
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 114 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SCHWANK, TEPLITZ, BREWSTER, BLAKE, FONTANA,
SCAVELLO, WOZNIAK, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, WILEY AND HAYWOOD,
MAY 14, 2015

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MAY 14, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the
5 laws relating thereto," in vocational education, further
6 providing for vocational education equipment grants; and, in
7 reimbursements by Commonwealth and between school districts,
8 providing for career and technical education innovation and
9 career preparation.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Section 1855 of the act of March 10, 1949
13 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,
14 amended June 22, 2001 (P.L.530, No.35), is amended to read:

15 Section 1855. Vocational Education Equipment Grants.--(a)
16 For the 2000-2001 fiscal year and the 2001-2002 fiscal year, the
17 Department of Education shall establish a grant program to
18 assist area vocational-technical schools, school districts
19 offering approved vocational-technical programs and the Thaddeus
20 Stevens State College of Technology in purchasing equipment that
21 meets industry standards for the purpose of providing training

1 to students. Grants shall be limited to the purchase of
2 equipment in the following program areas: automotive technology,
3 auto body, diesel technology, precision machine technology,
4 heating ventilation and air conditioning, printing, dental
5 assisting, electronics, building trades and other program areas
6 approved by the Secretary of Education. Grants shall be awarded
7 by the Department of Education on a matching basis, two State
8 dollars (\$2) for every local dollar (\$1), and shall be limited
9 to funds appropriated for that purpose.

10 (b) For the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the Department of
11 Education shall establish a competitive grant program to assist
12 area vocational-technical schools and school districts offering
13 approved vocational-technical programs in purchasing equipment
14 that meets industry standards for the purpose of providing
15 training to students. The Department of Education shall
16 establish other criteria or factors as the Department of
17 Education deems necessary, which shall include an in-kind
18 contribution by employers, employer umbrella organizations or
19 labor organizations, and shall give priority in awarding grants
20 to recipients of funding under section 2508.6(b).

21 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

22 Section 2508.6. Career and Technical Education Innovation
23 and Career Preparation.--(a) For the school year 2015-2016 and
24 each school year thereafter, eight million dollars (\$8,000,000)
25 shall be distributed by the Department of Education on a
26 competitive basis to school districts and area vocational-
27 technical schools to offer college and career counseling in
28 middle and high schools in order to develop pathways for
29 students to pursue high-skill careers.

30 (b) For the school year 2015-2016 and each year thereafter,

1 fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) shall be distributed by
2 the Department of Education on a competitive basis to area
3 vocational-technical schools and to school districts with eight
4 (8) or more approved vocational-technical programs to support
5 the establishment or enhancement of career-technical education
6 programs that prepare students for success in the high-skill
7 economy. Programs shall prepare students for high-demand or
8 high-growth occupations based on labor market data that pay a
9 family-sustaining wage and offer a career ladder for growth
10 opportunities. Proposals shall:

11 (i) Reflect the endorsement and participation of each of the
12 following:

13 (A) A local workforce investment board.

14 (B) At least one local employer, employer umbrella
15 organization or labor organization.

16 (C) At least one institution of higher education.

17 (ii) Provide work-based learning opportunities for
18 participating students.

19 (iii) Provide the opportunity for students to earn college
20 credit or industry-recognized certification.

21 (iv) Meet other requirements as established by the
22 department.

23 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, or
24 immediately, whichever is later.