



## 2023 Near Completer Grant Awardees

More than \$6 million in grant funding has been awarded to four local workforce development boards (LWDBs) helping Pennsylvania job seekers re-enroll in educational programs and complete credential requirements through the Near Completer grant program. The Near Completer grant program is designed for Pennsylvanians who had started post-secondary education in high-priority, in-demand fields but stopped without completing their degrees or certificates.

APPLICANT	AWARD
Bucks County Workforce Board	\$1,333,268.00
Chester County Workforce Board	\$2,023,117.00
Lancaster County Workforce Board	\$2,197,104.00
Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce Board	\$475,182.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,028,671.00</b>

### **Bucks County Workforce Board – \$1,333,268**

The Bucks County Near Completer Program will formally re-engage 124 withdrawn students and assist them with a credential or postsecondary degree and/or certificate of completion. This partnership will include Bucks County Workforce Development Board, PA CareerLink® Bucks County, Educational Data Systems, Inc., Bucks County Community College, and Delaware Valley University. The Near Completer Program will serve dislocated and incumbent workers and individuals who are unemployed.

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### **Chester County Workforce Board – \$2,023,117**

Project RECONNECT will bring together the workforce development and post-secondary ecosystems in Chester, Montgomery, and Berks counties. This is a first-of-its-kind collaboration that will support nearly 100 Pennsylvanians with some college, but no degree, to be employed in their intended training area, thereby improving the career mobility of the individual while increasing the economic competitiveness of the region.

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### **Lancaster County Workforce Board – \$2,197,104**

ACHIEVE is a collaborative project that enables Pennsylvania residents to complete an unfinished certificate or degree program in a high-demand, family-sustaining wage occupation while providing education, workforce, and holistic wrap-around support. ACHIEVE incorporates innovative practices that apply rapid credentialing strategies including credit transfers, prior learning credit/experience, military

credit, stackable credential attainment, online and asynchronous accessibility, as well as deployment of a network of support including case management, peer support, career guidance, and employment support services.

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**Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce Board – \$475,182**

The WFWDB and Seton Hill University will support 15 to 20 SHU Online Degree Program students. These students will be dislocated, incumbent, or unemployed Pennsylvania workers who have left a higher education institution in the last two years. Degree options available to students include accounting, allied health leadership, healthcare administration, behavioral health, business administration, human resource management, marketing, and the RN to BSN pathway.