

Guide to Financial Aid

**Welcome to One of America's
Best Return-on-Investment Colleges**



TCNJ THE COLLEGE OF
NEW JERSEY

Hello. I'm Wil Casaine.

The Office of Student Financial Assistance congratulates you on your acceptance to The College of New Jersey (TCNJ). Now it's decision-making time: Which institution is best for you in terms of exemplary education and best value? Think about this: **Money's college ranking considers quality, affordability, and outcomes. Among 711 colleges and universities, Money ranks TCNJ 35th in the nation and 23th among all public colleges and universities. It is the top public institution in New Jersey.** With TCNJ's reputation as a best return-on-investment school, you can plan for your future success knowing you made a smart decision now.

Comparing costs and aid packages among institutions can be difficult. Our office is here to help. This brochure will guide you in evaluating — and meeting — the costs associated with attending TCNJ. Don't hesitate to reach out with questions via financialaid.tcnj.edu, 609.771.2211, or on campus in Green Hall 101.

My very best wishes to you for a successful collegiate experience, and I sincerely hope you will be joining us at TCNJ in the fall.

Sincerely,



Wil Casaine

*Executive Director, Financial Aid,
Tutoring, and Center for Student Success*

#1

public college

U.S. News & World Report 2018

(Best Regional Universities North Ranking)

#6

**National rank among public institutions
for four-year graduation rate**

National Center for Education Statistics

"Best College for Your Money"

Money 2018



New Student Financial Aid Checklist

■ FINANCIAL AID AWARD NOTIFICATIONS

Awards can be viewed in the financial aid section of PAWS; use your PAWS login info from the Office of Admissions. Students who have completed applications will be prompted via email to log in to view official financial aid awards beginning in June.

■ STATE ELIGIBILITY NOTICE

New Jersey financial aid applicants who have filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be sent an email from the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (NJHESAA) informing them of eligibility for state grants. For assistance, call NJHESAA at 800.792.8670.

■ PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

All private scholarships and grants must be reported to TCNJ by June 30 for proper credit to your bill. Complete and submit a separate Scholarship Disclosure Information Form for each outside award you'll receive. Download the form at financialaid.tcnj.edu/about/scholarships.

■ TUITION PAYMENT PLAN

Register with TCNJ to use an approved payment plan. Visit tcnj.edu/payment-plan or call the Office of Student Accounts at 609.771.3145.

■ AUTHORIZED USERS

Register your parent(s) and/or responsible bill payers as Authorized Users on your account at authorizeduser.tcnj.edu so they may pay bills, receive billing emails, and view financial aid.

■ FALL TUITION BILLS

Students and Authorized Users will receive an email when fall semester bills are available for viewing in PAWS. For the billing calendar, visit tcnj.edu/billing-calendar.

■ FINANCIAL AID DOCUMENTS CHECKLIST

Have you forgotten anything? View your checklist at tcnj.edu/MyApp using your PAWS login from the Office of Admissions. To view financial aid documents, click Details in the To-Do List, then click the item to view additional information.

*To avoid delays, complete and submit
your documents, and periodically
monitor your checklist.*

Your Estimated Financial Aid Award Package

The Office of Student Financial Assistance will provide you with an estimated financial aid award package based on the initial data you provided on the 2019–20 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). In March, we will send an email to the address on your admission application with instructions on how to view your estimated financial aid award package.

Your estimated award package is for informational purposes only. You do not need to accept or decline your awards. Please review the award package, compare it against packages at other institutions, and use the worksheet on the next page to determine how to meet the costs of attending TCNJ.

Once you have accepted TCNJ's offer of admission and have completed the financial aid documents checklist, we'll provide you with an official financial aid award package in June. This package may differ from the estimated package as a result of verification of reported data, availability of funds at the time of awarding, and/or any additional aid you may receive from other sources.

Filling the Gap

The Gap is the difference between your cost to attend TCNJ and the amount of financial aid you are eligible to receive. The financial aid awarded to you is based on the results of your FAFSA and will be outlined in your estimated financial aid award package.

Example:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| TCNJ billed amount: | \$ 15,109 |
| Anticipated aid: | \$ 5,500 |
| The Gap: | \$ 9,609 |

In these pages, you will find sample budgets, a financial aid worksheet, and options available to help fill the Gap. **Please contact the Office of Student Financial Assistance with any questions at 609.771.2211 or osfa@tcnj.edu.**

Cost of Attendance

FOR ON-CAMPUS STUDENT¹

Commuter students: financialaid.tcnj.edu/about/cost-of-attendance

| DIRECT COSTS ² Fall | Fall | Spring | Annual Total |
|---|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| In-state tuition, fees, room, board | \$ 15,110 | \$ 15,110 | \$ 30,220 |
| Out-of-state tuition, fees, room, board | \$ 20,968 | \$ 20,968 | \$ 41,936 |

INDIRECT COSTS³

| | | | |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| Books, supplies, transportation, personal | \$ 2,412 | \$ 2,412 | \$ 4,824 |
|---|----------|----------|----------|

FULL COST OF ATTENDANCE (direct and indirect costs)

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| In State | \$ 17,522 | \$ 17,522 | \$ 35,044 |
| Out of State | \$ 23,380 | \$ 23,380 | \$ 46,760 |

1) The cost of attendance illustrated here is based on the current academic year (2018–19) budgets. The Board of Trustees will not finalize the 2019–20 budget until July. For planning purposes, we recommend families anticipate a slight increase in costs from the amounts listed here for the upcoming year.

