

**Executive Order  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Governor's Office**

**Subject:**  
**Advisory Commission on Postsecondary Education**

**Number:**  
**2012-01**

  
**By Direction of: Tom Corbett, Governor**

**Date: February 6, 2012**

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania offers rich and diverse opportunities for postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, the commonwealth is experiencing shifts in the demographics of the postsecondary population that are placing new demands on postsecondary institutions; and

WHEREAS, the workforce needs of the commonwealth are changing and postsecondary institutions must adapt to these new needs; and

WHEREAS, commonwealth resources must be targeted to areas where they will have the most significant impact; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the Governor and the commonwealth would benefit from a review of the current state of postsecondary education with the objective of establishing a strategy to meet the changing and future demands in education and workforce development.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Tom Corbett, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws, do hereby establish the **Advisory Commission on Postsecondary Education** (hereafter referred to as the "Commission") as hereinafter set forth.

- 1. Purpose.** The purpose of the Commission is to make recommendations related to the establishment and maintenance of a robust and responsive postsecondary education system in the commonwealth for the 21<sup>st</sup> century to serve the students and citizens of this commonwealth.
- 2. Responsibilities.** The Commission shall have no authority to make binding recommendations, but shall:
  - a.** Identify key short and long term critical issues for postsecondary education in the commonwealth.
  - b.** Review current policies, procedures, regulations and legislation that impact the postsecondary education system in Pennsylvania.

- c. Discern and evaluate trends in the delivery of postsecondary education, including, but not limited to, the role of technology as a delivery model.
  - d. Compile an inventory of current initiatives and programs that are being pursued by postsecondary institutions in the commonwealth.
  - e. Establish subcommittees, as needed and appropriate, under the direction of the Chair, to address specific topics and assist the Commission in its work.
  - f. Make recommendations to the Governor related to:
    - (1) policies to aid in the development and maintenance of a robust and sustainable postsecondary education system in the commonwealth that meets workforce needs and provides for educational options for students;
    - (2) policies to ensure that postsecondary education is accessible and affordable for all students;
    - (3) governance and financial structures that would enhance the postsecondary education system in Pennsylvania; and
    - (4) opportunities for increased collaboration among academia, private sector and government.
- 3. Composition of Commission.** The Commission shall consist of not more than 35 appointees representing various interests associated with postsecondary education in Pennsylvania, which appointees shall be chosen by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Governor shall select one appointee as Chair of the Commission.
- 4. Terms of Membership.** The members of the Commission shall serve from the date of their appointment by the Governor until November 15, 2012, or their removal from the Commission by the Governor, whichever occurs first. The Governor may fill vacancies that may occur and may remove any member from the Commission at his discretion.
- 5. Compensation.** Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their service as Commission members. Nongovernment members shall be reimbursed for travel and related expenses in accordance with commonwealth policy.
- 6. Staffing.** The Department of Education shall provide administrative staff resources to support the Commission.
- 7. Cooperation by State Agencies.** All agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction shall cooperate with and provide assistance and support as needed by the Commission to carry out its functions effectively.
- 8. Report.** The Commission shall submit a final report to the Governor on or before November 15, 2012.
- 9. Effective Date.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.
- 10. Termination Date.** This Executive Order shall remain in effect until November 15, 2012.