

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2681

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to establish the STEM Education and Training Account in order to enhance the economic competitiveness of the United States by providing funding for STEM education and training, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 4, 2015

Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary and Science, Space, and Technology, 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

A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to establish the STEM Education and Training Account in order to enhance the economic competitiveness of the United States by providing funding for STEM education and training, 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 “Training Highly
5 Skilled Americans Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. STEM EDUCATION AND TRAINING.**

2 (a) FEE.—Section 212(a)(5)(A) of the Immigration
3 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(5)(A)) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 “(v) FEE.—An employer shall submit, along with an
6 application for a certification under this subparagraph, a
7 fee of \$1,000, which shall be deposited in the STEM Edu-
8 cation and Training Account established under section
9 286(w).”.

10 (b) H-1B NONIMMIGRANT PETITIONER ACCOUNT.—
11 Section 286(s) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
12 U.S.C. 1356(s)) is amended by striking paragraphs (3)
13 and (4) and inserting the following:

14 “(3) LOW-INCOME STEM SCHOLARSHIP PRO-
15 GRAM.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Thirty percent of the
17 amounts deposited into the H-1B Non-
18 immigrant Petitioner Account shall remain
19 available to the Director of the National Science
20 Foundation until expended for scholarships de-
21 scribed in section 414(d) of the American Com-
22 petitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of
23 1998 (42 U.S.C. 1869c) for low-income stu-
24 dents enrolled in a program of study leading to
25 a degree in science, technology, engineering, or
26 mathematics.

1 “(B) STEM EDUCATION FOR UNDERREP-
2 RESENTED.—The Director shall work in con-
3 sultation with, or direct scholarship funds
4 through, national nonprofit organizations that
5 primarily focus on science, technology, engineer-
6 ing, or mathematics education for underrep-
7 resented groups, such as women and minorities.

8 “(C) LOAN FORGIVENESS.—The Director
9 may expend funds from the Account for pur-
10 poses of loan forgiveness or repayment of stu-
11 dent loans which led to a low-income student
12 obtaining a degree in science, technology, engi-
13 neering, mathematics, or other high demand
14 fields.

15 “(4) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANT
16 PROGRAM FOR K–12 SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGI-
17 NEERING, AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Ten percent of the
19 amounts deposited into the H–1B Non-
20 immigrant Petitioner Account shall remain
21 available to the Director of the National Science
22 Foundation until expended to carry out a direct
23 or matching grant program to support improve-
24 ment in K–12 education, including through pri-
25 vate-public partnerships. Grants awarded pur-

1 suant to this paragraph shall include formula-
2 based grants that target lower income popu-
3 lations with a focus on reaching women and mi-
4 norities.

5 “(B) TYPES OF PROGRAMS COVERED.—
6 The Director shall award grants to programs
7 that—

8 “(i) support the development and im-
9 plementation of standards-based instruc-
10 tional materials models and related student
11 assessments that enable K–12 students to
12 acquire an understanding of science, tech-
13 nology, engineering, and mathematics, and
14 to develop critical thinking skills;

15 “(ii) provide systemic improvement in
16 training K–12 teachers and education for
17 students in science, technology, engineer-
18 ing, and mathematics, including by sup-
19 porting efforts to promote gender-equality
20 among students receiving such instruction;

21 “(iii) support the professional develop-
22 ment of K–12 science, technology, engi-
23 neering, and mathematics teachers in the
24 use of technology in the classroom;

1 “(iv) stimulate systemwide K–12 re-
2 form of science, technology, engineering,
3 and mathematics in urban, rural, and eco-
4 nomically disadvantaged regions of the
5 United States;

6 “(v) provide externships and other op-
7 portunities for students to increase their
8 appreciation and understanding of science,
9 technology, engineering, and mathematics
10 (including summer institutes sponsored by
11 an institution of higher education for stu-
12 dents in grades 7 through 12 that provide
13 instruction in such fields);

14 “(vi) involve partnerships of industry,
15 educational institutions, and national or
16 regional community-based organizations
17 with demonstrated experience addressing
18 the educational needs of disadvantaged
19 communities;

20 “(vii) provide college preparatory sup-
21 port to expose and prepare students for ca-
22 reers in science, technology, engineering,
23 and mathematics; or

24 “(viii) provide for carrying out sys-
25 temic reform activities under section

1 3(a)(1) of the National Science Foundation
2 Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1862(a)(1)).”.

