



## Monthly Themes

Each month of the #Together4PASSHE Advocacy Campaign, we will share messages and data around an important theme that helps promote the impact and value of a State System Education. Use your social networks to share these messages, data, and your own stories with state legislators.

- October 2021: **Contributions to the State**
- November 2021: **Student Affordability**
- December 2021: **Student Progression and Completion**
- January 2022: **Workforce Alignment**
- February 2022: **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**
- March 2022: **Student Access and Enrollment**
- April 2022: **Economic and Social Mobility**

## February 2022: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

State System universities are still the most affordable 4-year postsecondary option in Pennsylvania. Ensuring they remain affordable is critical to continuing service to underrepresented minority (URM) students and to meet state social mobility and economic development needs.

A general appropriation of \$550 million would enable the State System to expand access and support to URM students who need academic and financial help. The postsecondary success of URM students is critical for Pennsylvania to meet its workforce needs.

Direct-to-student funding of \$201 million for State System students could result in an enrollment increase of at least 8% at State System universities. Of those additional 709 students, 134 would be URM students.

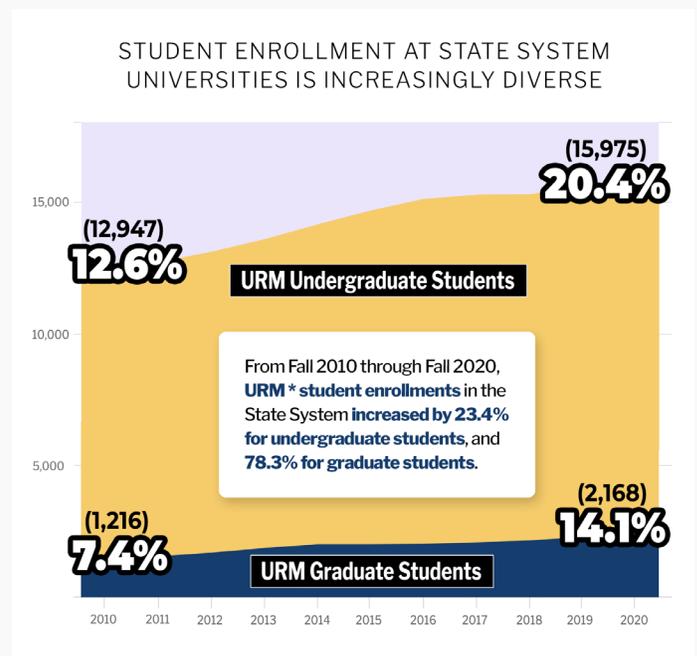
**The State System and its universities are committed to cultivating diverse, equitable, and inclusive environments that enable all members of the State System community to thrive.**

- Since 2015, despite reductions in overall staffing, State System universities have successfully recruited and retained a consistent complement of URM faculty and staff.
- Five and ten years after graduating, URM students from low-income families are doing as well as white graduates who enrolled as higher-income students.

**The State System is committed to ensuring accessibility of all members of its community regardless of one's identity.**

- The 2021 State System Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Summit brought together more than 500 faculty, students, and staff from across the State System, as well as external researchers and practitioners, to engage in timely discussions around a wide range of DEI topics.
- The State System and its stakeholders identified five **DEI Strategic Priorities** that will guide the System's initiatives over the next five years:
  1. Faculty, Staff, and Student Diversity
  2. Equitable Student Outcomes
  3. Inclusive Communities
  4. Curriculum Diversity
  5. Enabling Infrastructures
- The Board of Governors affirmed a systemwide **DEI Strategic Framework** as a foundation to the State System's collective work.

### February 2022 Poster Graphics



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