
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2893 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY A. DAVIS, PISCIOTTANO, KENYATTA, McNEILL, BURGOS,
KINSEY, MADDEN, LONGIETTI, SCHLOSSBERG, DELLOSO, GUENST,
SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, HOHENSTEIN, KIM, PARKER, DEASY AND
CIRESI, OCTOBER 21, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, OCTOBER 21, 2022

AN ACT

1 Establishing the Bridge to Opportunity Grant Program and the
2 Bridge to Opportunity Grant Program Fund; imposing powers and
3 duties on the Department of Labor and Industry; and making a
4 transfer.

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

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Bridge to
9 Opportunity Grant Program Act.

10 Section 2. Definitions.

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

14 "Applicant." A resident of this Commonwealth who is at least
15 18 years of age and is enrolled in an apprenticeship program.

16 "Apprenticeship program." A program registered with the
17 council, evidenced by a certificate of registration or other
18 appropriate document stating that the program meets the

1 registered apprenticeship standards of the council.

2 "Council." The Apprenticeship and Training Council in the
3 Department of Labor and Industry.

4 "Department." The Department of Labor and Industry of the
5 Commonwealth.

6 "Fund." The Bridge to Opportunity Grant Program Fund
7 established under section 3(h).

8 "Program." The Bridge to Opportunity Grant Program
9 established under section 3.

10 Section 3. Bridge to Opportunity Grant Program.

11 (a) Establishment.--The Bridge to Opportunity Grant Program
12 is established and shall be administered by the department.

13 (b) Purpose.--The purpose of the program is to defray the
14 costs to applicants participating in an apprenticeship program
15 and to increase the accessibility of apprenticeship programs
16 across this Commonwealth.

17 (c) Guidelines.--The department shall develop guidelines
18 that specify the requirements to be awarded a grant under the
19 program. The guidelines shall include:

20 (1) Applicant eligibility.

21 (2) The grant application process.

22 (3) Other information that the department deems
23 necessary.

24 (d) Limitation.--An applicant may be awarded a grant of up
25 to \$1,000.

26 (e) Publication and notice.--The department shall transmit
27 notice of the program's availability to the Legislative
28 Reference Bureau for publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin
29 and make program materials available on the department's
30 publicly accessible Internet website.

1 (f) Approval and disapproval.--The department shall review
2 an application and, within 15 days of receipt of the
3 application, approve or disapprove the application.

4 (g) Award of grants.--Grant awards shall be determined by
5 the department based on available resources, including money in
6 the fund.

7 (h) Bridge to Opportunity Grant Program Fund.--The Bridge to
8 Opportunity Grant Program Fund is established as a separate fund
9 in the State Treasury. The money in the fund is appropriated to
10 the department on a continuing basis for the purposes of the
11 program.

12 Section 4. Regulations.

13 The department may promulgate regulations necessary for the
14 implementation of this act.

15 Section 5. Transfer.

16 The sum of \$2,000,000 is transferred from the General Fund to
17 the fund for the purpose of awarding grants under this act.

18 Section 6. Effective date.

19 This act shall take effect in 60 days.