

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 897 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY KINKEAD, ISAACSON, CIRESI, MADDEN, McANDREW, WARREN, SIEGEL, SANCHEZ, MALAGARI, HILL-EVANS, PARKER, ROZZI, CONKLIN, NEILSON, HOWARD, GREEN, GUZMAN, KENYATTA, WEBSTER, TAKAC, McNEILL AND T. DAVIS, APRIL 17, 2023

SENATOR MARTIN, APPROPRIATIONS, IN SENATE, RE-REPORTED AS AMENDED, JULY 11, 2024

AN ACT

1 ~~Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An~~ <--
2 ~~act relating to the public school system, including certain~~
3 ~~provisions applicable as well to private and parochial~~
4 ~~schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the~~
5 ~~laws relating thereto," in transfers of credits between~~
6 ~~institutions of higher education, further providing for~~
7 ~~definitions and for duties of public institutions of higher~~
8 ~~education, providing for guaranteed admission, AND for~~ <--
9 ~~reports to General Assembly and for dispute resolution and~~ <--
10 ~~further providing for Transfer and Articulation Oversight~~
11 ~~Committee, AND FURTHER PROVIDING for duties of department and~~ <--
12 ~~for applicability.~~

13 AMENDING THE ACT OF MARCH 10, 1949 (P.L.30, NO.14), ENTITLED "AN <--
14 ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, INCLUDING CERTAIN
15 PROVISIONS APPLICABLE AS WELL TO PRIVATE AND PAROCHIAL
16 SCHOOLS; AMENDING, REVISING, CONSOLIDATING AND CHANGING THE
17 LAWS RELATING THERETO," IN TRANSFERS OF CREDITS BETWEEN
18 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR
19 DEFINITIONS AND FOR DUTIES OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
20 EDUCATION, PROVIDING FOR GUARANTEED ADMISSION AND FURTHER
21 PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; IN HIGHER EDUCATION
22 ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR
23 DEFINITIONS AND PROVIDING FOR TRANSPARENCY AND
24 ACCOUNTABILITY; IN MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS RELATING TO
25 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, PROVIDING FOR DUAL CREDIT
26 INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR INSTITUTIONS OF
27 HIGHER EDUCATION AND FOR COORDINATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION;
28 AND MAKING EDITORIAL CHANGES.

29 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

1 hereby enacts as follows:

2 ~~Section 1. Section 2001 C of the act of March 10, 1949~~ <--
3 ~~(P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is~~
4 ~~amended by adding definitions to read:~~

5 ~~Section 2001 C. Definitions.~~

6 ~~The following words and phrases when used in this article~~
7 ~~shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the~~
8 ~~context clearly indicates otherwise:~~

9 * * *

10 ~~"Parallel baccalaureate degree program." A bachelor's degree~~
11 ~~program in a comparable field of study and with similar~~
12 ~~foundation level, major specific competencies as an associate~~
13 ~~degree program, as articulated in program to program agreements.~~

14 * * *

15 ~~"Receiving institution." The public institution of higher~~
16 ~~education where a transfer student plans to enroll and to apply~~
17 ~~previously earned credit toward a degree program.~~

18 * * *

19 ~~Section 2. Section 2002 C(c) (1) of the act is amended to~~
20 ~~read:~~

21 ~~Section 2002 C. Duties of public institutions of higher~~
22 ~~education.~~

23 * * *

24 ~~(c) Other duties. Each public institution of higher~~
25 ~~education shall do all of the following:~~

26 ~~(1) Agree to accept with full junior standing the~~
27 ~~associate of arts or associate of science degree [into a] and~~
28 ~~to apply all college level credits earned to fulfill the~~
29 ~~degree requirements at the public institution of higher~~
30 ~~education, including major requirements and general education~~

1 ~~requirements, toward the parallel baccalaureate degree~~
2 ~~program as outlined in paragraph (3) [by the timelines~~
3 ~~established by the Transfer and Articulation Oversight~~
4 ~~Committee but] no later than December 31, [2011] 2023 2024.~~ <--

5 ~~For purposes of this paragraph, an associate of arts or~~
6 ~~associate of science degree is a degree designed primarily~~
7 ~~for transfer to a baccalaureate institution and must contain~~
8 ~~a minimum of 60 credits. The following shall apply:~~

9 ~~(i) A student with an associate of arts or associate~~
10 ~~of science degree from a public institution of higher~~
11 ~~education who is transferring into a parallel~~
12 ~~baccalaureate degree program at another public~~
13 ~~institution of higher education shall be awarded full~~
14 ~~junior standing and shall not be required to~~
15 ~~satisfactorily complete more than 60 credits to earn a~~
16 ~~120 credit baccalaureate degree in a parallel program,~~
17 ~~regardless of the courses the student took to earn the~~
18 ~~associate degree prior to transferring, unless required~~
19 ~~to meet accreditation or external licensure or~~
20 ~~certification standards.~~

21 ~~(ii) A student transferring from one public~~
22 ~~institution of higher education to another public~~
23 ~~institution of higher education shall have the same~~
24 ~~requirements for admission to a particular academic~~
25 ~~program and for retention as a student who began their~~
26 ~~postsecondary education at the receiving institution.~~

27 ~~(iii) A student transferring into a parallel~~
28 ~~baccalaureate degree program with an associate of science~~
29 ~~or associate of arts degree shall be guaranteed admission~~
30 ~~to the parallel baccalaureate degree program, subject to~~

~~capacity, as long as the student meets the criteria for admission required of students who began their education at the receiving institution.~~

~~(iv) A public institution of higher education may designate majors or programs of study that are limited access by reason of accreditation, clinical or resource based capacity.~~

~~(v) A student transferring from a public institution of higher education with an associate of arts or associate of science degree or who has completed 30 credits of foundation courses, as defined by the Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee, shall have satisfied the general education requirements at the receiving institution, with possible exceptions made for the following, provided that the exceptions do not extend the student's time to the degree:~~

~~(A) One signature general education course of up to three credits, if applicable.~~

~~(B) A prescribed general education course required for the major, if not satisfactorily completed.~~

~~(C) General education overlays satisfied in advanced courses in the major.~~

~~* * *~~

~~Section 3. The act is amended by adding sections to read:~~

~~Section 2003.1 C. Guaranteed admission.~~

~~A public institution of higher education shall ensure the following:~~ <--

~~(1) An THAT AN undergraduate student transferring from a public community college with an associate of arts or~~ <--

~~associate of science degree shall be guaranteed admission
into the parallel baccalaureate degree program at a public
institution of higher education except in programs that have
mandated admission requirements, including, but not limited
to:~~

~~(i) A program for teacher preparation.~~ <--

~~(ii) A program requiring an audition.~~

~~(iii) A program with GPA requirements.~~

~~(iv) A program with additional entrance requirements
imposed by an accreditor.~~

~~(2) Starting with the 2024 spring semester,
undergraduate students from a community college in this
Commonwealth with an associate degree who fulfill the
requirements of paragraph (1) shall receive priority
enrollment in upper division coursework at the receiving
institution over out of State students.~~

~~(1) A PROGRAM REQUIRING AN AUDITION.~~ <--

~~(2) A PROGRAM WITH ADDITIONAL ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS
IMPOSED BY AN ACCREDITOR.~~

~~Section 2003.2 C. Reports to General Assembly.~~

~~For each academic year, the department shall prescribe data
requirements to be submitted by a public institution of higher
education and report to the General Assembly the following:~~

~~(1) Details of the progress made by a public institution
of higher education and an institution that elects to
participate under section 2006 C in furtherance of enabling
the transfer of credits between institutions, and which
recommends further action to be taken to ensure all students
which have completed credits in community colleges, shall be
able to transfer those credits to an institution of higher~~

1 education.

