

## Goal: Education

### Subject Area: Higher Education

Objective: Dept of Ed: Increase enrollment and graduation rates at PA's colleges and universities, especially among economically disadvantaged students and first-generation college students.

**Why this objective is important:**

Pennsylvania must create a highly skilled workforce to be competitive in the global marketplace. Most living-wage jobs increasingly require postsecondary training or education. Workers who lack the skills or education to obtain these jobs are more likely to rely on government aid programs, increasing costs to taxpayers. Making higher education more accessible and affordable benefits the state's economy and all of its citizens.

**How are we doing:**

The Department of Education is working to make higher education more accessible and affordable by providing support for multiple options for postsecondary learning, including 14 community colleges, 14 state-owned universities in the State System of Higher Education, and four state-related universities. In addition, Pennsylvania is home to numerous private colleges and universities and private vocational and technical schools. Pennsylvania's completion rate for bachelor's degrees is well above the national average, and Pennsylvania has an above-average first-year retention rate – an important indicator of whether a student will graduate.

#### Strategies

- Administer the College Access Challenge Grant Program (a comprehensive K-16 school reform effort focused on increasing high school graduation and college attendance rates among disadvantaged students).
- Adopt workforce development strategies, including adult education initiatives, to train students for occupations in high demand.
- Assist students and families with the cost of higher education through the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA).
- Create a statewide prior-learning assessment initiative to facilitate the granting of college credit for life experiences.
- Invest in the commonwealth's community colleges and state universities and monitor tuition increases.
- Make it easier for students to transfer credits between and among institutions of higher education.
- Provide grants to institutions of higher education through the Higher Education Equal Opportunity Program, known as Act 101, to assist colleges and universities in providing on-campus assistance and academic support to at-risk students.

**Measures:**

MeasureName	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Minority enrollment at public institutions	70,487	76,359	79,000	81,000	83,000
Six-year graduation rate (percent) for full-time, first-time students at state-related institutions	65%	66.2%	67.4%	68.6%	69.8%
Six-year graduation rate (percent) for full-time, first-time students at state system institutions	55.5%	55.3%	56.1%	57.7%	58.5%
Three-year graduation rate (percent) for full-time, first-time students at community colleges	13.8%	13.9%	14%	14.1%	14.2%

## Goal: Education

### Subject Area: Higher Education

Objective: Increase and maintain a strong workforce in Pennsylvania through access to financial assistance to higher education.

**Why this objective is important:**

The future of the commonwealth depends on having an educated workforce that can compete nationally and internationally.

**How are we doing:**

To increase and maintain a strong workforce in Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency administers several aid programs in collaboration with the Department of Education and the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board. Additionally, the Department of Education aligns career and technical education with those occupations most in demand in Pennsylvania, such as healthcare professionals, technology experts and engineers.

### Strategies

Use the Federal Work-Study On-Campus, Community Service and State Work-Study programs to provide matching funds to institutions to support both on-campus and off-campus student employment programs. The intersection of changes to the minimum wage and to available funding will determine how many students can be served.

Use the New Economy Technology Scholarship Program to provide SciTech and Technology scholarships to students who agree to work in Pennsylvania for at least one year for each scholarship year following graduation.

**Measures:**

MeasureName	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Federal Work Study On-Campus, Community Service and State Work-Study Programs: Number of Awards	41,218	42,547	35,416	34,589	34,935
Federal Work Study On-Campus, Community Service and State Work-Study Programs: Value of Awards (State Funds Only)	\$12,264,654.00	\$11,847,533.00	\$10,479,858.00	\$13,811,000.00	\$14,501,550.00
New Economy Technology Scholarship Program: Number of Awards	3,133	3,407	2,673	1,080	831
New Economy Technology Scholarship Program: Value of Awards	\$5,081,311.00	\$5,831,524.00	\$5,305,053.00	\$2,571,519.00	\$1,978,066.00
Student work study earnings (in millions)	\$55.80	\$64.52	\$53.44	\$54.47	\$57.19

## Goal: Education

### Subject Area: Higher Education

Objective: Increase beneficial partnerships to increase available student aid funding.

**Why this objective is important:**

Establishing partnerships with other agencies maximizes available student aid funding and makes it easier for Pennsylvanians to pursue postsecondary education.