2) Expenses for which you will be billed directly by TCNJ.

3) Expenses you may incur for your attendance at TCNJ that TCNJ will not bill you for directly.

MARCH

Receive your estimated financial aid award package based on your FAFSA via email.

MAY 1

Accept TCNJ's offer of admission — and notify the world via social media. Pause and then complete your financial aid documents checklist.

JUNE

Receive your official financial aid award package. Private scholarship recipients must notify the financial aid office of scholarship sources and amounts by June 30.

Sample Worksheet: Meeting the Costs of Attending TCNJ

TOTAL AMOUNTS

1 COST OF ATTENDING TCNJ \$ **31,264**

Review enclosed budget. (sample)

On-campus students are billed for tuition, fees, and room and board. Refer to the page at left for cost of attendance.

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL AID: GRANTS

If students are eligible, amounts are listed on the estimated financial aid award package.

2 Pell Grant (federal)..... \$ **2,823**

3 Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant.... \$

4 TEACH Grant (federal) \$

5 New Jersey Tuition Aid Grant (state)..... \$ **3,000**

6 New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund (state)..... \$

7 Institutional Grants
(TCNJ academic/merit scholarships)..... \$

8 Private Scholarships
(from outside sources, if any; total)..... \$ **5,000**

9 Other \$

10 TOTAL GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:

Add lines 2 through 9..... \$ **10,823**

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL AID: LOANS

If students are eligible, amounts are listed on the estimated award notice.

11 Federal Direct Subsidized Loan..... \$ **3,500**

12 Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan..... \$ **2,000**

13 Nursing Loan (federal)..... \$

14 TOTAL LOANS: Add lines 11 through 13 \$ **5,500**

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL SUMMARY

15 Cost of attending TCNJ (from line 1) \$ **31,264**

16 Minus total grant aid (from line 10)..... \$ **10,823**

17 Minus total loan aid (from line 14) \$ **5,500**

18 YOUR FINANCIAL NEED GAP* \$ **14,941**

*Your financial need Gap only includes direct costs that will be billed by TCNJ. Indirect costs, such as books, supplies, and transportation, are not included in the Gap but should be taken into account when estimating your total cost to attend TCNJ. Please refer to the budget sheets for further clarification.

TOTAL AMOUNTS

19 YOUR FINANCIAL NEED GAP (from line 18) \$ **14,941**

Items 20 through 24 will outline options available to meet your need Gap.

20 FAMILY RESOURCES \$ **3,329**

Funds the student and/or family has available or set aside to meet educational expenses.

21 MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS/TUITION PAY (optional)

800 x 10 = \$ **8,000**

A tuition payment plan is an interest-free option that breaks down the large lump-sum payments due at the beginning of each semester into easy-to-manage installments. You still owe the same amount, but you now have more time to pay, and your payments are smaller and more manageable. Visit tcnj.edu/payment-plan or call the Office of Student Accounts at 609.771.3145 for more information.

22 PLUS LOANS (optional) \$ **3,612**

This loan requires enrollment in at least 1.5 units per semester (six credits) and is available to parents of undergraduate dependent students. The student must fill out a FAFSA, and the parent or guardian must complete a PLUS request process form available at financialaid.tcnj.edu/online-services. The parent or guardian may apply for the loan up to the total cost of attendance (COA) minus any other aid received. This loan requires a credit check for the parent or guardian and completion of a master promissory note (MPN). The PLUS loan will be applied directly to the student's account. If the loan is denied based on the parent's or guardian's credit check, the student may be eligible for an additional Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan (FDUL) for a total of \$4,000 for the academic year. Visit financialaid.tcnj.edu for more information.

23 NEW JERSEY COLLEGE LOAN TO ASSIST STATE STUDENTS (optional) \$ **0**

The New Jersey College Loan to Assist State Students (NJCLASS) offers a low-cost supplemental loan. Available to New Jersey residents attending any college or out-of-state students attending a New Jersey college, NJCLASS can help you pay college costs not already covered by other sources of grants, scholarships, or loans. The student, parent, or guardian may apply for this loan. A credit check will be required of the applicant, and the loan can cover up to the cost of attendance. Visit financialaid.tcnj.edu for more information.

