



**Press Clippings
January 2019
Web**

Title: Year Up job-training program helps students find success

Author: Mark Eichmann

Link: <https://why.org/articles/year-up-job-training-program-helps-students-find-success/>

Date: January 2, 2019

Year Up has helped thousands of students get job training and find work with top employers — but the organization is having some trouble convincing potential participants that it's not a scam.

"It sounds way too good to be true," said Zach Rivera, a current Year Up student from Newark, Delaware. "It's free, you get paid off of it ... nobody would believe that that's possible."

Rivera is one of 125 students enrolled in Year Up at the Wilmington University campus in New Castle. The program has another 355 participants at Peirce College in Philadelphia. In addition to six months of IT or business coursework at either Wilmington University or Peirce, students spend another six months working at paid internships at a major employer such as JP Morgan Chase.

The program is free to participants, thanks to corporate sponsorships. But, because of that, organizers have to do some work to convince potential students that they're not going to be swindled in some way. A survey of Year Up students found that 37 percent were concerned about the program before signing up, with the top worry that Year Up "could be a scam."

It's an understandable concern, said Hassan Charles, Year Up's executive director for the greater Philadelphia region, which includes Wilmington.

"They don't necessarily believe that all these resources and supports are available to them free of charge," he said. "It's been a rare occasion for them that they've had that kind of support."

That support system provides a safety net that some of these students never had before, which leads to some mistrust of Year Up's motivation.

"Change only happens at the speed of trust. It really is important that we build those relationships in the right way, so that when we encounter those barriers and issues, we will be recognized as a resource that will really help those young adults move to the next level," Charles said.

Jaqui Fletcher, a recent graduate of the Year Up program, was hired by JP Morgan Chase following his internship. One of the main things he learned through the program is perseverance.

“It taught me how to grind ... one thing that Year Up is big on is grit. I think that’s another skill that I’ve gained here,” Fletcher said.

That focus on grit is by design.

“It’s not easy. This isn’t a handout, it’s a hand up. We don’t do the work for the students,” Charles said. “The professional skills training that our students receive is pretty much the ‘secret sauce’ of what we do ... So it’s every bit as important that they learn how to take and give feedback, as it is how to write a business memorandum.”

Year Up’s mission is to eliminate the “opportunity divide.”

“There are millions of young adults across the country who are facing social and economic injustice, and despite having the talent and motivation, they just lack access,” Charles said. “At the same time, our economy needs help, there are businesses all across the country who are calling for more and better-trained talent to be able to compete on a global stage, but there aren’t enough skilled workers.”

For Rivera, his intensive time in Year Up is worth the opportunities that will open up once he’s finished.

“It’s only a year, you have that year to work hard, and that’s going to step you into a job that you never thought you would have had for the rest of your life,” he said. “It’s crazy.”

Since its inception 18 years ago, Year Up has helped more than 20,000 students nationwide. This year, 4,000 interns took part in the program around the country, 480 in the region.

Out of those students who complete the program, more than 80 percent are successfully placed in jobs with an average salary of \$38,000.

“If there’s any opportunity to break the cycle of poverty in a family or a community in the span of a year, I’m going to take it,” Charles said.

Interns are accepted twice a year, in January/February and July/August.

Title: Year Up job-training program helps students find success

Author: Mark Eichmann

Link: https://www.phillytrib.com/news/state_and_region/year-up-job-training-program-helps-students-find-success/article_3b635384-480d-581d-a2cd-9b420150b16d.html

Date: January 7, 2019

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Interns are accepted twice a year, in January/February and July/August. — (WHYY)

Title: Governor Wolf's 'It's On Us PA' Enters Fourth Year of Fight Against Campus Sexual Assault

Author: Governor Tom Wolf Staff

Link: <https://www.governor.pa.gov/governor-wolfs-us-pa-enters-fourth-year-fight-campus-sexual-assault/>

Date: January 9, 2019

Harrisburg, PA – Governor Tom Wolf was joined by state and national It's On Us initiative leaders today to announce nearly \$1 million in grant to combat campus sexual assault at 38 colleges and universities. The governor is a steadfast supporter of campus safety and nearly three years ago established It's On Us PA, the nation's first statewide campaign.

