PENNSYLVANIA STUDENT AID GUIDE

PHEAA

Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency

SIMPLE STEPS TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

1. **Look for FREE money first.**
   Try to get "free" financial aid first. Free financial aid is the type of aid that you do not need to repay.

2. **Know your deadlines.**
   Financial aid deadlines are specific to your situation—your school, where you live, what you study. Deadlines for aid from your state, school and private sources tend to be earlier than those for federal aid.

3. **Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).**
   You must complete the FAFSA to qualify for:
   - Federal grants, scholarships, student loans, and work-study programs
   - The Pennsylvania State Grant Program and other state programs
   - Many school-based financial aid programs

4. **Compare schools' financial aid award letters or "packages."**
   Your financial aid offers will differ from school to school based on differences in the cost of attendance, available aid and school-specific criteria for awarding certain types of aid.

5. **Be sure you have the money you need.**
   You may need to find other ways to pay for college, including taking out loans and using money you may have saved. Take time to understand all the ways you can pay for college.

The **Pennsylvania Student Aid Guide** includes a complete overview of the financial aid process with information on most of Pennsylvania's financial aid programs and services. You may qualify for free money, like grants and scholarships, or work-study programs that allow you to earn money to help cover your education costs. And, if you need additional help paying for your education, there are loans available for both students and parents.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

continued >

Getting Started
Timeline
CO$T?
Financial Aid
Independent Students
Financial Aid Award
PA State Grant
Special State Aid
Federal Aid
Loans and Repayment
Online Resources
Best Jobs

Contact Information

Financial Aid Programs & Related Services:
PHEAA.org

Career & College Planning:
EducationPlanner.org

Debt Management:
YouCanDealWithIt.com

Pennsylvania State Grant, Special Programs & State Work-Study:
800.692.7392

PA Relay Service for individuals with speech or hearing impairments:
800.654.5984

NOTE: If changes were made to federal and state aid programs since this publication was printed, updates are available at PHEAA.org.

GETTING STARTED

Deciding on your major and what school you want to attend are important pieces of your education game plan. Finding ways to pay for it is just as important. All it takes is a little planning and research, and making sure you meet the various deadlines.

FREE STUDENT FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES:

EducationPlanner.org offers in-depth resources to help students learn about and explore hundreds of careers, colleges and financial aid opportunities.

PHEAA.org offers information on Pennsylvania's grant, scholarship and work-study programs.

Your school counselor has information on schools, standardized test dates, scholarships and much more.

College financial aid administrators are available to answer your questions and provide information on school-specific awards and other financial aid.

School and public libraries are great resources for researching information on postsecondary schools and financial aid.

The U.S. Department of Education offers information on federal guidelines for student financial aid programs and they also manage the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid** (FAFSA) website.

- **FAFSA.gov**
- **studentaid.ed.gov**

COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE

PRIOR TO YOUR SENIOR YEAR

- Request applications and information from colleges.
- Visit school campuses; look into overnight or weekend college visitation programs to help narrow your choices.
- Talk to your school counselor about taking Advanced Placement Program* (AP) courses for college credit.

SEPTEMBER

- Mark your calendar for college fairs, visits from admissions representatives and financial aid events.
- Meet with your school counselor to develop a college admissions plan.
- Register for the SAT* exam or the ACT exam; visit EducationPlanner.org for free test prep and practice exams.
- If you already know which school you would like to apply to, find out if they offer early decision or early action plans which allow you to receive an admissions decision well before the spring notification date.

OCTOBER

- Create a schedule of admission and student aid deadlines.
- Begin completing college applications and essays.
- Request transcripts and letters of recommendation.
- Begin to explore scholarships; visit EducationPlanner.org to get information on free scholarship searches.

NOVEMBER

- Follow up to ensure that letters of recommendation are submitted.
- Submit your essay and application if you're applying to a particular school through their early decision plan.
- If you're applying to multiple schools through their early action plan, make sure you complete and submit your essays and applications.

DECEMBER

- Contact college financial aid offices to see what student aid programs exist on a state or campus level. These programs may involve forms and deadlines that are separate from federal programs and may require additional applications or information from you or your parents.
- Complete and submit college applications, including essays and recommendations.
- Apply for a Personal Identification Number (PIN) at pin.ed.gov.

* AP, SAT are registered trademarks of the College Board, which was not involved in the production of, and does not endorse, this product

JANUARY

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This is required to be considered for most federal, state and college-based aid. The FAFSA also serves as the application for the Pennsylvania State Grant Program. Students can connect directly from the FAFSA on the Web confirmation page to the State Grant Form (SGF). You can access the FAFSA online at FAFSA.gov or PHEAA.org/FAFSA.

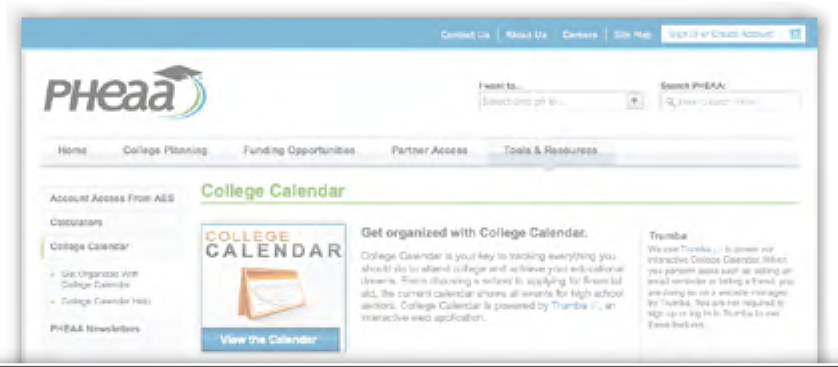
FEBRUARY

- Submit applications for scholarships you have identified.
- Be sure that you have submitted all required forms: the college admissions application, the FAFSA, any private scholarship applications, and any state or school-specific forms required for student aid programs.
- Watch your email for your Student Aid Report (SAR). The SAR summarizes all the information you provided on the FAFSA. If you did not provide a valid email address when completing the FAFSA, your SAR will be sent by postal mail.
- Watch your email for notices from the Pennsylvania State Grant Program. All first-time applicants will be asked to complete the online State Grant Form (SGF). Note: Pennsylvania students can connect directly from the FAFSA on the Web confirmation page to the SGF.
- Renewal students may be asked to provide additional information needed to complete their application for State Grant consideration.

MARCH

- If taking an AP* exam, consider a preparation course for the tests, which are given in May.

continued >



College Calendar at **PHEAA.org** provides detailed information on what high school seniors should be doing to get ready for college, from choosing a school to applying for financial aid. College Calendar allows users to keep track of priority events, add events and deadlines to personal calendars, and send email and text message reminders about important events or deadlines.

COLLEGE PLANNING TIMELINE

continued

APRIL

- Receive admission notification(s); compare your financial aid awards to the cost of school attendance at each school.
- Make a final enrollment decision and submit the enrollment deposit, if requested.
- Sign and return student aid forms for the school you will be attending.
- If a school accepted you but you will not be attending, notify that school of your decision not to attend.
- If you are planning to live on campus, be certain to meet the deadlines for indicating your choice and sending your housing deposit to the school.

