

Appendix A

Table 1A. State Promise Programs' Reliance on the FAFSA

State(s)	Use of FAFSA data ^a
Hawaii, Louisiana	Programs require the FAFSA and use EFC (via the FAFSA) to determine eligibility.
Washington (College Grant)	Program requires the FAFSA and uses income and family size (via the FAFSA) to determine eligibility.
Maryland, Mississippi	Programs require the FAFSA and use adjusted gross income and number of parents (via the FAFSA) to determine eligibility.
New Jersey, New York	Programs require the FAFSA and use adjusted gross income (via the FAFSA) alone.
Oklahoma, Indiana (21st Century Scholars), Washington (College Bound)	First-time applicants apply using tax returns; once in college, renewal requires the FAFSA.
Arkansas, Delaware, Nevada, Rhode Island, Tennessee (Promise and Reconnect), West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana (Workforce Ready Grant), Missouri ^b	FAFSA completion is required for participation, but FAFSA data does not affect the student's eligibility or award size.
California	Participants are not required by the state to complete the FAFSA (their institution may require it).

^a Some states allow exceptions to FAFSA requirements or provide alternative forms for students who are ineligible for Title IV aid.

^b It is worth noting that Missouri's program requests that all participants complete the FAFSA, but it also allows students to attend schools that are ineligible to receive Title IV aid and does not mandate FAFSA completion among those students.

Table 1B. State Promise Programs' Use of Pell Dollars

State(s)	Use of Pell Grant dollars
Tennessee (Promise and Reconnect), Rhode Island, New York, Nevada, Kentucky, Indiana (Workforce Ready Grant), Hawaii, Arkansas, New Jersey, Maryland, West Virginia	Last dollar (these programs are financed, in part, by Pell dollars received through the FAFSA).
Oregon	Middle dollar (after Pell is applied, some portion of the promise aid will cover remaining tuition balance, and some will be available for non-tuition costs).
Washington (College Grant), Indiana (21st Century Scholars), Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma	First dollar (no reliance on Pell to finance the program).
Washington (College Bound)	Program is last dollar in relation to other state aid to cover tuition, but then the Pell is applied for non-tuition costs.
California	Institutions decide.

Table 1C. State Promise Programs' Requirements for Annual FAFSA Completion

State(s)	Annual FAFSA completion requirements
Delaware, Hawaii, Indiana (21st Century Scholars and Workforce Ready Grant), Louisiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee (Promise and Reconnect), West Virginia	Participating students must complete the FAFSA annually to maintain eligibility.
Arkansas, Nevada, Washington (College Bound and College Grant)	It is unclear from statutes whether participating students must complete the FAFSA annually to maintain eligibility.
California	Institutions decide.
Missouri	Participating students must complete the FAFSA annually to maintain eligibility, except those who attend institutions that do not participate in Title IV programs.

Appendix B

Recent Federal Free or Debt-free College Legislative Proposals

College Affordability Act of 2019 ([H.R. 4673](#)): Funds free community college tuition through mandatory funds for a 75% federal match, and allows for matching of unmet financial need and four-year tuition if funding is available. College Affordability Act of 2019, (H.R. 4673), 116th Congress, 1st sess., introduced in House of Representatives October 15, 2019, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4674>.

College for All Act of 2019 ([S.1947/H.R. 3472](#)): Provides free tuition at public two- and four-year institutions, requires increased grants for non-tuition costs, and provides debt relief. College for All Act of 2019, (S.1947), 116th Congress, 1st sess., introduced in Senate June 24, 2019, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1947>.

Debt-Free College Act of 2019 ([S.672/H.R. 1571](#)): Establishes a federal-state funding partnership to provide students the opportunity to enroll in in-state public institutions of higher education without debt. Debt-Free College Act of 2019, (S.672), 116th Congress, 1st sess., introduced in Senate March 6, 2019, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/672>.

America's College Promise Act of 2019 ([S. 2250/H.R.4212](#)): Provides federal match for states that provide 25% of the funding to make tuition and fees free at community colleges. America's College Promise Act of 2019, (S.2250), 116th Congress, 1st sess., introduced in Senate July 24, 2019, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2250>.