Horace Mann Bond-Leslie Pinckney Hill Scholarship Program
SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

December 2016

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333
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Program Description
The Horace Mann Bond-Leslie Pinckney Hill Scholarship Program (Bond-Hill) provides financial assistance to highly-qualified Pennsylvania students from Cheyney University of Pennsylvania (Cheyney) and Lincoln University of Pennsylvania (Lincoln) who pursue approved professional and graduate programs at the Pennsylvania state related universities and universities in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE).

Originated in 1983, the scholarship is named in honor of two distinguished past presidents of Lincoln University and Cheyney University, Horace Mann Bond and Leslie Pinckney Hill, respectively.

The Bond-Hill scholarship program provides award recipients with tuition, tuition-related fees and course materials for up to four years, or eight full-time semesters, of graduate or professional study, depending on the student’s field of study and academic standing.

Students enrolled in professional graduate-level programs in law, medicine, podiatry, and dentistry at partner universities receive priority funding. Based upon available funding, scholarships also may be awarded to students admitted to additional approved profession and graduate programs at the partner universities.

Legislative Authorization and Program Funding
Legislative authorization for the Bond-Hill program is included in the General Assembly’s annual appropriation to the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency’s (PHEAA). The appropriation provides funding for the Bond-Hill scholarships and for outreach and recruitment activities related to the scholarship program through Cheyney and Lincoln. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) administers the scholarship program in cooperation with PHEAA.

Eligibility Requirements
Eligible students must:
- Be a senior at Lincoln or Cheyney or a graduate of a baccalaureate degree program at either university within five years of applying for the scholarship;
- Be accepted as a full-time student in an approved professional or graduate degree program at a Pennsylvania state related university or PASSHE university;
- Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States;
- Be a resident of Pennsylvania for at least one year at the time of application and remain a resident during the entire term of the scholarship;
- Be nominated by Lincoln or Cheyney; and
- Submit a completed application packet to PDE via Lincoln or Cheyney.
Partner Graduate Universities
Eligible students may receive scholarships to enroll full-time in select professional and graduate degree programs at the following partner universities:

- Bloomsburg University of PA
- California University of PA
- Cheyney University of PA
- Clarion University of PA
- East Stroudsburg University of PA
- Edinboro University of PA
- Indiana University of PA
- Kutztown University of PA
- Lincoln University of PA
- Lock Haven University of PA
- Mansfield University of PA
- Millersville University of PA
- Pennsylvania State University
- Shippensburg University of PA
- Slippery Rock University of PA
- Temple University
- University of Pittsburgh
- West Chester University of PA

Applying for a Bond-Hill Scholarship
Scholarships applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and contingent upon available funding. Applicants will not be considered until their application packets are complete. Application packets are considered complete when all required materials have been received by PDE.

The student’s undergraduate institution is responsible for submitting the completed scholarship application packet to PDE. Applicants should work with a Bond-Hill representative at Cheyney or Lincoln to compile the required application materials. Students may not submit application materials directly to PDE.

The application packet includes the following:
- Bond-Hill scholarship application signed by the student;
- Letter of recommendation from the student’s undergraduate university;
- Letter of acceptance from the graduate university; and
- Documentation confirming the student is a resident of Pennsylvania and either a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.

Bond-Hill Scholarship Application
Interested students apply for the scholarship through their undergraduate universities (Cheyney University and Lincoln University). Below is contact information for the Bond-Hill scholarship administrators at each university:

Cheyney University
Dr. Tara Kent
Associate Provost
Cheyney University of Pennsylvania
1837 University Circle
Cheyney, PA 19319
Ph: 610-399-2386
Email: tkent@cheyney.edu

Lincoln University
Dr. Lenetta Lee
Associate Vice President of Student Affairs
The Lincoln University
P.O. Box 179
Lincoln University, PA 19352-0999
Ph: 484-365-7527
Email: llee@lincoln.edu
Applicants must provide the following information on the scholarship application:

- Full name;
- Contact information, including current mailing address, phone number and email address;
- State of residency;
- Country of citizenship;
- Undergraduate university and graduation date (month/year);
- Graduate university;
- Professional or graduate degree program;
- Date of acceptance and enrollment in the graduate program; and
- Expected date of graduation from graduate program.