3 (c) USE OF FEE.—Section 286 of the Immigration
4 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356) is amended by add-
5 ing at the end the following:

6 “(w) STEM EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACCOUNT.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the
8 general fund of the Treasury a separate account,
9 which shall be known as the ‘STEM Education and
10 Training Account’. Notwithstanding any other sec-
11 tion of this title, there shall be deposited as offset-
12 ting receipts into the Account all of the fees col-
13 lected under section 212(a)(5)(A)(v).

14 “(2) PURPOSES.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The purposes of the
16 STEM Education and Training Account are to
17 enhance the economic competitiveness of the
18 United States by—

19 “(i) strengthening STEM education,
20 including in computer science, at all levels;

21 “(ii) ensuring that schools have access
22 to well-trained and effective STEM teach-
23 ers;

24 “(iii) supporting efforts to strengthen
25 the elementary and secondary curriculum,

1 including efforts to make courses in com-
2 puter science more broadly available; and

3 “(iv) helping colleges and universities
4 produce more graduates in fields needed by
5 American employers.

6 “(B) DEFINED TERM.—In this paragraph,
7 the term ‘STEM education’ means instruction
8 in a field of science, technology, engineering, or
9 math included in the Department of Edu-
10 cation’s Classification of Instructional Pro-
11 grams taxonomy within the summary groups of
12 computer and information sciences and support
13 services, engineering, mathematics and statis-
14 tics, biological and biomedical sciences, and
15 physical sciences.

16 “(3) ALLOCATIONS TO STATES AND TERRI-
17 TORIES.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
19 graph (B), the Secretary of Education shall
20 proportionately allocate 70 percent of the
21 amounts deposited into the STEM Education
22 and Training Account each fiscal year to the 50
23 States, the District of Columbia, the Common-
24 wealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States
25 Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the

1 Northern Mariana Islands in an amount that
2 bears the same relationship as the proportion
3 the State, district, or territory received under
4 subpart 2 of part A of title I of the Elementary
5 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
6 U.S.C. 6331 et seq.) for the preceding fiscal
7 year bears to the amount all States and terri-
8 tories received under that subpart for the pre-
9 ceding fiscal year.

10 “(B) MINIMUM ALLOCATIONS.—No State
11 or territory shall receive less than an amount
12 equal to 0.5 percent of the total amount made
13 available to all States from the STEM Edu-
14 cation and Training Account. If a State or ter-
15 ritory does not request an allocation from the
16 Account for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall re-
17 allocate the State’s allocation to the remaining
18 States and territories in accordance with this
19 paragraph.

20 “(C) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts allocated
21 pursuant to this paragraph may be used for the
22 activities described in section 2(d) of the Train-
23 ing Highly Skilled Americans Act of 2015.

24 “(4) STEM CAPACITY BUILDING AT MINORITY-
25 SERVING INSTITUTIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Education shall allocate 20 percent of the amounts deposited into the STEM Education and Training Account to establish or expand programs to award grants to institutions described in subparagraph (C)—

“(i) to enhance the quality of undergraduate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education at such institutions; and

“(ii) to increase the retention and graduation rates of students pursuing degrees in such fields at such institutions.

“(B) TYPES OF PROGRAMS COVERED.—Grants awarded under this paragraph shall be awarded to—

“(i) minority-serving institutions of higher education for—

“(I) activities to improve courses and curriculum in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;

“(II) efforts to promote gender equality among students enrolled in such courses;

“(III) faculty development;

1 “(IV) stipends for undergraduate
2 students participating in research;
3 and

4 “(V) other activities consistent
5 with subparagraph (A), as determined
6 by the Secretary of Education; and

7 “(ii) to other institutions of higher
8 education to partner with the institutions
9 described in clause (i) for—

10 “(I) faculty and student develop-
11 ment and exchange;

12 “(II) research infrastructure de-
13 velopment;

14 “(III) joint research projects;
15 and

16 “(IV) identification and develop-
17 ment of minority and low-income can-
18 didates for graduate studies in
19 science, technology, engineering, and
20 mathematics degree programs.

