

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Higher Education

Objective: Develop a strong workforce in targeted industries in Pennsylvania through access to financial assistance for 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:

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) is focused on doing its part to ensure a strong future in Pennsylvania via a strong workforce. By funding and administering PA-TIP, we are working to build enrollment in energy, advanced materials and diversified manufacturing, and agriculture and food production. Work-study students are able to gain hands-on job experience while also earning money to fund their tuition, building a strong, experienced community as they enter into Pennsylvania's workforce upon graduation.

Strategies

Support education in three high priority occupation areas: energy, advanced materials and diversified manufacturing, and agriculture and food production through the Pennsylvania Targeted Industry Program (PA-TIP).

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.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Federal Work Study On-Campus, Community Service and State Work-Study Programs: Number of Awards	35,000	28,000	28,000	28,000	28,000
Federal Work Study On-Campus, Community Service and State Work-Study Programs: Value of Awards (State Funds Only)	\$10,246,000.00	\$11,116,000.00	\$11,442,000.00	\$10,196,000.00	\$10,196,000.00
Grants to Students: Average Award for PA Targeted Industry Program (PA-TIP)	\$3,466.00	\$2,913.00	\$3,482.00	\$3,400.00	\$3,400.00
Grants to Students: Number of PA Targeted Industry Program (PA-TIP) applicants	2,625	2,786	2,673	2,700	2,750
Grants to Students: Number of PA Targeted Industry Program (PA-TIP) participants	1,391	1,613	1,547	1,600	1,600

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Higher Education

Objective: Ensure that Pennsylvania residents have access to high-quality postsecondary education and training.

Why this objective is important:

Enrollment in postsecondary education provides both economic and societal benefits to Pennsylvania. Research shows that postsecondary education is a critical path to economic security, individuals with postsecondary education contribute more to tax revenue, are less likely to depend on social safety net programs, have lower incarceration rates and are more likely to vote and volunteer. In addition, improving equitable access and success in postsecondary education is vital for ensuring that Pennsylvania’s workforce has the skills and credentials needed in a 21st century economy. Research suggests that at least 60 percent of Pennsylvania jobs will require some level of postsecondary education.

How are we doing:

Meeting the workforce demands of Pennsylvania will require significant increases in enrollment and completion. Currently, 44 percent of Pennsylvania residents have a credential, certificate or degree, a gap of 16 percent from projected workforce needs. The number of high school graduates in Pennsylvania has continued to decline from a high of more than 140,000 in 2010 to just over 119,000 in 2016 (nearly a 15 percent decrease). Because of the shrinking population of high school students, postsecondary enrollment has also declined. According to data from the National Student Clearinghouse, of those students graduating high school in Pennsylvania in the class of 2015, 61 percent enrolled in postsecondary education immediately following high school. Of the students who enrolled in postsecondary education, 82 percent attended an institution in Pennsylvania, and 70 percent attended a publicly supported institution of higher education. The data shows that after their first year of postsecondary enrollment, 87 percent of students enroll their second year either at the same or a different institution. Of the 92,804 students in Pennsylvania’s class of 2009 who enrolled in postsecondary institutions, only 62 percent – or 57,739 - earned a credential, certificate or degree seven years after they graduated high school, with 35,065 leaving postsecondary without those high-value credentials.

To meet the workforce demands of the commonwealth, it is critical to increase completion rates and improve postsecondary pathways for Pennsylvania students. Of the high school students who graduated in 2015, 64 percent enrolled in an institution of higher education (in state or out of state) within 12 months of graduating as compared to 63 percent in 2012. In 2012-13, the community colleges, State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) Universities, State Related Universities and Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology enrolled 442,836 undergraduates, a 2.5 percent decrease from the previous year.

Strategies

As part of achieving Pennsylvania’s statewide postsecondary attainment goal – 60 percent of Pennsylvania residents having a postsecondary degree or certificate by 2025 – the department will pursue strategies to help more Pennsylvanians earn a degree, including exploring a supporting innovative, evidence-based college completion initiatives, and improving transfer/articulation processes through the Statewide Transfer and Articulation System.

Develop and promote STEM pathways to increase the number of students enrolled in STEM programs at state supported institutions of higher education.

Develop the Center for Strategic Research and Program Evaluation to build a research infrastructure at PDE that will allow for analysis of students’ postsecondary readiness, as well as performance once enrolled.

Improve FAFSA completion rates for underrepresented students to improve awareness of college options and promote access to financial aid as part of a statewide College Application Campaign.

Promote dual enrollment and early college high school models.

Provide continuing development programs for high school guidance counselors to better support students, especially underrepresented populations.

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Higher Education

Strategies

Use postsecondary data from the National Student Clearinghouse to examine Pennsylvania high school graduates' differential pathways into postsecondary education. This will allow for the department to identify and pursue policies and evidence-based initiatives that will support students – particularly underrepresented populations – explore, prepare, enroll, persist, and complete college.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Access & Affordability: Minority undergraduate enrollment at public institutions	92,851	97,494	112,775	116,207	119,744
The data used for this measure is based on IPEDS data that are current through the 2013-14 academic year. Therefore, the 5-year average change was used to project 2015-16 data performance. This lag in data availability will persist in future years as IPEDS is a federal data site.					
Adult basic education students who were eligible and entered postsecondary education or training	16%	16%	16%	17%	17%
Adult basic education students who were eligible and received their Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma	81%	81%	81%	81%	81%
Increase the six-year graduation rate for full-time, first-time students at state system institutions by 4 percent by 2020	54%	54%	54.47%	55.47%	56.47%
The data used for this measure is based on IPEDS data that are current through the 2013-14 academic year. Therefore, the 5-year average change was used to project 2015-16 data performance. This lag in data availability will persist in future years as IPEDS is a federal data site.					
Outcomes: Increase the six-year graduation rate for full-time, first-time students at state-related institutions by 4 percent by 2020	52%	68%	69%	70%	70%
The data used for this measure is based on IPEDS data that are current through the 2013-14 academic year. Therefore, the 5-year average change was used to project 2015-16 data performance. This lag in data availability will persist in future years as IPEDS is a federal data site.					
Outcomes: Increase the three-year graduation rate for full-time, first-time students at community colleges by 4 percent by 2020	14%	13%	14%	14%	15%
Outcomes: Percentage of students enrolled in postsecondary education within 16 months of graduating from a Pennsylvania public high school			64%	64%	65%
Measure added in 2015-16. The data used for this measure is based on IPEDS data that are current through the 2013-14 academic year. Therefore, the 5-year average change was used to project 2015-16 data performance. This lag in data availability will persist in future years as IPEDS is a federal data site.					
Outcomes: Six-year graduation rate for full-time, first-time students at state system and state-related institutions	56%	53.2%	54%	53%	53%

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Higher Education

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
The data used for this measure is based on IPEDS data that are current through the 2013-14 academic year. Therefore, the 5-year average change was used to project 2015-16 data performance. This lag in data availability will persist in future years as IPEDS is a federal data site.					
Outcomes: Six-year graduation rate for full-time, first-time students at state system and state-related institutions and community colleges	56%	56%	51%	51%	51%
Outcomes: Three-year graduation rate for full-time, first-time students at community colleges			19%	19%	19%
New measure in 2015-16.					

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Higher Education

Objective: Ensure that postsecondary education and training opportunities are aligned with high demand/high growth careers and jobs in the commonwealth.

Why this objective is important:

By 2020, sixty-five percent of jobs will require some level of postsecondary education or training. Of the jobs being created, 80 percent are in high-demand disciplines of health care and high-skill science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). To prepare Pennsylvania residents for jobs being created, credentials, certificates and degrees will have to be aligned with these high demand/high growth areas.

How are we doing:

PDE does not currently collect data on employment outcomes for learners in Pennsylvania. PDE is collaborating with other state agencies to align data sets and improve PDE's capacity to capture workforce data. Two potential metrics are 1) the number of community college credit or non-credit courses that lead to careers in high priority occupations, and 2) the number of students receiving PA-TIP grants to attend programs of less than two years in length that are aligned to high demand occupations in the energy, advanced materials and diversified manufacturing, or agriculture and food production fields. In the past two years 3,530 courses have been approved at community colleges and 3,476 students have received the PA-TIP grant.