MAY

- The deadline for the Pennsylvania State Grant is May 1 for students attending colleges, universities, college-transferable programs (excluding community colleges) and all renewal students. You must have filed your FAFSA by this date to be eligible.
- After you have submitted your FAFSA and any additional information that is requested, check your eligibility for a Pennsylvania State Grant by visiting Account Access at PHEAA.org.
- Take any applicable AP* exams.
- Send your final high school transcript to your chosen college.
- Contact the financial aid office at the school you plan to attend to check the status of your financial aid.
- If you need a student loan, go to studentloans.gov to complete an online Master Promissory Note (MPN) to obtain a Direct Stafford or Direct PLUS Loan.

JUNE

- Complete any remaining student aid forms.
- Plan for college orientation, transportation and housing.

JULY

- Finalize college transportation and housing for the fall.

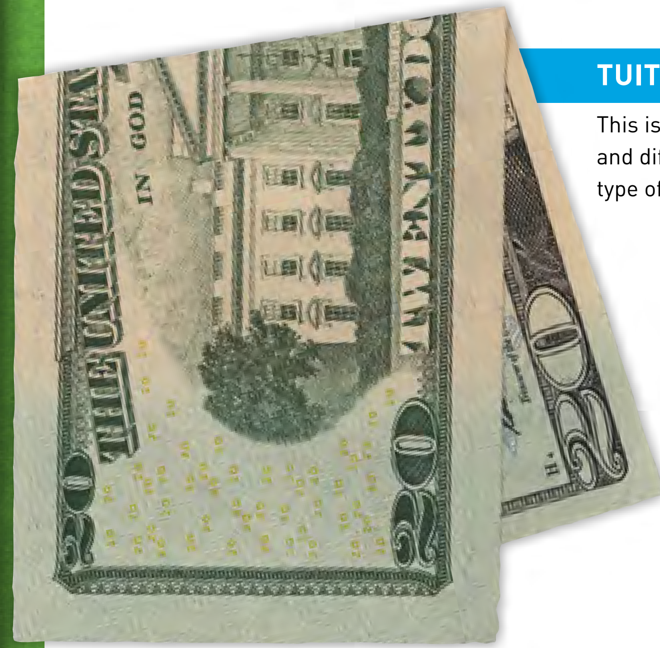
AUGUST

- The deadline for the Pennsylvania State Grant is August 1 for first-time students attending community colleges, business, trade or technical schools, hospital schools of nursing, or a 2-year program that is not transferable to another institution. You must have filed your FAFSA by this date to be eligible.

* AP, SAT are registered trademarks of the College Board, which was not involved in the production of, and does not endorse, this product

HOW MUCH WILL IT CO$T?

Your education will cost more than just tuition and fees. Have you considered room and board, books, supplies, transportation, and personal expenses? These are all things you will need to include when planning your student budget.



TUITION AND FEES

This is usually the biggest cost item and differs greatly depending on the type of school you plan to attend.

Below are some average annual tuition and fee charges* for different kinds of schools in Pennsylvania:

PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOLS	TUITION AND FEES	AVERAGE
Four-Year Public Colleges**	$8,102 to $17,668	$12,533
Four-Year Private Colleges	$12,960 to $45,378	$32,114
Community Colleges	$3,210 to $4,420	$3,782
Two-Year Private Colleges	$7,030 to $30,850	$14,858
Business, Trade, or Technical Schools	$3,500 to $21,338	$13,247
Nursing Schools	$4,389 to $20,249	$11,737

Source: PHEAA College Cost Tables as of April 24, 2012. Tuition and Fees enrollment weighted.

* Based on 2010-2011 Enrollment and 2012-2013 Tuition and Fees. Check with your school for actual cost.

** Pennsylvania has two types of 4-year public universities. There are 14 state-owned Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Universities: Bloomsburg University, California University, Cheyney University, Clarion University, East Stroudsburg University, Edinboro University, Indiana University, Kutztown University, Lock Haven University, Mansfield University, Millersville University, Shippensburg University, Slippery Rock University, and West Chester University. There are also four state-related universities: Lincoln University, The Pennsylvania State University, Temple University, and the University of Pittsburgh.

continued >

HOW MUCH WILL IT CO$T? continued

ROOM & BOARD, TRANSPORTATION, BOOKS & SUPPLIES

ON CAMPUS	ROOM & BOARD	TRANSPORTATION	OTHER COSTS
Public Two-Year	N/A	N/A	N/A
Public Four-Year	$9,590	$906	$1,868
Private Four-Year	$10,939	$768	$1,380

OFF CAMPUS	ROOM & BOARD	TRANSPORTATION	OTHER COSTS
Public Two-Year	$8,801	$1,638	$1,790
Public Four-Year	$9,948	$1,388	$2,582
Private Four-Year	$10,108	$1,315	$1,740

PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOLS	BOOKS & SUPPLIES
Public Two-Year	$1,157
Public Four-Year	$1,285
Private Four-Year	$1,220

Source: Resident Room and Board Charges - 2012-2013 PHEAA College Cost Tables as of April 24, 2012, weighted with fall 2010 Enrollment

All other data - 2011 Trends in College Pricing, Table 6, The College Board

PERSONAL EXPENSES

These costs depend on your individual lifestyle while at school. This includes things like buying clothes, cell phone charges, laundry, food, and entertainment. Also, be cautious of credit card offers. Credit card debt has the potential to derail your future plans.

Your personal expenses could range from $1,496 to $2,127 with an average of $1,896.

STUDENT BUDGET WORKSHEET

List your estimated cost for each category below to determine your cost of attendance for one year.

Tuition & Fees	$
Room & Board	$
Books & Supplies	$
Transportation	$
Personal Expenses	$
Miscellaneous	$
Total Student Budget	$

For more information on managing your expenses, check out YouCanDealWithIt.com.

NET PRICE CALCULATOR

The Net Price Calculator is a tool that students and families can use to estimate the "net price" to attend a particular college or university. Net price is the difference between the "sticker" price (full cost) to attend a specific college, minus any grants and scholarships for which you may be eligible. Sticker price includes direct costs (tuition and fees, room and board) and indirect costs (books and supplies, transportation and personal expenses). All schools participating in Title IV student aid programs are required to post a net price calculator on their website.

APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

You and your family will want to find out if you qualify for financial aid. Nearly two-thirds of students receive some type of financial aid.

Expected Parental Contribution + Expected Student Contribution = Your Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	Total Student Budget – Your EFC = YOUR FINANCIAL NEED

THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

The FAFSA is the most important form you must complete to qualify for almost all types of financial aid. The FAFSA is available January 1 for the upcoming academic year. Many state, local and private entities use the FAFSA information to determine eligibility for grants and scholarships and all of them have different deadlines. Be sure to complete the FAFSA by your earliest deadline.

You will need to determine whose information to report on the FAFSA. Dependent students must report their parents' income and assets on the FAFSA, as well as their own. Independent students report their own income and assets, and those of their spouse, if married (see page 12).

NOTE: Dependency criteria for federal financial aid purposes are different from dependency criteria used by the IRS.

