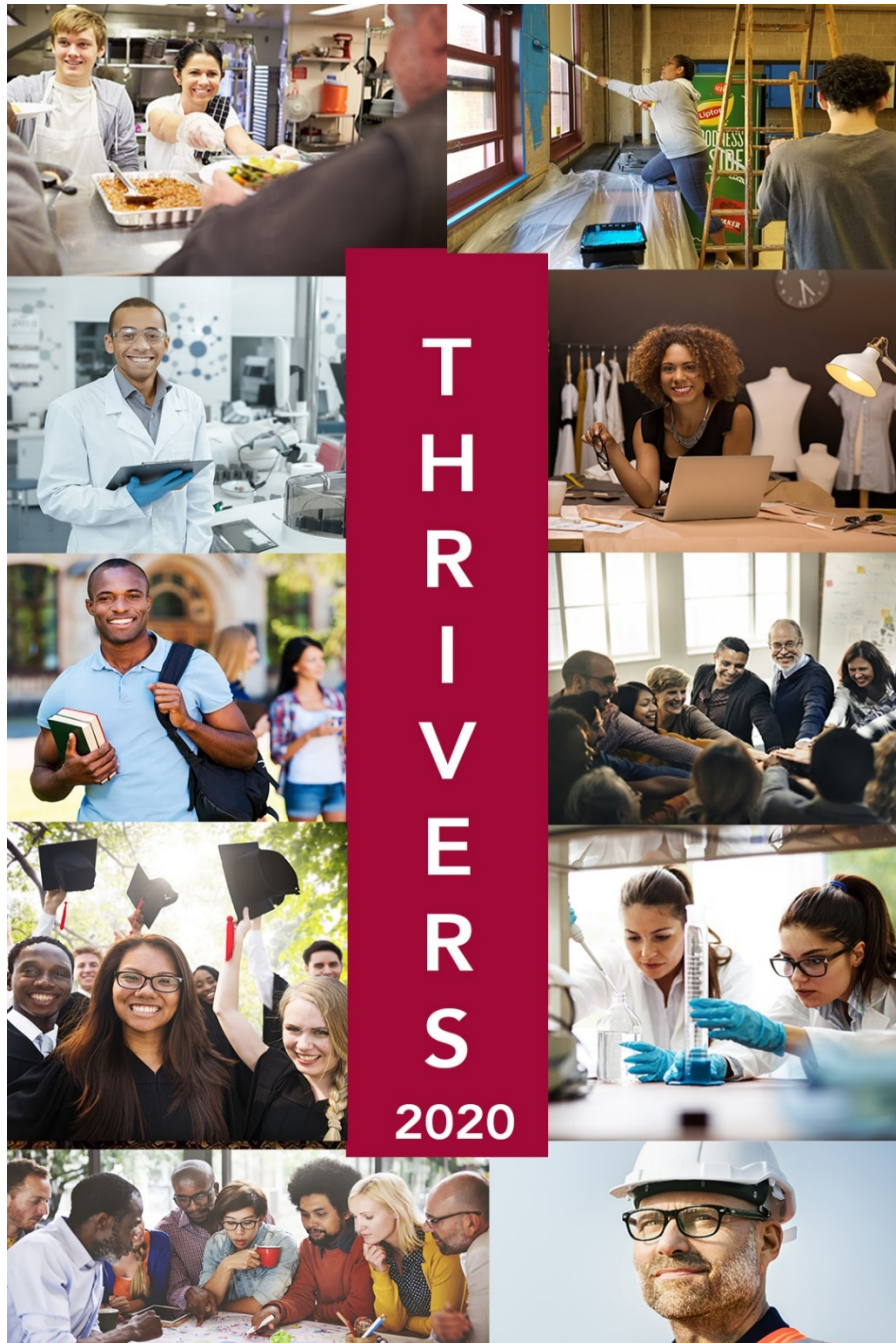


APPLICATION PACKET FOR NOMINEES



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(& Changebuilders Scholars Award & Soft Skills Video Competition)

Thrivers are students graduating college this year and are mapping out their Next Steps. **Thrivers** are ready to show they have years of experience sharpening their **SOFT SKILLS** through volunteering and working together to find solutions for today's challenges.

