## Financial Aid Presentation for New Jersey High Schools 2024-2025 Academic Year



### The Mission

The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority is the only State agency with the sole mission of providing students and families with the financial and informational resources to pursue their education beyond high school.

### **Goals of Financial Aid Office**

- Primary goal is to assist students in paying for college and is achieved by:
  - Evaluating family's ability to pay for educational costs
  - Distributing limited resources in an equitable manner
  - Providing a balance of grants/scholarships & wages from school/federal sponsored student employment.
  - Implementing federal and state regulations for their college/university

## Sources & Types of Aid

#### **Sources of Aid**

- ➤ The College/University
- > Federal

awards

- State of New Jersey
- Outside Organizations
   Civic organizations (ex.

   local Rotary Club), parent's employer, high school

#### **Types of Financial Aid**

- **>**Grants
- ➤ Scholarships
- ➤ Employment Opportunities
- ➤ Student/Family resources such as savings
- ➤ Self Help Loans

## Factors that may influence institutional aid, particularly merit-based aid

- > Academics
- ➤ Athletic Ability\*
- > SAT's or ACT's
- Geographic Diversity
- > AP Courses
- Legacy (child of alumni)
- > Activities
- > Talent
- ➤ Academic Track
- ➤ Gender/Ethnicity
- > H.S. Attended
- ➤ Class Rank

#### **Net Price Calculator**

- All institutions must have a net price calculator posted on their websites.
- Students will be able to estimate the individual net price per institution.
- Based on full-time, first degree/certificateseeking undergraduate students.

## **Types of Aid - Federal**

#### **Grants**

- Federal Student Aid 2023-24
  - Pell \$7,395 (max award)
  - SEOG \$4,000 (max award)
  - TEACH \$3,772 (max award)

<sup>\* 2024-25</sup> award amounts subject to change

#### **New Jersey State Grants 2023-24 Academic Year**

(2024-2025 award amounts to be determined July 2024)

Award Type		Award Amounts		
Full-Time TAG		\$1,280 - \$14,404		
Part-T	ime TAG (community college only)	\$320-\$1,097		
EOF (Educational Opportunity Fund)		Up to \$3,050 includes college success support		
NJ STARS (top 15.0% of high school class junior or senior year)		Tuition Only - community college only		
NJ STARS II		Up to \$2,500 per year – any NJ 4-year college		
Governor's Urban Scholarship (GUS)		Up to \$1,000		
NJ-GIVS (women and minorities)		Up to \$2,000 building trades only		
	Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG)!	After all other grant/scholarship aid- tuition and most fees – FREE for AGI \$65,000 or less, \$65,001 to 80,000 is 50% reduced tuition & fees, and \$80,001 to \$100,000 is 33% reduced tuition and fees		
ge Promise	Garden State Guarantee (GSG)	After all other grant/scholarship aid- tuition and most fees – FREE for AC \$65,000 or less, \$65,001 to 80,000 is not to exceed \$7,500 tuition & fees and \$80,001 to \$100,000 is not to exceed \$10,000 tuition and fees		



**Summer TAG** 

I PROMISED myself I'd graduate debt-free...

I can now afford.

Must be enrolled in summer coursework at least half-time and received at

least one TAG payment in the prior academic year.

## Types of Aid: State Grants & Scholarship Requirements

Students must have a complete Application for TAG (Tuition Aid Grant) and all other state programs. Student must be:

- File a FAFSA or New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application
- Be a U.S. citizen, eligible non-citizen or qualify as an NJ Dreamer
- Be a New Jersey resident & attend a New Jersey institution
- Be enrolled full-time\* in an approved degree program
- Demonstrate financial need
- Meet all state deadlines for application and document submission

\*Part-Time TAG awards are available for county college students enrolled 6-11 credits per semester. Summer TAG also available for all students enrolled in 6-11 summer course credits if received TAG during preceding academic year.

