

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 796 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY SOLOMON, BERNSTINE, KLUNK, MURT, SIMS, SCHLOSSBERG, HILL-EVANS, CIRESI, KEEFER, OTTEN, LAWRENCE, MARKOSEK, NEILSON, ECKER, HARRIS, COX, GLEIM AND MADDEN, MARCH 12, 2019

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, JUNE 17, 2019

AN ACT

1 Establishing the Schools-to-Work Program; and providing for
2 powers and duties of the Department of Education LABOR AND <--
3 INDUSTRY.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Schools-to-
8 Work Act.

9 Section 2. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
11 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Business." ~~An entity authorized to do business in this <--
14 Commonwealth and subject to taxes imposed under Article III, IV,
15 VI, VII, VIII, IX, XV or XX of the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6,
16 No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, or a tax under
17 Article XVI of the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known~~

1 ~~as The Insurance Company Law of 1921. The term includes a pass-~~  
2 ~~through entity, including a pass through entity the purpose of-~~  
3 ~~which is participating under this act and whose shareholders,-~~  
4 ~~partners or members are composed of owners or employees of other-~~  
5 ~~business firms.~~

6 "Department." The Department of ~~Education~~ LABOR AND INDUSTRY <--  
7 of the Commonwealth.

8 ~~"Participating partnership." A school or schools partnered <--~~  
9 ~~with one or more businesses which have been awarded a grant-~~  
10 ~~under the program.~~

11 "Program." The Schools-to-Work Program established under  
12 section 3.

13 "School." ~~A public school, including a charter school, cyber <--~~  
14 ~~charter school, intermediate unit or area vocational technical-~~  
15 ~~school, operating in a school district in this Commonwealth. A <--~~  
16 SCHOOL IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT, CHARTER SCHOOL, REGIONAL CHARTER  
17 SCHOOL, CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL, INTERMEDIATE UNIT OR CAREER AND  
18 TECHNICAL SCHOOL IN THIS COMMONWEALTH.

19 "SPONSOR." AN ENTITY WHICH IS OR WILL BE REGISTERED WITH THE  
20 DEPARTMENT AS A PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM AND WHICH WILL HAVE  
21 THE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION OF  
22 THE PROGRAM.

23 Section 3. Schools-to-Work Program.

24 (a) Establishment.--~~The Schools to Work Program is <--~~  
25 ~~established in the department to distribute grants on a-~~  
26 ~~competitive basis to schools to support the establishment or-~~  
27 ~~enhancement of partnerships with local businesses in order to-~~  
28 ~~fill current and anticipated needs for employees with necessary-~~  
29 ~~job qualifications and certifications. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, IN <--~~  
30 CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, ESTABLISH A

1 SCHOOLS-TO-WORK PROGRAM TO AWARD GRANTS ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS  
2 TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT OR ENHANCEMENT OF WORKFORCE  
3 DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN SCHOOLS, EMPLOYERS,  
4 ORGANIZATIONS OR ASSOCIATIONS TO CREATE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING  
5 PATHWAYS.

6 (b) Grant proposals. ~~---In order to apply for a grant under~~ <--  
7 ~~the program, a school must submit a grant proposal to the~~  
8 ~~department. Subject to department and school district policy, a~~  
9 ~~school may join with other schools within or outside the school~~  
10 ~~district in submitting a proposal. The proposal may provide for~~  
11 ~~partnership with one or more businesses. The proposal shall~~  
12 ~~include all of the following:~~

13 ~~(1) Participation of at least one local business.~~

14 ~~(2) Work based learning opportunities for participating~~  
15 ~~students, including workplace visits, internships,~~  
16 ~~apprenticeships, mentorships or employment opportunities.~~

17 ~~(3) Identification of the qualifications and~~  
18 ~~certifications necessary to fill current and anticipated~~  
19 ~~employment needs of the participating business.~~

20 ~~(4) Opportunities for students to earn industry~~  
21 ~~recognized qualifications and certifications.~~

22 ~~(5) Identification of additional personnel needed, if~~  
23 ~~any, in order to matriculate the number of certificate~~  
24 ~~holding and qualified students needed to fill positions~~  
25 ~~within participating businesses.~~

26 ~~(6) Description of the relationship between the~~  
27 ~~participating business and the school in creating curricula~~  
28 ~~that will lead to certification of students, apprenticeships~~  
29 ~~and jobs with participating businesses. IN ORDER TO APPLY FOR~~ <--

30 A GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM, A SPONSOR MUST SUBMIT A GRANT

1 PROPOSAL TO THE DEPARTMENT THAT INCLUDES ALL OF THE  
2 FOLLOWING:

3 (1) PARTNERSHIP WITH AT LEAST ONE SCHOOL.