*This Publication is Designed to
Highlight New Jersey Higher
Education Graduates with the Skills
to Thrive in the Workplace*

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2020 Timeline

March 5th	Nomination Process Opens (via email submission)*
April 9th	Deadline for Submitting Completed Nominations
April 30th	Publish and Promote Thrivers to our Employer Networks; Announce <i>Changebuilder</i> Scholar Awards & Video Winners

** Note: There is no limit to the number of nominees per campus*

Eligibility Criteria (*must meet all criteria*):

1. Students graduating in 2020 from an NJ Campus Compact (NJCC) member institution*
2. Students who are *Changebuilders*, Bonners, Multi-year civic engagement students such as *Civic Scholars*, ENACTUS students, Honors students, Rotaract or other service groups
3. Students must have completed 1 or more service learning (community engaged learning) courses and/or 80+ hrs volunteering/community engagement (approved by nominator)**
4. Students must be willing, if called, to speak with a delegation of businesses convened by New Jersey Business & Industries Association (NJBIA) and NJCC about your experiences and skills

***NOTE:** *Changebuilder Scholar Award Nominees (see next page) are not subject to this eligibility criterion and therefore can be graduating in any year*

****NOTE:** *the person nominating the student can explain why an exception is being made for #3 above*

Why Nominate Students for THRIVERS 2020?

Eighty percent (80%) of New Jersey's employers struggling to find recruits with the transferrable soft skills that are necessary in order to thrive in today's dynamic workplace*.

- *Effective oral communication*
- *Critical thinking and analytical reasoning*
- *Ethical judgment and decision-making*
- *Working effectively in teams*
- *Leadership skills – confidence, self-awareness, responsibility*
- *Applying knowledge and skills to solve real-world problems*

* Sandelier, N. (2020). NJBIA Industry Series Preliminary Findings Presentation.

Are employers looking in the right places?

At each college and university here in New Jersey that are members of New Jersey Campus Compact (NJCC), there are literally hundreds of students who are gaining real-world experiences that develop essential soft skills over time. This happens when students volunteer in community settings and get involved in things like service learning that connects students' education to real-world challenges.

The result for New Jersey? THOUSANDS of socially responsible graduates possessing the soft skills required to be successful – both in achieving their own workplace goals AND in their efforts to be a part of change for the better. Obviously, these are important outcomes for New Jersey businesses AND for the communities in which those businesses are embedded.

What's the solution that NJ Campus Compact (NJCC) is providing?

NJCC is seeking nominees for the *THRIVERS 2020* publication. We will feature successful nominees' stories as "**soft skills bios**" that showcase their experiences developed from their volunteer and civic engagement projects. We will then publish and promote these *Thrivers* to business associations and Chambers, state and local government, nonprofit associations, and NJCC member higher education institutions.

How to Complete a Nomination for THRIVERS 2020

Once eligibility is established, each nominated graduating student must work with the appropriate staff member to provide the following by APRIL 9TH, 2020 to NJCC:

1. Introduction to nominee
2. Letter of nomination (from a president, chancellor, or senior official)
3. Personal statement
4. Résumé
5. 3 images preferable (doing community work + one headshot (headshot required))
6. Soft skills video competition

Submission Process (Please Note the Subsection for Changebuilder Campuses Here)

A staff member from each NJCC member campus must **have the entire individual's application** in a single email that is then sent to saul@njcampuscompact.org AND engagenj@njcampuscompact.org by the deadline of April 9th with the subject as follows: Subject: Nomination for Thrivers.

This emailing process is then repeated for each individual who is nominated. There is no limit on the number of submissions per NJCC member campus. **4/9/20 is be a HARD DEADLINE**, given our wish to publish *Thrivers* to employers at the end of April before students graduate.

Changebuilder Campuses – Changebuilders Scholars Award (\$1,000 per Campus)

NOTE: Changebuilder Scholar Award Nominees are not subject to the eligibility criterion of needing to graduate in 2020 and therefore can be graduating in any year

If the staff member who is compiling submissions wishes to nominate certain students for the Changebuilders Scholars Award (\$1,000 to one student per Changebuilders Campus), ***you can put forward up to two (2) students per campus for consideration in consultation with your nominating senior official***. Please just indicate this in the subject and email body as follows:

Subject: Nomination for Thrivers (and/or Changebuilders Scholars Award)

Email body: (Under Dear,) "*Please consider this student for the Changebuilders Scholars Award*"

DETAILED GUIDANCE FOR CONTENT OF SUBMISSIONS

THERE IS NO CHARGE TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS

Completed Nominations for EACH individual must be sent in a single email – one email per nominee.

