Washington Completes FAFSA Campaign

Washington Student Achievement Council

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Washington Completes FAFSA Campaign

- Executive Order: Advisory Board convened by the Governor's Office, led by WSAC.
- Align and coordinate statewide FAFSA/WASFA completion efforts.
- *Your Future, Funded* spring initiative to encourage non-filers to complete before the end of the school year.
- Week of April 20-24, 2026: Financial Aid Completion Week Proclamation.

Governors Executive Order 2025
https://dub.link/EO2025

Advisory Board Members

Collin Bannister	• WSU - Pullman • WA Student Assoc. President
Geraldine Donovan	• Seattle Preparatory School • Sophomore
Sienna Jarrard	• UW-Bothell • WA Student Assoc. Member
Railey Lamb	• Kennewick High School • Junior
Nashua Johnley	• Toppenish High School • Senior
Sarah Everitt	• Gonzaga University • Dean of Student Financial Services
Carol Garza	• College Succes Foundation • Executive Director- Yakima
Lilia Hueso	• Moses Lake High School • School Counselor
Damien Pattenaude	• Renton School District • Superintendent
Bish Paul	• Gates Foundation • Senior Program Officer
Susan Rose	• Quincy High School • Assistant Principal
Alyson Rotter	• Olympic College • Associate Dean-K-12 Partnerships
Domanic Vanthom	• WSU-Vancouver • Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
Becky Wallace	• OSPI • Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education and Pathway Preparation

Targeted Goals for This Year's Campaign

Our Goal: Increase financial aid completion across WA High School Seniors

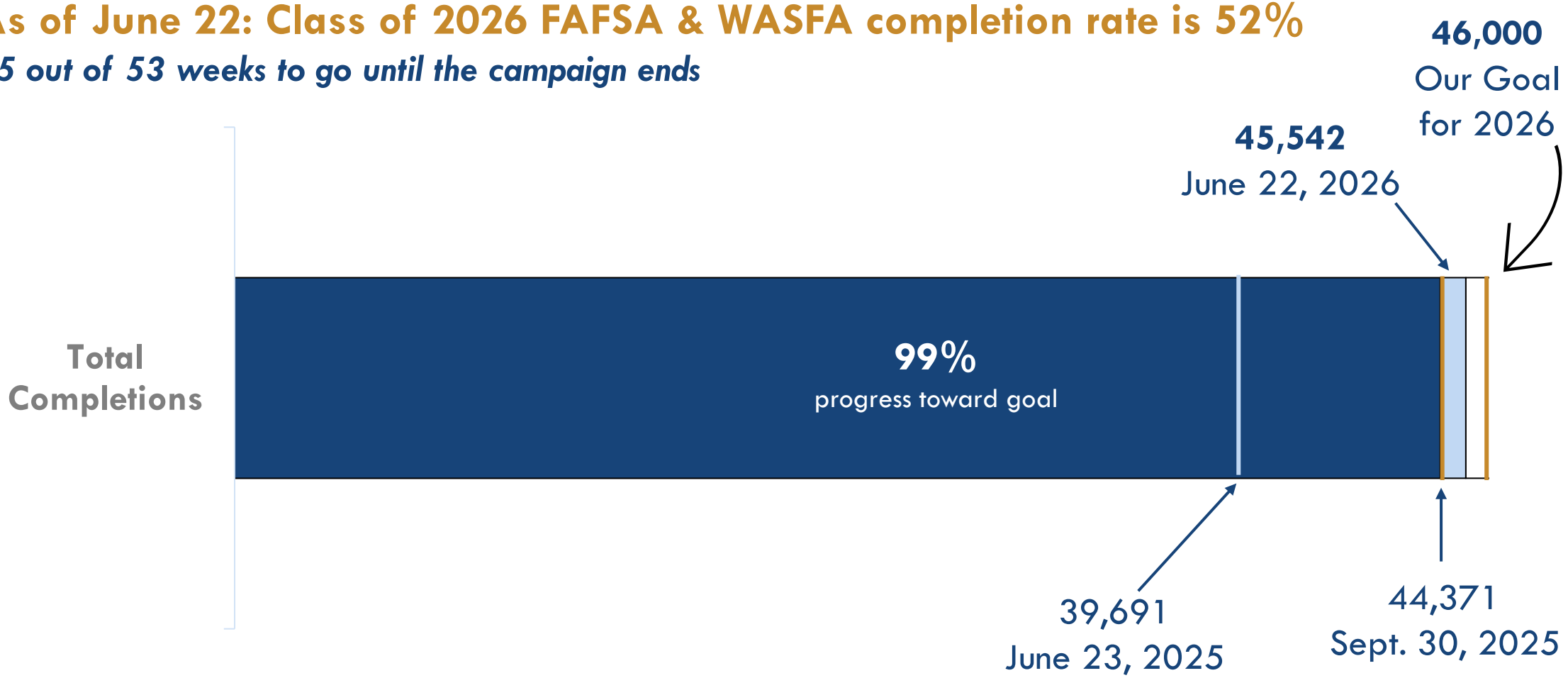
I	Ensure 46,000 seniors complete the FAFSA or WASFA
II	Raise FRPL-eligible student completion by at least 6% or more in at least 150 high schools
III	Close the gap in FAFSA completions between FRPL and non-FRPL students
IV	Reduce disparities in FAFSA completion rates, especially among those from underrepresented racial/ethnic groups

