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State of New Jersey
HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY
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MARGO CHALY, ESQ.
Executive Director

November 20, 2024

Dear Local Educational Agency Leads and Nonpublic School Administrators,

As your high school seniors begin considering their postsecondary options, it is crucial for students to receive all relevant scholarship information to help them make an informed decision about attending college in the Garden State.

To that end, the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) reminds you to **upload rosters reflecting the top 15.0% of the Class of 2025** to the New Jersey Financial Aid Management System ([NJFAMS](#)). Providing class rank information, based on the end of the students' 11th grade academic year, enables HESAA to identify which students are eligible to receive merit scholarships offered by our State.

Students who rank in the top 15.0% of their class may be eligible for the New Jersey Student Tuition Assistance Reward Scholarship (**NJ STARS**), while students who rank in the top 5.0% of their class and reside in an eligible municipality may also be eligible for the Governor's Urban Scholarship (**GUS**). More information about these scholarships can be found on page 10 of [Going to College in New Jersey](#).

As stated in a previous broadcast, HESAA extended our deadline to upload class rank information from November 1, 2024 to **November 27, 2024** to ensure your highest achieving students do not miss out on valuable financial aid opportunities. We thank the approximately 440 high schools that already provided the applicable rosters. Those who haven't yet are strongly encouraged to do so before the upcoming deadline.

As a reminder, school employees who already have an NJFAMS User ID and password may log into NJFAMS with those same credentials. If no employee at your high school has authorized credentials, please request NJFAMS access via HESAA's [online form](#). NJFAMS access is exclusively for the use of authorized personnel at your school, so please protect your assigned User ID and password to keep HESAA's database secure.

Additionally, your school's IT Department should ensure that e-mails from HESAA and NJFAMS are not blocked or restricted. HESAA will contact eligible students via the email you provide on the roster to let them know of their potential eligibility for NJSTARS and/or GUS. If your roster includes student e-mail addresses that your high school administers, please consider unblocking "njfams.hesaa.org" as a trusted external sender, so your students will receive our communications.

Please refer to our [High School Counselor's User Manual](#) for detailed information on this process, and please feel free to reach out to us via NJSTARS@hesaa.org for any additional information or assistance.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margo Chaly".

Margo Chaly, Esq.
Executive Director