

THOMAS EDISON STATE UNIVERSITY

THOMAS EDISON STATE UNIVERSITY FY2023 INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE REPORT

Submitted to:

Office of the Secretary of Higher Education

Prepared by:

**Thomas Edison State University
Trenton, New Jersey**

September 2023

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THOMAS EDISON STATE UNIVERSITY FY2023 INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE REPORT

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE SUMMARY

Established in 1972, Thomas Edison State University provides distinctive undergraduate and graduate education for self-directed adults through flexible, high-quality collegiate learning and assessment opportunities. The University is one of New Jersey's senior public institutions of higher education and was granted university status by the New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education in December 2015. Thomas Edison State University is the only university in New Jersey dedicated exclusively for adults and offers degree programs at the associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral level as well as undergraduate and graduate certificates.

For more than five decades, the University has pioneered the use of the latest technologies to develop high-quality educational programs for adults and has served as a national leader in the assessment of adult learning. *The New York Times* called Thomas Edison State University "the college that paved the way for flexibility."

The entire academic program at the University revolves around the unique needs of adults. Students earn credit through a variety of methods designed exclusively for adult learners, including online courses, guided independent study, examination programs and professional and/or military training. Adult learners also earn credit by demonstrating college-level knowledge acquired outside a traditional classroom and by transferring credits earned from other regionally accredited institutions. Thomas Edison State University makes it possible for adult students to pursue their education without sacrificing their personal or professional responsibilities.



Merodie A. Hancock, PhD
President

September 2023

MISSION AND VISION

Mission

Thomas Edison State University provides distinctive undergraduate and graduate education for self-directed adults through flexible, high-quality collegiate learning and assessment opportunities.

Vision

Building Careers. Advancing Professions. Empowering Lives.

A. ACCREDITATION STATUS

1. Institutional Accreditation



Thomas Edison State University is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, 267-284-5000. Middle States is the accrediting body for colleges and universities in the middle states region. This accreditation is part of a national system of quality assurance that requires colleges and universities to reach a common understanding and agreement as to the standards of quality for American higher education. During FY2022, the University completed its decennial Middle States reaccreditation process. The University's accreditation was reaffirmed in November 2022. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2029-2030.

2. Professional Accreditation



The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing and Health Professions' baccalaureate degree program in nursing, Master of Science in Nursing degree program and Doctor of Nursing Practice program are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791. The baccalaureate and master's degree accreditation with CCNE is valid through June 2024. The Doctor of Nursing Practice program through CCNE is valid through June 2033.



The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing and Health Professions' baccalaureate degree program in nursing is accredited by the New Jersey Board of Nursing, PO Box 45010, Newark, NJ 07101, 973-504-6430.



Thomas Edison State University's Master of Arts in Educational Leadership Program, which is designed to prepare educators for roles in school leadership, was awarded Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) accreditation by the Inquiry Brief Commission of the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) for a period of seven years, from April 2015 through June 30, 2023. During the Spring 2023, the Master of Arts in Educational Leadership Program received full accreditation from CAEP. The full accreditation status is effective between Spring 2023 and Spring 2029. This accreditation certifies that the forenamed professional education program has provided evidence that the program adheres to CAEP's quality standards and principles.



Thomas Edison State University's Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Management and Master of Science in Human Resources Management degree programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). The accreditation status is effective as of April 27, 2017. The accreditation term is for ten years.



Thomas Edison State University bachelor's degrees in Nuclear Energy Engineering Technology and Electronics System Engineering Technology are accredited by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). A comprehensive self-study review is being conducted in 2023-2024. ABET is a specialized accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).



Thomas Edison State University's associate degree program and undergraduate certificate in Polysomnography were awarded initial accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in 2012. The program was awarded continuing accreditation status on March 17, 2017. The next comprehensive evaluation of the program, including an onsite review is scheduled to occur no later than 2027.

B. NUMBER OF STUDENTS SERVED

1. Number of undergraduates by attendance status

Thomas Edison State University
Table II.B.1:
Undergraduate Enrollment by Attendance Status, Fall 2022 (FY2023)

	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Number	76	7,282	7,358
Percent	100%	99.0%	100%

Source: IPEDS Fall Enrollment Survey
Please note, Thomas Edison State University's Fall 2022 IPEDS Enrollment Survey counts are based on only the enrollment counts as of October 15th. The University enrolls students continuously throughout the year. The Fall enrollment counts capture a portion of the students enrolled throughout the full fiscal year.

2. Number of graduate students by attendance status

Thomas Edison State University
Table II.B.2:
Graduate Enrollment by Attendance Status, Fall 2022 (FY2023)

	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Number	7	883	890
Percent	0.8%	99.2%	100%

Source: IPEDS Fall Enrollment Survey
Please note, Thomas Edison State University's Fall 2022 IPEDS Enrollment Survey counts are based on only the enrollment counts as of October 15th. The University enrolls students continuously throughout the year. The Fall enrollment counts capture a portion of the students enrolled throughout the full fiscal year.

