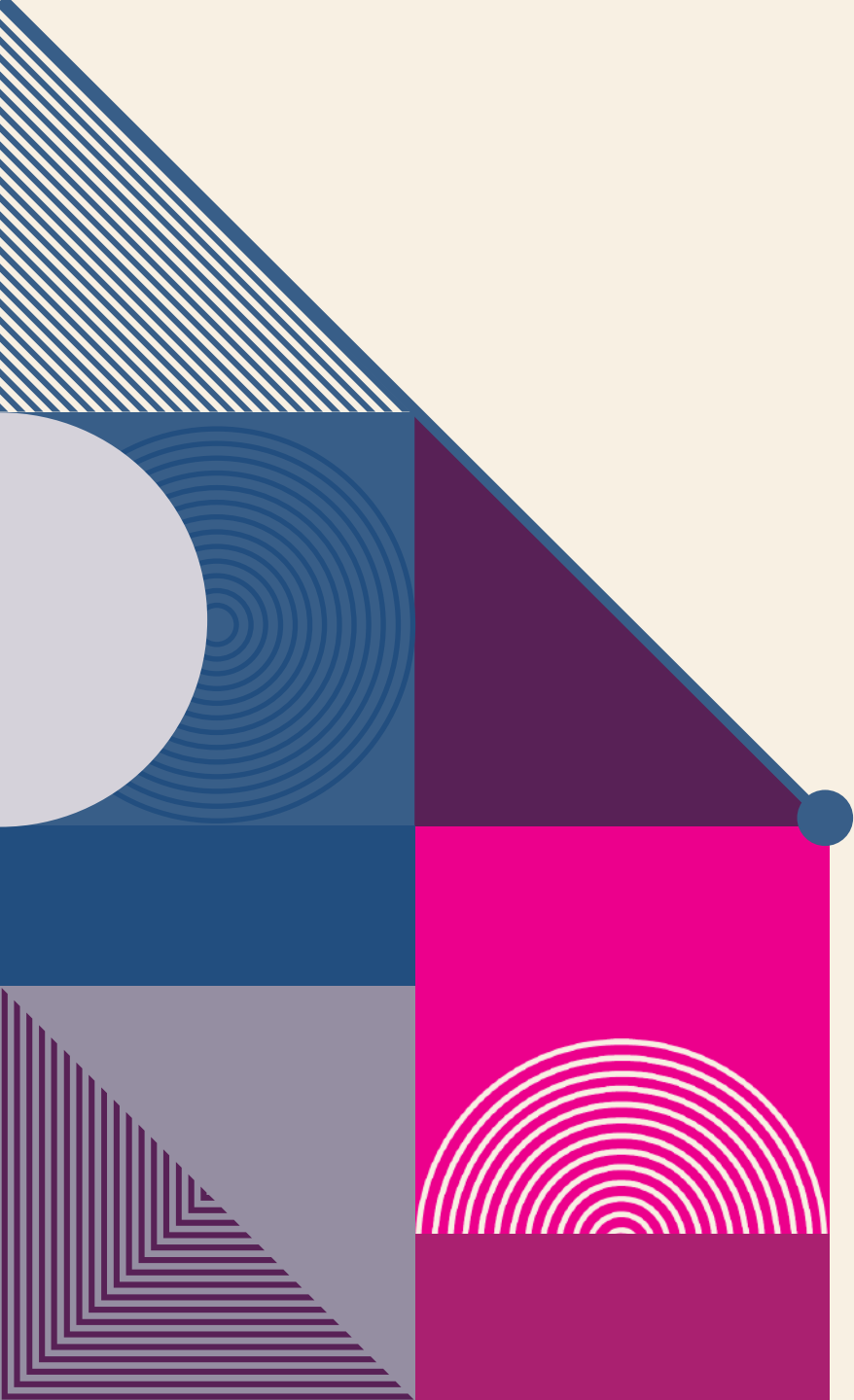




# **BREAKOUT SESSION 1A: TWO SUCCESSFUL STATE APPROACHES TO FAFSA COMPLETION PRESENTATION**

Wednesday, June 12, 2024  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT  
Avenue Ballroom



# AGENDA

Introduction

Illinois' Approach

Tennessee's Approach

Panel Discussion

Audience Q & A

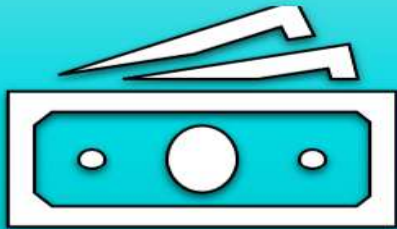


# ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

# ABOUT ISAC



“Providing Illinois students with information and assistance to help make education beyond high school accessible and affordable”