2 ~~(2) Details of the ability of a student to transfer from~~
3 ~~community colleges to institutions of higher education,~~
4 ~~including the ability of students to graduate from~~
5 ~~institutions of higher education. The report under this~~
6 ~~section shall annually identify any issues encountered by~~
7 ~~students in transferring from community colleges to~~
8 ~~institutions of higher education, as well as issues~~
9 ~~encountered by transfer students in graduating from~~
10 ~~institutions of higher education.~~

11 ~~(3) Any other information related to student transfer,~~
12 ~~awarding of credit for prior learning or difficulties in the~~
13 ~~ability of a student to transfer between public institutions~~
14 ~~of higher education.~~

15 Section 2003.3 C. Dispute resolution. <--

16 ~~The department shall establish and maintain a dispute~~
17 ~~resolution committee for disputes arising over the acceptance of~~
18 ~~transfer students and credits. The dispute resolution committee~~
19 ~~shall:~~

20 ~~(1) Be composed of the following membership:~~

21 ~~(i) The Secretary of Education or a designee, who~~
22 ~~shall serve as chair of the dispute resolution committee.~~

23 ~~(ii) Three members representing community colleges.~~

24 ~~(iii) Three members representing the State System of~~
25 ~~Higher Education.~~

26 ~~(iv) One member representing State related~~
27 ~~institutions.~~

28 ~~(v) One member representing independent institutions~~
29 ~~of higher education that have elected to participate~~
30 ~~under section 2006 C.~~

1 ~~(vi) Other members as appointed by the chair of the~~
2 ~~committee to the dispute resolution committee.~~

3 ~~(2) Continue to develop dispute resolution policies and~~
4 ~~procedures to be utilized when disputes arise relating to the~~
5 ~~transfer and application of credits under this article.~~

6 ~~(3) Resolve disputes involving disagreement over the~~
7 ~~transfer or award of credits or the placement of students~~
8 ~~between community colleges and institutions of higher~~
9 ~~education.~~

10 ~~(4) Resolve appeals from students transferring from~~
11 ~~community colleges who have been denied acceptance to an~~
12 ~~institution of higher education after the completion of an~~
13 ~~associate degree at a community college or who have been~~
14 ~~denied the acceptance of college level credits completed at a~~
15 ~~community college.~~

16 ~~(5) Report decisions regarding dispute resolutions and~~
17 ~~appeals as well as the dispute resolution committee's reasons~~
18 ~~for those decisions. Reports under this paragraph shall be~~
19 ~~provided regularly to institutions of higher education and~~
20 ~~community colleges to inform the application of the~~
21 ~~articulation process.~~

22 Section 4. Sections 2004 C(b) and (c) (5), 2005 C(4)(ii) and
23 2007 C of the act are amended to read:

24 Section 2004 C. Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee.

25 * * *

26 ~~{(b) Dispute resolution subcommittee.}~~

27 ~~(1) The chair of the committee shall appoint a dispute~~
28 ~~resolution subcommittee comprised of:~~

29 ~~(i) Three members appointed under subsection (a)(1)~~

30 ~~(ii)(A).~~

1 ~~(ii) Three members appointed under subsection (a) (1)~~

2 ~~(ii) (B).~~

3 ~~(iii) One member appointed under subsection (a) (1)~~

4 ~~(ii) (D).~~

5 ~~(2) The chair of the committee may add members to the~~
6 ~~dispute resolution subcommittee.~~

7 ~~(3) The dispute resolution subcommittee shall develop~~
8 ~~dispute resolution policies and procedures to be utilized~~
9 ~~when disputes arise relating to the transfer and application~~
10 ~~of credits under this article.]~~

11 ~~(c) Duties of Transfer and Articulation Oversight~~
12 ~~Committee. The committee shall:~~

13 ~~* * *~~

14 ~~[(5) Submit an annual report to the General Assembly~~
15 ~~that details the progress made by the public institutions of~~
16 ~~higher education and institutions that elect to participate~~
17 ~~under section 2006 C in furtherance of enabling the transfer~~
18 ~~of credits between such institutions and which recommends~~
19 ~~further action to be taken.]~~

20 ~~* * *~~

21 ~~SECTION 4. SECTIONS 2005 C (4) (II) AND 2007 C OF THE ACT ARE <--~~
22 ~~AMENDED TO READ:~~

23 ~~Section 2005 C. Duties of department.~~

24 ~~The department shall:~~

25 ~~* * *~~

26 ~~(4) Provide for an electronic database or software~~
27 ~~program and portal for the purpose of providing access to all~~
28 ~~of the following information on an Internet website:~~

29 ~~* * *~~

30 ~~(ii) The annual report to the General Assembly as~~

1 ~~required by section [2004 C(e)(5)] 2003.2 C.~~

2 ~~Section 2007 C. Applicability.~~

3 ~~[Nothing] Except as otherwise provided, nothing in this~~
4 ~~article shall [do any of the following]:~~

5 ~~(1) Preclude any institution of higher education from~~
6 ~~establishing institution to institution articulation~~
7 ~~agreements.~~

8 ~~(2) Void articulation agreements that have been~~
9 ~~established prior to the effective date of this section.~~

10 ~~Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.~~

11 SECTION 1. SECTION 2001-C OF THE ACT OF MARCH 10, 1949 <--
12 (P.L.30, NO.14), KNOWN AS THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CODE OF 1949, IS
13 AMENDED BY ADDING DEFINITIONS TO READ:

14 SECTION 2001-C. DEFINITIONS.

15 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS ARTICLE
16 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE
17 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

18 * * *

19 "ASSOCIATE DEGREE." THE TERM INCLUDES AN ASSOCIATE OF ARTS
20 DEGREE, ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE, ASSOCIATE OF FINE ARTS
21 DEGREE OR ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE.

22 * * *

23 "PARALLEL BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM." A BACHELOR'S DEGREE
24 PROGRAM IN A COMPARABLE FIELD OF STUDY AND WITH SIMILAR
25 FOUNDATION-LEVEL, MAJOR-SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES AS AN ASSOCIATE
26 DEGREE PROGRAM, AS ARTICULATED IN PROGRAM-TO-PROGRAM AGREEMENTS.

27 * * *

28 "RECEIVING INSTITUTION." THE PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
29 EDUCATION WHERE A TRANSFER STUDENT PLANS TO ENROLL AND TO APPLY
30 PREVIOUSLY EARNED CREDIT TOWARD A DEGREE PROGRAM.

1 * * *

2 SECTION 2. SECTION 2002-C(C) (1) OF THE ACT IS AMENDED TO
3 READ:

4 SECTION 2002-C. DUTIES OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
5 EDUCATION.

6 * * *

7 (C) OTHER DUTIES.--EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
8 EDUCATION SHALL DO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

9 (1) AGREE TO ACCEPT WITH FULL JUNIOR STANDING THE
10 ASSOCIATE [OF ARTS OR ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE] DEGREE [INTO A]
11 AND TO APPLY ALL COLLEGE-LEVEL CREDITS EARNED TO FULFILL THE
12 DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AT THE PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
13 EDUCATION, INCLUDING MAJOR REQUIREMENTS AND GENERAL EDUCATION
14 REQUIREMENTS, TOWARD THE PARALLEL BACCALAUREATE DEGREE
15 PROGRAM AS OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPH (3) [BY THE TIMELINES
16 ESTABLISHED BY THE TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION OVERSIGHT
17 COMMITTEE BUT] NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, [2011] 2024. FOR
18 PURPOSES OF THIS PARAGRAPH, AN ASSOCIATE [OF ARTS OR
19 ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE] DEGREE IS A DEGREE DESIGNED PRIMARILY
20 FOR TRANSFER TO A BACCALAUREATE INSTITUTION AND MUST CONTAIN
21 A MINIMUM OF 60 CREDITS. THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:

22 (I) A STUDENT WITH AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE FROM A PUBLIC
23 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WHO IS TRANSFERRING INTO
24 A PARALLEL BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM AT ANOTHER PUBLIC
25 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL BE AWARDED FULL
26 JUNIOR STANDING AND SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO
27 SATISFACTORILY COMPLETE MORE THAN 60 CREDITS TO EARN A
28 120 CREDIT BACCALAUREATE DEGREE IN A PARALLEL PROGRAM,
29 REGARDLESS OF THE COURSES THE STUDENT TOOK TO EARN THE
30 ASSOCIATE DEGREE PRIOR TO TRANSFERRING, UNLESS REQUIRED

1 TO MEET ACCREDITATION OR EXTERNAL LICENSURE OR
2 CERTIFICATION STANDARDS.

3 (II) A STUDENT TRANSFERRING INTO A PARALLEL
4 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM WITH AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE
5 SHALL BE GUARANTEED ADMISSION TO THE PARALLEL
6 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM, SUBJECT TO CAPACITY, IF THE
7 STUDENT MEETS THE PROGRAM CRITERIA REQUIRED OF STUDENTS
8 IN THE PARALLEL BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM AT THE
9 RECEIVING INSTITUTION.

