

## PHEAA Special Programs Basics

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October 2017



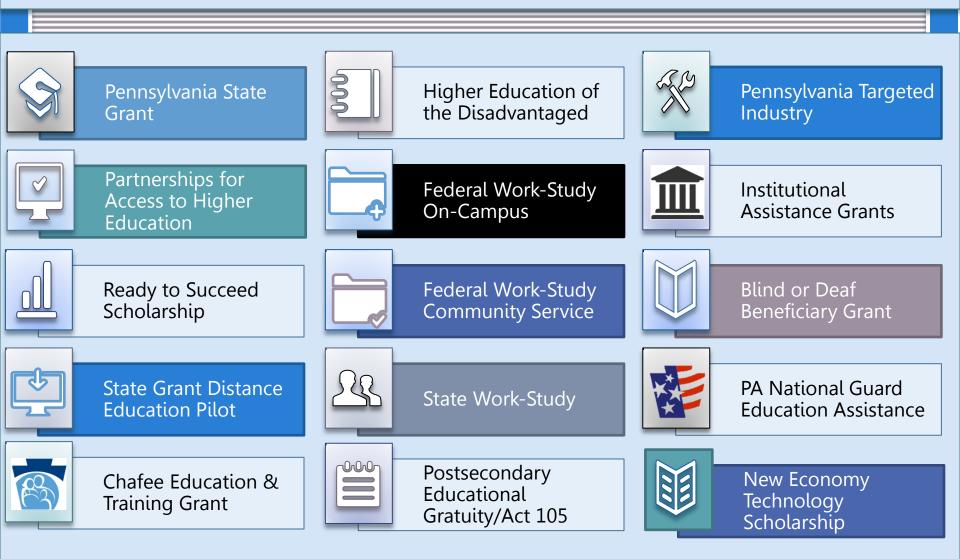
# **About PHEAA**

- Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency
  - Created in 1963 by the Pennsylvania General Assembly
  - Currently one of the nation's leading student aid organizations
    - Today serves millions of students and thousands of schools through its loan guaranty, loan servicing, financial aid processing, outreach, and other student aid programs
  - Our mission is to create affordable access to higher education
    - PHEAA devotes its energy, resources, and imagination to developing innovative ways to ease the financial burden of higher education for students, families, schools, and taxpayers

Earnings used to support public service mission



## **PHEAA Special Programs**



### State Grant Distance Education Pilot Program



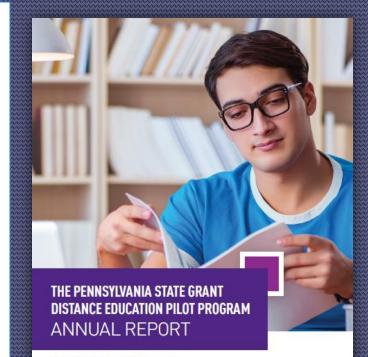
# SGDEPP

- Five (5) year pilot program launched in 2013-14
  - PHEAA Funded = \$10 million
  - Schools apply to participate
    - One-time application
    - Deadline for 2017-18 was July 1, 2017
  - Students must be nominated by the institution
    - Students follow traditional State Grant application process
  - Program provides an exception for two State Grant requirements
    - Programs of Study that are more than 50% online
    - More than 50% online term enrollment



## SGDEPP

- Additional institutional reporting component
  - Institutional and student-level reporting
- Student award minimum and maximum is the same as the State Grant
- Disbursement model differs from State Grant model
- Website: <u>PHEAA.org/SGDEPP</u>



An Analysis of the 2015-16 Award Year



### Ready to Succeed Scholarship Program



# **RTSS Program**

- Created by the General Assembly in 2014
  - Commonwealth Appropriation = \$5 million
  - Schools apply to participate
    - One-time application
    - Deadline for 2017-18 was August 15, 2017
  - No student application
  - Utilizes a student-level disbursement model
    - Same model as the Distance Education Pilot Program
      - School nominates students and PHEAA confirms eligibility
      - School certifies students individually
      - Disbursements and refunds made on a student-level

# **RTSS Program**

Student eligibility criteria:

- Must be State Grant eligible with additional qualifications:
  - 3.25 Cumulative GPA
  - Annual family income of \$110,000 or lower
  - Academic Level 2 or 24 semester credit equivalent
- Students may receive both a RTSS and State Grant award up to the combined maximum of \$2,000
- Award amounts
  - Minimum: \$500
  - Maximum: \$2,000 (full-time)
- Website: <u>PHEAA.org/RTSS</u>



#### Pennsylvania Targeted Industry Program



## PA-TIP

- Commonwealth initiative to provide funding for programs that are at least 10 weeks long but less than two academic years in length
  - Degree, diploma, or certificate programs
  - Fields limited to: Energy, Advanced Materials and Diversified Manufacturing, and Agriculture and Food Production
- PHEAA Funded = \$6 million

