

# 2019 - 20 Financial Aid High School Presentation

New Jersey Higher Education Student  
Assistance Authority  
Mrs. Jean M. Ciner





# 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



## Help! Sources of Aid

- Federal
- State of New Jersey
- The College/University
- Outside Organizations
  - Civic organizations (ex.-local Rotary Club), parent's employer, high school awards

## Types of Financial Aid

- Grants
- Scholarships
- Loans
- Employment Opportunities





# 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 2018 - 19**
  - Pell (\$6,095 projected award)
  - SEOG (\$4,000 max award)
  - TEACH (\$3,736 max award)

Awards subject to change for 2019 - 20.





# 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
- 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 earn 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 enroll full time (12 credit hours)
- 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](http://www.njgrants.org)
  - Some of the programs eligible for the scholarship include
    - Construction Supervision
    - Solar Energy Technology
    - Architectural Engineering Technology





# Self Help Loans & Gap Shortfall Solutions

- Monthly Payment Plans – offered by the college
- Federal Direct Loan Program (1<sup>st</sup> year dependent student)
  - Subsidized Stafford Loan \$3,500 need based
  - Unsubsidized Stafford Loan \$2,000 additional
- 2018 - 2019 - Federal Direct Undergraduate Direct Loans are 5.045% plus a 1.062% origination fee

2019 – 2020 Rates and fees are subject to change





# Self Help Loans to Cover the Gap

## *borrow up to cost of attendance*

### 2018 -2019 - NJCLASS Supplemental Loan Program

- 10 Year Fixed Rate NJCLASS LOAN, starting at 4.79%

This option has 3% origination fee

- 15 Year Fixed Rate NJCLASS LOAN is 5.60%

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 7.20%

This option has 3% origination fee

- **Federal PLUS Program** (7.595% & 4.248% Origination fee for loans disbursed after 10-1-18 and prior to September 30, 2019)

Parent is the borrower

2018-19 rates and fees are subject to change



# Institutional & Private Scholarships

- Factors that may influence eligibility:

Academics

SAT's

AP Courses

Activities

Academic Track

H.S. Attended

Athletic Ability\*

Geographic Diversity

Legacy (child of alumni)

Talent

Gender/Ethnicity

Class Rank

\* *Athletic awards offered by NCAA Division I and Division II schools only.*









# 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 2017)

Register - Complete Application – Make payment - Submit



# CSS Profile

- Website to apply for profile  
[www.student.collegeboard.org/profile](http://www.student.collegeboard.org/profile)
- Website to apply for Noncustodial Profile:  
[www.ncprofile.collegeboard.org](http://www.ncprofile.collegeboard.org)

Customer Service  
305-829-9793  
[help@cssprofile.org](mailto:help@cssprofile.org)





# Early FAFSA

- On September 13, 2015 , the U.S. Department of Education's FAFSA team announced a change in how and when students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Families will begin to complete the FAFSA on October 1<sup>st</sup> using income information from two years prior
- This change is known as Prior - Prior Year (PPY)
- The change more closely aligns the financial aid application with the admission application process



# Application: FAFSA

- 2019-2020 FAFSA available October 1, 2018
- FAFSA will use prior prior year income information (2017)
- IRS Data Retrieval Tool can be used immediately
  - All prior prior year tax information (2017) 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 2017 tax return

**Federal Student Aid** | An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION | PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND® | **FAFSA®** | Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Help [SEARCH]

Student Demographics | School Selection | Dependency Status | Parent Demographics | **Financial Information** | Sign & Submit | Confirmation

### Student Tax Information

**i** ▪ **Attention!** You must provide financial information from your **2017 tax return** on the following pages.

**✓** ▪ Application was successfully saved.

For 2017, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return?  
Select ▼

PREVIOUS NEXT

NEED HELP? SAVE CLEAR ALL DATA VIEW FAFSA SUMMARY EXIT

#### Help and Hints

##### Student Filed 2015 Income Tax Return? Question 32

You must select the answer that describes your tax filing status:

- Already completed
- Will file
- Not going to file

If you indicate you "Will file" a 2015 tax return and your 2015 income is similar to your 2014 income, use your 2014 income tax return to provide estimates for questions about your income. If your income is not similar, click **Income Estimator** for assistance estimating your adjusted gross income, and answer the remaining questions about your income to the



# Message about Tax Completion

## Student Tax Information

**X** The following error(s) have occurred:

- You indicated that you will file taxes. Are you sure this answer is correct, since it is near or past the April tax deadline? If so, click "OK." Otherwise, change your answer.

