

WEBVTT

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Kelli Kelnar: Welcome everyone. We're happy to have you here. This is the first of our monthly FAFSA webinars.

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Kelli Kelnar: so we will try to share everything we know at the time.

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Kelli Kelnar: Not a lot of information, currently, but we're going to share with you information about this new FAFSA graduation requirement and some ways you can track that and some of the publications that we have here to offer at the Oklahoma College Assistance Program (OCAP).

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Kelli Kelnar: So I'm also going to let you know, Letha Huddleston and Robbie Leftwich are both on the call. They're going to answer any questions that you have in the chat,

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Kelli Kelnar: and at the end of the webinar, if you want to stay on, we can talk and you can throw questions at all of us, and we'll be happy to go over anything that you may still be wondering about. So we will go ahead and get started.

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Kelli Kelnar: Maybe

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Kelli Kelnar: I mean

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Kelli Kelnar: mine

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Kelli Kelnar: thing. It's not gonna just a second.

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Kelli Kelnar: Sorry.

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Kelli Kelnar: 9.

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Kelli Kelnar: So these are some of the topics we're going to cover. Today, we're going to talk about the new law that's available, or that's out there, that will start this school year. I'll talk a little bit about the FAFSA, why it is important, which I'm sure you all are already aware of, the requirements for you as a school and ways to track this, and then some of our resources that you can use.

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Kelli Kelnar: So first off with the FAFSA graduation law. This law was passed last year, but it goes into effect for this school year coming up, that seniors at any Oklahoma public high schools must complete a FAFSA in order to graduate.

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Kelli Kelnar: The State Department of Education has put some resources on their website, which you can see here, and there are opportunities if students or families need to opt out of completing the FAFSA. So we'll go over that a little bit later.

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Kelli Kelnar: So why is the FAFSA important? You guys have worked with the FAFSA, I'm sure, for years.

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Kelli Kelnar: It's the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which is really the students'

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Kelli Kelnar: main way to get financial aid for college.

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Kelli Kelnar: The FAFSA went through a lot of changes for this last school year which has caused some issues which caused some delays. The FAFSA came out late. Usually it comes out October 1,

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Kelli Kelnar: but we learned last week the Department of Education, said the new FAFSA, the 2025-26 FAFSA will not be released until December 1, 2024.

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Kelli Kelnar: So I know that's not optimal for students, now that they are having to do the FAFSA to graduate, but we will hopefully offer you some ways to make that work at your school.

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Kelli Kelnar: So the FAFSA, you know, applies students for all different types of Federal and State financial aid. The Department of Education

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Kelli Kelnar: awards more than 150 billion dollars in financial aid annually. So that's a lot of money. And through a survey with NCAN, the National College Attainment Network, they show that Oklahoma students in the class of 2023

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Kelli Kelnar: left 64 million dollars in Pell Grants on the table, meaning they just did not apply for that money, so hopefully with the FAFSA graduation requirement, we'll have more students applying and they will realize that there is money out there to help them pay for college or career tech, or wherever they decide to go.

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Kelli Kelnar: But again, this is for the senior class of 2025, meaning they will complete the 2025-26 FAFSA.

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Kelli Kelnar: Currently, the 2024-25 FAFSA is still out there, so there will probably be 2 FAFSAs available at the same time, and that typically happens.

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Kelli Kelnar: But we want to make sure that you're sharing the 2025-26 FAFSA with your seniors, because that will be the year they will be going to school.

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Kelli Kelnar: And again,

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Kelli Kelnar: we're saying the FAFSA will come out December 1, 2024. They (Department of Education) said on or before Dec. 1, so we're gonna just say 'on', because usually it's not offered any earlier than what they think it will be. But you just never know. And then families that are filling out the FAFSA, the 2025-26 FAFSA will be using their 2023 tax information. So all the years are a little crazy, but we just want to make sure that you understand

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Kelli Kelnar: how this all works.

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Kelli Kelnar: Okay, so the requirements for you as a high school counselor ... the Superintendent of each public school is going to designate one person at the school to collect all the information showing who's completed FAFSAs or who hasn't, and you will keep this information at your school. It will not be sent to the State Department of Education. You won't turn it in anywhere. You will just keep it at your school

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Kelli Kelnar: under FERPA guidelines to make sure that it's

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Kelli Kelnar: safe

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Kelli Kelnar: and the schools are going to be required to offer information to families

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Kelli Kelnar: on what the FAFSA is, provide brochures or information that we have that you can offer for in-person sessions that our team will come out and do,

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Kelli Kelnar: Virtual sessions, sessions, whatever it may be, and I will talk to you a little bit more about something that we're working with statewide that can offer some more ways to get your students and families educated on the FAFSA and assistance to help them complete the form.

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Kelli Kelnar: So to track the FAFSA process there are a few ways you can do that. The first one is through the Oklahoma FAFSA Data Portal, and that's a service that we provide here at OCAP and the State Regents, and I'll go into that in detail here in just a few minutes.

