



RECOVERY COLLEGIATE CAREER PATHWAY COMMUNITY RESOURCE

GUIDE: *a guide to secondary
education options for getting the
Certified Recovery Specialist
(CRS) credential across
Pennsylvania*

ESTABLISHING PROGRAMS TO BUILD THE CRS WORKFORCE IN PENNSYLVANIA



PROA
Pennsylvania Recovery
Organizations Alliance
900 Arlington Avenue
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COLLEGIATE CAREER PATHWAY COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE:

INTRODUCTION

Purpose

Recovery can be a “social contagion” in the community and can transmit hope and the belief that recovery is possible even to those who are not yet ready to commit to it. In doing so, the recovery becomes more visible and increases community cohesion while challenging stigmatization and exclusion of persons with substance use conditions. ¹ This guide serves to aid students to engage in furthering their education to build sustainability for our drug and alcohol workforce, to support students in recovery, and to support their success both in recovery and as a student.

Description of Terms

Making the decision to further your education can be an intimidating process, particularly for individuals in recovery, first-generation college students, and for those who have experienced discrimination. Some terminology, used by design, according to our state accreditation standards for credentialing and federal accreditation guidelines for institutions of higher education; higher education programs; and post-secondary education programs can be complex and difficult to understand. For your convenience, a glossary of terms is located on pages twenty-four and twenty-five.

Collegiate Recovery Programs

Collegiate recovery programs and recovery support programs are important to supporting recovery in academia. For the institutions that have collegiate recovery programs, we have provided information.

Job Placement

Most of the following institutions currently do not offer job placement, and while confidentiality is offered within each institution’s curriculum some employers may require state confidentiality trainings for the purposes of licensure. State confidentiality trainings can be located through the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs Training Management System. Information to access their site can be found on page seventeen.

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NORTH EAST PA

College University Name: **Luzerne County Community College**
Contact Name: **Heather Jones**
Contact Email: hjones@luzerne.edu
Contact Number: **570-740-0509**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
Per credit, and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.*	https://www.luzerne.edu/admissionsapp/index.jsp	Yes**

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
Yes	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
Yes: Allone Recovery Educational Institute (AREI)

There are job placement resources for CRS through this program

* 16 credit-course, in/out of -county-resident fees vary

** Financial aid is also available

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NORTH EAST PA

College University Name: **Northampton Community College**
Contact Name: **Beatriz Messina**
Contact Email: bmessina@northampton.edu
Contact Number: **610-861-4145**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$725.00, and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.	https://lifelearn.northampton.edu/modules/shop/index.html?action=section&OfferingID=3456014&SectionID=3463192 *	No

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
No	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
Yes, see https://www.northampton.edu/ncc-crp.htm for more information.

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

*New program, see <https://www.northampton.edu/noncredit/career-training-certificates/healthcare-careers/certified-recovery-specialist.htm> for more information.

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NORTH EAST PA

College University Name: **Penn State, Lehigh Valley Campus**
Contact Name: **Andrea Tessier**
Contact Email: att3@psu.edu
Contact Number: **610-285-5026**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$ 995.00, and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.*	https://www.councilsepa.org/programs/PTE/professional-trainings/certified-recovery-specialist-training/penn-state-lehigh-valley-crs/	No*

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
No	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
None

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

*For Payment options, view <https://www.councilsepa.org/assets/How-to-pay-for-CRS-training-.pdf>.

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NORTH EAST PA

College University Name: **Penn State, Scranton Campus**
Contact Name: **Kendra Babcock**
Contact Email: psnortherntier@psu.edu
Contact Number: **570-268-7778**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$995.00 and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.	None*	No

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
Yes	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
None

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

*For more information, visit <https://scranton.psu.edu/business-development-community-outreach/options/industry-focused/certified-recovery-specialist-program>

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College University Name: **Penn State, Wilkes-Barre Campus**
Contact Name: **Kendra Babcock**
Contact Email: psnortherntier@psu.edu
Contact Number: **570-268-7778**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$995.00. and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.	https://wilkesbarre.psu.edu/ce/crs	No

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
No	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
None

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

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SOUTH EAST PA

College University Name: **Penn State, Abington Campus**
Contact Name: **Theresa Bloom**
Contact Email: tmb17@psu.edu
Contact Number: **215-881-7402**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$995.00, and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.	CRS - https://abington.psu.edu/certified-recovery-specialist-crs-training-program	No

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
No	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
None

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

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SOUTH EAST PA

College University Name: **Villanova University**
Contact Name: **Lisa Weber**
Contact Email: lisa.weber@villanova.edu
Contact Number: **610-519-4813**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$1400.00, (7 courses at @ \$200.00 per course), and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.	https://explore.villanova.edu/apply/?sr=d2aef1eb-0ad3-425d-9173-703115a658c0&_ga=2.229107221.840226655.1569340910-1756371623.1554479568 *	No

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
No	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
None

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

* For more information, please visit <https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/professionalstudies/continuingstudies/crs.html>.

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SOUTH CENTRAL PA

College/University Name: **Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg Campus**
Contact Name: **Jackie Foster**
Contact Email: **Healthcare Education staff at nchealth@hacc.edu**
Contact Number: **(717) 221-1348**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$1,095.00, and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.*	None **	Yes

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
No	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
None

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

*There is an additional cost for textbooks

** For more information, visit <https://www.hacc.edu/ProgramsandCourses/Programs/HealthCareers/certified-recovery-specialist.cfm>. Contact any HACC Welcome Center to register for an upcoming CRS program either in person or by calling (717) 780-2414.

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SOUTH CENTRAL PA

College/University Name: **Penn State, York Campus**
Contact Name: **Fred Shue**
Contact Email: fshue@councilsepa.org
Contact Number: **215-230-8218 ext.3107**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$995.00, and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.	https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScKtp5uZKqHWGi8pMa1gDcQXs09apw97AmxBB1NWNlu8FP0Cg/viewform	No*

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
No	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
None

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

*For Payment options, view <https://www.councilsepa.org/assets/How-to-pay-for-CRS-training-.pdf>.

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SOUTH WEST PA

College University Name: **Penn State, Beaver Campus**
Contact Name: **Jill Valentine**
Contact Email: jak249@psu.edu
Contact Number: **724-773-3765**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$ 995.00, and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.	https://register.outreach.psu.edu/search/publicCourseSectionDetails.do?method=load&sectionId=20290858	No

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
No	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
None

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

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SOUTH WEST PA

College University Name: **Penn State, Fayette Campus**
Contact Name: **Jill Valentine**
Contact Email: jak249@psu.edu
Contact Number: **724-773-3765**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$ 995.00, and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.	None*	No

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
No	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
None

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

* For more information, please visit <https://beaver.psu.edu/ce/professional-development/certified-recovery-specialist>.

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SOUTH WEST PA

College University Name: **Penn State, Shenango Campus**
Contact Name: **Jill Valentine**
Contact Email: jak249@psu.edu
Contact Number: **724-773-3765**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
\$ 995.00, and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.	https://register.outreach.psu.edu/search/publicCourseSectionDetails.do?method=load&sectionId=20291098	No

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
No	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
None

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

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NORTH CENTRAL PA

College University Name: **Penn State, University Park Campus**
Contact Name: **Jason Whitney**
Contact Email: jxw411@psu.edu
Contact Number: **814-404-4494**

Cost	Registration Link	Scholarships Available
Per credit, and the certification fee of \$125.00 payable to the Pennsylvania Certification Board.*	None*	No

College Credit Course	Is the curriculum approved by the Pennsylvania Certification Board?	State Confidentiality Course Offered
Yes	Yes	No

Available recovery support services
Yes, for more information, please visit https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/recovery/about-crc .

There are no job placement resources for CRS through this program

* 16 credit-course, in/out of -county-resident fees vary



COLLEGIATE CAREER PATHWAY COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE:

REFERENCES

Pennsylvania Resource Reference List for Certified Recovery Specialists

Entity Name	Agency Information	Contact Information	Services
Pennsylvania Certification Board	https://www.pacertboard.org/	(717)540-4455 info@pacertboard.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oversees the credential process which includes standards, education approval, testing, recertification, and ethics.• General Q&A• Locating trainings• Employment Opportunity Listing
Pennsylvania Dept. of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Training Management System	https://apps.ddap.pa.gov/tms/Logon.aspx	(717) 736-7452 RA-DATRaining@pa.gov.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Locating trainings
Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations - Alliance	http://pro-a.org/	(717)545-8929 proa.asst@pro-a.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• General Q&A• Locating trainings• Employment Opportunity Listing



COLLEGIATE CAREER PATHWAY COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE:

REFERENCES

Pennsylvania Resource Reference List For College Students

Entity Name	Description	Website
Keys Program	Keystone Education Yields Success (KEYS) is a collaborative program between the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges. The program is designed to help TANF individuals and a limited number of SNAP individuals connect and pursue post-secondary education at one of the 14 community colleges. ²	Varies by college/university. Please see the website of your college or university for more information.
FASFA	Website for applying for financial aid, grants, work-study, and loans to pay for college or career school.	https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services	Offers vocational rehabilitation services and support services to eligible individuals to aid them in seeking and gaining employment. ³	https://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Disability-Services/ovr/Pages/OVR-Office-Directory.aspx

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While there were many factors that led up to the development of the CRS peer credential, some of the catalysts behind the development of peer services were the over formalization of our profession, the decrease of peers employed in the drug and alcohol workforce, and a shortage in our workforce as many individuals left the field due to personal reasons or reaching retirement age. The CRS credential is intended to strengthen peer services in Pennsylvania with people who have lived experience with an SUD or AUD, and also to create a path for peers to enter the field and build upon to create a career and a lifetime of helping others that may include other credentials in their future.

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PCB – Career Ladder

There are many pathways to certification, and no “wrong door” for professionals to enter through. The Pennsylvania Certification Board (PCB) has developed the following to outline the general requirements for certification, as well as the requirements to obtain other credentials. PCB offers credentials that help a professional progress along a career ladder. While some professionals may choose to stay at a certain level, progression through the ladder comes with the proper experience, education and examination. Professionals may begin wherever their current experience and education level permit.

For more detailed requirements, please review the corresponding application on PCB’s website at www.pacertboard.org. PCB offers several certifications:

- Certified Recovery Specialist (CRS)
- Certified Family Recovery Specialist (CFRS)
- Certified Peer Specialist (CPS)
- Certified Allied Addiction Practitioner (CAAP)
- Associate Addiction Counselor (AAC)
- Certified Associate Addiction Counselor (CAAC)
- Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC)
- Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CAADC)
- Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS)

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For more information or if you need assistance determining your next steps,
please email info@pacertboard.org or call 717.540.4455.

...

View this document online, In its entirety, at
<https://www.pacertboard.org/sites/default/files/Career%20grid%20August%202016.pdf> ⁴

	CRS	CFRS	CPS	CAAP	AAC	CAAC	CADC	CAADC	CCS
Education	54 hours	60 hours	75 hours	50 hours	100 hours	300 hours	300 hours	180 hours	30 hours
Experience	None	Letters of Reference	None	2 years	1 year	3 years	2 years	1 year	2 years
Supervision	None	None	None	100 hours	100 hours	300 hours	200 hours	100 hours	200 hours
Exam	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Degree	High School Diploma /GED	High School Diploma /GED	N/A	High School Diploma /GED	High School Diploma /GED	High School Diploma /GED	Bachelors	Masters	Masters or Prerequisite certification



COLLEGIATE CAREER PATHWAYS:

FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is available through various grants, scholarships, government entities, and loans. Many of the courses listed within this may not qualify for grants, scholarships, or loans. However, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and other community agencies may be able to offer financial assistance. If the courses offered are qualifying for student loans, it is important to understand that undergraduate loan amounts are limited.

Considerations for seeking Financial Aid

- Is the curriculum applicable for financial aid and scholarships?
 - If the CRS curriculum is not a college credit course, financial aid availability may be limited.
- What resources are available for applying for aid?
 - If the curriculum is College accredited, you may apply for government aid through FASFA and Pell grants.
 - If the curriculum is not college accredited, you may be limited to applying for financial aid through your employer, county OVR Office, or other community action group.
- What are the impacts of criminal records on financial aid?
 - In many instances, criminal records do not bar individuals from financial aid eligibility. Exceptions to this include whether the offense occurred while receiving financial aid, if a conviction occurred after applying for financial aid, and sexual offenses. ⁵



COLLEGIATE CAREER PATHWAYS: FINANCIAL AID

Annual and Aggregate Limits For Subsidized And Unsubsidized Loan ⁶

Each student has a limited amount of financial aid available to them to complete undergraduate studies. If the total loan amount borrowed over the course of your undergraduate studies reaches the loan limit, you are not eligible to receive additional loans.

Subsidized and unsubsidized loans are federal student loans for eligible students to help cover the cost of higher education at a four-year college or university, community college, or trade, career, or technical school. The U.S. Department of Education offers eligible students at participating schools Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans. (Some people refer to these loans as Stafford Loans or Direct Stafford Loans.)²

See figure 1.8.A Annual And Aggregate Limits For Subsidized And Unsubsidized Loan



COLLEGIATE CAREER PATHWAYS:

FINANCIAL AID

Figure 1.8.A Annual And Aggregate Limits For Subsidized And Unsubsidized Loan ⁶

Year	Dependent Students (except students whose parents are unable to obtain PLUS Loans)	Independent Students (and dependent undergraduate students whose parents are unable to obtain PLUS Loans)
First-Year Undergraduate Annual Loan Limit	\$5,500—No more than \$3,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$9,500—No more than \$3,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.
Second-Year Undergraduate Annual Loan Limit	\$6,500—No more than \$4,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$10,500—No more than \$4,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.
Third-Year and Beyond Undergraduate Annual Loan Limit	\$7,500—No more than \$5,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$12,500—No more than \$5,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.
Graduate or Professional Students Annual Loan Limit	Not Applicable (all graduate and professional students are considered independent)	\$20,500 (unsubsidized only)
Subsidized and Unsubsidized Aggregate Loan Limit	\$31,000—No more than \$23,000 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$57,500 for undergraduates—No more than \$23,000 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.



COLLEGIATE CAREER PATHWAYS:

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Accreditation: the recognition from an accrediting agency that an institution maintains a certain level of educational standards. ⁷

Associate's degree: A degree granted for the successful completion of a sub-baccalaureate program of studies, usually requiring at least 2 years (or equivalent) of full-time college-level study. This includes degrees granted in a cooperative or work-study program. ⁸

Bachelor's degree: A degree granted for the successful completion of a baccalaureate program of studies, usually requiring at least 4 years (or equivalent) of full-time college-level study. This includes degrees granted in a cooperative or work-study program. ⁸

Certificate: A formal award certifying the satisfactory completion of a postsecondary education program. Certificates can be awarded at any level of postsecondary education and include awards below the associate's degree level. ⁸ A certificate is achieved after you complete the required work in a specified area or skill. It doesn't require the general courses like a degree does; instead, it requires just the classes and training relating directly to the specific area of study. A certificate doesn't offer an overview of the area of study like a Diploma program does. ⁹

Collegiate Recovery Program: A collegiate recovery program (CRP) is a College or University-provided, supportive environment within the campus culture that reinforces the decision to engage in a lifestyle of recovery from substance use. It is designed to provide an educational opportunity alongside recovery support to ensure that students do not have to sacrifice one for the other. ¹¹

Degree: A degree is an advanced education option where you pick an area of study to be your major. However, in addition to classes that are specific to your major, you must also complete general classes, like English, history, math, and other topics. This provides a well-rounded education. ⁹



COLLEGIATE CAREER PATHWAYS:

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Diploma: A Diploma is more in-depth than a certificate and can take a little longer to earn, but still usually less than a year. Diploma programs are also often more technical. The classes taken in conjunction with earning a Diploma allow you to gain a thorough understanding of your field of study, though you won't earn a degree upon completion of the program.⁹

Financial aid: Grants, loans, assistantships, scholarships, fellowships, tuition waivers, tuition discounts, veteran's benefits, employer aid (tuition reimbursement), and other monies (other than from relatives or friends) provided to students to help them meet expenses. Except where designated, includes Title IV subsidized and unsubsidized loans made directly to students.⁸

High Priority Occupations - High Priority Occupations (HPOs) are one component of Pennsylvania's industry-driven approach to workforce development. The purpose of the HPO lists is to align workforce training and education investments with occupations that are in demand by employers, have higher skill needs and are most likely to provide family sustaining wages. Combining statistical data with regional expert input allow for a complete picture of the actual workforce needs of the commonwealth.¹⁰

Student Success Programs: Institution, state, or federal programs that provide support services to aid in retention, success, and engagement through offering a variety of resources. Student success programs provide student success resources for individuals who qualify. Some of these programs are focused on the border population of potential and future college students and may not be restrictive to persons in recovery. Many institutions internally provide student success programs and resource centers on campus. However, a few programs are governed by the state and can be accessed as a recipient of government services.

- *They Keystone Education Yields Success (KEYS) is a collaborative program between the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges. The program is designed to help TANF individuals and a limited number of SNAP individuals connect and pursue post-secondary education at one of the 14 community colleges. Special allowances for supportive services (SPALs) are available to students when needed and required to support student's participation in school.²*

Undergraduate students: Students registered at an institution of postsecondary education who are working in a baccalaureate degree program or other formal program below the baccalaureate, such as an associate's degree, vocational, or technical program.⁸



COLLEGIATE CAREER PATHWAYS:

SOURCES

- ¹ Best, D. & De Alwis, S. (2017). Community recovery as a public health intervention: The contagion of hope, *Alcoholism treatment quarterly*, 35:3,187-199. doi: 10.1080/07347324.2017.1318647
- ² Pennsylvania Department of Human Services. (2013). Appendix F: KEYS Program Description. Retrieved from http://services.dpw.state.pa.us/oimpolicymanuals/cash/index.htm#135_Employment_and_Training_Requirements/135_Appendix_F.htm
- ³ Pennsylvania Dept. of Labor & Industry Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. (2019). Vocational rehabilitation services. Retrieved from <https://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Disability-Services/ovr/Pages/default.aspx>.
- ⁴ Pennsylvania Certification Board (2016). Career ladder. Retrieved from <https://www.pacertboard.org/sites/default/files/Career%20grid%20August%202016.pdf>
- ⁵ Federal Student Aid an Office of the U.S Dept. of Education. (n.d.) Students with criminal convictions. Retrieved from <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/eligibility/criminal-convictions>
- ⁶ Federal Student Aid an Office of the U.S Dept. of Education. (n.d.) Subsidized and unsubsidized loans. Retrieved from <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/subsidized-unsubsidized>
- ⁷ Dept. of Homeland Security. (n.d.). The Basics of school accreditation. Retrieved from <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/eligibility/criminal-convictions>
- ⁸ National Center for Education Statistics (n.d.). Glossary. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/glossary.asp>
- ⁹ Vista College (2015). The differences between a diploma, Degree, And Certificate. Retrieved from <https://www.vistacollege.edu/blog/resources/the-differences-between-a-diploma-degree-and-certificate/>
- ¹⁰ Pennsylvania Dept. of Labor & Industry. (2019). High Priority Occupations (HPOs). Retrieved from <https://www.workstats.dli.pa.gov/Products/HPOs/Pages/default.aspx>.
- ¹¹ Association of Recovery in Higher Education. (n.d.) Retrieved from <https://collegiaterecovery.org/>