Goals

We are less than 500 away from meeting our goal

As of June 22: Class of 2026 FAFSA & WASFA completion rate is 52%

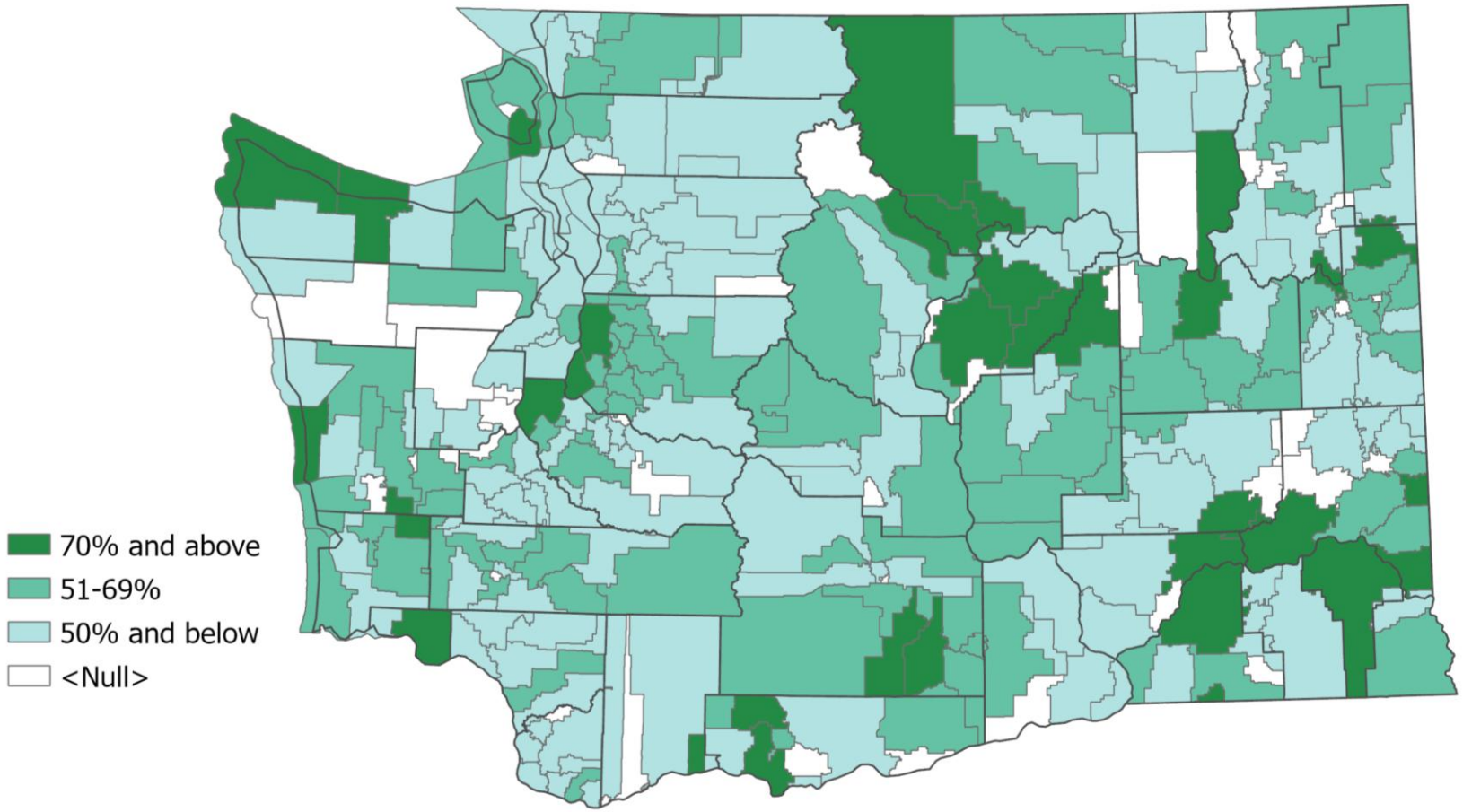
15 out of 53 weeks to go until the campaign ends



