

1 (C) A SCHOOL ENTITY OFFERING THE EXAM SHALL NOT ACCEPT ANY  
2 REBATES FROM THE COLLEGE BOARD OR THE INTERNATIONAL  
3 BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH FINANCIAL NEED  
4 THAT RECEIVE ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS SECTION, AND THE REBATE SHALL  
5 BE CREDITED TOWARD THE EXAM FEE.

6 (D) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE TERM "A STUDENT WITH  
7 FINANCIAL NEED" SHALL MEAN A STUDENT WHOSE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD  
8 INCOME IS NO GREATER THAN ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT (185%)  
9 OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL OR WHO IS IN FOSTER CARE, HOMELESS,  
10 A MIGRANT, LIVING IN A HOUSEHOLD THAT RECEIVES BENEFITS UNDER  
11 THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OR TEMPORARY  
12 ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM.

13 SECTION 25. THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING ARTICLES TO READ:

14 ARTICLE XXVI-J

15 (RESERVED)

16 ARTICLE XXVI-K

17 FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE THROUGH EDUCATION

18 SECTION 2601-K. DEFINITIONS.

19 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS ARTICLE  
20 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE  
21 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

22 "ADOPTION." ADOPTION OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS BEEN IN THE  
23 CARE AND CUSTODY OF A COUNTY AGENCY AND IN SUBSTITUTE CARE.

24 "AGENCY." THE PENNSYLVANIA HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE  
25 AGENCY.

26 "COUNTY AGENCY." THE TERM AS DEFINED UNDER 23 PA.C.S. § 6303  
27 (RELATING TO DEFINITIONS).

28 "DEPARTMENT." THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE  
29 COMMONWEALTH.

30 "DEPENDENT CHILD." THE TERM AS DEFINED UNDER 42 PA.C.S. §

1 6302 (RELATING TO DEFINITIONS).

2 "FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE WAIVER." A WAIVER OF TUITION AND  
3 MANDATORY FEES AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

4 "INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION." THE TERM INCLUDES ANY OF  
5 THE FOLLOWING:

6 (1) A COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPERATING UNDER ARTICLE XIX-A.

7 (2) A UNIVERSITY WITHIN THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER  
8 EDUCATION.

9 (3) THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF  
10 PITTSBURGH, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, LINCOLN UNIVERSITY OR ANY  
11 OTHER INSTITUTION DESIGNATED AS STATE-RELATED BY THE  
12 COMMONWEALTH.

13 (4) THE THADDEUS STEVENS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY.

14 (5) A COLLEGE ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE XIX-G.

15 (6) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION LOCATED IN AND  
16 INCORPORATED OR CHARTERED BY THE COMMONWEALTH AND ENTITLED TO  
17 CONFER DEGREES AS PROVIDED UNDER 24 PA.C.S. § 6505 (RELATING  
18 TO POWER TO CONFER DEGREES) AND AS PROVIDED FOR BY THE  
19 STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE BOARD OF  
20 EDUCATION UNDER 24 PA.C.S. CH. 65 (RELATING TO PRIVATE  
21 COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND SEMINARIES).

22 (7) A PRIVATE SCHOOL LICENSED UNDER THE ACT OF DECEMBER  
23 15, 1986 (P.L.1585, NO.174), KNOWN AS THE PRIVATE LICENSED  
24 SCHOOLS ACT.

25 (8) A FOREIGN CORPORATION APPROVED TO OPERATE AN  
26 EDUCATIONAL ENTERPRISE UNDER 22 PA. CODE CH. 36 (RELATING TO  
27 FOREIGN CORPORATION STANDARDS).

28 "PERMANENT LEGAL CUSTODIAN." A PERSON TO WHOM LEGAL CUSTODY  
29 OF A CHILD HAS BEEN GIVEN BY ORDER OF A COURT PURSUANT TO 42  
30 PA.C.S. § 6351(A)(2.1) (RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF DEPENDENT

1 CHILD).

2 "POC." THE POINT OF CONTACT DESIGNATED IN SECTION 2604-K.

3 "PROGRAM." THE FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE WAIVER PROGRAM

4 ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 2602-K.