Strategies

Collect and establish baseline data and population entering high demand/high growth degrees.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Increase the number of full-time students enrolled in STEM specific majors at state-supported institutions of higher education by 10,000 by 2020.			47,341	48,780	50,263
New measure in 2015-16. The data used for this measure is based on IPEDS data that are current through the 2013-14 academic year. Therefore, the 5-year average change was used to project 2015-16 data performance. This lag in data availability will persist in future years as IPEDS is a federal data site.					
Number of community college credit programs or noncredit courses which lead to careers in High Priority Occupations		1,829	1,701	1,582	1,471
Measure added in 2014-15.					
Number of students receiving PA-TIP grants			1,640	1,798	1,970
Measure added in 2015-16.					

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Higher Education

Objective: Increase access to postsecondary educational opportunities so that Pennsylvania learners of all ages are able to attain postsecondary credentials in a timely manner.

Why this objective is important:

Nationally, fewer than 50 percent of students entering postsecondary education will earn any credential within six years. To progress towards the statewide goal of attaining a 60 percent of Pennsylvania's population with a postsecondary certificate, credential or degree by 2025, the number of learners in Pennsylvania entering and completing postsecondary education must continue to increase.

How are we doing:

Pennsylvania high school students perform very well nationally when we compare degree attainment. Overall, 61.8 percent of students who graduated high school in 2007 and enrolled in a public 4-yr college in Pennsylvania graduated in 6 years (150 percent of time), compared to the national average of 55.1 percent. Community colleges data in Pennsylvania provides some challenges to understanding the complete picture for this population of students. Of the Pennsylvania high school graduates in 2010 who enrolled at a public 2-year college, 14.9 percent of students graduated within 3 years of beginning a degree. It is important to note that this does not account for students who enrolled at community college with the intent of transferring to a four year institution.

Strategies

Create alternate pathways to postsecondary by improving the Statewide Transfer and Articulation System.

Provide additional postsecondary opportunities to commonwealth citizens by becoming a State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement state.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Number of postsecondary credentials awarded by the commonwealth's public colleges and universities	83,638		83,105	83,586	84,070

The data used for this measure is based on IPEDS data that are current through the 2013-14 academic year. Therefore, the 5-year average change was used to project 2015-16 data performance. This lag in data availability will persist in future years as IPEDS is a federal data site.

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 (PHEAA) works in partnership with many other entities to provide much-needed student aid programs that meet a broad range of needs: the Educational Assistance Program (EAP) in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veteran Affairs (DMVA); the Chafee Education and Training Grant Program in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services; the Cheyney University Keystone Academy Scholarship in partnership with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE); and the Pennsylvania Internship Program in coordination with The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars.

Strategies

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

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Number of Chafee Education and Training Program participants who were in foster care (Academic Year)	445	400	368	400	400
Calculation based upon Academic Year eligibility.					
Number of Educational Assistance Program participants (Academic Year and Summer)	4,045	4,364	2,635	2,700	2,700
Calculations based upon Academic Year and Summer Session eligibility.					
Number of Recipients of Partnerships for Access to Higher Education Awards (Academic Year)	1,454	1,476	1,563	1,500	1,500
Calculation based upon Academic Year eligibility and funds available.					
Value of Chafee Education and Training Program (Academic Year)	\$1,474,124.00	\$1,508,243.00	\$1,509,919.00	\$1,523,153.00	\$1,523,153.00
Calculations based upon Academic Year eligibility.					
Value of Educational Assistance Program (Academic Year and Summer)	\$10,662,362.00	\$11,964,523.00	\$12,611,461.00	\$12,500,000.00	\$12,500,000.00
Calculations based upon Academic Year and Summer Session eligibility.					
Value of Partnerships for Access to Higher Education Program (Academic Year)	\$2,062,319.00	\$2,124,536.00	\$2,300,000.00	\$2,300,000.00	\$2,300,000.00
Calculation based upon Academic Year eligibility.					