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Kelli Kelnar: You can also collect emails that the student will receive after they've submitted a FAFSA. They should get a confirmation email. When their FAFSA is processed they will get a FAFSA Submission Summary. That's something they can print and give to you or email you directly. And these are things you can use to verify that they've completed their FAFSA application.

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Kelli Kelnar: And then we'll also talk a little bit about the Opt Out form a little bit later on in the presentation.

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Kelli Kelnar: Okay. So the FAFSA Data Portal, we've had a lot of schools sign up last year, and this year, so hopefully you all have already done that. If not, I'm going to kind of walk you through the process so you'll know how it all works. But this is a free service that we provide that will share information with you about your senior class and what they are doing with the FAFSA form.

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Kelli Kelnar: So to find the information on this, you can go to okhighered.org, click on Educators, and then there's a tab for the Oklahoma FAFSA Data Portal that you can see here.

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Kelli Kelnar: This page will kind of give you a breakdown of what to do to get the FAFSA Data Portal system set up at your school. There are links to agreements on the right hand side of the screen that show you things that you, as a school, will need to complete and submit to get your school all signed up for this process.

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Kelli Kelnar: The first thing will be the FAFSA Data Portal Completion Agreement.

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Kelli Kelnar: This is a 6 page document. There's not a lot of information that we ask from you, but we do, on the first page, want you to put in the name of your school district.

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Kelli Kelnar: The rest of it is really kind of the legalese information about how the system works, and that we want you to keep the information you're receiving secure at your school. Then your Superintendent or School Board President can designate one contact person that we will reach out to with questions.

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Kelli Kelnar: The Superintendent or School Board President will then sign this form, and that will come back to me. Then we'll sign our part of it and get the process started.

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Kelli Kelnar: The 5th page of this will show you the information we'll need from you as far as your senior list, your school list of students, and the type of information we will need to require for the match, and then the last page will be the list of authorized users. And this is where your Superintendent can designate everyone at your school that should have access to this FAFSA information.

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Kelli Kelnar: If you have a large school, and you have more people that you want to have access to all of this, you can make copies of this page and submit as many names as you want. There's no limit to the number of people that can access the FAFSA data.

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Kelli Kelnar: Okay? All of that then, is emailed back to me.

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Kelli Kelnar: And all of these forms are fillable, and you can electronically sign them. So you don't need to do paper versions, unless you want to.

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Kelli Kelnar: But once we receive your agreement, then I will reach out to you and send each authorized user a Privacy Certification. And again, this is just for each user to state they will not share this information with anyone, and to know that it is going to be a secure process.

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Kelli Kelnar: We'll send you a list of instructions for how to use the data portal

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Kelli Kelnar: and when you get in after you submitted your Privacy Certifications, you will go to set up your account on the data portal.

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Kelli Kelnar: So what you will do is go to this website at the bottom, okhighered.org/fafsaweb, and you will register as a user. So your username is going to be your email address and then you'll make up your own password. Then include your name, your title, and the name of the school that you wish to see the information for.

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Kelli Kelnar: So again, then I will get an email saying, you want that your account unlocked, and I can do that for you.

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Kelli Kelnar: So now, when we ask for a list of your seniors

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Kelli Kelnar: we're going to send you a template. And what we'll need from you then, is your district code which you can find online. Actually, some schools have submitted their list without a district code, and I just Google it and find it easily. Your school code is your ACT code.

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00:11:42.880 --> 00:11:59.609

Kelli Kelnar: And then we just want your students' first name and last name. If you want to do middle initial, that's fine. You don't need to. But we do need on your list to have the LEGAL name of the student, because that's how they're going to be required to complete the FAFSA.

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Kelli Kelnar: So if you have Bob Smith in your senior class,

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Kelli Kelnar: but his FAFSA says, Robert Smith, there's not going to be a match. So we want to make sure, if you can, to put in their full legal names on the template you send back to us.

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Kelli Kelnar: We will also ask for the students' date of birth, which will serve as another way for us to do a match.

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Kelli Kelnar: And then gender is optional. If you want to do that, you can. If not, that's fine. The FAFSA doesn't require gender information anymore. So that's entirely up to you.

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00:12:35.410 --> 00:12:40.469

Kelli Kelnar: Then we will have you submit this list, and that's how we will do our FAFSA match.

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Kelli Kelnar: I'm asking this year, since the FAFSA won't be out till December, and we will then have to get software to update our FAFSA Data Portal, and that usually takes a few weeks ... so we want you to wait and send your senior list after you've been notified, I will send an email to the schools to say, now it's time to send your list. We want you to send the most up-to-date and current list of students as possible.

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Kelli Kelnar: If you have students, after you've sent your list, that have left your school or transferred to another school, or have new students coming in, you can send me those names. Do not submit a new list, because a new list will throw things off. So if you tell us which students to add or delete, send that directly to me, and we'll be able to do that for you.

