

Federal and State Student Aid Programs 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) to sign electronically. Or, download & file the paper version: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/sites/default/files/2019-20-fafsa.pdf>.
 - Applicant must demonstrate financial need for Federal student aid at Essex County College.
 - Applicant must be a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen; have a valid Social Security number (except for students from the Republic of Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, or Republic of Palau); be registered with Selective Service, if male and between ages 18 and 25).
 - Applicant must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a regular student in an eligible degree or certificate program; and maintain satisfactory academic progress.
 - Applicant must sign the certification statement on the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) stating that you are not in default on a federal student loan and do not owe money on a federal student grant and you will use federal student aid only for educational purposes; and
 - Applicant must show you are qualified to obtain a college or career school education by having a high school diploma or a recognized equivalent such as a General Educational Development (GED) certificate; or completing a high school education in a homeschool setting approved under state law (or—if state law does not require a homeschooled student to obtain a completion credential—completing a high school education in a homeschool setting that qualifies as an exemption from compulsory attendance requirements under state law); or enrolling in an eligible career pathway program and meeting one of the "ability-to-benefit" alternatives.
- Source: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/eligibility/basic-criteria>. The US Department of Education provides guidance (including multi-media content) on how to create a Federal Student Aid ID and how to complete the FAFSA®: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/resources> (Spanish content available).

Program Name	Eligibility Requirements
Federal Pell Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For undergraduates with exceptional financial need who have not earned bachelor's or professional degrees. • Student must be a regular student enrolled in an eligible program. • Course(s) cannot be prerequisite to enrollment into an eligible program. • Not for courses for a high school diploma or recognized equivalent. • Course cannot be below the level needed to successfully complete the degree or certificate program offered after one year in the remedial course.
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant. • Must be pursuing first associate or baccalaureate degree. • Must have "exceptional financial need" (defined at Essex CC as a zero EFC <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">}</div> <p style="text-align: center;">Awarded based on limited funding from annual appropriation from the US Department of Education.</p>
Federal Work-Study	
Federal Work-Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award is maximum amount student is eligible to earn. • Work-Study is NOT a grant. It provides compensated work. Earnings assumed to be invested in the student's educational expenses (see general eligibility above).

STATE OF NJ STUDENT AID PROGRAMS

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

Program Name	Eligibility Requirements
Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a high school diploma or recognized equivalent • Demonstrate financial need
Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administered by a separate office at Essex County College. • Program for students impacted by economic & educational disadvantages.
Governor's Urban Scholarship Program (GUS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Reside in one of the designated communities • Be registered with Selective Service (if required)

NJ STARS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Students must be NJ resident for at least 12 consecutive months immediately prior to high school graduation. Students must have completed a rigorous high school course of study. 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 1 year. Students must take at least 12 college-level credits each semester; maintain continuous associate degree program full-time enrollment at home county college. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students must achieve required score on college placement test to demonstrate readiness for college-level coursework prior to receiving scholarship. If remediation is required, the student has one year from September 1st following high school graduation to demonstrate college readiness. Renewal: Cumulative grade point average (GPA) least 3.0 by start of the second year of county college enrollment for academic requirement. NJ STARS students must graduate with a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher to qualify academically for the NJ STARS II program. 		
World Trade Center Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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"> killed in the terrorist attacks against the USA on 9/11/2001. died as a result of injuries received in the attacks. died as a result of illness caused by exposure to attack sites. declared missing & officially presumed dead as a result of the attacks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be a full-time undergraduate student. 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. Maintain satisfactory academic progress. 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). 		
Survivor Tuition Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be a child or surviving spouse of a NJ firefighter, emergency service worker or law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be registered with Selective Service (if required). Maintain satisfactory academic progress 		
Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be enrolled at least half-time in an undergraduate program at an approved NJ college, university or degree-granting proprietary school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Not have received the maximum number of payments. 		
NJ Foster Care Scholars	<p>Must meet one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have been in care and custody of NJ Department of Children and Families Child Protection & Permanency in an out-of-home placement for a cumulative of 9 months or more following the youth's 16th birthday. Have been in an out-of-home placement for a cumulative of 18 months or more following the youth's 14th birthday. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reside or have resided in an independent living arrangement; or Transitional Living program) *The facility or program must be established, operated or approved for payment by NJ CP&P, the federal government pursuant to the Runaway & Homeless Youth Act or NJ Homeless Youth Act. Be adopted through New Jersey CP&P following the youth's 12th birthday. Have been in a CP&P out-of-home placement and left to enter KLG following the youth's 16th birthday. Flyer: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/home/DCF_FosterCareScholarsProgram_Flyer.pdf 		
NJ Governor's Industry Vocations Scholarship for women & minorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To receive an NJ-GIVS award, you must be a female or a minority group member, as defined in the NJ administrative code. Must have an annual household income below \$60,000. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 		
NJ "Dreamers"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete this application if you are not a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen and meet all of the following criteria; Attended a New Jersey high school for at least three (3) years Graduated from a New Jersey high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma in New Jersey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered for Selective Service (male students only) Are able to file an affidavit stating that you have filed an application to legalize your immigration status or will file an application as soon you are eligible to do so https://www.hesaa.org/Pages/NJAlternativeApplication.aspx 		
Additional Information:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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®: https://www.finaid.ucsb.edu/fafsasimplification/ (Video produced/graciously shared by the University of California at Santa Barbara Financial Aid Office) 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:	State of New Jersey – Spring Term Only	Incomplete NJ Applications/Corrections/Task Completion	NJ deadlines pertain to the filing of the FAFSA® and the NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application (if applicable).
	File the FAFSA® between October 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020. State of New Jersey Deadlines – Fall and Spring Terms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All renewal students: April 15, 2019 Non-renewal students: September 15, 2019 All EOF students: September 15, 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewal Students: April 15, 2019 Non-renewal students: February 15, 2019 All EOF students: February 15, 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall Term – All Students: November 1, 2019 Spring Term – All Students: March 1, 2020 Projected Year Changes for the Fall and Spring Terms: March 1, 2010 	