News for Immediate Release

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Auditor General DePasquale Invites Students, Parents to Attend Meeting About Paying for College

Will feature experts from state's student loan agency, universities

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today invited students and parents to attend a meeting to help them learn how to better manage decisions about paying for college.

"I want to make sure Pennsylvania is doing all it can to make higher education affordable," DePasquale said. "At the same time, it's important for students and families to make informed financial decisions because student loans can present big challenges to young professionals."

The meeting will take place Monday, Jan. 27, 2020 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Dixon University Center in Harrisburg, Dauphin County.

Scheduled to attend are representatives from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA), the State System of Higher Education (PASSHE), and Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC). Attendees will be able to ask questions.

DePasquale said the meeting is a follow-up to a roundtable discussion he held at Millersville University of Pennsylvania to talk to students about the problems of mounting loan debt.

"Pennsylvania ranks among the top states in total student loan debt and the average student loan debt in our state stands at nearly \$35,000," DePasquale said. "We have to make sure that students and parents understand all the implications of going deeply into debt to pay for higher education."

The Dixon University Center, which serves as headquarters to the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, is located at 2986 N. 2nd St. in Harrisburg's Uptown neighborhood. The meeting will be held in the Board Room on the first floor of the Administration Building. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

Free parking is available in an underground garage or on nearby streets. Find a campus map online at <u>dixonuniversitycenter.org</u>.

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