



# Years of Schooling for Native-Born U.S. Citizens by Birth Cohort

Year of Birth

Note: Birth cohorts are normalized at 35 years of age.

Source: Katz (2002)



# Enrollment in Four-Year Colleges Depends on Family Income

Four-Year College and University Enrollment Rates of 1992 High School Graduates by Family  
Income and Math Test Scores

Lowest Third

Middle Third  
**Math Test Scores**

Top Third

Source: Ellwood and Kane (2000)



# Higher Ed: Expanding and Simplifying Student Aid

- **Pell Grants:**

- Permanently expanding Pell Grants to a \$5,550 maximum award, indexing them to CPI+1 thereafter, and making the program mandatory will provide greater resources and greater certainty for students aspiring to college.

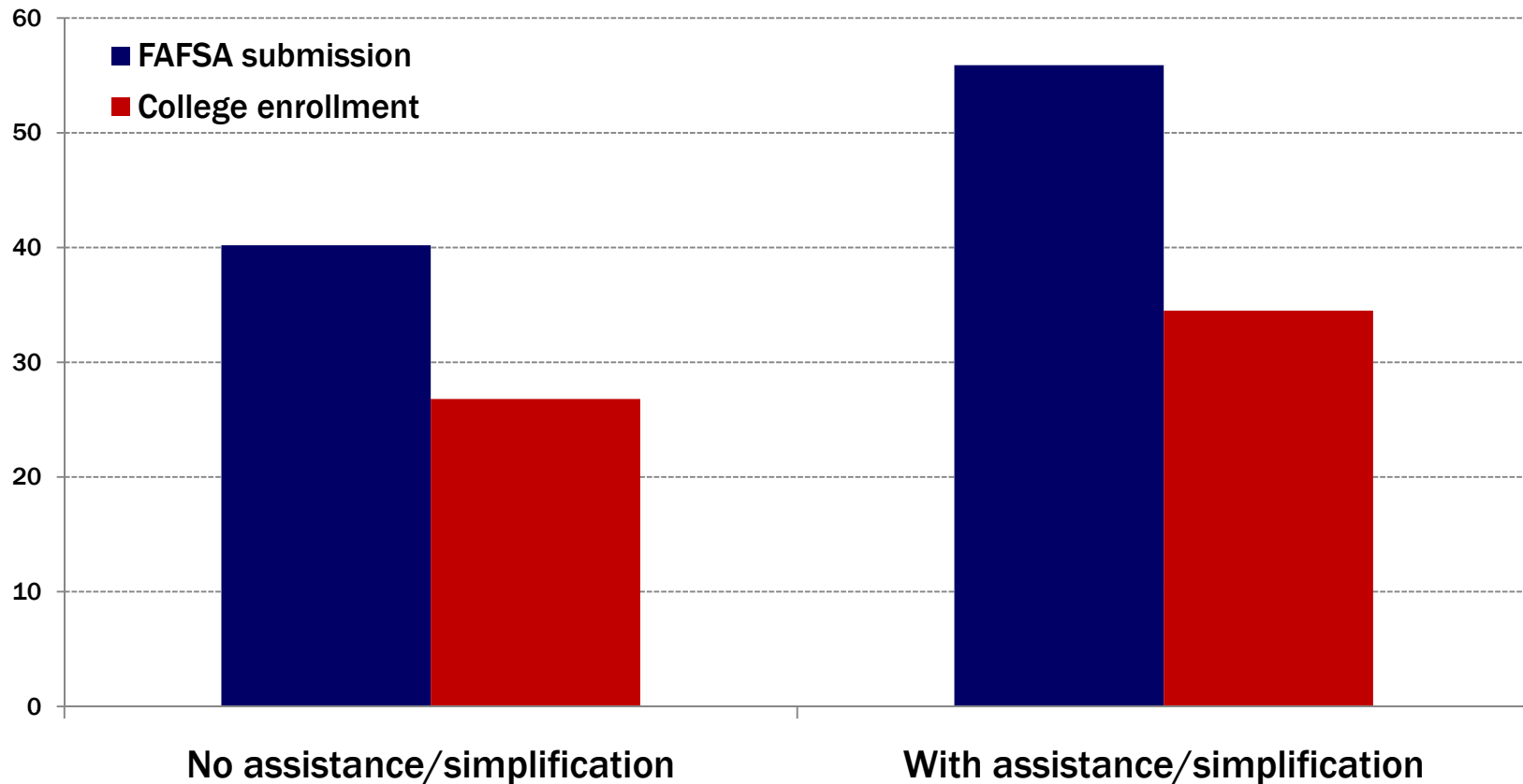
- **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):**

- The current FAFSA application creates a barrier to financial aid, often by asking questions having little to no effect on awards.
- The Administration is seeking to eliminate inconsequential questions and improve the intuitiveness of the electronic form.
- The Department of Education is also piloting a system to transfer IRS tax data into a student's FAFSA.



## FAFSA Simplification and Completion Assistance Increased College Attendance Almost 30 Percent

### H&R Block FAFSA Experiment



Source: Bettinger, Long, Oreopoulos, Sanbonmatsu (2009)