#### **Summer TAG (Tuition Aid Grant)**

- Received TAG in the prior Fall or Spring semester
- Award range dependent upon enrollment status
  - Full-time, Three Quarter-time, or Half-time

#### **EOF (Educational Opportunity Fund)**

- Award ranges from \$200 \$3,050 annually depending on institution.
- EOF award amount also varies based on decision/discretion of campus EOF office.
- Must demonstrate educational and economically disadvantaged background
- Complete all required EOF tasks

#### Governor's Urban Scholarship

- Rank within the top 5% of their class at the end of junior year
- Attain a 3.0 GPA at the end of the junior year
- Reside in a designated community
- Having financial need making the student eligible for a TAG award

Asbury Park City	Burlington City	Bridgeton	Camden City	East Orange City	Elizabeth	Garfield	Gloucester City	Harrison	Hoboken
Irvington Township	Jersey City	Keansburg	Lakewood	Long Branch	Millville City	Neptune Township	Newark City	New Brunswick City	Orange
Passaic City	Paterson City	Pemberton Township	Perth Amboy	Phillipsburg	Plainfield City	Pleasantville	Roselle Borough	Salem City	Trenton City
Union City	Vineland City	West New York							

#### **NJ STARS**

- NJ residents who rank in the top 15.0% of their class at either the end of junior or senior year of high school
- Students must attain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher at the start of the third semester at the county college to remain NJ STAR eligible

#### <u>NJ STARS II</u>

- Received NJSTARS funding and have a family taxable income of less than \$250,000
- Must earn an associates degree and graduate with a 3.25 GPA or higher
- May receive up to \$2,500 annually for a public or private 4-year NJ college or university
- Must take at least 12 college credits per semester (may enroll part-time for at least or 6 credits with a qualified doctors note)

#### Governor's Industry Vocation Scholarship for Women & Minorities

#### **NJ-GIVS**

- Up to \$2,000 per year for the cost of enrollment at one of New Jersey's
   18 County Colleges, Technical / Vocational Schools, some Proprietary Schools
- Benefits women and minorities pursuing certificate or degree programs in construction related fields
- Must be NJ resident and have AGI < \$60,000</li>
- Complete separate application online. Found in the student's NJFAMS account, Apply for Scholarships
- Some of the programs eligible for the scholarship include
  - Construction Supervision
  - Solar Energy Technology
  - Architectural Engineering Technology

## **CCOG County Vo-tech Pilot**

Approved Vocational Technical Programs at County Vocational Technical Schools, County Colleges, and certain Tech schools

- Students must be enrolled in at least one eligible county vocational-technical course in FY 2024
- Students are eligible for funding for one course during FY 2024
- Students who have already earned a bachelors or associate degree are not eligible
- Students will receive tuition coverage on a last dollar basis, after first accounting for any grants or employer support the student may receive.
- Students must have an Adjusted Gross Income between \$0-\$100,000

Students with AGIs between \$0 and \$65,000 will eligible for a full CCOG-CVT award Students with AGIs between \$65,001 and \$80,000 will be eligible for a 50% CCOG-CVT award Students with AGIs between \$80,001 and \$100,000 be eligible for a one-third CCOG-CVT award

#### Eligible programs:

- Automotive Technology
- Medical Assisting
- Dental Assisting
- Phlebotomy
- Cosmetology
- LPN
- Veterinary Assistant

- Culinary Arts
- · Certified Nurses Aid
- Audio Engineering
- Computer Science
- Basic Electrical
- Health & Fitness Technology
- A+COMPTIA Computer Technician



myself I'd graduate debt-free...

that's a promise I can now **afford**.





#### **Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG)**

Pays for all or part of the cost of Tuition and Approved fees at a NJ county college

- Must take a minimum of six credits per semester
- Must make satisfactory academic progress

Tier I	AGI \$0 - \$65,000 for maximum award: Tuition Free
Tier II	AGI \$65,001 – 80,000 for 50% of the maximum award at that county college
Tier III	AGI \$80,001 - \$100,000 for 33% of the maximum award at that county college



#### **Garden State Guarantee**

Pays for all or part of the cost of Tuition and Approved fees at a NJ state college

- New Jersey State Colleges and Universities
- Must make Satisfactory Academic Progress
- Available for students in their third and fourth year of enrollment at a public
   4-year institution

