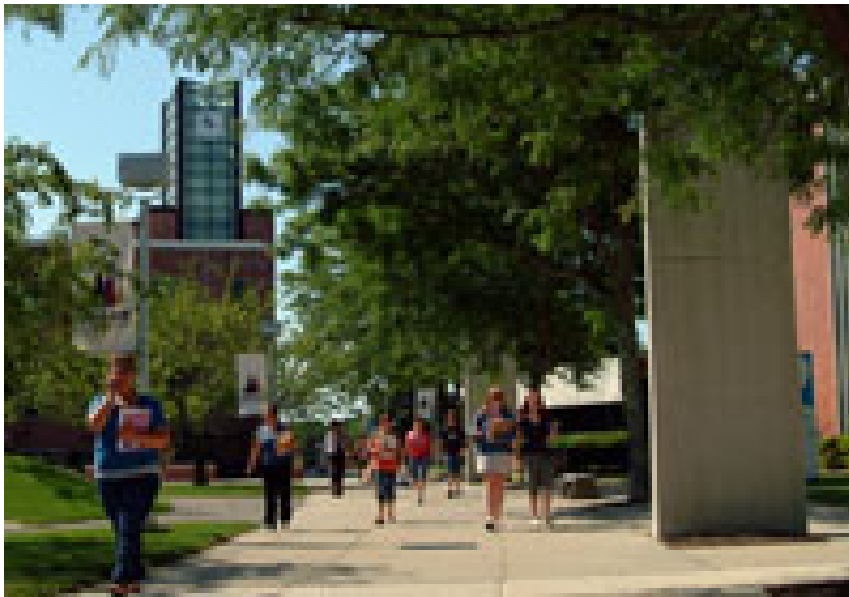




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## New Jersey College Receives More than \$1.7 Million in Grant Funding



When it rains, it pours.

With assistance from SunGard Higher Education's Grants Services, Ocean County College recently was awarded three grants and Title III eligibility, resulting in funding to the institution of more than \$1.7 million. The funds will be used to support a variety of programs and services at the institution.

Most recently, Ocean received a \$1.1 million TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education, which will be used to provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds over the next five years. The SSS program at Ocean will provide tutoring and other support services that are designed to increase student persistence and completion. **SGHE facilitated the planning of the project with Tracy Hume as the primary grant writer.** The application was scored by three non-federal reviewers and, out of a possible total score of 300 points, the Ocean application received a score of 299!

Ocean also participated in a consortium with 22 other colleges to apply for and receive a Health Information Technology grant. The award, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and totaling more than \$430,000, will be received by the college over the next two years and will be used to prepare students for careers supporting IT in public health settings.

In addition to providing tuition reimbursement for students who complete their certification and obtain employment in the HIT field, funds from the grant will be used to pay the salaries of staff operating the project, equipment to help establish an HIT computer lab, and online course development. SGHE's grant writer and senior consultant, Sharla Trimm, helped the college with its part of the application and also served as liaison during the process. SunGard also will be helping Ocean staff with post-award management of the project.

Ocean also was awarded a State of New Jersey grant for the Disengaged Adults Returning to College (DARC) program. The DARC program targets Ocean students who have left the institution without a degree or certificate. The college will receive \$75,000 for the one-year program, with an option to renew for an additional year. Funds from the award will be used to purchase career assessment tools, educational supplies, including vouchers for textbooks for participating students, and salaries for personnel to help operate the program. SunGard grant writer, Tracy Hume, facilitated planning of the program and wrote the grant application for the college.

And the college was recently notified that it is eligible for Title III funding for the first time in more than four decades. Ocean was granted a waiver of the institutional-share requirement under the Federal Work-Study (FWS) program, which will save the college about \$70,000 this fiscal year. The waiver was granted primarily because of significant growth in the institution's work study program and increase in the number of students eligible for financial aid over the past few years.

Established in 1966 with its main campus located in Tom's River, New Jersey, the college offers degree, certificate, credit, non-credit, and professional education programs. Ocean renewed its technology management contract with SunGard in 2009 and supports 23 IT employees at the site. Additional services provided the college in addition to Grants Services include: Academic Services, 24/7 Help Desk Services, and Strategic Services.