



Fact Sheet for NJ STARS II Students Beginning Enrollment at a New Jersey Four-Year Institution during the 2019-20 Academic Year

The NJ STARS II program is a continuation of the NJ STARS program that provides successful NJ STARS students at New Jersey county colleges with funding to transfer to a New Jersey four-year college/university to earn a bachelor's degree. **The following information applies to NJ STARS II students beginning enrollment at a New Jersey four-year college or university during the 2019-20 academic year.**

NJ STARS II Benefits

The NJ STARS II award will be based on tuition only, except for Tuition Aid Grant recipients who will receive NJ STARS II awards based on tuition **and** approved fees. The amount of the NJ STARS II award will be determined after all other state and federal grants and scholarships are applied to these charges, not to exceed \$1,250 per semester.

The state funds 100% of the NJ STARS II award, while students will be responsible for any remaining balance. NJ STARS II awards are dependent upon annual state appropriations.

Approved Fees – Applies to NJ STARS II Students Receiving Tuition Aid Grants

All fees charged by a New Jersey four-year institution that are mandatory for attendance as well as any fees required for a specific program of study are approved.

Student Eligibility

- ◆ Students must be NJ STARS recipients or non-funded (tuition and approved fees fully covered by other state and/or federal aid) during the semester of county college graduation.
- ◆ NJ STARS students must have graduated from a New Jersey county college with an associate degree and a GPA of 3.25 or higher.
- ◆ Family income (including taxable and untaxed income) must be less than \$250,000.
- ◆ Students must be admitted to a New Jersey four-year institution that participates in the Tuition Aid Grant (TAG) Program. **Note:** NJ STARS eligibility does not guarantee admission to a New Jersey four-year college or university.
- ◆ Students must begin NJ STARS II program participation no later than the second semester immediately following county college graduation.
- ◆ Students must be enrolled in a full-time course of study (minimum 12 college-level credits) each semester.
- ◆ Students must apply for all forms of state and federal need-based grants and merit scholarships and submit any requested documentation to complete or verify application data within established State deadlines.

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During the 2019-20 Academic Year (continued)**

Application Process

- ◆ Must meet all admission or application requirements established by the New Jersey four-year institution.
- ◆ Must meet all institutional deadlines for admission and financial aid.
- ◆ Once admitted, students must submit to the New Jersey four-year institution a final county college transcript that reflects a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher.
- ◆ Must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application annually within established state deadlines.
 - ◆ After filing your application, logon to <https://njfams.hesaa.org/NJFAMS/login.aspx> to review and complete your state grant record.

2019-2020 HESAA's FAFSA Filing Deadlines:

2018-2019 TAG recipients - Renewal applicants----- **April 15, 2019**

All other applicants - Non-renewal applicants for Fall 2019 and Spring 2020--- **September 15, 2019**

All other applicants - Non-renewal applicants for Spring 2020 semester only--- **February 15, 2020**

- ◆ Meet the NJ State deadlines below for completing State grant records (State Tasks, State Verification, corrections, add a college, etc.):

2018-19 TAG recipients

Renewal applicants Fall 2019 and Spring 2020-----	November 1, 2019
Spring 2020 only-----	March 1, 2020

All other applicants

Non-renewal applicants Fall 2018 and Spring 2019-----	November 1, 2019
Spring 2019 only-----	March 1, 2020

- ◆ New Jersey four-year institutions notify students of NJ STARS II eligibility.

Renewal Eligibility

- ◆ File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application (if applicable), annually within established state deadlines.
- ◆ Students must attain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 at the start of the third semester of study at the New Jersey four-year institution to maintain eligibility for the third and fourth semesters. Summer courses are included in determining the GPA.

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- ◆ Students must maintain **continuous** full-time enrollment as NJ STARS II recipients unless on a medical leave, approved by the four-year college or university, due to the illness of the student, a member of the student's immediate family, or a family emergency. The only other exception to continuous full-time enrollment applies to NJ STARS II students called to partial or full mobilization for state or federal active duty as a member of the National Guard or a Reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States.
- ◆ Students may receive an NJ STARS II award for up to four semesters, excluding summer sessions.

Additional Information

Contact the financial aid office at the New Jersey four-year institution for additional information.