

WHEREAS, completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) determines a student's eligibility for need-based federal financial aid for postsecondary education, which may include grants, scholarships, work-study, and loans; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that approximately 39 percent of students eligible for financial aid do not currently complete the FAFSA, potentially leaving tens of millions of dollars in available financial aid on the table; and

WHEREAS, increased educational attainment is an important goal for the State of Ohio as workforce and industry partners continue to identify the possession of a postsecondary credential as a critical element to a well-qualified 21st century workforce; and

WHEREAS, data indicates a connection between increased FAFSA completion rates and increased postsecondary enrollment rates; and

WHEREAS, the "3 To Get Ready" campaign is a statewide initiative that highlights three important aspects of the postsecondary preparation process: 1) The Ohio FAFSA Completion Initiative; 2) Ohio College Application Month; and 3) College Signing Day; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Higher Education encourages all state and local partners to participate in the Ohio FAFSA Completion Initiative; and

WHEREAS, state and local partners are encouraged to host at least one activity such as a FAFSA training session or a fair that actively engages students in the FAFSA completion process.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize the month of October 2020 as

FAFSA COMPLETION MONTH

Lieutenant Governor

on this 1st day of October 2020.

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Mike DeWine Governor