

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5944

To improve career and technical education by providing improved educational opportunities and financial assistance for career and technical educators.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2018

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To improve career and technical education by providing improved educational opportunities and financial assistance for career and technical educators.

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 “Skilled Labor Edu-
5 cation Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. SCHOLARSHIPS TO PREPARE CAREER AND TECH-**
7 **NICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS.**

8 Part B of title II of the Higher Education Act of
9 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1031 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 230, by inserting “, except sub-
2 part 6,” after “this part”; and

3 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
4 part:

5 **“Subpart 6—Scholarships to Prepare Career and**
6 **Technical Education Teachers.**

7 **“SEC. 259. SCHOLARSHIPS TO PREPARE CAREER AND**
8 **TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS.**

9 “(a) GRANTS BY SECRETARY.—

10 “(1) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary is au-
11 thorized to award grants to eligible institutions to
12 enable such institutions to make scholarship awards
13 to qualified teacher candidates in accordance with
14 the provisions of this section.

15 “(2) DESIGNATION.—A scholarship under this
16 section—

17 “(A) for a teacher candidate pursuing a
18 baccalaureate or master’s degree in education
19 shall be known as a ‘Career and Technical Edu-
20 cator Scholarship’ or a ‘CTE Scholarship’; and

21 “(B) for a teacher candidate pursuing an
22 associate’s degree, certification in education, or
23 industry-recognized certification or licensure,
24 shall be known as a ‘Skilled Labor Educator
25 Scholarship’ or a ‘SLE Scholarship’.

1 “(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In awarding grants
2 and contracts under this subsection the Secretary
3 shall make every effort to ensure—

4 “(A) the equitable distribution of scholar-
5 ship funds to teacher candidates pursuing bac-
6 calaureate degrees, master’s degrees, and asso-
7 ciate’s degrees or certifications;

8 “(B) the equitable participation of public
9 and private nonprofit institutions of higher edu-
10 cation (including community colleges); and

11 “(C) the equitable geographic participation
12 of such institutions.

13 “(b) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS.—In this section, the
14 term eligible institution means an institution of higher
15 education, as defined in section 101 or section 102(c),
16 that—

17 “(1) offers a program of undergraduate or
18 graduate education awarding a baccalaureate or
19 master’s degree in education; or

20 “(2) is a community college that offers a pro-
21 gram of undergraduate education awarding an asso-
22 ciate’s degree, certification in education, or industry-
23 recognized certification or licensure.

24 “(c) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible institution that de-
25 sires a grant under this section shall submit an application

1 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and con-
2 taining such information as the Secretary may reasonably
3 require.

4 “(d) TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS SUPPORTED.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible institution that
6 receives a grant under this section shall use the
7 grant funds to provide scholarships to qualified
8 teacher candidates who are preparing to become
9 teachers of qualified career and technical education
10 courses for secondary school students.

11 “(2) TYPES OF STUDY.—A scholarship provided
12 under this section shall support a teacher candidate
13 in pursuing—

14 “(A) a baccalaureate or master’s degree in
15 education; or

16 “(B) an associate’s degree, certification in
17 education, or industry-recognized certification
18 or licensure.

19 “(e) SCHOLARSHIP TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

20 “(1) SELECTION OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPI-
21 ENTS.—The Secretary shall ensure that an eligible
22 institution that receives a grant under this section—

23 “(A) shall provide scholarship awards to
24 qualified teacher candidates who plan to pursue

1 a career teaching qualified career and technical
2 education courses;

3 “(B) shall select scholarship recipients
4 from qualified teacher candidates based on aca-
5 demic merit and demonstrated financial need;
6 and

7 “(C) may not provide a scholarship to an
8 otherwise eligible individual—

9 “(i) during periods in which such indi-
10 vidual is enrolled at an institution of high-
11 er education unless such individual is
12 maintaining satisfactory academic progress
13 in, and devoting full-time study or research
14 to, the pursuit of the degree or certificate
15 for which the scholarship support was pro-
16 vided; or

17 “(ii) if the individual is engaged in
18 gainful employment, other than part-time
19 employment related to teaching, research,
20 or a similar activity determined by the in-
21 stitution to be consistent with and sup-
22 portive of the individuals’s progress toward
23 the degree or certificate for which the
24 scholarship support was provided.

1 “(2) AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS.—An
2 eligible institution that receives a grant under this
3 section shall award to each teacher candidate who is
4 provided a scholarship under this section \$5,000 for
5 each academic year of the scholarship, not to exceed
6 \$10,000 in total.

7 “(3) SCHOLARSHIP PERIOD.—The period for
8 which a teacher candidate may receive a scholarship
9 under this section shall be one academic year, and
10 such scholarship may be renewed for one additional
11 academic year.

