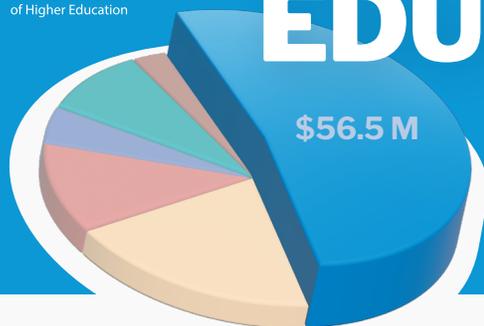




ADDRESSING THE WORKFORCE SHORTAGE:

EDUCATION



THE STATE SYSTEM IS SEEKING \$112 MILLION IN NEW FUNDING*

\$56.5 million of that amount will be used for financial aid to reduce costs for students pursuing jobs in education

The POWER of PASSHE:



48,800 PASSHE education graduates are working in PA



23% of PA's education workforce consists of PASSHE graduates



25% of PA's teacher shortage can be filled by PASSHE by 2030

The Need:

Pennsylvania schools are facing a well-documented teacher shortage, with new teacher certifications declining by more than 67% since 2011. Adding to the urgency, a recent study found more teachers on emergency permits than newly certified teachers from teacher preparation programs.

PASSHE Solution:

State System universities were created over a century ago to train teachers, and with 17,400 majors, education remains the second largest academic program. Now more than ever, the State System is ready to prepare and train more teachers/educators. The State System is seeking a targeted investment of \$112 million in new funding to produce more graduates in six high-growth jobs, including education. PASSHE plans to use \$56.5 million to provide direct financial relief to education students, saving each an average of \$1,500. High-need students could receive an additional \$5,000, for a total of \$6,500 per year.

* PASSHE is also seeking \$573.5 million, an inflationary increase of \$21 million (or 3.8%), that combined with the \$112 million in new funding for targeted student support would enable the Board of Governors to consider freezing the basic in-state undergraduate tuition rate for an unprecedented fifth consecutive year.

Education Innovation



There's a movement happening in teaching tomorrow's educators.

In recent years, school districts have begun eliminating classes like music, art, and physical education to save money or to improve performance in academic areas that are included in mandatory testing.

This caught the attention of **Dr. Amy Shannonhouse**, an associate professor in PennWest's College of Education, who wrote her doctoral dissertation on the academic benefits of physical activity.

"You never want to have young children sitting still," Shannonhouse said, citing additional research that reinforces her findings. "Classroom teachers should do brain breaks."

Brain breaks, as well as an emphasis on integrating fundamental motor skills into content areas, are an important part of the PennWest curriculum for education majors.

Combining movements with literacy has been shown to support brain and motor skill development. Motor skills enable children to be efficient movers, which leads to physical health and improved self-esteem.

Navy Veteran Pursuing Dream of Teaching



Growing up, **Jared Johnson** never considered a career in teaching. Now, as an adult, he can't imagine doing anything else. Johnson, a native of Effort, Pa., now living in Saylorsburg, served five years in the Navy. His experience as a military trainer laid the foundation for a civilian teaching career.

"I found I really enjoyed it—I enjoyed listening for that 'aha' moment," he said. By working with children, "I was investing in my fellow servicemen's futures," he said.

Jared transferred to **East Stroudsburg**

University's education program after earning an associate degree from Northampton Community College. He says the university is very welcoming to veterans and the faculty is excited to see adult students enhance their education.

After graduation he plans to teach English to fourth- through eighth-grade students and be a positive, real-life role model for his students.

"I enjoy writing and the art of writing. I also love reading—I think it's a great escape," he explained. "Reading and writing are two fundamental skills that can help you achieve great things."

Jared will be a student teacher next fall and is on track to graduate in May 2024, when he will begin mentoring future generations of students and passing on his love for reading.

Pennsylvania's High-Growth Jobs and Industries



www.passhe.edu

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