

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6935

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for job training
Federal Pell Grants and to increase support for working students.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

Mr. BERA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide
for job training Federal Pell Grants and to increase
support for working students.

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 “Access to Professional
5 Education and Lifelong Learning Act” or “Access to
6 PELL Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. JOB TRAINING FEDERAL PELL GRANTS.**

8 Section 401 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
9 U.S.C. 1070a) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing:

1 “(k) JOB TRAINING FEDERAL PELL GRANT PRO-
2 GRAM.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For the award years begin-
4 ning on or after July 1, 2019, the Secretary shall
5 carry out a program through which the Secretary
6 shall award job training Federal Pell Grants to stu-
7 dents in job training programs. Each job training
8 Federal Pell Grant awarded under this subsection
9 shall have the same terms and conditions, and be
10 awarded in the same manner, as a Federal Pell
11 Grant awarded under subsection (a), except as fol-
12 lows:

13 “(A) A student who is eligible to receive a
14 job training Federal Pell Grant under this sub-
15 section is a student who—

16 “(i) has not yet attained a bacca-
17 laurate degree or postbaccalaureate de-
18 gree;

19 “(ii) attends an institution of higher
20 education as defined in section 101 or
21 102(a)(1)(B);

22 “(iii) is enrolled, or accepted for en-
23 rollment, in a job training program at such
24 institution of higher education; and

1 “(iv) meets all other eligibility re-
2 quirements for a Federal Pell Grant (ex-
3 cept with respect to the type of program of
4 study, as provided in clause (iii)).

5 “(B) The amount of a job training Federal
6 Pell Grant for an eligible student shall be deter-
7 mined under subsection (b)(2)(A), except
8 that—

9 “(i) the maximum Federal Pell Grant
10 awarded under this subsection for an
11 award year shall be 50 percent of the max-
12 imum Federal Pell Grant awarded under
13 subsection (b) applicable to that award
14 year;

15 “(ii) no increase shall be calculated
16 under subsection (b)(7)(B) for a student
17 receiving a job training Federal Pell Grant
18 under this subsection; and

19 “(iii) subsection (b)(4) shall not
20 apply.

21 “(2) INCLUSION IN TOTAL ELIGIBILITY PE-
22 RIOD.—Any period during which a student receives
23 a job training Federal Pell Grant under this sub-
24 section shall be included in calculating the student’s
25 period of eligibility for Federal Pell Grants under

1 subsection (c), and any regulations under such sub-
2 section regarding students who are enrolled in an
3 undergraduate program on less than a full-time
4 basis shall similarly apply to students who are en-
5 rolled in a job training program at an eligible insti-
6 tution on less than a full-time basis.

7 “(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the fol-
8 lowing definitions apply:

9 “(A) ELIGIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS PRO-
10 GRAM.—The term ‘eligible career pathway pro-
11 gram’ means a program that is part of a career
12 pathway, as defined under section 3(7) of the
13 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
14 U.S.C. 3102(7)), that is a combination of rig-
15 orous and high-quality education, training, and
16 other services that—

17 “(i) aligns with the skill needs of in-
18 dustries in the State or regional economy
19 involved;

20 “(ii) prepares an individual to be suc-
21 cessful in any of a full range of secondary
22 or postsecondary education options, includ-
23 ing apprenticeships registered under the
24 Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known

as the ‘National Apprenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.);

“(iii) includes counseling to support an individual in achieving the individual’s education and career goals;

“(iv) includes, as appropriate, education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster;

“(v) organizes education, training, and other services to meet the particular needs of an individual in a manner that accelerates the educational and career advancement of the individual to the extent practicable;

“(vi) enables an individual to attain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and at least one recognized postsecondary credential; and

“(vii) helps an individual enter or advance within a specific occupation or occupational cluster.