For 2017, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return?

**X** Will file

For 2017, what will be your tax filing status according to your tax return?

Married-Filed Joint 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.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
  - Student & Parent must create a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) at [fsaid.ed.gov](http://fsaid.ed.gov)
- Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to populate income & tax information with actual prior - prior year tax information (currently 2017)



# IRS Data Retrieval Tool

- The IRS data retrieval tool or (DRT) is used to transfer tax return information into the FAFSA
- The DRT will be available beginning October 1<sup>st</sup> to support early FAFSA
- Tax filers who file Married filing separately, amended tax returns, and foreign tax returns cannot use DRT



# 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](http://www.fsaid.ed.gov)
- Password resets, retrieval of User ID's and passwords can be accomplished at [www.fsaid.ed.gov](http://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



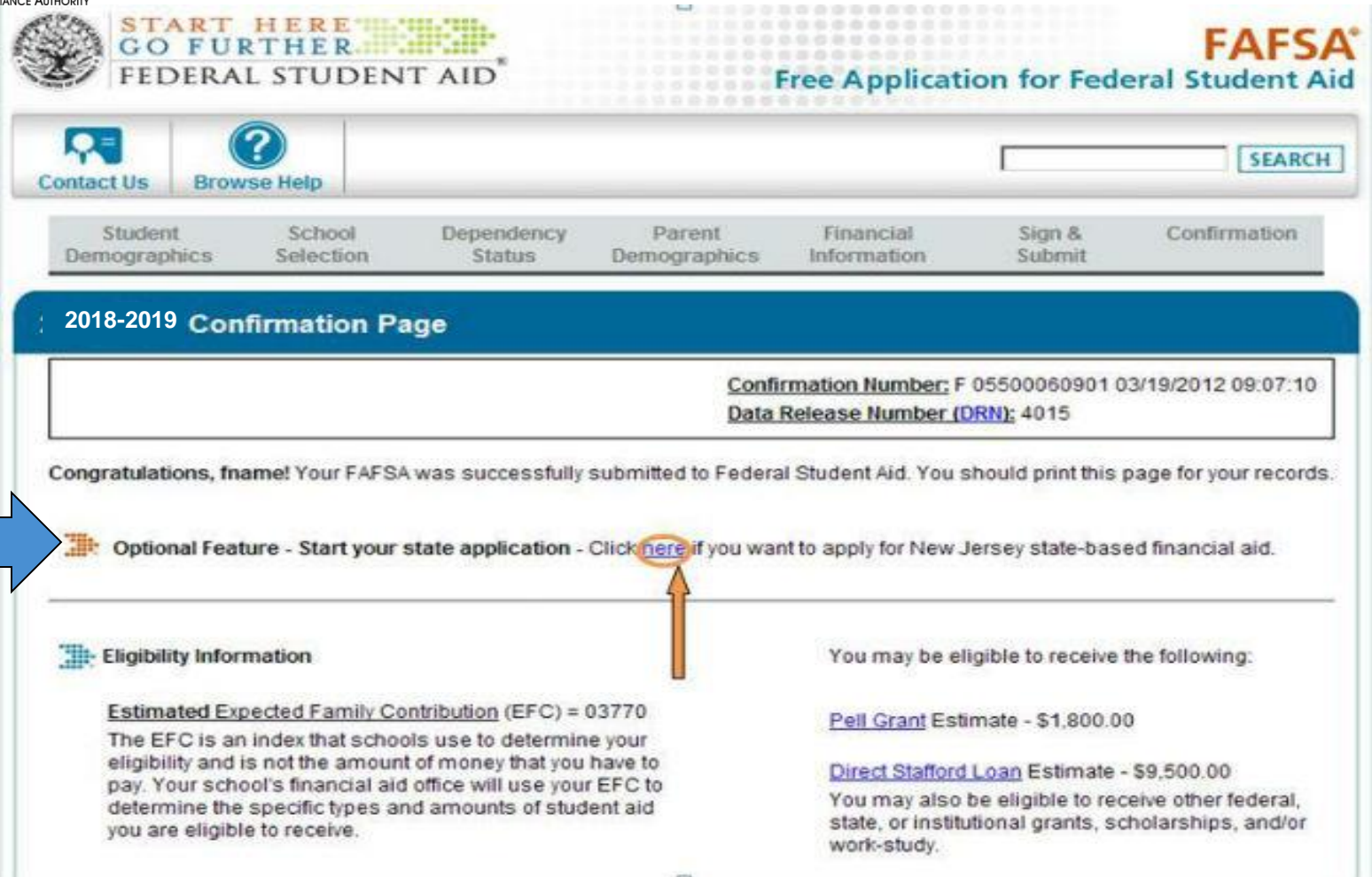


# Key Components of the FAFSA (cont.)

- 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



# Click to Apply for State Aid



**START HERE GO FURTHER FEDERAL STUDENT AID**

**FAFSA**  
Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Contact Us Browse Help

SEARCH

Student Demographics School Selection Dependency Status Parent Demographics Financial Information Sign & Submit Confirmation

**2018-2019 Confirmation Page**

Confirmation Number: F 05500060901 03/19/2012 09:07:10  
Data Release Number (DRN): 4015

Congratulations, fname! Your FAFSA was successfully submitted to Federal Student Aid. You should print this page for your records.

Optional Feature - Start your state application - Click [here](#) if you want to apply for New Jersey state-based financial aid.

Eligibility Information

**Estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) = 03770**  
The EFC is an index that schools use to determine your eligibility and is not the amount of money that you have to pay. Your school's financial aid office will use your EFC to determine the specific types and amounts of student aid you are eligible to receive.

You may be eligible to receive the following:

[Pell Grant](#) Estimate - \$1,800.00

[Direct Stafford Loan](#) Estimate - \$9,500.00

You may also be eligible to receive other federal, state, or institutional grants, scholarships, and/or work-study.





