

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4067

To provide grants to colleges to improve remedial education (including English language instruction), to customize remediation to student career goals, and to help students move rapidly from remediation into for-credit occupation program courses and through program completion.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 1, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY (for herself, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Mr. HARE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To provide grants to colleges to improve remedial education (including English language instruction), to customize remediation to student career goals, and to help students move rapidly from remediation into for-credit occupation program courses and through program completion.

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 “Bridges from Jobs to  
5 Careers Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO CREATE BRIDGES FROM JOBS TO CA-**  
2 **REERS.**

3 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAM.—From amounts  
4 appropriated under subsection (k), the Secretary shall  
5 award grants, on a competitive basis, to institutions of  
6 higher education for the purposes of improving remedial  
7 education, including English language instruction, to cus-  
8 tomize remediation to student career goals, and to help  
9 students move rapidly from remediation into for-credit oc-  
10 cupational program courses and through program comple-  
11 tion. The grants shall focus in particular on creating  
12 bridges to for-credit occupational certificate programs that  
13 are articulated to degree programs.

14 (b) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution seeking a  
15 grant under this section shall submit an application to the  
16 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing  
17 such information as the Secretary may require.

18 (c) PRIORITIES.—The Secretary shall give priority to  
19 applications that—

20 (1) are from institutions of higher education in  
21 which not less than 50 percent of the institution's  
22 entering first-year students are enrolled in develop-  
23 mental courses to bring reading, writing, or mathe-  
24 matics skills up to college-level; and

25 (2) propose to replicate practices that have  
26 proven effective with adults and to applications that

1       propose to collaborate with adult education pro-  
2       viders.

3       (d) PEER REVIEW.—The Secretary shall convene a  
4       peer review process to review applications for grants under  
5       this section and to make recommendations to the Sec-  
6       retary regarding the selection of grantees.

7       (e) MANDATORY ACTIVITY.—An eligible institution  
8       that receives a grant under this section shall use the grant  
9       funds to create workforce bridge programs that customize  
10      developmental education curricula, including English lan-  
11      guage instruction, to the content of the for-credit occupa-  
12      tional certificate or degree programs, or clusters of pro-  
13      grams, in which developmental education students seek to  
14      enroll. Such bridge programs may include those that inte-  
15      grate the curricula and the instruction of both remediation  
16      and college-level coursework or dual enroll students in re-  
17      mediation and college-level coursework.

18      (f) PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—An eligible institution  
19      that receives a grant under this section, in addition to cre-  
20      ating workforce bridge programs, may use the grant funds  
21      to carry out the following:

22           (1) Design and implement innovative ways to  
23      improve retention in and completion of develop-  
24      mental education courses, including but not limited  
25      to enrolling students in cohorts, accelerating course

1 content, integrating remediation and college-level  
2 curricula and instruction, dual enrolling students in  
3 remediation and college-level courses, tutoring, pro-  
4 viding counseling and other supportive services, and  
5 giving small, material incentives for attendance and  
6 performance.

7 (2) In consultation with faculty in the appro-  
8 priate departments, redesignating class schedules to  
9 meet the needs of working adults, such as by cre-  
10 ating evening, weekend, modular, compressed, dis-  
11 tance learning formats or other alternative sched-  
12 ules.

13 (3) Improving the quality of teaching in reme-  
14 dial courses through professional development, re-  
15 classification of such teaching positions, or other  
16 means the eligible institution determines appro-  
17 priate.

18 (4) Any other activities the eligible institution  
19 and the Secretary determine will promote retention  
20 of and completion by students attending institutions  
21 of higher education.

22 (5) Fully advise students on the range of op-  
23 tions and programs available, which may include: di-  
24 ploma; certification; 2-year degree; associate's de-

1       gree; transfer degree to upper division; and career  
2       options.

3       (g) GRANT PERIOD.—Grants made under this section  
4       shall be for a period of not less than 36 months and not  
5       more than 60 months.

6       (h) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall  
7       provide technical assistance to grantees under this section  
8       throughout the grant period.

9       (i) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall conduct an  
10      evaluation of program impacts under the demonstration  
11      program, and shall disseminate to the public the findings  
12      from the evaluation and information on best practices.  
13      The Secretary is encouraged to partner with other pro-  
14      viders of funds, such as private foundations, to allow for  
15      use of a random assignment evaluation in at least one of  
16      the demonstration sites.

17      (j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
18      are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
19      \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 and each of the 4 suc-  
20      ceeding fiscal years, of which an aggregate of not more  
21      than 5 percent may be used to carry out subsections (i)  
22      and (j).

1       (k) DEFINITION OF INSTITUTION.—In this section,  
2 the term “institution of higher education” means an insti-  
3 tution of higher education as defined in section 101(a).

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