"We must never tolerate sexual assault on our campuses or a culture that allows it," said Governor Wolf. "Over the past three years, my administration has worked with students, schools, and communities to build programs to stop sexual assaults. These grants will help schools across the state to make campuses safer, and help stop sexual harassment and assault."

It's On Us is national initiative championed by President Barack Obama. The Wolf Administration has invested a total of nearly \$3 million for It's On Us grants over the past three years.

"Since launching It's On Us Pennsylvania in 2016 Governor Wolf and his administration have set a new standard for states across the nation in combatting campus sexual assault," said Tracey Vitchers, It's On Us Executive Director. "Pennsylvania's leadership on this issue should serve as a model for state governments across the country, and a reminder that fighting sexual assault in our nation's educational institutions requires bold, forward-thinking investments that ensure safe learning environments for all."

"I believe that It's On Us has given students throughout Pennsylvania and the northeast the tools and skills necessary to advocate for survivors and affect change surrounding the culture of campus sexual violence, said Michael Blicher Jr., Northeast Regional Advisor for It's On Us and a Kutztown University student. "It is It's On Us student leaders who are creating the groundwork needed to end sexual violence once and for all."

Officials from several colleges and universities joined the governor for the press conference at the state Capitol. Colleges and universities can use the grants to create programs ranging from campus-wide training for students, faculty and staff, to institutional campaigns to raise awareness of the reporting process and the resources available to survivors of sexual violence.

“We thank our colleges and universities for taking proactive steps to help prevent sexual assaults and harassment on our campuses and to improve the reporting and response systems to better serve all students,” said Education Secretary Pedro A. Rivera. “The It’s On Us PA grants help our schools provide critical training and resources to students and employees so they can study and work in safer environments.”

The 2018-19 It’s On Us PA recipients include public and private, 2-year and 4-year institutions in every corner of the state, and include 18 first-time It’s On Us PA grantees (marked with an *). The 38 postsecondary institutions selected for grants include:

Cabrini University

Carnegie Mellon University*

Chatham University*

Chestnut Hill College

Cheyney University of PA

Delaware County Community College

Dickinson College

East Stroudsburg University of PA

Elizabethtown College*

Manor College*

Mansfield University of PA*

Marywood University*

Mercyhurst University

Millersville University of PA

Peirce College*

Title: 'It's On Us PA' enters fourth year

Author: jbenamati

Link: http://www.theprogressnews.com/news/state/it-s-on-us-pa-enters-fourth-year/article_31f17d0c-151e-55d3-bb2d-eef65f72e8db.html

Date: January 9, 2019

HARRISBURG — Gov. Tom Wolf was joined by state and national ‘It’s On Us’ initiative leaders today to announce nearly \$1 million in grants to combat campus sexual assault at 38 colleges and universities. The governor is a steadfast supporter of campus safety and nearly three years ago established It’s On Us PA, the nation’s first statewide campaign.

“We must never tolerate sexual assault on our campuses or a culture that allows it,” said Wolf. “Over the past three years, my administration has worked with students, schools, and communities to build programs to stop sexual assaults. These grants will help schools across the state to make campuses safer, and help stop sexual harassment and assault.”

It’s On Us is a national initiative championed by President Barack Obama. The Wolf Administration has invested a total of nearly \$3 million for It’s On Us grants over the past three years.

“Since launching It’s On Us Pennsylvania in 2016 Governor Wolf and his administration have set a new standard for states across the nation in combatting campus sexual assault,” said Tracey Vitchers, It’s On Us Executive Director. “Pennsylvania’s leadership on this issue should serve as a model for state governments across the country, and a reminder that fighting sexual assault in our nation’s educational institutions requires bold, forward-thinking investments that ensure safe learning environments for all.”