We administer scholarships and grants to students across the State of Illinois



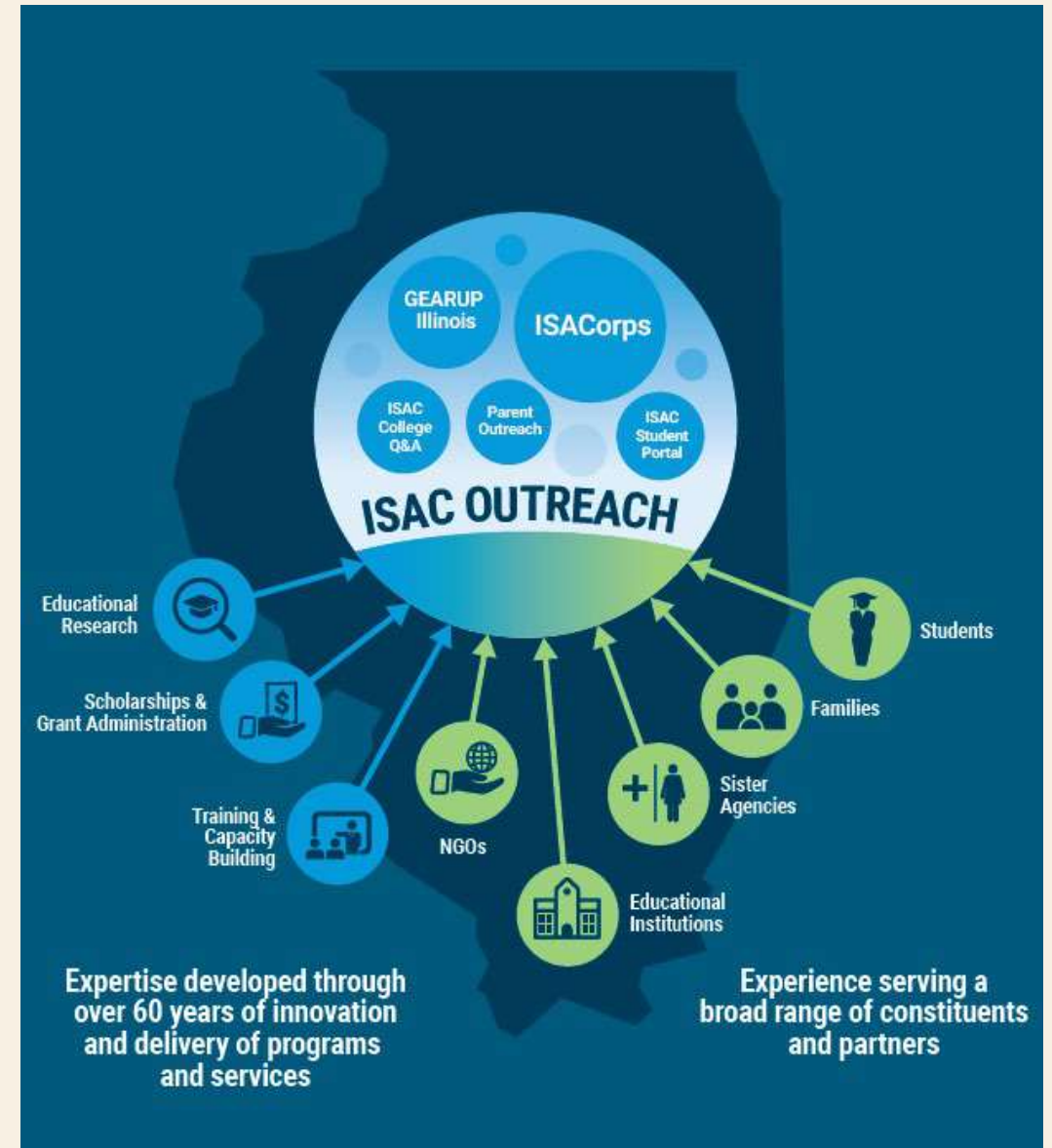
We provide professional development offerings on navigating the financial aid process, resources and support for underrepresented students, and understanding student loan repayment/forgiveness programs