Tier I	AGI \$0 - \$65,000 for maximum award: Tuition Free
Tier II	AGI \$65.001 – 80,000 pay net price of no more than \$7,500, tuition and fees
Tier III	AGI \$80,001 - \$100,000 pay net price of no more than \$10,000 tuition and fees

## 3 + 1 Degree Completion Programs

- Student enrolls in a bona fide 3 + 1 major/degree program
- Student completes the first two years at the community college and earns an Associate Degree
- Pays community college tuition and fees for the associate degree and the third year of their bachelor's degree program
- Attends and pays the four-year institution's tuition and fees in the final year of the bachelor degree
- Meet all other eligibility criteria for TAG, NJSTARS, CCOG



### **Loans & Financing Shortfall Solutions**

- Monthly Payment Plans offered by the college
- Federal Direct Loan Program (1st year dependent student)
  - Subsidized Loan \$3,500 need based
  - Unsubsidized Loan \$2,000 additional
- 2023 2024 Federal Undergraduate Direct Loan interest rates are 5.50%, plus a 1.057% origination fee

2024 – 2025 Rates and fees are subject to change

### Other Loan Options to Cover the Gap

Borrow up to cost of attendance

#### Compare NJCLASS and Federal Parent PLUS rates for Academic Year 2023-24

Terms	NJCLASS No Administrative Fee	Federal Parent PLUS Rate <sup>3</sup> /APR - Origination Fee 4.228%	Repayment
10 - Year <sup>2</sup> Option 1	5.69% APR	8.05% / 9.053% APR	Immediate repayment of principal and interest while in school
15 - Year <sup>2</sup> Option 2	5.89% APR	8.05% / 8.959% APR	Interest only payments while in school
20 - Year <sup>2</sup> Option 3	7.49% APR	8.05% / 8.732% APR	Full deferment while enrolled in school at least half time
Party to the loan	The student or parent is the borrower. A parent, relative, or other US Citizen or eligible Non-Citizen may co-sign the loan.	Parent Only	

2024 – 2025 Interest Rates will be determined in mid 2024

## **Applications to Access Aid**

studentaid.gov
Available December 2023



student.collegeboard.org/profile Available October 1, 2023



HESAA.org
Available December 2023



## **Application: CSS Profile**

- Approximately 400 Colleges and Organizations use the CSS profile to determine how they will award institutional (school funded) aid
- Available 10/1 each year and collects more comprehensive income, asset, and household information than the FAFSA
- Uses prior prior year income (2022 for 2024-2025)
- Mostly used by independent (private) colleges & universities

Register – Complete Application – Make payment – Submit

- √No payment for income under \$100,000
- ✓ All others, \$25 for first application and \$16 for each additional

#### **CSS Profile**

Website to apply for profile

https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/

Website to apply for Noncustodial Profile:

https://www.proprofs.com/training/course/?title=202223-completing the-css-profile-for-noncustodial-parent\_610a90e612320



Customer Support - 844-202-0524 | Live Chat Available

# Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- 2024-2025 "A Better" FAFSA is available December 2023
- Collects family's personal and financial information used to calculate the student's Student Aid Index (SAI). The SAI determines eligibility for federal student aid
- File the FAFSA electronically via FAFSA on the Web at www.studentaid.gov
- FAFSA Uses prior-prior year income information (2022 for award year 2024-25)
- All contributors on the application (student & parent(s)) must provide consent to the IRS to obtain Federal Tax Information (FTI) to populate income & tax information with actual prior-prior year tax information
  - All prior-prior year tax information (2022) is already filed, allowing immediate retrieval.

### 2024-2025 Federal Student Aid ID

Used to provide consent to obtain Federal Tax Information and digitally sign the FAFSA

Student and all information contributors must create a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) at <a href="https://www.studentaid.gov">www.studentaid.gov</a> by clicking on "create account"

Student Identifies who the information contributor(s) are and invites them to contribute to the FAFSA. Each contributor must have their own separate FSA ID and password.