5 "SUBSTITUTE CARE." OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT IN A SETTING THAT

6 PROVIDES 24-HOUR CARE FOR A DEPENDENT CHILD AS DEFINED IN 42

7 PA.C.S. § 6302 MADE PURSUANT TO AN ORDER OF THE COURT.

8 SECTION 2602-K. FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE WAIVER PROGRAM.

9 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.--THERE IS ESTABLISHED A FOSTERING  
10 INDEPENDENCE WAIVER PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO SATISFY THE  
11 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (C).

12 (B) AWARD.--BEGINNING WITH THE SEMESTER STARTING IN THE FALL  
13 OF 2020, EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL AWARD A  
14 FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE WAIVER FOR UNDERGRADUATE COURSES AT THE  
15 INSTITUTION FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ELIGIBLE UNDER SUBSECTION  
16 (C). THE FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE WAIVER SHALL HAVE SUBTRACTED  
17 FROM IT THE AMOUNT OF ANY FEDERAL GRANTS, STATE GRANTS OR OTHER  
18 SCHOLARSHIPS OR GRANTS THE INDIVIDUAL RECEIVES. AN INDIVIDUAL  
19 SHALL RECEIVE A FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE WAIVER UNDER THIS ARTICLE  
20 FOR FIVE YEARS, WHETHER OR NOT CONSECUTIVE, OR UNTIL THE  
21 INDIVIDUAL REACHES 26 YEARS OF AGE, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST,  
22 PROVIDED THAT THE INDIVIDUAL REMAINS ELIGIBLE UNDER SUBSECTION  
23 (C).

24 (C) ELIGIBILITY.--IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A FOSTERING  
25 INDEPENDENCE WAIVER UNDER THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST BE A  
26 CURRENT RESIDENT OF THIS COMMONWEALTH AND ELIGIBLE FOR THE  
27 PENNSYLVANIA CHAFEE EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM UNDER  
28 THE FOSTER CARE INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 1999 (PUBLIC LAW 106-169,  
29 113 STAT. 1882) AS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN  
30 SERVICES.

1 (D) ACCESSIBILITY.--THE DEPARTMENT SHALL WORK WITH THE  
2 AGENCY AS WELL AS THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY AND THE  
3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ENSURE THAT INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE  
4 FOR THE PROGRAM UNDER SUBSECTION (C) APPLY FOR ALL AVAILABLE  
5 FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS.  
6 SECTION 2603-K. OUTREACH.

7 (A) DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT.--THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION  
8 WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, SHALL DO ALL OF THE  
9 FOLLOWING:

10 (1) BY JANUARY 1, 2020, AND JANUARY 1 EACH YEAR  
11 THEREAFTER, PREPARE AND PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR DISSEMINATION  
12 BY COUNTY AGENCIES, THE DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN  
13 SERVICES AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT:

14 (I) DESCRIBES THE AVAILABILITY OF THE PROGRAM  
15 ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS ARTICLE.

16 (II) EXPLAINS HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

17 (III) INCLUDES INFORMATION ON ALL AVAILABLE FEDERAL  
18 AND STATE GRANTS.

19 (2) ENSURE THAT ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY ALSO BE  
20 ELIGIBLE FOR SERVICES AND PROGRAMS UNDER SECTION 1738-E OF  
21 THE ACT OF APRIL 9, 1929 (P.L.343, NO.176), KNOWN AS THE  
22 FISCAL CODE, ARE INFORMED OF THESE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS.

23 (B) DUTIES OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.--EACH  
24 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL DO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

25 (1) THROUGH THE POC REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 2604-K,  
26 PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE  
27 UNDER SECTION 2602-K(C) IN COMPLETING ADMISSIONS APPLICATIONS  
28 AND FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS.

29 (2) DISSEMINATE THE INFORMATION PREPARED UNDER  
30 SUBSECTION (A) (1) TO RECIPIENTS OF A PENNSYLVANIA CHAFEE

1 EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANT UNDER THE FOSTER CARE  
2 INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 1999 (PUBLIC LAW 106-169, 113 STAT. 1882)  
3 WHO ARE INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE UNDER SECTION 2602-K(C) AND POST  
4 THE INFORMATION PREPARED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) (1) ON THE  
5 INSTITUTION'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

6 (3) TO IMPROVE RETENTION, REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT BY  
7 JUNE 30, 2021, AND JUNE 30 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER ALL OF THE  
8 FOLLOWING:

9 (I) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS RECEIVING A PENNSYLVANIA  
10 CHAFEE EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANT UNDER THE FOSTER CARE  
11 INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 1999 (PUBLIC LAW 106-169, 113 STAT.  
12 1882).

