

April 18, 2023

The **New Jersey Student Tuition Assistance Reward Scholarship (NJ STARS) Program** is an initiative created by the State of New Jersey that provides New Jersey's highest achieving students with free tuition at their home county college for 12-18 college-level credits in the fall and spring semesters for up to five semesters.

New Jersey's smartest, best, and brightest students attend community colleges. Students who first enroll at community colleges, then transfer to four-year colleges, do better than students who started as freshmen at four-year schools.

- **Free Tuition:** Students can attend college for the cost of fees and books, graduate with their Associate's Degree with little or no debt, and still graduate with their Bachelor's Degree at four-year colleges.
- **Eligible for 5 Semesters After High School Graduation:** Students can use their NJ STARS scholarships up to five semesters after high school graduation, even if they attended another college.
- **Phi Theta Kappa:** PTK, is the largest, oldest, and most prestigious international honor society in 1,300 community colleges and 11 nations. Alpha Epsilon Phi, Bergen Community College's chapter is always one of PTK's top chapters of Phi Theta Kappa. In 2019, Alpha Epsilon Phi was the **#1 chapter in the world**.

In addition to other benefits, students inducted into PTK are eligible for up to **\$90 million** in scholarship opportunities including access to more than **\$37 million** in exclusive PTK transfer scholarships.

- **NJ STARS Graduates:** Almost 80% of Bergen Community College's NJ STARS students graduate with their Associate's degree and transfer to four-year colleges. Students who graduate with a 3.25 GPA or greater are also eligible for **NJ STARS II scholarships** at four-year colleges.
- **Honors Program:** The Judith K. Winn School of Honors at Bergen Community College is an excellent honors program offering advanced coursework to the College's highest achieving, most motivated students.
- **Honor Societies:** Students who meet the requirements are invited to join several honor societies including Alpha Mu Gamma, Phi Theta Kappa, Psi Beta, and Signa Chi Eta.
- **Bergen Community College** is one of the best community colleges in the world!