

## AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An act relating to the public  
2 school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
3 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," in  
4 miscellaneous provisions relating to institutions of higher education, providing for refund  
5 policies for disaster emergencies.

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

8 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of  
9 1949, is amended by adding a section to read:

10 Section 2002-I. Refund policies for disaster emergencies.

11 (a) Policies.--A public institution of higher education  
12 shall develop a uniform refund policy for students if the public  
13 institution of higher education is required to close in-person,  
14 on-campus operations due to a declaration of disaster emergency  
15 under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7301(c) (relating to general authority of  
16 Governor) or opts to close in-person, on-campus operations to  
17 protect the safety of students and staff. The uniform policy  
18 shall address how refunds are administered if in-person, on-  
19 campus instruction commences and is subsequently transitioned to

1 online or remote learning.

2 (b) Accessibility.--A public institution of higher education  
3 shall clearly post the uniform policy developed under subsection  
4 (a) on the publicly accessible Internet website of the public  
5 institution of higher education.

6 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
7 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
8 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

9 "Public institution of higher education." Any of the  
10 following:

11 (1) A community college operating under Article XIX-A.

12 (2) A rural regional college established under Article  
13 XIX-G.

14 (3) A university within the State System of Higher  
15 Education under Article XX-A.

16 (4) A State-related institution as defined in section  
17 2001-C.

18 (5) The Pennsylvania College of Technology.

19 (6) The Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.

20 "Refund." Any return payment or remission by a public  
21 institution of higher education to a student of all or part of  
22 any sum the student has paid for tuition, room and board,  
23 application or student activity fee or any other charge or fee.