Currently 100+ approved programs of study

## PA-TIP

#### Student eligibility criteria:

- Pennsylvania resident
- Not eligible for a State Grant due to program length (> 2 years)
- Possess a high school diploma, GED, or homeschool certificate



- Not in default or owe a State Grant refund
- Have an EFC that does not exceed 12,000
- Award maximum consistent with State Grant
- Website: <u>PHEAA.org/PATIP</u>

### Blind or Deaf Beneficiary Grant Program



# **BDBG Program**

- Established in 1949
- Program administration transferred from PDE to PHEAA beginning with the 2011-12 award year
- Commonwealth Appropriation = \$47,000
- Program assists blind and/or deaf students with the costs of postsecondary education
- Funds awarded on a first-come, first served basis

# **BDBG Program**

- Student eligibility criteria:
  - Pennsylvania resident
  - Filed/completed a FAFSA<sup>®</sup>
    - Student does not have to be State Grant eligible
  - Be enrolled at least half-time at a Title IV eligible institution
  - Completed a BDBG application by the deadline
    - Application requires certification from a physician or the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
    - Application deadline for 2017-18 is March 31, 2018
- Maximum award: \$500

# **Matching Funds Programs**

- Commonwealth Appropriation = \$12.4 million
  - Split between four programs

Federal Work-Study On-Campus Program

Federal Work-Study Community Service
Program



State Work-Study Program



Partnerships for Access to Higher Education Program

#### Federal Work-Study On-Campus & Community Service Programs



# FWS-ON & FWS-CS Programs



Programs provide matching funds to PA institutions to assist with meeting the federal match requirements for the FWS Program.



- Funding provided on an allocation basis
- School must submit required reports to maintain participation

#### FWS-CS

- Students perform community service in nonprofit jobs
- Funding provided on an allocation basis
- Schools must submit required reports to participate

### State Work-Study Program



# SWSP

- PHEAA was the first nationwide to develop off-campus work-study referral and placement
- Provides:
  - Students with an opportunity to gain careerrelated work experience while earning monies to assist in meeting educational goals
  - Employers may be reimbursed up to \$5,000 per term (academic year and/or Summer) per student for providing the work opportunity
- Students search online for jobs/employers



### Partnerships for Access to Higher Education Program



# **PATH Program**

- Offers Pennsylvania nonprofit, communitybased organizations the ability to have their private scholarships matched by PHEAA
  - Match occurs on a dollar-for-dollar basis
- Students use scholarships and Commonwealth matching funds to assist with educational expenses
- Currently 39 approved participating PATH partners



# **PATH Program**

- Student eligibility criteria:
  - Be State Grant eligible
  - Nominated by an approved partner for a matching award
  - Not in default on any federal student loan
  - Enrolled at least half-time
  - Demonstrate financial need (as determined by the school)
- Award amounts:
  - Minimum: \$200
  - Maximum: \$2,500
- Website: <u>PHEAA.org/PATH</u>

#### Higher Education of the Disadvantaged (Act 101) Program



# Act 101 Program

- Created by the General Assembly in 1971
- Provides funds to schools to assist economically or educationally disadvantaged students
- Program administration transferred from PDE to PHEAA beginning with the 2011-12 award year
- 31 active programs
- Approval is yearly and renewable based on funding
  - Funds issued to schools on a per capita basis
- Commonwealth Appropriation = \$2.25 million

# Act 101 Program

- School must be approved for State Grant Program
  - Located in the Commonwealth
  - Authorized to grant degrees by PDE
  - Application to and approved by PHEAA
- 70% of funds disbursed at the beginning of the Fall; remainder upon receipt of annual report
- Each program has an Act 101 Director
- Each institution must contribute 25% toward overall program budget
  - 15% match requirement for new schools



# Act 101 Program

- No student application
- Students must:
  - Be a Pennsylvania resident
  - Enroll at least half-time in a program leading to an undergraduate credential
  - Meet the definition of:
    - Economically Disadvantaged
    - Educationally Disadvantaged (as determined by the institution)
- Website: PHEAA.org/Act101





#### New Economy Technology Scholarship Program



# **NETS Program**

- Funded by the Commonwealth from 1999-2011
  - 2010-11 was the final year new NETS awards granted
- Provided scholarships to Pennsylvania students enrolled in approved NETS programs of study
  - SciTech Scholarship: 4 year programs
  - Technology Scholarship: <4 year programs</li>
  - Requires work obligation in PA upon program completion
    - Converts to a loan if work obligation not met (handled by AES)
- Funds no longer disbursed for the program
- Institutions report graduation and/or internship data to PHEAA for students