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Kelli Kelnar: Okay?

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Kelli Kelnar: So when you get into the FAFSA Data Portal, you'll see just on the homepage, which schools have signed up for this service

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Kelli Kelnar: because there will be information after the school's name. You can see here Ada is signed up, although this is not a current page, but it will tell you how many of their students have submitted or completed a FAFSA.

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Kelli Kelnar: But then, if your school is signed up, this is what you will see, which will show your school name, the student name, their date of birth, the date they submitted their FAFSA, and if it's complete or incomplete. If something is missing, like a signature, that will show up here. If it's not complete

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00:14:20.840 --> 00:14:44.090

Kelli Kelnar: for some other reason, you won't see that. Only the colleges will see the details of the information that's missing from a FAFSA. But at least that way you'll know which of your students have started the process, if they've submitted the form, but haven't completed it. This is a way for you to reach out to those students that need assistance and kind of help them get through the process.

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00:14:44.710 --> 00:14:52.050

Kelli Kelnar: I know that's a little harder to see. This will show you up close what the information will be for your school.

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00:14:53.280 --> 00:15:11.740

Kelli Kelnar: You will also see who is selected for verification. That's just something that the colleges will use, colleges or career techs. And what the law states on FAFSA completion is that the FAFSA is complete.

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Kelli Kelnar: Okay, we also have a FAFSA Data Portal flyer that is not currently on our website. We're getting ready to add that. And then we also have a video. And Sara will put the video link in the chat for you. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMDy1t0Yn9o>) It's just a very short video that walks you through the process of getting everything set up. And again, this video is not on okhighered.org, but we're getting all of that added here eventually.

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Kelli Kelnar: Okay. So now for some of you schools that if you've never used the FAFSA Data Portal in the past, you're going to need to do all of this information that I just shared with the Completion Agreement signed by your Superintendent or School Board President, where they will authorize users. I'll reach out with their Privacy Certification, and all the forms to request your senior list.

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Kelli Kelnar: So if that's if you've never done any of this in the past.

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Kelli Kelnar: Now, if you have the same Superintendent and the same users, and you used the FAFSA Data Portal this past year, you don't need to do any new paperwork. We don't need new agreements every year ... only if you get a new superintendent. So the only thing we would need each year is just a new list of your seniors.

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Kelli Kelnar: And again, this kind of reminds you, send us your senior list

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Kelli Kelnar: only when I ask for it, because we want to make sure it's the most up-to-date list.

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Kelli Kelnar: So now, if you do have a new Superintendent this year, and you used the FAFSA Data Portal last year, your school will need to complete a new agreement for us, because we want to have the most accurate information from your Superintendent.

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Kelli Kelnar: If the Superintendent designates the very same people to use the data portal,

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Kelli Kelnar: but maybe adds one or 2, then we only need Privacy Certifications for the new people, and I will let you know all of that. When I get that information, I'll respond and let you know who still needs to do what to get everything finalized.

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Kelli Kelnar: Okay. And if you have the same Superintendent, but you have new users, then on the okhighered.org site, there is one form called the Authorized Users form. The Superintendent can designate the new users and just submit that piece of it, and not the entire document. And then again, I will reach out with Privacy Certifications for the new users.

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Kelli Kelnar: So I know that's a lot of information for you.

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Kelli Kelnar: So we're recording this webinar, and we will have all of this out there, so you can go back through and look through it again. If you have any questions

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Kelli Kelnar: you can also email me directly, and I will tell you what we have on file for your school, because we have a list of dates, and when everyone signed agreements, and who was listed as users, and I can tell you everything that we'll need at that time. Okay, so please feel free to email me whenever you are getting ready to start this process.

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Kelli Kelnar: And again, there's my email so please reach out.

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Kelli Kelnar: Okay, now we're going to talk about the Opt Out form. And here's the link here on the page where you can find it on the State Department of Ed's website. So it's just a front and back form. It's very easy to complete.

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Kelli Kelnar: If the parent is opting the student out, they can do that without any problem. If the student is 18, they can opt themselves out of completing a FAFSA.

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Kelli Kelnar: And the law states that the counselor can opt out the student.

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Kelli Kelnar: It doesn't say Superintendent or Principal or English teacher; it says, counselor. So you counselors on the call, you will be the ones to opt out any students that

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Kelli Kelnar: you feel will be unable to complete a FAFSA

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Kelli Kelnar: And there is a place on the form to state the reason for opting them out, but you don't have to show that; you can leave that blank if you want to do that.

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Kelli Kelnar: And those forms, again, are available on State Department of Ed's website. So

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Kelli Kelnar: you can feel free to reach out for those.

