New Jersey's Some College, No Degree: 2025 Spring Insights

When the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE) set out to support adults with some college but no degree, a population now totaling more than 790,000, the vision was to take a learner-first approach that recognized the realities and potential of returning students.

In partnership with ReUp Education, OSHE's statewide approach is connecting these adults to 22 participating institutions, combining data-driven outreach with personalized coaching and support. Through this work, New Jersey has established a national model for advancing the talent pipeline and broadening economic opportunity.





STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND RE-ENROLLMENTS

11,800+

students have re-enrolled since April 2023 as a result of the New Jersey and ReUp initiative¹

2023 Q2 Q3 Q4 2024 Q2 Q3 Q4 2025

<u>1,100</u>+

have graduated¹

~\$62m

in recaptured tuition collectively earned by the 22 participating institutions.*2

~\$159m

projected recaptured tuition gained by institutions when the 11,800+ students graduate.³

\$112m

in additional expected contributions to the state economy through taxes and consumer spending in graduates' first year after graduation.³

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One of the coolest things about this whole process has been talking about and setting goals and objectives. I'll be heading into the Fall 2025 semester with only four classes left before I graduate in May of 2026. I consider my educational journey to be a group effort. So when I graduate, I'll definitely be thinking about my professors, my mom, and other individuals like my [ReUp Success Coach] who helped contribute towards me fulfilling my educational goals.'

— STUDENT

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice New Jersey Institute of Technology

Learner Insights

- **X** Top motivations for re-enrolled learners:
 - Advance in their career or earn a promotion
 - Make a career change
 - Increase their earning potential
 - Build a better life for themselves and their families
- * 44% of re-enrolled learners are Pell eligible, and nearly half listed cost as the primary barrier to finishing their degree.

Helping these individuals complete a degree will increase their earning potential and unlock economic opportunity for themselves and their families.





County College of Morris

County College of Morris (CCM) in Randolph, NJ, serves 11,600 students across 50+ associate degree programs, with strengths in STEM, liberal arts, health sciences, and the arts. In Fall 2023, CCM joined New Jersey's Some College, No Degree (SCND) initiative to support the institution's re-enrollment efforts for stopped-out adult learners.

Facing challenges like limited resources and adult learners' complex life circumstances, CCM partnered with ReUp Education for tech-enabled outreach and personalized coaching. To date, 599 students returned and 53 graduated, recovering \$2.6 million in tuition.²

CCM has since advanced its stopped-out learner campaign efforts through:

- Tailored communications personalized to the adult learner
- Website updates for improved clarity and accessibility
- New internal processes, including a centralized contact for supporting and engaging stopped-out learners

CCM's proactive collaboration with ReUp sets a precedent for how institutions can lead with innovation and compassion in the face of evolving student needs, by supporting learners from reenrollment to graduation.

Guiding students toward purposeful pathways¹

Top pursued pathways for Associate Degree Graduates

- Health professions and related programs
 - Business, management, and marketing
 - Homeland Security, law enforcement, firefighting, and related protective services

Top pursued pathways for Bachelor Degree Graduates

- Business, management, and marketing
- Health professions and related programs
 - Engineering technologies and engineering-related fields
 - Computer and information sciences

^{1.} ReUp Education Analytics, New Jersey June 2025

^{2.} Recaptured tuition calculation: The number of enrolled students at each institution through ReUp was multiplied by the average number of credits for their school type and then multiplied by that institution's cost per credit. The average number of credits to complete by school type is: 30 credits on average for AA degrees and an average of 60 credits for BA degrees. *Note: The recaptured tuition figure was corrected from the original brief and updated in November 2025.

^{3.} Calculated based on U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Nationally, AA holders can expect to make \$3,700 more annually and BA holders \$25,000 annually than individuals with SCND. "Education pays, 2022," Career Outlook, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2023: https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2023/data-on-display/education-pays.htm