



Colorado

Colorado Financial Aid Network

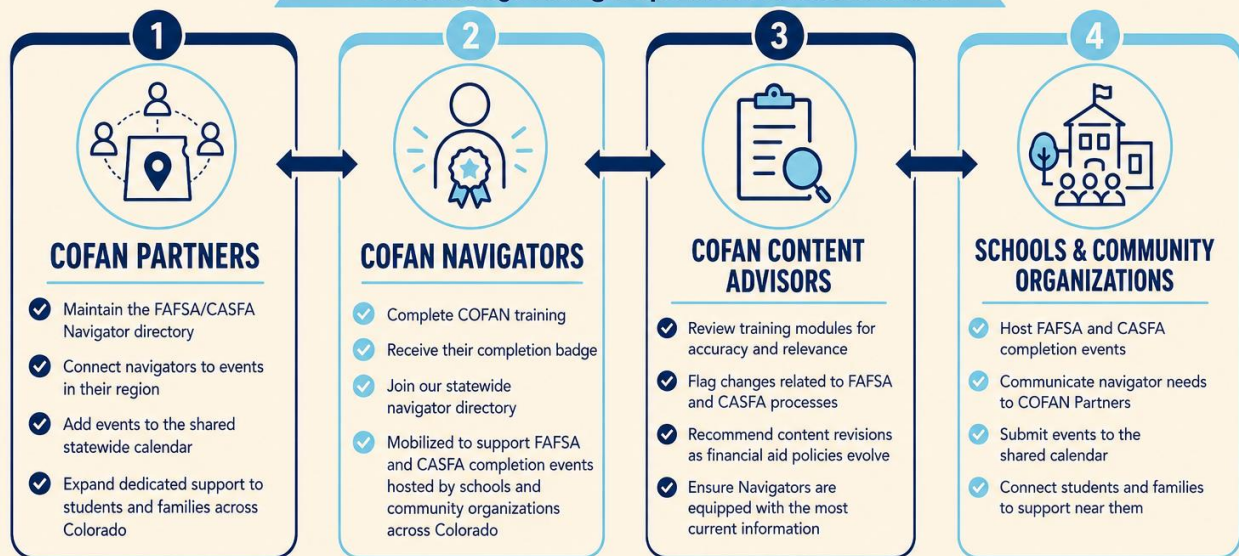
Building Capacity. Reaching Students.

→ Get Involved – Your Place in COFAN

Colorado has passionate and dedicated professionals working every day to help students and families access financial aid. COFAN, the Colorado Financial Aid Network, is bringing those professionals together into a coordinated statewide coalition, and there is a place for you in it. Whether you work in a school, an institution of higher education, a nonprofit, a state agency, a community organization, or anywhere in between, COFAN is designed for people committed to this work and who want to do it in a more connected, coordinated way. Read on to find your place and get involved.

≡ HOW COFAN WORKS TOGETHER ≡

COFAN brings four groups into coordinated action:



THE RESULT

A coordinated, statewide support system ensuring students and families across Colorado can access FAFSA and CASFA assistance when and where they need it.

→ **COFAN Partners**

COFAN Partners are the connective tissue of the network. They are the regional representatives who keep things moving, maintaining the Navigator directory, connecting Navigators to events, and ensuring the shared statewide calendar reflects what is happening across Colorado.

This is collaborative work. COFAN Partners within the same region work together, sharing the load, so no one person carries it all. Partners across regions also come together regularly to check in, share what they are learning, and think through challenges together.

If you are someone who thrives on coordination, loves connecting people and resources, and wants to play an active role in making sure every region in Colorado has the support it needs, join COFAN as a COFAN Partner.

→ **COFAN Navigators**

COFAN Navigators are where knowledge meets action. They are the trained professionals who show up at FAFSA and CASFA completion events across Colorado, sitting alongside students and families to guide them through the application process step by step.

Across the state, completion events are always happening, but there are not enough trained professionals available to support them. COFAN Navigators fill that gap. They complete the COFAN training, receive their completion certificate and continuing education units (CEUs), join the statewide Navigator directory, and select the Colorado regions where they are available to volunteer. When a school or community organization needs support at an event, COFAN Partners reach out to Navigators in that region to identify who is available.

This is personal, meaningful work. Navigators meet Colorado students and families where they are and walk with them through it.

At every completion event, a lead will be identified to provide real-time support and thought partnership to Navigators. Navigators should also feel confident in deferring to the FSA support lines if they need help with the FAFSA. A process for CASFA-specific support will be developed to ensure Navigators know where to turn.

If you are someone who loves being in the room with students and families, who wants to make a direct and tangible difference, and who believes financial aid is a key to unlocking postsecondary opportunity, join COFAN as a COFAN Navigator.

→ **COFAN Content Advisors**

COFAN Content Advisors are the financial aid experts who keep the network sharp. They review training modules, flag updates as policies and processes evolve, and ensure that every COFAN Navigator is equipped with the most current and accurate information.

Beyond keeping the training current, Content Advisors are also a resource for the broader COFAN community. Through the COFAN community of practice platform, Navigators can bring questions and real-world scenarios they have encountered, and Content Advisors are available to provide guidance and thought partnership.

This role is for those with deep knowledge of the FAFSA, CASFA, and the ever-changing financial aid landscape. If you work in financial aid, stay current on changes, and want to contribute your expertise to building something that will reach professionals and students across Colorado, join COFAN as a COFAN Content Advisor.

→ **Schools and Community Organizations**

Schools and community organizations are where students and families are. They are the hosts of FAFSA and CASFA completion events across Colorado, creating the spaces where students and families can get the hands-on support, they need to complete their applications.

COFAN is here to support that work. When a school or community organization is hosting a completion event and needs trained professionals to help, they connect with COFAN Partners in their region to request Navigator support. They also submit their events to the shared statewide calendar so that any student or family across Colorado can find help near them.

If your organization hosts or is interested in hosting FAFSA and CASFA completion events and wants access to a statewide network of trained Navigators to support your students and families, join COFAN.

→ **Join the Coalition**

Get involved in COFAN

There is a place for you in this work. Fill out our Member Interest Form and let us know how you would like to get involved: <https://forms.gle/CQVXs8uuTS1sLLmo7>

Shaping Tomorrow Together



Colorado