**Letter of Recommendation from the Undergraduate University**

All applicants must be recommended by their respective undergraduate universities in order to be considered for the scholarship. The letter of recommendation must be written and signed by the Bond-Hill scholarship representative on university letterhead. The letter must include, at minimum, the following information:

- A statement indicating why the applicant should receive a Bond-Hill scholarship;
- Confirmation that the student is planning to enroll full-time in an approved graduate degree program at a partner graduate university;
- The student’s intended graduate degree program and graduate university;
- The student’s date of enrollment in the graduate program and expected date of graduation; and
- Confirmation that the student is a Pennsylvania resident and a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.

**Letter of Acceptance from the Partner Graduate University**

All applicants must submit a copy of their graduate program acceptance letter. The letter must be written on university letterhead and signed by an official representative from the graduate university. The letter should include the following information:

- Applicant’s name;
- Applicant’s Pennsylvania address;
- Graduate program to which the student has been accepted;
- Date of enrollment at the graduate institution;
- Expected date of graduation from the graduate program;
- Statement indicating the student will be charged in-state rates; and
- Estimated total cost of full-time tuition, fees and course materials per semester.

If the graduate program acceptance letter does not include all of the above information, the university may provide the student with supplementary documentation.

**Proof of Pennsylvania Residency**

The applicant must be a resident of Pennsylvania for at least one year at the time of application and remain a resident during the entire term of the scholarship. The student’s undergraduate university is responsible for confirming the student’s residency.
in the letter of recommendation. After the student receives the scholarship award, the student’s graduate university is responsible for confirming the student’s residency each semester. PDE reserves the right to request a student submit proof of residency any time during the application process and while participating in the scholarship program.

**Proof of Citizenship/Permanent Residency**
Qualified students must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States. Citizenship should be confirmed by the undergraduate institution in the letter of recommendation. PDE reserves the right to request a student submit proof of citizenship any time during the application process and while participating in the scholarship program.

**Additional Documentation**
Applicants and the universities may provide additional documentation, if they choose. Likewise, PDE reserves the right to request additional information and documentation as needed to effectively evaluate the student’s application and determine acceptance into the scholarship program.

**Application Review Process**
PDE reviews scholarship applications on a rolling basis and contingent upon available funding.

New awards will be granted to eligible applicants pursuing approved professional and graduate degree programs at the PASSHE universities and Pennsylvania state-related universities. Award recipients may not enroll in graduate programs at the same institution where they earned their undergraduate degree.

New scholarship awards will be approved in accordance with the following tiered process, contingent upon available program funds.

**Tier I:**
Awards will be granted to eligible new applicants pursuing the following professional programs:
- Law;
- Medicine;
- Podiatry; and
- Dentistry.

**Tier II:**
To the extent that additional scholarship funds are available after the first level is fully funded, scholarships will be awarded to eligible students admitted to professional and graduate programs in the following fields of study:
- Business;
- Computer Science;
- Counseling;
• Education, including the Doctorate of Education;
• Public Administration;
• Public Health Administration;
• Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Health Sciences (STEM-H); and
• Social Work.

The number of scholarships awarded and renewed each year is based upon the availability of program funding and the annual appropriation from the General Assembly. Awards vary by individual and are based on the student’s graduate university and graduate degree program. Priority funding is given to current scholarship recipients who continue to meet the scholarship program criteria and students earning their first graduate degree.

Qualified students are eligible to receive a Bond-Hill Scholarship for the length of the program as defined by the graduate university, not to exceed a total of eight full-time semesters.

**Award Notification**
After the application packet is reviewed and the applicant is deemed eligible for a Bond-Hill scholarship, PDE will send an award notification letter to the student, the student’s undergraduate and graduate universities, and PHEAA. The award letter will include an offer of acceptance to the scholarship program and outline the terms of acceptance.