3. Number of noncredit students served. During FY2023, there were 61 individuals who took noncredit courses at the University.

4. Unduplicated count of students enrolled during the year.

Thomas Edison State University
Table II.B.4:
Unduplicated Enrollment, FY 2022

	Headcount Enrollment	Credit Hours	FTE
Undergraduate	11,630	83,940	2,798
Graduate	1,199	9,111	380
Doctoral- Professional Practice			108
Total	12,829	93,051	3,286

Source: IPEDS 12-Month Enrollment Survey

C. CHARACTERISTICS OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

1. Mean math, reading and writing SAT scores. This section is not applicable to Thomas Edison State University.
2. Enrollment in remediation courses by subject area. This section is not applicable to Thomas Edison State University.
3. Race/ethnicity, gender, and age (separately). Profiles of the undergraduate students by race/ethnicity, gender and age are presented in the tables below.

Thomas Edison State University
Table II.C.3.a
Undergraduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, Fall 2022 (FY 2023)

Race/Ethnicity	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
White	35	46.1%	3,318	45.6%	3,353	45.6%
Black	12	15.8%	1,111	15.3%	1,123	15.3%
Hispanic	10	13.2%	1,043	14.3%	1,053	14.3%
Asian	9	11.8%	317	4.4%	326	4.4%
American Indian	0	0.0%	26	0.4%	26	0.4%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0	0.00%	34	0.50%	34	0.50%
U.S. Nonresident	1	1.3%	59	0.8%	60	0.8%
Two or More Races	3	3.9%	273	3.7%	276	3.8%
Race Unknown	6	7.9%	1,101	15.1%	1,107	15.0%
Total	76	100%	7,282	100%	7,358	100%

Thomas Edison State University
Table II.C.3.b:
Undergraduate Enrollment by Sex, Fall 2022 (FY2023)

	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Male	15	19.7%	4,375	60.1%	4,390	59.7%
Female	61	80.3%	2,907	39.9%	2,968	40.3%
Total	76	100.0%	7,282	100.0%	7,358	100.0%

Thomas Edison State University

Thomas Edison State University
 Table II.C.3.c
 Undergraduate Enrollment by Age, Fall 2022 (FY2023)

Age	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
LT 18	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
18-19	0	0.0%	30	0.4%	30	0.4%
20-21	0	0.0%	182	2.5%	182	2.5%
22-24	13	17.1%	621	8.5%	634	8.6%
25-29	32	42.1%	1,497	20.6%	1,529	20.8%
30-34	16	21.1%	1,445	19.8%	1,461	19.9%
35-39	12	15.8%	1,233	16.9%	1,245	16.9%
40-49	3	4.0%	1,462	20.1%	1,465	19.9%
50-64	0	0.0%	771	10.6%	771	10.5%
65+	0	0.0%	39	0.5%	39	0.5%
Unknown	0	0.0%	2	0.0%	2	0.0%
Total	76	100.0%	7,282	100.0%	7,358	100.0%

Source: IPEDS Fall Enrollment Survey

Thomas Edison State University

4. Number of students receiving financial assistance under each federal-, state- and institution-funded aid program. The number of students receiving financial assistance is presented in the table below.

Thomas Edison State University

Table II.C.4:

Financial Aid from Federal-, State- and Institution-Funded Programs, AY2021-22

	Recipients	Dollars(\$)	\$/Recipient
<u>FEDERAL PROGRAMS</u>			
Pell Grants	1,587	\$4,471,000	\$2,817
College Work Study	0	\$0	-
Perkins Loans	0	\$0	-
SEOG	0	\$0	-
PLUS Loans	1,177	\$3,425,000	\$2,910
Stafford Loans (Subsidized)	1,244	\$9,377,000	\$7,538
Stafford Loans (Unsubsidized)	22	\$142,000	\$6,455
SMART and ACG or other	0	\$0	-
<i>CARES ACT- HEERF Student Aid</i>	1,201	\$1,201,000	\$1,000
<u>STATE PROGRAMS</u>			
Tuition Aid Grants (TAG)	73	\$282,000	\$3,863
Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF)	0	\$0	-
Other State Programs (OSRP, NJ-GIVS, WTC, etc.)	0	\$0	-
Distinguished Scholars	0	\$0	-
Urban Scholars	0	\$0	-
NJ STARS	4	\$7,000	\$1,750
CCOG	0	\$0	-
NJCLASS Loans	9	\$42,000	\$4,667
<u>INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS</u>			
Grants/Scholarships	286	\$583,000	\$2,038
Loans	0	\$0	-

Source: NJIPEDS Form #41 Student Financial Aid Report

Thomas Edison State University

5. Percentage of students who are New Jersey Residents. Due to the number of active military students enrolled, the University examines residence by military status. As the table below indicates, among nonmilitary students, 52 percent of the non-military enrolled students were New Jersey residents. Among students who were veterans, 16 percent were New Jersey residents and among active-duty military 6 percent were also New Jersey residents.

