2019 - 20 Financial Aid
High School Presentation

New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority
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 gift aid and self-help aid
  - Implement federal and state regulations for their college/university
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<td>high school awards</td>
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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/certificate-seeking undergraduate students.
Types of Aid - Federal

Gift Aid - Grants

- Federal Government 2019 - 2020
  - Pell $6,195
  - SEOG $4,000 (max award)
  - TEACH $3,752 (max award)
Types of Aid – State

• State of New Jersey
  – TAG (Tuition Aid Grant)
    • Demonstrate Financial Need
    • Be a U.S. citizen, eligible non-citizen, or those students who meet the requirements under the Tuition Equity Law
    • Must be New Jersey Resident & attend a New Jersey Institution
    • Must be full time at an approved degree program
    • Meet all state deadlines
  – Part-Time TAG for County Colleges
    • Meet all TAG requirements
    • With the exception of being enrolled for 6-11 credits
Types of Aid – State (cont.)

- **State of New Jersey**
  - **EOF (Educational Opportunity Fund)**
    - Award ranges from $200 - $2,500 annually depending on type of institution
    - Must demonstrate educational and economically disadvantaged background
    - File FAFSA

- **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
  - Attend an approved New Jersey college or University and reside in a designated community
  - Have a New Jersey Eligibility Index below 10,500
Types of Aid – State (cont.)

• State Scholarships
  - NJ STARS
    • NJ residents who rank in the top 15% of their class at either the end of junior or senior year
    • Achieve the required score on a college placement test to determine college readiness
    • Students must take at least 12 college credits or 6 credits with a qualified doctors note
    • Students must attain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher at the start of the third semester at the county college to remain an NJ STAR
    • Must file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
  - NJ STARS II
    • Received NJSTARS funding and have a family taxable income of less than $250,000
    • Must have earned 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 or 6 credits with a qualified doctors note
    • Must file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
Types of Aid – State (cont.)

- State Scholarships
  - 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 19 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
    - Must file a FAFSA & complete separate application online at www.njgrants.org
    - Some of the programs eligible for the scholarship include
      - Construction Supervision
      - Solar Energy Technology
      - Architectural Engineering Technology
Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG)

Students enrolled at least half – time (6 credits) whose household AGI does not exceed $65,000 are eligible for free tuition and approved fees at the all county colleges beginning in AY 19 - 20

- Atlantic Cape Community College
- Bergen Community College
- Camden County College
- Cumberland County College
- Hudson County Community College
- Mercer County Community College
- Middlesex County College
- Burlington Community College
- Gloucester County College
- Sussex County Community College

- Ocean County College
- Passaic County Community College
- Rowan College at Gloucester County
- Salem Community College
- Union County College
- Warren County Community College
- Brookdale Community College
- Essex County College
- County College of Morris
- Raritan Valley Community College
This program reduced the total cost of a bachelor’s degree to less than what most universities charge for a single year.

Rowan College at Burlington County is the first community college to offer – more information to come!
Self Help Loans & Gap Shortfall Solutions

• Monthly Payment Plans – offered by the college
• Federal Direct Loan Program (1st year dependent student)
  – Subsidized Stafford Loan $3,500 need based
  – Unsubsidized Stafford Loan $2,000 additional
• 2019 - 2020 - Federal Direct Undergraduate Direct Loans are 4.53% plus a 1.062% origination fee (disbursements made after 10.1.19 has a 1.059% origination fee)

2020 – 2021 Rates and fees are subject to change
Self Help Loans to Cover the Gap

*borrow up to cost of attendance*

2019 - 2020 - NJCLASS Supplemental Loan Program

- **10 Year Fixed Rate NJCLASS LOAN**, starting at 3.99%
  This option has 3% origination fee
- **15 Year Fixed Rate NJCLASS LOAN** is 4.45%
  This option is also a 3% origination fee and students / families can borrow up to the cost of attendance. Interest only payments while in school available for this repayment plan
- **20 Year Fixed Rate NJCLASS LOAN** is 6.50%
  This option has 3% origination fee