“(B) JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.—The term ‘job training program’ means a career and tech-

1 nical education program at an institution of
2 higher education that—

3 “(i) provides not less than 150 clock
4 hours of instructional time over a period of
5 not less than 8 weeks;

6 “(ii) provides training aligned with
7 the requirements of employers in the State
8 or local area, which may include in-demand
9 industry sectors or occupations in the
10 State or local area, as defined under sec-
11 tion 3(23) of the Workforce Innovation
12 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
13 3102(23));

14 “(iii) provides a student, upon comple-
15 tion of the program, with a recognized
16 postsecondary credential, as defined under
17 section 3(52) of the Workforce Innovation
18 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
19 3102(52)), that is recognized by employers
20 in the relevant industry, including creden-
21 tials recognized by industry or sector part-
22 nerships in the State or local area where
23 the industry is located;

24 “(iv) has been determined, by the in-
25 stitution of higher education, to provide

academic content, an amount of instructional time, and a recognized postsecondary credential that are sufficient to—

“(I) meet the hiring requirements of potential employers; and

“(II) allow the students to apply for any licenses or certifications that may be required to be employed in the field for which the job training is offered;

“(v) may include integrated or basic skills courses; and

“(vi) may be offered as part of an eligible career pathways program.”.

**SEC. 3. INCREASING SUPPORT FOR WORKING STUDENTS
BY 35 PERCENT.**

(a) DEPENDENT STUDENTS.—Section 475(g)(2)(D) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087oo(g)(2)(D)) is amended to read as follows:

“(D) an income protection allowance (or a successor amount prescribed by the Secretary under section 478) of \$9,010 for academic year 2019–2020;”.

(b) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 476(b)(1)(A)(iv)

1 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
2 1087pp(b)(1)(A)(iv)) is amended to read as follows:

3 “(iv) an income protection allowance
4 (or a successor amount prescribed by the
5 Secretary under section 478)—

6 “(I) for single or separated stu-
7 dents, or married students where both
8 are enrolled pursuant to subsection
9 (a)(2), of \$14,010 for academic year
10 2019–2020; and

11 “(II) for married students where
12 one is enrolled pursuant to subsection
13 (a)(2), of \$22,460 for academic year
14 2019–2020;”.

15 (c) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS
16 OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 477(b)(4) of the High-
17 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087qq(b)(4)) is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 “(4) INCOME PROTECTION ALLOWANCE.—The
20 income protection allowance is determined by the fol-
21 lowing table (or a successor table prescribed by the
22 Secretary under section 478), for academic year
23 2019–2020:

“Income Protection Allowance

Family Size	Number in College					For each additional subtract:
	1	2	3	4	5	
(including student)						
2	\$35,470	\$29,410				\$6,030
3	44,170	38,130	\$32,070			
4	54,540	45,490	42,450	\$36,370		
5	64,360	58,280	52,240	46,190	\$40,160	
6	75,260	69,210	63,190	57,090	51,070	
For each additional add:	8,500					”.

(d) UPDATED TABLES AND AMOUNTS.—Section 478(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087rr(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For each academic year after academic year 2019–2020, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a revised table of income protection allowances for the purpose of sections 475(c)(4) and 477(b)(4), subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C).

“(B) TABLE FOR INDEPENDENT STUDENTS.—For each academic year after academic year 2019–2020, the Secretary shall develop the revised table of income protection allowances by increasing each of the dollar amounts contained in the table of income protection allowances under section 477(b)(4) by a

1 percentage equal to the estimated percentage
2 increase in the Consumer Price Index (as deter-
3 mined by the Secretary for the most recent cal-
4 endar year ending prior to the beginning of the
5 academic year for which the determination is
6 being made), and rounding the result to the
7 nearest \$10.”; and

8 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “shall be de-
9 veloped” and all that follows through the period at
10 the end and inserting “shall be developed for each
11 academic year after academic year 2019–2020, by
12 increasing each of the dollar amounts contained in
13 such section for academic year 2019–2020 by a per-
14 centage equal to the estimated percentage increase
15 in the Consumer Price Index (as determined by the
16 Secretary for the most recent calendar year ending
17 prior to the beginning of the academic year for
18 which the determination is being made), and round-
19 ing the result to the nearest \$10.”.

20 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
21 this section shall take effect beginning on July 1, 2019,
22 and shall apply to grant and award determinations made
23 under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20

- 1 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) beginning with the 2019–2020 award
- 2 year.

