



RELEASE FORM: Financial Aid Information  
*NJ GEAR UP and College Bound Program Participants*



**TO BE COMPLETED DURING JUNIOR OR SENIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL**

A primary goal of the College Bound and NJ GEAR UP programs is to assist students as they prepare for and enroll in a college or university, especially one in New Jersey. When a participating student applies to an in-state college or university, a full range of financial and support services becomes available through an agreement with the Board of Directors of the state's Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF). These services include:

- Grants (contingent upon evaluation of the family's financial aid application)
- Academic readiness classes and/or regular college courses at a free EOF summer program (to take place prior to the student's freshman year at the New Jersey college or university the student plans to attend)
- Academic advisement/Counseling
- Tutoring
- Developmental course work
- Potential for additional summer school support and participation in enrichment career programs after freshman year
- Student leadership events

In order to ensure that every College Bound and NJ GEAR UP participant receives all services, the Commission on Higher Education/Educational Opportunity Fund (CHE/EOF) office needs access to your child's financial aid application and permission to submit your child's name to colleges and universities that participate in the EOF program. **ONLY authorized CHE/EOF and college/university officials will have access to your information.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, understand that as a participant in the College Bound or NJ GEAR UP State Project, my child is eligible for academic support services and possibly a financial aid grant through the NJ Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) when he/she attends a college or university in New Jersey that participates in EOF. By completing and signing this form, I agree to allow CHE/EOF to electronically access and review my child's application for college financial aid from the State of New Jersey. I also agree to allow CHE/EOF to alert EOF staff at participating New Jersey colleges and universities about my child's application so he or she can receive all of the financial aid and support services for which he or she is eligible. I also understand that only authorized CHE/EOF college/university officials in New Jersey will be allowed access to my confidential information.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ HS and Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Is your child planning to apply for admission to a New Jersey college or university?  YES  NO

If "YES", please list the New Jersey colleges or universities where your child plans to apply for admission:

#1 \_\_\_\_\_ #3 \_\_\_\_\_

#2 \_\_\_\_\_ #4 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Parent/Guardian**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Student**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

Please complete and return this form to your College Bound or NJ GEAR UP program director by **November 30**