There is no limit to the number of nominations per NJ Campus Compact member campus. The nomination email must contain the following in completed form:

1. INTRODUCTION TO NOMINEE

CATEGORY	RESPONSE
Student Name	
Institution	
Major & Graduation Date	
Degree Type	
Email	
Phone	
LinkedIn (if available)	
Soft Skills & Experiences	
Permission to use images and language in the application for THRIVERS publication and promotion	For eligibility, please indicate YES here: _____

2. LETTER OF NOMINATION

This should come from a president, chancellor, or senior administration official on appropriate letterhead. As *THRIVERS 2020* is really about featuring “*Soft Skills Bios*”, we are seeking nominations that are less than one page but that address some of the following based on their appropriateness to the candidate:

SOFT SKILL THEMES FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE NOMINATING LETTER

- *High level of knowledge from broad range of experiences*
- *Self-motivated and takes responsibility for completing tasks*
- *Considers facts and uses the input of others to inform his/her decision-making*
- *Works well in cohorts from goal development to refinement to achievement*
- *Confident communicator: quick learner and adaptable to novel challenges; asks thoughtful questions; speaks to specific audience and context; ensures multiple voices are elevated and heard*
- *Has developed an expanded worldview, and considers her/his own biases in making decisions*
- *Shows the development of a commitment to the communities he/she has worked with; believes in the connection between her/his own success and actively working to support the rights of others, including experience with political analysis and advocacy*

3. PERSONAL STATEMENT

As *Thrivers* is really about featuring “*Soft Skills Bios*”, we are seeking personal statements that are less than one page but that address some of the following based on what students feel speak to their experiences:

- Tell us about a time you took responsibility for completing a service / community engagement task or project
- Tell us about a service / community engagement task you worked on where you had to do research or you took on board the opinions of others in helping you make your decisions
- Tell us about a service / community engagement task or project you worked on where you had to set goals or work in groups to set goals
- Tell us about how you communicate, in particular, if you ask thoughtful questions, if you make sure all voices are heard equally, if you change your communication in different contexts
- Tell us about a service / community engagement task or project you worked on where you had to consider your own biases or privileges, or that led to you having an expanded worldview
- Tell us about a service / community engagement task or project you worked on where you developed a commitment to others, or you saw a connection between your own success and the success and rights of others

Also: What are you looking for in a workplace and career pathway?

4. Résumé

Please submit your revised Résumé that reflects the skills and experiences laid out in your personal statement. NJCC is happy to help workshop your Résumé based on the outcomes of our Engage-NJ 2020 Student Conference that dealt heavily with this objective.

5. THREE IMAGES

The images will be used in the *Thrivers* publication and on our online database, as well as for promotional communications by email and social media. By submitting images, you grant permission for these uses. We are seeking two “action shots” of you engaging in your community work (preferable) PLUS one headshot (required)

6. SOFT SKILLS VIDEO COMPETITION

Want a creative way to show your experiences and skills? Here’s your chance! Please create a 1-2 minute video utilizing one or more of these three themes:

A. We ALL play a crucial role in the following ways...

-Take us to your service site! Show us what you do there, and how your service has given you transferable workplace skills. What have you learned? How will you take those skills with you to your future career?

B. How will you get future employers interested in your skills?

- Create an elevator pitch, in an actual elevator! Imagine you are riding an elevator with a recruiter for your dream job. How will you market yourself? What skills from your service work will you highlight?

A basic elevator pitch includes:

- ★ Who you are
- ★ What you do
- ★ How you’re different
- ★ Who are your clients (who your skills serve)
- ★ What are your goals?

C. Here’s what I am looking for in my future workplace and in my career pathway ...

-Create a video showcasing where you’ll be in the future, working in your field, demonstrating the skills you are developing now.

This could include:

- ★ Filming on location
- ★ A “set” emulating this workplace (This could be a classroom, a room in your home, etc. get creative!)
- ★ Feature a current professional in the field

Winners will be chosen from campuses across the state. There will be a:

1st Prize Winner: \$100 Gift Card

2nd Prize Winner: \$50 Gift Card

3rd Prize Winner: \$25 Gift Card

----- we ALL play a crucial role -----