12 “(4) SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—

13 “(A) TEACHING REQUIRED.—Upon com-
14 pletion of the program for which a teacher can-
15 didate receives a scholarship under this section,
16 the teacher candidate shall, for each year of
17 scholarship support received under this section,
18 be employed full-time for one year as a teacher
19 of qualified career and technical education
20 courses.

21 “(B) AGREEMENT REQUIRED.—Prior to
22 receiving an initial scholarship award, and upon
23 renewal of the scholarship award, a teacher
24 candidate selected to receive a scholarship

1 under this section shall sign an agreement with
2 the Secretary agreeing to—

3 “(i) promptly obtain the applicable
4 State certification and licensure require-
5 ments, including any requirements for cer-
6 tification obtained through alternative
7 routes to certification, necessary to teach
8 secondary school students;

9 “(ii) serve as a full-time teacher of
10 secondary school students in accordance
11 with subparagraph (A); and

12 “(iii) submit evidence of such service
13 in the form of a certification by the chief
14 administrative officer of the teacher’s em-
15 ployer upon completion of each year of
16 such service.

17 “(C) INSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATION.—Each
18 eligible institution that receives a grant under
19 this section shall provide—

20 “(i) to each teacher candidate apply-
21 ing for a scholarship under this section a
22 plain-language disclosure form developed
23 by the Secretary that clearly describes the
24 nature of the scholarship award, the serv-
25 ice obligation, and the loan repayment re-

1 quirements that are the consequence of the
2 failure to complete such service obligation;
3 and

4 “(ii) an assurance to the Secretary
5 that the institution has inquired of and de-
6 termined the decision of each teacher can-
7 didate who has received a scholarship to,
8 within 2 years of completing the program
9 for which a teacher candidate receives a
10 scholarship under this section, begin em-
11 ployment as a teacher, as required by this
12 section.

13 “(D) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—If an indi-
14 vidual who receives a scholarship award under
15 this section fails to comply with the agreement
16 signed pursuant to subparagraph (C), the sum
17 of the amounts of any scholarship award re-
18 ceived by such recipient shall, upon a deter-
19 mination of such a failure, be treated as a Fed-
20 eral Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under
21 part D of title IV, and shall be subject to re-
22 payment, together with interest thereon accru-
23 ing from the date of the scholarship award, in
24 accordance with terms and conditions specified

1 by the Secretary in regulations under this sec-
2 tion.

3 “(E) MODIFIED SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—

4 The Secretary may waive or modify the service
5 requirement of this paragraph in accordance
6 with regulations promulgated by the Secretary
7 with respect to the criteria to determine the cir-
8 cumstances under which compliance with such
9 service requirement is inequitable or represents
10 a substantial hardship. The Secretary may
11 waive the service requirement if compliance by
12 the scholarship recipient is determined to be in-
13 equitable or represent a substantial hardship—

14 “(i) because the individual is perma-
15 nently and totally disabled at the time of
16 the waiver request;

17 “(ii) because the individual was un-
18 able to complete the necessary program of
19 study due to natural disaster; or

20 “(iii) based on documentation pre-
21 sented to the Secretary of substantial eco-
22 nomic or personal hardship.

23 “(5) QUALIFIED EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES.—

24 Scholarship funds available to a teacher candidate
25 under this section may be used for tuition, fees,

books, supplies, and equipment required for the completion of the undergraduate baccalaureate or graduate course of study being pursued by the teacher candidate at the institution of higher education at which the teacher candidate is in attendance.

“(6) RELATION TO OTHER ASSISTANCE.—Scholarships provided under this section shall not be considered for the purpose of awarding Federal grant assistance under title IV, except that in no case shall the total amount of student financial assistance awarded to a teacher candidate under this section and title IV exceed such candidate’s total cost of attendance (as defined in section 472).

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term ‘community college’ has the meaning given the term ‘junior or community college’ in section 312(f).

“(2) QUALIFIED CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSES.—The term ‘qualified career and technical education courses’ means courses offered by a secondary school or an area career and technical education school (as defined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006) that are offered as part of a career and

1 technical education (as defined in section 3 of such
2 Act).

3 “(3) QUALIFIED TEACHER CANDIDATE.—The
4 term ‘qualified teacher candidate’ means an indi-
5 vidual who—

6 “(A) is (or will be) an eligible student for
7 purposes of section 484;

8 “(B) has a cumulative grade point average
9 (or the equivalent as determined under regula-
10 tions prescribed by the Secretary) of—

11 “(i) 3.0, in the case of an individual
12 who is or was enrolled in a secondary
13 school and has not yet enrolled in an un-
14 dergraduate program of education;

15 “(ii) 2.5, in the case of an individual
16 who is or was enrolled in an undergraduate
17 program of education and has not yet en-
18 rolled in a graduate program of education;
19 or

20 “(iii) 3.0, in the case of an individual
21 who is or was enrolled in a graduate pro-
22 gram of education; and

23 “(C) is (or will be) enrolled full-time at an
24 eligible institution.