HOW TO FILE THE FAFSA

- Filing the FAFSA electronically is the best way to apply; it speeds up turnaround time and helps to eliminate errors. You may access the FAFSA electronically at FAFSA.gov or PHEAA.org/FAFSA.
  - » To file online, you and a parent (if you are a dependent student) will need a Personal Identification Number (PIN) to serve as your electronic signature. Visit pin.ed.gov to obtain your PIN. Keep your PIN in a safe spot, as you will need it each year.
- You can also download a PDF of the FAFSA at FAFSA.gov.
- If you do not have Internet access, you can get a paper copy of the FAFSA by calling the U.S. Department of Education toll-free at **800.4.FED.AID (800.433.3243)**.
- Filing the FAFSA is **FREE** for all students. If you are asked to pay to file the FAFSA, you are not on the official government website.

NOTE: After completing the FAFSA online, you will receive a confirmation page. On this page, a link allows you complete your Pennsylvania State Grant via the online State Grant Form (SGF). **PHEAA recommends this option**. Students who do not complete the SGF at this time will receive an email directing them to PHEAA's online Account Access secure site for completion. If a valid email address is not provided on the FAFSA, the student will be contacted via U.S. Mail to complete the SGF.

IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL

The U.S. Department of Education and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) have collaborated to develop a tool that simplifies the completion of the FAFSA application. The IRS Data Retrieval tool allows FAFSA applicants and parents to request and retrieve their tax data directly from the IRS. Once this data is retrieved from the IRS, it can be transferred to the FAFSA application. The retrieval tool will save students and families time and increase the accuracy of FAFSA information.

YOU MUST FILE YOUR FAFSA TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A PA STATE GRANT!

REAPPLY FOR AID EACH YEAR

- A FAFSA must be completed each award year. Go to FAFSA.gov or PHEAA.org/FAFSA to reapply.
- Every applicant who meets the eligibility requirements to reapply for aid and has maintained the email address provided on the FAFSA the previous year will automatically receive an online FAFSA renewal reminder.

AFTER YOU FILE THE FAFSA

- Once your FAFSA is processed, you will receive your Student Aid Report (SAR), which summarizes all the information you provided on your FAFSA, and your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Review this form carefully and submit any corrections promptly.
  - » If you provide a valid email address when you file the FAFSA, you will receive your SAR by email within 3-5 days.
  - » If you do not provide a valid email address, you will receive a paper SAR by postal mail within 7-10 days.
- Your processed FAFSA results will be shared with the school(s) you listed on the FAFSA, as well as with PHEAA for purposes of determining PA State Grant eligibility.

FAFSA FAST TRACK

- Go to **PHEAA.org** for a list of information needed to complete the FAFSA.
- Apply early and meet all deadlines to maximize your aid options.
- Apply online to avoid errors and speed up turnaround time.
- Keep copies of your FAFSA, all student aid applications, and your family's financial documentation used to complete these forms.
- Reapply each year you seek student aid.

AID FOR INDEPENDENT STUDENTS

If you are an adult student pursuing higher education on a full- or part-time basis, the state and federal programs listed in this guide may be available to you.

If you answer "YES" to any of the following questions on the FAFSA, you may be considered "independent" for financial assistance purposes. You may be asked to verify your status. NOTE: The award year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of the following year.

- Will you be **at least 24 years old by December 31** of the award year?
- Are you **married**?
- Are you a **graduate student working on a Master's or Doctoral degree**, such as a MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD or graduate certificate, etc., at the beginning of the award year for which the FAFSA is being completed?
- Are you **currently serving on active duty** in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?
- Are you a **veteran** of the U.S. Armed Forces?
- Do you **have at least one child** who will receive more than half of their support from you during the award year?
- Do you have **dependents** (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30 of the award year?
- At any time after you were 13 or older, were your parents deceased, were you in foster care, or were you a dependent/ward of the court?
- Are you an emancipated minor or are you in legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state of legal residence? (The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued.)
- At any time on or after **July 1** of the year preceding the year for which you are filing the FAFSA did your high school or school district homeless liaison, or the director of an emergency shelter program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?
- At any time on or after **July 1** of the year preceding the year for which you are filing the FAFSA did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?

If you qualify as an independent student, your eligibility for aid will be determined **based only on your (and if married, your spouse's) financial and family circumstances**. Your parents' income and assets will not be considered.

Many state and federal programs, including the **Pennsylvania State Grant Program** (page 16) and the **Federal Direct Stafford Loan Program** (page 25), are available to independent students who are studying on at least a half-time basis (at least six credits per semester, or the equivalent). While you are not eligible for Direct PLUS Loans unless you are enrolled in a graduate or professional program above the baccalaureate level, Direct Unsubsidized Stafford loan limits for independent students are greater than those for dependent students.

YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARD

The financial aid office at the school you plan to attend will develop a financial aid award or "package" to pay for part or all of your costs, depending on your financial need. **A financial aid "package" is simply a list of the amounts of aid that you may receive from student aid programs.**

CALCULATING YOUR FINANCIAL NEED

Cost of Attendance (COA)
– Your Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
= **YOUR FINANCIAL NEED**

THE FOUR BASIC TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID:

1. SCHOLARSHIPS
Scholarships are federal, state, institutional, and private funds that **do not have to be paid back** and are awarded to students who demonstrate or show promise of high achievement in areas such as academics, athletics, music, art, or other fields. Scholarships may also be offered by civic organizations, religious institutions, businesses, or associations. Eligibility for some scholarships may be based on financial need.

2. GRANTS
Federal and state grants are awards that **do not have to be paid back** (provided you meet all of the required obligations) and are **typically based on financial need** (some grants include merit criteria). PHEAA administers the Pennsylvania State Grant Program.

3. WORK-STUDY AWARDS
Work-study awards are **wages earned by students working in jobs** on-or off-campus to help pay for school costs. PHEAA coordinates the Pennsylvania State Work-Study Program. Check with your school's financial aid office to determine the availability of work-study awards.

4. LOANS
Loans are **funds borrowed that must be paid back** at specific interest rates.

FUNDS THAT TYPICALLY DO NOT REQUIRE REPAYMENT:

- State, federal and institutional scholarships and grants
- Aid from local or private sources such as:
  - Community, civic or religious groups
  - Employers or labor unions
  - Scholastic, merit or special talent awards
  - Alumni associations, professional organizations and local foundations
- Work-study earnings

When you have exhausted all free money and student employment options, it is time to consider taking out student loans. Loans should be considered only as a last resort to fill the "gaps" in your financial aid package.

NOTES:

PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANT PROGRAM*

The **Pennsylvania State Grant Program** provides grants to eligible Pennsylvania residents who are in need of financial assistance to attend PHEAA-approved postsecondary schools as undergraduate students.

Award amounts are based on the allowable college costs and a student's demonstrated need. Applicants for 2012-2013 were eligible to receive up to $4,348 as a full-time student at a Pennsylvania school and up to $555 ($740 for veterans) at a college outside of Pennsylvania.

NOTE: With limited exceptions, applicants attending institutions in Maryland, New Jersey or New York are not eligible for Pennsylvania State Grant aid.