10 (III) A STUDENT TRANSFERRING FROM ONE PUBLIC
11 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO ANOTHER PUBLIC
12 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL HAVE THE SAME
13 REQUIREMENTS FOR RETENTION AS A STUDENT IN THE PARALLEL
14 BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM AT THE RECEIVING
15 INSTITUTION.

16 (IV) A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION MAY
17 DESIGNATE MAJORS OR PROGRAMS OF STUDY THAT ARE LIMITED
18 ACCESS BY REASON OF ACCREDITATION, CLINICAL OR RESOURCE-
19 BASED CAPACITY.

20 (V) A STUDENT TRANSFERRING FROM A PUBLIC INSTITUTION
21 OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE SHALL HAVE
22 SATISFIED THE GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AT THE
23 RECEIVING INSTITUTION, WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTIONS MADE FOR
24 THE FOLLOWING, PROVIDED THAT THE EXCEPTIONS DO NOT EXTEND
25 THE STUDENT'S TIME TO THE DEGREE:

26 (A) ONE SIGNATURE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE OF UP
27 TO THREE CREDITS, IF APPLICABLE.

28 (B) A PRESCRIBED GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE
29 REQUIRED FOR THE MAJOR, IF NOT SATISFACTORILY
30 COMPLETED.

1 (C) GENERAL EDUCATION OVERLAYS SATISFIED IN
2 ADVANCED COURSES IN THE MAJOR.

3 * * *

4 SECTION 3. THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING SECTIONS TO READ:

5 SECTION 2003.1-C. GUARANTEED ADMISSION.

6 A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL ENSURE THAT AN
7 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT TRANSFERRING FROM A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF
8 HIGHER EDUCATION WITH AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE SHALL BE GUARANTEED
9 ADMISSION INTO THE PARALLEL BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM AT A
10 PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION EXCEPT IN PROGRAMS THAT
11 HAVE MANDATED ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED
12 TO:

13 (1) A PROGRAM REQUIRING AN AUDITION.

14 (2) A PROGRAM WITH ADDITIONAL RETENTION REQUIREMENTS
15 IMPOSED BY AN ACCREDITOR.

16 SECTION 4. SECTION 2007-C OF THE ACT IS AMENDED TO READ:

17 SECTION 2007-C. APPLICABILITY.

18 [NOTHING] EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED, NOTHING IN THIS
19 ARTICLE SHALL [DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING]:

20 (1) PRECLUDE ANY INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM
21 ESTABLISHING INSTITUTION-TO-INSTITUTION ARTICULATION
22 AGREEMENTS.

23 (2) VOID ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN
24 ESTABLISHED PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

25 SECTION 5. ARTICLE XX-H OF THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING A
26 SUBARTICLE HEADING IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING SECTION 2001-H TO READ:

27 SUBARTICLE A

28 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

29 SECTION 6. SECTION 2001-H OF THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING
30 DEFINITIONS TO READ:

1 SECTION 2001-H. DEFINITIONS.

2 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS ARTICLE
3 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE
4 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

5 * * *

6 "MANDATORY FEE." A CHARGE IMPOSED BY AN INSTITUTION OF
7 HIGHER EDUCATION TO ALL OF THE INSTITUTION'S STUDENTS,
8 IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR COURSE OR ADMISSION STATUS, FOR ENROLLMENT
9 OR ATTENDANCE FOR ITEMS NOT COVERED BY TUITION, ROOM OR BOARD
10 FEES.

11 * * *

12 "ONLINE STUDENT PORTAL." A SECURED INTERNAL INTERNET SERVICE
13 ADMINISTERED BY AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION ON WHICH A
14 STUDENT OF THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION CAN ACCESS
15 PERSONAL ACADEMIC, FINANCIAL OR OTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO
16 ATTENDING THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

17 * * *

18 SECTION 7. ARTICLE XX-H OF THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING A
19 SUBARTICLE HEADING IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING SECTION 2002-H TO READ:

20 SUBARTICLE B
21 COLLEGE NAVIGATOR

22 SECTION 8. ARTICLE XX-H OF THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING A
23 SUBARTICLE TO READ:

24 SUBARTICLE C
25 TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

26 SECTION 2004-H. STUDENT FEE TRANSPARENCY.

27 (A) DISPLAY.--AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL
28 PROMINENTLY DISPLAY A DESCRIPTION OF EVERY MANDATORY FEE CHARGED
29 BY THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SHALL PUBLISH THE FEE
30 DESCRIPTION ON EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S PUBLICLY

1 ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE AND ONLINE STUDENT PORTAL PRIOR TO
2 THE TERM FOR WHICH THE MANDATORY FEE WILL BE CHARGED AND
3 INCLUDED IN ANY TUITION BILL. THE AMOUNT OF THE MANDATORY FEE
4 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A DESCRIPTION OF:

5 (1) THE GENERAL PURPOSE OF THE MANDATORY FEE.

6 (2) HOW THE MANDATORY FEE IS EXPECTED TO BE ALLOCATED
7 AND USED.

8 (3) HOW THE MANDATORY FEE WILL BE COLLECTED AND THE
9 ACADEMIC YEAR OR SEMESTER FOR WHICH THE FEE WILL BE ASSESSED.

10 (B) PUBLICATION OF FEES.--BEGINNING NOVEMBER 15, 2025, AND
11 BY NOVEMBER 15 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
12 EDUCATION SHALL PUBLISH ON THE INSTITUTION'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE
13 INTERNET WEBSITE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM THE PRIOR
14 ACADEMIC YEAR:

15 (1) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MANDATORY FEES COLLECTED.

16 (2) THE AMOUNT OF MANDATORY FEES ALLOCATED TO EACH USE.

17 (C) LINKING.--BEGINNING ON JUNE 30, 2026, AND BY JUNE 30 OF
18 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL
19 PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT WITH EVIDENCE THAT THE FEE INFORMATION IS
20 PUBLISHED ON THE INSTITUTION'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET
21 WEBSITE.

22 SECTION 2005-H. HIGHER EDUCATION COST TRANSPARENCY.

23 (A) GENERAL RULE.--AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL
24 PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO A PROSPECTIVE STUDENT AS
25 PART OF THE STUDENT'S OFFER OF ENROLLMENT AT THE INSTITUTION OF
26 HIGHER EDUCATION OR AS PART OF THE STUDENT'S FINANCIAL AID
27 OFFER:

28 (1) AN ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL COST OF ATTENDANCE,
29 INCLUDING:

30 (I) TUITION FOR THE STUDENT'S FIRST ACADEMIC YEAR.

1 (II) A LIST OF EACH FEE CHARGED TO A STUDENT IN THE
2 STUDENT'S FIRST ACADEMIC YEAR. THE FEES SHALL INCLUDE
3 BOTH MANDATORY AND OPTIONAL FEES.

