Rutgers Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Program Application 2014 For First-Year Students, New Jersey Residents Only

EOF Application Instructions

The Rutgers EOF Application is designed for first-year applicants only. The information on the EOF Application is used to make a preliminary determination of your eligibility for the New Jersey EOF program. Please do not leave any items blank on this application. If you and/or your parents reported taxable income on a federal tax return in 2012, you will need to refer to copies of this tax return in order to complete this application. If you and/or your parents received nontaxable income during 2012, you will need to refer to copies of those benefits statements to complete this application. Rutgers University reserves the right to request copies of these documents with all schedules and worksheets at any time during the initial eligibility process. Mail the completed EOF Application to: Office of University Undergraduate Admissions, 65 Davidson Road, Room 202, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8097. All students must eventually submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which provides more detailed financial information. Students may be disqualified based on FAFSA verification and may be removed from the EOF program and denied admission and/or have their enrollment cancelled.

Transfer applicants should not complete this form. If you are a transfer student who has previously participated in the New Jersey EOF program at another New Jersey college, please do not complete this EOF Application. Transfer students should submit the FAFSA, complete an EOF Transfer Form, and contact the EOF Director at the Rutgers college or school at which they plan to enroll.

All students (both first-year and transfer) in consideration for the EOF grant must submit their family's 2013 IRS federal tax return transcript and/or nontaxable income statements to the Rutgers Office of Financial Aid for the FAFSA verification process. The applicant's full name and Rutgers University Identification (RUID) number must be written on the income tax documents and nontaxable income statements. Final acceptance into the New Jersey EOF program will be contingent upon the results of the required FAFSA.

Mission of EOF

The New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program contributes to the development of a college-educated public that reflects the diversity of New Jersey, by working in partnership with Rutgers and the K-12 educational system to provide access to higher education for students from families/communities disadvantaged by low income and the lack of access to the quality educational preparation necessary to attend college. The Fund will partner with established pre-college efforts and seek to initiate additional opportunities to identify and prepare students for college at the pre-collegiate level. At the postsecondary level, the access and opportunity provided by the Fund is not limited to simply meeting freshman (or transfer) student enrollment goals but to also focus on student success. In this vein, EOF provides support for educational initiatives, support services, and leadership development activities that assist students to improve their chances of success in specific majors and careers fields and prepares them for the changing world of work and to assume leadership in their communities and the state.

Recruitment, Improving Student Success, Developing Partnerships with Pre-College and the K-12 Community, Connecting Education with the World of Work, Initiating a Research Agenda, and Enhancing the Program's Image are linked Goals related to the EOF Mission and are critical elements established as part of the Rutgers EOF program that will increase students' opportunities for success.

Eligibility Requirements

The New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program provides financial assistance and support services (e.g. counseling, tutoring, and developmental course work) to students from educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds who attend institutions of higher education in the State of New Jersey.

To participate in the Rutgers EOF program, students must be New Jersey residents and must apply for undergraduate admission to Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Because EOF is a campus-based program throughout the State of New Jersey, each individual school is responsible for student recruitment, selection, program services, and **its own specific criteria for EOF admission and program participation**.

Grants are generally available to students from families with a background of poverty, whose annual income falls within the **EOF Income Eligibility Scale** as established by the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education/EOF Board of Directors, and who meet the academic criteria set by the Rutgers undergraduate school of their choice. Families who have accumulated assets do not qualify for financial assistance through the New Jersey EOF program.

EOF Income Eligibility Scale

Household Size (including student)	Family Gross Income Does Not Exceed:
1	\$22,980
2	\$31,020
3	\$39,060
4	\$47,100
5	\$55,140
6	\$63,180
7	\$71,220
8	\$79,260
For each additional family member, add \$8,040	

If you meet the EOF Income Eligibility guidelines, you also must meet the following requirements:

- 1. You must be U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen with a valid Permanent Resident Card (I-551 or I-551C), I-94 (with refugee status or asylum granted), or T-visa (T-1, T-2, T-3, etc.) indicating that you have been a permanent resident for at least one year prior to fall semester enrollment. You must be a New Jersey resident for at least one year prior to fall semester enrollment.
- 2. You must be a first-generation college student (i.e., your parents are not four-year college graduates).
- 3. You must have received a high school diploma or a high school equivalency diploma by the time you register at Rutgers.
- 4. You must complete the 2014–2015 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the priority filing date of March 15, 2014. To submit your FAFSA online at **fafsa.ed.gov**, you and your parent must each obtain a Personal Identification Number (PIN) at **pin.ed.gov**. Ensure that Rutgers receives your FAFSA from the federal processor by including the Rutgers federal school code 002629 in Step 5 (online) or Step 6 (PDF). The PDF FAFSA is available for you to print and fill out manually or is screen-fillable if you select "FAFSA Filing Options" at **fafsa.ed.gov**.
- 5. You and your parents must file your 2013 federal IRS tax return as soon as possible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. The IRS Data Retrieval Tool is an easy and secure way to access and transfer tax return information directly onto the FAFSA form, saving time and improving accuracy. Although the IRS Data Retrieval Tool is an option when completing the FAFSA, you and your parents may be unable or choose not to use it. EOF students **must** still submit a copy of the 2013 IRS federal tax return transcript to Rutgers. Visit the Rutgers Office of Financial Aid online at **studentaid.rutgers.edu** for information about the IRS Data Retrieval Tool and the IRS federal tax return transcript. 6. You must submit all requested documents to the Rutgers Office of Financial Aid prior to the start of the EOF Summer Institute to complete the FAFSA verification process. In addition, if you are selected for State Verification by the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA), you must also submit all requested documents directly to HESAA to ensure eligibility for both TAG (Tuition Aid Grant) and EOF grants. For additional information about state aid eligibility, you may contact HESAA at 1-800-792-8670 or visit **www.hesaa.org**.

