



TCNJ
THE COLLEGE OF
NEW JERSEY



2026-27

Guide to Financial Aid

DONATED BY
WILLIAM M. MCLAGAN
CLASS OF 1987

Welcome to TCNJ!

The Office of Student Financial Assistance congratulates you on your acceptance to The College of New Jersey. Now it's decision-making time. Which institution is best for you in terms of exemplary education and best value? Think about this: *Money* magazine named TCNJ to its list of the "Best Colleges in America" for 2025, describing the college as "a public school that could easily be confused for a private one" and calling its outcomes "top-notch." 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. Don't hesitate to reach out with questions via osfa@tcnj.edu, 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 of Financial Aid

#1
public college



**#1 in New Jersey
and #9 in the nation
for 4-year graduation rates among
public colleges and universities**

— IPEDS, 2023

**Top 20%
of all colleges and universities**

— Wall Street Journal/College Pulse 2026
Best Colleges in the U.S.



Your Estimated Financial Aid Offer

The Office of Student Financial Assistance will provide you with an estimated financial aid offer based on the initial data you provided on the 2026–27 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 offer.

Your estimated offer is for informational purposes only. You do not need to accept or decline these funds. Please review the offer and compare it against offers at other institutions.

Once you have paid your admissions deposit and completed all financial aid documents on your “To-Do List,” we will provide you with an official financial aid offer in July. This final offer may differ from the estimated offer due to verification of reported data, availability of funds, and/or any additional aid you may receive from other sources.

Planning and Affordability

Please review TCNJ’s current yearly cost of attendance budgets at tcnj.edu/cost-of-attendance and use this information for planning and affordability purposes. Traditionally, families could expect to see a 3% annual increase in costs.

Please note that the final costs for the forthcoming academic year, 2026–27, have not yet been determined and are dependent on the state budget, which is finalized in the summer. TCNJ will be able to share costs for the 2026–27 academic year in July.

New Student Financial Aid Checklist

■ FINANCIAL AID NOTIFICATIONS

Offers 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 offers beginning in June.

■ STATE ELIGIBILITY NOTICE

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

■ PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS

All private scholarships and grants must be reported to TCNJ by June 30 for proper credit to your bill. For instructions on reporting private scholarships, please visit financialaid.tcnj.edu/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 view 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? Visit tcnj.edu/MyApp using your PAWS login from the Office of Admissions and view your financial aid documents checklist, called the “To-Do List.” To view financial aid documents, click “Details” and then click the item to view additional information.

● March

Receive your estimated financial aid offer, based on your FAFSA, via email.

● May 1

Accept TCNJ’s offer of admission — and notify the world via social media! Then complete your financial aid documents checklist.

● July

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

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

How the Office of Student Accounts Can Help

OVERVIEW

The Office of Student Accounts provides essential services that include managing billing for student tuition, fees, room, and board; processing refunds; issuing ID cards; establishing Get-It Card accounts; and overseeing Parking Services.

Contact us at 609.771.2172 or stuacct@tcnj.edu.

PAYMENT

Billing: All students receive electronic bills, which can be viewed within the PAWS system. Please monitor your TCNJ email account daily for any billing notifications and visit tcnj.edu/billing-calendar for important dates. Students and authorized users will receive an email in late July, when the fall semester bills are available.

Authorized Users: Students may register up to three responsible parties on their accounts to view bills, receive billing emails, view financial aid information, and speak with TCNJ faculty/staff as needed. Register users at authorizeduser.tcnj.edu.

Tuition Payment Plan: Visit tcnj.edu/payment-plan to enroll in a plan with our contracted third-party provider to spread out your semester payments.

INSURANCE

Health Insurance: Learn more at universityhealthplans.com/tcnj. If you have sufficient coverage, visit studenthealthinsurance.tcnj.edu/waiver-and-enrollment in late July to complete an opt-out waiver.

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

PARKING INFORMATION

First-year residential students are not permitted to have on-campus parking. Freshman commuters are allowed to have cars. Only vehicles registered with the college through Parking Services may be parked on campus. Learn more at parking.tcnj.edu.

TCNJ ID/GET-IT CARD

Your TCNJ ID card also doubles as your Get-It Card through an included electronic wallet function that allows you to make purchases on campus. Simply add funds to activate your account, which can be used for on-campus dining options and event tickets as well as for textbook and other purchases at the college bookstore. Visit tcnj.edu/idcard for more information.