# FINANCIAL AID STATE PROGRAMS AND SUPPORTS

GRANT  
PROGRAMS

SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAMS

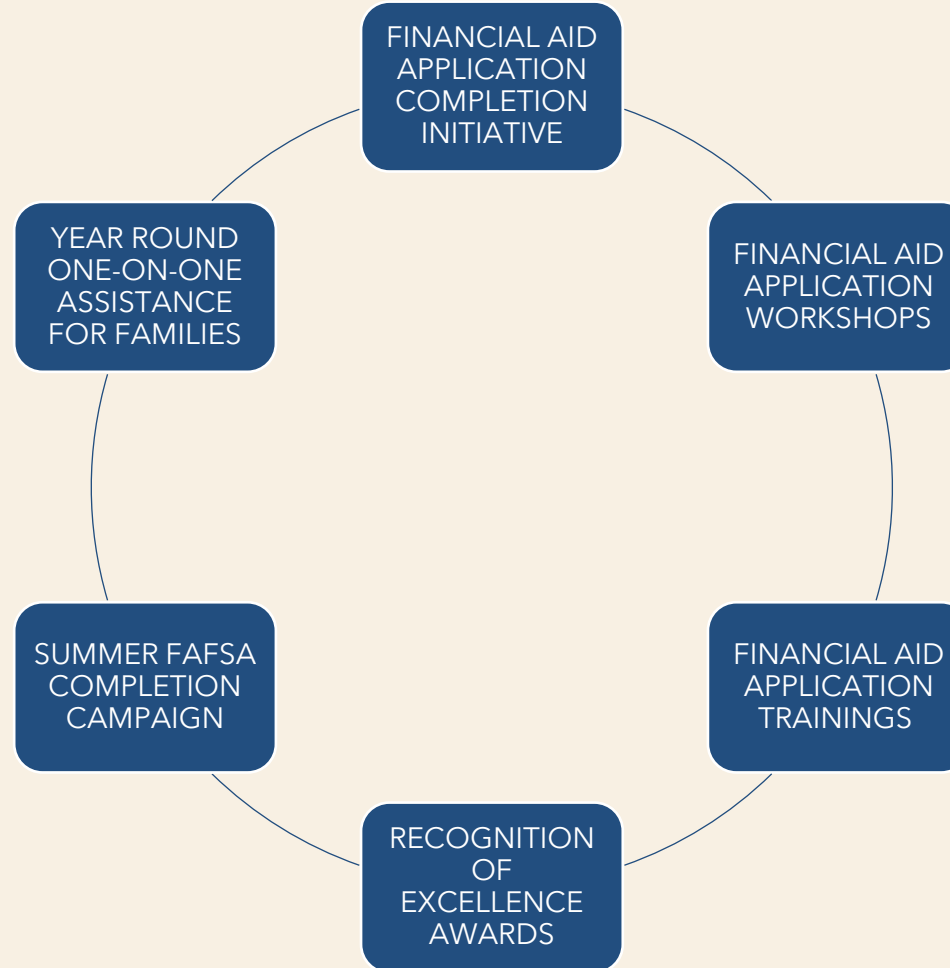
LOAN  
REPAYMENT  
PROGRAMS



# THE UNIVERSAL FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA®) COMPLETION POLICY

- Illinois became the second state to adopt the policy
- Each state determines how the criteria for the policy and how it is implemented
- Illinois' policy took effect in the 2020-21 school year
- We were the only state for the 21-22 FAFSA cycle to have an increase in completion rates
  - Before our policy took effect, our completion rate was in the 60% range