EOF Summer Institute

If you are admitted to one of Rutgers' undergraduate schools as an EOF student, you must attend and successfully complete a free five- to six-week summer program that is designed to ease your transition from high school to college and sharpen your English, math, and/or science skills. You'll meet new friends, and your EOF Summer Institute tuition and other educational expenses will be paid for. Your successful completion of the EOF Summer Institute, which begins toward the end of June 2014, is a requirement for fall semester enrollment at Rutgers.

Advising/Counseling

Before the fall semester begins, your EOF advisers will help you plan an academic program to meet your interests and needs. Your undergraduate school will provide you with tutorial services and a special staff of academic, career, and peer counselors. With this support, you'll be able to identify your academic strengths, overcome limitations, and define career fields that interest you. In addition, all of the university's other resources are available to help you succeed at Rutgers.

Financial Assistance

The New Jersey EOF program is for students whose families have a documented history of financial disadvantage. Families who have accumulated assets or have ownership of corporations do not qualify for financial assistance through the EOF program. Although the EOF program can provide financial help, you and your family are asked to contribute toward the educational expenses as determined by a federally mandated formula, which uses information you provide on the FAFSA to calculate the amount of your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). EOF students receive both TAG and EOF grants from the State of New Jersey. In addition, qualified students are eligible to receive grant assistance from the federal government and Rutgers. Financial assistance will vary depending upon your need as determined by the FAFSA and the availability of funds. To receive an official offer of financial assistance from Rutgers that includes the EOF grant, TAG, and other need-based aid programs, you should submit your FAFSA to the federal processor as soon as possible after January 1, 2014, to meet the priority application date of March 15, 2014. Visit the Rutgers Office of Financial Aid online at studentaid.rutgers.edu for more information.

Last name:		First name:	RUID num	RUID number:		
EOF Application Form Willful omission of information or misrel or revocation of admission and cancella			on will be grounds for removal fron	n the EOF program and denial		
The following determines who	is con	sidered a parent for the	purposes of this form. Ans	swer all questions.		
Grandparents, foster parents, legal gua		•	• •	•		
If your parents are living and marri If your parent is widowed or single If your widowed parent is remarrie If your parents have divorced or se did not live with one parent more t months or during the most recent questions about that parent and yo	ed to ea , answe d as of t eparated nan the year tha	ich other, answer the questions in the questions about that parer oday, answer the questions about the questions about the questions about the parer other, give answers about the parer of	about them. nt. out that parent and your stepparen ne parent you lived with more durin parent who provided more financia	t. ig the past 12 months. (If you support during the past 12		
1. I have read the New Jersey EOF pro	gram eli	igibility requirements and instru	ctions listed on pages 1–2.			
☐ Yes, I qualify for EOF and wish to☐ No, I do not qualify and do not wi2. Parents' current marital status	be con:	sidered for this program.				
 ☐ Married/Remarried ☐ Divorced/Separated. If so, please ☐ Single ☐ Widowed. If so, please provide day 		·	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			
3. Do you have any children? \square Yes \square] No					
 4. At any time since you turned 13, wer court? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes, the Rutgers Office of the court status. 5. How many people are in your parent 	e of Fin	ancial Aid will require that you p	provide proof of your orphan, foster	care, or dependent or ward		
"Household" includes yourself, your par			• • •	,		
parents from July 1, 2014, through June						
Full Name	Age	Relationship to Applicant	Name of College Enrolled, 2014-2015	Current/Previous EOF at a NJ College: Yes or No		
6. If you have a brother or sister who is	the curr	ent/previous recipient of an EO	F grant at a NJ College, please pr	ovide the information below.		
Last name			First name	······································		
College			Birthdate: mm/dd/yyyy			
7. Did you file a federal income tax retu If yes, list the total number of exemption If yes, was your income tax return filing If you did not file and were not requi	ns repor status "	ted on the 1040 (line 6D) married filing jointly"? ☐ Yes [
Signature of Applicant						