Thomas Edison State University
 Table II.C.5:
 FY2023 Enrollment by Military Status and Residence

Residence	Non-Military		Active-Duty		Veteran		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
New Jersey	3,684	52.4%	159	6.0%	232	16%	4,075	36.6%
Out of State	3,234	46.0%	2441	92.4%	1211	83%	6,886	61.8%
International	85	1.2%	12	0.5%	10	1%	107	1%
Unknown	34	0.5%	29	1.1%	14	1%	77	.7%
Total	7,037	100.0%	2,641	100.0%	1,467	100%	11,145	100.0%

D. STUDENT OUTCOMES

1. Graduation rates:
 - a. Four-, five- and six-year graduation rate by race/ethnicity (senior publics). This section is not applicable to Thomas Edison State University.
 - b. Two-year graduation rate (community colleges). This section is not applicable to Thomas Edison State University.
 - c. Three-year graduation and transfer rate by race/ethnicity (community colleges). This section is not applicable to Thomas Edison State University.
2. Third-semester retention rates (by attendance status). This section is not applicable to Thomas Edison State University.
3. Time-to-Degree Completion. Since Thomas Edison State University enrolls primarily adult students who often bring in credit upon enrollment, the University monitors time-to-degree completion to examine how long it takes graduates to earn a degree from the University.

As presented in Table II.D:3a below, during FY2023, the associate degree graduates took, on average, 4.1 years to graduate, the bachelor’s degree graduates took 4.9 years to graduate, the master’s degree graduates took 3.2 years to graduate and the doctoral degree graduates took 3.1 years to graduate.

Thomas Edison State University
Table II.D.3.a:
FY2023 Graduates Time-to-Degree Completion by Degree Level

	Associate	Baccalaureate	Master’s	Doctorate
Overall	4.1	4.9	3.2	3.1

Source: Office of Institutional Research, Thomas Edison State University, FY2023 Year End Data File: Degrees Awarded.

The University also monitors time-to-degree completion by examining differences between in-state and out-of-state students. The time-to-degree completion for in-state versus out-of-state students is presented below.

Thomas Edison State University
Table II.D.3.b:
FY2023 Graduates Time-to-Degree Completion by Degree Level and Residence

Residence	Associate	Baccalaureate	Master’s	Doctorate
NJ	3.4	4.9	3.4	3.0
Out-of-State	4.2	4.9	2.8	3.2
International	4.2	4.6	1.9	—

Data Source: Office of Institutional Research, Thomas Edison State University, FY2023 Year End Data File: Degrees Awarded.

4. Student Learning Outcomes

In keeping with its mission, Thomas Edison State University is committed to maintaining high standards of academic integrity and of quality service to its students. To achieve this goal, the University engages in outcomes assessment, a process through which the effectiveness of the University and its programs is evaluated against institutionally determined standards. Thomas Edison State University's institutional outcomes are closely mapped to the Essential Learning Outcomes of the Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) initiative as documented by the Association of American Colleges and Universities. The Academic Council has approved specific institutional learning outcomes for all undergraduate students and graduate students.

a. Undergraduate Institutional Learning Outcomes

All Thomas Edison State University students who graduate from bachelor's degree programs will have the following competencies:

- **Written Communication**
Communicate ideas effectively in writing using text, data, and images for addressing globally complex challenges.
- **Oral Communication**
Communicate ideas effectively orally using multiple modes of communication, as appropriate.
- **Information Literacy**
Identify, locate, evaluate and effectively and responsibly use and share information for the problem at hand.
- **Quantitative Reasoning/Literacy**
Demonstrate competency and comfort in working with numerical data, create complex and refined arguments supported by quantitative evidence, and clearly communicate those arguments in a variety of formats, as appropriate.
- **Diversity/Intercultural Literacy**
Recognize that they are members of a world community and demonstrate intercultural knowledge, skills and attitudes that support effective and appropriate interaction in a variety of cultural contexts.
- **Ethical Leadership**
Assess their own ethical values and the social context of a given situation, recognize ethical issues in a variety of settings, apply ethical principles to ethical dilemmas and consider the ramifications of alternative actions.
- **Critical Thinking**
Critically explore issues and ideas, frame events, consider evidence and analyze assumptions before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion.

b. Institutional Graduate Learning Outcomes

All Thomas Edison State University students who graduate from advanced-level degree programs will be able to:

- Apply in-depth knowledge to the major questions, theories, debates, and methodologies in their organization, field, or profession.
- Use critical analysis and research to make informed decisions and to improve an organization, field, or profession.
- Communicate effectively to positively impact an organization, field, or profession.
- Apply ethical principles and theories in research, evaluation, organizational culture, and communities.
- Interpret cultural influences in organizations and communities.
- Create sophisticated arguments supported by quantitative evidence.

c. Programmatic Learning Outcomes

Programmatic learning outcomes, focusing on degree specific learning goals and objectives, have also been established within each school at the undergraduate and graduate degree levels.

