Highlights of PASSHE’s 2014-15 appropriations request

The Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education has proposed a 2014-15 budget proposal that would provide the framework for transforming the State System to meet the changing demands of students and employers in the Commonwealth.

The proposal includes an increase of approximately $16.5 million in funding from the state for basic university operations and features a targeted line item of $18 million to allow the PASSHE universities to accelerate ongoing new program development and expansion of areas of study aligned with high priority workforce needs.

While the universities have generated some savings by eliminating a number of low-enrolled programs in recent years, those savings are not sufficient to fund the startup of new programs or expansion of existing high-need programs, which, in many cases, are high cost because of equipment needs. The proposed line item would provide the investment necessary to support this important initiative.

Recently approved new programs

- Bachelor of Science in software engineering
- Bachelor of Arts in international studies
- Bachelor of Applied Science in technology leadership
- Bachelor of Science in mechatronics engineering technology
- Associate of Applied Science in applied technology
- Associate of Applied Science in natural gas production and services
- Bachelor of Science in safety management
- Bachelor of Science in community health education
- Master of Science in clinical mental health counseling
- Master of Science in sport science
- Master of Arts in professional and new media writing
- Master of Fine Arts in communication design
- Bachelor of Arts in multidisciplinary studies
- Master of Business Administration
- Doctorate of nursing practice

STEM, allied health leading the way

New and existing programs in science, technology, mathematics, business and finance and allied health are enrolling more students now than PASSHE’s historical strengths in education and other public service programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STEM</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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A total of 56 new programs have been introduced in the last five years. Many are offered completely online, allowing students to take courses anywhere, anytime.
Quick Facts about PASSHE...

- PASSHE is the largest provider of higher education in the Commonwealth, with about 112,000 students. Nearly 90 percent of undergraduates are Pennsylvania residents.
- PASSHE universities offer the lowest-cost, four-year baccalaureate programs in Pennsylvania. Current annual tuition is $6,622.
- The vast majority of the academic programs offered by PASSHE universities are accredited by professional organizations nationally, an important stamp of approval by those who know System graduates best — employers.
- PASSHE graduates have among the highest pass rates on professional licensure exams, including nursing.
- PASSHE universities offer nearly 100 programs through distance education, including many that are available completely online.
- Nearly 500,000 PASSHE alumni live in Pennsylvania, serving as community leaders in the business, healthcare, public administration and non-profit sectors while generating an aggregate annual income of $7 billion.
- PASSHE is the 13th largest employer in the state, with more than 12,150 professional and support staff.

Meet PASSHE’s new chancellor

Mr. Frank T. Brogan became the fourth chancellor of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education on Oct. 1. A lifelong educator, Mr. Brogan previously served as chancellor of the State University System of Florida, was president of Florida Atlantic University and was twice elected lieutenant governor of the state of Florida.

Mr. Brogan began his academic career as a teacher at Port Salerno Elementary School in Martin County, Fla. After working his way up through the Martin County School System—including serving six years as superintendent—he was elected Florida’s Commissioner of Education in 1995. He continued his advocacy of education issues as lieutenant governor — steering education policy as legislative liaison for Governor Jeb Bush.

He assumed the presidency of Florida Atlantic University in 2003 and was named chancellor of the State University System of Florida in 2009. As chancellor, he led the Florida system’s efforts to develop a performance funding program with goals similar to those of PASSHE’s nationally recognized model.

A native of Ohio, Mr. Brogan was the first member of his family to attend college, earning a bachelor’s degree in education (magna cum laude) from the University of Cincinnati and a master’s degree in education from Florida Atlantic University. He and his wife Courtney have a son, Colby John.