The terms of acceptance will be as follows:
• Scholarship recipients must meet all eligibility requirements of the scholarship program while enrolled in the graduate degree program, including being enrolled full-time and being a resident of Pennsylvania.
• The scholarship award may be used to cover the cost of tuition, tuition-related fees and required course-specific textbooks, course materials and/or medical equipment in the approved graduate program, contingent upon available funding.
• The student is responsible for ensuring that bills for tuition, tuition-related fees and required course materials are submitted to PDE by their graduate universities each academic period.
• Scholarship funds may cover the costs for summer enrollment provided that the courses are being used to accelerate degree completion and the student notifies PDE in writing prior to enrolling.

**Accepting the Offer**
To accept the scholarship, the student must sign and return the Scholarship Acceptance Form to PDE within 10 days of receiving the award letter. See Appendix A.
Declining the Offer
If a student chooses not to accept the scholarship, the student should mark the Scholarship Acceptance Form accordingly and return the form to PDE within 10 days of receiving the award letter. (See Appendix A.)

If the student does not respond to the award letter within 10 days, PDE will attempt to contact the student. If the student cannot be reached, PDE may rescind the scholarship offer.

Deferring Enrollment
A student who has been awarded a scholarship may request the award be deferred until a later date within the same academic year. The student must submit a written request to PDE prior to the start of the semester in which the student originally planned to enroll along with documentation from the graduate university indicating the following:

- Student’s name;
- Student’s current contact Information, including address, phone number and email address;
- Graduate program;
- Graduate university;
- Original date of enrollment;
- New date of enrollment; and
- Anticipated graduation date.

Once received, PDE will make a determination based in part on funds availability and respond to the student in writing with a decision. A student wishing to defer enrollment beyond the academic year in which the award was originally granted will be required to reapply the following year.

Failure to Comply with Scholarship Requirements
A student may receive the Bond-Hill scholarship for up to eight semesters of enrollment, provided s/he enrolls full-time in an approved graduate program, continues to meet the scholarship eligibility criteria and maintains satisfactory academic standing, as defined by the graduate university. A student who does not meet these requirements will have the scholarship rescinded. When this occurs, PDE will send written notification to the student, the Bond-Hill scholarship coordinators at the student’s undergraduate and graduate institutions, and PHEAA.

Leave of Absence
An award recipient may request the scholarship be suspended for up to one year while on an approved leave of absence from the graduate university.

After the graduate university approves the leave of absence, the student must submit written notification to PDE along with documentation from the graduate university indicating the following:

- Student name;
- Graduate program;
• Leave of absence effective date;
• Expected date of return to the graduate program;
• Number of full-time semesters remaining to complete program;
• Expected graduation date; and
• Confirmation that the student is maintaining academic progress and permitted by the university to return to the approved graduate program after the leave of absence.

The request will be considered by the Deputy Secretary of the Office of Postsecondary and Higher Education at PDE. If the leave request is approved, the student’s file will be placed on "inactive/hold" status until the graduate university notifies PDE that leave of absence has ended and the student has enrolled full-time in the graduate program. Reinstatement of the award is contingent upon availability of funds and official readmission to the graduate program by the graduate institution.

Dropping Courses
Students must enroll full-time (minimum nine credits) each semester to qualify for an award. For this reason, students are advised to speak to a program advisor and the university scholarship coordinator prior to making schedule changes. The scholarship program provides funding for required program coursework and pays for courses only once.

Failing Courses
The scholarship program provides funding for required program coursework and pays for courses only once. Therefore, the student is financially responsible for retaking failed courses.

Withdrawing from the Graduate Program or University
A student who withdraws from the graduate program or university forfeits the scholarship award effective the date of withdraw. The student is responsible for notifying PDE within 30 days of the date of withdraw.

Approved Use of Scholarship Funds
The Bond-Hill Scholarship Program provides recipients with funding for tuition, tuition-related fees and required course-specific textbooks and materials for up to eight semesters of full-time graduate or professional study, depending upon the student’s field of study and academic standing.