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Higher Education

Objective: Increase enrollment and graduation rates at Pennsylvania's colleges and universities.

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 (PHEAA) provided meaningful State Grants to nearly 154,000 students in 2015-16 and helped ensure access to low-cost federal loans for eligible students. In addition to funding the administration of state and federal programs, which ensures that every appropriated dollar goes directly to students, PHEAA also provides funding for several aid programs from its business earnings.

Strategies
Provide financial aid to students through the State Grant Distance Education Pilot Program and Ready to Succeed Scholarship Program.
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 Grants (IAG) Program. IAG provides formula grants to independent, nonprofit Pennsylvania colleges and universities, ensuring strong postsecondary options for students.
Provide funding to institutions through the Higher Education for The Disadvantaged Program (Act 101) to offer support services for educationally, economically, and socially disadvantaged students.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Grants to Students: Applications complete and needs tested for eligibility	399,842	386,567	375,111	368,721	367,111
Grants to Students: Applications for grants	629,328	606,694	577,445	538,179	527,415
Grants to Students: Eligible applicants enrolled and accepting grants	178,681	173,856	153,648	143,531	140,660
Grants to Students: Eligible applicants meeting qualifications	225,878	216,233	195,648	185,531	182,660
Grants to Students: Eligible applicants not enrolled at a college/university	47,197	42,377	42,000	42,000	42,000
Grants to Students: Grant amount as percentage of applicant's total educational cost	11%	11%	10%	10%	9%

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Higher Education

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Grants to Students: Students receiving Blind or Deaf Scholarships	102	96	93	93	93
Institutional Assistance Grant Program: Annual Expenditure	\$24,389,000.00	\$24,389,000.00	\$25,121,000.00	\$25,749,000.00	\$25,749,000.00
Institutional Assistance Grant Program: Number of Schools	88	89	89	89	90
Number of State Grant Distance Education Program (SGDEPP) recipients	4,300	6,250	6,250	6,250	6,250
Academic Year plus Summer. Funding began in 2013-14 for this five-year pilot program. SGDEPP is funded through PHEAA earnings. A final consideration of the agency supplement for 2017-18 will be determined in June 2017.					
Number of State Grants provided to students (Academic Year and Summer).	178,681	173,856	153,648	143,531	140,660
State Grant awards are determined via an annual formula derived from the following: State Grant Appropriation Student applications Average Cost of Higher Education Family Income Levels Maximum Award and Minimum Award Measures calculated using Academic Year and Summer Session values					
Students Receiving Pennsylvania Internship Program Awards	50	80	68	70	70
Value of SGDEPP awards	\$6,455,000.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$10,000,000.00
Academic Year plus Summer. Funding began in 2013-14 for this five-year pilot program. SGDEPP is funded through PHEAA earnings. A final consideration of the Agency supplement for 2017-18 will be determined in June 2017.					
Value of State Grant Awards (Academic Year and Summer)	\$444,435,261.00	\$404,510,725.00	\$398,951,526.00	\$372,000,000.00	\$272,891,000.00
Measure is calculated on an Academic Year + Summer Session basis. The 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 figures are values based on the appropriation and PHEAA supplement. 2017-18 and beyond only reflect the expected appropriation. A final consideration of the Agency supplement for 2017-18 will be determined in June 2017.					
Work Study: Students assisted by federal, state and private funds	35,000	28,000	28,000	28,000	28,000
Work Study: Student work study earnings (in millions)	\$54.00	\$58.00	\$63.00	\$63.00	\$63.00

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 (PHEAA) provides free resources to Pennsylvania students and school counselors, designed to educate them on the importance of higher education and guide them through the process from choosing a major, finding a school, funding their tuition and avoiding overborrowing.

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 postsecondary education and to assist students and families in completing the FAFSA.

