



2025–26 Pennsylvania Promise Program Overview

Overview: The Pennsylvania Promise Program would be a statewide, last-dollar promise program in the Commonwealth that would remove financial burdens for students and their families. The program would make college more affordable and lessen student debt for future generations. The program would cover tuition and fees for qualifying students as well as room and board for the most at-need students who attend a public university or community college. The proposed legislation is [House Bill 2084](#) and [Senate Bill 299](#).

Who qualifies / who it benefits:

- Students who are 24 years old or younger, have graduated from high school, and are a resident of the Commonwealth would qualify for the grant. Additionally:
 - Students whose household income is \$250,000 or below would have tuition and fees covered.
 - Students whose household income is \$60,000 or below would have tuition and fees as well as room and board covered.
- Adult learners who are 24 years old or older and are a resident of the Commonwealth would qualify for the adult-learner grant.
- The program would benefit working-class students and families across the Commonwealth.

Where funds could be used: Qualifying students could use their grants at:

- A Pennsylvania community college
- A state-owned (PASSHE) institution
- A state-related institution (using PASSHE tuition rate)
- Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
- Students attending private colleges in Pennsylvania (amended into the bill on Feb. 4, 2026)

Who administers the program: The program would be administered by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA).

Cost/funding mechanism: The program, if enacted, would be subject to funding per year through the state budget process.

Do other states have “promise” programs?

Yes! 30 other states offer statewide [promise programs](#).

Learn more: www.PApromise.org



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