4 (III) A BREAKDOWN OF ALL ROOM AND BOARD OPTIONS AND
5 THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH EACH OPTION FOR THE STUDENT'S
6 FIRST ACADEMIC YEAR.

7 (IV) BOOKS AND SUPPLIES.

8 (2) AN ESTIMATE OF THE FINANCIAL AID OFFERED, AS
9 AVAILABLE, BY THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, INCLUDING,
10 BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

11 (I) ALL GRANTS OR SCHOLARSHIPS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE
12 REPAYMENT.

13 (II) STUDENT LOANS THAT REQUIRE REPAYMENT.

14 (III) STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS.

15 (3) AN ESTIMATE OF THE NET COST THAT SUBTRACTS ANY
16 SCHOLARSHIPS OR GRANTS BEING OFFERED FROM THE ESTIMATED TOTAL
17 COST OF ATTENDANCE.

18 (4) AN ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL COST OF ATTENDANCE FOR
19 SUBSEQUENT YEARS. THE ESTIMATE MAY BE PROVIDED THROUGH EASILY
20 ACCESSIBLE ELECTRONIC MEANS AND SHALL INCLUDE:

21 (I) INFORMATION REGARDING WHETHER OR NOT THE
22 FINANCIAL AID IS BEING OFFERED ONLY FOR THE UPCOMING
23 ACADEMIC YEAR OR IF IT IS RENEWABLE FOR SUBSEQUENT
24 ACADEMIC YEARS. IF THE FINANCIAL AID IS RENEWABLE FOR
25 SUBSEQUENT ACADEMIC YEARS, THE INFORMATION SHALL INCLUDE
26 ANY REQUIREMENTS THAT MUST BE MET IN ORDER FOR RENEWAL OF
27 THE FINANCIAL AID.

28 (II) A HISTORY OF PREVIOUS ACADEMIC YEAR'S TUITION.

29 (III) AN ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL TUITION THAT THE
30 STUDENT WILL BE CHARGED IN EACH ACADEMIC YEAR NECESSARY

1 FOR THE STUDENT TO RECEIVE A DEGREE IN THE STUDENT'S
2 MAJOR.

3 (IV) AN ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FEES CHARGED
4 TO A STUDENT IN EACH ACADEMIC YEAR NECESSARY FOR THE
5 STUDENT TO RECEIVE A DEGREE IN THE STUDENT'S MAJOR.

6 (B) DISCLOSURE TO PROSPECTIVE STUDENT.--AN INSTITUTION OF
7 HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL USE EASILY UNDERSTOOD TERMS AND CLEARLY
8 IDENTIFY EACH PIECE OF FINANCIAL AID THAT A STUDENT MUST REPAY.

9 (C) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.--EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
10 EDUCATION SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE ON ITS PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE
11 INTERNET WEBSITE AN ESTIMATE OF ALL TUITION, FEES AND ROOM AND
12 BOARD THAT MAY BE CHARGED IN AN ACADEMIC YEAR.

13 SECTION 2006-H. EXIT COUNSELING.

14 (A) GENERAL RULE.--UNLESS AN INDIVIDUAL SELECTS NOT TO
15 PARTICIPATE, EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL MAKE
16 FINANCIAL AID COUNSELING AVAILABLE TO EACH STUDENT AT THE END OF
17 THE STUDENT'S FINAL ACADEMIC TERM.

18 (B) COUNSELING FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS.--THE FINANCIAL AID
19 COUNSELING FOR A STUDENT WHO GRADUATES AT THE END OF THE
20 ACADEMIC TERM SHALL, AT A MINIMUM, INCLUDE:

21 (1) A LIST OF ALL AVAILABLE FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS,
22 INCLUDING, IF AVAILABLE, RELATED WEBSITES AND CONTACT
23 INFORMATION, THAT MAY ASSIST WITH PAYMENTS, REDUCTIONS OR
24 FORGIVENESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S STUDENT LOANS.

25 (2) ALL AVAILABLE REPAYMENT OPTIONS ON STUDENT LOANS
26 KNOWN TO THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND, IF
27 AVAILABLE, A LINK TO AN ONLINE STUDENT LOAN PAYMENT
28 CALCULATOR.

29 (3) INFORMATION ON WHEN A STUDENT'S LOAN PAYMENTS WILL
30 BEGIN AND INFORMATION ON ASSISTANCE WITH DELAYING REPAYMENT

1 OF LOANS.

2 (4) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
3 EDUCATION DEEMS NECESSARY TO HELP AN EXITING STUDENT
4 UNDERSTAND OPTIONS RELATING TO REPAYING STUDENT LOANS.

5 (C) COUNSELING FOR STUDENTS WHO TRANSFER OR WITHDRAW.--WITH
6 RESPECT TO A STUDENT WHO LEAVES AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
7 EDUCATION WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE INSTITUTION OR TRANSFERS
8 TO ANOTHER INSTITUTION, THE INSTITUTION SHALL ATTEMPT TO MAKE
9 FINANCIAL AID COUNSELING AVAILABLE TO THE STUDENT. IF THE
10 INSTITUTION IS UNABLE TO GET IN CONTACT WITH THE STUDENT, THE
11 INSTITUTION SHALL MAIL THE INFORMATION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION
12 (B) IN WRITING TO THE STUDENT AT THE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS ON FILE.

13 (D) METHOD OF COUNSELING.--AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
14 EDUCATION MAY OFFER THE COUNSELING REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION
15 IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY AND MAY PARTNER WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA
16 HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AGENCY OR A SIMILAR ENTITY TO
17 PROVIDE THE REQUIRED COUNSELING.

18 SECTION 9. ARTICLE XX-I OF THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING A
19 SECTION TO READ:

20 SECTION 2004-I. DUAL CREDIT INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM.

21 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.--THE DUAL CREDIT INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM
22 IS ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT TO AWARD GRANTS TO PUBLIC
23 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT OFFER DUAL CREDIT
24 OPPORTUNITIES TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A SCHOOL
25 ENTITY.

26 (B) USE OF FUNDING.--FUNDING PROVIDED FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL
27 BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING THE CAPACITY FOR PUBLIC
28 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROVIDE DUAL CREDIT COURSES.
29 MONEY AWARDED THROUGH A GRANT MAY BE USED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

30 (1) TO OPERATE DUAL CREDIT COURSES THAT ARE TUITION FREE

1 TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

2 (2) TO SUPPORT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
3 IN SEEKING EXTERNAL ACCREDITATION FOR THEIR DUAL CREDIT
4 COURSES.

5 (3) TO PROVIDE STUDENT ACADEMIC SUPPORTS TO AID STUDENTS
6 ENROLLED IN DUAL CREDIT COURSES TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE
7 COURSES AND TO SUCCESSFULLY TRANSITION TO POSTSECONDARY
8 EDUCATION UPON GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

9 (4) TO INCREASE THE USE OF NO-COST OR LOW-COST TEXTBOOKS
10 OR COURSE MATERIALS USED IN DUAL CREDIT COURSES.

11 (5) TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR
12 HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS TO ENABLE THEM TO TEACH DUAL CREDIT
13 COURSES.

14 (C) PRIORITY.--THE DEPARTMENT SHALL GIVE PRIORITY IN GRANT
15 FUNDING TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT EXPAND
16 THE CURRENT OFFERINGS OF THE PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
17 EDUCATION, WITH A PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON PROVIDING COURSES
18 ALIGNED WITH HIGH-PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS AND SERVING STUDENTS
19 EXPERIENCING EDUCATION INSTABILITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 1331.1,
20 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS,
21 LOW-INCOME STUDENTS, HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED STUDENT GROUPS AND
22 STUDENTS IN RURAL AREAS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH.

