

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5428

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to award grants to accredited public institutions of higher education, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

Mr. COLE (for himself and Ms. TITUS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to award grants to accredited public institutions of higher education, 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 “Medical Student Edu-
5 cation Authorization Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. EDUCATION PROGRAM TO SUPPORT PRIMARY**
2 **HEALTH CARE FOR MEDICALLY UNDER-**
3 **SERVED COMMUNITIES.**

4 Part B of title VII of the Public Health Service Act
5 (42 U.S.C. 293 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
6 the following:

7 **“SEC. 742. EDUCATION PROGRAM TO SUPPORT PRIMARY**
8 **HEALTH CARE FOR MEDICALLY UNDER-**
9 **SERVED COMMUNITIES.**

10 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting
11 through the Administrator of the Health Resources and
12 Services Administration (in this section referred to as the
13 ‘Secretary’) shall establish a grant program to award
14 grants to accredited public institutions of higher education
15 to carry out the activities described in subsection (d) for
16 the purposes of—

17 “(1) supporting education for medical students
18 who are preparing to become physicians; and

19 “(2) preparing and encouraging each such stu-
20 dent trained by a grantee to serve in a Tribal, rural,
21 or medically underserved community as a primary
22 care physician after completing residency training.

23 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to be eligible to receive
24 a grant under this section, an accredited public institution
25 of higher education shall—

1 “(1) be located in a State that is in the top
2 quartile of States with a projected shortage of pri-
3 mary care physicians, as determined by the Sec-
4 retary; and

5 “(2) submit an application to the Secretary at
6 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
7 formation as the Secretary may require, that in-
8 cludes—

9 “(A) a certification that such institution
10 will use amounts provided to the institution
11 through the grant to carry out the activities de-
12 scribed in subsection (d); and

13 “(B) a description of how such institution
14 will carry out such activities.

15 “(c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-
16 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to accredited public
17 institutions of higher education that meet the eligibility
18 requirements of subsection (b) and—

19 “(1) are located in a State with not fewer than
20 2 Indian Tribes or Tribal organizations (as such
21 terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-De-
22 termination and Education Assistance Act); and

23 “(2) have established, or demonstrate plans to
24 establish, a strategic partnership with entities de-

1 scribed in subsection (d)(4) that supports the pur-
2 poses described in subsection (a).

3 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives
4 a grant under this section shall, as appropriate, use the
5 funds made available under such grant to carry out the
6 following activities:

7 “(1) Support community-based training for
8 medical students who will practice in or serve Tribal,
9 rural, or medically underserved communities.

10 “(2) Develop and operate programs to train
11 medical students in the provision of primary care
12 services, which may include developing training pro-
13 grams and activities that—

14 “(A) emphasize care for Tribal, rural, or
15 medically underserved communities;

16 “(B) are applicable to primary care prac-
17 tice with respect to individuals from Tribal,
18 rural, or medically underserved communities;
19 and

20 “(C) promote interdisciplinary training.

21 “(3) Increase the capacity of faculty to develop
22 and operate programs described in paragraph (2).

23 “(4) Develop strategic partnerships, such as
24 public-private partnerships, to improve health out-
25 comes for individuals from Tribal, rural, or medi-

1 cally underserved communities, which partnerships
2 may include—

3 “(A) federally recognized Tribes, Tribal
4 Colleges or Universities (as such term is defined
5 in section 316 of the Higher Education Act of
6 1965), and Tribal organizations (as such term
7 is defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Deter-
8 mination and Education Assistance Act);

9 “(B) Federally qualified health centers;

10 “(C) rural health clinics;

11 “(D) health facilities or programs operated
12 by or in accordance with a contract or grant
13 with the Indian Health Service; and

14 “(E) primary care clinics.

15 “(5) Develop a plan, as appropriate, for fol-
16 lowup with graduates, including with respect to spe-
17 cialties, as applicable.

18 “(6) Develop, implement, and evaluate methods
19 to improve recruitment and retention of medical stu-
20 dents from Tribal, rural, or medically underserved
21 communities.

22 “(7) Train and support instructors to serve
23 Tribal, rural, or medically underserved communities.

1 “(8) Prepare medical students for transition
2 into primary care residency training and future
3 practice.

4 “(9) Provide scholarships to medical students.

5 “(e) GRANT PERIOD.—A grant under this section
6 shall be awarded for a period of not more than 5 years.

7 “(f) GRANT AMOUNT.—Each fiscal year, the amount
8 of a grant made to an eligible entity under this section
9 shall be not less than \$1,000,000.

10 “(g) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary
11 shall, as appropriate, require that an eligible entity receiv-
12 ing a grant under this section provide non-Federal match-
13 ing funds, which may be in cash or in kind, in an amount
14 that is not more than 10 percent of the total amount of
15 Federal funds provided through the grant each fiscal year.

16 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
17 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
18 \$75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2028.”.

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