- Federal PLUS Program 7.08% & 4.248%
  Origination fee, Parent is the borrower

2020 – 2021 Rates and fees are subject to change
Institutional & Private Scholarships

• Factors that may influence eligibility:

  Academics  Athletic Ability*
  SAT’s  Geographic Diversity
  AP Courses  Legacy (child of alumni)
  Activities  Talent
  Academic Track  Gender/Ethnicity
  H.S. Attended  Class Rank

* Athletic awards offered by NCAA Division I and Division II schools only.
Applications to Access Aid

student.collegeboard.org/profile

hesaa.org

fafsa.ed.gov

Financial Aid Resources for New Jersey Dreamers

The New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application allows NJ Dreamers enrolled in eligible New Jersey colleges and universities to apply for state financial aid.

Who should complete this application?

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
- Registered for Selective Service (male students only)
- Are able to file an affidavit stating that you will file an application to legalize your immigration status or will file an application as soon as you are eligible to do so.

APPLY NOW
Application: CSS Profile

• Nearly 400 Colleges and Organizations use the CSS profile to determine how they will award institutional funds
• Available 10/1 each year and collects more comprehensive income, asset and household information than the FAFSA (i.e. assets for business owners regardless of number of employees
• Aligns with the FAFSA’s use of prior - prior year income (currently 2018)

Register - Complete Application – Make payment - Submit
CSS Profile

• Website to apply for profile
  www.student.collegeboard.org/profile

• Website to apply for Noncustodial Profile:
  www.ncprofile.collegeboard.org

Customer Service
  844-202-0524
  help@cssprofile.org
Application: FAFSA

- 2020-2021 FAFSA available October 1, 2019
- Mobile FAFSA via web browser, mobile phone or tablet
- FAFSA will use prior prior year income information (2018)
- IRS Data Retrieval Tool can be used immediately
  - All prior prior year tax information (2018) is already filed, allowing immediate retrieval.
Notification of Which Tax Year to Use

Applicants and parents will be instructed to provide financial information from their 2018 tax return.
Application: FAFSA

• Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) prior to the earliest school’s deadline & complete the NJ State Specific Questions

• To ensure maximum consideration for federal, state, and institutional aid, check information from each school to determine:
  – Required application materials
  – Application deadlines
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Collects family’s personal and financial information used to calculate the student’s Expected Family Contribution

- File the FAFSA electronically
  - FAFSA on the Web at www.fafsa.gov
  - Student & Parent must create a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) at fsaid.ed.gov

- Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to populate income & tax information with actual prior - prior year tax information (currently 2018)
The IRS data retrieval tool or (DRT) is used to transfer tax return information into the FAFSA. The DRT will be available beginning October 1st to support early FAFSA. Tax filers who file Married filing separately and foreign tax returns cannot use DRT. Amended tax returns – original tax data will be transferred.
What is a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID?

- In order to enhance security, FAFSA has created a user name and password login at www.fsaid.ed.gov

- Password resets, retrieval of User ID's and passwords can be accomplished at www.fsaid.ed.gov
  - PIN number is not necessary to create a FSA ID

- If you are a parent of a dependent student, you will need your own FSA ID
General Highlighted Eligibility Requirements for FAFSA

- 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
- Must be registered with Selective Service (males are required)
Key Components of the FAFSA

- **Student Demographics**
  - Full Name
  - Social Security Number
  - Date of Birth
  - NJ applicants must provide an answer to the driver’s license questions.
  - **ALL** applicants must indicate their gender.

- **Student Income and Assets**
  - IRS Data Retrieval
  - Income earned from work

- **Student Status: Dependent/Independent**

- **Parent Demographics-Who is a Parent?**
  - Social Security Number
  - Last Name
  - Date of Birth
Key Components of the FAFSA (cont.)

- Household Size
  - Number in college
- Parent(s) Income and Assets
  - IRS Data Retrieval
  - Income earned from work
  - Dislocated Worker
- Federal Means Tested Benefits
  - Medicaid, SSI, SNAP, Free or Reduced Price School Lunch, TANF, WIC
  - List all colleges of interest (up to 10)
Once submitted, use the link from the FAFSA confirmation page to HESAA’s NJFAMS portal to complete the additional data elements for Tuition Aid Grant (TAG) and NJ STARS (II) eligibility.