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

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Average monthly unique visitors to EducationPlanner.org	274,677	588,453	770,925	800,000	800,000
Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) received annually	720,918	696,978	666,500	634,273	621,588

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Library Resources

Objective: Continue to meet the critical needs of early education and adult learning by reinforcing the role of libraries in the learning ecosystem and developing relationships.

Why this objective is important:

Pennsylvania’s libraries are a vital part of the educational ecosystem in our commonwealth. They provide opportunities for self-sufficiency and success for each citizen willing to participate.

How are we doing:

Public libraries across the state provide emergent literacy opportunities for children and families such as Story Times and the Cruise Into Kindergarten initiative that includes Play K activities in preparation for kindergarten, and STEM activities for the very youngest learners such as Block Parties and Wee Build programs. Libraries also provide Summer Reading programs to lessen the “summer slide” and After-School programs to supplement the efforts of school districts during non traditional hours.

Commonwealth Libraries ensures that Ask Here PA is available to all public libraries within Pennsylvania to assist in providing homework assistance. Many libraries also provide space for educational support by professional tutors or library staff. School librarians provide critical training to ensure that students have the information literacy skills needed to be successful researchers, consumers and citizens.

Strategies

Develop interfaces to electronic resources which are user friendly for the early learner as well as the adult just learning to read.

Encourage and fund projects that are partnerships between school and public libraries that meet the educational needs of their shared communities.

Provide financial support, education and resources to library based early childhood education programs.

Provide financial support, education and resources to library based teen and adult education programs.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Annual visits to public libraries (in thousands)	45,106	41,538	43,253	43,686	44,122
Items accessed-State Library of Pennsylvania	199,021	201,000	203,000	205,000	207,000
Items borrowed from public libraries children's collections-included above (in thousands)	25,131	23,246	24,106	24,347	24,591
Materials borrowed from libraries for blind and physically handicapped- included above (in thousands)	1,424	1,438	1,525	1,556	1,587
Number of materials borrowed from public libraries (in thousands)	68,672	62,855	63,959	64,599	65,245

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Library Resources

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Number of online inquiries by consumers to professional reference librarians (Ask Here PA)	87,471	62,534	57,337	57,910	58,489
POWER Library use - items examined (in thousands)	30,273	30,875	87,749	88,626	89,513
Tracking children's attendance at library based programs (physical or virtual, in thousands)		2,950,910			
New measure in 2014-15.					

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Library Resources

Objective: Expand programs to increase access to technologies and resources, especially to vulnerable and high poverty populations, and learners with physical limitations.

Why this objective is important:

Access to broadband Internet and appropriate computer equipment by families in rural and urban areas of the state limits their ability to effectively use the electronic resources provided by schools and libraries throughout the commonwealth. While the schools have built strong linkages to the Internet, once students leave the school buildings, they must rely on their home connections and equipment. Unfortunately, in many parts of the commonwealth, the equipment and capacity to reach these electronic resources does not exist. Moreover, access also is needed for learners throughout the commonwealth who are blind or who cannot use traditional library resources due to physical limitations.

How are we doing:

In early 2014, Commonwealth Libraries surveyed the public libraries to determine their capacity to provide broadband connections to the Internet as well as wireless access for users bringing their own devices. The survey revealed that there were large portions of the commonwealth where high speed broadband access was non-existent outside of schools. Through funds provided from a number of sources, we have been working with public libraries to develop this access. Improvement has been slow but steady in some portions of the state. From 2014 through 2016, we developed projects and provided grants for libraries to improve their broadband connections and wireless network, and boosted outreach efforts to connect with learners with physical limitations.

Strategies

- Provide financial support and resources to expand access to appropriate electronic resources to assist veterans, minorities, learners with physical limitations, and English Language learners.
- Work with the public libraries to increase wireless networks within their spaces as well as increase broadband access through equipment grants using federal dollars available to libraries.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Circulation of electronic materials in public libraries (in thousands)		4,293	5,273	5,326	5,379
New measure in 2014-15.					
Number of public library Internet computer sessions (in thousands)	9,754	9,949	10,148	10,351	10,558

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Library Resources

Objective: Increase awareness of the State Library of Pennsylvania’s extensive research resources and services among commonwealth employees and the public.