4 (2) LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATING STUDENTS,  
5 INCLUDING CLASSROOM TRAINING, WORKPLACE VISITS, INTERNSHIPS,  
6 APPRENTICESHIPS, MENTORSHIPS, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES,  
7 SPECIAL EDUCATION TRANSITION, CAPSTONE COOPERATIVE EDUCATION,  
8 JOB SHADOWING OR EXTERNSHIPS.

9 (3) IDENTIFICATION OF THE QUALIFICATIONS AND  
10 CERTIFICATIONS NECESSARY TO FILL CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED  
11 REGIONAL LABOR MARKET NEEDS.

12 (4) DESCRIPTION OF OUTCOMES FROM THE SUCCESSFUL  
13 COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM, WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE ATTAINMENT  
14 OF INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED QUALIFICATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS OR  
15 COLLEGE CREDITS, AND AN EXPLANATION OF HOW COLLEGE CREDITS  
16 EARNED WILL BE TRANSCRIPTED AND TRANSFERRABLE.

17 (5) PATHWAYS FOR TRANSITION TO A REGISTERED  
18 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM OR  
19 EMPLOYMENT.

20 (6) DEMONSTRATION OF EXISTING QUALIFIED PROGRAM  
21 PERSONNEL, OR IDENTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL NEEDED,  
22 IF ANY, TO ESTABLISH OR INCREASE PROGRAM CAPACITY TO MEET OR  
23 CONTRIBUTE TOWARD MEETING CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED REGIONAL  
24 LABOR MARKET NEEDS.

25 (7) DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM CURRICULA.

26 (8) A PROGRAM BUDGET, INCLUDING THE AMOUNT OF GRANT  
27 MONEY BEING REQUESTED AND ANY ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES  
28 BEING USED FOR THE PROGRAM.

29 ~~(c) Additional information. A grant proposal may include~~ <--  
30 ~~all of the following:~~

1           ~~(1) Participation of a local work force investment~~  
2     ~~board.~~

3           ~~(2) Opportunity for students to earn college credit.~~

4           ~~(3) A commitment of private matching funds.~~

5           ~~(4) Participation of a chamber of commerce or other~~  
6     ~~similar business organization.~~

7     ~~(d)~~ (C) Priority of applications.--The department shall give <--  
8 priority to proposals that:

9           ~~(1) Demonstrate a strong need for career and technical~~ <--  
10     ~~instructors.~~

11          ~~(2) Provide internships or apprenticeships to students~~  
12     ~~from grade nine through graduation.~~

13          ~~(3) Indicate the intent of a participating business to~~  
14     ~~hire students in the program upon graduation.~~

15          ~~(4) Involve a partnership between multiple schools and~~  
16     ~~multiple businesses.~~

17          ~~(5) Demonstrate additional financial or personnel~~  
18     ~~resources that will be used as matching support, in whole or~~  
19     ~~in part, for the grant proposal.~~

20           (1) DEMONSTRATE A STRONG NEED TO BUILD NEW OR EXISTING <--  
21     PROGRAM CAPACITY TO MEET OR CONTRIBUTE TOWARD MEETING CURRENT  
22     AND ANTICIPATED REGIONAL LABOR MARKET NEEDS.

23           (2) INCORPORATE STUDENTS FROM GRADES NINE THROUGH  
24     TWELVE.

25           (3) PRIORITIZE PROGRAM COMPLETION AND TRANSITION TO  
26     POST-SECONDARY TRAINING, EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT.

27           (4) INVOLVE A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MULTIPLE SCHOOLS OR  
28     SCHOOL DISTRICTS, EMPLOYERS, ORGANIZATIONS OR ASSOCIATIONS.

29           (5) DEMONSTRATE SUSTAINABILITY BY LEVERAGING ADDITIONAL  
30     FINANCIAL OR PERSONNEL RESOURCES THAT WILL BE USED FOR THE

1 PROGRAM.

2 ~~(e) (D) Grant distribution.--The department shall award a~~ <--  
3 ~~total of eight grants under the program. No participating~~  
4 ~~partnership is eligible to receive more than two grants. Each~~  
5 ~~grant award is limited to no more than 25% of the total funds~~  
6 ~~appropriated for the program in any fiscal year. The department~~  
7 ~~shall consider geographic diversity when selecting grant~~  
8 ~~recipients.~~ THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE <--  
9 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, AWARD GRANTS UNDER THE PROGRAM. THE  
10 DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY WHEN SELECTING  
11 GRANT RECIPIENTS.

12 ~~(f) (E) Limitation.--A school may use grant money only for~~ <--  
13 ~~the purposes stated in the school's grant proposal. A school~~  
14 ~~shall return to the department any remaining grant money not~~  
15 ~~used for the program.~~

16 Section 4. Memorandum of understanding.

17 ~~A participating partnership shall execute a memorandum of~~  
18 ~~understanding that outlines the responsibilities of the~~  
19 ~~participants. The responsibilities shall include all of the~~  
20 ~~following:~~

21 ~~(1) Commitment to align high school and postsecondary~~  
22 ~~coursework with technical skills and workplace competencies~~  
23 ~~as defined by industry.~~

24 ~~(2) Meaningful work based learning opportunities for~~  
25 ~~participating students, including workplace visits,~~  
26 ~~internships, apprenticeships and mentorships.~~

27 ~~(3) Commitment to develop a scope and sequence of~~  
28 ~~courses, curricula and work based learning programs that~~  
29 ~~ensure students can earn relevant postsecondary credits or~~  
30 ~~industry certification.~~

1           ~~(4) Articulation language that ensures any postsecondary~~  
2 ~~credits earned in the program are transcribed and~~  
3 ~~transferrable.~~

4           ~~(5) If the participating partnership includes multiple~~  
5 ~~schools or businesses:~~

6                 ~~(i) Delineation of the responsibilities of each~~  
7 ~~school and business.~~

8                 ~~(ii) How grant money and resources dedicated to the~~  
9 ~~program will be divided among the participants.~~

10 ~~Section 5. Reporting requirements.~~

11         ~~(a) Schools. A school participating in the program shall be~~  
12 ~~required to report to the department data related to the~~  
13 ~~program, including all of the following:~~

14                 ~~(1) The number of students certified as a result of the~~  
15 ~~program.~~

16                 ~~(2) The number of students who secured internships or~~  
17 ~~apprenticeships with participating businesses.~~

18                 ~~(3) The number of students employed as a result of~~  
19 ~~participating in the program.~~

20                 ~~(4) A detailed description of the use of grant money,~~  
21 ~~including an itemized list of expenditures.~~

22                 ~~(5) Other data deemed relevant or necessary by the~~  
23 ~~department.~~

24         ~~(b) Annual reporting. A school shall submit a report under~~  
25 ~~subsection (a) for each year in which the school participates in~~  
26 ~~the program. GRANT MONEY MAY BE USED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSES~~         <--

27 ~~STATED IN THE GRANT PROPOSAL. ANY REMAINING GRANT MONEY NOT USED~~  
28 ~~FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE DEPARTMENT.~~

29 ~~SECTION 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.~~

30         ~~(A) REPORTS TO THE DEPARTMENT.--A GRANT RECIPIENT SHALL BE~~

1 REQUIRED TO REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT ANNUALLY DATA RELATED TO A  
2 PROGRAM, INCLUDING ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

3 (1) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO ENTERED THE PROGRAM,  
4 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE PROGRAM OR EARNED INDUSTRY-  
5 RECOGNIZED QUALIFICATIONS, CERTIFICATIONS OR COLLEGE CREDITS,  
6 INCLUDING DESCRIPTIONS AND TOTALS OF EACH CREDENTIAL.

7 (2) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO TRANSITIONED TO POST-  
8 SECONDARY TRAINING, EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT.

9 (3) OTHER DATA DEEMED RELEVANT OR NECESSARY BY THE  
10 DEPARTMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

11 (B) ANNUAL REPORTING.--THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE AN  
12 INITIAL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITHIN TWO YEARS OF  
13 COMMENCEMENT OF THE PROGRAM AND A REPORT EACH YEAR THEREAFTER  
14 THAT THE PROGRAM IS IN EFFECT.

15 SECTION 5. NOTICE OF FUNDING.

16 UPON THE INITIAL APPROPRIATION OF SUFFICIENT MONEY TO CARRY  
17 OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT OR A DETERMINATION BY THE  
18 DEPARTMENT THAT SUFFICIENT MONEY IS AVAILABLE FROM EXISTING  
19 SOURCES TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, THE DEPARTMENT  
20 SHALL TRANSMIT NOTICE THAT THE PROGRAM WILL BE IMPLEMENTED WITH  
21 AVAILABLE FUNDS TO THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU FOR  
22 PUBLICATION IN THE PENNSYLVANIA BULLETIN.

23 Section 6. Expiration.

24 This act shall expire June 30, 2024~~7~~, OR FIVE YEARS AFTER THE <--  
25 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT, WHICHEVER IS LATER.

26 Section 7. Effective date.

27 This act shall take effect in 60 days.