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The 2018-19 It's On Us PA recipients include public and private, 2-year and 4-year institutions in every corner of the state, and include 18 first-time It's On Us PA grantees. The 38 postsecondary institutions selected for grants include:

East Stroudsburg University of PA

Elizabethtown College

Holy Family University

Immaculata University

Indiana University of PA

Jefferson University

Juniata College

Kutztown University of PA

Lackawanna College

Lafayette College

LaSalle University

Lycoming College

Manor College

Mansfield University of PA

Marywood University

Mercyhurst University

Millersville University of PA

Peirce College

Title: 38 Pa. schools receive grants to combat campus sexual assault which affects 1 in 5 college coeds

Author: John Murphy

Link: <https://www.pennlive.com/news/2019/01/38-pa-schools-receive-grants-to-combat-campus-sexual-assault-which-affects-1-in-5-college-coeds.html>

Date: January 9, 2019

Shippensburg University, Elizabethtown College and York College of Pennsylvania are among the 38 post-secondary institutions chosen to receive a state-funded grant to combat sexual assaults on their campuses.

The nearly \$1 million in grants is part of the state's "It's on Us" campaign now entering its fourth year to make campuses safer by giving students the tools, knowledge and skills they need when it comes to preventing sexual harassment and assault.

Pennsylvania has offered nearly \$3 million in grants over the last three years to schools to combat the problem of sexual assault that affects one in five women during their college career.

"I'm the father of two daughters," Gov. Tom Wolf said at a Capitol news conference on Wednesday announcing the grants. "To me, that number is heartbreaking. It must not be tolerated by anybody."

With presidents and officials from various Pennsylvania colleges flanking him, he went on to offer more statistics. Eight in 10 campus sexual assault survivors knew their attacker. Forty percent of them fear reprisal from their attackers.

Through the "It's on Us" program begun on the national level by former President Barack Obama in 2014, the governor and state Education Secretary Pedro Rivera said the state provides resources to campuses to implement a plan of their own creation that best meets their individual campus' needs to combat sexual assault.

Schools have used the money to offer age-appropriate consent education, bystander intervention and survivor support, along with encouraging people to take the It's On Us PA pledge to help prevent, address and respond effectively to sexual violence.

But beyond this grant program, Wolf said more must be done. He indicated that he plans to work with lawmakers to reintroduce legislation he proposed over a year ago to strengthen the response to campus sexual assaults by making it easier for students to report these incidents and track the responses of schools to them.

Tracy Vitchers, national director of It's On Us, hailed Pennsylvania as a leader in the national fight against campus sexual assault and urged passage of that legislation to

further ensure a safer learning environment for students on Pennsylvania's college campuses.

"We believe that all students no matter who they are or where they come from have a right to pursue an education free from violence and if it does occur that survivors are believed and supported in ways that are most helpful to them," Vitchers said.

Pennsylvania's efforts to combat sexual assaults come at what she called a critical moment in the nation's history.

Title IX rule changes proposed by U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos that would govern how campuses respond to sexual assault and harassment claims would "fundamentally erode campus safety, survivor rights and evidence-based prevention efforts," she said.

DeVos proposes to narrow the definition of what constitutes harassment from "unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature" to "unwelcome conduct on the basis of sex that is so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it denies a person access to the school's education program or activity." Her proposal also limits which sexual assault and harassment cases schools must investigate to ones that occurred within campus programs and activities and are properly reported. Further, it gives the accused more rights.

Vitchers called these proposed changes devastating to students' safety if enacted, but reminded they are only proposals and a public comment period is open until Jan. 28 for people to voice their opinion about them. As of noon on Wednesday, nearly 52,000 comments had been received.

If this proposal is enacted, it would carry the force of law.

Wolf joined Vitchers in voicing his opposition to DeVos' proposal, saying it doesn't pass the smell test.

"We need to pay more attention to victims, survivors, and make sure their due process is addressed," he said.

