



Notice of Grant Opportunity

FY27 Hunger-Free Campus Grant

Submission Deadline: September 2, 2026

Term: July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027

The Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations Act commits \$1,200,000 to fight food insecurity on campuses by offering Hunger-Free Campus grants as part of the Hunger-Free Campus Act (“Act”) (P.L. 2019, C.89). The Act provides grants to public institutions of higher education that have one or more hunger-free-designated campuses to help support students.

Purpose

The purpose of this grant program is to foster innovative ways to combat food insecurity on college and university campuses and assist in planning for long-term solutions. The grant funding shall be used to address student hunger, leverage more sustainable solutions to address basic food needs on campuses, raise awareness of currently offered campus services that address basic food and hygiene needs, and continue to build strategic partnerships at the local, state, and national levels to address food insecurity among students.

Eligibility Criteria

For this competitive grant cycle, all New Jersey public institutions of higher education and independent public-mission institutions of higher education that receive State operating aid are eligible to apply for funding. Maximum award amounts will be based on the percentage of Pell-eligible students at each institution (reference Appendix B).

Eligible institutions may apply for a Hunger-Free Campus Grant up to the maximum award amounts shown below based on the percent of Academic Year 2024-25 Pell enrollment eligibility:

% of Pell	Maximum Grant Award
45% or higher	\$50,000
Between 30% to 44%	\$25,000
Less than 10% to 29%	\$15,000

Process for Submission and Notification

Completed applications are due to OSHE no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 2, 2026

Applications must be submitted via OSHE's new grants management platform:

<https://oshefiscal.intelligrants.com/>.

After awardees are selected, a grant agreement will be provided to each institution. Once executed, payment will be processed. An interim report for the Hunger-Free Campus grants will be due to OSHE no later than 5pm on January 15, 2027. OSHE will provide a template for the interim report in advance of the submission deadline.

A final report, inclusive of final grant expenditures, will be due to OSHE no later than July 31, 2027. OSHE will provide a template for the final report in advance of the submission deadline. Use of funding must abide by State guidelines. Indirect costs are not allowable per State guidelines. Remaining funds must be returned to OSHE by August 31, 2027. Questions can be directed to Sara.Lipsett@oshe.nj.gov.

Grant Narrative

The narrative portion of the application must be submitted as a PDF. Use the headings listed below within the application. Institutions must abide by the word limit indicated per section. Any information beyond the word limit will not be reviewed. The grant narrative must include:

- An application **Cover Sheet** with contact information. An optional cover sheet template is provided in Appendix A.
- **Letter of Support from the Institution's President/Chancellor:** The institution's President/Chancellor must submit a letter of support indicating the institution's need as well as its commitment and capacity to carry out the grant proposal within the designated grant period.
- **Campus Hunger Task Force:** Describe your Campus Hunger Task Force. Provide a list of task force members (names and titles) and actual meeting dates, times, and locations for the 2026-2027 academic year. Briefly describe the goals of the task force (minimum of two) and corresponding action plans. *Word limit: 500 words.*
- **Staff Member for SNAP Assistance:** Provide the name, title, and contact information for the staff member(s) responsible for assisting students in SNAP screening and application processes. Briefly describe how this service is advertised on campus or how students are referred to this staff member, who may have other responsibilities on campus, but must be knowledgeable and aware of SNAP eligibility and application

procedures as they pertain to college students. (Note: Training is available through DHS-Division of Family Development [DFS] Program Operations Unit¹). *Word limit: 250 words.*

- **Options for Students to Utilize SNAP at Campus Stores:** List the options available to students to utilize SNAP at campus stores. If campus stores do not accept SNAP, please describe any steps taken to determine if these vendors are able to accept SNAP benefits or how you plan to have students utilize SNAP at campus stores in the future. Alternatively, please describe how students are informed about which local off-campus establishments accept SNAP if this is not currently an option at campus stores. *Word limit: 500 words.*
 - To learn more about becoming a retailer, visit the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s webpage here: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/retailer>.
 - Other public benefits available to students: Describe opportunities for the school to promote information on SNAP and other public benefit programs available for students through the school's website, online student portals, training residential/student life representatives or student-led organizations.
- **Information regarding participation in National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week November 15-21, 2026:** Describe your institution's planned participation in an awareness event surrounding student hunger. Describe the event, the intended goals and anticipated outcomes of the event or campaign, and any student organizations, departments, or institutional partners that will be involved. *Word limit: 250 words.*
- **Evidence of a Campus Food Pantry:** Provide the address of the campus food pantry and a web link advertising the pantry to students. Flyers/advertisements, media reports, and pictures of the campus pantry are accepted forms of verification. If you do not have a campus pantry but have other mechanisms in place to help students receive food free of cost, please describe these arrangements. *Word limit: 250 words.*
- **Evidence of a "Swipe Out Hunger" or Meal Plan Donation Program:** Provide your institution's written policy, dining services promotion or advertisement, web link describing the program, or Swipe Out Hunger certification as verification. Other forms of verification can be submitted on an as-needed basis. *Word limit: 500 words.*
- **Student Hunger Survey:** Grantees must measure food insecurity among their students using the "USDA's 18-item food security measure," administered by OSHE. Additional guidance regarding survey requirements is provided below as Appendix A. If your institution receives grant funding, you will be required to administer an OSHE-provided Hunger-Free Campus survey. Please confirm your commitment to participating in the student survey on hunger as approved and provided by the Secretary of Higher Education by confirming the best institutional contact for the surveying process and how you would engage stakeholders to participate in the survey. *Word limit: 250 words.*