As of Today

Source: WSAC Administrative Data: 6.12.26

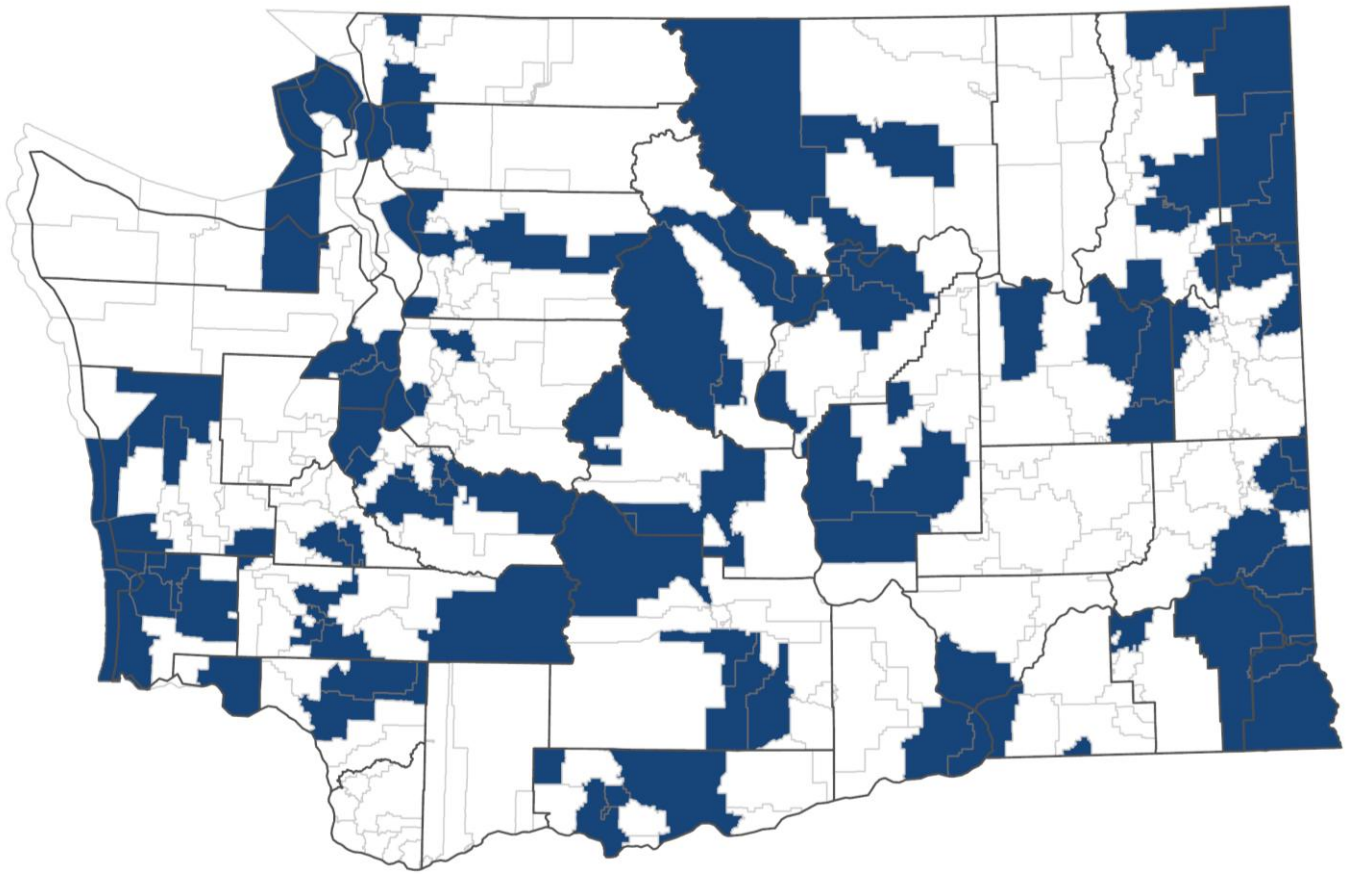
In over 130 school districts, more than half of students have completed the FAFSA



