

To:New Jersey Institutions of Higher EducationFrom:Hasani Carter, Director of the Equal Opportunity Fund (EOF)Subject:Celebration of EOF MonthDate:April 16, 2022

Last fall, Governor Murphy signed <u>Assembly Joint Resolution No. 204</u>, which designated the month of April of each year as "Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Month" in New Jersey. The purpose of this designation is to recognize the critical role that EOF plays in ensuring the meaningful access to higher education for economically and educationally disadvantaged students in the State.

In celebration of EOF month, high schools, EOF-participating institutions of higher education, and other interested groups are encouraged to observe the month with appropriate activities and programs, to promote EOF awareness, and to provide all interested or eligible students with information about utilizing EOF.

EOF was created in 1968 to ensure meaningful access to higher education for those who come from backgrounds of economic and educational disadvantage. EOF assists low-income New Jersey residents who are capable of succeeding in higher education but lack adequate preparation for college study. For the past 50 years, EOF has served an important role in serving students whose commitment, motivation, and potential to succeed are deeply rooted in their desire to help their families and communities. New Jersey's EOF program has become a national model for successful and life-changing educational opportunity programs.

The success of the EOF program, in New Jersey is largely attributable to the participating colleges and universities and the dedication and commitment of the EOF professional staff members. The EOF program supports a wide array of campus-based outreach and support services at 28 public and 13 independent institutions. OSHE would like to express its sincere gratitude to all those dedicated to the success of the EOF program and its students throughout the State.

For more information about the EOF program, please visit our website.