E. MENTOR CHARACTERISTICS

1. Full-time faculty by race/ethnicity, gender, academic rank, and tenure status (simultaneously). This section is not applicable to Thomas Edison State University.
2. Percentage of course sections taught by full-time faculty. This section is not applicable to Thomas Edison State University.
3. Ratio of full- to part-time faculty. This section is not applicable to Thomas Edison State University.
4. Mentor characteristics: race/ethnicity and gender. Thomas Edison State University signs letters of agreement with subject-matter experts. These mentors and consultants engage with the academic units of the University in various ways: development and/or assessment in test construction, portfolio assessment, facilitating courses (e.g., Guided Study and online), pre-graduation conferences, demonstration of currency, practicum, nursing performance examinations and program evaluations. During FY2023, there were 514 mentors. The gender and race/ethnicity of the mentors are presented below.

Thomas Edison State University
 Table II.E.4.a:
 Gender of Mentors, FY2023

Gender	N	%
Female	222	43%
Male	292	57%
Grand Total	514	100%

Source: FY2023 Mentor Data File, Center for Learning and Teaching (CLT), Thomas Edison State University.

Thomas Edison State University
 Table II.E.4.b:
 Race/Ethnicity of Mentors, FY2023

Race/Ethnicity	Total	%
African American/Black American	56	11%
Asian American	36	7%
Caucasian, Not Latino	397	77%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	0%
Hispanic or Latino	6	1%
American/Alaska Native	8	2%
Unknown/Blank	10	2%
Grand Total	514	100%

Source: FY2023 Mentor Data File, Center for Learning and Teaching (CLT), Thomas Edison State University.

F. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees is the premier governing body of the University. The members are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Members of the Board bring with them diverse experiences and varied backgrounds from business, industry, and academia. The Board oversees all policy matters of the University, including the approval of degree programs and standards, budget recommendations to the governor and appointments of all University employees. There are two student members on the Board: one a voting member and the other an alternate.

1. Race/Ethnicity and Gender (simultaneously). A profile of the Board of Trustees by race/ethnicity and gender is presented in the table below.

Thomas Edison State University
 Table II.F.1
 Race/Ethnicity and Gender of the Board of Trustees, FY2024

Race/Ethnicity	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
White	4	1	5
Black	1	1	2
Hispanic	1	-	1
Asian	-	-	-
American Indian	-	-	-
Total	6	2	8

2. List of trustees/governors with titles and affiliations. The current Board of Trustee members are presented in the table below.

Thomas Edison State University
 Table II.F.2
 Board of Trustees, FY2024

Name	Title	Affiliation
Gualberto Medina (<i>Chair</i>)	Executive VP in Brokerage Services	CBRE
Michael Toscani (Vice Chair)	PharmD, Research Professor/ Fellowship Director	Rutgers Institute for Pharmacy
Dr. Kemi Alli	CEO and Chief Medical Officer	Henry J. Austin Health Center
Rev. J. Stanley Justice	Presiding Elder	Dover, Delaware Area AME Churches
Eric R. Lear	Managing Partner	Lear & Pannepacker, LLP
Brian T. Maloney	Consultant	
Lydia Stockman	Chief Administrative Officer	Inspira Health
Michael Rakauckas (<i>Student</i>)	Chief Master Sgt. the State Command Chief	New Jersey Air National Guard
Dr. Merodie A. Hancock (<i>Ex-Officio</i>)	President	Thomas Edison State University

3. URL Information. For information about the Thomas Edison State University Board of Directors, please go to: <http://www.tesu.edu/about/Board-of-Trustees.cfm>.

G. A PROFILE OF THE INSTITUTION

1. Degree and Certificate Programs

Thomas Edison State University offers associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees in more than 100 areas of study. The university also offers undergraduate and graduate certificates.