Applicants who bypass answering the State questions (?), should log into NJFAMS to create a user ID and password to check and complete any outstanding items on their “To Do” list.
Common Mistakes Made on the FAFSA

- Student’s name as it appears on the social security card, social security number, and date of birth.
- Parent section vs. Student section
- Number of people in the household
- Divorced/remarried households
- Taxes paid vs. taxes withheld
- Including untaxable social security benefits
- Parental and student assets
  - “Zero” is a number
- College grade level
- Skipping the gender question
Federal & State Verification

Students are randomly selected, however, using the IRS DATA Retrieval Tool will reduce the likelihood of being selected

- 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
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  - Meet all state deadlines

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  - Meet all TAG requirements
  - With the exception of being enrolled for 6-11 credits

- Must meet all TAG requirements to be considered for all State aid programs (as discussed previously)
NJFAMS

• All students must go to “NJGRANTS.org”

• Establish an NJFAMS Account by creating a User ID and Password
Welcome to NJFAMS!

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

- To Do List
- View and Update Your School
- Apply Online for Scholarships
- Award and Eligibility Information
- Notifications
- View And Update Your Contact Information
- Edit Your Profile

Your FAFSA for academic year 2017-2018 has been received
Your FAFSA for academic year 2018-2019 has been received
Cost of Attendance

- Tuition and fees
- Room and board
- 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
Unexpected Costs

• Remediation Classes: extra 1 – 2 semesters
• Change in major: 1 – 2 years in addition
• Transferring: possible extra semester
• Unpaid internships: loss of Summer wages
• Study Abroad, Spring break, trips home and pledging costs
• Moving expenses and Summer storage
What Is The Expected Family Contribution (EFC)?

• Basis of financial aid package
• EFC is determined by a federal formula that calculates need using the information you supplied on the FAFSA
• EFC & Financial Need are guidelines used by schools to determine an aid package
• EFC is not necessarily equal to a family’s out-of-pocket costs
Sample EFC for Smith Family

- Family lives in New Jersey
- Married parents, both age 52
- Household size of 4 with 1 child going to college
- 2015 adjusted gross income = $120,000
- Assets = $20,000
- Student income / assets = 0

EFC = $20,830
# Financial Need for Smith Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Community College</th>
<th>State College or University</th>
<th>Private College or University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COA</td>
<td>$5,860</td>
<td>$25,561</td>
<td>$45,676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EFC</td>
<td>$20,830</td>
<td>$20,830</td>
<td>$20,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Need</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$4,731</td>
<td>$24,846</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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# The Cycle of Financial Aid

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Oct - March</th>
<th>Complete FAFSA application, college search, college application process, and CSS Profile</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February - May</td>
<td>Schools send award letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June - July</td>
<td>School sends Fall Semester bill</td>
</tr>
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</table>
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 are:
  • TAG Renewal Students – April 15, 2020 preceding the academic year for which aid is requested
  • All Other Applicants – September 15, 2020 for Fall and Spring term awards; February 15, 2021 for Spring awards only
Other Resources

• Outside Scholarships
• Campus Administered Payment Plans
• Campus Employment
• 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
- Parent’s employer(s)
- www.hesaa.org
- www.fastweb.com
- www.collegeboard.org
- www.mappingyourfuture.org
NJBEST College Savings Plan

- NJBEST is the only 529 Savings Plan to award a scholarship ranging from $500-$1,500
- Funding for NJBEST scholarships comes from HESAA
- Earnings on the NJBEST Plan are tax free when used to pay for the qualified higher education expenses of an NJBEST beneficiary
- Limit how much can be contributed annually
HESAA Services

• Web Sites
  www.hesaa.org
  www.njgrants.org
  www.njclass.org
  https://njfams.hesaa.org

• Customer Care Line
  609-584-4480

• NJBEST

• MappingYourFuture.org
Questions?
Thank you