Releasing Scholarship Funds
Reimbursement each semester is dependent upon the graduate university submitting the following documentation to PDE on behalf of the scholarship recipient:
• University invoice indicating cost of tuition and tuition-related fees charged to the student for the semester.
• The student’s signed and completed PDE Textbook Reimbursement Form along with the itemized receipts verifying the cost for each purchase and course syllabi
indicating the purchased items are course requirements. (See Appendix B: Bond-Hill Textbook Reimbursement Form.)

- Confirmation that the student is enrolled full-time, meets the award criteria and is considered to be in good academic standing for the academic period in which reimbursement is being requested.

The graduate university is responsible for submitting an invoice to PDE for each academic period in which a student is enrolled in the graduate program of study. Institutions are permitted to invoice PDE for the exact cost of tuition and required fees, textbooks and related materials each semester of enrollment, not to exceed the equivalent of eight full-time semesters or the length of the program, whichever is less. Universities may not invoice for room and board, late fees, and student loans, including loan interest and origination fees.

Student bills should be sent to the following office prior to the end of the semester in which the expenses occurred:
Pennsylvania Department of Education
Office of Postsecondary & Higher Education
c/o Bond-Hill Scholarship Program
333 Market Street, 12th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

Missing or incomplete invoices may result in payment delay or denial.

Upon receipt and approval of these bills, PDE will submit a payment request to PHEAA. PHEAA will disperse award funds directly to the university via wire transfer.

Scholarship funds are to be applied directly to the student’s university account. Award funds may not be sent directly to the student. Neither PHEAA nor the university may submit payment to a lender on a student’s behalf. PDE may not approve and PHEAA is not permitted to release funds for non-eligible expenses.

**Administrative Stipend for Undergraduate Universities**

Historically, the General Assembly has provided for Cheyney University and Lincoln University to receive funding for recruitment and outreach. The administrative stipend shall be determined annually by PDE based upon the appropriation and availability of funds.

Release of the funds by PHEAA is contingent upon PDE’s receipt and acceptance of the following information from Cheyney and Lincoln universities:

1. End of year report recounting the institution’s recruitment and outreach activities for the academic year;
2. A final program budget for the academic year; and
3. A proposed budget for the upcoming academic year.
Reporting

Cheyney University & Lincoln University
Lincoln and Cheyney shall submit the following information electronically to PDE no later than September 30 of each year:

1. End-Year Report for the academic year
   • Narrative explaining student recruitment at the high school and college level, coordination of the nomination process, communication to students, and communication with the approved graduate universities and supporting pre-professional campus-based organizations.
   • The applicant pool for the award.
   • Program goals, including desired outcomes, activities used to achieve the goals and related costs.
   • Final budget showing how the university used state-appropriated funds to administer the scholarship program on its campus.

2. Proposed Budget describing how the university plans to use state-appropriated funds to administer the scholarship program and recruit applicants for the upcoming academic year.

The release of funds by PHEAA for outreach efforts is contingent upon PDE’s receipt and acceptance of the above information.

Graduate Universities
Scholarship eligibility is based upon a student being enrolled full-time in an approved graduate degree program, making academic progress as defined by the graduate university, and maintaining residency in Pennsylvania.

For this reason, each semester, each graduate university with enrolled scholarship recipients shall report to PDE the following information:

• Name of Bond-Hill Scholars enrolled and the professional/graduate programs in which they are enrolled;
• GPA, number of credits completed and number of credits remaining per student;
• Anticipated date of graduation;
• State residency status; and
• Confirmation that the university considers the student to be in good academic standing.

Reports are due electronically to PDE no later than one month after the end of the semester for which the data is being reported.

Responsibilities

Undergraduate Universities

Program Administration
Cheyney and Lincoln universities must provide the necessary staff to recruit and administer the scholarship program on their respective campuses. Responsibilities
include informing and students of the program, coordinating the student application process, communicating with the partner graduate universities, and supporting pre-professional campus-based organizations.

**Outreach and Recruitment**
Cheyney and Lincoln universities are required to use a combination of outreach and recruitment activities to assist students with preparing for graduate school and to create a pool of qualified scholarship applicants each year.