Why this objective is important:

With holdings of over 4 million items and extensive electronic resources available in all fields of research needed by commonwealth employees to effectively complete their assignments, research on topics can be completed cost-effectively by all agencies. Through the subscriptions to electronic resources provided by the State Library, employees can access the information needed right at their desk computers – no matter where their office is within the commonwealth; resulting in savings to all who need these resources to complete their assignments and base decisions on research not placed on the open Web.

How are we doing:

Over the last five years, the State Library has focused on providing electronic access by purchasing subscriptions to resources needed by commonwealth employees as well as digitizing its historic collections. This provides access to these unique resources to anyone needing them – no matter where they live. Over the last couple of years, we have increased the awareness of many of the materials through the creation of searchable metadata on items already digitized as well as digitizing a number of titles in cooperation with other research institutions. During 2016, learning opportunities were launched for students, librarians, and teachers at the State Library’s Maker Space.

Strategies

A survey of research needs was conducted with commonwealth employees in the fall of 2014 and the State Library has worked to improve collections and trainings based on the results of the survey.

State Library staff has been working closely with the training officers in each department as well as the Office of Administration; Treasury and the legislative caucuses to develop brief training sessions on the various resources available through the State Library.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Number of items accessed from the State Library of Pennsylvania		181,735	196,383	198,346	200,330
New measure in 2014-15.					
Number of people attending public programs sponsored by the State Library		5,049	7,479	7,554	7,629
New measure in 2014-15.					

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Pre-K through 12 Education

Objective: Increase collaboration between schools, postsecondary education and training and industry partners to align instruction with workforce needs and emphasize the value of career and technical skills.

Why this objective is important:

Business and industry success in the 21st century is predicated upon a workforce with the necessary skills and experiences required in a rapidly changing environment. This will only occur when there is systematic, two-way communication between educators and the private sector. The real-world application of content area subjects with an emphasis on science, technology, engineering and mathematics is an essential component of these efforts.

How are we doing:

In 2015-16, 76 percent of career and technical education students completed their program. The number of industry certifications earned has also increased over time; in 2015-16, students earned 31,121 industry certifications.

Strategies

Dual Enrollment – Collaborate with stakeholders to identify and remove barriers and assist schools and postsecondary entities with program alignment.

Promote Industry/School Partnerships – Promote cross-sector collaboration and partnerships between schools and business/industry which will allow increased opportunities for students and ensure programs meet employer needs.

STEM Education Initiatives – Develop a statewide STEM education communications network and community of thought leaders that can advance equitable access to high-quality PreK to postsecondary STEM experiences for all students in the commonwealth.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Career & Technical (Vocational) Education: Career and technical education enrollment	65,104	65,858	65,888	66,153	66,448
Career & Technical (Vocational) Education: Industry certifications	23,621	27,371	31,899	38,621	42,371
Career & Technical (Vocational) Education: Percentage of vocational education program completers	70%	74%	76%	78%	80%
Career & Technical (Vocational) Education: Skilled workforce - percentage of PA Skills Certificates awarded	64%	64%	60%	61%	62%

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 by improving teacher effectiveness in all classrooms.

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 2015-16:

- There was a significant increase in the number of users of Pennsylvania's Standards Aligned System Portal. Notable improvements include no cost professional development aligned to the teacher effectiveness frameworks and curriculum frameworks aligned to Pennsylvania's standards in English language arts and mathematics.
- Students taking Algebra I, literature, and biology keystone exams are performing at increased levels of proficiency.
- The number of students taking advance placement exams and demonstrating mastery on advance placement exams is increasing.
- The number of students enrolling in, completing vocational education programs, and receiving Pennsylvania skills certificates is increasing.

Strategies

Assist schools and districts with the implementation of a standards-aligned system that includes clear standards, fair assessments, curriculum frameworks, effective instruction, materials and resources, and interventions for students who need help.