Information contributors Include: Biological Parent, Stepparent, and Adoptive Parent

- One parent if two parents filed taxes jointly
- Parent who provided more financial support in the last 12 months, if parents are divorced/separated
- If married or unmarried/living together but did not file taxes jointly, then both contributors will need an FSA ID

All contributors must be verified by individual email when creating the FSA ID

### 2024-2025 Federal Student Aid ID for Undocumented Contributors

- Information Contributors with an ITIN number must use the ITIN number to create their FSA ID and will have to verify identity.
- Information Contributors who do not have an SSN will register with all zeros and will have to verify identity through a knowledge based verification process.
- Information Contributors who cannot verify identity must contact FSA to submit documentation and if still cannot verify identify must complete a paper FAFSA
- All contributors must be verified by individual email when creating the FSA ID

## Federal Tax Information (FTI)

- The IRS will request consent to retrieve your Federal Tax Information (FTI) into the FAFSA
- The FTI will be available beginning December 2023 to support the Better FAFSA
- If parents are married or unmarried/living together, but did not file taxes jointly, then both will need to login to provide consent to retrieve federal tax information

### **Federal Tax Information Consent**

Information Contributors will be instructed to provide Federal Tax Information from their 2022 tax return to be used to determine the student's eligibility for federal student aid for award year 2024-25

#### Provide Consent or the Student Will Be Ineligible for Federal Student Aid

#### Summary

Your consent is needed to retrieve and disclose federal tax information (FTI). With your consent, we can obtain tax return information automatically from the IRS to help you complete your section of the student's FAFSA® form. If you don't provide consent, the student will not be eligible for federal student aid, including grants and loans. You must provide consent even if you didn't file a U.S. federal tax return or any tax return at all.

- → Get your 2022 tax return information for the 2024–25 FAFSA form.
- Tax return information is required to complete the FAFSA form.
- FTI is used to determine the student's eligibility for federal student aid.

## **Key Eligibility Requirements for FAFSA**

- The student must have a valid Social Security Number
- Must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in an eligible program of study
- Must be pursuing a degree, certificate, or other recognized credential
- Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen
- New Jersey students who are undocumented and meet the NJ NJDREAMER qualifications should complete the NJ Alternative application for state funded financial aid

## **Key Components of the FAFSA**

#### Student Contributor Section

- √ Full Name and address
- √ Social Security Number or ITIN Number
- √ Date of Birth
- √ Mobile phone number (optional)
- √ Email address
- √ College/Career plans 20 Colleges
- Student Consent and Assets
  - √ FTI (Federal Tax Information)
- Student Status: Personal Circumstances
  - ✓ Dependent or Independent Determination
  - √ Student Special Circumstances
  - √ Student Unusual Circumstances

#### Parent Contributor Section

- √ Social Security Number
- √ Last Name
- √ Date of Birth
- √ Email address
- √ Household size FTI
- √ Income and Assets
- √ Federal Means-tested benefits
  - √ Medicaid, SSI, SNAP,
  - √ Free or Reduced Lunch
  - √ TANF, WIC, WITC QHP
- Business and Farm will be considered as assets in the calculation of the SAI
- Child Support received is an asset

## **FAFSA Submission Summary**



This link redirects filers to view instructions regarding the NJFAMS Student Portal. Applicants are instructed to log into "NJFAMS.HESAA.org" to create a user ID and password. In 3-5 business days, students can their check awards and eligibility status and complete any outstanding items on their "To Do" list (There is no separate State Application, only a To-Do List in the state's NJFAMS system).

Please note, all notifications will be sent to the student email address listed on the FAFSA.

