

Facts on Educational Opportunity Fund at Essex County College

The Mission of EOF

The Educational Opportunity Fund Program (EOF) at Essex County College was established in 1970. Our mission is to recruit and retain college students who come from low income backgrounds. We welcome people of all ages, ethnic, racial and gender groups. EOF provides financial assistance to its participants as well as assisting with their academic, personal, social, career concerns. Annual enrollment into the program has risen to over 1,000 students, making the ECC program the largest EOF Program of the County Colleges in the State of New Jersey. EOF is funded by the N.J. Commission on Higher Education. The budget for the A/Y 2012 is \$1,574,091.

Here are some interesting facts:

- ❖ At the end of the academic year 2010, 83% of all EOF Students were making satisfactory (2.0 GPA or higher) progress.
- ❖ The three year graduation rate reached 17.9% (2008 fall cohort)
- ❖ 3rd semester (fall '09 to fall 10) reached 71%
- ❖ Fall (10) to Spring (11) retention rate: 91.8%
- ❖ Every month approximately 150 students attend the EOF Forums on college life and success.
- ❖ EOF Program doubled the amount of students using tutoring from 2007 (241) to 2009 (463)
- ❖ More than 38 Students from the program have received awards for their academic excellence from the EOF State office; we have more students receiving academic excellence awards than any other two year college in the state.
- ❖ In the A/Y 2011, \$900,000 was allocated to some 1,000 low-income (525.00 for each fall and spring semesters), students to assist them in meeting their college expenses.
- ❖ In 2011, a total of 26 or 33.7 % of the scholarships offered by the college went to 11 EOF students. The EOF Department awarded \$2,000 in scholarships to four EOF Graduating students from the class of 2011. To learn more about EOF or ECC, go to the website: essex.edu or call: 973 877-3231 (J. Romano) or x 3405 (C. Beretta)

EOF: Get with the Program!

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