



Planning Tools for Student Supports

Plan for Supporting Students with FAFSA

A list of supports from Kelly High School to assist students during the financial aid season.

Plan for Supporting Students with FAFSA

Sample from Kelly High School

1. Financial Aid Parent Night

Host financial aid information session for parents and students focused on FAFSA, scholarships, and resources for diverse students. Host separate sessions in English, Spanish, Cantonese, and for families of undocumented students.

2. FAFSA Workshop after School

Host FAFSA Workshops every Tuesday after school in January and February for parents, current students, and alumni. Partner with the Brighton Park Neighborhood Council (BPNC) and the Center for Economic Progress's free tax prep program to schedule workshop on the same day so parents can prepare their taxes and file their FAFSA in one trip.

3. FAFSA Application Week

Partner with our Career-To-Education Department to schedule classes for a "FAFSA Day." Teachers pass out the FAFSA checklist to students with necessary documents and promote their assigned completion date. School Counselors are scheduled to help all week in classes.

4. Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) Partnership

Require every School Counselor and Parent Connector to attend ISAC's FAFSA training in December. This way, they can provide on-call assistance to the Postsecondary Team during walk-ins and when we pull students who have not yet completed their FAFSA. Also, ask ISAC to present during our Financial Aid Parent Night. Finally, schedule ISAC Corps Member for three days a week to assist with FAFSA completion walk-ins and with pulling students who have not yet completed their FAFSA.

5. Ladder Up Partnership

Schedule a Ladder Up representative to 1) give an advisory presentation on FAFSA in December, 2) visit weekly advisory classes in January and February to assist with pulling students who have not filed their FAFSA, and 3) provide additional help on Tuesday evening FAFSA Workshops.