Students enrolled on a half-time basis (at least six credits per semester or its equivalent) were eligible to receive up to $2,174 at a Pennsylvania school and up to $276 ($370 for veterans) at a college located outside of Pennsylvania. Students enrolled in summer study may also be eligible for a Summer State Grant.

* This information is accurate at time of printing. The maximum award is dependent upon available funding and subject to review and adjustment.

TO APPLY

1. FILE THE FAFSA BY THE APPROPRIATE DATE.

FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS

MAY 1 — If you plan to enroll in a degree program or a college transferable program at a junior college or other college or university (excludes community colleges), you must submit the FAFSA and the Pennsylvania State Grant Form.

AUGUST 1 — If you plan to enroll in a community college; a business, trade, or technical school; a hospital school of nursing; or a 2-year program that is not transferable to another institution, you must submit the FAFSA and the Pennsylvania State Grant Form.

RENEWAL APPLICANTS

May 1 — You must submit a renewal FAFSA and any appropriate State Grant documents indicating any changes that may affect your State Grant award, such as a change in your marital status or a change in your income.

SUMMER-TERM APPLICANTS

AUGUST 15 — You must submit the online Summer State Grant Application. You must also have submitted the FAFSA and, if required, the State Grant Form.

NOTE: If you miss the State Grant deadline for the academic year, apply anyway. Late applications (for terms other than summer) may qualify if funding permits.

2. COMPLETE THE STATE GRANT FORM.

If you meet the Pennsylvania State Grant eligibility requirements, then it's time to complete your State Grant Form (SGF).

- **To apply for a State Grant when you complete the FAFSA (Recommended):** Complete the SGF online directly from your FAFSA confirmation page. Look for the link that reads "Optional Feature—Start your state application—Click here if you want to apply for Pennsylvania state-based financial aid."
- **To apply for a State Grant after you've completed the FAFSA:** If you've already submitted your FAFSA online and missed the direct link, you may need to wait 24-48 hours before you can complete the SGF. You will receive an email directing you to the American Education Services (AES) website to complete the SGF. (AES is a division of PHEAA.)

NOTE: Most renewal students are not required to complete the SGF.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

To be considered for a **Pennsylvania State Grant**, you must **demonstrate financial need AND**:

- Be a **high school graduate** as stipulated in the Pennsylvania State Grant law
- Attend a **postsecondary school approved by PHEAA** for Pennsylvania State Grant purposes
- Be **enrolled at least half-time** (defined as at least six semester credits or the equivalent)
- Be **enrolled in an approved program of study of at least 2 academic years** in length
- Be **enrolled in a program of study where at least 50% of the total credit or clock hours** needed for completion of the program are earned through classroom instruction:
  - » The program itself must be structured to allow you to complete at least 50% of your credits or clock hours in the classroom.
  - » Your enrollment pattern must also consist of at least 50% classroom instruction (unless you have a medical disability approved under ADA specifications).
- **Make satisfactory academic progress** (as defined by PHEAA)
- **Not have already earned a bachelor's degree** or its equivalent
- Be a **Pennsylvania resident**, as stipulated in the Pennsylvania State Grant law
- Be of **satisfactory character** (for example, not be incarcerated)
- **Not have received the maximum number of Pennsylvania State Grants permitted**
- **Not be in default or pending default on an educational loan** (This also applies to any program where the award has been converted to a loan due to failure to meet all eligibility or service requirements and the loan is in a default status.)
- **File and complete the application process by** the appropriate deadlines

For more details, a Rights and Responsibilities Certification Document is available at PHEAA.org.

continued >

Getting Started
Timeline
CO$T?
Financial Aid
Independent Students
Financial Aid Award
PA State Grant

PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANT PROGRAM* continued

3. CHECK YOUR STATUS.
After you apply, visit PHEAA.org to sign into Account Access, PHEAA's online student information tool, to check the status of your application, make changes and manage your account information at any time.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANT PROGRAM HAS AWARDED MORE THAN $8 BILLION TO PENNSYLVANIA RESIDENTS SINCE 1966.

PERCENT OF APPLICANTS RECEIVING STATE GRANT AWARDS (2011–2012 AWARD LEVELS)*

2012–2013	PARENTS' ANNUAL INCOME							
AVERAGE TUITION & FEES	UNDER $25,000		$25,000 – $49,999		$50,000 – $74,999		$75,000 – $99,999	
Four-Year Private Colleges $32,114*	99%	$4,058-$4,347	98%	$3,967-$4,347	91%	$2,890-$4,151	49%	$1,451-$2,991
PA State System Schools $8,687*	99%	$3,428-$3,700	97%	$3,321-$3,700	82%	$1,967-$3,151	34%	$1,146-$2,261
PA State-Related Schools $15,702*	98%	$3,668-$3,962	97%	$3,575-$3,977	84%	$2,426-$3,612	34%	$1,610-$2,862
Junior Colleges $14,858*	99%	$3,567-$4,022	97%	$3,444-$4,005	82%	$2,207-$3,427	22%	$1,005-$2,104
PA Community Colleges $3,782*	98%	$946-$1,506	89%	$895-$1,461	42%	$669-$1,236	8%	$480-$995
Nursing Schools $11,737*	99%	$3,030-$3,668	94%	$2,589-$3,470	59%	$1,867-$3,018	14%	$1,126-$1,681
Business, Trade or Technical Schools $13,247*	99%	$3,482-$3,851	84%	$3,307-$3,833	43%	$2,053-$3,263	13%	$1,127-$2,290

Data from 2011-2012 State Grant Statistics tape created April 20, 2012

* The percentage shown is a chart of applicants at each income level who may qualify. Your actual award eligibility will vary depending on your family's actual financial and non-financial circumstances.

NOTE: For the most up-to-date information on the Pennsylvania State Grant, visit PHEAA.org.

SPECIAL STATE AID PROGRAMS

PHEAA administers a number of financial aid programs, some in partnership with other state agencies, which can assist you with meeting college costs.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PROGRAMS:

- Be a **Pennsylvania resident**.
- Be a **graduate of an approved high school**, the **recipient of a GED** or have completed an **approved home school program**.
- Attend an **eligible postsecondary school**.
- **Not be in default** of a federal student loan.
- File a **FAFSA** and apply for a **PA State Grant**.*
- Meet **minimum enrollment status** required of program.
- Maintain **satisfactory academic progress** in program of study.

Some of these programs also require that you have a financial need. Details on these and other eligibility criteria can be found under Funding Opportunities at PHEAA.org.

* PA-Tip does not require a PA State Grant Application.

PARTNERSHIPS FOR ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION (PATH) PROGRAM

The PATH Program partners with nonprofit organizations that provide scholarships to eligible, needy students. These scholarships have the potential to be matched by PHEAA on a dollar-for-dollar basis. To be eligible to receive a PATH Grant, you must first be awarded a scholarship or grant by a participating PATH partner. **NOTE**: A list of participating PATH partners is available at PHEAA.org.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for a PATH scholarship, complete the FAFSA and contact a participating PATH organization in your area. For more information, visit PHEAA.org or contact PATH staff at path@pheaa.org.

continued >

Special State Aid
Federal Aid
Loans and Repayment
Online Resources
Best Jobs

SPECIAL STATE AID PROGRAMS
continued

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL GRATUITY PROGRAM (PEGP)

This program assists birth or adoptive children of Pennsylvania police officers, firefighters, rescue and ambulance squad members, corrections employees, and National Guard members who died in the line of duty since January 1, 1976. The program also includes the birth and adoptive children of Pennsylvania sheriffs and deputy sheriffs who have died in the line of duty since September 11, 2001, and National Guard members and certain other individuals who were on federal or state active military duty, were Pennsylvania residents and who died in the line of duty since September 11, 2001.

This program covers all institutional charges for tuition, fees, room and board not covered by other grants and scholarships at a Pennsylvania community college, state-owned or state-related postsecondary institution.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, provide a completed application, a certified copy of your birth certificate or adoption record and a copy of the letter of admission to an eligible school. Download an application at PHEAA.org. You may also contact PHEAA at **800.692.7392** or email PEGP staff at pegp@pheaa.org.

PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL GUARD EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP)

In cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA), PHEAA jointly administers the EAP for members of the Pennsylvania National Guard. This program provides tuition assistance for students who enter into a service commitment with the Pennsylvania National Guard, typically for a period of 6 years.

MAXIMUM EAP AWARDS:

- **FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS** – Either actual tuition charged for the full-time course of study, or 100% of tuition charged to a Pennsylvania resident studying full-time at a state-owned university, whichever is less
- **PART-TIME UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS** – Either actual tuition charged for the part-time course of study, or two-thirds of the full-time tuition charged to a Pennsylvania resident at a state-owned university, whichever is less
- **PART-TIME GRADUATE STUDENTS** (or those who already hold a Bachelor's degree) - Either one-half of the actual tuition charged for the part-time course of study, or one-third of the full-time tuition charged to a Pennsylvania resident at a state-owned university, whichever is less

HOW TO APPLY

Active members of the Pennsylvania National Guard may obtain an application from their **individual unit of assignment**. Additional information can be obtained from your local **National Guard recruiting office** or by calling the Pennsylvania National Guard at **800.GO.GUARD**. To view the status of your EAP application, sign into Account Access at PHEAA.org.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE WORK-STUDY PROGRAM (SWSP)

Through the State Work-Study Program (SWSP), Pennsylvania students can gain career-related, on-the-job work experience while earning money to help pay for higher education. Students may work up to 40 hours per week.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, download an application/placement form at PHEAA.org. For additional information, you may contact the financial aid office or student employment office at the school you plan to attend or email SWSP staff at matchingfunds@pheaa.org. To view the status of your SWSP application, sign into Account Access at PHEAA.org.

BLIND OR DEAF BENEFICIARY GRANT PROGRAM

Blind or deaf students who are residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania may apply for funds to help defray the necessary expenses of postsecondary education. Students who are blind or deaf and are enrolled at least half-time at a postsecondary school and maintain satisfactory academic progress (as defined by the school) may apply for these funds. The maximum award is $500 per year.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, download an application form at PHEAA.org. You may also contact PHEAA at **800.692.7392** or email Blind or Deaf Beneficiary Grant Program staff at bdbg@pheaa.org.

PENNSYLVANIA TARGETED INDUSTRY PROGRAM (PA-TIP)

This program provides need-based awards to students pursing eligible courses of study at approved schools.

PA-TIP is administered by PHEAA and provides awards to students enrolled in programs in the following career areas:

- Energy
- Advanced Materials and Diversified Manufacturing
- Agriculture and Food Production

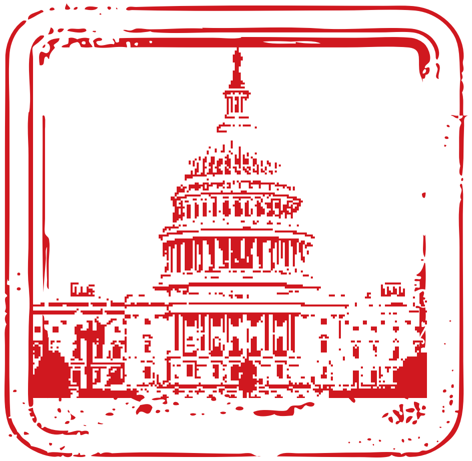
PA-TIP provides need-based awards up to the equivalent of the maximum State Grant award or 75% of the allowable program costs, whichever is less, per award year. Awards can be used to cover tuition, fees, books, supplies and specific living expenses.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, download an application form at PHEAA.org. You may also contact PHEAA at **800.692.7392** or email PA-TIP staff at patip@pheaa.org.

FEDERAL AID PROGRAMS

Each year, the federal government offers financial aid programs for students and families. Federal aid programs are supported by federal funding and are subject to federal budget appropriations.



FEDERAL PELL GRANT

- If you qualify for a Pell Grant, you may receive between $569 and $5,550 (in 2012-2013) depending on your family income, cost of education and enrollment status.
- All other need-based financial assistance will be awarded after your Pell Grant has been determined.
- The federal government may revise the amount available for the Pell Grant each year.
- Eligibility is limited to 12 semesters, or the equivalent of 12 semesters of full-time enrollment, as defined by the U.S. Department of Education.

FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (FSEOG)

- Annual awards range from $100 to $4,000 for undergraduate students.
- Priority is given to students who receive Federal Pell Grants.
- The amount of an eligible student's award depends on the amount of funding available at each school and the school's policies for awarding aid.
- The federal government may revise the amount available for the FSEOG.

FEDERAL PERKINS LOAN

- You may qualify to borrow up to $5,500 annually as an undergraduate student, with a 5% annual interest rate and up to 10 years to repay your loan.
- Graduate students may borrow up to $8,000 per year.
- The amount awarded to an eligible student is dependent upon the funds available at the school and the school's policies for awarding aid.

To apply for a Federal Pell Grant, a FSEOG or a Federal Perkins Loan, you must file a FAFSA (PHEAA.org/FAFSA or FAFSA.gov). For more information, visit studentaid.ed.gov.

PENNSYLVANIA CHAFEE EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM

The Pennsylvania Chafee Education and Training Grant Program provides grant assistance to Pennsylvania undergraduate students aging out of foster care who are attending a postsecondary institution approved for Federal Title IV student financial assistance programs. Maximum awards under this program are determined each year and were $2,500 during 2011-2012. However, no award may exceed the student's cost of attendance minus other financial aid the student is receiving. Awards are contingent upon federal funding and are not guaranteed.

For specific eligibility requirements and to download an application, visit PHEAA.org. For more information, email paetg@pheaa.org.

TEACHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOR COLLEGE AND HIGHER EDUCATION (TEACH) GRANT

Students who intend to teach in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves students from low-income families may receive a TEACH Grant up to $4,000 per year. In exchange for the TEACH Grant, you must agree to work as a full-time teacher in a high-need field for at least 4 academic years within 8 calendar years from the date you complete the program of study for which you received a TEACH Grant. If you fail to complete this service, the TEACH Grant will convert to a Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan that must be repaid. You will be charged interest from the date the TEACH Grant is disbursed.

Not all schools participate in the TEACH Grant Program. For more information, including specific eligibility requirements, visit studentaid.ed.gov.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Several federal government-sponsored programs are commonly available to students with special circumstances.