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Kelli Kelnar: Now, here's just some information we were going to share. So you know, a lot of students may say they don't want to complete the FAFSA, or they don't know that they can. But we are hoping students that haven't filled this FAFSA out before, or their families thought they made too much money, that by completing the FAFSA, then at least, they can see how much financial aid they may qualify for which hopefully would change their mind.

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Kelli Kelnar: Some of them may think

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Kelli Kelnar: their credit rating is low and that could prohibit them from getting financial aid. But credit is not a factor, and none of that is used

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Kelli Kelnar: to determine financial aid eligibility. The FAFSA is just used to determine eligibility for grants, loans, scholarships, and that type of thing.

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Kelli Kelnar: And if the student says I'm not going to college, but maybe they're going to career tech. FAFSAs are used at career techs. Also, any type of school that's offering financial federal financial assistance will be listed as an authorized school on the FAFSA form. So we want students to know to complete the FAFSA every year to get financial aid.

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Kelli Kelnar: A lot of them think the form is a little complicated. This new simplified FAFSA from last year, and this year, it is quite a bit shorter, and it is easier, I believe, so hopefully that will help families

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Kelli Kelnar: kind of get through the hurdles of completing the form. So

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Kelli Kelnar: now parents may think they don't want to complete a FAFSA, or think their son or daughter will get more money if they don't put their information on the form, but that will only

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00:06:11.540 --> 00:06:22.650

Kelli Kelnar: show that your FAFSA is incomplete. Parent information is going to be required on almost every FAFSA application. If the student is considered independent,

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Kelli Kelnar: meaning, they're married, have a child, that they provide support for, or there are several questions that they will go through to determine that they are considered independent, then they don't need parent information. But 99% of high school seniors are typically dependent students.

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Kelli Kelnar: If the student does not show parent information, the only thing they could qualify for is an unsubsidized student loan, which would not be enough to cover their tuition, and the unsubsidized loans are not the most favorable, because interest on those loans starts to accrue as soon as the student is in college or career tech. So we want them to try to get free money if possible.

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Kelli Kelnar: If the parent doesn't have a Social Security number that should not be a deterrent, they can still complete a FAFSA. And now every every student must complete what's called a StudentAid.gov Account.

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Kelli Kelnar: This is the old FSA ID. So just as you were getting used to an FSA ID username and password to sign the FAFSA, now they've changed the name to StudentAid.gov Account. It's the very same thing, but that's what they're calling it this year. So parents without Social Security numbers can create StudentAid.gov Accounts

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Kelli Kelnar: and we'll share a little information about that later.

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Kelli Kelnar: Okay, if the parent says they don't support their student any longer financially,

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Kelli Kelnar: it doesn't matter. They're still going to be required to put information on the FAFSA. If they say they didn't claim them on their taxes, again doesn't matter. They're still going to be required to complete parental information on the FAFSA.

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Kelli Kelnar: Parents may think they are going to have to pay the bill for college or repay student loans the student may take out.

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Kelli Kelnar: That's not the case. The student is the borrower on their student loan, so they are the ones required to pay off the loan, and then also the the bill for the college. We hope parents will help with that, but essentially that is the student's responsibility.

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Kelli Kelnar: And a lot of families may say they don't want to share their personal information on the FAFSA. The way the FAFSA was revised this past year, students only now see student information on the FAFSA, and parents only see parent information. So if there's something one or the other doesn't want their family member to see, they don't need to worry about that, because that is not the case any longer.

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Kelli Kelnar: Okay.

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Kelli Kelnar: Now, I'm going to show you some of the resources that we offer that can help you get through this FAFSA process and help your students complete the form so they can meet their graduation requirement.

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Kelli Kelnar: One of our websites is UCanGo2.org. A lot of you may be familiar with that. We have a lot of publications on college planning, financial aid, FAFSA; all kinds of different publications here that you can download and use whenever you need to. We are in the process of updating our information so not all of our

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Kelli Kelnar: current information is out there. We're hoping to have it out by September 3rd which is right after Labor Day. So

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Kelli Kelnar: if you're looking for information now please go back and check after the 3rd just to make sure everything is currently out there.

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Kelli Kelnar: But these are some of the forms we'll have. We've got Finish the FAFSA in 5 Steps

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Kelli Kelnar: which gives you some good information about things to be doing in order to get through the application. The reverse side of that is FAFSA Facts which also gives you just some detailed bullet points on things related to the FAFSA. There will be a FAFSA Dependency Questionnaire to let students determine ahead of time if they need to show parent information on the FAFSA.

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Kelli Kelnar: There's a Parent Flyer with links to different websites to offer them information.

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Kelli Kelnar: If you're going to hold a FAFSA event at your school,

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Kelli Kelnar: You can

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00:10:36.490 --> 00:11:03.859

Kelli Kelnar: use our Event Planning Checklist to get things set up. And then here is our again, the StudentAid.gov. Account Worksheet, which again was the FSA ID Worksheet. But as students and parents go through to set up their account, they can put in the information on this worksheet and save it because they're going to use the same account, username and password each year to access and sign the FAFSA.

53

00:11:04.390 --> 00:11:32.590

Kelli Kelnar: On the bottom row, we have a flowchart for students whose biological parents may be divorced or separated, or maybe grandmother raises the student, but this will walk them through the process of which parent or both parents, need to set up a StudentAid.gov Account to access and sign the FAFSA. Sometimes both parents need this information. Sometimes it's just one parent.

54

00:11:33.220 --> 00:11:44.409

Kelli Kelnar: And then we have some other information. Here we have some videos that, again will be updated, and some things that we'll be sharing with you as far as social media posts

55

00:11:44.450 --> 00:11:51.940

Kelli Kelnar: and emails already pre-written, that you can use to notify your students and families about the FAFSA process.

56

00:11:53.430 --> 00:12:14.690

Kelli Kelnar: Okay, we also have some PowerPoints out there that you can use now. These are updated and on UCanGo2.org. You can currently find one that kind of talks about Understanding the Financial Aid Award Offer / award letter that they're going to receive from their college or career tech so they'll understand what all the information on the letter means.

57

00:12:14.950 --> 00:12:26.220

Kelli Kelnar: The SAI or Student Aid Index is that number on the FAFSA that colleges will use to determine how much aid the student is going to be able to receive.

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00:12:26.680 --> 00:12:37.690

Kelli Kelnar: So we kind of explain what the SAI is and where it comes from. And then there are 2 PowerPoints on Creating the StudentAid.gov Account, one with a Social Security number and one without.

59

00:12:40.240 --> 00:13:04.420

Kelli Kelnar: Okay, OKcollegestart.org is another one of our college planning initiatives. They have a page under financial aid planning that covers all information about financial aid, the different programs available. It also shows you the tuition costs at colleges and career techs here in the state of Oklahoma. So you can go in and look at that information.

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00:13:04.420 --> 00:13:17.900

Kelli Kelnar: There's also information about the FAFSA on here as well, and you may be familiar with this website because any students applying for Oklahoma's Promise will use OKcollegestart.org to complete their application

61

00:13:18.790 --> 00:13:22.330

Kelli Kelnar: and if you use OKcollegestart.org for your ICAP.

62

00:13:22.869 --> 00:13:45.159

Kelli Kelnar: I know a lot of you use different services, but if you use [OKcollegestart](http://OKcollegestart.org), they do offer an activity that you can include where the student can state in their ICAP that they have completed their FAFSA. This will not count as documentation, since this is just information from the student, but it's something that you can use

63

00:13:45.160 --> 00:13:52.750

Kelli Kelnar: to kind of keep track and see if you need to help some of your students who may have submitted a FAFSA, but not completed it.

64

00:13:54.580 --> 00:14:09.300

Kelli Kelnar: Okay. And then StartWithFAFSA.org is another one of our initiatives. Last one I'm going to show you. But this one has a lot of information just about FAFSA questions. We post new articles every Monday on this website.

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00:14:09.683 --> 00:14:31.950

Kelli Kelnar: And we will have our new videos out here in English and Spanish as soon as we get some updated information about the new FAFSA which could be in December. But we will get everything out there eventually. We have also posted step-by-step videos walking you through the FAFSA. Those will be available as soon as they're out there.

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00:14:33.040 --> 00:14:43.920

Kelli Kelnar: Okay, another thing that we're doing this year is called FAFSA FastTrack. And that's something we're coordinating with colleges and career techs all across the state.

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00:14:44.060 --> 00:14:58.760

Kelli Kelnar: The schools that have signed up to help are going to offer events on their campuses to let students and parents visit the schools on specific days and times

68

00:14:58.880 --> 00:15:03.140

Kelli Kelnar: and get one-on-one assistance with completing a FAFSA.

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00:15:03.590 --> 00:15:15.539

Kelli Kelnar: This is what the website looks like. It's on StartWithFAFSA.org. There's a button at the top for FAFSA FastTrack. Nothing is currently out there, since we just learned when the FAFSA will be released.

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00:15:15.640 --> 00:15:38.020

Kelli Kelnar: But when we learn about events that schools are hosting across the state, we will have a map on this page, and it will list locations, dates, times, places on the on the college or career tech

campus that you can go with your students or send your students to get help from the financial aid people at these different

71

00:15:38.070 --> 00:15:39.979

Kelli Kelnar: colleges or career techs.

72

00:15:40.680 --> 00:15:53.999

Kelli Kelnar: So we have 30 colleges that have already signed up, but as soon as things get rolling I think we'll have a lot more, and this will just be just one place that you can send your students or parents

73

00:15:54.070 --> 00:16:12.070

Kelli Kelnar: to find the information. You could say, Hey, USAO is hosting a FAFSA event on this day or time. So you want to make sure they can go there and get help with their FAFSA completion. So we hope this will be a very good way for us to get things going.

74

00:16:13.830 --> 00:16:14.950

Kelli Kelnar: Okay.

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00:16:14.960 --> 00:16:41.230

Kelli Kelnar: We're also doing these monthly webinars that you are already signed up for today. If you went to our website again on StartWithFAFSA.org, there's a FAFSA Webinar button you can sign up for each one we have scheduled already through May. We will be updating the topics as we learn about them. And we want to just share as much information as we have at the time. So we will

76

00:16:41.230 --> 00:16:55.939

Kelli Kelnar: be updating this periodically with different topics. But please feel free to sign up and join these. We're going to record each one of them and put them on this same page so you'll have access to that as soon as we get everything ready

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00:16:55.970 --> 00:16:58.470

Kelli Kelnar: and registration's open now, so

78

00:16:58.670 --> 00:17:00.959

Kelli Kelnar: feel free to join us.

79

00:17:01.780 --> 00:17:03.820

Kelli Kelnar: Okay, so here are some of the

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00:17:03.930 --> 00:17:08.800

Kelli Kelnar: resources that I've gone over today with you.

81

00:17:09.161 --> 00:17:32.379

Kelli Kelnar: When we get to the end here be thinking, are there some types of resources that would be helpful to you that we don't already have? Anything that you can think of, that we could put together, offer a presentation on, do a PowerPoint? Anything at all that you think would be helpful to make your life easier and your job easier with this FAFSA requirement.

82

00:17:32.430 --> 00:17:38.179

Kelli Kelnar: Please let us know, because we want to make this process, you know, work for all of us.

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00:17:39.110 --> 00:18:00.960

Kelli Kelnar: So again, if you need to email me, here's my email address. You can also email our UCanGo2 or OKcollegestart email addresses. These come to everybody here in our office so someone will be able to answer you. Just send in a question, and someone will reach out to you with the answer.

84

00:18:01.090 --> 00:18:26.620

Kelli Kelnar: This is the team. You've already seen Letha and Robbie on the call. And here's their email addresses. They will be the ones to come out and do FAFSA presentations for you, I will as well. You all may be familiar with Kay Walck. She's still part of our team, but she's leaving us at the end of August, so we are very sorry to see her go. She's been great.

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00:18:27.190 --> 00:18:51.210

Kelli Kelnar: But while you're all on here, her job is being posted. So if anyone is interested, please go to this website. We would love to have people that have financial aid backgrounds or high school counseling backgrounds. So I know your high schools would not be happy if we stole you, but we show no mercy.

86

00:18:51.290 --> 00:19:01.130

Kelli Kelnar: So does anyone have any questions? I think Robbie had some questions he said that maybe I needed to answer.

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00:19:01.370 --> 00:19:03.680

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: Yeah, I've got a whole list for you. Are you ready.

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00:19:03.680 --> 00:19:04.830

Kelli Kelnar: I'm ready.

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00:19:04.830 --> 00:19:08.399

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: Alright the 1st couple were about

90

00:19:08.520 --> 00:19:13.750

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: tech centers and TRIO programs having access to the FAFSA Data Portal.

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00:19:14.100 --> 00:19:37.259

Kelli Kelnar: Yes, you can do that. I know, last year it took almost the entire school year to get approval for GEAR UP or Upward Bound, or any TRIO programs to have access. But yes, they can do that. So the director of your TRIO program, Upward Bound, whatever it may be, if you're with a college,

92

00:19:37.300 --> 00:19:56.830

Kelli Kelnar: the director of the TRIO program can sign the Completion Agreement, designate users and send that information to me. You will just need to submit your list of seniors that you work with to us because we need to know that you have that information for them. Career techs as well.

93

00:19:56.890 --> 00:20:04.480

Kelli Kelnar: Anyone can use this service as long as you can submit the list of seniors that you're working with.

94

00:20:06.530 --> 00:20:13.329

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: Great next, if they have a question on whether or not they are signed up for FAFSA Data Portal, or need

95

00:20:13.350 --> 00:20:18.680

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: a password to get in, should they just email you or us? I don't want to flood your email.

96

00:20:19.160 --> 00:20:33.210

Kelli Kelnar: That's fine. You can email me directly. If you need a password, we can update your password or reset it and then you can get back in. So yes, if you need to have that done, just email me, and that'll be great.

97

00:20:34.990 --> 00:20:42.889

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: There was a question about the FAFSA going on the transcript proving FAFSA completion. Do we know if that's how that's going to work yet or not?

98

00:20:43.595 --> 00:20:55.744

Kelli Kelnar: If anyone's on the call from State Department of Ed, if they would like to jump in. I don't know that we have heard definitely how that will work.

99

00:20:56.920 --> 00:20:58.290

Kelli Kelnar: if not.

100

00:20:58.390 --> 00:21:01.729

Kelli Kelnar: asd

101

00:21:01.870 --> 00:21:02.770

Kelli Kelnar: Yes.

102

00:21:03.914 --> 00:21:13.285

Jennifer Peters: I had commented in the chat, but I may missed if it was asked more than once. We are working with the Office of Accreditation. Oh, hi!

103

00:21:14.701 --> 00:21:36.229

Jennifer Peters: I work at the State Department in the Office of College and Career Readiness. if I haven't gotten to meet you yet. We are working with accreditation to clarify the process, but right now we believe it will be a transcript statement. But we aren't allowed to give you a statement until it has gone through our whole legal office. And

104

00:21:36.400 --> 00:21:39.999

Jennifer Peters: so it's a process. But we're working on it. I promise.

105

00:21:40.910 --> 00:21:42.069

Kelli Kelnar: Thank you, Jennifer.

106

00:21:43.611 --> 00:21:53.549

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: Similarly, there's gonna be a lot of weird cases with this. We had a couple of examples of like students graduating early. So they're graduating in December instead of

107

00:21:53.690 --> 00:21:59.920

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: in the spring, or a student like that will be a junior next year that's graduating this year, and how they'll do it

108

00:22:01.500 --> 00:22:03.200

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: As it was said in the chat,

109

00:22:03.350 --> 00:22:09.429

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: they can always opt out. They can use that opt out form if you're not sure about it, but

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00:22:09.770 --> 00:22:22.920

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: you know, because this is the first year that this FAFSA is going to be required, there's going to be some weird little cases that we're still trying to work out and probably getting in touch with the State Department will be the best way to get the real answers. But we can do our best.

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00:22:24.600 --> 00:22:33.279

Kelli Kelnar: Yeah, if you have questions like that, and you want to send them to me, then I can get them to Jennifer, or you can reach out to Jennifer directly. But

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00:22:33.530 --> 00:22:50.990

Kelli Kelnar: yeah, that is a good question. While you're on here, Jennifer. If a senior graduates in December of this year, they would still be considered in the 2024-25 school years, so they would be required to do a FAFSA.

113

00:22:51.424 --> 00:23:07.949

Jennifer Peters: They would be required to do a FAFSA or opt out. And so that's what I had put in the chat is completing an opt out form doesn't prevent a student from completing the FAFSA. It just,

114

00:23:08.340 --> 00:23:13.250

Jennifer Peters: and I hate this phrase, but it checks the box for graduation.

115

00:23:13.670 --> 00:23:29.170

Jennifer Peters: And so, if you have a student, and that that timeline is so tight that they cannot apply for FAFSA before you are scooching them out the door for early graduation, they technically

116

00:23:29.260 --> 00:23:35.540

Jennifer Peters: could complete an opt out form with the full intention of applying for FAFSA

117

00:23:35.820 --> 00:23:37.642

Jennifer Peters: 2 weeks later.

118

00:23:38.440 --> 00:23:47.506

Jennifer Peters: I saw someone else had asked that they had planned to verify some of this in November

119

00:23:48.240 --> 00:23:53.270

Jennifer Peters: and for this year. I don't know that that's going to be possible. Kelli, you can correct me, but if

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00:23:53.270 --> 00:23:55.130

Katy Bevers: We just have graduates.

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00:23:55.190 --> 00:24:03.450

Katy Bevers: We are on a trimester schedule. So we have graduates that are scheduled to graduate in November.

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00:24:03.450 --> 00:24:12.820

Jennifer Peters: Then they're going to have to opt out, because FAFSA won't even be open until December. I guess I shouldn't say that. I should let Kelli give you the answer on that.

123

00:24:12.820 --> 00:24:14.580

Kelli Kelnar: No, no, you're fine.

124

00:24:14.580 --> 00:24:18.350

Jennifer Peters: Simply don't know any other option for that situation.

125

00:24:19.800 --> 00:24:31.699

Kelli Kelnar: Yeah, I I don't either. I don't know what else they would do if they're graduating in November. That sounds like the only way to opt out, and then they can complete the FAFSA in January, or whenever, if they want to.

126

00:24:33.220 --> 00:24:36.170

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: A couple more questions about the data portal?

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00:24:36.700 --> 00:24:41.379

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: When will they know that they've been granted or cleared to have access? Will they get an email.

128

00:24:43.162 --> 00:25:02.270

Kelli Kelnar: After we get your student list uploaded, if you've already set up your account and it's been unlocked, then you should have access immediately. But when I request the list from you all as a whole

129

00:25:02.647 --> 00:25:26.610

Kelli Kelnar: I'll send out another message that just says, now you have access to your FAFSA data information. So I'll try just to do a blanket email so that everyone knows that the information is available. And then, if you still can't access it, for whatever reason, let me know, and I'll be happy to check into it and see if something is, you know, hung up, for whatever reason.

130

00:25:27.698 --> 00:25:31.480

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: What about tribal education departments in the FAFSA Data Portal?

