

PA EdVentures



Spring is Coming to PDE!

Now that spring is officially here, it's time to celebrate the recent achievements and discoveries in PDE!

In March, we hosted the [PDE Data Summit](#) in Hershey, which highlighted the transformative power of data to enrich school communities across the Commonwealth.

We also announced that more than [\\$39 million was awarded](#) to 36 school entities spanning 21 counties. These funds are dedicated to establish safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments, ensuring that every student can thrive.

Under the leadership of the Shapiro Administration, the [blueprint for higher education](#) continues to champion the educational aspirations of all. Regardless of their background, the blueprint continues to support more opportunities for students and will help thousands of Pennsylvanians to achieve their goals.

As we say goodbye to March and anticipate the opportunities of spring, we remain committed to fostering inclusive, supportive, and enriching educational environments for all learners across the Commonwealth.

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FID Application Window Announcement

The application to offer a Flexible Instructional Day (FID) program during the 2024-2025 school year will be available on the PDE website by April 1, 2024. Public school entities will access and submit the FID application via the [Future Ready Comprehensive Planning Portal \(FRCPP\)](#). The deadline for submitting applications for the 2024-2025 school year is June 1, 2024.

Public school entities that had an accepted FID application beginning with the 2021-22 school year should decide whether to reapply as their application will expire at the end of the 2023-24 school year. School entities cannot use an FID without an accepted application. A list of accepted applicants with effective and termination dates can be found on the [Flexible Instructional Day Program webpage](#).

For additional information, including the FID guidance considerations and law, contact the PDE School Services Office at ra-fid@pa.gov or visit the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) [Flexible Instructional Day Program webpage](#).



The Keystone State Challenge Academy is Now Accepting Applications for 2024 Class

The [Keystone State Challenge Academy \(KSCA\)](#) is accepting applications for its fifth class of cadets, which begins in July 2024. The KSCA is designed to give academically challenged teens a second chance at obtaining their basic education, learn leadership, self-discipline, and responsibility to build a better life.

The program is open to 16-18-year-old male and female Pennsylvania residents who are failing to progress in high school or may not be on a clear path to graduating. Applicants must be willing to be drug free, free of felony convictions, and voluntarily commit to the program. The program lasts for 17 months, with the first five months consisting of residential training at FTIG followed by one year of mentorship back in the community.

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For detailed eligibility requirements and to begin the application process, visit the [Eligibility and Admissions web page](#).

If you prefer to have an application mailed to you or would like to talk with someone about this program, please contact the Academy by emailing RA-MVPACHALLENGE@pa.gov, or by calling 717-861-7767 or 717-861-8831.



Consider Applying to the Teach Plus Pennsylvania Teaching Policy Fellowship

Teach Plus Pennsylvania is currently accepting applications for the 2024-25 [Pennsylvania Teaching Policy Fellowship](#). This highly selective leadership opportunity is a **paid** fellowship for 30 outstanding Pennsylvania teachers looking to deepen their knowledge of education policy and amplify the voices of teacher leaders in Pennsylvania.

To learn more and apply, please visit the [Pennsylvania Policy Fellowship webpage](#). If you would like to nominate teachers, please visit our [Teach Plus Pennsylvania Nomination form](#).



Join Us for the Grand Opening of the State Library of PA

The Office of Commonwealth Libraries invites you to a celebration of the State Library of Pennsylvania. We plan to celebrate the historic space, the libraries and librarians of Pennsylvania, and the people who made it possible with a full day of ceremony, interactive programs, exhibits, and lectures.

This event will be held **Friday, April 26, 2024** from 11a.m. - 5p.m. in the Forum Building at 607 South Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17120. For information on parking and directions, please visit the [State Library Location webpage](#).

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Information Regarding the Educator Pipeline Support Grant Program

The **Educator Pipeline Support Grant Program** will be administered by [PHEAA \(PA Higher Education Assistance Agency\)](#) and includes \$10,000 grants to student teachers, or \$15,000 if the student teacher teaches in a school with high turnover; Cooperating teachers receive a grant of \$2,500.

Prospective applicants should check PHEAA's website for more information in April, as online applications should open on **4/15/24**.



Learn More About Becoming a Purple Star School

Purple Star Schools is a program that supports military-connected children as they relocate to new schools due to a parent's change in duty station. This designation is given to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and Private/Non-public schools for their commitment to serving active-duty military families and students. If your LEA or school is interested in applying for this designation and serving military families and military connected students, email RA-EDMILITARYFAMK12@pa.gov to request an application.

The application period is open from April 1, 2024, through August 1, 2024. To learn more about the Purple Star Schools application process, visit PDE's [Purple Star Schools webpage](#).

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