

1 AN ACT relating to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 158 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) For purposes of this section, "FAFSA" means the Free Application for Federal*
6 *Student Aid.*

7 *(2) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, to graduate from a Kentucky public*
8 *high school with a regular diploma, a student in his or her final year of high*
9 *school shall:*

10 *(a) Complete and submit the FAFSA for the school year following graduation;*

11 *(b) On a form created by the local school district, file a signed noncompletion*
12 *waiver with the student's high school indicating that the parent or guardian*
13 *of the student, or the student if he or she is at least eighteen (18) years old*
14 *or legally emancipated, understands what the FAFSA form is and has*
15 *chosen not to file an application; or*

16 *(c) Be granted a waiver in accordance with subsection (3) of this section.*

17 *(3) If a student is not able to fulfill the requirements of subsection (2)(a) or (b) of this*
18 *section due to circumstances in accordance with a policy developed by the local*
19 *board of education under subsection (4) of this section, the local superintendent,*
20 *principal, or school counselor shall grant a waiver to the student.*

21 *(4) Each local board of education shall develop policies and procedures to assist*
22 *students in completing the requirements of this section.*

23 *(5) Each local school district shall provide:*

24 *(a) One (1) or more opportunities each school year for families to participate in*
25 *a workshop or event hosted outside of school hours to assist families in*
26 *completing the FAFSA;*

27 *(b) Educational programming and information during the months of October*

1 and November, and throughout the school year as possible, to encourage
2 students to complete the FAFSA; and

3 (c) One (1) or more opportunities for professional development for school
4 counselors on the FAFSA process and benefits.

5 (6) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, by October 1 of each year, and
6 throughout the school year as needed, every public high school shall report data
7 to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority on every potential
8 graduate for the school year. The data shall contain each potential graduate's
9 first and last name, Social Security number, birthdate, and any other information
10 required by the authority to fulfill the requirements of this section. The authority
11 shall provide each high school FAFSA submission and completion data for the
12 school's potential graduates on at least a monthly basis throughout the school
13 year.

14 (7) By June 30, 2025, and each June 30 thereafter, each local school district shall
15 provide data to the Kentucky Department of Education on the number of
16 potential graduates who:

17 (a) Completed the FAFSA or a noncompletion waiver under subsection (2) of
18 this section; or

19 (b) Were granted a district waiver pursuant to subsection (3) of this section.