- a. **Associate Degree and Degree Programs.** The associate degrees and degree programs are as follows:

Associate in Arts (AA)

Communications, General Studies, Human Services, Meteorology, Music, Photography

Associate in Applied Science (AAS)

Administrative Studies, Applied Computer Studies, Applied Electronic Studies, Applied Health Studies, Aviation Support, Construction and Facility Support, Criminal Justice, Electrical/Mechanical Systems & Maintenance, Environmental, Safety & Security Technologies, Mechanics and Maintenance, Military Technology Leadership, Multidisciplinary Technology, Polysomnography, Respiratory Care

Associate in Science (AS)

Air Traffic Control, Aviation Flight Technology, Aviation Maintenance Technology, Biology, Biomedical Electronics, Business Administration, Clinical Laboratory Science, Computer and Information Technology, Computer Science, Electrical Technology, Electronics Engineering Technology, Mathematics, Medical Imaging, Nuclear Engineering Technology, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Radiation Protection, Radiation Therapy, Technical Studies

- b. **Bachelor's Degrees and Degree Programs.** The bachelor's degrees include Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. The degree programs offered under each degree are provided below.

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Anthropology, Art, Biology, Communications, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, English, Environmental Studies, Foreign Language, History, International Studies, Labor Studies, Liberal Studies, Mathematics, Music, Philosophy, Photography, Political Science, Psychology, Religion, Sociology, Theater Arts

Bachelor of Science (BS)

Accounting/CPA, Air Traffic Control, Aviation Flight Technology, Aviation Maintenance Technology, Aviation Management, Biomedical Electronics, Clinical Laboratory Science, Computer Information Systems, Construction, Cybersecurity, Data Science and Analytics, Dental Hygiene, Electrical Technology, Electronics Systems Engineering Technology, Energy Systems Technology, Entrepreneurship, General Management, Health Services Technology, Health Studies, Healthcare Management,

Homeland Security & Emergency Management, Human Services, Information Technology, International Business, Medical Imaging, Military Technology Leadership, Nuclear Energy Engineering Technology, Nuclear Engineering Technology, Nuclear Engineering Technology/ Radiation Protection, Nuclear Medicine Technology, Nursing*, Organizational Leadership, Professional Studies, Radiation Protection, Radiation Protection/Health Physics, Radiation Therapy, Respiratory Care, Technical Studies

*The University offers three types of Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs: RN to BSN, RN to BSN/MSN, and an Accelerated BSN Program. The RN to BSN/MSN program provides a seamless transition for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree who want to earn a Master of Science in Nursing degree. The Accelerated BSN Program is an intensive one-year program for adults who already possess a non-nursing bachelor's degree and are interested in becoming a registered nurse.

Bachelor of Science Business Administration (BSBA)

Accounting, Finance, Human Resources/ Organizational Management, Marketing, Operations Management

- c. **Undergraduate Certificates.** The University awards certificates in the following professional areas:

Accounting, Communications, Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, Cybersecurity, Diversity, Electronics, Finance, Gas Distribution, General Management, Health and Wellness, Healthcare Management, Human Resources Management, Labor Studies, Marketing, Operations Management, Organizational Leadership, and Psychology.

- d. **Graduate Degree Programs.** The University currently offers 5 master's degrees. The degree and the degree programs are listed below.

Master of Arts (MA)

Educational Leadership, Educational Technology and Online Learning, Liberal Studies

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

The Master of Business Administration is a 39-credit accelerated, online and career-focused MBA degree that prepares individuals for leadership roles in a wide range of industries. The entire program can be completed in 15 months.

Accounting, Data Analytics, Finance, General Management, Healthcare Management, Human Resources Management, Marketing

Master of Public Service Leadership (MPSL)

The Master of Public Service Leadership is a 36-credit program offered entirely online and meets the accelerating demand for education and careers in public service. The Master of Public Service Leadership has been developed in alignment with the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) standards for accreditation.

Community & Economic Development, Environmental Policy/Environmental Justice, Learner Designed Area of Study, Nonprofit Management, Public Finance, Public Health/Public Policy

Master of Science (MS)

Accounting, Aviation Management, Clinical Trials Management, Cybersecurity, Data Science and Analytics, Healthcare Management, Homeland Security, Information Systems, Information Technology, Management, Management/Public Service Administration Leadership, Nursing/Nurse Educator**, Nursing/Nursing Administration, Nursing/Nursing Informatics, Technical Studies

**Graduates of the Master of Science in Nursing degree program earn a Nursing Administration, Nurse Educator or Nursing Informatics certificate, in addition to the MS in Nursing degree, depending on the area of study they select.

Master of Science Human Resource Management (MSHRM)

Human Resource Management

- e. **Graduate Certificates.** The University offers graduate certificate programs in the following areas:

Counterterrorism, Cybersecurity, Cybersecurity – Critical Infrastructure, Data Analytics, Digital Humanities, Educational Leadership, Emergency Management, Geropsychology, Healthcare Management, Homeland Security, Human Resources Management, Industrial-Organizational Psychology, International Business Finance, Nurse Educator, Nursing Administration, Nursing Informatics, Online Learning and Teaching, Organizational Leadership, Professional Communications, Project Management, and Strategic Planning and Board Leadership for Nonprofits.

