

Fact Sheet for NJ STARS II Students Beginning Enrollment at a New Jersey Four-Year Institution during the 2022-23 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 2022-23 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 NJ 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.

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 <u>Login to NJFAMS</u> to review and complete your State grant record.

2022-2023 HESAA Deadline:

To Access the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), click <u>here</u>. For NJ Dreamers to complete the NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application, click <u>here</u>.

2021-2022 TAG recipients - Renewal applicants ------ April 15, 2022

All other applicants - Non-renewal applicants for Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 ---- September 15, 2022

All other applicants - Non-renewal applicants for Spring 2023 semester only --- February 15, 2023

 Meet the NJ State deadlines below for completing State Grant Record in NJFAMS (State tasks, verification, corrections, reevaluations, adding a college, etc.):

Complete State Record in NJFAMS

All applicants - Fall 2022 and Spring 2023	October 1, 2022
Spring 2023 only	March 1, 2023

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 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.
- Students must maintain <u>continuous</u> 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. Students can attend part-time due to illness or the death of a parent or spouse. 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.

Revised: 3/29/22