

NJ STEM Loan Redemption Program

Program Definitions



“Approved high-growth STEM occupation” means full-time employment in one of the occupations on the designated list below, and posted separately on the HESAA website. Employment in these occupations is projected to grow more than 10% in New Jersey from 2024-2034. Note – Some of the occupations may not be eligible for this program in a given year. The list of eligible occupations is updated every two years based on Bureau of Labor Statistics projections. STEM Loan Redemption program eligibility shall be determined according to the list of approved high-growth STEM occupations published by HESAA as of the date of application. For program participants who subsequently become employed in a different occupation during the term of an approved agreement, eligibility shall be determined according to the list of approved high-growth STEM occupations published by HESAA as of the start date of the new employment.

- **Computer and information research scientists**

- Computer and information systems managers

- **Conservation scientists**

- **Data scientists**

- **Epidemiologists**

- **Industrial engineers**

- **Information security analysts**

- **Mechanical engineers**

- **Occupational health and safety specialists**

- **Occupational health and safety technicians**

- Operations research analysts

- Psychologists

- Software developers

- **Software quality assurance analysts and testers**

- Statisticians

- **Web and digital interface designers**

- Web developers

“An approved STEM degree program” means a bachelor’s degree, master’s degree, or doctorate in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics fields.

“Eligible student loan expenses” means the cumulative total of the annual Federal and/or State of New Jersey student loans covering the cost of attendance at an approved STEM degree program. HESAA will assist participants in selecting their most advantageous loan redemption option (considering factors such as the interest rates, repayment terms, remaining balances, etc. associated with participants’ multiple student loans).

**Bolted occupations indicate STEM occupations that became eligible for the program as of January 2025.*