- f. **Doctoral Degree Programs**

The University currently offers two doctoral programs (Doctor of Nursing Practice and Doctor of Business Administration). The degree and the degree programs are listed below.

Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)

The Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) degree, launched in FY2020, is an online doctoral degree program with areas of study in Organizational Leadership, Human Resource Management and Management. It is designed to enable business students and professionals to advance their careers as executive leaders, educators, and consultants. This 48-credit program offers two-degree completion options, coursework in

preparation from higher educational instruction and general consultancy and a final Scholar-Practitioner Field Project.

Doctor of Nurse Practitioner (DNP)

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree, launched in FY2017, prepares nurse leaders with competencies in advanced nursing practice, organizational leadership, economics and finance, healthcare policy and technology. It is a 36-credit program that can be completed online in 18 months.

g. Bachelor's to Master's degree Programs

There are also several bachelor's to master's degree programs available that enable undergraduate students to earn up to 12 graduate credits that apply to both their bachelor's degree and master's degree at the University (See [Bachelor's to Master's Program | Academics \(tesu.edu\)](#)).

For Additional Information. More information about the degree programs offered by the University and the majors/areas of study offered is available on the University website, <http://www.tesu.edu/academics/index.cfm>.

2. Other

Affiliation with the New Jersey State Library. Legislation codifying in statute the affiliation of the New Jersey State Library with Thomas Edison State University was signed by the governor in FY2001. This affiliation and other collaborative projects have made a significant positive difference to the New Jersey State Library and the other libraries with which it is connected.

H. MAJOR RESEARCH AND PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Thomas Edison State University engages in public service activities through the Division of Community and Government Affairs as well as individual staff participation on various external boards, committees, and organizations. In addition, the New Jersey State Library, an affiliate of Thomas Edison State University, contributes to the public service activities of the University (see “Other” section below). Highlights of some of the University’s activities are provided below.

Division of Community and Government Affairs Selected Highlights

1st Annual Back to School Readiness Fair. During FY 2023, Thomas Edison State University staff in collaboration with Mercer Street Friends conducted the University’s 1st Annual Back to School Readiness Fair. This event focused on the health and wellness and school readiness for school-age children in the local Trenton community. Joined by 11 local organizations, the event included therapy dogs, vaccinations, dental screenings, dental treatment as well as eyeglass cleaning and adjustments. In addition, 289 backpacks filled with supplies for Trenton students were distributed.

Mobile Wellness Tour. During the fall of FY 2023, Thomas Edison State University, Walmart, and The NJ Department of Health hosted the Walmart Mobile Wellness Tour on the University’s campus in the Kelsey Building. During the event, Covid 19, Flu and Pneumonia Vaccinations were administered. Participants at the Wellness Tour also had the chance to get glucose and blood pressure screenings. Over 100 individuals were served.

Greater Trenton Education Collaborative (GTEC). The University hosted the initial meeting of the Greater Trenton Education Collaborative (GTEC) that was held during the fall of FY 2023. The purpose of the GTEC is to provide a platform for communication and collaboration, operational responsibility and convening of the different stakeholders spearheading initiatives in Trenton. The Trenton Public Schools will provide subject matter expertise and alignment while other potential partners ensure depth and breadth of knowledge, activities and reach of the collaborative.

Hosted 2nd annual LGBT Health and Wellness Fair. During the Spring 2023, Thomas Edison State University hosted the New Jersey Pride Chamber of Commerce’s 2nd annual LGBT Health and Wellness Fair. The fair had over 25 vendors who shared valuable information on holistic health and wellness concepts, specifically geared towards serving the LGBT community. Free HIV testing, Covid Testing and Covid Vaccinations were available on-site.

I. MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDERWAY IN FY2023

During FY 2023, there were no major capital projects underway at the University.

OTHER INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

University Selected Highlights

New Nursing Dean Appointed. Following a national search, Ruth A. Wittmann-Price, PhD, was appointed dean of the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing and Health Professions. Dr. Wittmann-Price has a wealth of experience in developing and expanding nursing and health professions programs as well as supporting traditionally underserved student and patient populations. She is an editor, co-editor, or chapter contributor of more than 70 publications, articles, and refereed presentations, and has provided numerous conference keynotes and podium presentations nationally.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Council (DEIC). The Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Council (DEIC) continues to be active. During FY 2023, the DEIC in partnership with the NJ State Library, hosted monthly Book and Media Club activities, DEIC speaker series on various topics, and disseminated a monthly employee-based newsletter featuring training and development resources and highlighting various DEIC holidays and events. The goal of the Council is to strengthen the University's outlook on diversity by generating dialogue, engagement, and growth. In addition, the University engaged with an outside consultant to assist with the DEI Roadmap.

