

★ *IF I QUALIFY FOR OTHER STATE AND OR FEDERAL GRANTS, WILL I STILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR NJSTARS SCHOLARSHIP?*

Yes. Students who receive other state and/or federal aid (*loans and external scholarships excluded*) up to 100 percent tuition only coverage will not receive the NJSTARS scholarship; but will continue to be identified as an NJ STAR student and treated as such.

★ *WHAT FEES ARE EXCLUDED?* ★ ★

Medical insurance fees, book expenses, non-course fees, security fines etc.

★ *IF MY GPA FALLS BELOW 3.0 THEN IMPROVES TO A 3.0 PRIOR TO THE START OF THE FOLLOWING ACADEMIC YEAR, WILL I REGAIN MY ELIGIBILITY?*

Yes. ★

★ *CAN I RECEIVE THE SCHOLARSHIP DURING THE SUMMER?*

No. There is no state funding available during the summer. ★

★ *IF I WITHDRAW, CAN I RETURN AND REMAIN ELIGIBLE?*

Once awarded, recipients may take a medical leave due to illness of the student or the student's immediate family or emergency (*written CCM approval prior to leave required from the Office of Student Development*). **Note:** Students dismissed for academic or disciplinary reasons, will no longer be eligible. Students dismissed for disciplinary reasons must repay their NJSTARS scholarship to the college.

★ *IS NJSTARS AVAILABLE AT A 4 YEAR COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY?* ★

Yes. NJ STARS II. Students must earn a 3.25 cumulative grade point average or higher upon graduation from community college to be eligible to transfer to a New Jersey public or participating private four-year college or university. Have annual family income (taxable and untaxed income) less than \$250,000 may receive an NJ STARS II award of up to \$1,250 per semester. ★

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND UPDATES

Visit the CCM Financial Aid website - <http://www.ccm.edu/admissions/financialAid>

E-mail finaid@ccm.edu
Call 973-328-5230
Fax 973-328-5237



Office of Student Financial Aid
Student Community Center
214 Center Grove Road,
Randolph, New Jersey 07869-2086

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**MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID:**

*It is the responsibility of all NJSTARS "candidates" to understand the terms and conditions which govern their award. Amounts are subject to change without notice in accordance with the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority.*

*For additional information:*  
<http://www.hesaa.org/>



**Title IX, Section 504 & Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance** - County College of Morris does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, religion veteran or marital status, or disability. ★

Revised. August 2022

## NJSTARS

### NEW JERSEY STUDENT TUITION ASSISTANCE REWARD SCHOLARSHIP

*FREE TUITION*



### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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## COUNTY COLLEGE OF MORRIS



★ **WHAT IS NJSTARS?**

NJ Student Tuition Assistance Reward Scholarship is a state scholarship awarded to first time undergraduate students who graduate from high school in the top 15 percentile of their graduating class. Recipients will receive 100 percent tuition only FREE, less any State and/or Federal grants and scholarships, for up to five (5) semesters at a New Jersey County College when registered between 12 - 18 credits per semester.

★ **HOW DO I QUALIFY- All CCM students seeking financial assistance are required to apply \*each year.**

1. Must be a U.S. citizen, naturalized U.S. citizen, eligible non-citizen or undocumented/DACA\* without an associates or higher degree and are a resident of New Jersey. \*Minimum 3 years NJ High School graduate required.
2. \*Apply for financial aid assistance within the required federal and NJ State deadline by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) or [NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application for NJ Dreamers](http://NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application for NJ Dreamers). Indicate CCM federal school code: **007106** prior to submission.
3. List County College of Morris as your first college of choice on filing your FAFSA or submit college code change directly to the State ([www.hesaa.org](http://www.hesaa.org)) within their deadline. *Note: CCM Tuition out-of-pocket payment may be required until listed with the state, at which time you will be refunded your tuition from CCM once disbursed.*
4. Submit all financial aid documents requested
5. Graduated in the top 15 percentile of your high school graduating class or was reported to the state as being within the 15 percentile at the end of your junior year
6. Enroll in an associate degree-seeking program.
7. Register full-time, no later than the fifth (5) semester following high school graduation.
8. Minimum enrollment of 12 credits per term (*excluding summer, audit courses, remedial and or developmental courses*).
9. Qualifying students are eligible to receive up to 5 semesters of 'tuition' free (*fees excluded*).
  - Students enrolled in Nursing or Engineering programs may remain eligible their sixth semester, but without NJ STARS funding.
10. Maintain 3.0 cum GPA each school year once funding begins.
11. Consecutive full-time enrollment is required once awarded.
12. Student may take less 12 credits in their final semester only, if their curriculum completion determines so.

