

School Grants Program

Supporting schools in promoting physical and social health



Highmark Foundation School Grants

For two decades, the Highmark Foundation has been a leader in improving children's health in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Recognizing the vital role schools play in children's lives, the School Grants Program aims to empower schools with the resources needed to promote healthy habits and well-being among students.



When it comes to wellness, we've done our homework.

Health and wellness in schools have always been a top priority for the Highmark Foundation. That's why we're proud to present the 2026 – 2027 School Grants Program.

HIGHMARK FOUNDATION SCHOOL GRANTS

The Highmark Foundation is pleased to offer schools throughout Pennsylvania and West Virginia the opportunity to apply for grants to improve health and wellness and empower schools to create a nurturing and supportive environment for all students. Applications will be considered for programs that fall within the following updated categories:

- Health Care Access (up to \$7,500):
 - Access to Care
 - Fitness & Nutrition
 - Social-Emotional Connection
- Economic Stability for Students (up to \$1,000):
 - Basic Needs Items

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must:

1. **Be a public, private, charter, or parochial school, intermediate unit, or vocational high school.**
2. **Be located in Pennsylvania or West Virginia.**
3. **In Pennsylvania, limit three applications per school district (more than three applications will not be reviewed). Individual schools need to coordinate with their district, intermediate unit, or diocese administrative office.**

A strong application will include:

- Program description and need.
- Itemized budget of eligible expenses.
- Number of students reached.
- Clear anticipated student health outcomes and impact.

The number of grant requests received outweighs the funding available, and not all projects will be funded.

Apply today at highmarkfoundationrfp.versaic.com. Application deadline is March 31, 2026.

A little extra support goes a long way.

These grant programs are available for the 2026 – 2027 cycle.

Application deadline is **March 31, 2026**.

HEALTH CARE ACCESS

Grants up to \$7,500 to improve access to physical health, mental health, and school-based health care through programmatic activities. Grant funds may be used for training and curriculum supplements. Additionally, materials and equipment are permissible only when essential to the delivery of a specific program. Funded activities must occur within the school day. Highmark Foundation will not fund staff positions, travel for students or staff, or before- or after-school activities.

Access to Care:

Improve educational and health-related outcomes through school-based care. Activities include training standards of practice for school nursing, health care for students, injury prevention and prevention of high-risk behaviors; screening and emergency equipment (vision and hearing screeners, AEDs, etc.).

Programs that would be considered include, but are not limited to:

- Vision or hearing screening program for students.
- First aid or CPR/AED training for students.
- Training and development for school nursing staff to support student health and well-being.
- Asthma programs to reduce morbidity.
- Health care access and coordination for students with special needs.

Fitness & Nutrition:

Equip students with the skills and knowledge to improve physical health and develop lifelong health habits. Activities include increasing physical activity, healthy eating/nutrition, promoting healthy lifestyle choices, and disease prevention education. Eligible expenses include materials and equipment necessary for program implementation. Highmark Foundation will not fund large single-use fitness machines, landscaping equipment, or construction and labor costs.

Programs that would be considered include, but are not limited to:

- A Food Science & Nutrition class designed to teach students about nutrition while teaching them how to grow food and cook healthy meals.
- Evidence-based, age-appropriate fitness program for physical education classes.

Social-Emotional Connection:

Connect students to social and behavioral health supports. Programs include social-emotional learning and mindfulness practices; initiatives that support an environment where students feel safe, valued, and respected; and programs that foster connectedness and healthy relationships. Highmark Foundation will not fund one-time assemblies or events or building renovation efforts.



Programs that would be considered include, but are not limited to:

- Evidence-based, age-appropriate curriculum focused on anti-bullying or emotional and mental well-being.
- Safe, calming spaces equipped with mindfulness, creative, and sensory activities that foster emotional regulation, stress management, and coping skills.

ECONOMIC STABILITY FOR STUDENTS

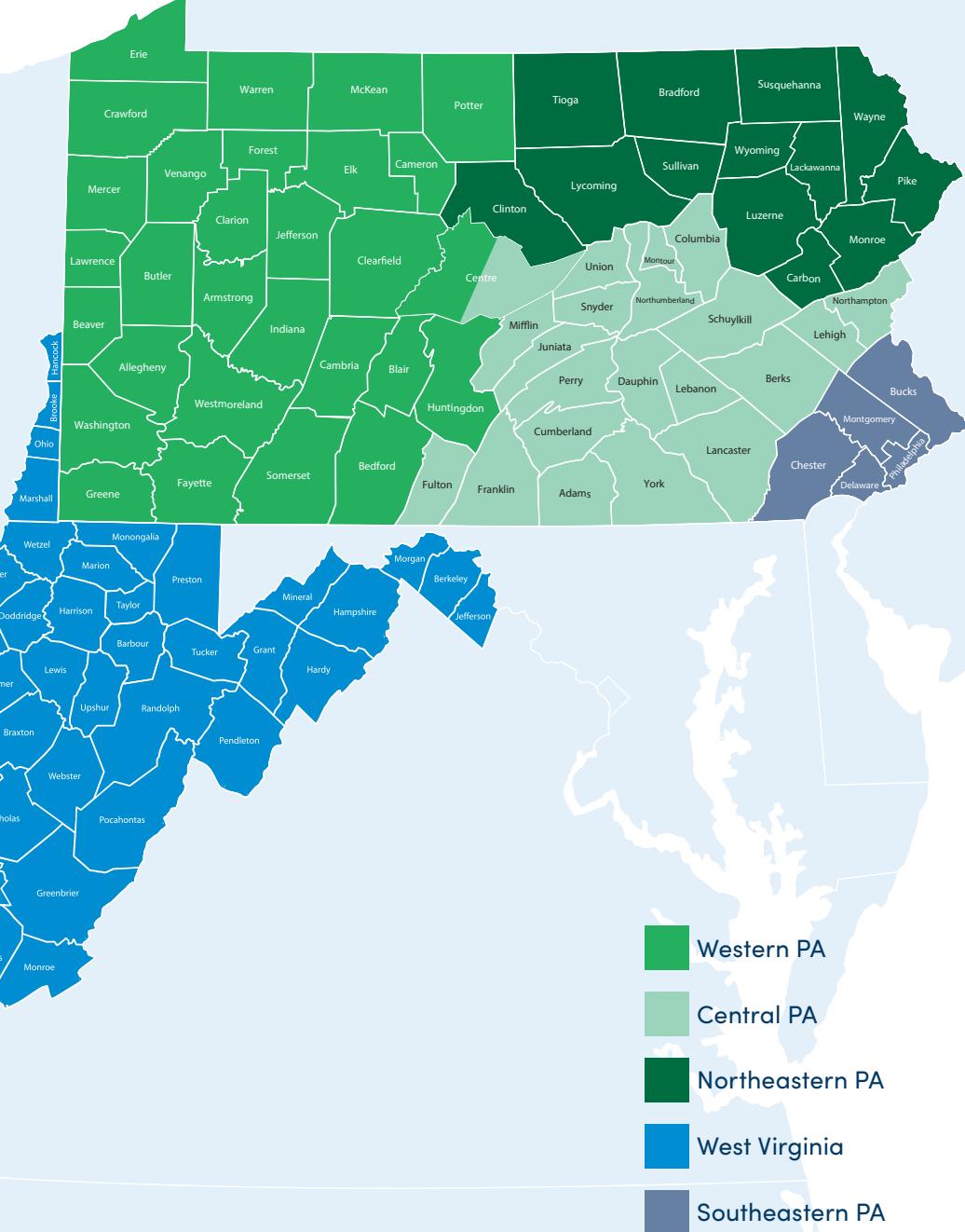
Grants up to \$1,000 for schools to provide items such as backpack meals, clothing, hygiene products, and other personal care necessities for students in need.

Programs that would be considered include, but are not limited to:

- Clothing and hygiene products for a school's Care Closet.

At your service.

School grants improve the health and wellness of students in Pennsylvania and West Virginia.



Notes



Visit the Highmark Foundation at highmarkfoundation.org.
Call: 1-866-594-1730 | Email: info@highmarkfoundation.org