21 “(C) INSTITUTIONS INCLUDED.—In this
22 paragraph, the term ‘institutions’ shall in-
23 clude—

24 “(i) colleges eligible to receive funds
25 under the Act of August 30, 1890 (7

1 U.S.C. 321–326a and 328), including
2 Tuskegee University;

3 “(ii) 1994 Institutions, as defined in
4 section 532 of the Equity in Educational
5 Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C.
6 301 note);

7 “(iii) part B institutions (as defined
8 in section 322 of the Higher Education
9 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061)); and

10 “(iv) Hispanic-serving institutions, as
11 defined in section 502(a)(5) of the Higher
12 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
13 1101a(a)(5)).

14 “(D) GRANTING OF BONDING AUTHOR-
15 ITY.—A recipient of a grant awarded under this
16 paragraph is authorized to utilize such funds
17 for the issuance of bonds to fund research in-
18 frastructure development.

19 “(E) LOAN FORGIVENESS.—The Director
20 may expend funds from the allocation under
21 this paragraph for purposes of loan forgiveness
22 or repayment of student loans which led to a
23 low-income student obtaining a degree in
24 science, technology, engineering, mathematics,
25 or other high demand fields.

1 “(5) WORKFORCE INVESTMENT.—The Sec-
2 retary of Education shall allocate 5 percent of the
3 amounts deposited into the STEM Education and
4 Training Account to the Secretary of Labor until ex-
5 pended for statewide workforce investment activities
6 that may also benefit veterans and their spouses, in-
7 cluding youth activities and statewide employment
8 and training and activities for adults and dislocated
9 workers described in section 128(a) of the Workforce
10 Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2853(a)), and
11 the development of licensing and credentialing pro-
12 grams.

13 “(6) AMERICAN DREAM ACCOUNTS.—The Sec-
14 retary of Education shall allocate 3 percent of the
15 amounts deposited into the STEM Education and
16 Training Account to award grants, on a competitive
17 basis, to eligible entities to enable such eligible enti-
18 ties to establish and administer American Dream
19 Accounts under section 2(e) of the Training Highly
20 Skilled Americans Act of 2015.

21 “(7) ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES.—The Sec-
22 retary of Education may expend up to 2 percent of
23 the amounts deposited into the STEM Education
24 and Training Account for administrative expenses,
25 including conducting an annual evaluation of the im-

1 plementation and impact of the activities funded by
2 the STEM Education and Training Account as re-
3 quired under section 2(d)(3) of the Training Highly
4 Skilled Americans Act of 2015.”.

5 (d) STEM EDUCATION GRANTS.—

6 (1) APPLICATION PROCESS.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each Governor and
8 Chief State School Officer desiring an allocation
9 from the STEM Education and Training Ac-
10 count under section 286(w)(3) of the Immigra-
11 tion and Nationality Act, as added by sub-
12 section (c), shall jointly submit a plan, includ-
13 ing a proposed budget, signed by the Governor
14 and Chief State School Officer, to the Secretary
15 of Education at such time, in such form, and
16 including such information as the Secretary of
17 Education may prescribe pursuant to subpara-
18 graph (B). The plan shall describe how the
19 State plans to improve STEM education to
20 meet the needs of students and employers in
21 the State.

22 (B) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary of Edu-
23 cation shall issue a rule, through a rulemaking
24 procedure that complies with section 553 of
25 title 5, United States Code, prescribing the in-

1 formation that should be included in the State
2 plans submitted under subparagraph (A).