23 (D) ADDITIONAL PRIORITY.--IF THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT RECEIVE
24 SUFFICIENT APPLICATIONS TO EXPEND THE AVAILABLE FUNDING UNDER
25 THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD GRANTS FOR THE USES UNDER
26 SUBSECTION (B) TO STATE-RELATED INSTITUTIONS AND INDEPENDENT
27 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

28 (E) LIMITATION.--NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED
29 TO SUPERSEDE OR PREEMPT THE RIGHTS, REMEDIES AND PROCEDURES
30 AFFORDED TO SCHOOL EMPLOYEES OR LABOR ORGANIZATIONS UNDER

1 FEDERAL OR STATE LAW, INCLUDING THE ACT OF JULY 23, 1970
2 (P.L.563, NO.195), KNOWN AS THE PUBLIC EMPLOYE RELATIONS ACT, OR
3 ANY PROVISION OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN A
4 SCHOOL ENTITY AND AN EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EMPLOYEES
5 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THAT ACT.

6 (F) REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY.--FOR THE PURPOSE OF
7 IMPROVING DATA COLLECTION AND TRANSPARENCY RELATED TO THE VALUE
8 OF DUAL CREDIT COURSES TO THE SUCCESS OF STUDENTS AS THEY
9 GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL AND TRANSITION TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION,
10 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY COLLECT STUDENT-LEVEL DATA FROM
11 GRANT RECIPIENTS AND USE OTHER EXISTING DATA RESOURCES TO INFORM
12 THE FOLLOWING MEASURES AND POST AGGREGATE, DE-IDENTIFIED
13 INFORMATION RELATED TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ON THE DEPARTMENT'S
14 PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE:

15 (1) THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN DUAL CREDIT
16 COURSES.

17 (2) THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED
18 IN DUAL CREDIT COURSES.

19 (3) THE PERCENTAGE OF ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED
20 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN DUAL CREDIT COURSES AND THE PERCENTAGE
21 OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN DUAL CREDIT COURSES WHO ARE
22 ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED.

23 (4) THE PERCENTAGE OF DUAL CREDIT STUDENTS WHO ENROLL IN
24 A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION THE FALL
25 AFTER GRADUATION, WITHIN ONE YEAR AND WITHIN TWO YEARS AFTER
26 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION.

27 (5) THE NUMBER OF COLLEGE CREDITS EARNED BY STUDENTS
28 ENROLLED IN DUAL CREDIT COURSES WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL.

29 (6) AN ESTIMATE OF THE COST SAVINGS TO THE FAMILIES OF
30 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN DUAL CREDIT COURSES.

1 (7) THE PERCENTAGE OF DUAL CREDIT STUDENTS WHO ENROLL IN
2 AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL
3 GRADUATION AND GO ON TO GRADUATE OR TRANSFER TO A FOUR-YEAR
4 INSTITUTION WITHIN TWO, THREE AND FOUR YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL
5 GRADUATION.

6 (8) THE PERCENTAGE OF DUAL CREDIT STUDENTS WHO ENROLL IN
7 AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL
8 GRADUATION AND GO ON TO GRADUATE IN FOUR, FIVE OR SIX YEARS.

9 (9) THE PERCENTAGE OF DUAL CREDIT STUDENTS WHO ATTEND
10 POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS LOCATED IN THIS COMMONWEALTH
11 FOLLOWING GRADUATION COMPARED TO THOSE WHO ATTEND OUT-OF-
12 STATE POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS.

13 (G) DEFINITIONS.--AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING
14 WORDS AND PHRASES SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS
15 SUBSECTION UNLESS THE CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

16 "DEPARTMENT." THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE
17 COMMONWEALTH.

18 "DUAL CREDIT." CREDIT RECEIVED UNDER AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN A
19 SCHOOL ENTITY AND AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION APPROVED TO
20 OPERATE IN THIS COMMONWEALTH IN WHICH A STUDENT EARNS BOTH HIGH
21 SCHOOL AND POSTSECONDARY CREDIT BY TAKING A SINGLE POSTSECONDARY
22 COURSE.

23 "GRANT." A GRANT PROVIDED UNDER THE PROGRAM.

24 "INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." AN
25 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OPERATED NOT FOR PROFIT, LOCATED
26 AND INCORPORATED OR CHARTERED BY THE COMMONWEALTH AND ENTITLED
27 TO CONFER DEGREES AS PROVIDED IN 24 PA.C.S. § 6505 (RELATING TO
28 POWER TO CONFER DEGREES) AND WHICH APPLIES TO ITSELF THE
29 DESIGNATION "COLLEGE" OR "UNIVERSITY" AS PROVIDED FOR BY THE
30 STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE BOARD OF

1 EDUCATION UNDER 24 PA.C.S. CH. 65 (RELATING TO PRIVATE COLLEGES,
2 UNIVERSITIES AND SEMINARIES).

3 "INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." THE TERM INCLUDES AN
4 INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, PUBLIC INSTITUTION
5 OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND A STATE-RELATED INSTITUTION.

6 "PROGRAM." THE DUAL CREDIT INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM
7 ESTABLISHED IN THIS SECTION.

8 "PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." AN INSTITUTION OF
9 THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE
10 XX-A, A COMMUNITY COLLEGE ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE XIX-A,
11 THADDEUS STEVENS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE
12 XIX-B, THE PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY OR THE RURAL
13 REGIONAL COLLEGE ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE XIX-G UPON
14 ACCREDITATION.

15 "SCHOOL ENTITY." A SCHOOL DISTRICT, AREA CAREER AND
16 TECHNICAL SCHOOL, CHARTER SCHOOL, CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL OR
17 REGIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL.

18 "STATE-RELATED INSTITUTION." THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE
19 UNIVERSITY, INCLUDING THE PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY,
20 THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY AND LINCOLN
21 UNIVERSITY AND THEIR BRANCH CAMPUSES.

22 SECTION 10. THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING AN ARTICLE TO READ:

23 ARTICLE XX-L
24 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

25 SUBARTICLE A
26 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

27 SECTION 2001-L. DEFINITIONS.

28 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS ARTICLE
29 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE
30 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

1 "AGENCY." THE PENNSYLVANIA HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE
2 AGENCY.

3 "BOARD." THE STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION ESTABLISHED
4 UNDER SECTION 2010-L.

5 "COMMUNITY COLLEGE." AN INSTITUTION CREATED UNDER ARTICLE
6 XIX-A OR THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1963 (P.L.1132, NO.484), KNOWN AS
7 THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACT OF 1963.

8 "COUNCIL." THE PERFORMANCE-BASED FUNDING COUNCIL ESTABLISHED
9 UNDER SUBARTICLE C.

10 "DEPARTMENT." THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE
11 COMMONWEALTH.

12 "FINANCIAL AID." FUNDING TO HELP A STUDENT PAY FOR
13 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION, INCLUDING GRANTS, WORK STUDY, LOANS AND
14 SCHOLARSHIPS.

15 "HIGH-PRIORITY OCCUPATION." AN OCCUPATION IDENTIFIED BY THE
16 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY UNDER THE ACT OF DECEMBER 18,
17 2001 (P.L.949, NO.114), KNOWN AS THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACT.

18 "HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP LAW." THE ACT OF JANUARY 25,
19 1966 (1965 P.L.1546, NO.541), REFERRED TO AS THE HIGHER
20 EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP LAW.

21 "INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." AN
22 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WHICH IS OPERATED NOT FOR
23 PROFIT, LOCATED IN AND INCORPORATED OR CHARTERED BY THE
24 COMMONWEALTH AND ENTITLED TO CONFER DEGREES AS SPECIFIED IN 24
25 PA.C.S. § 6505 (RELATING TO POWER TO CONFER DEGREES) AND TO
26 APPLY TO ITSELF THE DESIGNATION "COLLEGE" OR "UNIVERSITY" AS
27 PROVIDED FOR BY THE STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED BY
28 THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UNDER 24 PA.C.S. CH. 65 (RELATING
29 TO PRIVATE COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND SEMINARIES).

