

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8050

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to support and strengthen outcomes for student parents through the provision of child care services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2024

Mr. MORAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to support and strengthen outcomes for student parents through the provision of child care services, 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 Parents
5 in Education Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CHILD CARE ACCESS MEANS PARENTS IN SCHOOL.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 419N of the Higher Edu-
3 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070e) is amended to read
4 as follows:

5 **“SEC. 419N. CHILD CARE ACCESS MEANS PARENTS IN**
6 **SCHOOL.**

7 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to
8 support the participation and strengthen outcomes of eligi-
9 ble student parents in postsecondary education through
10 the provision of child care services.

11 “(b) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

12 “(1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may award
13 grants to eligible entities to assist such entities in
14 providing child care services to eligible student par-
15 ents.

16 “(2) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—

17 “(A) MINIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—The
18 amount of a grant awarded to an eligible entity
19 under this section for a fiscal year shall be not
20 less than \$75,000.

21 “(B) MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—The
22 amount of a grant awarded to an eligible entity
23 under this section for a fiscal year shall not ex-
24 ceed—

25 “(i) in the case of an eligible entity
26 that is an individual institution of higher

1 education, 3 percent of the total amount of
2 all Federal Pell Grant funds awarded to
3 students enrolled at the institution for the
4 preceding fiscal year; or

5 “(ii) in the case of an eligible entity
6 that is a consortium of institutions of high-
7 er education, 3 percent of the total amount
8 of all Federal Pell Grant funds awarded to
9 students enrolled at all institutions in such
10 consortium for the preceding fiscal year.

11 “(C) EXCEPTION.—If the maximum
12 amount of a grant calculated under subpara-
13 graph (B) for an eligible entity is less the min-
14 imum amount specified in subparagraph (A),
15 the eligible entity shall be awarded a grant of
16 \$75,000.

17 “(3) DURATION; RENEWAL; AND PAYMENTS.—

18 “(A) DURATION.—The Secretary shall
19 award a grant under this section for a period
20 of 4 years.

21 “(B) PAYMENTS.—Subject to subsection
22 (e)(2), the Secretary shall make annual grant
23 payments under this section.

1 “(4) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds under this
2 section shall be used by an eligible entity to carry
3 out one or more of the following activities:

4 “(A) Supporting or establishing child care
5 services primarily serving the needs of eligible
6 student parents served by the entity.

7 “(B) Making grants to or entering into
8 contracts or other agreements with local child
9 care providers or other appropriate entities for
10 purposes of providing eligible student parents
11 with access to child care services.

12 “(C) Providing or supporting additional
13 services (other than direct child care services)
14 to help eligible student parents served by the
15 entity care for their children, including trans-
16 portation, nutrition support, and health care
17 services.

18 “(5) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
19 this section shall be construed to prohibit an eligible
20 entity that receives grant funds under this section
21 from serving the child care needs of the community
22 served by the entity.

23 “(6) PUBLICITY.—The Secretary shall publicize
24 the availability of grants under this section, includ-
25 ing by—

1 “(A) publishing notice of the availability of
2 such grants in the Federal Register;

3 “(B) informing appropriate educational,
4 nonprofit, and child care organizations of such
5 availability; and

6 “(C) carrying out such other activities as
7 the Secretary determines appropriate.

8 “(c) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible entity desiring a
9 grant under this section shall submit an application to the
10 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied
11 by such information as the Secretary may require. Each
12 application shall—

13 “(1) demonstrate that the entity is an eligible
14 entity;

15 “(2) in the case of an application from an eligi-
16 ble entity that is a consortium of institutions of
17 higher education—

18 “(A) identify each institution in the con-
19 sortium;

20 “(B) explain the reasons for the establish-
21 ment of the consortium; and

22 “(C) describe how institutions in the con-
23 sortium will work together to meet the needs of
24 eligible student parents;

25 “(3) specify the amount of funds requested;

1 “(4) demonstrate the need of eligible student
2 parents served by the entity for child care services
3 by including in the application—

4 “(A) information regarding student demo-
5 graphics;

6 “(B) to the maximum extent practicable,
7 an assessment of child care capacity on or near
8 each campus or other location served by the en-
9 tity;

10 “(C) information regarding additional
11 needs created by community income levels or
12 other factors;

13 “(D) information about the number of eli-
14 gible student parents projected to be served by
15 the entity during the grant period which may be
16 determined using historical or projected data
17 regarding the numbers of eligible student par-
18 ents enrolled in institutions that comprise the
19 entity;

20 “(E) information about the retention and
21 completion rates of eligible student parents;

