For Fiscal Year 2024-25, PASSHE is requesting an Education and General (E&G) appropriation of $623.7 million, a $38 million or 6.5% increase over the current fiscal year. The appropriation request reflects the objective of freezing the basic in-state undergraduate tuition rate for another year while acknowledging the State System’s increasing costs due to current and projected inflation. Any funding received above the requested amount will further aid in efforts to reduce costs to students, increase student success, and expand student opportunities.

Contributions to the State

PASSHE universities contribute significantly to the commonwealth in terms of overall economic impact (including jobs created and maintained), workforce development, and graduate earnings and return on investment.

Student access and enrollment

PASSHE universities are experiencing improvements in new-student enrollment. In addition to the growth in fall enrollment of new students for the second consecutive year, total enrollment is stabilizing following the pandemic.
The future of Pennsylvania’s workforce depends on more students from low- and middle-income families having the opportunity to get a comprehensive education and specific skills necessary for good jobs and long careers in the state. That’s where PASSHE universities excel. Strong investment in these universities will keep tuition low and deliver real workforce results for the state.

Student affordability
PASSHE universities provide the best return on investment for the state by preparing students for in-demand careers at the lowest price. Because of state investment, the State System has kept in-state undergraduate tuition the same (at $7,716) for six years and has made available $125 million in university-funded financial aid to help students afford their education. The tuition freeze and additional institutional aid are possible due to a combination of increased state funding and savings through cost efficiencies.

Student progression and completion
PASSHE universities know what works to motivate students to successfully navigate their college experience. From emergency financial aid to wraparound student support services and more, university practices help State System students stay in college and complete their degrees at rates that consistently outperform similar institutions nationally.

State System students earn $866,144 more over their careers than those without a degree.

University financial efficiency and sustainability
PASSHE universities are engaged in ongoing financial sustainability efforts and are more efficient than their comparators relative to non-instructional faculty and staff, demonstrating the work at universities to align non-instructional faculty and staff to enrollment trends. Universities are also addressing efficiency issues by several means, including capturing cost efficiencies through shared services.

PASSHE Shared Services Total Savings: $436,596,621
Fiscal Years 2019-20 through 2023-24*

* 2023-24 estimated