

NJ STARS Fact Sheet for 2015 High School Graduates (continued)

Application Process

- ◆ Apply for admission to your home county college.
- ◆ Meet all admission and application requirements established by the county college.
- ◆ File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually within established State deadlines.
- ◆ After filing the FAFSA, logon to www.njgrants.org to review your State grant record.

2015-2016 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Filing Deadlines:

Students who did not receive a Tuition Aid Grant (TAG) during the 2014-2015 academic year:

October 1, 2015 - fall & spring terms

March 1, 2016 - spring term only

June 1, 2015 for students who received a TAG award during 2014-2015

- ◆ Meet the NJ State deadlines below for submission of additional information, such as:
 - Applicant Information Requests (AIR's)
 - Verification documents
 - College choice changes (Logon to www.njgrants.org to change college choice)
 - Corrections to ineligible conditions

2015-2016 State Deadlines for Submitting Additional Information:

November 15, 2015- Fall 2015

March 15, 2016 - Spring 2016

- ◆ County colleges notify students of NJ STARS eligibility.

Renewal Eligibility

- ◆ File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually within established State deadlines.
- ◆ Students must attain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher at the start of the third semester of enrollment at the county college to remain an NJ STAR. Summer courses are included in determining the GPA.
- ◆ Students must maintain continuous full-time enrollment unless on a medical leave, approved by the county college, 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 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 take less than 12 credits in their final semester if the county college determines that the student needs less than 12 credits in that semester to complete the degree program.
- ◆ Students enrolled in a nursing or engineering program that regularly requires six semesters to complete may retain NJ STARS II eligibility. However, NJ STARS will not cover the cost of the sixth semester.
- ◆ Students may receive the scholarship for up to five semesters, including summer sessions. However, NJ STARS resources are **not** available to cover any summer payments.

NJ STARS II Program

- ◆ NJ STARS recipients who earn an associate degree from a county college with a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher, have a family income (taxable and untaxed income) less than \$250,000, and meet all other program eligibility requirements may be eligible to receive an NJ STARS II award to transfer to a New Jersey TAG participating college or university to earn a baccalaureate degree.

Additional Information

Contact the financial aid office at your home county college for additional information.

Revised 1-2015