22 “(F) information about the direct costs
23 charged to eligible student parents;

1 “(G) information on the types and average
2 amounts of non-Federal aid given to eligible
3 student parents; and

4 “(H) other relevant data;

5 “(5) contain a description of the activities to be
6 funded with the grant, including whether the grant
7 funds will support an existing child care program or
8 a new child care program;

9 “(6) identify the resources, including non-Fed-
10 eral resources, technical expertise, and community
11 support, the entity will draw upon to support eligible
12 student parents in accessing child care services, and
13 provide an assurance that the expenditure of such
14 resources will not result in compensatory increases
15 in student tuition;

16 “(7) contain an assurance that the entity will
17 meet the child care needs of eligible student parents
18 through the provision of services, or through a con-
19 tract for the provision of services;

20 “(8) identify each program of study in the field
21 of early childhood education offered by the eligible
22 entity and the CIP code assigned to such program;

23 “(9) describe how the child care services sup-
24 ported with a grant under this section may be inte-
25 grated with the programs of study identified under

1 paragraph (8), including a description of whether
2 and to what extent students enrolled in such pro-
3 grams may receive academic or other credit toward
4 graduation requirements in conjunction with pro-
5 viding such services;

6 “(10) in the case of an eligible entity seeking
7 assistance for a new child care program or a new
8 contract for the provision of child care services—

9 “(A) provide a timeline, covering the pe-
10 riod from receipt of the grant through the pro-
11 vision of the child care services, delineating the
12 specific steps the entity will take to achieve the
13 goal of providing eligible student parents with
14 child care services;

15 “(B) specify any measures the entity will
16 take to assist eligible student parents with child
17 care during the period before the entity pro-
18 vides child care services; and

19 “(C) include a plan for identifying the re-
20 sources needed for the child care services sup-
21 ported by the grant, including—

22 “(i) space in which to provide such
23 services; and

24 “(ii) any technical assistance that may
25 be required;

1 “(11) include a certification that there are in
2 effect within the State, under State or local law, re-
3 quirements designed to protect the health and safety
4 of children that are applicable to child care providers
5 that provide services for which assistance is made
6 available under this section;

7 “(12) contain an assurance that any child care
8 facility assisted under this section will meet the ap-
9 plicable State or local government licensing, certifi-
10 cation, approval, provisional status, or registration
11 requirements prior to serving children and families;

12 “(13) describe how information regarding the
13 availability of child care services will be provided to
14 eligible student parents; and

15 “(14) contain an abstract summarizing the con-
16 tents of such application together with an expla-
17 nation of how the entity intends to achieve the pur-
18 pose described in subsection (a).

19 “(d) PRIORITY.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall give
21 priority in awarding grants under this section to eli-
22 gible entities that submit applications describing
23 programs for eligible student parents to access child
24 care services that—

1 “(A) include efforts to leverage significant
2 non-Federal, local, or institutional resources, in-
3 cluding in-kind contributions, to support the ac-
4 tivities assisted under this section;

5 “(B) utilize a sliding fee scale for child
6 care services provided under this section in
7 order to maximize the number of eligible stu-
8 dent parents served;

9 “(C) coordinate with other community pro-
10 grams, as appropriate, to improve the quality of
11 child care services and limit the cost of such
12 services;

13 “(D) include efforts to improve the comple-
14 tion rates and value-added earnings of eligible
15 student parents and plans to evaluate the effec-
16 tiveness of such efforts;

17 “(E) include efforts by the eligible entity—

18 “(i) to reduce the direct costs charged
19 to eligible student parents; and

20 “(ii) to increase the amount of non-
21 Federal aid given to eligible student par-
22 ents; and

23 “(F) are integrated with programs of
24 study in early childhood education identified
25 under subsection (c)(8), including by allowing

1 students enrolled in such programs to receive
2 academic or other credit toward graduation re-
3 quirements in conjunction with providing such
4 services as described in subsection (c)(9).

5 “(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary
6 may provide technical assistance to eligible entities
7 to help such entities qualify for, apply for, and main-
8 tain a grant under this section.

9 “(e) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; CONTINUING ELI-
10 GIBILITY.—

11 “(1) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

12 “(A) REPORTS.—Each eligible entity re-
13 ceiving a grant under this section shall report
14 to the Secretary annually.