Source: WSAC Administrative Data: 6.15.26

Regional Insights

Over 100 school districts have achieved a 6% increase in FRPL FAFSA completion



Regional Insights

Source: WSAC Administrative Data: 6.15.26

What's Working

Governor's support and Advisory Board

Legislative interest and outreach

Expanded partnerships

Additional support for high needs schools

Targeted messaging and marketing

New resources, training, and event support

Improved DSA and portal account creation process

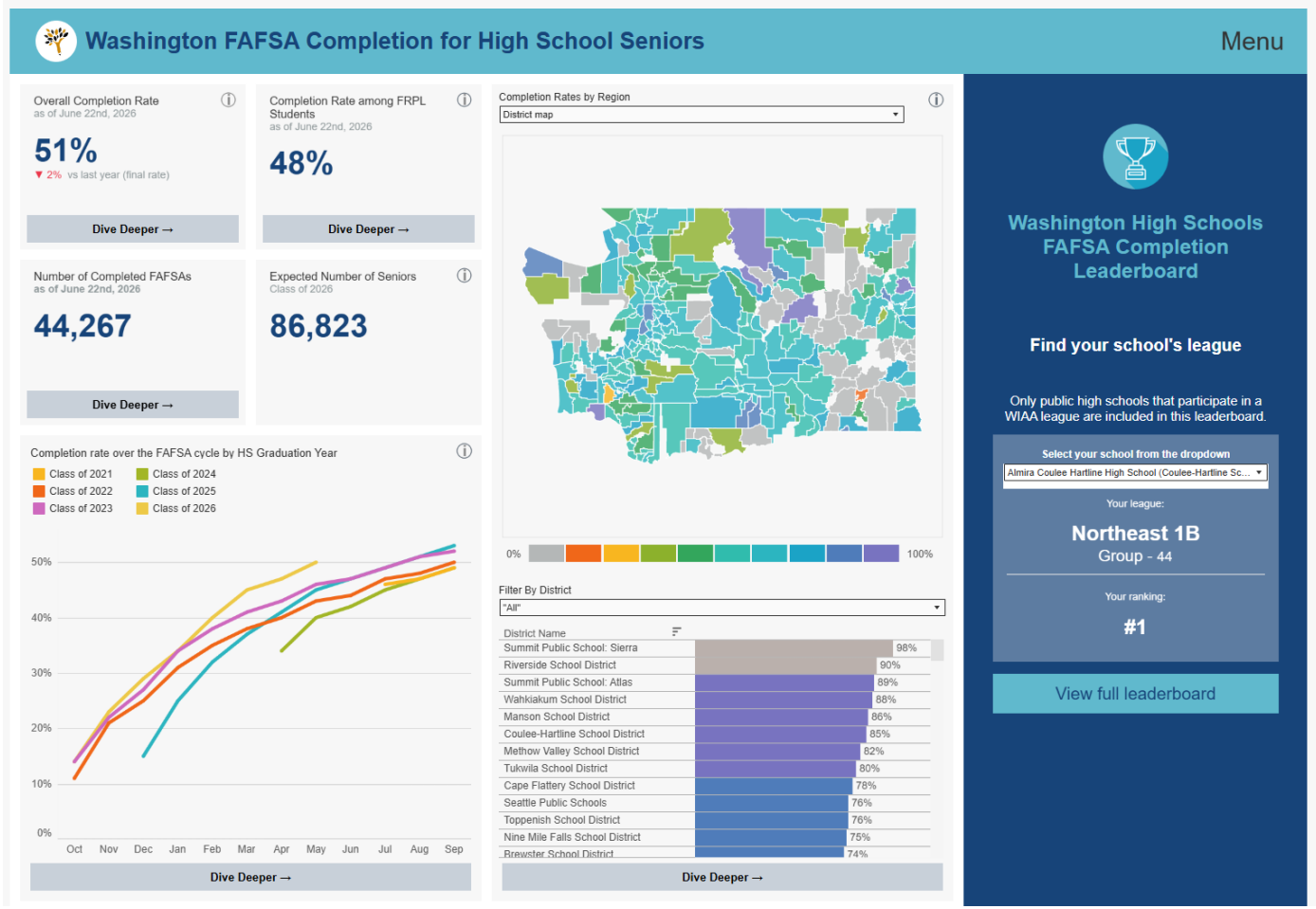
New dashboard and WIAA leaderboard

Your Future, Funded

Strategy Highlight

Using Data for Action and Impact

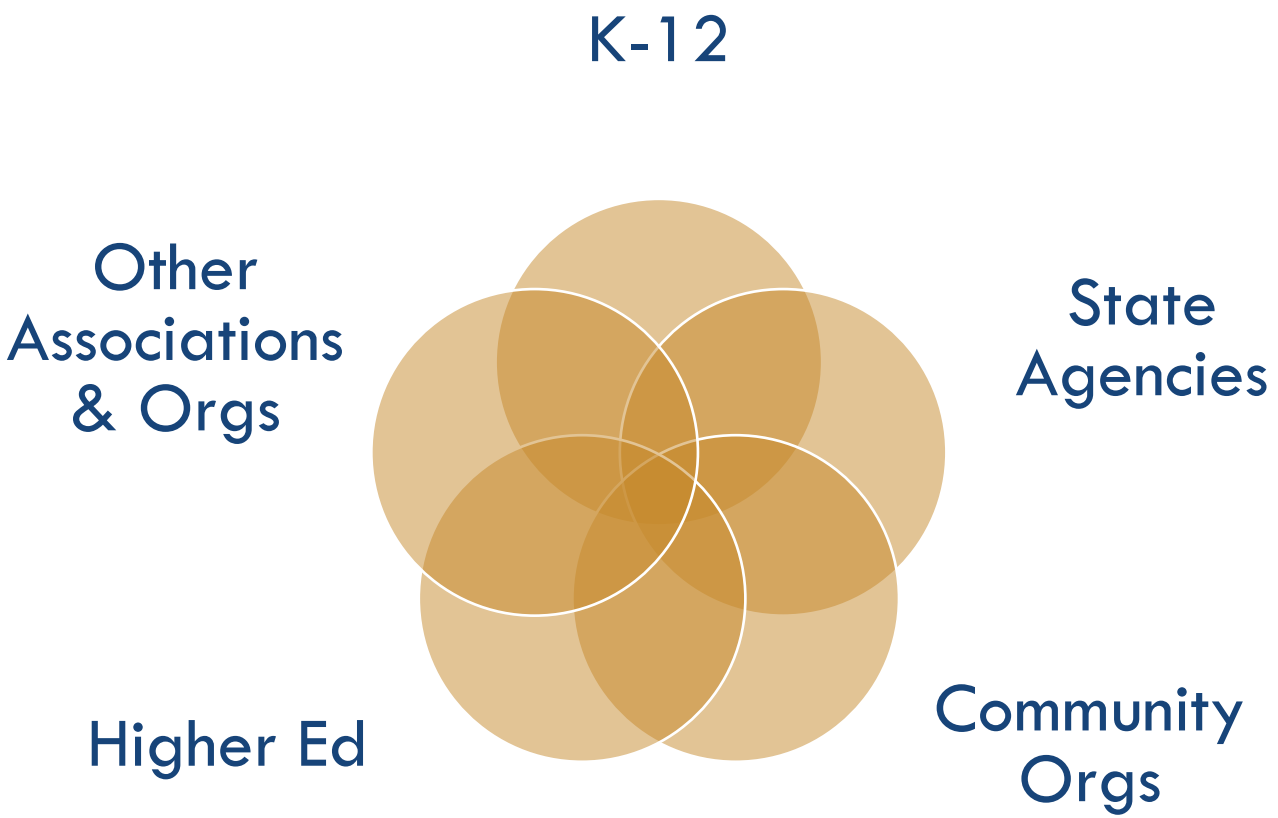
- **Targeted Student Support.** Multiple data views can be used for targeted outreach and student support
- **Coordinated Action.** Regional data can assist with local coordination and action
- **Focus on equity.** Data views allow for supporting specific populations who may need more assistance
- **Continuous Improvement.** Focus on continuous improvement (i.e., multiple years of data)
- **Peer Learning.** WIAA leaderboard provides data for friendly competition and peer learning opportunities



Dashboard

www.wsac.wa.gov/fafsa-completion

Partnerships Are Critical to Success



Partnering

Lessons Learned So Far

- The "why" matters as much as the "how" - and that starts earlier than senior year.
- 1:1 support from trusted messengers is key – but capacity at many schools and community organizations remains strained.
- Supporting families to complete application steps is key.

Lessons Learned

Why This Matters and How To Engage With the Campaign

Financial aid completion is a gateway to opportunity

By helping more students access financial aid, WA can advance

- Postsecondary enrollment
- Educational attainment
- Workforce readiness
- Economic competitiveness

How the WTB can support financial aid completion

- Share opportunities to connect financial aid work to broader workforce and attainment strategies
- Connect those in your network to the campaign

To connect, email SarahWe@wsac.wa.gov

Opportunity

THANK YOU

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