

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 703

To ensure access to apprenticeships for underrepresented groups, eliminate barriers and ensure completion of apprenticeships, and invest in successful apprenticeship intermediaries.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 2, 2021

Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mrs. HAYES, and Ms. NORTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To ensure access to apprenticeships for underrepresented groups, eliminate barriers and ensure completion of apprenticeships, and invest in successful apprenticeship intermediaries.

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 “Apprenticeship Fu-
5 tures for All Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS, CONTRACTS, OR COOPERATIVE AGREE-**
2 **MENTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Office
4 of Apprenticeship of the Department of Labor shall award
5 grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to eligible en-
6 tities on a competitive basis if the eligible entity is a quali-
7 fied intermediary—

8 (1) to support national industry and equity
9 intermediaries in establishing or expanding sector-
10 based partnerships to support the delivery or expan-
11 sion of programs under the national apprenticeship
12 system to significant scale in the United States—

13 (A) in key sectors, including manufac-
14 turing, information technology, cyber security,
15 health care, insurance and finance, energy, hos-
16 pitality, retail, construction, and other sectors
17 identified by the Administrator as targeted for
18 expansion under the national apprenticeship
19 system; or

20 (B) for nontraditional apprenticeship popu-
21 lations, women, minorities, individuals with dis-
22 abilities, and individuals impacted by the crimi-
23 nal or juvenile justice system; or

24 (2) to serve programs under the national ap-
25 prenticeship system in a local or regional setting.

1 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity applying for
2 any grant activity under this Act—

3 (1) shall use at least 5 percent of the grant
4 funds to provide direct financial assistance to ap-
5 prentices, pre-apprentices, or youth apprentices
6 through emergency grants to support their financial
7 needs to enter, remain enrolled in, and complete
8 such program, such as support for the related costs
9 of supplies and equipment, courses, transportation,
10 child care, and housing; and

11 (2) may use funds for any of the following ac-
12 tivities:

13 (A) To establish or expand partnerships
14 with organizations that provide program partici-
15 pants access to financial planning, mentoring,
16 and supportive services that are necessary to
17 enable an individual to participate in and com-
18 plete a program under the national apprentice-
19 ship system.

20 (B) To conduct outreach and recruitment
21 activities, including assessments of potential
22 participants for, and enrollment of participants
23 in, a program under the national apprenticeship
24 system.

1 (C) To conduct outreach, engagement, re-
2 cruitment, and coordination of activities with
3 employers, industry associations, labor and
4 labor-management organizations, qualified
5 intermediaries, education and training pro-
6 viders, State or local workforce agencies, poten-
7 tial sponsors, community-based organizations,
8 communities with high numbers or percentages
9 of nontraditional apprenticeship populations,
10 small- and medium-sized businesses, or rural
11 communities to establish or expand industry or
12 sector partnerships and opportunities under the
13 national apprenticeship system.

14 (D) To carry out grant requirements, in-
15 cluding program evaluation and reporting re-
16 quirements.

17 (E) To conduct any activities as described
18 in the application that would advance the pur-
19 poses of the grant.

20 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

21 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “eligible enti-
23 ty” means—

24 (i) a program sponsor;

1 (ii) a State workforce development
2 board or State workforce agency, or a local
3 workforce development board or local
4 workforce development agency;

5 (iii) an education and training pro-
6 vider, or a consortium thereof;

7 (iv) if the applicant is in a State with
8 a State apprenticeship agency, such State
9 apprenticeship agency;

10 (v) an Indian Tribe or Tribal organi-
11 zation;

12 (vi) an industry or sector partnership,
13 a group of employers, a trade association,
14 or a professional association that sponsors
15 or participates in a program under the na-
16 tional apprenticeship system;

17 (vii) a Governor;

18 (viii) a labor organization or joint-
19 labor management organization; or

20 (ix) a qualified intermediary.

21 (B) SPONSOR REQUIREMENT.—Not fewer
22 than one entity under subparagraph (A) shall
23 be the sponsor of a program under the national
24 apprenticeship system.

25 (2) QUALIFIED INTERMEDIARY.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “qualified
2 intermediary” means an entity that dem-
3 onstrates expertise in building, connecting, sus-
4 taining, and measuring the performance of
5 partnerships described in subparagraph (B) and
6 serves program participants and employers
7 by—

8 (i) connecting employers to programs
9 under the national apprenticeship system;

10 (ii) assisting in the design and imple-
11 mentation of such programs, including cur-
12 riculum development and delivery for re-
13 lated instruction;

14 (iii) supporting entities, sponsors, or
15 program administrators in meeting the
16 registration and reporting requirements of
17 this Act;

18 (iv) providing professional develop-
19 ment activities such as training to men-
20 tors;

21 (v) connecting students or workers to
22 programs under the national apprentice-
23 ship system;

24 (vi) developing and providing person-
25 alized program participant supports, in-

cluding by partnering with organizations to
provide access to or referrals for supportive
services and financial advising;

(vii) providing services, resources, and
supports for development, delivery, expansion,
or improvement of programs under
the national apprenticeship system; or

(viii) serving as a program sponsor.

(B) PARTNERSHIPS.—The partnerships described
in subparagraph (A) means partnerships among
entities involved in programs under the national
apprenticeship system, including—

(i) industry or sector partnerships;

(ii) partnerships among employers, joint
labor-management organizations, labor organizations,
community-based organizations, industry associations,
State or local workforce development boards, education
and training providers, social service organizations,
economic development organizations, Indian Tribes or
Tribal organizations, one-stop operators, or one-stop
partners, in the State workforce development system; or

- 1 (iii) partnerships among one or more
- 2 of the entities described in clauses (i) and
- 3 (ii).

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