15 “(B) CONTENTS.—Each report under sub-
16 paragraph (A) shall include—

17 “(i) data on the population served by
18 the child care program supported with a
19 grant under this section, including—

20 “(I) the total number of children
21 served by the program and the age
22 ranges of such children; and

23 “(II) the total number of eligible
24 student parents served by the pro-
25 gram;

1 “(ii) in the case of an eligible entity
2 that is an institution of higher education,
3 the number of such eligible student parents
4 served by such program—

5 “(I) who are attending an insti-
6 tution on a full-time basis;

7 “(II) who are attending an insti-
8 tution on a part-time basis;

9 “(III) who remain enrolled at an
10 institution during the academic year
11 for which such student parents re-
12 ceived child care services supported
13 under this section;

14 “(IV) who remain enrolled at an
15 institution during the academic year
16 following the academic year in which
17 such student parents first received
18 such services;

19 “(V) who graduate from an insti-
20 tution during the academic year for
21 which such student parents received
22 such services;

23 “(VI) who transfer to a different
24 institution during the academic year

1 for which such student parents re-
2 ceived such services; and

3 “(VII) who withdraw from an in-
4 stitution during the academic year for
5 which such student parents received
6 such services;

7 “(iii) in the case of an eligible entity
8 that is a consortium of institutions of high-
9 er education, each category of information
10 described in clause (ii) stated separately
11 for the consortium as a whole and for each
12 institution in the consortium;

13 “(iv) information on the eligibility of
14 eligible student parents for Federal Pell
15 Grants (as described subsection (g)(6)(C)),
16 including the average amount of Federal
17 Pell Grants received by such student par-
18 ents;

19 “(v) the marital status of eligible stu-
20 dent parents;

21 “(vi) the average completion rate of
22 eligible student parents;

23 “(vii) information on sources of cam-
24 pus and community resources available to
25 eligible student parents and the amount of

1 non-Federal funding used by such parents
2 to access child care services;

3 “(viii) the fee structure for eligible
4 student parents to receive child care serv-
5 ices supported under this section, including
6 a description of any sliding scale used to
7 determine such fees;

8 “(ix) the percentage of the grant
9 funds received by the entity that was used
10 directly to subsidize any fees charged for—

11 “(I) campus-based child care
12 services for eligible student parents;
13 and

14 “(II) off-campus child care serv-
15 ices for eligible student parents;

16 “(x) documentation that the child care
17 services supported by the grant meet li-
18 censing, certification, approval, and reg-
19 istration requirements, as applicable; and

20 “(xi) a description of how grant funds
21 received under this section were used to
22 pursue the goals of the entity as set forth
23 in the application submitted by the entity
24 under subsection (c).

1 “(C) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—On an an-
2 nual basis, the Secretary shall publish the re-
3 ports received under subparagraph (A) on a
4 publicly accessible website of the Department of
5 Education.

6 “(2) CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY.—The Secretary
7 shall make continuation awards under this section to
8 an eligible entity only if the Secretary determines, on
9 the basis of the reports submitted under paragraph
10 (1), that the entity is—

11 “(A) using funds only for authorized pur-
12 poses;

13 “(B) providing eligible student parents
14 served by the entity with priority access to af-
15 fordable, quality child care services, as provided
16 under this section;

17 “(C) implementing practices that, to the
18 maximum extent practicable—

19 “(i) improve the completion rates and
20 value-added earnings of eligible student
21 parents; and

22 “(ii) reduce the direct costs charged
23 to eligible student parents; and

24 “(D) documenting a continued need for
25 Federal funding under this section, while dem-

1 onstrating how non-Federal sources will be le-
2 veraged to support a continuation award.

3 “(f) CONSTRUCTION.—No funds provided under this
4 section shall be used for construction, except for minor
5 renovation or repair to meet applicable State or local
6 health or safety requirements.

7 “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) CHILD CARE SERVICES.—The term ‘child
9 care services’ includes campus-based child care serv-
10 ices and child care services provided in an off-cam-
11 pus setting that are accessible to eligible student
12 parents.

13 “(2) CIP CODE.—The term ‘CIP code’ means
14 the six-digit taxonomic identification code assigned
15 by an institution of higher education to a specific
16 program of study at the institution, determined by
17 the institution in accordance with the Classification
18 of Instructional Programs published by the National
19 Center for Education Statistics.

20 “(3) COMPLETION RATE.—The term ‘comple-
21 tion rate’ means—

22 “(A) the percentage of students from an
23 initial cohort enrolled at an institution of higher
24 education that is a 2-year institution who have

1 graduated from the institution or transferred to
2 a 4-year institution of higher education; or

3 “(B) the percentage of students from an
4 initial cohort enrolled at an institution of higher
5 education in the State that is a 4-year institu-
6 tion who have graduated from the institution.

7 “(4) DIRECT COSTS.—The term ‘direct costs’
8 means the total cost of all items included in the cost
9 of attendance (as defined in section 472) that are
10 billed to the student by the institution or otherwise
11 required by the institution for enrollment.

