

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4048

To require the Director of the National Science Foundation to establish a program to award grants for certain STEM apprenticeship programs, require an interagency task force to submit a report regarding certain programs of the Federal Government focused primarily on career development and training in STEM, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 17, 2025

Ms. RIVAS (for herself, Mr. FIELDS, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SORESENSEN, and Ms. MCBRIDE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To require the Director of the National Science Foundation to establish a program to award grants for certain STEM apprenticeship programs, require an interagency task force to submit a report regarding certain programs of the Federal Government focused primarily on career development and training in STEM, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “STEM Pathways for  
3 the Future Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN STEM**  
5 **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS; INTERAGENCY**  
6 **TASK FORCE.**

7       (a) GRANT PROGRAM TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN  
8 STEM APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—The National  
9 Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (Public  
10 Law 107–368) is amended by inserting after section 8 the  
11 following new section:

12 **“SEC. 8A. GRANT PROGRAM TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN STEM**  
13 **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.**

14       “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the  
15 date of the enactment of this section, the Director shall  
16 establish a program to award grants on a competitive  
17 basis to eligible recipients to establish STEM apprentice-  
18 ship programs that are not carried out by four-year insti-  
19 tutions of higher education (in this section referred to as  
20 the ‘Program’).

21       “(b) APPLICATION.—An eligible recipient that seeks  
22 a grant under the Program shall submit to the Director  
23 an application at such time, in such manner, and con-  
24 taining such information as the Director may require.

1       “(c) AWARDS.—In awarding grants under the Pro-  
2 gram, the Director shall give preference to priority recipi-  
3 ents over eligible recipients that are not priority recipients.

4       “(d) PERMISSIBLE USE OF FUNDS.—As determined  
5 appropriate by the Director, a recipient of a grant award-  
6 ed under the Program may obligate or expend grants  
7 funds for the following activities:

8               “(1) Recruiting participants to a STEM ap-  
9 prenticeship program established under the Pro-  
10 gram.

11              “(2) Planning and technical assistance to im-  
12 prove such apprenticeship program.

13              “(3) Incorporating emerging technology into  
14 such apprenticeship program.

15              “(4) Entering such apprenticeship program into  
16 a consortium with, or establishing an advisory board  
17 for such apprenticeship program that is composed  
18 of, one or more private sector entities in STEM.

19              “(5) Any other activity as the Director may de-  
20 termine.

21       “(e) IMPERMISSIBLE USE OF FUNDS.—A recipient of  
22 a grant awarded under the Program may not obligate or  
23 expend grant funds for recruitment, inducement, or asso-  
24 ciated financial or tangible incentives that might be of-

1 fered to relocate an existing business from a geographic  
2 area to another geographic area.

3 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 “(1) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—The term ‘eligible  
5 recipient’ means any of the following:

6 “(A) A State.

7 “(B) An Indian Tribe (as such term is de-  
8 fined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determina-  
9 tion and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.  
10 5304)).

11 “(C) A city or other political subdivision of  
12 such State or Indian Tribe.

13 “(D) A public-private partnership focused  
14 primarily on career development and training in  
15 STEM.

16 “(E) A priority recipient.

17 “(F) A consortium of any of the entities  
18 described in subparagraphs (A) through (E).

19 “(2) PRIORITY RECIPIENT.—The term ‘priority  
20 recipient’ means any of the following:

21 “(A) An entity that carries out an appren-  
22 ticeship program registered under the Act of  
23 August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the ‘Na-  
24 tional Apprenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chap-  
25 ter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.)

1 “(B) A community college.

2 “(C) A minority-serving institution (as  
3 such term is defined in section 10002 of the  
4 Research and Development, Competition, and  
5 Innovation Act (42 U.S.C. 18901)).

6 “(D) Any other entity as the Director may  
7 determine.

8 “(E) A consortium that includes an entity  
9 described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

10 “(3) STEM.—The term ‘STEM’ means the  
11 study or practice of science, technology, engineering,  
12 or mathematics.”.

13 (b) INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.—

14 (1) COMPOSITION.—There is established an  
15 interagency task force (in this subsection referred to  
16 as the “Task Force”) composed of eight members as  
17 follows:

18 (A) The Administrator of the Environ-  
19 mental Protection Agency.

20 (B) The Director of the National Science  
21 Foundation.

22 (C) The Director of the Office of Science  
23 and Technology Policy.

24 (D) The Secretary of Commerce.

25 (E) The Secretary of Education.

1 (F) The Secretary of Energy.

2 (G) The Secretary of Health and Human  
3 Services.

4 (H) The Secretary of Labor.

5 (2) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the  
6 date of the enactment of this section, the Task  
7 Force shall submit to Congress a report that in-  
8 cludes information relating to an identification of  
9 each program of the Federal Government that satis-  
10 fies the following requirements:

11 (A) Is focused primarily on career develop-  
12 ment and training in STEM.

13 (B) Is carried out through any of the fol-  
14 lowing:

15 (i) An apprenticeship program reg-  
16 istered under the Act of August 16, 1937  
17 (commonly known as the “National Ap-  
18 prenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664, chapter  
19 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.).

20 (ii) A community college (as such  
21 term is defined in section 4 of the National  
22 Science Foundation Authorization Act of  
23 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n note)).

24 (iii) A minority-serving institution (as  
25 such term is defined in section 10002 of

1                   the Research and Development, Competi-  
2                   tion, and Innovation Act (42 U.S.C.  
3                   18901)).

4                   (3) TERMINATION.—The Task Force shall ter-  
5                   minate upon submission of the report under para-  
6                   graph (2).

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