



Fact Sheet for NJ STARS II Students who Enrolled at a NJ Four-Year Public Institution During or Prior to the Fall 2008 Semester

The NJ STARS II Program is a continuation of the NJ STARS Program that provides successful NJ STARS at New Jersey county colleges with funding to transfer to a New Jersey four-year public college or university to earn a bachelor's degree. **The information below applies to NJ STARS II students who began full-time enrollment at a New Jersey four-year public institution during or prior to the Fall 2008 semester.**

NJ STARS II Benefits

A scholarship is paid to the four-year institution for each eligible student for up to four semesters. For the 2008-2009 academic year, the award amount is \$2,148 per semester. The institution waives or provides an institutional scholarship for any remaining tuition and approved fees, for up to 18 credits per semester, not covered by the NJ STARS II award and any other State and Federal grants and scholarships.

The law governing the NJ STARS II Program was amended in December 2008. However, NJ STARS II students who received payment during the fall 2008 **and** spring 2009 semesters are not affected by these changes. The renewal eligibility criteria specified in the original legislation, summarized below, continue to apply to NJ STARS II students who began full-time enrollment at a New Jersey four-year public institution during or prior to the Fall 2008 semester.

Approved Fees

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

Renewal Eligibility

- ◆ NJ STARS II students must attain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 at the start of the third semester of study at the NJ four-year public institution to maintain NJ STARS II eligibility for the third and fourth semesters of study. Summer courses are included in determining the GPA.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Students must meet all institutional deadlines for admission and financial aid.

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- ◆ Students must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually within established State deadlines.

2009-10 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Filing Deadlines:

June 1, 2009 for students who received a TAG award during the 2008-09 academic year

All other applicants:

October 1, 2009 - fall & spring terms

March 1, 2010 - spring term only

- ◆ Students must meet New Jersey State deadlines for the submission of additional information, such as:
 - Applicant Information Requests (AIR's)
 - Verification documents
 - College choice changes
 - Corrections to ineligible conditions

2009-2010 State Deadlines for Submitting Additional Information:

November 15, 2009- Fall 2009

March 15, 2010 - Spring 2010

Additional Information

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