12 “(5) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
13 tity’ means—

14 “(A) an institution of higher education
15 that had an enrollment of not fewer than 150
16 eligible student parents in the most recently
17 completed award year as of the date the deter-
18 mination is made; or

19 “(B) a consortium of two or more institu-
20 tions of higher education that had a total com-
21 bined enrollment of not fewer than 150 eligible
22 student parents in the most recently completed
23 award year as of the date the determination is
24 made.

1 “(6) ELIGIBLE STUDENT PARENT.—The term
2 ‘eligible student parent’ means a student who—

3 “(A) is the parent or guardian of one or
4 more dependent children;

5 “(B) is enrolled in an institution of higher
6 education described in subparagraph (A) or (B)
7 of paragraph (5); and

8 “(C)(i) is eligible to receive a Federal Pell
9 Grant under section 401 for the award year for
10 which the determination is made; or

11 “(ii) meets the financial eligibility criteria
12 for receiving a Federal Pell Grant under section
13 401 for such award year but is not eligible for
14 a Federal Pell Grant because the student is en-
15 rolled in a graduate or first professional course
16 of study.

17 “(7) VALUE-ADDED EARNINGS.—

18 “(A) CALCULATION.—With respect to a
19 student who received Federal financial aid
20 under this title and who completed a program
21 of study offered by an institution of higher edu-
22 cation, the term ‘value-added earnings’
23 means—

24 “(i) the annual earnings of such stu-
25 dent measured during the applicable earn-

1 ings measurement period for such program
2 (as determined under subparagraph (C));
3 minus

4 “*(ii)* in the case of a student who
5 completed a program of study that
6 awards—

7 “(I) an undergraduate credential,
8 150 percent of the poverty line appli-
9 cable to a single individual as deter-
10 mined under section 673(2) of the
11 Community Services Block Grant Act
12 (42 U.S.C. 9902(2)) for such year; or

13 “(II) a graduate credential, 300
14 percent of the poverty line applicable
15 to a single individual as determined
16 under section 673(2) of the Commu-
17 nity Services Block Grant Act (42
18 U.S.C. 9902(2)) for such year.

19 “(B) GEOGRAPHIC ADJUSTMENT.—

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
21 vided in clause (ii), the Secretary shall use
22 the geographic location of the institution at
23 which a student completed a program of
24 study to adjust the value-added earnings of

1 the student calculated under subparagraph
2 (A) by dividing—

3 “(I) the difference between sub-
4 clauses (I) and (II) of such subpara-
5 graph; by

6 “(II) the most recent regional
7 price parity index of the Bureau of
8 Economics Analysis for the State or,
9 as applicable, metropolitan area in
10 which such institution is located.

11 “(ii) EXCEPTION.—The value-added
12 earnings of a student calculated under sub-
13 paragraph (A) shall not be adjusted based
14 on geographic location in accordance with
15 clause (i) if such student attended prin-
16 cipally through distance education.

17 “(C) EARNINGS MEASUREMENT PERIOD.—

18 “(i) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose
19 of calculating the value-added earnings of
20 a student, except as provided in clause (ii),
21 the annual earnings of a student shall be
22 measured—

23 “(I) in the case of a program of
24 study that awards an undergraduate
25 certificate, post baccalaureate certifi-

1 cate, or graduate certificate, one year
2 after the student completes such pro-
3 gram;

4 “(II) in the case of a program of
5 study that awards an associate’s de-
6 gree or master’s degree, 2 years after
7 the student completes such program;
8 and

9 “(III) in the case of a program of
10 study that awards a bachelor’s degree,
11 doctoral degree, or professional de-
12 gree, 4 years after the student com-
13 pletes such program.

14 “(ii) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary
15 may, as the Secretary determines appro-
16 priate based on the characteristics of a
17 program of study, extend an earnings
18 measurement period described in clause (i)
19 for a program of study that—

20 “(I) requires completion of an
21 additional educational program after
22 completion of the program of study in
23 order to obtain a licensure associated
24 with the credential awarded for such
25 program of study; and

1 “(II) when combined with the
2 program length of such additional
3 educational program for licensure, has
4 a total program length that exceeds
5 the relevant earnings measurement
6 period prescribed for such program of
7 study under clause (i),
8 except that in no case shall the annual
9 earnings of a student be measured more
10 than 5 years after the student completes a
11 program of study.”.

12 (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by sub-
13 section (a) shall apply with respect to grants made under
14 section 419N of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
15 U.S.C. 1070e) on or after the date of enactment of this
16 Act.

○