30 "INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." AS DEFINED IN SECTION

1 1501-L.

2 "INSTITUTIONAL AID." FINANCIAL AID OFFERED TO AN ELIGIBLE
3 STUDENT DIRECTLY BY AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION,
4 INCLUDING MERIT AID, GIFT AID AND ATHLETIC AWARDS.

5 "PELL GRANT." THE FEDERAL PELL GRANT OR ANY SUCCESSOR
6 PROGRAM.

7 "PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANT." A GRANT OR SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED
8 UNDER THE HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP LAW.

9 "PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIP." FINANCIAL AID AWARDS FUNDED BY
10 ENTITIES OTHER THAN THE FEDERAL OR STATE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING
11 AWARDS BY COMPANIES, SERVICE GROUPS, FOUNDATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS
12 AND INDIVIDUALS.

13 "PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." A STATE-OWNED
14 UNIVERSITY, COMMUNITY COLLEGE OR STATE-RELATED UNIVERSITY.

15 "STATE-OWNED UNIVERSITY." AN INSTITUTION WHICH IS PART OF
16 THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION UNDER ARTICLE XX-A.

17 "STATE-RELATED UNIVERSITY." THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE
18 UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY AND
19 LINCOLN UNIVERSITY.

20 "SYSTEM." THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION ESTABLISHED
21 UNDER ARTICLE XX-A.

22 SUBARTICLE B
23 COORDINATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
24 SECTION 2010-L. STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

25 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.--THE STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION IS
26 ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.

27 (B) PURPOSE.--THE PURPOSE OF THE BOARD IS TO PROVIDE
28 DIRECTION, COORDINATION AND SUPPORT TO ENSURE THAT INSTITUTIONS
29 OF HIGHER EDUCATION FULLY MEET THE WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC
30 DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH AND ENSURE THAT ALL

1 RESIDENTS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH HAVE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, WORLD-
2 CLASS POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.

3 (C) MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT.--THE BOARD SHALL CONSIST OF
4 THE VOTING MEMBERS SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION. IN MAKING
5 APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD, THE GOVERNOR SHALL ENSURE THAT THE
6 APPOINTEE IS A PENNSYLVANIA RESIDENT AND HAS THE BACKGROUND AND
7 EXPERIENCE SUITABLE FOR PERFORMING THE STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITY
8 OF A MEMBER OF THE BOARD. MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD SHALL BE AS
9 FOLLOWS:

10 (1) THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION OR A DESIGNEE WHO SHALL
11 BE AN EMPLOYEE OF THE DEPARTMENT.

12 (2) THE SECRETARY OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY OR A DESIGNEE
13 WHO SHALL BE AN EMPLOYEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND
14 INDUSTRY.

15 (3) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT
16 PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE OR A DESIGNEE WHO SHALL BE AN
17 EMPLOYEE OF THE SENATE.

18 (4) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY
19 LEADER OF THE SENATE OR A DESIGNEE WHO SHALL BE AN EMPLOYEE
20 OF THE SENATE.

21 (5) ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED
22 BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OR A DESIGNEE
23 WHO SHALL BE AN EMPLOYEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

24 (6) ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED
25 BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OR A
26 DESIGNEE WHO SHALL BE AN EMPLOYEE OF THE HOUSE OF
27 REPRESENTATIVES.

28 (7) MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, IN ACCORDANCE
29 WITH PARAGRAPH (8), AS FOLLOWS:

30 (I) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATE-OWNED UNIVERSITY

1 WHO MUST BE A PRESIDENT, ADMINISTRATOR OR LOCAL TRUSTEE.

2 (II) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
3 THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

4 (III) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A COMMUNITY COLLEGE WHO
5 MUST BE A PRESIDENT, ADMINISTRATOR OR BOARD MEMBER.

6 (IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF AN INDEPENDENT
7 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WHO MUST BE A PRESIDENT,
8 ADMINISTRATOR OR BOARD MEMBER.

9 (V) FOUR REPRESENTATIVES, ONE FROM EACH STATE-
10 RELATED UNIVERSITY, WHO MUST BE PRESIDENTS, CHANCELLORS,
11 ADMINISTRATORS OR LOCAL TRUSTEES.

12 (VI) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF A UNION REPRESENTING
13 EMPLOYEES AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION WHO
14 MAY NOT BE FROM THE SAME INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
15 AS THE REPRESENTATIVES UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OR (III).

16 (VII) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF BUSINESS.

17 (VIII) TWO STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES, ONE OF WHOM IS A
18 STUDENT AT AN INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION AND ONE OF WHOM IS
19 A STUDENT AT A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

20 (IX) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE THADDEUS STEVENS
21 COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY.

22 (8) THE GOVERNOR SHALL MAKE THE APPOINTMENTS UNDER:

23 (I) PARAGRAPH (7) (III) FROM A LIST OF THREE NAMES
24 SUBMITTED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY
25 COLLEGES;

26 (II) PARAGRAPH (7) (IV) FROM A LIST OF THREE NAMES
27 SUBMITTED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND
28 UNIVERSITIES; AND

29 (III) PARAGRAPH (7) (VII) FROM A LIST OF FIVE NAMES
30 SUBMITTED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA CHAMBER OF BUSINESS AND

1 INDUSTRY.

2 (9) IF AN ENTITY UNDER PARAGRAPH (8) FAILS TO SUBMIT A
3 LIST WITHIN 20 DAYS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BOARD OR OF A
4 VACANCY OF A MEMBER UNDER PARAGRAPH (7), THE GOVERNOR SHALL
5 APPOINT A QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL TO FILL THE VACANCY.

6 (D) TERM.--THE TERM OF OFFICE OF APPOINTED MEMBERS UNDER
7 SUBSECTION (C) (7) (I), (II), (III), (IV), (V), (VII) AND (IX)
8 SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF SIX YEARS OR UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS
9 APPOINTED AND QUALIFIED, EXCEPT THAT, OF THE INITIAL APPOINTEES,
10 THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THREE MEMBERS TO SERVE TERMS OF TWO
11 YEARS, FOUR MEMBERS TO SERVE TERMS OF FOUR YEARS AND FOUR
12 MEMBERS TO SERVE TERMS OF SIX YEARS. THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
13 AND THE SECRETARY OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY SHALL SERVE AS LONG AS
14 THEY CONTINUE IN OFFICE. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD APPOINTED BY THE
15 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL SERVE A TERM OF OFFICE CONCURRENT WITH
16 THEIR RESPECTIVE ELECTIVE TERMS AS MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY. THE STUDENT MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR UNDER
18 SUBSECTION (C) (7) (VIII) SHALL SERVE A TERM OF TWO YEARS OR UPON
19 GRADUATION, SEPARATION OR FAILURE TO MAINTAIN GOOD ACADEMIC
20 STANDING AT THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN WHICH THE
21 STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED. THE MEMBERS UNDER SUBSECTION (C) (7) (VI)
22 MAY NOT SERVE MORE THAN ONE CONSECUTIVE TERM OF TWO YEARS AND
23 MAY NOT BE FROM THE SAME UNION.

24 (E) ORGANIZATION.--THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE A CHAIR AND
25 VICE CHAIR OF THE BOARD. THE MEMBERS SHALL SELECT FROM AMONG
26 THEMSELVES SUCH OFFICERS AS THEY DEEM NECESSARY.

27 (F) QUORUM AND MEETINGS.--

28 (1) A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS SHALL CONSTITUTE A QUORUM FOR
29 THE TRANSACTION OF ANY BUSINESS.

