

Media Contact:  
John Ceballos  
(813) 974-8606  
[jceballos@floridacollegeaccess.org](mailto:jceballos@floridacollegeaccess.org)

PRESS RELEASE  
Florida College Access Network  
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, ALN 190  
Tampa, FL 33620



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **FCAN Announces 2019 Florida FAFSA Challenge Winners!**

*Florida seniors qualify for an estimated \$143 million in Pell Grant dollars to help pay for college*

Florida College Access Network (FCAN) is excited to announce the winners of the [2019 Florida FAFSA Challenge](#), a statewide campaign to increase the proportion of high school seniors completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Through the end of March, 72 schools representing 27 counties increased the percentage of seniors who completed the FAFSA by at least 5% over last year. As a result, Florida seniors qualify for [an estimated \\$143 million in Pell Grant dollars](#).

Districts and schools in Miami-Dade, Seminole, Sumter, Orange, Escambia, Brevard, and Taylor counties won top honors as the highest performers. Links to the [Florida FAFSA Challenge Dashboard](#) and FAFSA completion data for all schools and districts — including [all those that exceeded the 5% goal](#) — are available. You can also view the [FAFSA Challenge Leaderboard](#), which includes all of the trophy winners listed below.

### ***“MVP” (Have the highest FAFSA completion rate through March 29, 2019)***

Large School: Coral Reef Senior High School, Miami, Miami-Dade County  
Medium School: Terra Environmental Research Institute, Miami, Miami-Dade County  
Small School: School For Advanced Studies – South, Miami, Miami-Dade County  
Large District: Seminole County Public Schools  
Small District: Sumter School District

### ***“Most improved” (Improved FAFSA completion rate the most, compared to last year, through March 29, 2019)***

Large School: Maynard Evans High, Orlando, Orange County  
Medium School: Washington Senior High School, Pensacola, Escambia County  
Small School: Odyssey Charter School, Palm Bay, Brevard County  
Large District: Escambia County School District  
Small District: Taylor School District

— more —

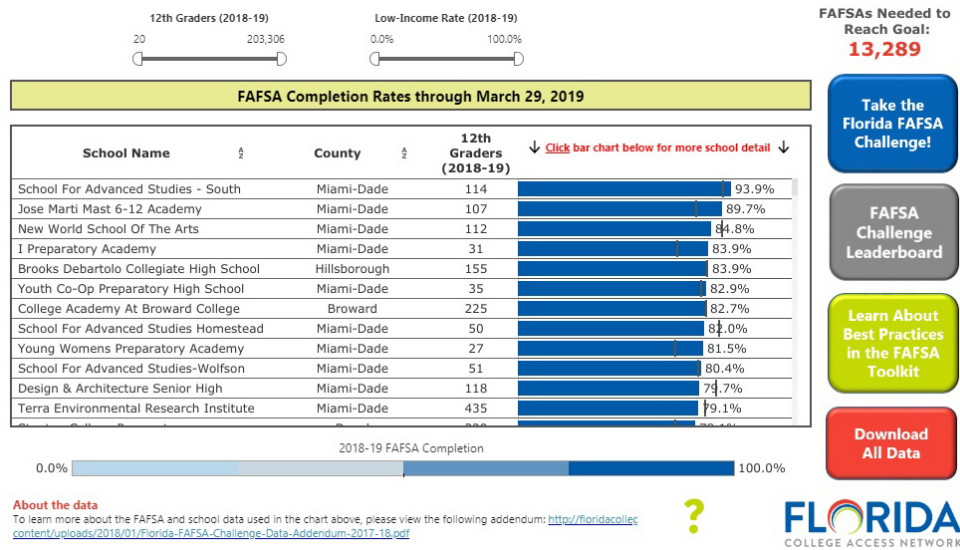
The “MVP” and “Most Improved” winners will be honored during an Awards Luncheon on May 8 at the [2019 Florida College Access Network Summit](#).

### *How did your school or district do?*

Curious about how your school or district fared in the Florida FAFSA Challenge? You can find out on FCAN’s [Florida FAFSA Challenge Dashboard](#), which includes data for over 600 public schools in the state.

The dashboard also allows users to view school, district, and state-level FAFSA completion rates using nine different filters and search options.

*Chart: FAFSA completion among 12th graders attending Florida public schools*



*Click image to view FAFSA completion rate data for all public schools in Florida*

The Florida FAFSA Challenge is part of [College Ready Florida](#), a suite of statewide initiatives designed to build a college-going culture and help all students — especially low-income students — continue their educations beyond high school.

FCAN applauds all schools and districts that committed to helping more graduating high school seniors access financial aid for college and congratulates those that boosted their FAFSA completion rates this year!

## **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).