13 (II) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO APPLY FOR THE  
14 PROGRAM.

15 (III) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE  
16 PROGRAM.

17 (IV) THE RETENTION RATES OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING  
18 IN THE PROGRAM.

19 (V) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN  
20 THE PROGRAM AND HAVE UNMET FINANCIAL NEED.

21 (VI) RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO IMPROVE OUTREACH TO  
22 STUDENTS WHO ARE OR ARE POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR THE  
23 PROGRAM.

24 (VII) RECOMMENDATIONS ON WAYS IN WHICH TO IMPROVE  
25 THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO STUDENTS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE  
26 UNDER SECTION 2602-K(C).

27 (VIII) IMPEDIMENTS TO RETAINING STUDENTS WHO ARE  
28 ELIGIBLE UNDER SECTION 2602-K(C).

29 (4) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT REQUIRE ANY OTHER INFORMATION  
30 TO BE PROVIDED BY AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, EXCEPT

1 AS PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (3).

2 SECTION 2604-K. POINT OF CONTACT.

3 EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL DESIGNATE AN  
4 APPROPRIATE STAFF PERSON OR PERSONS AS THE POINT OF CONTACT FOR  
5 STUDENTS ELIGIBLE UNDER SECTION 2602-K(C) FOR THE PROGRAM. THE  
6 POC MAY BE COMPRISED OF ONE OR MORE QUALIFIED STAFF MEMBERS TO  
7 PROVIDE THE APPROPRIATE SUPPORT OR EXPERTISE REQUIRED FOR THE  
8 DUTIES SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION. THE POC SHALL HAVE OR ENSURE  
9 THE DELEGATION OF THE FOLLOWING DUTIES:

10 (1) ASSISTING STUDENTS IN OBTAINING VERIFICATION OF  
11 ELIGIBILITY FOR THE PROGRAM FROM THE COURTS, THE COUNTY  
12 AGENCY OR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

13 (2) ASSISTING INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE UNDER SECTION  
14 2602-K(C) IN ACCESSING AVAILABLE FEDERAL AND STATE FINANCIAL  
15 AID RESOURCES AND IN IDENTIFYING FURTHER SCHOLARSHIP AND  
16 GRANT OPPORTUNITIES, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE INSTITUTION'S  
17 FINANCIAL AID DEPARTMENT.

18 (3) SERVING AS THE PRIMARY CONTACT FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS  
19 APPLYING TO OR ATTENDING THE INSTITUTION WHO ARE ELIGIBLE  
20 UNDER SECTION 2602-K(C).

21 (4) PROVIDING ALL INDIVIDUALS APPLYING TO OR ATTENDING  
22 THE INSTITUTION WHO VOLUNTARILY DISCLOSE THAT THEY ARE  
23 ELIGIBLE UNDER SECTION 2602-K(C) WITH INFORMATION AND  
24 REFERRALS FOR ON-CAMPUS SUPPORT SERVICES AND RESOURCES,  
25 INCLUDING ADMISSIONS, HOUSING, FINANCIAL AID, HEALTH, MENTAL  
26 HEALTH, TUTORING, CAREER, ACADEMIC ADVISING AND OTHER  
27 SERVICES.

28 (5) PROVIDING ALL INDIVIDUALS APPLYING TO OR ATTENDING  
29 THE INSTITUTION WHO ARE ELIGIBLE UNDER SECTION 2602-K(C) WITH  
30 INFORMATION AND REFERRALS AS AVAILABLE FOR OFF-CAMPUS SUPPORT

1 SERVICES, INCLUDING TRANSITIONAL HOUSING AND MEDICAL  
2 INSURANCE AND SERVICES.

3 (6) POSTING POC CONTACT INFORMATION ON THE PUBLICLY  
4 ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE OF THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
5 EDUCATION.

6 SECTION 2605-K. REPORT.

7 IN ORDER TO DETERMINE AND MAXIMIZE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS  
8 ARTICLE, THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF  
9 HUMAN SERVICES, SHALL COLLECT INFORMATION PROVIDED FROM  
10 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION UNDER SECTION 2603-K(B) (3) AND  
11 PREPARE AN ANONYMIZED REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED BY AUGUST 31, 2021,  
12 AND BY AUGUST 31 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, TO THE CHAIR AND  
13 MINORITY CHAIR OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE, THE  
14 CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE  
15 OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE HEALTH  
16 AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE CHAIR AND  
17 MINORITY CHAIR OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE  
18 OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT CONTAINS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

19 (1) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS RECEIVING A PENNSYLVANIA  
20 CHAFEE EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANT UNDER THE FOSTER CARE  
21 INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 1999 (PUBLIC LAW 106-169, 113 STAT.  
22 1882).