“Outreach activities” are considered to be activities that serve to promote and inform students about the Bond-Hill Scholarship Program. An example of an “outreach activity” is an event the university sponsors for high school students who are still deciding on a major and/or undergraduate university.

“Recruitment activities” are defined as specific actions that result in students applying to and being prepared for the scholarship program and the graduate program in which they intend to enroll. For example, a Bond-Hill information session for junior undergraduates interested in entering the medical field is a “recruitment activity.”

**Student Application Coordination**
PDE relies on the undergraduate universities to coordinate the following duties:
- Confirm that each applicant meets the Bond-Hill Scholarship Program eligibility requirements;
- Provide a written recommendation for each qualified applicant that includes appropriate information related to student’s eligibility for the Bond-Hill scholarship;
- Assist applicants with compiling the scholarship application packet; and
- Submit student application packets to PDE in a timely manner.

**End Year Report Requirements**
Undergraduate institutions are responsible for submitting an End-Year Report and Final Budget at the end of each academic year that reflects program outreach and recruitment efforts. Institutions are also required to submit to PDE a proposed budget for use of the administrative stipend during the upcoming academic year.

**Scholarship Recipients**
Availability or continuation of the Bond-Hill scholarship is contingent upon students adhering to the following responsibilities. Failure to do so may result in a loss of or limited awarding of a scholarship.
1. Ensure that all required documentation and the application form are submitted to Lincoln or Cheyney to meet the application deadline.
2. Maintain continuous Pennsylvania residency for the entire program.
3. If a non-citizen, maintain a valid Permanent Resident Card.
4. Be continuously enrolled full-time in the approved graduate degree program at the graduate university.
5. Demonstrate high academic performance and maintain satisfactory progress as determined by the graduate institution.
6. Notify PDE immediately of any changes to the following:
   - Name;
   - Residency status;
   - Contact information;
   - Enrollment status, including, but not limited to, graduation, part-time enrollment, leave of absence, course withdrawal and program dismissal; and/or
   - Intended graduate program.
7. Submit the Bond-Hill Textbook Reimbursement Form along with original receipts and course syllabi to the coordinating office at the graduate institution each semester.
8. Abide by the requirements and terms of the scholarship guidelines.

**Graduate Universities**

**Admissions**

Graduate universities are responsible for the following activities:

1. Reviewing candidates for their intended graduate program of study based upon the institution's standard admission procedures.
2. Providing each scholarship applicant accepted into the approved graduate program with an official letter of acceptance that includes the following information. If the acceptance letter does not include all of the above information, the university may provide the student with supplementary documentation.
   - Applicant’s name;
   - Applicant’s Pennsylvania address;
   - Graduate program to which the student is accepted;
   - Date of enrollment at the graduate institution;
   - Expected date of graduation from the graduate program;
   - Statement indicating the student will be charged in-state tuition and fees; and
   - Estimated cost of full-time tuition, fees and course materials for the entire graduate program by semester.
3. Providing Lincoln and Cheyney universities with the names of students from their respective undergraduate universities who have been offered graduate admission, as requested.

**Fiscal**

Graduate universities are responsible for submitting student invoices to PDE each academic period in which the student is enrolled in the program of study. Institutions may invoice PDE for the full cost of tuition, tuition-related fees and required course materials, including textbooks and medical supplies. Institutions should submit the university bill reflecting tuition charges and tuition-related fees and the completed Bond-Hill Textbook Reimbursement Form (See Appendix B) along with receipts and course syllabi. Invoices must be received PDE no later than one semester after costs are incurred. Invoices received after this deadline will be paid based on availability of funds.
Graduate universities are responsible for providing financial projections for each student to PDE as requested.

Graduate universities agree to accept payment by electronic transfer from PHEAA on the student’s behalf and to apply those funds to the student’s account for that semester.

**Enrollment and Academic Standing Verification**
Scholarship eligibility is based upon a student being enrolled full-time in an approved graduate degree program, making academic progress as defined by the graduate university and maintaining residency in Pennsylvania while enrolled in the program. Therefore, PDE relies upon the graduate universities to confirm each term the enrollment status and academic standing for each scholarship recipient.