University Day Presentation. Each year Thomas Edison State University (TESU) celebrates its ascension to University status on Dec. 1, the date of its official name change from college to university in 2015. This year the University presented a panel discussion "Informed Civic Engagement: Discerning Fact from Fiction, Cutting through the Rhetoric, and Understanding the Value of Our Differences." Panelists included Anthony "Skip" Cimino, former executive director, N.J. General Assembly; Kevin Drennan, former executive director, N.J. Senate; and Dr. Tara Kent, associate dean and director of Undergraduate Studies, Heavin School of Arts, Sciences, and Technology. Dr. Malcolm Oliver, dean of the John S. Watson School of Public Service, moderated the conversation. As experienced civil servants, Cimino and Drennan shared experiences in building consensus to pass controversial bills such as legalizing cannabis and the elimination of cash

TESU's Third Annual Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Each year TESU invites a Martin Luther King Jr. Day speaker to engage the University community, not just around Dr. King, but also on the broader aspects of his legacy. The University's 3rd Annual Tribute to MLK event was held in person and was also livestreamed. It was open to the public. The speaker this year was Ms. Jeannine LaRue, senior vice president at Kaufman Zita Group, and experienced lobbyist, social media consultant, public affairs executive, and policy strategist. LaRue shared her experiences related to the art of peaceful/purposeful protests, fights for equality and inclusion, and the ongoing inspiration to fuel our own journeys and drive change as it relates to Dr. Kings' legacy.

Professional Reaccreditation. There were several programs at the University that were awarded reaccreditation this year.

- The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing and Health Professions at TESU received reaccreditation for its Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in Systems-Level Leadership program

from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The outcome resulted from an extensive self-study and onsite evaluation conducted by the CCNE in November 2022. The program is reaccredited through fall 2032.

- The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing and Health Professions at Thomas Edison State University (TESU) was also granted reaccreditation from the NJ Board of Nursing for its Accelerated BSN Program. The accreditation is granted for a period of 8 years, through 2031.
- The Heavin School of Arts, Sciences, and Technology at Thomas Edison State University's has earned reaffirmation of accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) for the school's Master of Arts (MA) in Educational Leadership program. The accreditation status is effective through Spring 2029. The MA in Educational Leadership Program is designed to prepare educators for roles in school leadership. This accreditation certifies that the forenamed professional education program has provided evidence that the program adheres to CAEP's standards and quality principles.

Grants Awarded. The University was awarded several grants during FY 2023.

Mental Health in Higher Education: Community Provider Partnerships Grant . Thomas Edison State University has been awarded a Mental Health in Higher Education: Community Provider Partnerships Grant by the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE) through the State and Fiscal Recovery Fund made available through the American Rescue Plan Act. The grant is designed to help address student mental-health needs in the wake of COVID-19. The grant will allow the University to launch SupportU, which will be TESU's first comprehensive telehealth and well-being program to provide robust mental health services for students, as well as referral to other critical life-supporting resources such as eldercare, childcare, and financial counseling.

Nursing Expansion Grant Program. Thomas Edison State University (TESU) has been awarded funding as part of the Nursing Expansion Grant Program by the U.S. Department of Labor. TESU is one of 25 organizations across 17 states to receive federal funding. The program is designed to support public-private partnerships that expand and diversify the nursing workforce, with a particular focus on developing professional pathways for frontline healthcare professionals to advance in their careers. TESU plans to use the funds to create career pathways designed to fill a critical nursing shortage in psychiatric mental health nursing by providing scholarships to support students in programs from the RN to the MSN levels.

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Spotlight on Humanities Development Grant. Thomas Edison State University (TESU) has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Spotlight on Humanities Development Grant for the university's project, Incorporating DEI Concepts and Content Into Humanities General Education Courses. The NEH grant, the first of its kind for the university, will be dispersed over two years to support the university's integration of diversity and inclusion themes across a broader area of its curriculum. The award will also support the expansion of the school's undergraduate Certificate in Diversity. The certificate program will provide students with a foundation to

explore social inequalities related to gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, social class, and disabilities.

External Partnerships to Make Higher Education Accessible for Adults

ReUP Education partnership. Thomas Edison State University is one of 17 institutions in the state to participate in the innovative partnership with the NJ Office of the Secretary of Higher Education and ReUP Education. The goal of this partnership is to provide outreach and coaching to adult learners who stopped out of college and need support to re-enroll. Through the partnership, ReUp Education is working directly with TESU and the other institutions to identify, reach, and engage ‘stopped-out’ students – those who have left college without completing a degree – as well as provide personalized support for those navigating the re-enrollment process. Data collected through the initial year of partnership will be leveraged to report statewide results and best practices.