★ **WHAT ARE THE (FAFSA AND NJ ALT. APP.) FILING DEADLINES TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR NJ STATE TAG GRANT/ NJ STARS SCHOLARSHIPS?**

- a) **April 15<sup>th</sup>** Renewal applicants
- b) **September 15<sup>th</sup>** (Fall & Spring)
- c) **February 15<sup>th</sup>** (Spring only)
  - **School Code Changes:**
    - i. **October 1<sup>st</sup>**
    - ii. **March 1<sup>st</sup>**

★ **CAN I MAKE CHANGES AND OR UPLOAD DOCUMENTS DIRECTLY WITH THE STATE (HESAA)?**

**Yes.** Go to [HESAA e-Access Portal](http://HESAA e-Access Portal) from [www.hesaa.org](http://www.hesaa.org). It is recommended that you periodically login for updates and more.

★ **IF I FILED THE FAFSA BUT DID NOT INCLUDE CCM WILL I BE ELIGIBLE?**

**No.** In order to qualify as a CCM student, you must add CCM as your first choice to your processed FAFSA.

★ **HOW WILL NJ STATE (HESAA) CORRESPOND WITH ME?**

HESAA will correspond via usps mail and electronically to the email you reported on your fafsa. **Attention:** Please periodically check your 'junk' mail as it may be redirected there based on your personal settings.

★ **WILL I BE NOTIFIED IF ELIGIBLE?**

**Yes.** CCM Financial Aid Office will notify you electronically by way of your CCM email once accepted to the college. Students may also self-identify.

★ **COLLEGE PLACEMENT TEST SCORE -**

Contact the Testing Office for additional information 973-328-5166.

★ **IF AM REQUIRED TO TAKE REMEDIAL COURSES, WILL I STILL BE NJSTARS ELIGIBLE?**

**No.** Students must demonstrate college readiness within one (1) year to gain the skills they need to be college ready, for NJ STAR eligibility.

**NOTE: NJSTARS does not cover costs for remedial coursework; however, student may be eligible for other types of federal and state financial aid, loans included.**

★ **CAN I ENROLL FOR BOTH REMEDIAL AND NON- REMEDIAL COURSES WITHIN THE SAME TERM AND REMAIN ELIGIBLE?**

**Yes.** Enrollment MUST be a minimum of 12 non-remedial course credits with all remedial and developmental course costs paid out-of-pocket or with other types of aid.

★ **IF I INITIALLY ENROLL FOR 18 CREDITS THEN DROP TO 12 CREDITS, WILL I REMAIN ELIGIBLE FOR MY INITIAL AWARD?**

**No.** Your Scholarship will be reduced and you may be responsible for any differences.

★ **IF I QUALIFY FOR OTHER PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS WILL IT AFFECT MY NJSTARS ELIGIBILITY?**

**No.** Nor will it reduce your NJSTARS amount.

★ **IF I DID NOT FILE THE FAFSA OR NJ ALTERNATIVE APPLICATION OR MY HIGH SCHOOL DID NOT REPORT MY CLASS SIZE & RANK AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION, WILL I STILL RECEIVE MY SCHOLARSHIP?**

**No.**

★ **WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY HIGH SCHOOL DID NOT REPORT MY RANK TO THE STATE?**

Contact your High School Guidance Counselor and request their submission of your final class rank and the graduating class size to CCM (*for NJ Stars use only*).

★ **I WAS HOMESCHOOLED TRADITIONALLY, AM I ELIGIBLE?**

**No.** However, homeschooled students who transfer/enroll and graduate from a state high school may be eligible, or if homeschooling was with an approved accredited institution that provides an official ranking for its students. The school must provide your class rank, size and date of graduation on letterhead with the school's seal. (*HESAA case-by-case review and approval required*).

★ **HOW DOES CCM DETERMINE IF I AM A CANDIDATE?**

Initial identification is made by your high school to the State, or based on your final high school transcript and meeting all HESAA requirements.

★ **WILL I STILL BE ELIGIBLE IF I ATTEND A COUNTY COLLEGE OUTSIDE MY COUNTY OF RESIDENCY?**

**Yes.** However, out of county residents must obtain a chargeback from their local county community college.

★ **WHAT IS A "CHARGEBACK"?**

Approval obtained from your home resident local county college, indicating they do not offer your intended CCM course of study or major. Chargeback approvals must be submitted to the CCM Bursar Office.

★ **IF MY RESIDENT COUNTY DECLINES MY REQUEST FOR A "CHARGEBACK" WILL I STILL BE ELIGIBLE?**

**No.**

★ **IF I ATTEND A 4 YEAR COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY (FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC) WILL I STILL BE ELIGIBLE?**

**Yes.** Candidates must transfer to CCM no later than the fifth (5) semester following high school graduation.

★ **WILL I BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE SCHOLARSHIP IF I PARTICIPATE IN CCM STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM?**

**Yes.** All students must complete a Consortium Agreement prior to US departure.

★ **IF I PAY THE TUITION OUT OF POCKET, WILL I BE REFUNDED ONCE MY SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY IS FINALIZED?**

**Yes.** Once your scholarship is disbursed, the Bursar Office will mail your refund check to your address.