- A student whose parent or guardian was a member of the U.S. Armed Forces and died as a result of service performed in Iraq or Afghanistan after September 11, 2001 may be eligible to receive the Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant. For more information, visit studentaid.ed.gov.
- The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA) Program provides benefits to students who have a parent who has a permanent disability or died as a result of service in the U.S. Armed Forces. For more information, call your local Veterans Service Division of the Veterans Administration Office.
- The Vocational Rehabilitation Program provides student aid for students with hearing, sight and other disabilities. For more information, call your local Vocational Rehabilitation Office.

continued >

FEDERAL AID PROGRAMS continued

FEDERAL WORK-STUDY PROGRAM (FWSP)

- The FWSP provides job opportunities for financially needy students.
- Students can generally work between 10-20 hours per week during the academic year and up to 40 hours per week during the summer.
- The hourly rate is at least the federal or state minimum wage, whichever is greater, and may be higher depending on the required job skills.
- Colleges try to arrange for jobs that correspond to your academic or career interests.
- The amount awarded to an eligible student is dependent upon the funds available at the school and the school's policies for awarding aid.

NOTES:

FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM

All Federal Stafford and PLUS Loans are made through the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program. Direct Loans are low-interest loans for students and parents to help pay for the cost of a student's education after high school. The lender is the U.S. Department of Education.

The Direct Loan Program offers the following types of loans: Direct Subsidized Stafford Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans and Direct PLUS Loans. To be eligible, students must be enrolled at least half-time and must meet general eligibility requirements.

DIRECT STAFFORD LOANS

Direct Stafford Loans are for undergraduate, graduate and professional degree students. A Direct Stafford Loan is the best way to pay for college after scholarships, grants and work-study.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:*

- Complete a FAFSA for the appropriate award year.
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Be accepted for enrollment at a participating school or enrolled in an eligible program at a participating school and be making satisfactory academic progress.
- Maintain at least a half-time enrollment status in a degree or certificate program.
- Not be in default on any education loan.
- Be registered with Selective Service, if you are a male 18-25 years old. Failure to register by age 26 may result in permanent loss of federal student aid eligibility. Visit www.sss.gov.

* For additional requirements, visit studentaid.ed.gov or speak to your financial aid administrator.

continued >

Getting Started
Timeline
CO$T?
Financial Aid
Independent Students
Financial Aid Award
PA State Grant
Special State Aid
Federal Aid

FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM continued

DIRECT SUBSIDIZED STAFFORD LOANS

- The federal government will pay the interest on this loan for undergraduate study while you are in school, and during any authorized periods of deferments after repayment has begun.
- You must meet the criteria for financial need in order to qualify for the interest subsidy benefits.

DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED STAFFORD LOANS

- You are responsible for the interest on this type of loan from the date it is disbursed, including interest that accrues during periods of deferment and forbearance. You have the option of paying the interest while you are in school and during your grace period, or you may have the interest capitalized (added to your principal loan balance). **NOTE:** Grace is the period before the first payment on a loan is due. Not all loans include a grace period. For those that do, grace is typically 6 months.
- This type of loan is limited to your total Cost of Attendance (COA) minus other student aid you may receive, including any Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan, up to the annual maximum loan limits described on the following page. The Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan may be used to replace your EFC.

COST OF ATTENDANCE

- Federal Pell Grant (if eligible)
- Subsidized Stafford Loan (if eligible)
- Any other financial aid

= Amount of Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan (up to the annual max loan limits)

HOW TO APPLY FOR A DIRECT STAFFORD LOAN

- Complete a FAFSA.
- Complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN) online at studentloans.gov.

THE **MAXIMUM DIRECT STAFFORD LOAN LIMITS** FOR WHICH YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE ARE ILLUSTRATED IN THE FOLLOWING CHART:

DEPENDENT UNDERGRADUATES (Does not include students whose parents are unable to borrow under the PLUS program.)	ANNUAL LOAN LIMITS	
First year	**$5,500** of which no more than	**$3,500** may be subsidized
Second year	**$6,500** of which no more than	**$4,500** may be subsidized
Third year and beyond	**$7,500** of which no more than	**$5,500** may be subsidized
INDEPENDENT UNDERGRADUATES (And dependent students whose parents are unable to borrow under the PLUS program.)	**ANNUAL LOAN LIMITS**	
First year	**$9,500** of which no more than	**$3,500** may be subsidized
Second year	**$10,500** of which no more than	**$4,500** may be subsidized
Third year and beyond	**$12,500** of which no more than	**$5,500** may be subsidized
Graduate/professional students	**$20,500** all of which is unsubsidized	
AGGREGATE LIMITS		
DEPENDENT UNDERGRADUATES	**$31,000** of which no more than	**$23,000** may be subsidized
INDEPENDENT UNDERGRADUATES (And dependent students whose parents are unable to borrow under the PLUS program.)	**$57,500** of which no more than	**$23,000** may be subsidized
Graduate/professional students	**$138,500** of which no more than	**$65,500** may be subsidized*

* As of July 1, Graduate/Professional students will no longer be able to receive subsidized loans.

- Certain health profession students may qualify for higher limits.
- Undergraduate annual loan limits are subject to prorating if your program of study or final period of enrollment is less than an academic year in length.
- If you do not meet the financial need requirements to receive a Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan or have reached the aggregate limit in subsidized loans, you may receive up to this entire annual or aggregate amount in Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, assuming you have remaining eligibility for the loan(s).

continued >

Federal Aid
Loans and Repayment
Online Resources
Best Jobs

FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM continued

DIRECT STAFFORD LOAN INTEREST RATES*

- Direct Subsidized Stafford Loans for undergraduate borrowers have a fixed interest rate of 3.4% (through June 30, 2013). Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans for undergraduate and graduate borrowers have a fixed interest rate of 6.8%. (Graduate borrowers are not eligible to receive Direct Subsidized Stafford Loans after July 1, 2012.)
- There is a 1.0% origination fee for both Direct Unsubsidized and Subsidized Stafford Loans.

* Interest rates are subject to change by Congress. Check with your financial aid office for the most current information.

HOW MUCH CAN YOU BORROW?

The following examples demonstrate how eligibility will be determined for Direct Stafford Loans for two first-year dependent students whose parents are eligible to borrow a Direct PLUS Loan.

	EXAMPLE #1	EXAMPLE #2
Student Budget	$18,000	$18,000
Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	– $2,200	– $9,500
Financial Need	= $15,800	= $8,500
Grants & Scholarships	– $9,000	– $1,500
REMAINING NEED	= $6,800	= $7,000
Total Approved Subsidized Loan	$3,500 *	$3,500 *
Total Approved Unsubsidized Loan	$ 2,000 **	$2,000 **

* This amount represents the maximum base Direct Stafford Loan a student can receive their first year of school. The remaining need may be financed with Direct PLUS Loans or private loans.

** This amount represents the maximum additional Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan that a dependent student, whose parent(s) is eligible to borrow a Direct PLUS Loan, may borrow. The remaining need or cost of attendance may be financed with Direct PLUS Loans or private loans.

