

FAFSA Completions Down In MO: How St. Louis Area Schools Compare

See how college aid applications changed for St. Louis area high schools.

ST. LOUIS, MO — Among the many disruptions caused by the pandemic is a decline in the number of students filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which is used to apply for college financial aid.

FAFSA form completions are often seen as a harbinger of future enrollment. The decline of applications this year, especially among low-income students, has some experts worried.

"This year is clawing back relative to last year, but it's still not a good FAFSA completion situation," said Bill DeBaun, director of data and evaluation for the National College Attainment Network.



Nationally, the total number of FAFSA completions is down 6.7 percent through the week ending April 9 compared with the same date last year; there were 1.88 million applications last year compared with 1.75 million this year.

There has been improvement in recent weeks and the situation is looking more optimistic compared to the fall; in November 2020 there was a year-over-year percent drop of 16.8 percent in FAFSA completions. The decline in FAFSA applications is owing largely to the coronavirus pandemic, DeBaun said. The high school senior class of 2021 experienced disruption for part of its junior year and all of its senior year, including restricted access to high school-based help with completion of FAFSA forms.

School: HAZELWOOD EAST HIGH

District: HAZELWOOD

Municipality: ST LOUIS

- **Total FAFSA completions as of March 26, 2021:** 35
- **Total FAFSA completions as of March 26, 2020:** 89
- **Percent change:** -60.67
- **Title 1 status:** Title I schoolwide

FAFSA Completions Down In MO: How Florissant Area Schools Compare

See how college aid applications changed for Florissant area high schools.

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School: HAZELWOOD CENTRAL HIGH

District: HAZELWOOD

Municipality: FLORISSANT

- **Total FAFSA completions as of March 26, 2021:** 125
- **Total FAFSA completions as of March 26, 2020:** 140
- **Percent change:** -10.71
- **Title 1 status:** Title I schoolwide

FAFSA Completions Down In MO: How Hazelwood Area Schools Compare

See how college aid applications changed for Hazelwood area high schools.

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School: HAZELWOOD WEST HIGH

District: HAZELWOOD

Municipality: HAZELWOOD

- **Total FAFSA completions as of March 26, 2021:** 109
- **Total FAFSA completions as of March 26, 2020:** 184
- **Percent change:** -40.76
- **Title 1 status:** Not Title I schoolwide