



Pennsylvania
Department of Education

PA Workforce Pell

Supporting PA Postsecondary Program Providers with secure data submission

March 6, 2026



Agenda Outline

- 1. Overview & Orientation to 26-27 PA Workforce Pell Program Application (5 min)**
- 2. Data Templates Review (20 min)**
- 3. Evidence Documents & Attestations Form (10 min)**
- 4. Technical Assistance Resources (5 min)**
- 5. Questions, Answers & Discussion (15 min)**
- 6. Next Steps (5 min)**



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Overview & Orientation

PA Workforce Pell 2026-27



Workforce Pell – Federal/State Implementation

- Federal reconciliation bill ([H.R. 1](#)) signed into law on July 4, 2025
 - Expands federal Pell Grant eligibility to short-term job training program
 - Goes into effect on July 1, 2026
 - Numerous requirements for program eligibility with state and federal verification
 - [Federal negotiated rulemaking](#) awaits final rules and related guidance
- State Governors consult with state workforce development boards to determine eligible programs aligned to high-skill, high-wage, in-demand, stackable credentials, and portable across employers.
- PA postsecondary institutions may request approval of short-term training programs to determine eligibility for Workforce Pell funding.



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SWDB Endorsed Initial Occupation List

2026-2027
Academic Year

SOC Code Occupational Title

15-1232 Computer User Support Specialists

25-9045 Teaching Assistants, Non-Postsecondary

29-2042 Emergency Medical Technicians

29-2052 Pharmacy Technicians

29-2081 Opticians, Dispensing

29-2099 Health Technologists & Technicians, Other

31-1120 Home Health & Personal Care Aides

31-1131 Nursing Assistants

31-9096 Veterinary Assistants

31-9097 Phlebotomists

49-9021 Heating, A/C & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers

49-9051 Electrical Power-Line Installers & Repairers

51-4121 Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers

53-3032 Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers

47-2031 Carpenters

47-2111 Electricians

47-2152 Plumbers, Pipefitters & Steamfitters

49-9052 Telecommunications Line Installers & Repairers

51-9161 CNC Tool Operators



PA Workforce Pell 26-27 Eligible Program Application

Required Application Elements:

*Downloadable from [Workforce Pell | Department of Education | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](#)

1. Data Submission Template*: Program & Student Data
2. Evidence Documents: (PDF preferred)
 1. Stackable & Portable Credential
 2. Employer-Aligned Competencies
3. Attestations Form*: Good-standing, Certifying & Completed

All application elements due to be submitted to secure account by
12 noon April 17 2026



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Secure Account Creation

PA Workforce Pell 2026-27



Step 1: Secure Account Creation

<https://forms.office.com/g/1itDqrg2mg>

Eligible postsecondary institutions applying for PA Workforce Pell 26-27 must first establish a secure Commonwealth account including the following information:

- AUN
- Accreditation confirmation
- Data lead contact name, email
- 1-2 weeks to create secure account: notification from PDE Office of Administration
 - Email from ra-enterprisetserv@pa.gov
- Account Creation requests are open from Feb 13 – until March 31, 2026 (last call)

PA Workforce Pell: Electing Institution's Account Creation Form

Submission of PA Workforce Pell data requires each electing institution to set up an account with the Commonwealth for the secure transfer of student and program-level data on each of its programs submitted for approval. Participation in PA Workforce Pell is entirely voluntary. Completion of the account creation form does not obligate an institution to participate, nor does it guarantee approval of any program for Workforce Pell eligibility. Final program approval will be subject to state and federal review processes.

This form captures contact information for each participating institutions' lead data manager. This contact will be responsible to gather, secure, submit and respond to any related questions from the department's PA Workforce Pell data team.

REMINDER: By submitting this form, you are not obligating the institution to submit data to PDE or to apply to participate in Workforce Pell. This registration is merely to prepare for the submission of data later this year.