**How are we doing:**

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency administers various partnership aid programs: The Educational Assistance Program, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; the Pennsylvania Chafee Education and Training Grant Program, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare; the Partnerships for Access to Higher Education Program, in partnership with 38 nonprofit organizations and foundations in Pennsylvania; the Federal Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Education (new funding terminated, effective 2011-11 academic year); and the Pennsylvania State Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, in partnership with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

### Strategies

Work with state agencies and state-related organizations to develop and provide resources to educational opportunities for underserved Pennsylvania students.

**Measures:**

MeasureName	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Number of Chafee Education and Training Program participants who were in foster care (Academic Year)	573	601	736	841	900
Number of Educational Assistance Program participants (Academic Year and Summer)	1,865	2,543	3,034	2,600	2,600
Number of Partnerships for Access to Higher Education (Academic Year)	1,512	1,510	1,734	1,734	1,734
Number of Robert C. Byrd Program participants (Academic Year)	1,061	1,031	1,069	67	0
Value of Chafee Education and Training Program (Academic Year)	\$2,163,575.00	\$2,390,010.00	\$2,209,840.00	\$1,560,370.00	\$1,775,559.00
Value of Educational Assistance Program (Academic Year and Summer)	\$6,319,529.00	\$8,342,153.00	\$13,012,577.00	\$12,700,000.00	\$13,000,000.00
Value of Partnerships for Access to Higher Education Program (Academic Year)	\$1,699,031.00	\$1,844,286.00	\$2,037,893.00	\$2,150,000.00	\$2,257,500.00
Value of Robert C. Byrd Program (Academic Year)	\$1,512,940.00	\$1,524,313.00	\$1,574,848.00	\$69,867.00	\$0.00

## Goal: Education

### Subject Area: Higher Education

Objective: Increase the awareness of Pennsylvania elementary, middle and high school students about the importance of higher education.

**Why this objective is important:**

Introducing Pennsylvania school students to the importance of higher education increases the number of high school students who pursue higher education. Early awareness prevents disengagement, offers career-path exploration and encourages parental involvement.

**How are we doing:**

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency provides free resources to Pennsylvania school students and counselors, educating them on the importance of postsecondary education.

### Strategies

Conduct in-school and community-based education and information sessions for Pennsylvania students on the importance of learning beyond high school and the steps, tools and resources needed to achieve the dream of post-secondary education and to assist students and families in completing the FAFSA.

Maintain and enhance EducationPlanner.org, the agency's postsecondary education planning web site.

**Measures:**

MeasureName	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Average monthly unique visitors to EducationPlanner.org	63,898	71,391	66,383	67,224	67,224
Free Applications for Federal Student Aid received annually from Pennsylvania undergraduates	465,539	511,752	544,463	564,114	584,474

## Goal: Education

### Subject Area: Higher Education

Objective: PHEAA: Increase enrollment and graduation rates at Pennsylvania's colleges and universities, especially among economically disadvantaged students and first-generation college students.

#### Why this objective is important:

Pennsylvania must create a highly skilled workforce to be competitive in the global marketplace. Most living-wage jobs increasingly require postsecondary training or education. Workers who lack the skills or education to obtain these jobs are more likely to rely on government aid programs that increase costs to taxpayers. Making higher education more accessible and affordable benefits the state's economy and all of its citizens.

#### How are we doing:

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency provided meaningful State Grants to nearly 180,000 students in 2010-11 and helped ensure that eligible students seeking low-cost federal loans obtained them. Maintaining this level is particularly impressive in light of the extensive budget reductions Pennsylvania was forced to make.

Strategies
Provide financial aid to thousands of students via the Pennsylvania State Grant Program. The number and value of grant awards is tied directly to funding appropriated to this program administered by the agency.
Provide financial assistance to students through the state-funded Institutional Assistance Grant Program. IAG provides formula grants to independent, nonprofit Pennsylvania colleges and universities, ensuring strong postsecondary options for students.

#### Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Applications complete and needs tested for eligibility	311,397	332,000	341,000	349,000	361,000
Applications for grants	557,134	623,148	644,000	650,000	666,000
Eligible applicants enrolled and accepting grants	150,055	168,049	174,000	189,000	207,000
Eligible applicants meeting qualifications	170,392	189,776	200,000	232,000	252,000
Eligible applicants not enrolled at a college/university	20,337	21,727	25,000	43,000	45,000
Grant amount as percentage of applicant's total educational cost	11.7%	9.9%	8.3%	9.5%	8.4%
Institutional Assistance Grant Program: Annual Expenditure	\$42,100,000.00	\$30,278,976.00	\$30,216,180.00	\$24,389,000.00	\$25,608,000.00
Institutional Assistance Grant Program: Number of Schools	84	85	84	88	88
Number of State Grants provided to students (Academic Year and Summer).	165,000	171,702	178,645	194,338	206,727
Students assisted by federal, state and private funds	41,218	42,547	35,000	35,000	35,000
Students receiving Blind or Deaf Scholarships	70	71	69	98	98
Value of State Grant Awards (Academic Year and Summer).	\$374,947,150.00	\$413,349,249.00	\$366,421,294.00	\$466,153,145.00	\$464,382,898.00

## Goal: Education

### Subject Area: Library Resources

Objective: Increase access to library resources to inform and educate children and adults at home, in school and in the workplace.

**Why this objective is important:**

Public libraries provide lifelong learning opportunities for Pennsylvanians and measurably affect the development of a literate citizenry and workforce by providing access to the Internet and online government resources, job information and free books and materials. Through Pennsylvania's public libraries, students have access to computers and resources to complete homework assignments and enrich learning, and adults receive assistance in making informed health, financial and recreational decisions.

**How are we doing:**

In 2010-11:

- Use of library computers increased by 14 percent over the year before.
- More than 10,000 questions were posed to Ask Here PA each month. The online chat requests made through Ask Here PA also increased by 25 percent over the year before.

#### Strategies

Increase the participation of public libraries in regional early childhood education initiatives, including education of parents of young children.

Streamline access to the significant volume of online resources available through libraries.

Strengthen library services and collections aligned with early childhood and K-12 academic standards.

**Measures:**

MeasureName	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Individuals utilizing public library computers	8,897	8,921	7,311	7,390	7,460
Items accessed-State Library of Pennsylvania	217,650	179,474	186,900	221,900	226,900
Items borrowed from public libraries children's collections-included above (in thousands)	24,977	25,277	24,769	24,800	24,900
Materials borrowed from libraries for blind and physically handicapped- included above (in thousands)	1,946	1,975	2,000	2,040	2,070
Materials borrowed from public libraries (in thousands)	69,847	70,545	69,455	70,900	71,900
Online inquiries by consumers to professional reference librarians (Ask Here PA)	82,406	120,520	140,038	147,700	153,600
POWER Library use - items examined (in thousands)	37,082	32,915	24,542	25,300	25,800
Visits to public libraries (in thousands)	45,756	46,152	45,146	45,200	45,300

## Goal: Education

### Subject Area: Pre-K through 12 Education

Objective: Increase the number of K-12 students who acquire the essential skills in math, English, science and social studies.

**Why this objective is important:**

Success beyond high school, whether in college or in the workplace, requires a strong foundation in math, English, science and social studies. Highly skilled, engaged citizens are the foundation for Pennsylvania's economic success in a global economy.

**How are we doing:**

In 2010-11:

- 75.1 percent of Pennsylvania schools met adequate yearly progress targets.
- 75.3 percent of Pennsylvania students were proficient in reading and math.
- \$62 million to enhance career and technical education programs.
- \$359 million in Accountability Block Grant funding to school districts.
- \$47.6 million in Educational Assistance Program funding to school districts and career and technical centers.
- Approximately 54,000 students enrolled in postsecondary courses at a reduced cost and received college credit for their work through the Dual Enrollment program.
- More than 2,000 administrators enrolled in the Pennsylvania Inspired Leadership Program.

#### Strategies

Accurately track Pennsylvania's public school teachers.
Accurately track the status of all public school students.
Assist schools and districts with the implementation of a standards-aligned system (SAS) that includes clear standards, fair assessments, curriculum frameworks, effective instruction, materials and resources, and interventions for students who need help.
Increase the high quality of instruction and rigor of curricula in core subject areas through the development of voluntary model curricula, professional development and teacher preparation, and investments in career and technical education.
Offer school districts support for programs proven to raise student achievement.

#### Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Advanced Placement tests given in high schools	80,685	84,068	85,100	86,100	87,100
Advanced Placement tests with scores of "3" or higher demonstrating mastery of the course	68.6%	67.5%	68.5%	69.5%	70.5%
Average school district spending per student (local, state, federal dollars)	\$11,650.00	\$12,500.00	\$12,800.00	\$12,400.00	\$12,600.00
Career & Technical (Vocational) Education: Enrollment	77,540	74,217	69,140	69,500	69,800
Children receiving special education ages 6 through 21 spending most of their day in a regular classroom	55.3%	57.7%	57.7%	62%	63%
High schools offering at least one Advanced Placement course	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%
Nonpublic school enrollment	256,617	249,975	243,526	238,500	234,900



## Goal: Education

### Subject Area: Pre-K through 12 Education

#### Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Percentage gains in mathematics proficiency from 5th to 8th grade-same students	4%	4%	4%	11%	12%
Percentage gains in reading proficiency from 5th to 8th grade-same students	20%	21%	20%	17%	18%
Public school enrollment (preK-12)	1,800,314	1,780,413	1,781,206	1,739,000	1,738,000
Pupils with disabilities enrolled in special education programs	271,309	270,150	270,288	270,000	269,500
School districts making Adequate Yearly Progress	95%	96%	94%	96%	98%
School districts offering full-day kindergarten	459	130	125	120	120
Schools making Adequate Yearly Progress	78%	83%	75%	83%	94%
Skilled workforce--percentage of PA Skills Certificates awarded	42.7%	47.5%	57.1%	58%	59%
Special education incidence rate	15.2%	15.1%	15%	15.2%	15%
State preK-12 spending per student	\$5,100.00	\$5,300.00	\$5,400.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,200.00
Students proficient/advanced in mathematics	73%	76%	77%	78%	78%
Students proficient/advanced in reading	71%	72%	74%	81%	81%
Vocational education 11th graders proficient/advanced in math	31.2%	32.2%	35.8%	78%	78%
Vocational education 11th graders proficient/advanced in reading	38.1%	41.1%	43.3%	81%	81%
Vocational education program completers	54.7%	57.4%	65.3%	66%	66.6%



## Goal: Education

### Subject Area: Pre-K through 12 Education

Objective: Make high-quality early learning programs available to Pennsylvania children, particularly those at risk of academic failure.

#### Why this objective is important:

High-quality early childhood education helps prepare children for school, especially those at risk of academic failure due to poverty or other circumstances. Research shows that children who benefit from high-quality early education are more likely to be better students, graduate from high school and attend college and less likely to need special education services.

#### How are we doing:

In 2010-11:

- Pennsylvania Pre K Counts provided high-quality pre kindergarten services to 11,500 three- and four-year-olds.
- The Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program served approximately 5,500 three- and four-year-olds.
- The Department of Education provided Early Intervention services to more than 46,000 preschoolers with developmental delays or risks of developmental delays.

#### Strategies

Accurately track Pennsylvania's children in early education programs.
Develop and maintain a program to increase access to Pre-K Counts.
Increase parental awareness and engagement in their child's early learning, academic achievement and development.
Increase the number of Keystone STARS-participating child care programs that continue to improve the quality of their programs by moving up the STARS ladder and earning higher STARS levels.
Invest in other child and family support services (Nurse Family Partnership; Head Start; Children's Trust Fund; Parent Child Home Program; Child Care Works).
Provide quality early intervention services to children.

#### Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Children not participating in Special Education after participating in Early Intervention	23%	19%	20%	20%	20%
Children on their 3rd birthday who transitioned from infant/toddler Early Intervention to preschool Early Intervention	5,754	5,758	5,900	6,000	6,000
Children participating in Early Intervention	43,827	45,100	47,114	48,700	50,200
Children who met their individual goals and no longer need Early Intervention prior to school age	1,290	1,413	1,547	1,700	1,700
Early Intervention children included in typical early childhood educational settings such as home, child care or Head Start	64%	70%	70%	70%	70%
School districts offering pre-kindergarten	125	130	125	120	120

**Goal: Education**

**Subject Area: Pre-K through 12 Education**

**Measures:**

MeasureName	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13
Students enrolled in pre-kindergarten (excluding Head Start)	29,297	30,050	30,267	27,325	27,325
Students in PA Pre-K Counts program	11,841	11,863	11,500	11,380	11,380
Students in state-funded Head Start expansion	5,738	5,632	5,533	4,930	4,930