



NJDOE News

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55 High School Seniors Named as NJ Rising Scholars for 2009

Fifty-five talented high school seniors have been selected as New Jersey Rising Scholars for 2009, Commissioner of Education Lucille E. Davy announced.

The Rising Scholars Program was established to honor high-achieving students from diverse backgrounds who have expressed interest in attending a Historically Black College or University (HBCU) and who are leaders in their schools and communities.

"We are living in an era when it is more critical than ever for all of our students to succeed and when a college education is more important than ever," Commissioner Davy said. "The Rising Scholars program plays an important role in providing opportunities to recognize and encourage students to realize their dreams to further their education."

This year's Rising Scholars were selected from a pool of 180 applicants. Nine review teams from the New Jersey Department of Education, the New Jersey Amistad Commission and the Malcolm Bernard Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) College Fair of New Jersey, selected applicants based on their desire to attend an HBCU, their grade point averages and SAT / ACT scores, school and community service activities, leadership abilities, and an essay. Governor Corzine's commitment to education includes supporting NJ Rising Scholars and similar programs that promote equity and opportunity for all students.

Each honored student received a certificate and a comprehensive guide of available HBCU scholarships, as well as a chance to attend a college fair and meet recruiters from the participating colleges and universities. Students who attend may receive on-site admission to selected institutions and three students will be selected to receive a \$1,000 HBCU Rising Scholars Fund Scholarship.

New Jersey high school seniors who were taught at home or were attending public or private schools, were eligible to apply.

NOTE: [A list of the 2009 NJ Rising Scholars is attached.](#)