



Average Expenses For Previous Year 2008-2009

	TOTAL				
	Tuition	Fees	Room & Board	On-Campus	Commuter
New Jersey Resident	\$20,800	\$2,200	\$11,100	\$34,100	\$23,000
Non-NJ Resident	\$30,400	\$2,200	\$11,100	\$43,700	\$32,600

We also include an allowance for books and supplies of \$1,285, plus additional travel and miscellaneous expenses. If you do not live in on-campus housing, your expense budget will reflect costs based on living at home with parents or off-campus. Final expense budgets are available in April.

Review the 2008-2009 average expenses listed above for tuition, fees, room and board. Does the total award amount on the Initial Offer cover expenses and those for indirect costs such as books and miscellaneous expenses? If not, you will need to obtain other sources to supplement any expected financial aid. Other sources to fund educational expenses can be found at studentaid.rutgers.edu, Private Loans. Before you consider a private loan, review the information for the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS loan at studentaid.rutgers.edu/GradLoanPlus.asp. Rutgers University participates in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program in which students borrow directly from the federal government. The FAFSA is the application for the Graduate Direct PLUS loan. As a Direct lending school, Rutgers can expeditiously process a Graduate PLUS loan for you once you submit the Graduate Loan Amount Request and Release Form. The Request/Release Form becomes available when you receive your Financial Aid Award Letter.

◆ **What happens next?** Review the Student Aid Report (SAR) you received from the U.S. Department of Education. The SAR outlines the information you reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Please make sure the information you reported is accurate. Promptly correct inaccurate information. Keep the SAR for your records. **Please do not mail the SAR to our office.**

◆ **How do I correct my reported FAFSA information?** Correct your FAFSA data online at www.fafsa.ed.gov using your federal Personal Identification Number (PIN).

◆ **Will this financial aid offer change?** The amount of your financial aid is determined by the information you reported on the 2009-2010 FAFSA. This offer is based on assumptions of full-time attendance and, for most students, on-campus housing. If these assumptions are incorrect, your aid package may change. If the information we currently have on file changes or if you receive scholarships or other aid not listed on your Initial Offer, *your awards may change*. Carefully review your SAR to verify the information you reported is correct.

◆ **What are Federal Direct Loans?** Rutgers University participates in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program. Students borrow directly from the federal government. No separate application from a bank or other lender is needed to receive Direct Stafford Loans. **Please disregard any separate mailings you receive to apply for Stafford loans.** Please visit studentaid.rutgers.edu for more information on student loans.

◆ **Once I decide to enroll at Rutgers, what can I expect from the financial aid process?**

Verification: In some instances the Office of Financial Aid is required by the federal government to verify information reported on your FAFSA. You may receive a Request For Documentation, which should be returned promptly to our office with the requested information. **Please do not send documentation to our office unless requested to do so.** Beginning in April, you may check online to see if you have any outstanding requests for documents. Check required documents at studentaid.rutgers.edu to keep your account current. You will not receive an Award Letter if requested documentation is not submitted.

Financial Aid Award Letter: In May or June, you will receive an Award Letter based on your reported information. Your aid may be adjusted or cancelled if current data on file does not agree with the data used to determine your Initial Offer or you receive scholarships or other aid not currently listed.

Attendance Confirmation/Payment Form: In July, you will receive an Attendance Confirmation/Payment Form (term bill) from Student Accounting Services, due in August. You must respond to this form even though term bill charges may be fully covered by financial aid. **If you were offered Federal Work Study (FWS), you cannot credit the FWS amount to your term bill charges.** Information on FWS job opportunities will be included with the Award Letter you receive in late spring.

Please keep the email address you reported on the FAFSA current. We may communicate with you prior to the start of the academic year using email. You may update your FAFSA data to include an email address if one is not already reported.

A Glossary of Terms

Cost of Attendance (COA): The total amount it costs to attend school. The COA includes tuition and fees; on-campus room and board (or a housing and food allowance); allowances for books, supplies, transportation, loan fees; and miscellaneous expenses.

EFC: Expected Family Contribution. The amount you (and/or your spouse) are expected to contribute toward your educational expenses. The EFC is determined by a federally mandated formula which uses the information you provide on your FAFSA.

Federal Work Study (FWS) Program: A federal need-based program that offers part-time jobs that allow students to earn money for college expenses.

Grants: Financial aid that does not require repayment. Grants are usually awarded to students based on financial need, not academic record.

Loan: Borrowed money that must be repaid with interest.

Need: The difference between COA and EFC: $COA - EFC = Need$.

Need Based Aid: Financial aid programs for which you must demonstrate need in order to qualify.

Package: The total amount of financial aid a student receives from a college or university. Packages may consist of one or more aid programs such as grants, loans and work-study.

Scholarship: An award based on grades or other academic achievement rather than solely on financial need. Often referred to as merit aid. Does not require repayment.

The Federal Personal Identification Number (PIN)

All 2009-2010 FAFSA applicants receive a PIN. The PIN allows you to access personal information in various U.S. Department of Education systems. Using your PIN, you can access your account, review your SAR, and make corrections to your FAFSA online. **You will need a PIN to sign the Master Promissory Note if awarded a Federal Direct Stafford Loan for the first time.** Lost or forgotten your PIN? Visit www.pin.ed.gov.

USE YOUR PIN TO:

- Retrieve your SAR
- Make corrections to your FAFSA data
- Sign Federal Direct Loan Promissory Note
- Access Direct Loan account
- Consolidate loans
- View your federal aid history
- Renew financial aid application for 2010-2011