FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PHEAA cuts rates on PA Forward Refinance Loans through April 30, 2022
For a limited time – fixed rates from 2.48% to 6.36% APR*!

Harrisburg, PA (December 15, 2021) – The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) today announced limited time interest rates for all new PA Forward Refinance applications received from December 15, 2021 through April 30, 2022.

PA Forward Refinance Loans offer borrowers a streamlined way to manage their debt by combining their federal and private student loans into a single monthly payment. A borrower’s actual interest rate will be determined after application based on several factors, including credit score, credit history and loan term.

“A PA Forward Refinance Loan is a great option for borrowers who may be struggling to manage their student loan debt,” said Representative Mike Peifer, PHEAA Board Chairman. “With a lower interest rate, borrowers can lock in a fixed rate that will never increase, helping them save money while providing the peace of mind that comes with a single monthly payment combined with benefits that are only available through the Commonwealth’s PA Forward Student Loan Program.”

Eligible private loans include any student loan used for qualified postsecondary education expenses and private consolidation loans used to consolidate federal or private student loans. Federal loans that are eligible for refinancing include Stafford, PLUS, Graduate PLUS, Consolidation, and Perkins Loans. Borrowers should be aware that refinancing federal student loans will result in the loss of current or future federal loan-specific benefits.

“A key part of PHEAA’s public service mission for the Commonwealth is helping our students and families successfully manage any loan debt they may have incurred when paying for their postsecondary education,” said Senator Wayne Fontana, PHEAA Board Vice Chairman. “This program helps us accomplish that goal – and, as with all of PHEAA’s business activities, the money earned through the PA Forward Student Loan Program will be used to help strengthen support for our public service mission, including the need-based PA State Grant Program.”

PHEAA’s PA Forward Refinance Loan offers multiple benefits, including:

- Lower monthly payments**
- Lower fixed interest rates***
- No application or origination fees
- One bill from one lender
• No pre-payment penalty
• Flexible repayment terms of 5, 7, 10, 15, or 20 years
• 0.25% interest rate reduction for enrolling in Direct Debit
• Available biweekly payment options that can pay off a 10-year loan 9 months sooner, saving significantly more money in interest****

While the PA Forward Refinance Loan does not require a co-signer, applicants may benefit from a creditworthy co-signer if they do not meet minimum credit requirements. A creditworthy co-signer may also increase an applicant’s chances for approval and could result in a lower interest rate.

In addition to the PA Forward Refinance Loan, PHEAA’s PA Forward Student Loan Program offers borrower-friendly loans for undergraduate and graduate students, and for parent borrowers. The program is available to eligible Pennsylvania residents or eligible residents of an approved state (MD, NJ, DE, NY, VA, OH, and WV) who are borrowers of the student loans that are to be refinanced.

For more information, visit PHEAA.org/refi. For questions, call 1-844-PAFORWD (1-844-723-6793).

Students, borrowers, and families are encouraged to visit PHEAA on Facebook, Twitter (@PHEAAaid), and LinkedIn where they can learn more about the higher education financial aid process, register for reminders of financial aid deadlines, and get information pertaining to planning for higher education. Additionally, video tutorials explaining the student aid process and types of aid available can be found at YouTube.com/PHEAAstudentaid.

* Annual Percentage Rate (APR) Calculations - The lowest APR is based on the following assumptions: a loan of $20,000 made in a single disbursement, an Immediate Repayment Plan and a repayment term of 60 months, monthly on time payments of $354.77 a fixed periodic interest rate of 2.73%, and total payments of $21,286.25. The borrower in this sample qualified for a 0.25% Direct Debit benefit for the entirety of the repayment period.

The highest APR is based on the following assumptions: a loan of $20,000 made in a single disbursement, an Immediate Repayment Plan and a repayment term of 240 months, monthly on time payments of $147.71, a fixed periodic interest rate of 6.38%, and total payments of $35,449.21. The borrower in this sample did not qualify for any interest rate benefits during the repayment period.

** Your payment could increase depending on the selected repayment term.

***Your interest rate depends on your credit score.

**** This is an estimate based on the loan balance, term, and interest rate referenced above. For this example, the amount borrowed was $35,000 for a repayment term of 10 years, an interest rate of 3.78%, bi-weekly payments of $159.97, and a total amount repaid of $40,935.46. All payments in this example have been made on time. A 0.25% interest rate reduction was applied for participation in Direct Debit for the entirety of the repayment period. The savings could increase or decrease depending on loan balance, term, and interest rate.