3 (2) ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES.—A State, district,
4 or territory that receives funding from the STEM
5 Education and Training Account may use such
6 funding to develop and implement science, tech-
7 nology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) ac-
8 tivities to serve students, including students of
9 underrepresented groups such as minorities, eco-
10 nomicallly disadvantaged, and females by—

11 (A) strengthening the State’s STEM aca-
12 demic achievement standards;

13 (B) implementing strategies for the re-
14 cruitment, training, placement, and retention of
15 teachers in STEM fields, including computer
16 science;

17 (C) carrying out initiatives designed to as-
18 sist students in succeeding and graduating from
19 postsecondary STEM programs;

20 (D) improving the availability and access
21 to STEM-related worker training programs, in-
22 cluding community college courses and pro-
23 grams;

1 (E) forming partnerships with higher edu-
2 cation, economic development, workforce, indus-
3 try, and local educational agencies; or

4 (F) engaging in other activities, as deter-
5 mined by the State, in consultation with busi-
6 nesses and State agencies, to improve STEM
7 education.

8 (3) NATIONAL EVALUATION.—

9 (A) IN GENERAL.—Using amounts allo-
10 cated under section 286(w)(7) of the Immigra-
11 tion and Nationality Act, as added by sub-
12 section (c), the Secretary of Education shall
13 conduct, directly or through a grant or con-
14 tract, an annual evaluation of the implementa-
15 tion and impact of the activities funded by the
16 STEM Education and Training Account.

17 (B) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary
18 shall submit a report describing the results of
19 each evaluation conducted under subparagraph
20 (A) to—

21 (i) the President;

22 (ii) the Committee on the Judiciary of
23 the Senate;

24 (iii) the Committee on the Judiciary
25 of the House of Representatives;

1 (iv) the Committee on Health, Edu-
2 cation, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;
3 and

4 (v) the Committee on Education and
5 the Workforce of the House of Representa-
6 tives.

7 (C) DISSEMINATION.—The Secretary shall
8 make the findings of the evaluation widely
9 available to educators, the business community,
10 and the public.

11 (4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this
12 subsection may be construed to permit the Secretary
13 of Education or any other Federal official to approve
14 the content or academic achievement standards of a
15 State.

16 (e) AMERICAN DREAM ACCOUNTS.—

17 (1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

18 (A) AMERICAN DREAM ACCOUNT.—The
19 term “American Dream Account” means a per-
20 sonal online account for low-income students
21 that monitors higher education readiness and
22 includes a college savings account.

23 (B) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
24 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of
25 Congress” means—

1 (i) the Committee on Health, Edu-
2 cation, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

3 (ii) the Committee on Appropriations
4 of the Senate;

5 (iii) the Committee on Finance of the
6 Senate;

7 (iv) the Committee on Education and
8 the Workforce of the House of Representa-
9 tives;

10 (v) the Committee on Appropriations
11 of the House of Representatives;

12 (vi) the Committee on Ways and
13 Means of the House of Representatives;
14 and

15 (vii) any other committee of the Sen-
16 ate or House of Representatives that the
17 Secretary determines appropriate.

18 (C) COLLEGE SAVINGS ACCOUNT.—The
19 term “college savings account” means a savings
20 account that—

21 (i) provides some tax-preferred accu-
22 mulation;

23 (ii) is widely available (such as Quali-
24 fied Tuition Programs under section 529
25 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or

1 Coverdell Education Savings Accounts
2 under section 530 of the Internal Revenue
3 Code of 1986); and

4 (iii) contains funds that may be used
5 only for the costs associated with attending
6 an institution of higher education, includ-
7 ing—

8 (I) tuition and fees;

9 (II) room and board;

10 (III) textbooks;

11 (IV) supplies and equipment; and

12 (V) Internet access.

13 (D) DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM.—The
14 term “dual enrollment program” means an aca-
15 demic program through which a secondary
16 school student is able simultaneously to earn
17 credit toward a secondary school diploma and a
18 postsecondary degree or credential.

19 (E) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible
20 entity” means—

21 (i) a State educational agency;

22 (ii) a local educational agency;

23 (iii) a charter school or charter man-
24 agement organization;

25 (iv) an institution of higher education;

1 (v) a nonprofit organization;

2 (vi) an entity with demonstrated expe-
3 rience in educational savings or in assist-
4 ing low-income students to prepare for,
5 and attend, an institution of higher edu-
6 cation; or

7 (vii) a consortium of 2 or more of the
8 entities described in clauses (i) through
9 (vi).