Elizabethtown along with Susquehanna University are among the 18 colleges receiving It's On Us grants this year for the first time. Others in the midstate schools receiving grants this year include Dickinson College, Juniata College, and Millersville University.

The rest of the grant recipients are Cabrini University, Carnegie Mellon University, Chatham University, Chestnut Hill College, Cheyney University, Delaware County Community College, East Stroudsburg University, Holy Family University, Immaculata University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Jefferson University, Kutztown University, Lackawanna College, Lafayette College, LaSalle University, Lycoming College, Manor College, Mansfield University, Marywood University, Mercyhurst

University, Peirce College, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Robert Morris University, Saint Vincent College, Seton Hill University, Slippery Rock University, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, University of Scranton, West Chester University, Widener University, and Wilkes University.

Title: Governor Wolf's 'It's On Us PA' Enters Fourth Year

Author: Jayne Ann Bugda

Link: <https://www.pahomepage.com/news/governor-wolf-s-it-s-on-us-pa-enters-fourth-year/1693897825>

Date: January 9, 2019

On Wednesday, Governor Tom Wolf announced nearly one million dollars in grants to combat campus sexual assault.

The governor is a steadfast supporter of campus safety and nearly three years ago established It's On Us PA, the nation's first statewide campaign.

"We must never tolerate sexual assault on our campuses or a culture that allows it," said Governor Wolf. "Over the past three years, my administration has worked with students, schools, and communities to build programs to stop sexual assaults. These grants will help schools across the state to make campuses safer, and help stop sexual harassment and assault" Governor Wolf said in a prepared release.

It's On Us is national initiative championed by President Barack Obama. The Wolf Administration has invested a total of nearly \$3 million for It's On Us grants over the past three years.

"Since launching It's On Us Pennsylvania in 2016 Governor Wolf and his administration have set a new standard for states across the nation in combatting campus sexual assault," said Tracey Vitchers, It's On Us Executive Director.

Officials from several colleges and universities joined the governor for the press conference at the state Capitol. Colleges and universities can use the grants to create programs ranging from campus-wide training for students, faculty and staff, to institutional campaigns to raise awareness of the reporting process and the resources available to survivors of sexual violence.

The 2018-19 It's On Us PA recipients include public and private, 2-year and 4-year institutions in every corner of the state, and include 18 first-time It's On Us PA grantees (marked with an *).

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Title: \$1M in grants announced to help colleges, universities combat sex assault

Author: Travis Gary

Link: <https://wjactv.com/news/local/1-m-in-grants-announced-to-help-colleges-universities-combat-sex-assault>

Date: January 9, 2019

The Wolf Administration announced \$1 million in grants to help combat sexual assault at 38 colleges and universities across the state, according to a release.

Gov. Tom Wolf was joined by leaders from the It's On Us Initiative for the announcement Wednesday.

"We must never tolerate sexual assault on our campuses or a culture that allows it," said Wolf. "Over the past three years, my administration has worked with students, schools, and communities to build programs to stop sexual assaults. These grants will help schools across the state to make campuses safer, and help stop sexual harassment and assault."

The It's On Us initiative was established nearly three years ago by Wolf, and his administration has invested a total of nearly \$3 million for grants since then, according to the release.

Officials from several colleges gathered for the announcement in Harrisburg, and according to the release, the schools will be able to use the grants to create programs for training students and staff and for creating campaigns to raise awareness of the reporting process and resources.

"We thank our colleges and universities for taking proactive steps to help prevent sexual assaults and harassment on our campuses and to improve the reporting and response systems to better serve all students," said Education Secretary Pedro A. Rivera. "The It's On Us PA grants help our schools provide critical training and resources to students and employees so they can study and work in safer environments."