Graduate universities are expected to notify PDE of any changes to student’s eligibility such as enrollment status, graduation, withdrawal or leave of absence.

**Glossary**

**Pennsylvania resident:** A student with continuous residence in the Commonwealth at least 12 months prior to applying for the Bond-Hill Scholarship.

**Permanent resident:** A resident alien, who is not a U.S. citizen, who has been lawfully admitted to the United States to live and work permanently and has been issued a Permanent Resident Card by the U.S. Government.

**Tuition-related fees:** Mandatory fees for all graduate students in the approved program of study at the graduate university. These fees support the infrastructure of the College. While these fees are calculated on the same basis as tuition, they are not determined by particular course requirements.
Appendix A: Scholarship Acceptance Form

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Horace Mann Bond-Leslie Pinckney Hill Scholarship Acceptance Form

Name: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Home Address: ___________________________ City: ___________________________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________

Phone: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________

☐ I accept the Horace Mann Bond-Leslie Pinckney Hill Scholarship and agree to abide by the following terms and conditions of the award:
2. Be continuously enrolled full-time in the approved graduate degree program.
3. Demonstrate high academic performance and maintain satisfactory progress as determined by the graduate institution.
4. Notify the Department immediately of any changes to the following:
   • Name
   • Residency status
   • Contact information, including change of address
   • Enrollment status at the graduate institution, including change to part-time enrollment
   • Change of major
   • Leave of absence, withdraw or dismissal from the program or university
   • Graduation
5. Submit the Bond-Hill Textbook Reimbursement Form and original receipts to the coordinating office at the graduate institution each semester.
6. Abide by the terms of the scholarship requirements and guidelines.

Graduate Program: ___________________________ Date of Enrollment: ___________________________ (Month/Year)

☐ I decline the Horace Mann Bond-Leslie Pinckney Hill Scholarship. I am declining the scholarship offer for the following reason(s):

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Please sign and return this Agreement within ten (10) days of receiving the scholarship offer to:
Julie B. Kane
Higher Education Associate
Office of Postsecondary and Higher Education
Pennsylvania Department of Education
333 Market Street, 12th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333
Fax: 717-772-3622
juke@pa.gov
Appendix B: Textbook Reimbursement Form

Pennsylvania Department of Education
Bond-Hill Scholarship Program

Bond-Hill Scholarship
Textbook Reimbursement Form

Student Name: ___________________________  Graduate University: ___________________________

Date of Request: ___________________________  Semester of Enrollment:  Fall □  Spring □  Summer □  20__

Total Reimbursement Requested by Student: ___________________________

Graduate University Approval:
Amount Approved by University: ___________________________  Date Approved: ___________________________

Approved by: ___________________________  Title ___________________________

Instructions:
1. Purchase required textbooks and/or course-specific materials for the courses in which you are enrolled this semester.
2. Complete the form below as indicated.
3. Attach itemized receipt(s) for each item(s) listed.
4. Attach a copy of the syllabus for each course in which you are enrolled and course materials are required. If you are enrolled in a course that does not require textbooks or course materials, then the course should not be listed on the form.
5. Make copies of this form and all related documentation for your records.
6. Submit the form and related documentation to the Bond-Hill Coordinating Office at your graduate university as soon as possible each semester.
7. Your graduate university then will submit the form on your behalf to the Bond-Hill Scholarship Program Administrator at the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE).
8. Textbook Reimbursement Forms MUST be submitted and approved by PDE no later than the last day of the semester. Forms submitted after this date will be approved based upon available funding.

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<th>Course Number &amp; Section</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Material Description</th>
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<th>Cost of Item</th>
<th>Receipt attached?</th>
<th>Syllabus attached?</th>
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<td>Advanced Principles of Accounting I</td>
<td>College Bookstore</td>
<td>$112.45</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Course Number &amp; Section</td>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Material Description (i.e., title of textbook or description of class material)</td>
<td>Vendor (i.e., college bookstore, Barnes &amp; Noble, online, etc.)</td>
<td>Cost of Item</td>
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Amount Approved
Date
Authorized Signature
Date Sent to PHEAA
Notes: