

Proclamation

WHEREAS, filling out the Free Application for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA) is the first step for students in securing financial aid to make college more affordable; and

WHEREAS, students who complete the FAFSA are more likely to enroll in college, persist in their coursework, and successfully obtain a degree; and

WHEREAS, over the last three years, Arizona high school graduates missed out on nearly \$300 million in Pell Grant funding by not completing their FAFSA; and

WHEREAS, federal delays and technical glitches have plagued the roll out of this year's FAFSA, which has caused a dramatic reduction in filers in Arizona and across the country; and

WHEREAS, just 21 percent of Arizona high school seniors have completed the FAFSA, nearly 35 percent less than at this time last year; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments, universities and college access organizations are working together to ensure Arizona students reach the finish line by completing their FAFSA.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katie Hobbs, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim April 2024, as

FINISH LINE TO THE FAFSA MONTH

and encourage all Arizona high school seniors and current college students to complete the FAFSA.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-sixth day of March in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Eighth.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE