

## Federal and State Student Aid Programs Available for Enrollment at Essex County College

### FEDERAL STUDENT AID PROGRAMS

- ALL require the FAFSA® (<https://fafsa.gov>); Applicants must have a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID).
- General eligibility requirements: US citizen or eligible non-citizen; have a social security number; registered w/ Selective Service (if required); HS diploma or GED.
- The US Department of Education provides information on how to create a Federal Student Aid ID, how to complete the FAFSA®, and other topics (including multi-media content) here: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/resources> (Spanish language material also available).

Program Name	Eligibility Requirements
<b>Federal Pell Grants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For undergraduates with exceptional financial need who have not earned bachelor's or professional degrees.</li> <li>• Student must be a regular student enrolled in an eligible program.</li> <li>• Course(s) cannot be prerequisite to enrollment into an eligible program.</li> <li>• Not for courses for a high school diploma or recognized equivalent.</li> </ul>
<b>Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant.</li> <li>• Must be pursuing first associate or baccalaureate degree.</li> <li>• Must have "exceptional financial need" (defined as a zero EFC at Essex County College).</li> </ul>
<b>Federal Work-Study</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award is maximum amount student is eligible to earn.</li> <li>• Work-Study is NOT a grant. It provides compensated work. Earnings assumed to be invested in the student's educational expenses.</li> </ul>

} Awarded based on limited funding from annual appropriation from the US Department of Education.

### STATE OF NJ STUDENT AID PROGRAMS

- All require the FAFSA®; must be citizens, eligible non-citizens or eligible to file the NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application: <https://www.hesaa.org/Pages/NJAlternativeApplication.aspx>; see also: [https://www.hesaa.org/Documents/FAFSA/njAlt\\_flyer.pdf](https://www.hesaa.org/Documents/FAFSA/njAlt_flyer.pdf)
- Must be NJ resident at least 12 consecutive months prior to enrollment.
- All HESAA Publications are available here: <https://www.hesaa.org/Pages/HESAAPublications.aspx>
- Student should create an account on NJ FAMS to track their NJ student aid eligibility, including responding to any HESAA documentation needs for their own verification processes. [https://www.hesaa.org/Documents/FAFSA/NJFAMS\\_username\\_password\\_flyer.pdf](https://www.hesaa.org/Documents/FAFSA/NJFAMS_username_password_flyer.pdf)

Program Name	Eligibility Requirements
<b>Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a high school diploma or recognized equivalent</li> <li>• Demonstrate financial need</li> </ul>
<b>Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administered by a separate office at Essex County College.</li> <li>• Program for students impacted by economic and educational disadvantages.</li> </ul>
<b>Governor's Urban Scholarship Program (GUS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rank within the top 5% of their class and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher at the end of the junior year of high school</li> <li>• Reside in one of the designated communities</li> <li>• Be registered with Selective Service (if required)</li> </ul>
<b>NJ STARS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NJ residents in top 15% of HS junior or senior class may be eligible to receive an NJ STARS award for attendance at their home county college.</li> <li>• Students must have completed a rigorous high school course of study.</li> <li>• Students may attend another NJ county college only if desired program of study is not offered at the county college where they reside or is oversubscribed for at least one year.</li> </ul>

<b>NJ STARS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students must take at least 12 college-level credits each semester; maintain continuous associate degree program full-time enrollment at home county college.</li> <li>Students must be NJ resident for at least 12 consecutive months immediately prior to high school graduation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renewal: Cumulative grade point average (GPA) least 3.0 by start of the second year of county college enrollment for academic requirement.</li> <li>NJ STARS students must graduate with a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher to qualify academically for the NJ STARS II program.</li> </ul>
<b>World Trade Center Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be a child or spouse of an individual who was a NJ resident on September 11, 2001 who was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>killed in the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001</li> <li>died as a result of injuries received in the attacks.</li> <li>died as a result of illness caused by exposure to attack sites.</li> <li>declared missing and officially presumed dead as a result of the attacks.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be a full-time undergraduate student.</li> <li>Eligibility to apply is limited to 8 years from the date of the child's high school graduation and 8 years from the date of death for the spouse.</li> <li>Maintain satisfactory academic progress.</li> <li>Not have received the maximum allowable number of payments. (For example: 8 semesters of payment for a regular 4-year degree program; 5 semesters of payment for a regular two-year degree program).</li> </ul>
<b>Survivor Tuition Benefits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be a child or surviving spouse of a NJ firefighter, emergency service worker or law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be registered with Selective Service (if required).</li> <li>Maintain satisfactory academic progress</li> </ul>
<b>Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be enrolled at least half-time in an undergraduate program at an approved NJ college, university or degree-granting proprietary school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eligibility is limited to eight years from the date of the child's high school graduation and eight years from the date of death for the spouse.</li> <li>Not have received the maximum number of payments.</li> </ul>
<b>NJ Foster Care Scholars</b>	<p>Must meet one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have been in care and custody of NJ Department of Children and Families Child Protection &amp; Permanency in an out-of-home placement for a cumulative of 9 months or more following the youth's 16th birthday.</li> <li>Have been in an out-of-home placement for a cumulative of 18 months or more following the youth's 14th birthday.</li> <li>Reside in or have resided in an independent living arrangement, or Transitional Living Program (see asterisk in next column):</li> </ul>	<p>*The facility or program must be established, operated or approved for payment by NJ CP&amp;P, the federal government pursuant to the Runaway &amp; Homeless Youth Act or NJ Homeless Youth Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be adopted through New Jersey CP&amp;P following the youth's 12th birthday.</li> <li>Have been in a CP&amp;P out-of-home placement and left to enter KLG following the youth's 16th birthday.</li> <li>Flyer: <a href="https://www.nj.gov/dcf/home/DCF_FosterCareScholarsProgram_Flyer.pdf">https://www.nj.gov/dcf/home/DCF_FosterCareScholarsProgram_Flyer.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b>NJ Governor's Industry Vocations Scholarship for women &amp; minorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive an NJ-GIVS award, you must be a female or a minority group member, as defined in the NJ administrative code.</li> <li>Must have an annual household income below \$60,000.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Award may be used at any of New Jersey's 19 county colleges, county vocational technical schools or a proprietary trade school provided the school is affiliated with an institution that is eligible to participate in the New Jersey Tuition Aid Grant (TAG) program.</li> </ul>

**Additional Information:**

- Things You Need Before You Can Fill Out the 2019-2020 FAFSA®: <https://blog.ed.gov/2018/09/7-things-you-need-2019-20-fafsa/>
- Big Future™/How to Complete the FAFSA®: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid-101/how-to-complete-the-fafsa>
- 7 Easy Steps to the FAFSA 2019-2020 – Student's Guide to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid: <https://www.finaid.ucsb.edu/fafsasimplification/> (created by the University of California-Santa Barbara Office of Financial Aid Office and Scholarships, with permission for other schools to use)
- How to Complete the 2019-2020 FAFSA® using your smartphone: <https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/announcement-detail.jsp?id=fafsa-mobile-options>

**DEADLINES**

**Federal Student Aid:**

File the FAFSA® between October 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020.

**State of New Jersey Deadlines - New Students:**

- Fall 2019 and Spring 2020: File the FAFSA by September 15, 2019; Complete State Record in NJFAMS by November 1, 2019.
- Spring 2020: File FAFSA® by February 15, 2019; Complete State record in NJFAMS by March 1, 2019.

**State of New Jersey - Returning Students:**

- Fall 2019 & Spring 2020: File FAFSA® by April 15, 2019; Complete State record in NJFAMS by May 1, 2019.
- Spring 2020 only: File FAFSA® by February 15, 2019; Complete State record in NJFAMS by March 1, 2019.

**State of New Jersey - "NJ Dreamers":**

- Fall 2019 & Spring 2020: Complete NJ *Alternative Financial Aid Application*; Complete State record in NJFAMS by November 1, 2019.
- Spring 2020 only: Complete NJ *Alternative Financial Aid Application*; Complete State record in NJFAMS by March 1, 2020.