With submission of this account creation form, data leaders from electing PA institutions can expect to receive a confirmation email within 1-2 weeks from a Commonwealth IT service account confirming that a secure account is set-up.

PA institutions who have established secure accounts will receive an Excel template to complete and submit via their account's secure file transfer protocol. Tentative data elements and documents include, but are not limited to:

- Student Identifiers (SSN, Name)
- Institution AUN
- Program Information (including CIP, clock hours, credit hours, cost, credential awarded, etc.)
- Cohort Start Date
- Cohort Scheduled Completion Date
- Student Actual Start Date
- Student Actual Completion Date
- Student Withdrawal Date (if applicable)
- Program Articulation Agreements
- Program Advisory Board Meeting Minutes



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Data Submission Templates

PA Workforce Pell 2026-207



Application: Data Submission Template



Pennsylvania Department of Education Workforce Pell Application Data Submission Template 2026-2027

Tab 1: Instructions

Tab 2: Program Data

Tab 3: Student Data

Application Process

Eligible postsecondary institutions in Pennsylvania who are accredited and eligible to award Title IV federal financial aid may submit an application to have their programs reviewed for approval for Workforce Pell. Institutions should follow the process below to submit their program and student data as key part of the PA Workforce Pell 26-27 application:

1. Create an account for secure data transfer (SFTP) using the account creation form (This may take up to two weeks)
2. Review the data specifications in the 2026-27 PA Workforce Pell Application Guidance and start gathering required data and information
3. Download this form
4. Complete this template by entering the requested data in the **Program Information** and **Student Information** worksheet tabs
5. File naming convention is: ***AUN-Institution Name-Date.xlsx***
6. Log into the secure FTP site to upload your files. You will upload this file in the "Data Submission template" folder

Instructions for completing the data template worksheets



Instructions

Program Information

Student Information



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Evidence Documents & Attestations

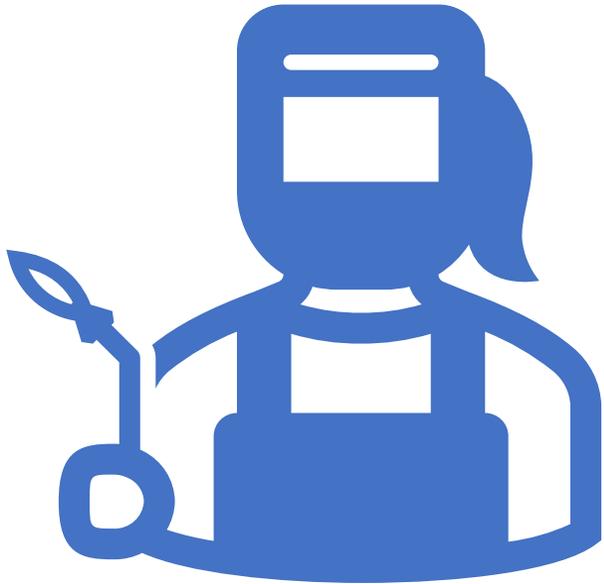
PA Workforce Pell 2026-27

Evidence Documents & Attestations

Stackable & Portable Credential

- Internal Stackability
 - Articulation Agreement
 - Memo of Understanding
 - Credit Policy
- External Transferability
 - Articulation Agreement
- Sole Recognized Postsecondary Credential
 - Evidence of credential requirement for statute, regulation, licensing authority, or governing occupational standard





Employer-Aligned Competencies

- Employer hiring standards
- Industry-recognized credential standards
- Competency or curriculum alignment materials
- Published occupational qualification requirements
- Formal endorsement letters from employers
- Advisory board meeting minutes



Evidence Documents & Attestations

Application Attestation Form

- Program Eligibility
- Program Competency Alignment
- Institutional standing and teach-out obligations
- Complete and accurate application

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PA Workforce Pell 2026-2027 Attestation

Note: An attestation form must be completed for each program being submitted.

