

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF HIGHER EDUCATION (OSHE)

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (EOF)

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENT SELECTION, AWARDING, & PAYMENT PROCESSING
CALENDAR FOR THE 2026-2027 ACADEMIC YEAR

Selection, awarding, certifying and requesting payment for EOF students is a process that requires the involvement of the EOF campus program and its financial aid office. Participating institutions are responsible for ensuring full compliance with the EOF selection, awarding, certification, and payment request process.

EOF UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS – SELECTING & AWARDING STUDENTS

EOF undergraduate and graduate programs are responsible for placing students on the EOF "Approved & Eligible Roster" within NJFAMS.

EOF Central Roster Processing Schedule

Programs must submit the EOF Roster Processing Sheet to the EOF Central Office by 12 pm (EST) on the dates indicated below. Submissions received after 12 pm (EST) may not be processed. Once received, OSHE will process students from "Qualified" to "Awarded" status. **Note: When initially awarding students during the Fall term, programs must award for both the Fall and Spring semesters.**

Reminder - EOF part-time students: (Undergraduate)* Per 9A:11-2.9(e) Institutions shall not award a part-time EOF grant to more than 10% of the campus program's total EOF-funded population in any given semester. **(Graduate)*** A part-time EOF graduate grant may not be awarded to EOF graduate students. Graduate students must be enrolled full-time and can only receive a full-time EOF graduate grant. * = **Exception – EOF Graduating Senior:** Students in their last semester to complete their associate, bachelor's, or graduate degree may be enrolled part-time and receive the maximum Article III grant for which they would be eligible as a full-time student. This is a special one-time allowance. Students who are awarded in this manner may not continue to receive EOF funding for any subsequent term(s) related to the degree level for which this classification is applied.

EOF Roster Processing Submission Dates		
Term	Undergraduate	Graduate
Fall 2026	September: 10 th , 24 th October: 8 th , 22 nd November: 5 th , 19 th December: 3 rd	October 7, 2026
Spring 2027	January: 7 th , 21 st February: 4 th , 18 th March: 4 th , 18 th	February 24, 2027

EOF Discretionary and Non-Funded Appeals		
Term	Undergraduate	Graduate
Fall 2026	November 12, 2026	September 29, 2026
Spring 2027	February 25, 2027	February 16, 2027

Last Day to Award All Students		
Term	Undergraduate	Graduate
Fall 2026	December 3, 2026	October 7, 2026
Spring 2027	March 18, 2027	February 24, 2027

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE – CERTIFICATION & PAYMENT REQUEST

The certification and payment request process is facilitated by the campus financial aid office within the institutional portal of NJFAMS. Institutions may not certify and request payment until the Monday following the roster processing dates above. Requests received after the final roster payment request deadline for each respective semester will not be accepted and the institution will be held accountable for covering EOF awards due to non-compliance.

Final Time Period to Certify and Request Payment		
Term	Undergraduate	Graduate
Fall 2026	December 7 th – December 14 th	October 12 th – 16 th
Spring 2027	March 22 nd – March 29 th	March 1 st – March 5 th

IMPORTANT INFORMATION (ALL PROGRAMS)

Programs must refer to the HESAA Deadline and Processing Calendar for:

- FAFSA filing deadlines
- Incomplete applications/Corrections/Verification/Task Completion/Appeals/Add a College

FAFSA/NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application Deadlines for EOF Grant consideration:

- **Fall 2026/Spring 2027:** September 15, 2026
- **Spring 2027 Only:** February 15, 2027