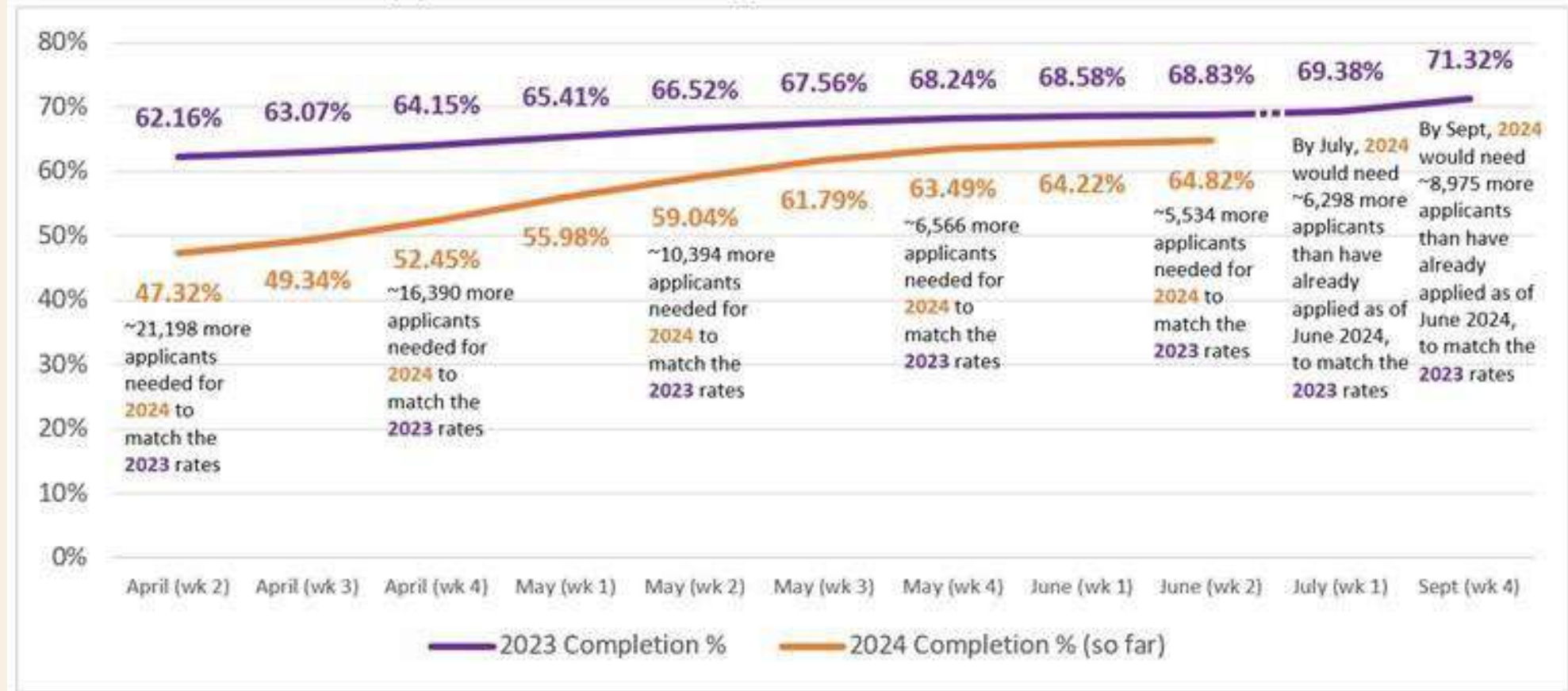
# FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION COMPLETION SUPPORTS





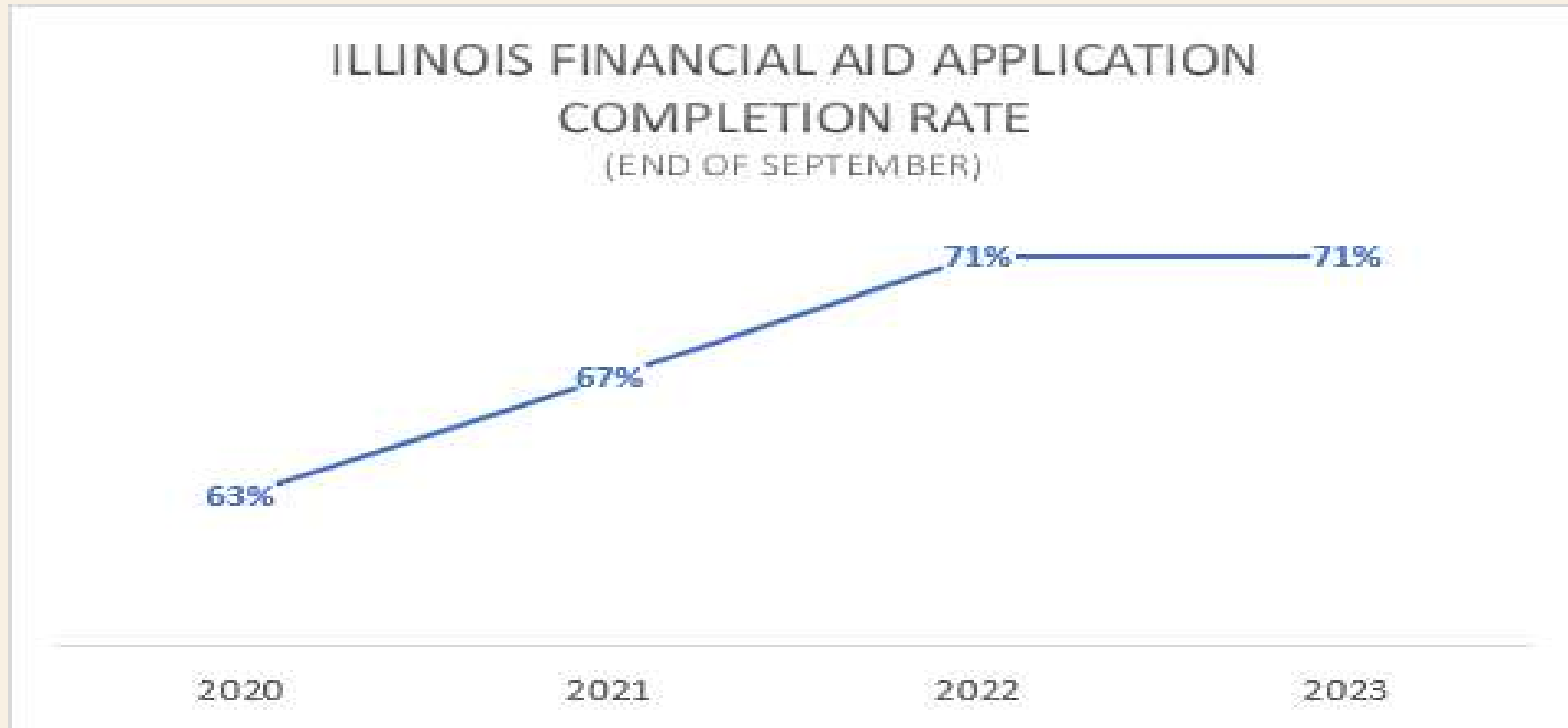
# FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION COMPLETION RATES