¹ <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/njsnap/>

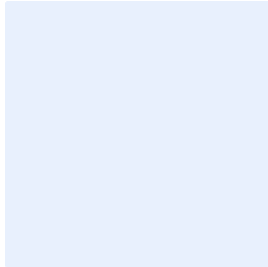
Budget Template:

- ❖ Complete the Budget Template for FY27:
- ❖ A key component of the budget template is the column for the 'Narrative Description.' For each category of budgeted expenses, institutions must provide a "Narrative Description" which consists of a detailed list of, and justification for, each expense, including how each directly relates to the purpose of the grant. Institutions may submit a second tab on the template if more narrative detail is required.
- ❖ In considering program sustainability, as this is a one-year grant program, salary expenses cannot exceed 50% of total amount awarded.
- ❖ Indirect costs are not allowable under this grant program.
- ❖ All funding must be expended by June 30, 2027.

Appendix A: Optional Cover Sheet Template

Application Cover Page

[If you choose, insert logo or picture in image space below. Please delete if not used.]



[Please complete the following information by clicking into the text box and entering the information.]

Institution:	[Name of Institution]
Project Title:	[Project Title]
Partner Institution(s), if applicable	[Name of partner institution(s)]
Date of Report:	[Date]
Total Project Requested:	[Total \$ Amount Requested]
Point of Contact(s):	[Name, email address]
	[Name, email address]

Appendix B: Pell eligibility based on 2024-2025 IPEDS

Institution	Total Undergraduates	Pell Recipients 2024-2025	Percent Pell Recipients
Atlantic Cape Community College	4052	2233	55.11%
Bergen Community College	11720	4485	38.27%_
Brookdale Community College	9900	2737	27.65%
Caldwell University	1617	708	43.78%
Camden County College	7622	3586	47.05%
Centenary University	936	368	39.32%
County College of Morris	6131	1911	31.17%_
Drew University	1626	512	31.49%
Essex County College	7026	3208	45.66%_
Fairleigh Dickinson University	7702	2143	27.82%_
Felician University	1870	996	53.26%_
Georgian Court University	1480	554	37.43%_
Hudson County Community College	7763	4481	57.72%_
Kean University	11758	6320	53.75%_
Mercer County Community College	6394	2178	34.06%
Middlesex College	12044	4336	36.00%
Monmouth University	3710	1287	34.69%
Montclair State University	18712	9833	52.55%_
New Jersey City University	3871	2195	56.70%_
New Jersey Institute of Technology	10200	4340	42.55%_
Ocean County College	7095	2172	30.61%
Passaic County Community College	4782	2723	56.94%
Princeton University	5813	1396	24.02%_
Ramapo College of New Jersey	5444	1714	31.48%_
Raritan Valley Community College	6762	1946	28.78%_
Rider University	3143	1259	40.06%_
Rowan College at Burlington County	6620	2519	38.05%_
Rowan College of South Jersey	7,90447	2,724	34.46%
Rowan University	16100	6048	37.57%_
Rutgers University-Camden	3857	1877	48.66%
Rutgers University-New Brunswick	37985	11838	31.16%
Rutgers University-Newark	7989	4611	57.72%
Saint Elizabeth University	560	365	65.18%
Saint Peter's University	2263	1345	59.43%
Salem Community College	1132	501	44.26%_
Seton Hall University	6197	2271	36.65%
Stevens Institute of Technology	4236	1019	24.06%

Stockton University	7565	3612	47.75%_
Sussex County Community College	2129	798	37.48%_
The College of New Jersey	7435	1714	23.05%
Thomas Edison State University	6775	1839	27.14%_
UCNJ Union College of Union County NJ	8330	3883	46.61%
Warren County Community College	944	453	47.99%_
William Paterson University of New Jersey	6647	3358	50.52%