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NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Keith New, 717-720-2509
knew@pheaa.org

PHEAA Reminds Students of Approaching 2019-20 PA State Grant Application Deadline

May 1 is the deadline for need-based PA State Grant applications; should not be missed!

Harrisburg, PA (April 22, 2019) – PHEAA is reminding students and families that the 2019-20 PA State Grant application submission deadline is May 1. This deadline applies to all renewal applicants and first-time applicants who plan to enroll in a college, university, or college transfer program at 2-year public or private colleges (except community colleges and designated Pennsylvania Open Admission institutions).

To apply for a PA State Grant, applicants must first complete the 2019-20 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®), which can be accessed online at PHEAA.org/FAFSA or fafsa.gov. While paper applications are also available for [download](#) and manual completion, completing the FAFSA online saves time and reduces application and processing errors.

In addition to completing the FAFSA, first-time applicants must also submit a PA State Grant Form (SGF). First-time applicants who submit the FAFSA® online will be automatically redirected to the SGF by following the onscreen prompts on the confirmation page. First-time applicants who have already submitted their FAFSA but have not completed the SGF will receive an email directing them to PHEAA's secure [Account Access](#) site for completion. Both applications are free to submit.

Information provided by applicants when submitting an online FAFSA is automatically applied to portions of the SGF to increase accuracy and convenience.

“The PA State Grant Program is an important part of a successful college funding plan for thousands of students who might not otherwise be able to afford higher education,” said Representative Mike Peifer, PHEAA Board Chairman. “Grants that are funded by the Commonwealth provide assistance to those who need it most now, without contributing to their student loan debt burden that must be repaid later.”

(more)

First-time applicants who plan to enroll in a community college, business, trade, or technical school, a hospital school of nursing, a designated Pennsylvania Open Admission institution, or a non-transferable 2-year degree program at a community, 2-year or 4-year college have until August 1, 2019 to complete their PA State Grant application.

“We strongly urge college-bound students to apply for a PA State Grant before the May 1 deadline,” said Senator Wayne D. Fontana, PHEAA Board Vice Chairman. “There is no cost to apply and eligibility for gift aid, including a PA State Grant, should always be exhausted before considering any kind of a student loan which must be repaid after graduation.”

Students and families are encouraged to visit PHEAA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) (@PHEAAaid), and [LinkedIn](#) where they can learn more about the higher education financial aid process, reminders of financial aid deadlines, and information pertaining to planning for higher education. Additionally, video tutorials explaining the student aid process and types of aid available can be found at [YouTube.com/PHEAAstudentAid](https://www.youtube.com/PHEAAstudentAid).

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About PHEAA

Created in 1963 by the Pennsylvania General Assembly, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) has evolved into one of the nation’s leading student aid organizations. Today, PHEAA is a national provider of student financial aid services, serving millions of students and thousands of schools through its loan guaranty, loan servicing, software development, financial aid processing, outreach and other student aid programs.

PHEAA’s earnings are used to support its public service mission and to pay its operating costs, including administration of the PA State Grant and other state-funded student aid programs. PHEAA has contributed more than \$1 billion from its business earnings to directly supplement student aid programs to further support Pennsylvania families and taxpayers.

PHEAA conducts its student loan servicing activities nationally as FedLoan Servicing and American Education Services (AES). For more information, visit www.pheaa.org.