DIRECT PLUS LOANS

Parents of dependent students, as well as students pursuing a graduate or professional degree, can borrow from the **Direct PLUS Loan Program**.

A DIRECT PLUS LOAN FOR PARENTS IS GENERALLY THE BEST LOAN FOR PARENTS OF DEPENDENT, UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS WHO WANT TO HELP PAY FOR THEIR CHILDRENS' EDUCATION.

PARENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS*:

- Be the **student's natural parent, adoptive parent** or a **stepparent** whose data would be required on the **FAFSA**.
- Be a **U.S. citizen** or **eligible non-citizen**.
- Have **no education loans in default** or **owe an overpayment** on an educational grant.
- Have **no adverse credit history**. (A credit check will be conducted.)**

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS*:

For a parent to borrow a Direct PLUS Loan, the student MUST:

- Be a **dependent student**. (Parents of independent students are not eligible.) **NOTE:** Dependency criteria for federal financial aid purposes are different from dependency criteria used by the IRS.
- Be **enrolled in an eligible undergraduate certificate** or **degree-granting program**, making satisfactory academic progress.
- Complete the **FAFSA**.
- Be a **U.S. citizen** or **eligible non-citizen**.
- Be **enrolled at least half-time** while working toward a degree or certificate.
- Have **no education loans in default** or **owe educational grant refunds**.
- Register with the Selective Service, if dependent student is a male 18-25 years old. (Failure to register by age 26 may result in a permanent loss of federal student aid eligibility. Visit www.sss.gov.)

* For additional requirements, visit **studentloans.gov** or speak to your financial aid administrator.

** If you have an adverse credit history, you may obtain a Direct PLUS Loan for parents only if you document to the U.S. Department of Education's satisfaction that there are extenuating circumstances related to your adverse credit history or you have an endorser who does not have an adverse credit history. You are responsible for all of the interest on the loan from the date it is disbursed, including interest that accrues during periods of deferment and forbearance.

continued >

FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM continued

A GRADUATE PLUS LOAN IS GENERALLY THE BEST WAY FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS TO FILL THE GAP BETWEEN FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOOL COSTS.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS*:

- Complete the **FAFSA**.
- Be a **U.S. citizen** or **eligible non-citizen**.
- Be **enrolled in an eligible certificate** or **degree-granting program**, making satisfactory academic progress.
- Be **enrolled at least half-time**.
- Be **enrolled in an eligible program** of **study beyond a bachelor's degree**, taking graduate level courses leading to a master's or doctorate degree or professional certification (excluding teacher certification).
- Have **no federal education loans in default**.
- Have **no adverse credit history**. (A credit check will be conducted.)**
- **Register with the Selective Service**, if you are a male 18-25 years old. (Failure to register by age 26 may result in a permanent loss of federal student aid eligibility. Visit www.sss.gov.)

* For additional requirements, visit studentloans.gov or speak to your financial aid administrator.

** If you have an adverse credit history, you may obtain a Direct PLUS Loan for graduate students only if you document to the U.S. Department of Education's satisfaction that there are extenuating circumstances related to your adverse credit history or you have an endorser who does not have an adverse credit history. You are responsible for all of the interest on the loan from the date it is disbursed, including interest that accrues during periods of deferment and forbearance.

DIRECT PLUS LOAN INTEREST RATES

- PLUS Loans for parents and graduate students have a current fixed interest rate of 7.9%.
- There is a 4.0% origination fee.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A DIRECT PLUS LOAN:

- You must complete a Federal Direct PLUS Loan application and Master Promissory Note (MPN) the first time you request a Direct PLUS Loan.
- You may obtain the MPN online at studentloans.gov.

The Direct PLUS Loan may not exceed the cost of attendance minus the student's estimated financial assistance for the loan period.

LOAN REPAYMENT

PAYING BACK YOUR DIRECT STAFFORD LOAN

- When you apply for a student loan, your signed Master Promissory Note (MPN) is a legally binding contract that lists the terms and conditions under which you agree to pay back the loan.
- You begin repayment on your Direct Stafford Loan after you drop below half-time status (whether through graduation, withdrawal, dismissal, dropped classes, or other reasons) at an approved school.
- Generally, you will receive a 6-month grace period before your first monthly payment is due. Deferments and forbearance may be available if you are unable to make your monthly payments. Details on deferring repayment are provided on the MPN.
- You are responsible for paying all interest that accrues during the grace period and during periods of forbearance and deferment on a Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan. You are also responsible for paying interest that accrues during periods of forbearance and during the grace period on all Direct Subsidized Stafford Loans.
- Repayment options vary depending on your individual circumstances.
- You should contact your loan servicer immediately if you are unable to make a payment or if you would like to lower your monthly payment.
- You should contact your loan servicer immediately if you are unable to make a payment.
- Obtain information about your Direct Loans and your servicer from the National Student Loan Data System for Students (NSLDS) nslds.ed.gov.

continued >

Getting Started
Timeline
CO$T?
Financial Aid
Independent Students
Financial Aid Award
PA State Grant
Special State Aid
Federal Aid
Loans and Repayment

LOAN REPAYMENT continued

PAYING BACK YOUR DIRECT PLUS LOAN

- When you apply for a Direct PLUS Loan, your signed Federal Direct PLUS Loan application and Master Promissory Note (MPN) is a legally binding contract that lists the terms and conditions under which you agree to pay back the loan.
- Your Direct PLUS Loan enters repayment after the final disbursement is made on the loan.
- Your loan may be placed on an in-school deferment while you are, or your dependent student is, enrolled at least half-time. **NOTE:** Parents who borrow a Direct PLUS Loan must contact the servicer to request this deferment.
- Direct PLUS Loans for graduate students may be placed on a post-enrollment grace period. Direct PLUS Loans for parents may be placed on a post-enrollment deferment for 6 months beginning on the day after the dependent student for whom you borrowed the Direct PLUS Loan ceases to be enrolled on at least a half-time basis, as determined by the school. You must contact your loan servicer to request this deferment.
- You are responsible for paying all interest that accrues on the loan from the first disbursement date, including interest that accrues during periods of deferment and forbearance.
- You have the option of paying the interest while you are (or your dependent student is) in school or you may have the interest capitalized (added to your principal loan balance).
- You should contact your loan servicer immediately if you are unable to make a payment.
- Obtain information about your Direct Loans and your servicer from the National Student Loan Data System for Students (NSLDS) nslds.ed.gov.

NOTES:

DIRECT LOAN REPAYMENT OPTIONS

REPAYMENT PLAN	MONTHLY PAYMENT	REPAYMENT TIME FRAME	ADDITIONAL INFO
Level (Standard)	Fixed; must be at least $50/month	Fixed payments for up to 10 years	This plan is standard, unless another option is requested.
Graduated	Payments are initially lower and then increase later in the repayment schedule	Variable payments for up to 10 years	This plan is designed for borrowers who anticipate making more money as they progress in their careers.
Extended	Fixed or graduated	Up to 25 years	Available for borrowers with a minimum outstanding loan balance of $30,000 or more. All loans must be disbursed after October 7, 1998.
Income-Based Repayment (IBR)	Capped at 15% of borrower's income	After 25 years of repayment, unpaid portion of loan will be forgiven	Must have a partial financial hardship to enroll. May have to pay income tax on the amount that is forgiven. Not available for Private Loans, Parent PLUS Loans, or Consolidation Loans that repaid Parent PLUS Loans. Must provide annual documentation.
Income-Contingent Repayment (ICR)	Calculated annually; based on annual income (and that of your spouse, if married), family size, and the total amount of loans	After 25 years of repayment, unpaid portion of loan will be forgiven	May have to pay income tax on the amount that is forgiven. Not available for Parent PLUS Loans. Must provide annual documentation.