30 (2) THE BOARD SHALL MEET TO CONDUCT OFFICIAL BUSINESS NO

1 LESS THAN ONCE EVERY THREE MONTHS OR BY THE CALL OF THE
2 CHAIR.

3 (G) EXPENSES.--MEMBERS SHALL RECEIVE NO COMPENSATION FOR
4 THEIR SERVICES BUT SHALL BE REIMBURSED FOR THE EXPENSES
5 NECESSARILY INCURRED BY THEM IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES.

6 (H) INITIAL APPOINTMENT AND VACANCIES.--AN APPOINTING
7 AUTHORITY SHALL APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE BOARD WITHIN 30 DAYS OF
8 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BOARD. IF A VACANCY OCCURS ON THE
9 BOARD, THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY SHALL APPOINT A SUCCESSOR MEMBER
10 WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE VACANCY.

11 (I) REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBERS.--AN APPOINTED MEMBER WHO FAILS
12 TO ATTEND THREE CONSECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS SHALL FORFEIT THEIR
13 MEMBERSHIP ON THE BOARD, UNLESS THE CHAIR, UPON WRITTEN REQUEST
14 FROM THE MEMBER, DETERMINES THAT THE MEMBER SHOULD BE EXCUSED
15 FROM A MEETING OR MEETINGS FOR GOOD CAUSE.

16 (J) ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND STAFF.--

17 (1) THE BOARD SHALL SELECT AN INDIVIDUAL TO SERVE AS THE
18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

19 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE
20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND
21 ADDITIONAL STAFF TO THE BOARD. THE BOARD SHALL BE ENTITLED TO
22 LEGAL COUNSEL AS DESIGNATED BY THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL.

23 (K) APPLICABILITY.--IN ADDITION TO ALL APPLICABLE LAWS,
24 REGULATIONS AND POLICIES, THE FOLLOWING ACTS SHALL APPLY TO THE
25 BOARD:

26 (1) THE ACT OF JULY 19, 1957 (P.L.1017, NO.451), KNOWN
27 AS THE STATE ADVERSE INTEREST ACT.

28 (2) THE ACT OF FEBRUARY 14, 2008 (P.L.6, NO.3), KNOWN AS
29 THE RIGHT-TO-KNOW LAW.

30 (3) THE PROVISIONS OF 65 PA.C.S. CHS. 7 (RELATING TO

1 OPEN MEETINGS) AND 11 (RELATING TO ETHICS STANDARDS AND
2 FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE).

3 SECTION 2011-L. POWERS AND DUTIES OF STATE BOARD OF HIGHER
4 EDUCATION.

5 (A) GENERAL RULE.--THE BOARD IS CHARGED WITH PROMOTING
6 QUALITY, ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
7 THROUGHOUT THIS COMMONWEALTH BY DEVELOPING, PLANNING AND
8 ADVANCING THE HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY AGENDA OF THE COMMONWEALTH
9 TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES FACING PENNSYLVANIA.

10 (B) GENERAL POWERS.--THE BOARD SHALL HAVE AND MAY EXERCISE
11 ALL POWERS APPROPRIATE TO CARRY OUT AND EFFECTUATE THE BOARD'S
12 PURPOSES UNDER THIS ARTICLE, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

13 (1) ADOPT BYLAWS, IF NECESSARY.

14 (2) MAKE AND EXECUTE CONTRACTS, GRANTS AND OTHER
15 INSTRUMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE.

16 (3) APPLY FOR AND RECEIVE MONEY FROM ANY SOURCE
17 CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE.

18 (4) ESTABLISH SUBCOMMITTEES AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES
19 COMPOSED AS THE CHAIR OR BOARD DEEMS NECESSARY.

20 (5) HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, SOLICIT PUBLIC COMMENT AND
21 SEEK STAKEHOLDER INPUT ON THE DIRECTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
22 IN THIS COMMONWEALTH.

23 (6) PERFORM OTHER OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES NECESSARY OR
24 APPROPRIATE TO FURTHER THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE.

25 (C) DUTIES.--THE BOARD SHALL PERFORM ALL DUTIES APPROPRIATE
26 TO CARRY OUT AND EFFECTUATE THE BOARD'S PURPOSES UNDER THIS
27 ARTICLE, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

28 (1) DEVELOP AND ADVANCE A HIGHER EDUCATION STRATEGIC
29 PLAN AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT PROMOTE GREATER
30 POSTSECONDARY ACCESS, QUALITY, AFFORDABILITY AND

1 ACCOUNTABILITY.

2 (2) DEVELOP POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS, INCLUDING:

3 (I) NEW PROGRAMS TO ALIGN TO WORKFORCE NEEDS.

4 (II) EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE USE OF STATE MONEY FOR
5 HIGHER EDUCATION.

6 (3) (I) CREATE AND MAINTAIN A DATABASE FOR THE
7 COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF POSTSECONDARY DATA TO INFORM
8 THE BOARD'S POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS AND ASSESS THE
9 PROGRESS OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS, INCLUDING
10 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE OUTCOMES.

11 (II) DATA COLLECTION UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE
12 LIMITED AND REDUCED TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE.

13 (III) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE BOARD SHALL
14 PRIORITIZE COLLECTING INFORMATION FROM DATA REPORTED TO
15 FEDERAL AND STATE ENTITIES AND ACCREDITING AGENCIES.

16 (IV) ANNUALLY, THE BOARD SHALL REPORT POSTSECONDARY
17 DATA ELEMENTS COLLECTED FROM INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
18 EDUCATION UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH. THE REPORT SHALL BE
19 TRANSMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND POSTED ON THE
20 BOARD'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

21 (V) THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 118 SHALL NOT APPLY TO
22 DATA COLLECTED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH.

23 (4) PROMOTE THE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION OF
24 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO INCREASE POSTSECONDARY
25 CREDENTIALS AND DEGREES TO:

26 (I) INCREASE BROAD ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY AND
27 AFFORDABLE POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIALS AND DEGREES.

28 (II) PROMOTE THE SEAMLESS TRANSFER OF CREDITS AND
29 CREDENTIALS, INCLUDING INCREASING COMMUNITY COLLEGE
30 TRANSFERS TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

1 (III) UTILIZE DUAL-ENROLLMENT CREDIT TO CREATE
2 STRONG PATHWAYS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND REDUCE
3 TIME TO DEGREE.

4 (IV) MEET THE ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
5 NEEDS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH WITH A FOCUS ON MEETING THE
6 NEEDS OF CURRENT AND FUTURE HIGH-PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS.

7 (5) IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE K-12 SECTOR, COORDINATE
8 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECTORS, WITH
9 A FOCUS ON MEETING THE NEEDS OF HIGH-PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS, TO
10 DEVELOP AFFORDABLE PATHWAYS TO POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIALS THAT
11 ARE ALIGNED TO CURRENT AND FUTURE WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC
12 NEEDS.

13 (6) ESTABLISH THE COUNCIL TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF
14 SUBARTICLE C.

15 (7) AT THE REQUEST OF AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
16 EDUCATION, ASSIST INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH
17 ASSESSING THEIR FISCAL HEALTH AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT.

18 (8) RECOMMEND TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY EMPLOYER
19 INCENTIVES TO ASSIST EMPLOYEES WITH ATTAINING SKILLS BY
20 FOCUSING ON CAREER AND TECHNICAL DEGREE PROGRAMS IN HIGH-
21 PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS.

22 (9) DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REPURPOSING AND REDUCING
23 UNDER-UTILIZED FACILITIES AND MAXIMIZING THEIR USE.

24 (D) TRANSFER OF POWERS AND DUTIES.--

25 (1) ALL POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE STATE BOARD OF
26 EDUCATION AND THE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION UNDER ARTICLE
27 XIX-A SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE BOARD. THIS PARAGRAPH DOES
28 NOT APPLY TO ANY APPLICATION FOR A WITHDRAWAL OF SPONSORSHIP
29 UNDER SECTION 1910-A FILED PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF
30 THIS PARAGRAPH.