131

00:25:31.690 --> 00:25:46.970

Kelli Kelnar: Sure. Yes, you can definitely sign up. Just use the Director or President of your organization and you can submit your list of seniors. Then, definitely, we would love to have you sign up and use the data portal.

132

00:25:48.040 --> 00:25:51.119

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: Is there an optimal time to send the list to you

133

00:25:51.330 --> 00:25:52.770

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: or does it matter at all?

134

00:25:53.333 --> 00:26:15.750

Kelli Kelnar: I'd rather you wait until I request it again. Since the FAFSA doesn't come out till December, it's probably gonna be close to January before we'll have all of our uploading and software and testing done to make sure everything is accurate. So again, we want you to send in your most accurate list, so you will have

135

00:26:15.780 --> 00:26:41.049

Kelli Kelnar: everyone on the list that's, you know, a senior at the time. So just wait till I request that. It could be mid December, it could be January, which might be an optimal time for you, because you will have, maybe new students starting your school in January, so you can send us the most complete list that you have. But I'll request the list from everyone.

136

00:26:42.240 --> 00:26:47.249

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: Hey? This is a question, maybe for Sara. She might know more about this. This is a zoom question.

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00:26:47.310 --> 00:26:51.869

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: The questions that are in the chat ... is there a way for people to access these afterwards?

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00:26:55.450 --> 00:26:56.110

Kelli Kelnar: 100%.

139

00:26:57.200 --> 00:26:57.840

Kelli Kelnar: Yes. So.

140

00:26:57.840 --> 00:27:02.249

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: Sara is the one, the wizard behind the curtain for us, so she can't hear her very well.

141

00:27:02.250 --> 00:27:05.640

Sara Lorenzen: Sorry. Sorry I'm trying to make it not echo.

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00:27:06.110 --> 00:27:07.390

Sara Lorenzen: So one second.

143

00:27:08.360 --> 00:27:10.440

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: I put her on the spot. This is my fault.

144

00:27:10.440 --> 00:27:11.219

Kelli Kelnar: It is.

145

00:27:12.270 --> 00:27:14.520

Letha Huddleston: Sarah, we're not hearing an echo.

146

00:27:16.930 --> 00:27:21.391

Sara Lorenzen: Okay, we are hearing a pretty bad one over here, so I'll try to talk quickly.

147

00:27:22.413 --> 00:27:31.826

Sara Lorenzen: It does save the chat log and it's usually just up to the people who are doing the webinar whether or not they can share that chat log.

148

00:27:32.430 --> 00:27:35.700

Sara Lorenzen: So it should be saved, if people are wanting it.

149

00:27:42.090 --> 00:27:46.369

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: Looking back through the questions, I think we covered everything. If we didn't

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00:27:46.580 --> 00:27:50.279

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: someone can email me and let me have it for missing their question.

151

00:27:52.970 --> 00:27:56.510

Robbie Leftwich - OCAP UCanGo2: I think right now we're we're caught up on the questions in the chat, though.

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00:27:56.760 --> 00:28:02.650

Kelli Kelnar: Okay, do you want to just unmute everyone? And then, if you have a question you want to throw out there

153

00:28:02.840 --> 00:28:04.010

Kelli Kelnar: that'd be great.

154

00:28:05.490 --> 00:28:08.708

Letha Huddleston: Kelli, could I just make sure we're clear on

155

00:28:09.150 --> 00:28:16.700

Letha Huddleston: when new forms need to be sent in? I think the only time they would need to be sent in is if it's a a new superintendent.

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00:28:16.700 --> 00:28:17.280

Kelli Kelnar: Yeah.

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00:28:17.280 --> 00:28:24.230

Letha Huddleston: If there are new users, they don't have to do the new agreement form just a privacy certification for each new counselor. Correct.

158

00:28:24.230 --> 00:28:26.509

Kelli Kelnar: Right? That's right. Yeah.

159

00:28:26.930 --> 00:28:35.939

Kelli Kelnar: Some schools are sending agreements every year, and that's fine. But just know if you have the same Superintendent, you don't need to do a new one every year.

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00:28:38.570 --> 00:28:40.610

Kelli Kelnar: Okay, anybody else?

161

00:28:44.100 --> 00:29:00.339

Kelli Kelnar: Okay, well, thank you very much for being part of our first webinar. It's been very exciting. So we will get everything ready, and post this webinar on our StartWithFAFSA page here within the next week or so.

162

00:29:00.713 --> 00:29:06.660

Kelli Kelnar: Again, if you have questions, please feel free to reach out to any of us, and we'll be happy to answer

163

00:29:06.970 --> 00:29:15.720

Kelli Kelnar: as best as we know how to at the time. So good luck with your new school year, and thank you again. We'll look forward to seeing you in September.

164

00:29:16.550 --> 00:29:17.240

Kelli Kelnar: Bye, bye.