#### **Federal & State Verification**

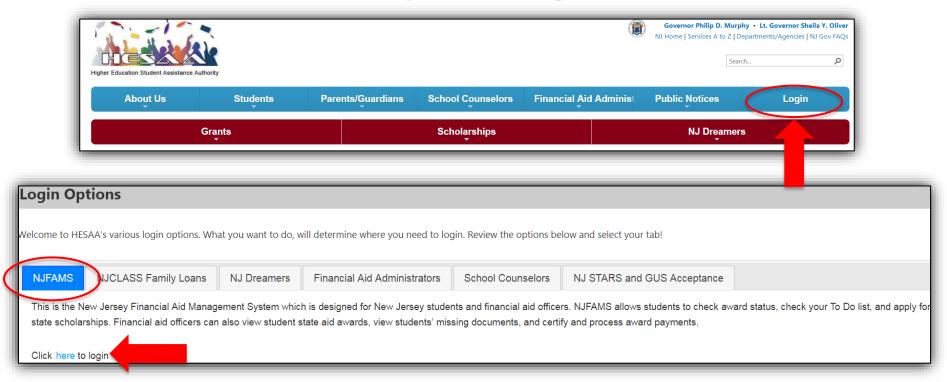
- SCHOOL is responsible for verifying information for federal aid except for special circumstances
- HESAA is responsible for verifying information for State aid
- Schools may send request for information by mail or e-mail
- Always check your school account and NJFAMS account for required tasks
- Be sure to meet verification deadlines

## **New Jersey Dreamers**



- Certain state aid eligible student with undocumented immigration status who attended at least 3-years and graduated from a NJ high school and met other requirements
- Application is part of NJFAMS, at <a href="https://njfams.hesaa.org">https://njfams.hesaa.org</a>
- Register for your account by creating a User ID and Password
- Login to complete the application by established deadlines
- Must meet all other need and/or merit-based eligibility criteria for state student aid

### **NJFAMS**



- All students must go to "NJGRANTS.org"
- Establish an NJFAMS Account by creating a User ID and Password
- Track the status of your State-funded student aid and respond to required tasks on the To-Do List

### **NJFAMS**

#### Welcome to NJFAMS!

Check your To Do List for additional information we need to process your grant or scholarship.

- To Do List
- Apply Online for New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid (Dreamer Students only)
- View and Update Your School
- Apply Online for Scholarships
- Award and Eligibility Information
- Notifications
- Portal Announcements
- View And Update Your Contact Information
- Edit Your Profile

Your FAFSA for academic year 2022-2023 has not been received

Your FAFSA for academic year 2024-2025 has been received Your FAFSA for academic year 2023-2024 has not been received

#### **Cost of Attendance**

- Tuition and fees
- Food & Housing
- Books and supplies, equipment, transportation, and miscellaneous personal expenses
- Loan fees
- Study abroad costs
- Dependent care expenses
- Expenses related to a disability
- Expenses for cooperative education program

## What Is The Student Aid Index (SAI)?

- SAI is determined by a federal formula that calculates federal Pell grant eligibility and is used to determine further financial need using the information you supplied on the FAFSA
- SAI & Financial Need are guidelines used by schools to determine student aid offers
- SAI calculates eligibility for federal student aid, based on your family's ability to pay college costs

#### Federal Pell Grants - Sample SAI for Smith vs Jones Family

The Smith family lives in New Jersey
Married parents filing jointly
Household size of 4
2022 adjusted gross income = \$94,002
Assets = \$0
Student income / assets = \$50 / \$213

SAI = 8,667 \$0 federal Pell grant eligibility The Jones family lives in New Jersey
Married parents filing jointly
Household size of 6
2022 adjusted gross income = \$94,002
Assets = \$0
Student income / assets = \$50 / \$213

SAI = 3,764 \$3,631 federal Pell grant eligibility

SAI Calculator: <a href="https://www.collegemoneymethod.com/2024-25-student-aid-index-sai-calculator/">https://www.collegemoneymethod.com/2024-25-student-aid-index-sai-calculator/</a>

### Financial Need for Smith Family

College	Community College	State College or University	Private College or University
COA	\$8,000	\$30,000	\$60,000
SAI Other Financial Aid	8,667 1,000	8,667 1,000	8,667 1,000
Unmet Financial Need	\$0	\$20,333	\$50,333

#### The Cycle of Financial Aid

December - March	Complete FAFSA application ("December" for 2024-25 Only), college search, college application process, and CSS Profile
February - May	Schools send financial aid offers
June - July	Schools send Fall semester bills
August	Bills are due

#### Where Do I Go From Here?

- Obtain and review admission, financial aid materials and deadlines from each school to which you are applying
- Meet all application deadlines
  - CSS Profile if applicable
  - Complete the FAFSA and any other application materials required by the school or your state agency
  - NJ State deadlines for high school Class of 2024:

September 15, 2024 for Fall '24 and Spring '25 semesters and February 15, 2025 for Spring '25 ONLY awards

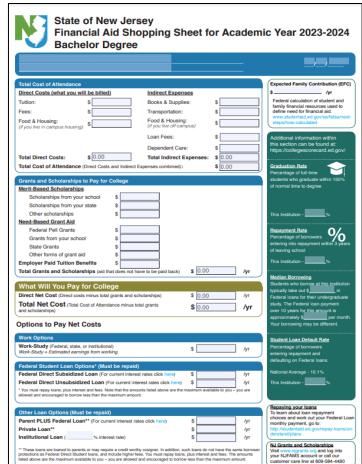
April 15, 2025 to renew your financial aid for Academic Year 2025-26

Note: After 1<sup>st</sup> year, students must renew ANNUALLY by April 15<sup>th</sup> e.g., April 15, 2025 in first year for sophomore year, if the student received a State TAG award in the current year)

# The College Financing Plan New Jersey Shopping Sheet

- Help families with net cost transparency
- Separates the Cost of Attendance listing the direct and indirect costs
- Grants & Scholarships (no repayment required, "free money")
- Student Net Costs in center box
- College coordinated work study employment
- Federal Student Loans
- If necessary, alternate loans

Aid Offer must replicate the Shopping Sheet



#### **Other Resources**

- Outside Scholarships
- Campus-Administered Payment Plans
- Campus Employment (including schoolsponsored "work-study" jobs)
- Specialized Campus Opportunities
  - √ Residential Advisors
  - √ Student Ambassadors
  - √ Student Tour Guides
  - √ Internships/Co-op's

#### Private Scholarship Search

- Institution/college web sites
- Local library resources
- Local businesses, civic organizations and churches
   ✓ Check with your High School guidance office
- Parent's employer(s)
- www.hesaa.org
- www.fastweb.com
- www.collegeboard.org
- www.mappingyourfuture.org



#### NJBEST 529 College Savings Plan



- HESAA awards a one-time scholarship ranging from \$1,000 - \$3,000 to NJBEST beneficiaries who enroll in a New Jersey institution after making contributions to an account for at least 4 years
- NJBEST offers a matching grant up to \$750 for new accounts
- State tax deduction for up to \$10,000 in annual contributions to an account

To Learn More: <a href="https://www.hesaa.org/pages/NJBESTHome.aspx">https://www.hesaa.org/pages/NJBESTHome.aspx</a>

# Apply for State Aid Workshops & Webinars

Live Webinars



The 2024-2025 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) opens December 2023.

Most colleges and universities provide FAFSA® Completion Workshops to assist families with completing the FAFSA® application. For FAFSA® Virtual Workshops dates please check your local high school or college. You are also invited to join one of HESAA's virtual events.

#### **Pre-recorded Webinars**

Steps on how to apply for federal and state aid	View/Download YouTube Video
Steps on how to apply for the New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application	YouTube Video (English) YouTube Video (Spanish)

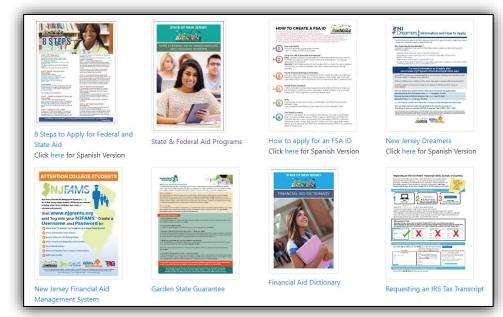
#### **Publications**

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**School Counselors** 





#### **HESAA Services**

Customer Care Center

CustomerCare@hesaa.org

609-584-4480

Monday - Thursday 8:30 - 8 and Friday 8:30 - 5:00

Online Resources

www.hesaa.org

www.njgrants.org

www.njclass.org

https://njfams.hesaa.org

www.hesaa.org/pages/financialaidhub

### QUESTIONS?



## Thank you