Financial Aid Application Completion Rates for 2023 and 2024





# FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION COMPLETION IN REVIEW





# TENNESSEE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

**THEC  TSAC**

# TIMELINE

**1976:** TSAA

**2003:** HOPE Scholarship

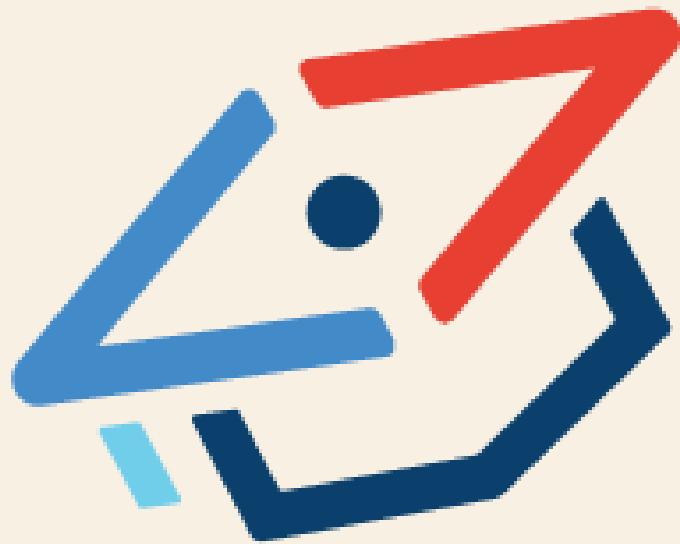
**2015:** Tennessee Promise

**2017:** Tennessee Reconnect



# COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAMS





TN  
FAFSA  
FRENZY



# PANEL DISCUSSION





# WHAT'S THE STRATEGY TOWARDS BUILDING A CULTURE OF FAFSA COMPLETION?



WHO WERE THE PRIME  
MOVERS FOR HAVING A  
STATEWIDE FAFSA  
COMPLETION STRATEGY?



WHAT IS YOUR CAPACITY &  
FUNDING IN YOUR  
AGENCY?

HOW CAN SMALLER STATES  
REPLICATE THE INITIATIVES  
YOUR AGENCY HAS BEEN  
MOVING?



WHAT ARE SOME OF THE  
ELEMENTS OF YOUR WORK  
THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO ITS  
SUCCESS?



HOW HAVE DIFFERENT  
AUDIENCES IN YOUR  
STATES REACTED TO  
FAFSA POLICIES?





HOW DID YOU BUILD A  
GRASSROOTS NETWORK  
OF PRACTITIONERS?



WHAT CHANGED IN YOUR  
APPROACH TO FAFSA  
COMPLETION DURING THE  
2024-25 AWARD YEAR?





# AUDIENCE Q & A



# THANK YOU!

## ILLINOIS

Eddie Brambila  
eddie.brambila@illinois.gov

Ana Moya  
Ana.Moya@illinois.gov

## TENNESSEE

Jessie Greene  
jessie.greene@tn.gov

Jason Seay  
jason.seay@tn.gov