#### Pennsylvania Chafee Education & Training Grant Program



## **Chafee Program**

#### Federal program

- Funded under the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 as amended by the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Amendments of 2001
- Provides grant assistance to undergraduate students aging out of foster care
- PHEAA administers in conjunction with Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
- PA's Federal Allotment = \$1.59 million

# **Chafee Program**

- Student eligibility criteria:
  - Pennsylvania resident
  - Enrolled at least half-time at a Title IV eligible postsecondary institution
  - Have 'unmet' costs as determined by the institution
  - Not in default or owe a refund on Title IV aid
  - Be certified by DHS as eligible for foster care programs
- Award amounts:
  - Minimum: \$500
  - Maximum: \$5,000



### Institutional Assistance Grants Program



# **IAG** Program

- Created by legislation in July 1974
- Program funds used by schools to maintain enrollment levels and stabilize educational costs
- Utilizes formula grants to assist independent postsecondary institutions
  - Schools that receive a direct appropriation are excluded
  - Payment based on the number of FTE State Grant recipients
- Commonwealth Appropriation = \$25.7 million
- 88 eligible institutions

#### Pennsylvania National Guard Education Assistance Program



### EAP

- Created by Act 56 of 1996
- Provides tuition assistance for Pennsylvania National Guard members who enter into a 6 year service commitment
- Department of Military and Veterans Affairs jointly administers with PHEAA
  - DMVA distributes information, collects applications, verify application data, and determines eligibility
- Commonwealth Appropriation = \$12.5 million
  - Made to the DMVA, not PHEAA

# EAP

#### Student eligibility criteria:

- Pennsylvania resident
- Sign a 6 year service agreement with the National Guard
  - Grant converts to loan if commitment not met
- Enrolled in a Title IV approved degree or certification granting course of study (ex: Act 120 Police Academy or CDL program)

– Not receiving a ROTC Scholarship

 All questions regarding eligibility should be sent to the National Guard



## EAP

- Award maximum based on flat tuition amounts charged at PASSHE schools
  - Maximum award: \$7,492
    - Full-time undergrad eligible for 100% of PASSHE tuition
  - Part-time undergrad eligible for the lesser of 100% of their tuition or two-thirds of the full-time PASSHE tuition
    - Graduate students eligible for the lesser of one-half of their tuition or one-third of the PASSHE tuition
    - Must apply FTA payments and other military aid first

#### Postsecondary Educational Gratuity & Act 105 Programs



# PEGP

- Established by the General Assembly in 1998
- Assists with educational costs for children whose parents have given their lives in the line of duty
  - Effective after January 1, 1976
- Must be a child of a police officer, firefighter, rescue/ambulance squad member, corrections employee, or National Guard member
  - Amended to include sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, and other federal/state active duty military members who died after September 11, 2011



### PEGP

- Student eligibility criteria:
  - Pennsylvania resident
  - Must attend a Pennsylvania community college, staterelated, or state-owned institution
  - Be 25 years of age or younger when initially applying
- School required to waive costs after all other aid applied
  - No Commonwealth appropriation
- Benefit available for a maximum of 5 years

# Act 105 Program

- Provides assistance to unmarried surviving spouses if the National Guard soldier or airman was killed or died as a result of injuries while in federal or state active duty
  - Established in 2006
- School required to waive costs after all other aid applied
  - No Commonwealth appropriation
- Benefit available up to 10 years after spouse death
- Must be a Pennsylvania resident



#### Resources

#### **Web Resources**

#### • PHEAA.org

- <u>About Us</u>
- <u>Resources & Training</u>
- <u>Funding Opportunities</u>
- Partner Access
- <u>Online Order System</u>
- Document Library

#### **Other Resources**

- Contact Us
  - Phone: 1-800-443-0646
  - Fax: 717-720-3786
  - Email: Check out our <u>Contact List</u> for individual program email addresses!
- <u>Higher Education Access Partner</u>

#### **Resources and Training**



#### Education is of the utmost importance to us here at PHEAA.

That is why we want to ensure that our school, employers, and community partners have easy access to various resources in one easy-to-use location. From this page you will be able to:

- · View training events
- · Sign up for educational workshops
- Locate resources for many of the PHEAAadministered programs

#### Partner Interface Training

Let us help you keep current with the latest tools for postsecondary schools to report and verify key components used in evaluating eligibility and disbursement for State Grant awards.

#### State Grant and Special Programs Resources

View and download a wide range of resources that will provide you with program-specific information essential for your staff and students.

#### State Grant and Special Programs Resources

Looking for the latest program guidelines or resources for a PHEAA-administered program? Let us help you stay current for each program! Use the information below to view and download a wide array of items that will provide you with program-specific information.

#### See What's Available

#### General SGSP Resources

You may find the general resources below helpful when working with any of the PHEAAadministered programs.

- State Grant and Special Programs Partner Resources
- State Grant and Special Programs Contact List
- State Grant and Special Programs Retention Policies