1 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
 2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
 3 \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2020 and each of the 4 suc-
 4 ceeding fiscal years.”.

5 **SEC. 3. CANCELLATION OF FEDERAL PERKINS LOANS FOR**
 6 **CERTAIN PART-TIME PUBLIC SERVICE.**

7 Section 465(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
 8 (20 U.S.C. 1087ee(a)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (2)—

10 (A) in subparagraph (L), by striking “or”
 11 at the end of clause (ii);

12 (B) in subparagraph (M), by striking the
 13 period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

14 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (M)
 15 the following new subparagraph:

16 “(N) described in subparagraphs (A)
 17 through (M) that is performed on a part-time
 18 basis, as determined in accordance with para-
 19 graph (8), provided that the individual per-
 20 forming such service is not engaging in gainful
 21 employment other than such eligible part-time
 22 service.”;

23 (2) in paragraph (3)(A)—

24 (A) by striking “or” at the end of clause
 25 (ii);

1 (B) by striking the period at the end of
2 clause (iii) and inserting “; or”; and

3 (C) by adding at the end the following new
4 clause:

5 “(iv) in the case of service described
6 in subparagraph (N) of paragraph (2), at
7 the rate of 5 percent for the first or second
8 year of such service, 10 percent for the
9 third or fourth year of such service, and 15
10 percent for the fifth year of such service.”;
11 and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following new
13 paragraph:

14 “(8) For the purpose of this section, the term
15 ‘part-time’ means less than full-time service—

16 “(A) for at least 20 hours per week for a
17 complete year; or

18 “(B) for at least 3 full days per week, or
19 for partial days equaling at least 3 full days per
20 week, for a complete year.”.

21 **SEC. 4. CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATOR ENHANCE-**
22 **MENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.**

23 Title VIII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
24 U.S.C. 1161a et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
25 the following:

1 **“PART BB—CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATOR**
2 **ENHANCEMENT**

3 **“SEC. 899. CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATOR ENHANCE-**
4 **MENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated
6 under subsection (h), the Secretary shall award competi-
7 tive grants to 10 eligible institutions for the purpose of
8 improving career and technical education by developing
9 and carrying out programs that provide ongoing training
10 and professional development to educators who teach ca-
11 reer and technical education courses at the secondary and
12 postsecondary levels.

13 “(b) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS.—To be eligible to re-
14 ceive a grant under subsection (a), an institution shall—

15 “(1) be an institution of higher education as de-
16 fined in section 101 or section 102(c); and

17 “(2) prepare and submit to the Secretary an
18 application, at such time, in such manner, and con-
19 taining such information as the Secretary may re-
20 quire.

21 “(c) CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS.—The Sec-
22 retary shall establish procedures to ensure that applica-
23 tions under subsection (b)(2) are rigorously reviewed and
24 that grants are competitively awarded based on—

25 “(1) the ability of the applicant to increase the
26 number of qualified individuals that serve as teach-

1 ers in career and technical education programs for
2 secondary and postsecondary students;

3 “(2) the ability of the applicant to provide
4 training for individuals to become career and tech-
5 nical education teachers and teacher aids at sec-
6 ondary and postsecondary schools;

7 “(3) the ability of the applicant to provide
8 training to improve the skills of experienced career
9 and technical education teachers and teacher aids at
10 secondary and postsecondary schools; and

11 “(4) any other consideration the Secretary de-
12 termines necessary.

13 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts received under a
14 grant under this section—

15 “(1) shall be used by the eligible institution to
16 develop and operate a training and professional de-
17 velopment program to—

18 “(A) prepare individuals to become teach-
19 ers of career and technical education courses at
20 the secondary or postsecondary level; and

21 “(B) enhance the knowledge and skills of
22 individuals who are employed as teachers of ca-
23 reer and technical education courses at the sec-
24 ondary or postsecondary level; and

1 “(2) may be used by the eligible institution to
2 improve facilities and equipment used to train career
3 and technical educators, except that the eligible in-
4 stitution shall not use more than 30 percent of such
5 amounts to carry out this paragraph.

6 “(e) DURATION OF GRANT.—A grant under this sec-
7 tion shall be for a period of 5 years.

8 “(f) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT.—The amount of
9 a grant provided under this section to an eligible institu-
10 tion may not exceed \$100,000 for the period of the grant.

11 “(g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘career
12 and technical education’ has the meaning given such term
13 in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical
14 Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

15 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
17 such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020 and
18 each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years. Amounts appro-
19 priated under this subsection shall remain available until
20 expended.”.

○