10 (F) ESEA DEFINITIONS.—The terms
11 “local educational agency”, “parent”, and
12 “State educational agency” have the meanings
13 given the terms in section 9101 of the Elemen-
14 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
15 U.S.C. 7801) and the term “charter school”
16 has the meaning given the term in section 5210
17 of such Act.

18 (G) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-
19 CATION.—The term “institution of higher edu-
20 cation” has the meaning given the term in sec-
21 tion 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of
22 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

23 (H) LOW-INCOME STUDENT.—The term
24 “low-income student” means a student who is
25 eligible to receive a free or reduced price lunch

1 under the Richard B. Russell National School
2 Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).

3 (2) GRANT PROGRAM.—

4 (A) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Sec-
5 retary of Education is authorized to award
6 grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible enti-
7 ties to enable such eligible entities to establish
8 and administer American Dream Accounts for a
9 group of low-income students.

10 (B) RESERVATION.—From the amount
11 made available each fiscal year to carry out this
12 section under section 286(w)(6) of the Immi-
13 gration and Nationality Act, as added by sub-
14 section (c), the Secretary of Education shall re-
15 serve not more than 5 percent of such amount
16 to carry out the evaluation activities described
17 in paragraph (5)(A).

18 (C) DURATION.—A grant awarded under
19 this subsection shall be for a period of not more
20 than 3 years. The Secretary of Education may
21 extend such grant for an additional 2-year pe-
22 riod if the Secretary of Education determines
23 that the eligible entity has demonstrated signifi-
24 cant progress, based on the factors described in
25 paragraph (3)(B)(xi).

1 (3) APPLICATIONS; PRIORITY.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity de-
3 siring a grant under this subsection shall sub-
4 mit an application to the Secretary of Edu-
5 cation at such time, in such manner, and con-
6 taining such information as the Secretary of
7 Education may require.

8 (B) CONTENTS.—The application de-
9 scribed in subparagraph (A) shall include—

10 (i) a description of the characteristics
11 of a group of not less than 30 low-income
12 public school students who—

13 (I) are, at the time of the appli-
14 cation, attending a grade not higher
15 than grade 9; and

16 (II) will, under the grant, receive
17 an American Dream Account;

18 (ii) a description of how the eligible
19 entity will engage, and provide support
20 (such as tutoring and mentoring for stu-
21 dents, and training for teachers and other
22 stakeholders) either online or in person,
23 to—

24 (I) the students in the group de-
25 scribed in clause (I);

1 (II) the family members and
2 teachers of such students; and

3 (III) other stakeholders such as
4 school administrators and school
5 counselors;

6 (iii) an identification of partners who
7 will assist the eligible entity in establishing
8 and sustaining American Dream Accounts;

9 (iv) a description of what experience
10 the eligible entity or the eligible entity's
11 partners have in managing college savings
12 accounts, preparing low-income students
13 for postsecondary education, managing on-
14 line systems, and teaching financial lit-
15 eracy;

16 (v) a description of how the eligible
17 entity will help increase the value of the
18 college savings account portion of each
19 American Dream Account, such as by pro-
20 viding matching funds or incentives for
21 academic achievement;

22 (vi) a description of how the eligible
23 entity will notify each participating student
24 in the group described in subparagraph
25 (A), on a semiannual basis, of the current

1 balance and status of the student's college
2 savings account portion of the student's
3 American Dream Account;

4 (vii) a plan that describes how the eli-
5 gible entity will monitor participating stu-
6 dents in the group described in clause (i)
7 to ensure that each student's American
8 Dream Account will be maintained if a stu-
9 dent in such group changes schools before
10 graduating from secondary school;

11 (viii) a plan that describes how the
12 American Dream Accounts will be man-
13 aged for not less than 1 year after a ma-
14 jority of the students in the group de-
15 scribed in clause (i) graduate from sec-
16 ondary school;

17 (ix) a description of how the eligible
18 entity will encourage students in the group
19 described in clause (i) who fail to graduate
20 from secondary school to continue their
21 education;

22 (x) a description of how the eligible
23 entity will evaluate the grant program, in-
24 cluding by collecting, as applicable, data
25 about the students in the group described

1 in clause (i) during the grant period, and,
2 if sufficient grant funds are available, after
3 the grant period, including—

