



Service to our country has always been considered service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

For that reason, veterans, service members, and their families have traditionally received special consideration through many state financial aid programs. Access to a postsecondary education can open doors to career opportunities not available to high school graduates or those with only military training and experience.

Board of Directors (As of 4/11/23)

Senator Wayne D. Fontana
Chairman, Allegheny

Representative Steven C. Mentzer
Vice Chairman, Lancaster

Senator Ryan P. Aument
Lancaster

Senator Camera Bartolotta
Washington

Senator James R. Brewster
Allegheny

Representative Sheryl M. Delozier
Cumberland

Senator Arthur Haywood
Montgomery/Philadelphia

Senator Vincent J. Hughes
Montgomery/Philadelphia

Representative Aaron D. Kaufer
Kingston

Senator Daniel Laughlin
Erie

Representative Maureen E. Madden
Monroe

Representative Jennifer O'Mara
Delaware

Senator Lynda Schlegel Culver
Northumberland

Dr. Jonathan D. Green
Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove

Ms. Ava Willis-Barksdale
Lincoln University

Dr. Khalid Mumin
Acting Secretary, PA Dept.
of Education

House Democratic Appointee
Vacant

House Democratic Appointee
Vacant

House Republican Appointee
Vacant

Governor Appointee
Vacant

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) was created by the Pennsylvania General Assembly in 1963 to provide affordable access to higher education for PA students and families. Through the years, PHEAA has evolved into one of the nation's leading providers of student financial aid services, including the Commonwealth's state-based student loan program—PA Forward. PHEAA also serves millions of students through guaranty, servicing, financial aid processing, and other programs.

PHEAA's earnings are used to support the Agency's public service mission and to pay operating costs, including the administration of the PA State Grant Program and other state-funded student aid programs. This contribution from PHEAA saves the Commonwealth millions of dollars each year. PHEAA continues to devote energy, resources, and imagination to developing innovative ways to ease the financial burden of higher education for students, families, schools, and taxpayers.

PHEAA conducts student loan servicing operations nationally as American Education Services (AES).

pheaa.org



Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency

These materials have been developed and paid for by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA). The information contained in this document is believed to be accurate at the time of publication. Copyright © PHEAA, 2023. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GR-VETSB 050423



PA Military Student Aid Programs

Providing financial aid to
veterans, service members,
and their families



Military Families

PA National Guard Military Family Education Program

Launched in the 2020-21 Academic Year, the PA National Guard Military Family Education Program (MFEP) is an educational grant program benefitting the family members of eligible PA National Guard (PANG) service members or eligible former members who enter into an additional 6-year service agreement with the PANG.

The maximum MFEP award is determined each year using the annual in-state tuition rate plus technology fee charged at a PA State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) school. The MFEP grant can be used for a degree-granting curriculum, a certificate-granting course of study, or training programs required for entrance into a specific career, for up to 5 academic years. The PA Guard Member can assign the entire benefit to one dependent or a portion of the benefit to more than one dependent.

Applications may be submitted through Account Access on pheaa.org. For more information, visit pheaa.org/mfep or contact the PA National Guard at 1-800-GO-GUARD.

PA Postsecondary Educational Gratuities Program

This program assists birth or adoptive children of PA 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 through a tuition waiver. PA Postsecondary Educational Gratuities Program (PEGP) recipients also include the birth and adoptive children of sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, National Guard members, or other individuals who were on federal or state active military duty and died after September 11, 2001, as a direct result of performing their official duties. First-time applicants must be 25 years of age or younger. Legislation was amended in 2006 to include service members or airmen who were killed or who died as a result of injuries while in federal or state active duty. A spouse may receive the benefit up to 10 years after their member's death. These programs waive cost of attendance not covered by other grants and scholarships at Pennsylvania community colleges, state-owned universities, and state-related postsecondary institutions.

To apply online and find more information about PEGP, visit pheaa.org/pegp.

National Guard Service Members

PA National Guard Educational Assistance Program

In cooperation with the PA Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA), PHEAA jointly administers PA National Guard Educational Assistance Program (EAP) for members of the PANG. This program provides financial assistance for students who enter into a 6-year service commitment with PANG.

Recipients must attend a Pennsylvania school, enroll in an approved program of study, and maintain at least part-time enrollment. Students with a bachelor's degree can still be eligible for a part-time award toward another credential. The maximum EAP benefit is determined each year using the annual tuition rate, which is defined as the in-state tuition plus technology fee charged at a PASSHE school.

Applications may be submitted through Account Access on pheaa.org. For more information, visit pheaa.org/eap or contact the PA National Guard at 1-800-GO-GUARD.

Veterans

PA State Grant Program

The PA State Grant Program provides grants to eligible Pennsylvania residents who are in need of financial aid so that they can attend an approved postsecondary institution. Recipients must be undergraduate students who have not received a bachelor's degree and who enroll at least half time in a program of study that is at least 2 academic years in length. PA State Grants are also available to students who enroll in summer sessions.

If a student meets the veteran status requirements, they will be automatically considered for the highest award amount possible based on the postsecondary institution's allowable college costs.

To apply online and find more information about the PA State Grant Program, visit pheaa.org/StateGrant.

PA Targeted Industry Program

The PA Targeted Industry Program (PA-TIP) provides need-based awards to students enrolled in short-term programs in the following career areas: energy, health, advanced materials and diversified manufacturing, and agriculture and food production fields. Students cannot receive both a PA State Grant and a PA-TIP award for the same program of study.

The veteran awarding process for PA-TIP automatically considers the student for the highest PA-TIP amount possible based on the costs reported by the postsecondary institution.

To apply online and find more information about PA-TIP, visit pheaa.org/PATip.

Questions?

Check out the Funding Opportunities section of pheaa.org for more information on PHEAA-administered programs.

You can also contact PHEAA staff at 1-800-692-7392.

