

The PA State Grant Program provides grants to eligible Pennsylvania residents in need of financial assistance to help them afford the costs of higher education. A grant is a financial aid award that you do not have to repay, provided you meet the eligibility requirements.

PHEAA administers the PA State Grant Program at no cost to taxpayers, ensuring that every dollar appropriated to the program goes directly to students.

To date, PHEAA has awarded more than **\$11 BILLION** to help students meet the cost of higher education.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A PA STATE GRANT

1 File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)

The FAFSA is the most important application to complete for almost all types of financial aid, including the PA State Grant! The FAFSA is available October 1 for the upcoming award year. The deadlines for filing the FAFSA for PA State Grant purposes are as follows:

▼ FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS

May 1 — If you plan to enroll in a degree program or a college transferable program at a 2-year college or other college or university (excludes community colleges and designated Pennsylvania Open-Admission Institutions), you must submit the FAFSA and the PA State Grant Form (SGF).

August 1 — If you plan to enroll in a community college; a designated Pennsylvania Open-Admission Institution; 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 SGF.

▼ RENEWAL APPLICANTS

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

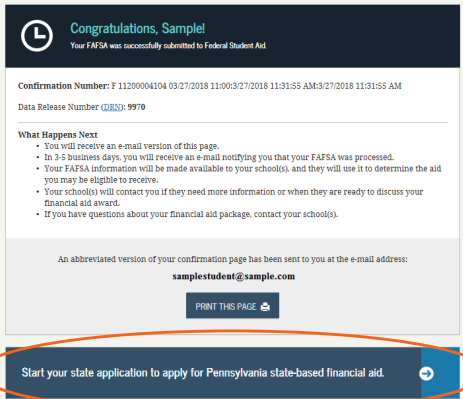
NOTE: Most renewal students are not required to complete the SGF.

▼ SUMMER-TERM APPLICANTS

August 15 — You must submit the online Summer PA State Grant application. If this is not already on file, you must also submit the FAFSA and, if required, the SGF.

2 Complete the PA State Grant Form (SGF)

We recommend that you complete the SGF immediately after filing the FAFSA online, by clicking the link to the SGF on the FAFSA confirmation page.



If you've already submitted your FAFSA and missed the direct link, you may need to wait 24–48 hours before you can complete the SGF online. You will receive an email directing you to the American Education Services (AES) website to complete the SGF.

3 Monitor and Manage Your Account

After you apply, be on the look for possible communications from PHEAA regarding your application.

You can also sign in to Account Access to check the status of your application, make changes, and manage your account information at any time. Account Access is PHEAA's online student portal, which is housed on aesSuccess.org.

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

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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, grant administration, outreach, and other student aid programs.

PHEAA's earnings are used to support its public service mission and to pay its operating costs, including the 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 FedLoan Servicing and American Education Services (AES).

PHEAA.org



These materials have been developed and paid for by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) for informational purposes. Although the information contained in this document is believed to be accurate at the time of printing, PHEAA does not guarantee its accuracy. You should independently verify that this information is correct.

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PA { **STATE GRANT PROGRAM**



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A PA State Grant is based on financial need; however, you must also meet all other requirements to qualify for a PA State Grant award.

- ☐ Be a high school graduate as stipulated in the PA State Grant law

☐ Attend a postsecondary school approved by PHEAA for PA State Grant purposes

☐ Be enrolled at least half time (defined as at least six semester credits but less than 12 semester credits per semester, 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 percent 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 percent of your credits or clock hours in the classroom.

» Your enrollment pattern per term must also consist of at least 50 percent classroom instruction (unless you have a documented medical disability).
- ☐ 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 PA State Grant law

☐ Be of satisfactory character (for example, not be incarcerated)

☐ Not have received the maximum number of PA 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 detail, a Rights and Responsibilities Certification Document is available at [PHEAA.org](#).

* This requirement applies to all student enrollments prior to the Fall 2018 term. Effective with the Fall 2018 term, this requirement only applies to students enrolled at institutions that are not headquartered and domiciled in Pennsylvania.

PERCENTAGE OF APPLICANTS RECEIVING PA STATE GRANT AWARDS FOR 2017-18**

Data as of May 18, 2018

NOTE: These estimates are only applicable for students enrolled in at least 50 percent classroom-based course work. Eligibility determinations may differ. Visit [PHEAA.org/StateGrant](#) for the most up-to-date information on the PA State Grant Program.

Average Tuition & Fees	PARENTS' ANNUAL INCOME			
	Under \$25,000	\$25,000 – \$49,999	\$50,000 – \$74,999	\$75,000 – \$99,999
4-Year Private Colleges \$40,646	99% \$3,592-\$4,054	98% \$3,579-\$4,027	96% \$3,410-\$4,021	64% \$2,286-\$3,547
PA State System Schools \$11,251	99% \$3,164-\$3,509	98% \$3,164-\$3,490	91% \$2,596-\$3,296	39% \$1,866-\$2,754
PA State-Related Schools \$18,244	99% \$3,269-\$3,759	97% \$3,301-\$3,720	90% \$3,199-\$3,729	42% \$3,516-\$3,772
2-Year Colleges \$17,433	99% \$3,137-\$3,772	96% \$3,116-\$3,772	83% \$3,003-\$3,596	27% \$2,217-\$3,286
PA Community Colleges - \$5,235	99% \$1,843-\$2,193	89% \$1,894-\$2,193	60% \$1,664-\$2,193	12% \$1,408-\$2,193
Nursing Schools - \$14,552	99% \$3,248-\$3,772	99% \$2,928-\$3,772	87% \$2,675-\$3,772	25% \$2,071-\$3,772
Business, Trade, or Technical Schools \$15,835	99% \$3,420-\$3,772	84% \$3,419-\$3,772	49% \$3,272-\$3,772	15% \$2,830-\$3,772

** The projected average enrollment-weighted tuition and fees are for 2018-19.

FAQS

How much can I expect to receive?

The amount of money you can expect to receive is based on available funding, your financial situation, as well as the type of school you choose to attend in Pennsylvania. Award amounts are subject to an annual review and adjustment based on the level of funding available. Due to limited resources, students enrolled in more than 50 percent distance education credits may be eligible for a reduced award.

I missed the PA State Grant deadline, now what?

Submit your FAFSA as soon as possible. We may still consider applications received after the deadline for applicants who have a loss in expected family income due to a recent (after January 1) death, disability, retirement, unemployment, divorce, or separation of a parent or spouse.

We may consider applications received after the deadline for applicants who are recently discharged veterans.

We may also consider a late application if extenuating circumstances delayed its filing. If there are no special circumstances, we will process a late PA State Grant application only if there are additional funds to continue processing.

Why must I submit both the FAFSA and the SGF?

We use the SGF to collect a few more details about you and your family that aren’t on the FAFSA. This basic information helps us determine your eligibility and financial need for the PA State Grant Program.

Can I use a PA State Grant at an out-of-state school?

PA State Grants can be used at selected schools located in states that permit their state grant funds to come to Pennsylvania. Currently, public and non-profit schools located in Delaware, Massachusetts, Ohio, Vermont, Washington DC, and West Virginia may receive PA State Grants for eligible students.

If you plan on attending a school located outside of Pennsylvania, the maximum allowable award, subject to adjustment, is \$600 for a reciprocal state, and \$800 if you meet the program’s definition of a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces.

How will I receive my PA State Grant funds?

PHEAA sends PA State Grant funds directly to your school two or three times during the school year, depending on how many terms (semesters, quarters) your school has. The school will then credit your account after first certifying your eligibility.

Why am I sent to aesSuccess.org when I try to log into Account Access on PHEAA’s website?

American Education Services ([aesSuccess.org](#)) is a division of PHEAA. It’s where we maintain Account Access, our online account management tool. You must create an account and sign in to complete the SGF online.

You may also view your PA State Grant status in Account Access.

IMPORTANT: When you create an account in Account Access, please use your name, Social Security number (SSN) and email address (not your mom’s or dad’s). For security purposes, Account Access matches your SSN with your FAFSA data to verify your identity. If you create an account using a parent’s SSN, it won’t match your FAFSA data, and you won’t be able to access the SGF online.



? For answers to more FAQs, visit [PHEAA.org](#).