23 (2) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO APPLY FOR THE PROGRAM.

24 (3) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM.

25 (4) THE RETENTION RATES OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE  
26 PROGRAM.

27 (5) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE  
28 PROGRAM AND HAVE UNMET FINANCIAL NEEDS.

29 (6) RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO IMPROVE OUTREACH TO  
30 STUDENTS WHO ARE OR ARE POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM.

1           (7) RECOMMENDATIONS ON WAYS IN WHICH TO IMPROVE THE  
2           DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO STUDENTS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE  
3           PROGRAM UNDER SECTION 2602-K(C) AND TO ADDRESS THE  
4           IMPEDIMENTS IDENTIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (8).

5           (8) IMPEDIMENTS TO RETAINING STUDENTS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE  
6           UNDER SECTION 2602-K(C).

7           SECTION 26. THE AMENDMENT OF THE DEFINITION OF "COMPULSORY  
8           SCHOOL AGE" IN SECTION 1326 AND SECTION 2103(8) OF THE ACT SHALL  
9           APPLY TO ACADEMIC YEARS COMMENCING AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF  
10          THIS SECTION.

11          SECTION 27. A REFERENCE IN STATUTE OR REGULATION TO "AREA  
12          VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL" SHALL BE DEEMED A REFERENCE TO  
13          "AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL SCHOOL," AND A REFERENCE IN STATUTE  
14          OR REGULATION TO "VOCATIONAL CURRICULUMS" SHALL BE DEEMED A  
15          REFERENCE TO "CAREER AND TECHNICAL CURRICULUMS."

16          SECTION 28. THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT AS FOLLOWS:

17                 (1) THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS SHALL TAKE EFFECT JULY 1,  
18                 2019, OR IMMEDIATELY, WHICHEVER IS LATER:

19                         (I) THIS SECTION.

20                         (II) SECTION 27 OF THIS ACT.

21                         (III) THE AMENDMENT OR ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING:

22                                 (A) SECTION 122(K) OF THE ACT.

23                                 (B) SECTION 732.1 OF THE ACT.

24                                 (C) SECTION 1003 OF THE ACT.

25                                 (D) (RESERVED).

26                                 (E) (RESERVED).

27                                 (F) (RESERVED).

28                                 (G) SECTION 1408-A OF THE ACT.

29                                 (H) ARTICLE XIV-B OF THE ACT.

30                                 (I) SECTION 1913-A(B) (1.6) (XII) OF THE ACT.

- 1 (J) SECTION 2002-B OF THE ACT.  
2 (K) SECTION 2003-B(D.3) AND (F) OF THE ACT.  
3 (L) SECTION 2004-B(A) OF THE ACT.  
4 (M) SECTION 2005-B(G) (3) OF THE ACT.  
5 (N) SECTION 2006-B(A) OF THE ACT.  
6 (O) SECTION 2009-B(E) AND (F) OF THE ACT.  
7 (P) SECTION 2323 OF THE ACT.  
8 (Q) SECTION 2502.8(F) OF THE ACT.  
9 (R) SECTION 2502.53(B) OF THE ACT.  
10 (S) SECTION 2509.1(C.2) (1) OF THE ACT.  
11 (T) SECTION 2510.3 OF THE ACT.  
12 (U) SECTION 2599.6 OF THE ACT.  
13 (V) SECTION 2599.7 OF THE ACT.

14 (2) THE AMENDMENT OR ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING SHALL  
15 TAKE EFFECT IN 90 DAYS:

- 16 (I) SECTION 1326 OF THE ACT.  
17 (II) SECTION 2103(8) OF THE ACT.

18 (3) THE AMENDMENT OF SECTION 2204-B(B) INTRODUCTORY  
19 PARAGRAPH AND (3) OF THE ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT JULY 1, 2020.

20 (4) THE ADDITION OF ARTICLE XX-J OF THE ACT SHALL TAKE  
21 EFFECT IN 365 DAYS.

22 (5) THE REMAINDER OF THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT IN 60  
23 DAYS.