24 PRIVATE/ALTERNATIVE LOANS (optional) \$ **0**

If additional funding is required, students, parents, and guardians may consider borrowing from a private lending institution. Visit financialaid.tcnj.edu for more information.

25 DEDUCT AMOUNTS

in item(s) 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 from item 19

Total should be \$0 in order to fill your Gap \$ **0**

**Visit financialaid.tcnj.edu
for additional copies
of the worksheet at right.**

Your Worksheet

TOTAL AMOUNTS

1 COST OF ATTENDING TCNJ \$ _____

Review enclosed budget.

On-campus students are billed for tuition, fees, and room and board. Refer to the page at left for cost of attendance.

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL AID: GRANTS

If students are eligible, amounts are listed on the estimated financial aid award package.

2 Pell Grant (federal) \$ _____

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6 New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund (state) \$ _____

7 Institutional Grants
(TCNJ academic/merit scholarships) \$ _____

8 Private Scholarships
(from outside sources, if any; total) \$ _____

9 Other \$ _____

10 TOTAL GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:
Add lines 2 through 9 \$ _____

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL AID: LOANS

If students are eligible, amounts are listed on the estimated award notice.

11 Federal Direct Subsidized Loan \$ _____

12 Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan \$ _____

13 Nursing Loan (federal) \$ _____

14 TOTAL LOANS: Add lines 11 through 13 \$ _____

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL SUMMARY

15 Cost of attending TCNJ (from line 1) \$ _____

16 Minus total grant aid (from line 10) \$ _____

17 Minus total loan aid (from line 14) \$ _____

18 YOUR FINANCIAL NEED GAP* \$ _____

*Your financial need Gap only includes direct costs that will be billed by TCNJ. Indirect costs, such as books, supplies, and transportation, are not included in the Gap but should be taken into account when estimating your total cost to attend TCNJ. Please refer to the budget sheets for further clarification.

TOTAL AMOUNTS

19 YOUR FINANCIAL NEED GAP (from line 18) \$ _____

Items 20 through 24 will outline options available to meet your need Gap.

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Funds the student and/or family has available or set aside to meet educational expenses.

21 MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS/TUITION PAY (optional) \$ _____

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24 PRIVATE/ALTERNATIVE LOANS (optional) \$ _____

If additional funding is required, students, parents, and guardians may consider borrowing from a private lending institution. Visit financialaid.tcnj.edu for more information.

25 DEDUCT AMOUNTS
in item(s) 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 from item 19
Total should be \$0 in order to fill your Gap \$ _____

Visit financialaid.tcnj.edu for additional copies of this worksheet.

How the Office of Student Accounts Can Help

609.771.2172 • stuaccts@tcnj.edu

The Office of Student Financial Assistance works closely with the Office of Student Accounts, which serves The College of New Jersey community by billing student tuition, fees, room and board; processing refunds; issuing college ID cards; establishing TCNJ Get-It Card accounts; and providing parking services through the sale or issuance of parking permits.

PAYMENT

Billing: TCNJ bills all students electronically, and all registrants should view their bills on PAWS. Please monitor your TCNJ email account on a daily basis for any electronic billing notifications. Students and Authorized Users will receive an email in mid to late July when the fall semester bills are available for viewing in PAWS. Visit tcnj.edu/billing-calendar for the billing calendar.

Authorized Users: Students may register up to three responsible parties as Authorized Users on their account so these users may pay bills, receive billing emails, and view financial aid at authorizeduser.tcnj.edu. This access also allows Authorized Users to call TCNJ and speak with faculty/staff regarding his/her student.

Tuition Payment Plan: Enroll in a payment plan with our contracted third-party provider to pay your semester bills. To enroll, visit tcnj.edu/payment-plan.

Office of Student Financial Assistance

2000 Pennington Road, Green Hall 101, Ewing, NJ 08628-0718
609.771.2211 osfa@tcnj.edu

INSURANCE

Health Insurance: Visit studenthealthinsurance.tcnj.edu for information. If you determine you have sufficient health insurance coverage, please visit studenthealthinsurance.tcnj.edu/waiver-and-enrollment for directions on opting out of this coverage. Waivers will be accepted starting mid to late July.

Tuition Refund Insurance: This program allows a student who withdraws or takes a leave of absence from TCNJ for valid medical reasons to receive a 100 percent refund for tuition and fees (excluding ID fee and health insurance fee). This plan extends and enhances the college's published refund policy. Visit tcnj.edu/tuition-refund-insurance for more information.

PARKING INFORMATION

In order to park on campus, you must have a valid decal. Freshmen and first-year residential students are not permitted to park their cars on campus. Visit parking.tcnj.edu for more information.

TCNJ ID/GET-IT CARD

Your TCNJ ID card has an electronic wallet that allows you to purchase items on campus without carrying cash. Add money to the account in order to activate the privilege. It can be used to dine at all college dining locations on campus, to buy tickets to on-campus events, or to purchase books in the college bookstore. Visit tcnj.edu/idcard for more information.