Last name:		Fir	st name:		RUI	number: _	
8. Did your parents file a federal income tax return (IRS 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ) for 2012? Yes No If yes, list the total number of exemptions reported on the 1040 (line 6D) If yes, was your parents' income tax return filing status "married filing jointly"? Yes No If your parents did not file and were not required to file a federal tax return, please have one of them sign below to certify.							
Signature of Paren	t						
9. Please refer to y you must attach	our filed for a signed of	ederal IRS income tax returns opy of your family's 2012 feden n on the document.					
		omplete a schedule C or C-EZ the IRS form 1040)?		ness owners (require	d if any amount wa	s reported	as positive, negative, or
		omplete a schedule E for renta reported as positive, negative					
		omplete a schedule D for capi the IRS form 1040)?		or losses (required if	any amount was re	eported as	positive, negative, or
		s (A, B) of this question.					
A Do you receive free or reduced price meals at school, or afterschool programs, or camp (National School Lunch or Breakfast Programs)?							
		ncome from welfare or Tempo report annual amount under "2			amilies (TANF)?		
11. Income per year from all sources (2012) Please have federal IRS income tax returns and/or nontaxable income statements (for social security benefits, welfare, child support, etc.) accessible to accurately complete the following questions. Indicate annual (2012) amount as listed on the income documents. If the financial information does not apply to you or your parents, enter zero (0) in the boxes below. Review the EOF Application Instructions and Eligibility Requirements on pages 1–2 carefully. Do not leave any item blank, as this will constitute an incomplete EOF Application and prevent an EOF eligibility determination.							
2012 Adjusted Gross Income		Married/Joint Filers	Fa	ather/Stepfather	Mother/Stepm	other	Student/Spouse
Report Adjusted Gross Income from line 4 of IRS form 1040EZ, line 21 of IRS form 1040A, line 37 of IRS form 1040, or from W-2 forms if you did not file a federal tax return.				orms if you did not file a federal			
tax rotam.	\$		\$		\$		
2012 Interest And Dividends		Married/Joint Filers	E,	ather/Stepfather	Mother/Stepm	othor	Student/Spouse
	n lines 8A a	nd 9A of IRS form 1040A or lines				Other	Ottade III Opodse
	\$		\$		\$		\$
2012							
Nontaxable Inco		Father/Stepfather		Mother/Stepmother		Student/Spouse	
Security Bene		\$		\$		\$	
Welfare or Temp Assistance for N Families (TAN	eedy	\$		\$		\$	
Child Suppor Veteran's Benefi Other Nontaxable	Benefits, or \$			\$		\$	
Please provide the n	ame, email	address, and phone number of y	our high s	school guidance counse	elor.		
Guidance Counselor	Name		Email A	ddress		Phone Ni	umber (include area code)

Last name:	First name:	RUID number:
Rutgers-New Brunswick	Rutgers–Newark	Rutgers–Camden
Office of University Undergraduate	Office of Graduate and Undergraduate	Office of Graduate and Undergraduate
Admissions	Admissions	Admissions
65 Davidson Road, Room 202	249 University Avenue	406 Penn Street
Piscataway, NJ 08854-8097	Newark, NJ 07102-1896	Camden, NJ 08102-1499
848-445-INFO (4636)	973-353-5205	856-225-6104

EOF Application Form Certification

Your and your parent's signatures are required below to certify all information contained in this document. Without both signatures (yours and that of the parent whose income information is provided on this form), your application is not complete and cannot be processed.

By submitting this form, I certify that:

admissions.rutgers.edu

- I have read and I meet all the EOF eligibility requirements and I understand that the information on the EOF application is used to make a *preliminary* determination of my eligibility for the New Jersey EOF Program.
- This application, including supporting credentials and documents, is complete, factually correct, and honestly prepared.

I understand that:

- I must check the status of my Rutgers Undergraduate Admissions Application regularly and respond to requests for additional information to complete the EOF Application process by visiting admissions.rutgers.edu.
- I must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the priority date of March 15, 2014. Rutgers' federal school code is 002629.
- I must submit my and my family's 2013 IRS federal tax return transcript with all schedules and worksheets and/or nontaxable income statements to the Rutgers Office of Financial Aid for the FAFSA verification process.
- I must submit any and all required documents to the Rutgers University Undergraduate Admissions Office, Rutgers Office of Financial
 Aid, Rutgers EOF Office, and New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority as requested.
- My admission to the Rutgers EOF program is contingent upon the results of the FAFSA verification process confirming my
 financial eligibility and contingent upon my participation and successful completion of the required five- to six-week EOF
 summer program. If I am admitted to Rutgers as preliminarily eligible for EOF but determined to be ineligible through the
 FAFSA verification process and/or I do not attend and successfully complete the EOF summer program, my undergraduate
 admissions application will be reevaluated without EOF eligibility.
- Willful omission of information or misrepresentation in any part of this application will be grounds for removal from the EOF program and denial or revocation of admission and cancellation of enrollment.

Signature of Applicant	Date
Signature of Parent	Date

Rutgers University policy prohibits discrimination and harassment based upon race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, genetic information, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, military service, veteran status, and any other category protected by law. Discrimination and harassment compromise the integrity of the university and unfairly interfere with the opportunity for all persons to fully participate in the academic, work, and living environment of the university.

The Rutgers University Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment can be viewed at http://policies.rutgers.edu/PDF/Section60/60.1.12-current.pdf.