4 (I) attendance rates;

5 (II) progress reports;

6 (III) grades and course selec-
7 tions;

8 (IV) the student graduation rate
9 (as defined in section 1111
10 (b)(2)(C)(vi) of the Elementary and
11 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
12 U.S.C. 6311(b)(2)(C)(vi)));

13 (V) rates of student completion
14 of the Free Application for Federal
15 Student Aid described in section 483
16 of the Higher Education Act of 1965
17 (20 U.S.C. 1090);

18 (VI) rates of enrollment in an in-
19 stitution of higher education; and

20 (VII) rates of completion at an
21 institution of higher education;

22 (xi) a description of what will happen
23 to the funds in the college savings account
24 portion of the American Dream Accounts
25 that are dedicated to participating stu-

dents described in clause (i) who have not matriculated at an institution of higher education at the time of the conclusion of the period of American Dream Account management described in clause (viii);

(xii) a description of how the eligible entity will ensure that funds in the college savings account portion of the American Dream Accounts will not make families ineligible for public assistance; and

(xiii) a description of how the eligible entity will ensure that participating students described in clause (i) will have access to the Internet.

(C) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this subsection, the Secretary of Education shall give priority to applications from eligible entities that—

(i) are described in paragraph (1)(E)(vii);

(ii) serve the largest number of low-income students;

(iii) emphasize preparing students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics; or

(iv) in the case of an eligible entity described in clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (1)(E), provide opportunities for participating students described in clause (i) to participate in a dual enrollment program at no cost to the student.

(4) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this subsection shall use such grant funds to establish an American Dream Account for each participating student described in paragraph (3)(B)(i), which will be used to—

(i) open a college savings account for such student;

(ii) monitor the progress of such student online, which—

(I) shall include monitoring student data relating to—

(aa) grades and course selections;

(bb) progress reports; and

(cc) attendance and disciplinary records; and

1 (II) may also include monitoring
2 student data relating to a broad range
3 of information, provided by teachers
4 and family members, related to post-
5 secondary education readiness, access,
6 and completion;

7 (iii) provide opportunities for such
8 students, either online or in person, to
9 learn about financial literacy, including
10 by—

11 (I) assisting such students in fi-
12 nancial planning for enrollment in an
13 institution of higher education; and

14 (II) assisting such students in
15 identifying and applying for financial
16 aid (such as loans, grants, and schol-
17 arships) for an institution of higher
18 education;

19 (iv) provide opportunities for such
20 students, either online or in person, to
21 learn about preparing for enrollment in an
22 institution of higher education, including
23 by providing instruction to students
24 about—

1 (I) choosing the appropriate
2 courses to prepare for postsecondary
3 education;

4 (II) applying to an institution of
5 higher education;

6 (III) building a student portfolio,
7 which may be used when applying to
8 an institution of higher education;

9 (IV) selecting an institution of
10 higher education;

11 (V) choosing a major for the stu-
12 dent's postsecondary program of edu-
13 cation or a career path, including spe-
14 cific instruction on pursuing science,
15 technology, engineering, and mathe-
16 matics majors; and

17 (VI) adapting to life at an insti-
18 tution of higher education; and

19 (v) provide opportunities for such stu-
20 dents, either online or in person, to iden-
21 tify skills or interests, including career in-
22 terests.

23 (B) ACCESS TO AMERICAN DREAM AC-
24 COUNT.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clauses
2 (iii) and (iv), and in accordance with appli-
3 cable Federal laws and regulations relating
4 to privacy of information and the privacy
5 of children, an eligible entity that receives
6 a grant under this subsection shall allow
7 vested stakeholders described in clause (ii),
8 to have secure access, through the Inter-
9 net, to an American Dream Account.

10 (ii) VESTED STAKEHOLDERS.—The
11 vested stakeholders that an eligible entity
12 shall permit to access an American Dream
13 Account are individuals (such as the stu-
14 dent’s teachers, school counselors, coun-
15 selors at an institution of higher education,
16 school administrators, or other individuals)
17 that are designated, in accordance with the
18 Family Educational Rights and Privacy
19 Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. 1232g), by the
20 parent of a participating student in whose
21 name such American Dream Account is
22 held, as having permission to access the
23 account. A student’s parent may withdraw
24 such designation from an individual at any
25 time.

