

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2303

To authorize funding to expand and support enrollment at institutions of higher education that sponsor construction and manufacturing-oriented registered apprenticeship programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2021

Ms. CRAIG (for herself and Mr. STAUBER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To authorize funding to expand and support enrollment at institutions of higher education that sponsor construction and manufacturing-oriented registered apprenticeship programs, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Appren-
5 ticeship Colleges Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMMUNITY OUTREACH GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated
8 under subsection (f), the Secretary of Education shall pro-

1 vide grants to eligible entities for the purposes of expand-
2 ing or supporting potential student and employer outreach
3 carried out by such entities with respect to the construc-
4 tion and manufacturing-oriented registered apprenticeship
5 programs offered by such entities.

6 (b) AMOUNTS.—The total grant amount made to an
7 eligible entity under this section may not exceed \$500,000.

8 (c) USE OF GRANTS.—An eligible entity that receives
9 a grant under this section shall use such grant for the
10 outreach described in subsection (a), which shall include
11 the following:

12 (1) Outreach to high schools, for the purpose of
13 educating students, parents, guardians, and faculty
14 on the benefits of enrolling in the construction and
15 manufacturing-oriented registered apprenticeship
16 program offered by the eligible entity.

17 (2) Outreach to local businesses and other po-
18 tential employers for the purpose of educating such
19 employers on the benefits of hiring graduates of
20 such program, which shall—

21 (A) primarily target relationship building
22 with potential employers in rural, exurban, and
23 suburban areas; and

1 (B) seek to maximize the number of stu-
2 dents who work in such areas after completing
3 such program.

4 (3) Outreach to local workforce development
5 boards for the purpose of reaching nontraditional
6 student populations and prioritizing local needs.

7 (d) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible enti-
8 ty seeking a grant under this section shall submit an appli-
9 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
10 containing such information as the Secretary may require.

11 (e) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-
12 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities
13 that demonstrate outreach efforts targeted at increasing
14 program enrollment for rural, first generation, minority,
15 and nontraditional students, or other students from
16 underrepresented population.

17 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
18 are authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 to carry out
19 this section for each of the fiscal years 2021 through
20 2025.

21 **SEC. 3. STUDENT SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM FOR EX-**
22 **PANDED ACADEMIC ADVISING.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated
24 under subsection (g), the Secretary of Education shall pro-

1 vide grants to eligible entities for the activities described
2 in subsection (d).

3 (b) AMOUNTS.—The total grant amount made to an
4 eligible entity under this section may not exceed \$500,000.

5 (c) MULTIPLE GRANTS PERMITTED.—An eligible en-
6 tity may receive a grant under sections 2 and 3.

7 (d) USE OF GRANTS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that re-
9 ceives a grant under this section shall use such
10 grant for advising and support services to enrollees
11 of construction and manufacturing-oriented reg-
12 istered apprenticeship programs offered by such en-
13 tity to increase retention and persistence for stu-
14 dents.

15 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—Such advising and sup-
16 port services shall include the following:

17 (A) Expanding academic advising pro-
18 grams that provide services to students, includ-
19 ing the following:

20 (i) Career advising and professional
21 development.

22 (ii) Support for English as a second
23 language students.

24 (iii) Information and resource sys-
25 tems.

1 (iv) Mentoring systems.

2 (v) Other such programs.

3 (B) Expanding student support programs
4 that provide services to students, including the
5 following:

6 (i) Health and family-related services,
7 including substance abuse disorder and
8 mental health counseling.

9 (ii) Support for first-generation stu-
10 dents.

11 (iii) Childcare support.

12 (iv) Other such programs.

13 (v) In the case of an eligible entity
14 that is a construction and manufacturing-
15 oriented registered apprenticeship pro-
16 gram, maintaining its accreditation by a
17 nationally recognized accrediting agency or
18 association recognized by the Secretary of
19 Education pursuant to part H of title IV
20 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
21 U.S.C. 1099a et seq.),

22 (e) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible enti-
23 ty seeking a grant under this section shall submit an appli-
24 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
25 containing such information as the Secretary may require.

1 (f) REPORT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that re-
3 ceives a grant under this section shall submit to the
4 Secretary a report on—

5 (A) the activities supported by the grant;

6 (B) the number of students participating
7 in the activities supported by the grant;

8 (C) any progress made in achieving the
9 goals of the program supported by the grant, in
10 general, and measuring in particular—

11 (i) the effectiveness of the grant in ex-
12 panding overall enrollment and program
13 completion rates; and

14 (ii) the effectiveness of the grant in
15 expanding enrollment and program comple-
16 tion rates for underrepresented popu-
17 lations; and

18 (D) such other information as the Sec-
19 retary determines to be appropriate.

20 (2) TIMELINE FOR SUBMISSION OF REPORT.—

21 The report under paragraph (1) shall be submitted
22 to the Secretary not later than 180 days after the
23 date on which the eligible entity concludes the activi-
24 ties supported by the grant under this section.

1 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2021 through
4 2025.

5 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this Act:

7 (1) CONSTRUCTION AND MANUFACTURING-ORI-
8 ENTED APPRENTICESHIP COLLEGE.—The term
9 “construction and manufacturing-oriented appren-
10 ticeship college” means—

11 (A) an institution of higher education that
12 is a sponsor of a construction and manufac-
13 turing-oriented registered apprenticeship pro-
14 gram; or

15 (B) a construction and manufacturing-ori-
16 ented registered apprenticeship program.

17 (2) CONSTRUCTION AND MANUFACTURING-ORI-
18 ENTED REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—
19 The term “construction and manufacturing-oriented
20 registered apprenticeship program” means a reg-
21 istered apprenticeship program that—

22 (A) provides coursework and training in
23 preparation for employment in the construction
24 or manufactory industry (such as employment

as a painter, drywall finisher, glazier, or glass-worker);

(B)(i) leads to a recognized postsecondary credential other than a certificate of completion of an apprenticeship; or

(ii) awards credits that can be applied toward a recognized postsecondary credential; and

(C) is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association recognized by the Secretary of Education pursuant to part H of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1099a et seq.).

(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible entity” means a construction and manufacturing-oriented apprenticeship college.

(4) FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT.—The term “first generation college student” has the meaning given the term in section 402A(h) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–11(h)).

(5) HIGH SCHOOL.—The term “high school” has the meaning given the term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

1 (6) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
2 term “institution of higher education” has the
3 meaning given the term in section 101(a) of the
4 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

5 (7) OUTREACH.—The term “outreach” means
6 communications and relationship-building opportuni-
7 ties undertaken by an eligible entity.

8 (8) RECOGNIZED POSTSECONDARY CREDEN-
9 TIAL.—The term “recognized postsecondary creden-
10 tial” has the meaning given the term in section 3 of
11 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
12 U.S.C. 3102).

13 (9) REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—
14 The term “registered apprenticeship program”
15 means an apprenticeship program registered under
16 the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as
17 the “National Apprenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664,
18 chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.).

19 (10) SECOND LANGUAGE.—The term “second
20 language” means any language other than English,
21 including Braille and American Sign Language.

22 (11) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
23 means the Secretary of Education.

24 (12) UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATION.—The
25 term “underrepresented population” means an indi-

- 1 vidual who is from a group whose gender, ethnic
- 2 background, or national origin is not traditionally
- 3 represented in registered apprenticeship programs.

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