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Title: 'It's On Us PA' Enters Fourth Year of Fight Against Campus Sexual Assault

Author: Editor

Link: <https://pennwatch.org/its-on-us-pa-enters-fourth-year-of-fight-against-campus-sexual-assault/>

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"I believe that It's On Us has given students throughout Pennsylvania and the northeast the tools and skills necessary to advocate for survivors and affect change surrounding the culture of campus sexual violence", said Michael Blicher Jr., Northeast Regional Advisor for It's On Us and a Kutztown University student. "It is It's On Us student leaders who are creating the groundwork needed to end sexual violence once and for all."

Officials from several colleges and universities joined the governor for the press conference at the state Capitol. Colleges and universities can use the grants to create programs ranging from campus-wide training for students, faculty, and staff, to institutional campaigns to raise awareness of the reporting process and the resources available to survivors of sexual violence.

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Title: 'It's On Us PA' Initiative Leaders Announce Nearly \$1M in Grants to Combat Campus Sexual Violence

Author: ExploreClarion Staff

Link: <http://www.exploreclarion.com/2019/01/10/governor-wolfs-its-on-us-pa-enters-fourth-year-of-fight-against-campus-sexual-assault/>

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Title: Gov. Wolf stands against proposed Title IX changes

Author: Katie Meyer, WITF

Link: <https://why.org/articles/governor-wolf-stands-against-proposed-title-ix-changes/>

Date: January 10, 2019

About \$1 million dollars is going out to 38 colleges around the Commonwealth to fund efforts against campus sexual assault.

Gov. Tom Wolf announced the allocation Wednesday, and also took a moment to weigh in on federal campus assault policy.

This is the fourth year Pennsylvania has given colleges grants as part of the national It's On Us campaign.

The schools use the grants for resources like training on consent, and programs to teach students about bystander reporting processes.

During his announcement, Wolf echoed many campus assault activists in saying he's concerned about proposed changes to Title IX rules from Education Secretary Betsy DeVos.

"I think that the concern really ought to be with the victim here," he said. "The things that I think they're proposing in Washington, that she's proposing, really don't pass the smell test."

Among other things, DeVos's proposal wouldn't require colleges and universities to investigate off-campus incidents. It would give officials more options to seek a higher standard of evidence for assault charges and narrow the definition of sexual harassment.

The proposal isn't final. It's still open for public comment until the end of the month.

The recipients are listed below:

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Title: Gov. Wolf stands against proposed Title IX changes

Author: Katie Meter, WITF

Link: https://www.phillytrib.com/news/local_news/gov-wolf-stands-against-proposed-title-ix-changes/article_dd0d3db4-e0a2-5d9b-8dba-bdefcb7beaaa.html

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Juniata College

Kutztown University of PA

Lackawanna College

Lafayette College*

LaSalle University

Lycoming College*

Manor College*

Mansfield University of PA*

Marywood University*

Mercyhurst University

Millersville University of PA

Peirce College*

Title: With perseverance Natalia Gamarra achieves professional success

Author: Hernando Ramirez-Santos

Link: <https://abasto.com/en/latinas-in-the-industry/natalia-gamarra-professional-success/>

Date: January 14, 2019

The key to Natalia Gamarra's professional success has been a mixture of perseverance, discipline, studies and a lot of networking.

Since September 2018, Gamarra joined the team of United Fresh Produce Association in Miami, as Manager, International Member Services, a job she obtained precisely for her perseverance, knowledge and the power of "networking".

"I traveled to an event in San Antonio, Texas, I paid with my own resources and there, I spoke with a United Fresh executive and told him that I really wanted to work with them, which could be of great value to the association, because of the great experience I had gained working previously with the Produce Marketing Association, that was my initial contact," Gamarra said in an interview with Abasto.

For three months, Gamarra kept in touch with United Fresh until she was finally called for an interview and given the job. "One of the people who interviewed me said that something that greatly influenced the decision to give me the job is that I'm perseverant."

This has been a constant in her life, since she was a child when she lived in Posadas, her hometown in Argentina and then when she traveled to the United States, at the age of 21, with the purpose of improving her English skills.

