



Pennsylvania students are leaving college with tens of thousands of dollars of debt, and who knows how many students are simply not going to college because they cannot afford it? Pennsylvania is failing a generation by not providing affordable public higher education. It's time for Pennsylvania Promise – a plan to make higher education affordable in the Commonwealth.

WITH PA PROMISE, OUR COMMONWEALTH COULD PROMISE TO:

- ▼ **Cover up to four years of tuition and fees** at one of the Commonwealth's 14 public **community colleges** – or until an associate degree is complete
- ▼ **Cover four years of tuition and fees** for any recent high school graduate with a family income less than or equal to \$110,000 per year accepted into one of the 14 universities in **Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education**. For a recent high school graduate with a family income less than or equal to \$48,000, room and board will also be covered.
- ▼ **Provide four years of tuition and fees** not to exceed the State System tuition rate, depending on family income, for students accepted into a **state-related university**
- ▼ Finance the expansion of **grant assistance to adults** seeking in-demand skills and industry-recognized credentials, as well as college credit

BY THE NUMBERS:

WHY PENNSYLVANIA NEEDS THIS PROMISE

PA ranks **49 out of 50 states in higher-ed funding** per capita.

SOURCE: STATE HIGHER EDUCATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS; POPULATION DATA FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS, REGIONAL INCOME DIVISION

PA ranks **47 out of 50 states in educational appropriations per full-time equivalency (FTE)**, adjusted for inflation. PA funds \$4,296 per FTE – below the national average.

SOURCE: STATE HIGHER EDUCATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (SHEEO) 2018 STATE HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE REPORT

Pennsylvania ranked **50th in higher education** for the second straight year in U.S. News' Best States 2019 report, with student debt and tuition and fees dragging down the state.

SOURCE: U.S. NEWS BEST STATES 2019

Pennsylvania ranked **51st out of 50 states and Washington, D.C., for student debt**, with a student graduating with an average of \$35,988 of debt.

SOURCE: LEND EDU - STUDENT LOAN DEBT STATISTICS BY SCHOOL BY STATE 2019

Pennsylvania ranks **50th in the increase in average debt per borrower** from 2007 to 2017, with an increase of \$12,196 or 51% over that time.

SOURCE: LEND EDU - STUDENT LOAN DEBT STATISTICS BY SCHOOL BY STATE 2019

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- ▼ **CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS** and encourage them to support PA Promise bills in the House and Senate.
- ▼ Visit PApromise.org/share-your-story or email info@paproromise.org to **SHARE YOUR STORY** about how the price of college has affected your higher education.
- ▼ **ATTEND OR ORGANIZE A PENNSYLVANIA PROMISE RALLY**. Visit Facebook.com/PApromiseHE for upcoming events.



PApromise.org



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