1 (iii) EXCEPTION FOR COLLEGE SAV-
2 INGS ACCOUNT.—An eligible entity that re-
3 ceives a grant under this subsection shall
4 not be required to give vested stakeholders
5 described in clause (ii), access to the col-
6 lege savings account portion of a student’s
7 American Dream Account.

8 (iv) ADULT STUDENTS.—Notwith-
9 standing clauses (i) through (iii), if a par-
10 ticipating student is age 18 or older, an el-
11 igible entity that receives a grant under
12 this subsection shall not provide access to
13 such participating student’s American
14 Dream Account without the student’s con-
15 sent, in accordance with the Family Edu-
16 cational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974
17 (20 U.S.C. 1232g).

18 (v) INPUT OF STUDENT INFORMA-
19 TION.—Student data collected pursuant to
20 subparagraph (A)(ii)(I) may only be en-
21 tered into an American Dream Account by
22 a school administrator or such administra-
23 tor’s designee.

24 (C) PROHIBITION ON USE OF STUDENT IN-
25 FORMATION.—An eligible entity that receives a

1 grant under this subsection may not use any
2 student-level information or data for the pur-
3 pose of soliciting, advertising, or marketing any
4 financial or nonfinancial consumer product or
5 service that is offered by such eligible entity, or
6 on behalf of any other person.

7 (D) LIMITATION ON THE USE OF GRANT
8 FUNDS.—An eligible entity shall not use more
9 than 25 percent of the grant funds provided
10 under this subsection to provide the initial de-
11 posit into a college savings account portion of
12 a student’s American Dream Account.

13 (5) REPORTS AND EVALUATIONS.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year
15 after the Secretary of Education has disbursed
16 grants under this subsection, and annually
17 thereafter, the Secretary of Education shall pre-
18 pare and submit a report to the appropriate
19 committees of Congress that includes an evalua-
20 tion of the effectiveness of the grant program
21 established under this subsection.

22 (B) CONTENTS.—The report described in
23 subparagraph (A) shall—

24 (i) list the grants that have been
25 awarded under paragraph (2)(A);

1 (ii) include the number of students
2 who have an American Dream Account es-
3 tablished through a grant awarded under
4 paragraph (2)(A);

5 (iii) provide data (including the inter-
6 est accrued on college savings accounts
7 that are part of an American Dream Ac-
8 count) in the aggregate, regarding stu-
9 dents who have an American Dream Ac-
10 count established through a grant awarded
11 under paragraph (2)(A), as compared to
12 similarly situated students who do not have
13 an American Dream Account;

14 (iv) identify best practices developed
15 by the eligible entities receiving grants
16 under this subsection;

17 (v) identify any issues related to stu-
18 dent privacy and stakeholder accessibility
19 to American Dream Accounts;

20 (vi) provide feedback from partici-
21 pating students and the parents of such
22 students about the grant program, includ-
23 ing—

24 (I) the impact of the program;

1 (II) aspects of the program that
2 are successful;
3 (III) aspects of the program that
4 are not successful; and
5 (IV) any other data required by
6 the Secretary of Education; and
7 (vii) provide recommendations for ex-
8 panding the American Dream Accounts
9 program.

10 (6) ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE FEDERAL STU-
11 DENT FINANCIAL AID.—Notwithstanding any other
12 provision of law, any funds that are in the college
13 savings account portion of a student’s American
14 Dream Account shall not affect such student’s eligi-
15 bility to receive Federal student financial aid, includ-
16 ing any Federal student financial aid under the
17 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001),
18 and shall not be considered in determining the
19 amount of any such Federal student aid.

20 (f) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 480(j) of
21 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(j))
22 is amended by adding at the end the following:

23 “(5) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), amounts
24 made available under the college savings account
25 portion of an American Dream Account under sec-

1 tion 2(e)(4) of the Training Highly Skilled Ameri-
2 cans Act of 2015 shall not be treated as estimated
3 financial assistance for purposes of section 471(3).”.

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