# 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





# New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application

The New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application allows undocumented students 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 you are eligible to do so



# New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application

- TAG (Tuition Aid Grant)
  - Demonstrate Financial Need
  - Students must 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
- Must meet all TAG requirements to be considered for all State aid programs (as discussed previously)



# NJFAMS



- The New Jersey Financial Aid Management System (NJFAMS) is now available for all New Jersey students who apply for NJ State aid for the 2018-2019 academic year. Each student will need to log in and set up an NJFAMS account. NJFAMS is a user-friendly, real-time system. To get started, click [here](#).
- The steps to applying for financial aid from the State of New Jersey are:
  1. Complete the FAFSA.
  2. Establish an NJFAMS account.
  3. Answer the NJ state-specific questions.

- 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

College	Community College	State College or University	Private College or University
<b>COA</b>	\$5,860	\$25,561	\$45,676
<b>EFC</b>	\$20,830	\$20,830	\$20,830
<b>Financial Need</b>	0	\$4,731	\$24,846





# The Cycle of Financial Aid

Oct - March - Complete FAFSA application, college search, college application process, and CSS Profile

February - May - Schools send award letters

June -July - School sends Fall Semester bill





# 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, 2019 preceding the academic year for which aid is requested
    - All Other Applicants – September 15, 2019 for Fall and Spring term awards; February 15, 2020 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](http://www.hesaa.org)
- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- [www.mappingyourfuture.org](http://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](http://www.hesaa.org)
  - [www.njgrants.org](http://www.njgrants.org)
  - [www.njclass.org](http://www.njclass.org)
  - <https://njfams.hesaa.org>
- Customer Care Line
  - 609-584-4480**
- NJBEST
- [MappingYourFuture.org](http://MappingYourFuture.org)



# Questions?



# Thank you



HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY

Higher Education Student Assistance Authority

*We help students lay the  
foundation for a solid  
financial future*