Although her plans were to return to work in Argentina, the lack of opportunities in her country forced her to stay in the United States, far from her entire family.

Gamarra obtained a student visa and to survive, she divided her time working as a waitress, nanny and cleaning houses, to pay for her business administration studies specializing in marketing and international business at Peirce College in Philadelphia, where she graduated with honors.

Her sacrifices paid off. After her graduation in 2006, she found work as a receptionist in a company and in her spare time she was engaged in networking to meet professionals and make contacts and thus managed to open doors that helped her advance her career.

Between 2008 and 2011 Gamarra had his first contact with the food and beverage industry when she worked for two logistics companies. To continue growing professionally, Gamarra continued her studies and obtained her master's degree in

international business, which helped her to get a job at the Convention and Visitors Bureau of Philadelphia as international tourism sales manager, where she also put into practice her knowledge of four languages, Spanish, English, Portuguese and Italian.

“That’s why it’s worth mentioning that the study opens doors and increases your salary, that’s why I’m a person who advocates for studies,” said Gamarra.

For her outstanding work and relationships with the community, Gamarra was recognized as one of the most influential Latinas in the Delaware Valley in 2012 and received the Pennsylvania Multicultural Leadership Award from the National Diversity Council.

After her successful job at the Philadelphia Convention Bureau, in 2015 Gamarra was hired by the Produce Marketing Association as manager of global business development, where she continued to expand her passion for international business and the food industry, but due to personal changes in her life, she decided to move to Miami.

Her desire to continue her professional growth in a produce association led Gamarra to identify United Fresh Produce Association as the ideal place to work and thanks to her perseverance and knowledge, she was hired in September 2018.

“I see a future with a lot of growth, I am very happy to work in an industry in which we really care about people, what they eat, business, always aware of what is happening in the industry and about advancing in my studies my goal is, later on, to obtain a doctorate in international relations,” concluded Gamarra.

Title: RMU recipient of Gov. Wolf's 'It's On Us' campaign to combat sexual assault

Author: Jonathan Hanna

Link: <https://www.rmumentrymedia.com/news/tom-wolf-campus-sexual-assault-rmu/>

Date: January 18, 2019

HARRISBURG – Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf announced nearly \$1 million would be used to help fight sexual assault at 38 college and university campuses including, for the first time, Robert Morris University.

Governor Wolf established the 'It's On Us PA' campaign three years ago and has put nearly \$3 million dollars into 'It's On Us' grants.

"We must never tolerate sexual assault on our campuses or a culture that allows it," Governor Wolf said. "Over the past three years, my administration has worked with students, schools and communities to build programs to stop sexual assaults. These grants will help schools across the state to make campuses safer, and help stop sexual harassment and assault."

Michael Blicher Jr, a student at Kutztown University and the northeast regional advisor for 'It's On Us,' said that "I believe that 'It's On Us' has given students throughout Pennsylvania and the northeast the tools and skills necessary to advocate for survivors and effect change surrounding the culture of campus sexual violence."

Colleges and universities can use the grants in order to help create programs to educate about sexual assault and to help victims of sexual assault to recover.

"The 'It's On Us PA' grants help our schools provide critical training and resources to students and employees so they can study and work in safer environments," said Education Secretary Pedro A. Rivera.

The grant recipients include public and private, two-year and four-year institutions all over Pennsylvania. Robert Morris is one of 38 schools to receive the grant and is one of 18 schools to receive it for the first time.

The 38 schools scheduled to receive the grant are:

Cabrini University

Carnegie Mellon University

Chatham University

Chestnut Hill College

Cheyney University of Pa.

Delaware County Community College

Dickinson College

East Stroudsburg University of Pa.

Elizabethtown College

Holy Family University

Immaculata University

Indiana University of PA

Jefferson University

Juniata College

Kutztown University of Pa.

Lackawanna College

Lafayette College

LaSalle University

Lycoming College

Manor College

Mansfield University of PA

Marywood University

Mercyhurst University

Millersville University of PA

Peirce College