PENNSYLVANIA'S STATE SYSTEM of HIGHER EDUCATION

System Priorities

2026-2027

PASSHE's long-term priorities



2026/27 short-term priorities

Optimize Academics

Optimize Finances

Optimize Engagement

(1A) Increase sharing of courses and programs to expand access for students

- Presidents finalize the financial model for revenue sharing
- Presidents finalize expanded list of shared courses system-wide
- Increase student awareness of shared courses and programs



(1B) Increase student persistence/completion and non-traditional student enrollment

- Increase first to second year persistence
- Increase second to third year persistence
- Increase adult learner enrollment
- Increase use of credit for prior learning
- Increase undergrad transfers



(1C) Improve efficiency

- Increase undergraduate lecture course size
- Optimize faculty headcount, overload, and temp utilization
- Reduce instructional compensation costs as percent of net tuition revenue



(1D) Advance key initiatives

- System-level position statement on AI
- Potential for 3-year degrees
- Direct admissions
- PASSHE Pledge



Optimize Finances

(2A) Foster comprehensive revenue strategies

- Pursue increased base state funding, one-time state funding, capital funding and potential statutory relief that generates savings
- Increase system-level private investment (grants/philanthropy)
- Increase university-level private investment (philanthropy)



(2B) Ensure efficient stewardship of funds

- Optimize funding, tuition, aid and cost controls (operating margin) to improve annual results
- Rebuild reserves over the projection period
- Review allocation formula funding methodology to identify how to drive university-level decision-making in support of System priorities



(2C) Align capital funding to system priorities

- Shift capital 5-year plans to focus on high-priority infrastructure and demolition to reduce deferred maintenance
- Increase budgeting for deferred maintenance



Optimize Engagement

(3A) Foster Pennsylvania's 2+2 culture

- Building upon work already done related to credit transfer, work with the community colleges to learn from other states on how the 2+2 pipeline enhances affordability and access
- Recommend action steps for enhancing a 2+2 culture in PA



(3B) Enhance connectivity with statewide partners

- Increase interaction with higher ed partners across the state through increased dialogue and engagement
- Increase interaction with statewide professional and industry associations that rely on PASSHE universities for talent



(3C) Advance strategic marketing efforts

- Work with universities to implement co-branding measures recommended by the joint marketing workgroup
- Enhance promotion of the "Grow PA" grant and tuition waiver
- Enhance joint recruitment efforts underway across the state



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Optimize Academics

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(1C) Improve efficiency

(1D) Advance key initiatives

Optimize Finances

(2A) Foster comprehensive revenue strategies

(2B) Ensure efficient stewardship of funds

(2C) Align capital funding to system priorities

Optimize Engagement

(3A) Foster PA's 2+2 culture

(3B) Enhance connectivity with statewide partners

(3C) Advance strategic marketing efforts



Pennsylvania's

STATE SYSTEM

of Higher Education