1 (2) ALL POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE STATE BOARD OF
2 EDUCATION AND THE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION UNDER ARTICLE
3 XXVI-B RELATED TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO
4 THE BOARD.

5 (3) ALL FILES, RECORDS, CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS AND OTHER
6 MATERIALS WHICH ARE USED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OR
7 THE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE
8 POWERS, DUTIES OR FUNCTIONS EXERCISED BY THE STATE BOARD OF
9 EDUCATION OR THE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION RELATED TO
10 COMMUNITY COLLEGES ARE HEREBY TRANSFERRED TO THE BOARD.

11 (4) A REGULATION ADOPTED UNDER ARTICLE XIX-A SHALL BE
12 ENFORCED BY THE BOARD IN COLLABORATION WITH THE STATE BOARD
13 OF EDUCATION AND SHALL CONTINUE TO HAVE THE SAME FORCE AND
14 EFFECT UNTIL MODIFIED OR REVISED BY THE BOARD. THE BOARD MAY
15 PROMULGATE REGULATIONS IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBSECTION.

16 (5) THE BOARD, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE BOARD OF
17 EDUCATION, SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND
18 GENERAL ASSEMBLY NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2025, REGARDING THE
19 APPROPRIATE DELINEATION OF ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE
20 BOARD, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT RELATED TO
21 HIGHER EDUCATION, INCLUDING RECOMMENDED LEGISLATION TO UPDATE
22 ARTICLES XIX-A AND XXVI-B, AND OTHER RELATED PROVISIONS OF
23 THIS ACT.

24 (E) COORDINATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL ENTITIES.--THE BOARD
25 SHALL:

26 (1) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT, PROMOTE STRONG
27 PATHWAYS FROM GRADES K-12 THROUGH POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIALS
28 AND DEGREES.

29 (2) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION,
30 PROMOTE GREATER POSTSECONDARY ACCESS, QUALITY AND

1 AFFORDABILITY, INCLUDING THE USE AND QUALITY OF DUAL CREDIT,
2 APPRENTICESHIPS AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL PATHWAYS.

3 (3) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA WORKFORCE
4 DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS,
5 SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO OFFER PROGRAMS IN
6 HIGH-PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS AND APPRENTICESHIPS THAT MEET THIS
7 COMMONWEALTH'S CURRENT AND FUTURE WORKFORCE NEEDS.

8 (4) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE BOARD OF PRIVATE
9 LICENSED SCHOOLS, MAKE LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO
10 THE ACT OF DECEMBER 15, 1986 (P.L.1585, NO.174), KNOWN AS THE
11 PRIVATE LICENSED SCHOOLS ACT.

12 (F) CLOSURE OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.--

13 (1) NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2026, THE BOARD SHALL DEVELOP
14 PROCEDURES FOR AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO FOLLOW
15 WHEN THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, WHETHER OR NOT
16 CHARTERED IN THIS COMMONWEALTH, PROPOSES TAKING ACTION TO
17 DISCONTINUE OPERATIONS. THE PROCEDURES SHALL INCLUDE A PLAN
18 FOR THE ORDERLY CLOSURE OF THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
19 EDUCATION, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, A TEACH-OUT PLAN,
20 PRESERVATION AND ACCESSIBILITY OF STUDENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE
21 RECORDS, AND NOTIFICATION TO EMPLOYEES AS REQUIRED BY 29
22 U.S.C. CH. 23 (RELATING TO WORKER ADJUSTMENT AND RETRAINING
23 NOTIFICATION).

24 (2) THE BOARD MAY, CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF
25 FUNDS, ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH A THIRD PARTY TO
26 ESTABLISH A CENTRALIZED REPOSITORY OF STUDENT AND EMPLOYEE
27 RECORDS FOR AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT CLOSES
28 AND FAILS TO PLACE STUDENT RECORDS INTO A READILY ACCESSIBLE
29 DEPOSITORY. AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROPOSING TO
30 DISCONTINUE OPERATIONS MAY REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM THE BOARD

1 RELATING TO DISCONTINUANCE OF THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
2 EDUCATION'S OPERATIONS.

3 (3) TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY FEDERAL AND STATE LAW,
4 COMMONWEALTH FUNDS MAY BE WITHHELD FROM AN INSTITUTION OF
5 HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDED THAT:

6 (I) NO FUNDS MAY BE WITHHELD PRIOR TO THE
7 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S FORMAL VOTE AND
8 SUBSEQUENT NOTIFICATION OF CLOSURE.

9 (II) NO FUNDS MAY BE WITHHELD FROM SERVICES WHICH
10 HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED OR WILL BE PROVIDED PRIOR
11 TO THE DATE OF CLOSURE.

12 (III) NO FUNDS PROVIDED FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL AID
13 MAY BE WITHHELD ON THE BASIS OF THIS SECTION PRIOR TO THE
14 DATE OF CLOSURE OR AT SUCH TIME THAT THE STUDENT IS NO
15 LONGER ENROLLED AT THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

16 SECTION 2012-L. ANNUAL FUNDING REQUEST.

17 IN ADDITION TO THE SUBMISSION REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 610 OF
18 THE ACT OF APRIL 9, 1929 (P.L.177, NO.175), KNOWN AS THE
19 ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1929, A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
20 EDUCATION SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF ITS BUDGET REQUEST TO THE
21 BOARD.

22 SECTION 2013-L. LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING.

23 (A) DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIC PLAN.--THE BOARD SHALL BE
24 RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING A HIGHER EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN FOR
25 THE COMMONWEALTH WHICH SHALL:

26 (1) IDENTIFY LONG-TERM, MEASURABLE GOALS AND PROVIDE
27 STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTING THOSE GOALS.

28 (2) ASSESS THE HIGHER EDUCATION NEEDS OF THIS
29 COMMONWEALTH AS WELL AS EACH REGION OF THIS COMMONWEALTH.

30 (3) INCLUDE COMPONENTS REQUIRED OF THE MASTER PLAN FOR

1 HIGHER EDUCATION UNDER SECTION 2603-B(H).

2 (B) ADOPTION OF STRATEGIC PLAN.--NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1,
3 2025, THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT A HIGHER EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN.
4 THE PLAN SHALL BE REVIEWED AND REVISED, AS NECESSARY, EVERY FIVE
5 YEARS.

6 (C) CONSULTATION.--IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN, THE
7 BOARD SHALL:

8 (1) CONSULT WITH AND SEEK INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS.

9 (2) MAKE THE STRATEGIC PLAN AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND
10 PUBLIC COMMENT FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN 30 DAYS.

11 (3) HOLD AT LEAST SIX REGIONAL PUBLIC HEARINGS AS PART
12 OF THE PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS UNDER PARAGRAPH (2).

13 (D) ANNUAL REPORTS.--BEGINNING MAY 1, 2026, AND EACH MAY 1
14 THEREAFTER, THE BOARD SHALL DEVELOP AN ANNUAL REPORT WHICH SHALL
15 INCLUDE AN UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
16 HIGHER EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN. AS PART OF THE FIRST ANNUAL
17 REPORT, THE BOARD SHALL INCLUDE A REVIEW AND MAKE
18 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO THE EFFICACY OF THE STRUCTURE AND
19 OPERATION OF THE BOARD.

20 (E) TRANSMITTAL OF STRATEGIC PLAN AND ANNUAL REPORTS.--THE
21 BOARD SHALL POST THE STRATEGIC PLAN AND ANNUAL REPORTS ON ITS
22 PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE AND TRANSMIT THEM TO THE
23 FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS:

24 (1) THE GOVERNOR.

25 (2) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

26 (3) THE PRESIDENT OF EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
27 EDUCATION.

28 (4) THE PRESIDENT OF EACH BARGAINING UNIT THAT
29 REPRESENTS EMPLOYEES AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

30 SECTION 11. THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.