Participation in ACE Prior Learning Network. Thomas Edison State University (TESU) will be among the pilot institutions in the American Council on Education (ACE) Prior Learning Network, powered by Credly. Pilot members are focused on ensuring learners can connect with colleges and universities that guarantee acceptance of their credit for prior learning as well as building a foundation upon which they can expand the network to help even more learners achieve their academic and professional goals.

Scholarship Opportunities. The University started offering two new state funded need-based aid opportunities during fiscal year 2023.

GO-TESU Scholarships. The University began offering GO-TESU scholarships in FY 2023. The GO-TESU is funded through HESAA (Higher Education Student Assistance Authority). This is the first time that the University has had state-funded financial assistance for students taking fewer than 12 credits in a term. The University awarded scholarships to 431 students during fiscal year 2023.

The Garden State Guarantee (GSG) Scholarship. The Garden State Guarantee (GSG) program provides full-time students with no tuition cost if they have an adjusted gross income of \$65,000 or less during their third and fourth year of study. This is a last-dollar scholarship that is applied after all other tuition grants. The University awarded scholarships to 113 students during fiscal year 2023.

Student Service Enhancements (Selected Highlights)

Career Services. The Office of Career Development’s online system College Central Network (CCN) was expanded this year. Now students can access more than 500,000 job postings from employers specifically interested in TESU students and alumni. They can also schedule career coaching appointments with Career Development and soon will be able to network with alumni.

Self Service Payment Process. To improve our students’ financial experience, a new self-service payment process was launched during FY23. All students now have a clear term bill, pending financial aid shows on all self-service accounts, payments do not require a bill and

demand statements are available for all students. In addition, direct deposit for student refunds was launched in FY23.

Social Gaming Club launched. A Social Gaming Club was launched during the Spring 2023. The club is designed to help students connect with classmates, regardless of skill level or background, in an environment where friendly competition, collaboration and fun take center stage. A priority for the club is to replicate the camaraderie found through online gaming in a stress-free atmosphere. Students can build friendships and connect with others with similar interests while playing their preferred video games. The club is open to casual and experienced gamers alike.

Institution of the Year Award

Thomas Edison State University received the “ Institution of the Year Award” from the Council of Colleges and Military Educators (CCME). The CCME Institution Award is presented “to a higher education institution in recognition of its significant contributions to the cause of military education.

New Jersey State Library Selected Highlights

Selected highlights from the New Jersey State Library are below:

Library of the Year Award - National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled

The National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled honored the New Jersey State Library's Talking Book & Braille Center (TBBC) for outstanding service to readers with visual, physical, or print disabilities. TBBC received the 2023 Library of the Year Award during a ceremony at the 2023 National Conference of Librarians Serving Blind and Print Disabled Individuals. The library was recognized at a luncheon at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. and received a \$1,000 award and commemorative plaque.

Telling New Jersey's Untold Stories. State Library Information Center was awarded a grant from the National Archives and Records Administration for a project titled "Telling New Jersey's Untold Stories." The grant helped to build out the NJSL's digitization studio with sophisticated new equipment that will allow the library to digitally capture fine details of historical records with accuracy. Upcoming digitization projects will include content from the New Jersey Court of Errors and Appeals, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, and publications related to land use and development in New Jersey.

Catalyzing Teen Entrepreneurship through Makerspaces. The maker movement has come to New Jersey's public libraries. This project evaluated their current status in New Jersey public libraries and explored the intersection between makerspace activities and entrepreneurship. Surveys, site visits, focus groups and a web scan of New Jersey Library websites collected a vast amount of data – including that 95% of public libraries offer some type of making activities, including 22% with a dedicated makerspace. Interesting models include the Mountain Lakes Public Library that focuses on solving community problems, such as through a partnership with St. Joseph's School for the Blind and Build a Better Book. The Newark Public Library's Made@NPL project partners with Rutgers University to engage students in marketing the space to user groups. NJSL is disseminating findings, best practices, and a tool kit for library staff. The tool kit aims to build knowledge and skills that allow staff to better support entrepreneurship among teens. This project was made possible with Library Services and Technology Act funds, through the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

NJSL+ Partners Year 2: Labor & Literacy Library Program. Building on the success of the 2022's NJSL+ Partners Literacy project, which was funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the American Rescue Plan Act, the State Library worked in partnership with the Plainfield Public Library to support New Jersey libraries in their delivery of literacy services. Participating libraries expanded and enhanced their Adult Basic Education, digital literacy skills, English Language Learning, and job search assistance offerings. 2023 fostered a community of practice across libraries and the development of standardized training materials for both library staff and their learners. Thirty-three participating libraries held over 440 workshops, serving over 1700 patrons. NJSL also provided licenses for Northstar Digital Literacy assessment tool to 90 public libraries, which provided digital literacy support for nearly 1140 library patrons, who completed over 4800 assessments.