

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 612 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY HARRIS, MAY 2, 2023

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
OCTOBER 31, 2023

AN ACT

1 Providing for funding for State-related universities for the  
2 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024,  
3 for costs basis, for frequency of payments and for  
4 recordkeeping requirements; imposing a duty on the Auditor  
5 General; providing for financial statements and for the  
6 Agricultural College Land Scrip Fund; and making  
7 appropriations.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Short title.

11 This act shall be known and may be cited as the State-related  
12 University Nonpreferred Appropriation Act of 2023.

13 Section 2. Definitions.

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

17 "Auditor General." The Auditor General of the Commonwealth.

18 "Current fiscal year." The fiscal year beginning July 1,  
19 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.

20 "Department." The Department of Education of the

1 Commonwealth.

2 "Secretary." The Secretary of Education of the Commonwealth.

3 "State-related university." The term includes:

4 (1) The Pennsylvania State University.

5 (2) The University of Pittsburgh.

6 (3) Temple University.

7 (4) Lincoln University.

8 Section 3. Cost basis during current fiscal year.

9 Payments made to a State-related university on account of an  
10 appropriation under this act shall be made on the basis of costs  
11 during the current fiscal year.

12 Section 4. Frequency and basis of payments.

13 (a) Monthly payments.--Payments made to a State-related  
14 university from an appropriation provided in this act shall be  
15 made monthly during the current fiscal year.

16 (b) Estimated costs.--The monthly payments shall be made to  
17 a State-related university under section 3 on the basis of  
18 estimated costs. The estimate of costs shall be submitted by the  
19 State-related university to the secretary, the General Assembly  
20 and the State Treasurer not later than 30 days prior to the date  
21 on which the payment is to be made.

22 Section 5. Purposes of expenditures and statement of  
23 expenditures and costs.

24 (a) Duties of State-related universities.--

25 (1) A State-related university shall apply the money  
26 appropriated by this act only for such purposes as are  
27 permitted in this act and shall at all times maintain proper  
28 records showing the application of the money.

29 (2) Not later than 120 days after the close of the  
30 current fiscal year, the State-related university shall file,

1 with the secretary, the General Assembly and the Auditor  
2 General, a statement that specifies the amounts and purposes  
3 of all expenditures made from money appropriated by this act  
4 and other university accounts during the current fiscal year,  
5 as provided in section 3, used as a basis for receipt of an  
6 appropriation during the current fiscal year.

7 (b) Duties of Auditor General.--The statement of  
8 expenditures and costs shall be reviewed by the Auditor General.  
9 The Auditor General may, with respect to the money appropriated  
10 by this act, audit and disallow expenditures made for purposes  
11 not permitted by this act, recover the sums from the State-  
12 related university and transmit the recovered sums to the State  
13 Treasurer. In respect to expenditures made by the State-related  
14 university from money other than that appropriated by this act,  
15 the Auditor General may review only, and shall file annually  
16 with the General Assembly, information concerning those  
17 expenditures as the General Assembly or any of its committees  
18 may require.

19 Section 6. Duty to provide information.

20 A State-related university shall provide full, complete and  
21 accurate information as may be required by the department or the  
22 chairperson or minority chairperson of the Appropriations  
23 Committee of the Senate or the chairperson or minority  
24 chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the House of  
25 Representatives.

26 Section 7. Financial statements.

27 A State-related university shall present and report its  
28 financial statements required under this act in accordance with:

29 (1) the generally accepted accounting principles as  
30 prescribed by the National Association of College and

1 University Business Officers, the American Institute of  
2 Certified Public Accountants, or their successors, or by any  
3 other recognized authoritative body;

4 (2) the "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Budget  
5 Instructions for the State System of Higher Education, State-  
6 Related Universities and Non-State-Related Colleges and  
7 Universities"; and

8 (3) the financial reporting policies and standards  
9 promulgated by the Federal Government and by the Commonwealth  
10 that apply to the State-related university.

11 Section 8. Agricultural College Land Scrip Fund.

12 The money of the restricted account within the Agricultural  
13 College Land Scrip Fund is hereby appropriated for the current  
14 fiscal year, in accordance with the act of April 9, 1929  
15 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, establishing the  
16 restricted account.

17 Section 9. Restrictions and limitations on use of  
18 appropriations.

19 The following restrictions and limitations apply:

20 (1) Money appropriated by this act to the University of  
21 Pittsburgh may not be used for costs of personnel and  
22 operations of an environmental law clinic.

23 (2) Money appropriated to State-related universities  
24 under section 10 shall only be used for costs directly  
25 related to the provision of instruction for graduate and  
26 undergraduate students and costs incurred in providing  
27 student-related services and community outreach services,  
28 consistent with the existing laws of this Commonwealth.

29 (3) A STATE-RELATED UNIVERSITY THAT RECEIVES MONEY  
30 APPROPRIATED BY THIS ACT SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A

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1 TUITION FREEZE FOR THE 2024-2025 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR. THE  
2 TUITION LEVEL FOR ANY STUDENT MAY NOT EXCEED THE 2023-2024  
3 ACADEMIC TUITION LEVEL.

4 Section 10. Appropriations.

5 The following sums, or as much thereof as may be necessary,  
6 are hereby appropriated to the boards of trustees of the  
7 respective State-related universities for the current fiscal  
8 year, for the purposes and in the amounts as follows:

9 (1) To The Pennsylvania State University, for general  
10 support.

11 State appropriation.....\$259,285,000

12 (2) To The Pennsylvania State University, for the  
13 Pennsylvania College of Technology.

14 State appropriation.....\$28,634,000

15 (3) To the University of Pittsburgh, for general  
16 support.

17 State appropriation.....\$162,264,000

18 (4) To the University of Pittsburgh, for rural education  
19 outreach.

20 State appropriation.....\$3,584,000

21 (5) To Temple University, for general support.

22 State appropriation.....\$169,439,000

23 (6) To Lincoln University, for general support.

24 State appropriation.....\$19,000,000

25 Section 11. Effective date.

26 This act shall take effect immediately.