Visit our debt management website, YouCanDealWithIt.com, for more details about these repayment options.

continued >

NON-FEDERAL ALTERNATIVE OR PRIVATE EDUCATION LOANS

Many lenders offer loans outside the federal loan program called "alternative" or "private" education loans. These loans allow you to borrow money to cover the gap between the cost of your education and the amount of financial aid you receive. Because alternative or private loans can have higher interest rates, you should consider them only after you've exhausted all other sources of funding.

Loans and Repayment
Online Resources
Best Jobs

LOAN REPAYMENT continued

CONSOLIDATION

A borrower can combine multiple federal student loans with various repayment schedules into a Direct Consolidation Loan. The result is a single monthly payment. There are pros and cons to loan consolidation. Carefully review your options and talk to your loan servicer for more information before you apply. (A parent may not consolidate their Direct PLUS Loan with a student's federal loans.)

FEDERAL TEACHER LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

The Federal Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program is intended to encourage individuals to enter and continue in the teaching profession. Under this program, individuals who have taught full-time for 5 consecutive, complete academic years in certain elementary and secondary schools that serve low-income families and who meet other qualifications may be eligible for forgiveness of up to a combined total of $5,000 ($17,500 for certain highly qualified mathematics, science, and special education teachers of children with disabilities) of their Direct Loan and/or Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) loans. For more information, visit studentloans.gov.

PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS (PSLF) PROGRAM

In 2007, Congress created the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program to encourage individuals to enter and continue to work full-time in public service jobs. Under this program, you may qualify for forgiveness of the remaining balance due on your eligible federal student loans after you have made 120 qualifying payments on those loans under certain repayment plans while employed full time by certain public service employers. Since you must make 120 monthly payments on your eligible federal student loans after October 1, 2007 before you qualify for the loan forgiveness, the first cancellations of loan balances will not be granted until October 2017. For more information, visit studentloans.gov or MyFedLoan.org/PSLF.

HIGHER EDUCATION TAX BENEFITS

There are numerous tax benefits available to students and parents of dependent students who are pursuing higher education, including the American Opportunity and Lifetime Learning Credits. For information about tax benefits for education, please refer to IRS Publication 970 at www.IRS.gov, or consult with your tax professional.

ONLINE RESOURCES

PHEAA.org

This is the first stop for Pennsylvania residents who are looking for ways to finance their higher education. Get detailed information and applications online for Pennsylvania's grant, scholarship, work-study, and loan forgiveness programs. You can also check on the status of your applications by using Account Access to view your personal information.

For information on the higher education financial aid process, schedules for upcoming financial aid nights and FAFSA Completion Sessions, reminders of financial aid deadlines, and video clips offering tips and information pertaining to planning for higher education, students can join PHEAA on Facebook at facebook.com/pheaa.aid.

EducationPlanner.org

EducationPlanner.org is your one-stop career and college planning site.

- **Identify Your Skills** using our self-assessment & career exploration tools.
- **Find Careers** with the best search tools on the Internet.
- **Master Standardized Tests** by accessing sample test questions and practice tests.
- **Choose a School** with practical resources that can help make your decision easier.
- **Search for Grants** and scholarships and explore even more ways to pay.

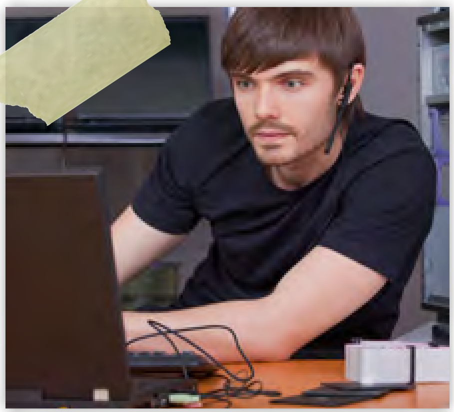
YouCanDealWithIt.com

The financial future of college students and recent graduates is the focus of our innovative debt management website. YouCanDealWithIt.com offers a comprehensive guide to decisions and situations that college students will soon encounter, such as money management, student loan repayment options, budgeting, and the benefits and dangers of credit cards.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

PHEAA's eCommunications Center provides online visitors with access to Pennsylvania-based customer service representatives for web support. Contact the eCommunications Center by calling **800.233.0557** or by clicking the "Contact Us" link at PHEAA.org.

BEST JOBS FOR FAST GROWTH*



1. **SOFTWARE DEVELOPER**
   Median pay: $82,400
   Top pay: $118,000
   Total jobs: 380,000

2. **PHYSICAL THERAPIST**
   Median pay: $75,900
   Top pay: $97,800
   Total jobs: 190,000

3. **FINANCIAL ADVISOR**
   Median pay: $93,900
   Top pay: $234,000
   Total jobs: 70,000

4. **CIVIL ENGINEER**
   Median pay: $74,700
   Top pay: $110,000
   Total jobs: 170,000

5. **MARKETING SPECIALIST**
   Median pay: $52,200
   Top pay: $79,400
   Total jobs: 90,000

6. **MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT**
   Median pay: $111,000
   Top pay: $200,000
   Total jobs: 120,000

7. **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANT**
   Median pay: $96,500
   Top pay: $154,000
   Total jobs: 70,000

8. **DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR**
   Median pay: $86,600
   Top pay: $121,000
   Total jobs: 120,000

9. **FINANCIAL ANALYST**
   Median pay: $62,600
   Top pay: $91,700
   Total jobs: 250,000

10. **ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER**
    Median pay: $81,200
    Top pay: $113,000
    Total jobs: 50,000

* Taken from CNN Money, Best Jobs in America 2011

NOTES:

Created in 1963 by the Pennsylvania General Assembly, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) has evolved into one of the nation's leading student aid organizations. Today, PHEAA is a national provider of student financial aid services, serving millions of students and thousands of schools through its loan guaranty, loan servicing, financial aid processing, outreach and other student aid programs. PHEAA's earnings are used to support its public service mission and to pay its operating costs, including administration of the Pennsylvania State Grant and other state-funded student aid programs. PHEAA continues to devote its energy, resources and imagination to developing innovative ways to ease the financial burden of higher education for students, families, schools, and taxpayers. PHEAA conducts its student loan servicing activities nationally as American Education Services (AES) and FedLoan Servicing.

PHEAA.org

FACEBOOK.COM/PHEAA.AID

For the latest financial aid information that you need to know, including student aid tips, upcoming deadlines and free financial aid workshops, join us on Facebook.

PHEAA

PENNSYLVANIA HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AGENCY
1200 North Seventh Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102-1444

RG-SGPPE
070112