

BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND PROGRAM APPLICATION

400 Paramus Road, Room C-100, Paramus, New Jersey 07652

Website: www.bergen.edu/eof • E-Mail: eofoffice@bergen.edu

Phone: (201) 447-7139 • Fax: (201) 689-6854

Program Description

The Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Program was instituted by the New Jersey State Legislature in 1968 for the purpose of helping economically and educationally disadvantaged students obtain a college education. Students who are accepted into the program are provided with a grant and comprehensive support services designed to enhance their college experience and to insure the success of each participant.

The EOF Program is not an entitlement program. Initial EOF Eligibility is determined on the basis of both economic and educational criteria. Since grant funding to institutions is limited, first priority is given to first-time, full-time freshmen and to EOF transfer students in good standing from another EOF Program.

What Is the EOF Program? The EOF program...

- ✓ Provides **transitional support, academic advisement**, and ongoing support throughout their academic career at Bergen Community College.
- ✓ Provides information related to the **financial aid process** at Bergen Community College (BCC). Students who are accepted into the program are provided with an **EOF grant**.
- ✓ Assigns an EOF counselor to aid students to aid in the **registration process**, which allows them to have a one-stop experience at the EOF office.
- ✓ Customizes **workshops** for EOF students designed to address a variety of educational and social issues pertaining to career-planning, academic skills, transferring, and life skills, amongst others.
- ✓ Offers the opportunity to register for **permanent individualized tutoring sessions**, assuring a secured appointment time with a preferred tutor.
- ✓ Provides access to the **EOF Summer Grant** for eligible students to help with the cost of attending summer classes.
- ✓ Extends support to incoming first-time college students entering EOF in the fall semester to attend a free **EOF Pre-Freshman Summer Program**, if eligible. The program provides academic preparation for the fall semester, helps students adjust to college, and offers preferential admission to the EOF program in the fall semester.
- ✓ Assists in the EOF **transfer process** by establishing connections with the receiving college and issuing EOF transfer forms, and application fee waivers. EOF also hosts transfer events to provide students the opportunity to meet EOF directors and staff from prospective institutions.
- ✓ Provides academic follow-up through **academic progress reports** requested from the appropriate instructors to determine the student's progress and the prognosis for the course.

To **APPLY** for the EOF program, a student must:

- ☐ **STEP 1:** **Apply** to Bergen Community College (BCC) at: www.bergen.edu/apply
- ☐ **STEP 2:** Take the placement test at the Office of Testing Services (located in Room S-127)
- ☐ **STEP 3:** Complete a **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** at: www.fafsa.gov
 - ☐ List BCC as the first choice (school code: 004736)(Please Note: NJ Dreamers need to only complete the NJ Alternative Application at: www.hesaa.org/Pages/NJAlternativeApplication.aspx)

- ☐ **STEP 4:** Meet the **EOF grant eligibility requirements:**
 - ☐ Be a **NJ Resident** for at least one (1) year,
 - ☐ Be a recipient of a **High School Diploma, GED, or HSE,**
 - ☐ Intend to have **Full-time** enrollment, in the first semester,
 - ☐ Be placed in the American Language Program (**ALP**) **level 2 or higher**, if applicable, and
 - ☐ Meet the **Income Eligibility Guidelines** listed below:

Academic Year Fall 2023 - Spring 2024		
Household Size of:	Gross Income (Not to Exceed):	Maximum Asset Cap for ALL Students (Not to Exceed)
1	\$27,180*	\$5,436
2	\$36,620	\$7,324
3	\$46,060	\$9,212
4	\$55,500	\$11,100
5	\$64,940	\$12,988
6	\$74,380	\$14,876
7	\$83,820	\$16,764
8	\$93,260	\$18,652
9+	For each additional member add \$9,440.	For each additional member add \$1,888.

*Based upon state approval.

- ☐ **STEP 5:** Complete an **EOF Application** at www.bergen.edu/eof
(Upon review of your application and financial aid status, you will be contacted by the EOF office to schedule an interview to review your eligibility, if you are eligible.)
- ☐ **STEP 6:** Provide **copies** of the following documentation at the time of your **Interview**, if applicable:

APPLICANT'S and/or PARENT'S 2020 & 2021:

- ☐ **IRS Tax Return Transcripts** from www.irs.gov
- ☐ **IRS Income and Wage statement** from www.irs.gov
- ☐ **Non-filer statement** from the IRS
- ☐ **Proof of receipt of federal or state benefits** (such as TANF, SSI, SNAP, or unemployment)
- ☐ **Proof of child support**

APPLICANT'S:

- ☐ **High School Diploma or Final Transcripts**
- ☐ **GED/HSE Certificate or Scores**
- ☐ **EOF Transfer Form** (if transferring from another EOF program)
- ☐ **Letter from the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P)**
- ☐ **Court Documents** pertaining to custody or guardianship

EOF APPLICATION DEADLINES	
NOVEMBER 1st for the FALL Semester	MARCH 1st for the SPRING Semester

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Please print or type: _____ Date of EOF Application: _____

Full Name: _____ Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ _____

Date of Birth: _____ BCC Student ID#: _____ SS#: _____

Address: _____ City, State, & Zip: _____

Student's Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Student's BCC E-Mail: _____

When would you like to start the EOF program?

- ☐ Summer 2023 (Pre-Freshman Program)
☐ Fall Semester (September 2023)
☐ Spring Semester (January 2024)

Have you completed a NJ GEAR UP state project or a NJ College Bound grant program?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Status:

- ☐ U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
☐ Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status

Are you or will you be a high school graduate?

- ☐ Yes:
High school name: _____
Year of graduation: _____
☐ No, I have a GED or HSE.

Residency:

- ☐ NJ Resident for one (1) or more years

Have you received EOF funds at another institution?

- ☐ Yes (Submit an **EOF Transfer Form** with this application)
☐ No

Please check to make sure you meet the Income Eligibility Guidelines listed below:

ACADEMIC YEAR: Fall 2023 - Spring 2024			
Check One:	Household Size of:	Gross Income (Not to Exceed):	Maximum Asset Cap for ALL Students (Not to Exceed):
	1	\$27,180	\$5,436
	2	\$36,620	\$7,324
	3	\$46,060	\$9,212
	4	\$55,500	\$11,100
	5	\$64,940	\$12,988
	6	\$74,380	\$14,876
	7	\$83,820	\$16,764
	8	\$93,260	\$18,652
	9+	For each additional member add \$9,440.	For each additional member add \$1,888.

- I certify that the above information is correct and that I will supply proof of income and education as required.
- I understand that I may need to provide documentation to the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) and BCC's financial aid office in order for my eligibility to be determined by the EOF program.
- I am submitting this application with the intention to have full-time enrollment in the first semester with the EOF program.

Student's Signature (Required). Please do not type your name.

Date

EOF applications can be e-mailed to: eofoffice@bergen.edu