Institution Name: _____
Program Name: _____
Institutional Program Code: _____
CIP Code: _____
SOC Code: _____

By checking this box, the undersigned attests that the _____ program submitted:

1. Has been in operation for at least the 12-month period immediately preceding the request for the program approval;
2. Provides education aligned with high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors or occupations;
3. Meets the hiring requirements of employers in such sectors or occupations;
4. Leads to a recognized postsecondary credential that is stackable and portable across more than one employer, or prepares students for and awards the sole recognized postsecondary credential required for employment in the occupation; and
5. Prepares students to pursue one or more certificate or degree programs at one or more eligible institutions by ensuring that, upon completion and enrollment in a related program, students will receive academic credit that is accepted toward meeting certificate or degree requirements.

Program Competency Alignment Attestation

By checking this box, the undersigned attests that the _____ program aligns with employer-defined competencies for the designated occupation or industry sector, and documentation supporting this attestation has been submitted.

_____ subject to
_____ submitted for

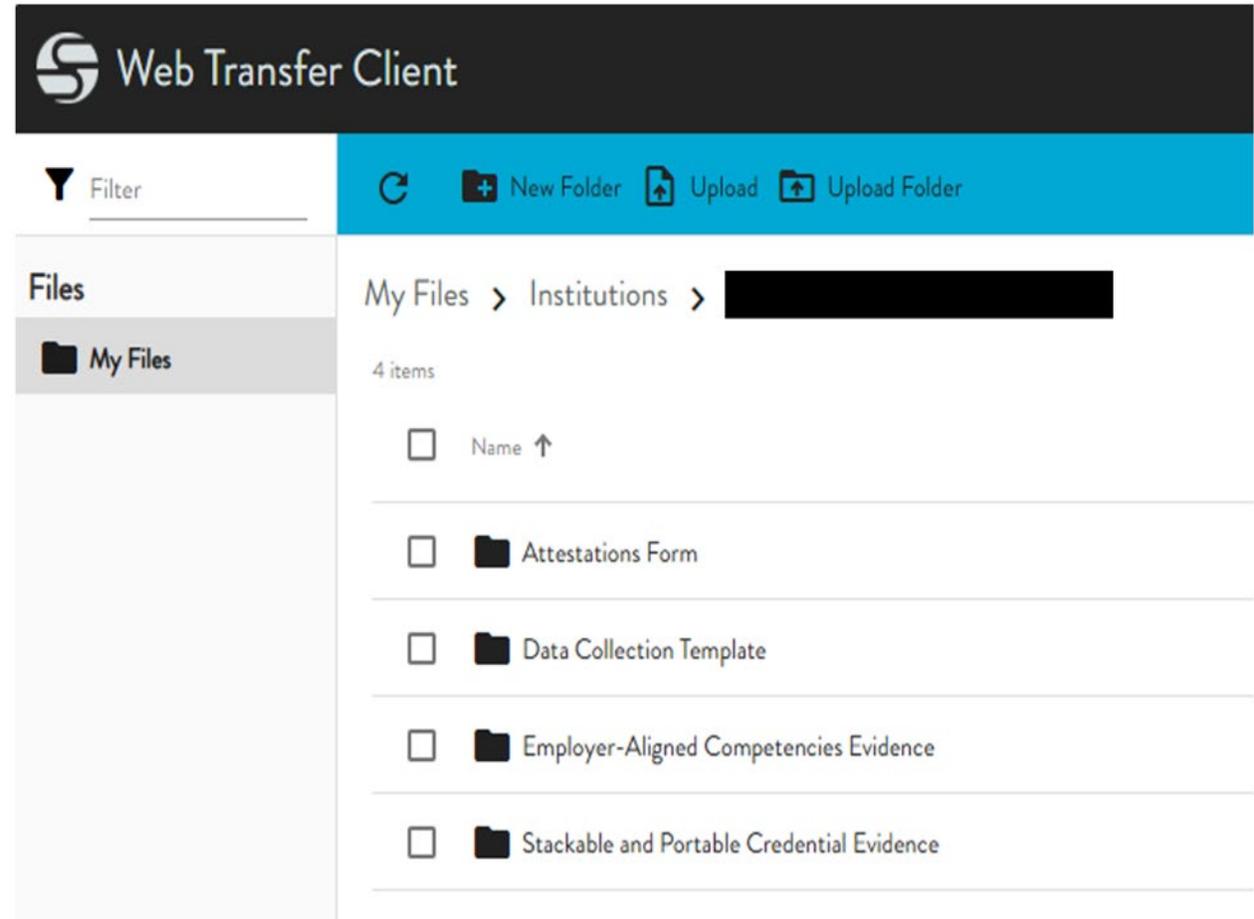
SUBMIT THIS LAST!