Offer school districts support for programs proven to raise student achievement.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Accountability: Percentage gains in mathematics PSSA proficiency from 5th to 8th grade-same students	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Accountability: Percentage gains in reading proficiency from 5th to 8th grade-same students	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Accountability: Percentage of students proficient/advanced in English language arts PSSAs	69%	60%	60%	63%	66%
Note: 2014-15 PSSAs reflected new assessments, aligned to more rigorous PA Core Standards					
Basic Education Targeted Investment: Public school enrollment (K-12)	1,764,000	1,763,000	1,731,588	1,730,000	1,728,000
Number of registered Standards-Aligned System (SAS) users	140,433	154,476	169,923	224,976	231,232
Other Education Programs: Nonpublic school enrollment	218,032	212,534	207,471	203,555	199,804

This data does not include students residing out-of-state but attending private schools in Pennsylvania, AND Pennsylvania resident students attending private schools outside the state.

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Pre-K through 12 Education

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Percentage of students proficient/advanced in mathematics PSSAs	73%	40%	42%	45%	48%
Note: 2014-15 PSSAs reflected new assessments, aligned to the more rigorous PA Core Standards.					
Percent Proficient or Advanced in Algebra 1 Keystone Exam	65.17%	68.33%	71.5%	74.67%	77.83%
Percent Proficient or Advanced in Biology Keystone Exam	48.67%	53.33%	58%	62.67%	67.33%
Percent Proficient or Advanced in Literature Keystone Exam	75.25%	77.5%	79.75%	82%	84.25%
Secondary Education-College and Career Ready: Number of Advanced Placement tests given in high schools	32,550	35,805	39,386	43,324	47,657
Secondary Education-College and Career Ready: Percentage of Advanced Placement tests with scores of "3" or higher demonstrating mastery of the course	71%	73%	76%	79%	81%
Secondary Education-College and Career Ready: Percentage of high schools offering at least one Advanced Placement course	86%	86%	99%	99%	99%
Special Education: Pupils with disabilities enrolled in special education programs	269,349	269,400	276,185	276,185	276,185
Special Education: Special education incidence rate	15%	15%	15%	15%	15%

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 to prepare children for kindergarten success, especially those who are at risk of academic failure due to poverty, instability in the home or community, or other negative impacts to development. Research shows that children who receive high quality early education are more likely to graduate from high school, are college and career ready, and less likely to need special education supports and services.

How are we doing:

In 2015-16:

- Last year, 64 percent of preschool children lack access to high-quality programming.
- The Pennsylvania Pre K Counts program provided high quality pre kindergarten services to nearly 17,000 three and four year olds – a significant increase from the 13,400 served in 2014-15.
- The Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program served approximately 5,700 three and four year olds.
- The Department of Education provided Early Intervention services to more than 52,800 eligible young preschool age children with developmental delays or risks of developmental delays.

Strategies
Maintain access to Pre-K Counts and Head Start Supplemental Assistance.
Provide quality early intervention services to children.

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Early Childhood Education: School districts offering pre-kindergarten	82	82	82	82	82
Early Childhood Education: Students enrolled in pre-kindergarten (excluding Head Start)	24,531	25,700	30,962	37,200	43,500
Does not include School Kindergarten Readiness program.					
Early Childhood Education: Students in PA Pre-K Counts program	12,131	13,456	16,937	18,140	25,540
Does not include School Kindergarten Readiness program.					
Early Childhood Education: Students in state-funded Head Start Supplemental	4,761	4,781	5,728	5,580	6,610
Includes School Kindergarten Readiness program.					
Early Intervention: Children on their 3rd birthday who transitioned from infant/toddler Early Intervention to preschool Early Intervention	6,601	6,600	6,600	6,600	6,600
Early Intervention: Children receiving early intervention in typical early childhood educational settings such as home, child care or Head Start	71%	72%	73%	73%	73%

Goal: Education

Subject Area: Pre-K through 12 Education

Measures:

MeasureName	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
Early Intervention: Children who met their individual goals and no longer need Early Intervention prior to school age	1,792	1,720	1,535	1,700	1,700
Early Intervention: Number of children participating in Early Intervention	49,786	50,817	52,811	53,700	54,800