Submission of the attestation indicates that you have uploaded all other documentation and PDE will begin reviewing your application.



Step 2: Submission to Secure Account (FTP)

- **FTP Site (copafte.state.pa.us)**
- **Four folders within account**
 - Attestation Form (**upload last**)
 - Data Collection Templates
 - Employer-Aligned Competencies Evidence
 - Stackable and Portable Credential Evidence





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Technical Assistance & Resources

PA Workforce Pell 2026-27



PA Workforce Pell Website

[Workforce Pell | Department of Education | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](#)

- Overview & links to federal legislation
- Program Application Templates
- Timeline & Technical Assistance
 - Acct Creation requests – closes 3/31
 - Data Submission – closes 4/17



The screenshot shows the PA Workforce Pell website page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania logo and the text "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania". Below the navigation bar, there are links for "Services", "Agency Directory", "Your Government", "Visit PA", and "News". A breadcrumb trail indicates the current page location: "Agencies > Department of Education > Programs and Services > Instruction > Postsecondary and Higher Education > Workforce Pell". The main heading is "Workforce Pell". The text below the heading discusses the budget reconciliation bill (H.R. 1) passed by Congress on July 3, 2025, which includes Workforce Pell legislation. It details the expansion of federal Pell Grant eligibility to learners and workers in short-term job training programs, the requirements for program approval, and the effective date of July 1, 2026. A note at the bottom states that the page and forthcoming state policy development will be updated in accordance with program implementation and the issuance of final federal rulemaking publications.



2026 PA Workforce Pell Application Guidance

Technical guidance manual that outlines process, steps and specifications for secure preparation and submission of data

Version 1.0 – will be updated at least annually and as federal final rules require.

Available on: [Workforce Pell | Department of Education | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](#)



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2026-2027
PA WORKFORCE PELL
APPLICATION GUIDANCE

Volume 1



Resources & On-Going Support

- On-going Technical Assistance Office Hours
 - Fridays, March 13 through April 17, 10-11 am
 - [Join the Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)
 - Meeting ID: 239 388 680 899 55
 - Passcode: Sv6c4Bn7
- Guidance Webinar
 - Recording and slide deck to be posted to Workforce Pell Website
- Questions: RA-EDPAWorkforcePell@pa.gov





Q & A and Discussion

Please use “Raise Hand” feature, or enter your question in the Chat box



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Next Steps for Participating Institutions

PA Workforce Pell 2026-27



Next Steps for 2026-27 & beyond

- 1. Secure Account Creation – 1-to-2-week processing**
 - Account creation closes March 31, 2026
- 2. Data Submission –**
 - Submission closes April 17, 2026
- 3. Office Hours, Fridays 10-11am**
 - March 13 – April 17^h
- 4. PA Program Eligibility Approval for 2026-27**
 - Future year determinations



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RA-EDPAWorkforcePell@pa.gov

The mission of the Department of Education is to ensure that every learner has access to a world-class education system that academically prepares children and adults to succeed as productive citizens. Further, the Department seeks to establish a culture that is committed to improving opportunities throughout the commonwealth by ensuring that technical support, resources, and optimal learning environments are available for all students, whether children or adults.