

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 5029

To direct the Secretary of Education to establish and carry out two grant programs to make grants to eligible institutions to plan and implement programs that provide comprehensive support services and resources designed to increase transfer and graduation rates at community colleges, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 16, 2020

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Mr. BROWN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Education to establish and carry out two grant programs to make grants to eligible institutions to plan and implement programs that provide comprehensive support services and resources designed to increase transfer and graduation rates at community colleges, 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 “Community College  
5 Student Success Act of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAM

- Sec. 101. Definitions.
- Sec. 102. Community college student success grant program authorized.
- Sec. 103. Grants to plan community college student success programs.
- Sec. 104. Grants to implement community college student success programs.
- Sec. 105. Evaluations.
- Sec. 106. Outreach and technical assistance.
- Sec. 107. Report to Congress.
- Sec. 108. Supplement, not supplant.
- Sec. 109. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE II—PART TIME COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS  
PROGRAM

- Sec. 201. Definitions.
- Sec. 202. Part time community college student success grant program authorized.
- Sec. 203. Grants to plan part time community college student success programs.
- Sec. 204. Grants to implement part time community college student success programs.
- Sec. 205. Evaluations.
- Sec. 206. Outreach and technical assistance.
- Sec. 207. Report to Congress.
- Sec. 208. Supplement, not supplant.
- Sec. 209. Authorization of appropriations.

3 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) **ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.**—The term “eligible  
6 ble institution” means a public 2-year institution of  
7 higher education.

8 (2) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The  
9 term “institution of higher education” has the  
10 meaning given the term under section 101 of the  
11 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

1           (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
2           the Secretary of Education.

3           (4) TRANSFER RATE.—The term “transfer  
4           rate”, when used with respect to students enrolled in  
5           a program of study at an eligible institution, means  
6           that rate at which such students transfer to a 4-year  
7           institution of higher education.

## 8   **TITLE I—COMMUNITY COLLEGE** 9   **STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAM**

### 10 **SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.**

11       In this title:

12           (1) COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS  
13           PROGRAM.—The term “community college student  
14           success program” means a program carried out by  
15           an eligible institution under which the institution  
16           carries out the following:

17                   (A) Provides eligible students participating  
18                   in such program with an amount that covers  
19                   the cost of tuition and fees that are not covered  
20                   by any Federal, State, or institutional financial  
21                   assistance received by the student.

22                   (B) Requires eligible students participating  
23                   in such program to—

24                           (i) be enrolled in the eligible institu-  
25                           tion and carry a full-time academic work-

1 load during each fall and spring semester  
2 (or equivalent terms) during which the stu-  
3 dent participates in such program;

4 (ii) if the eligible student is referred  
5 to remedial courses or on academic proba-  
6 tion, meet, on at least a weekly basis or  
7 under an alternate schedule, as determined  
8 by the institution, with a tutor, except that  
9 in the case of an eligible student who is  
10 academically struggling, but who is not re-  
11 ferred to remedial courses or on academic  
12 probation, the student may meet with a  
13 tutor as often as the program advisor for  
14 such student requires or under an alter-  
15 nate schedule, as determined by the insti-  
16 tution;

17 (iii) meet with a program advisor—

18 (I) twice each month during the  
19 first semester (or equivalent term) of  
20 participation in such program; and

21 (II) as directed by the program  
22 advisor in subsequent semesters (or  
23 equivalent terms) under subparagraph  
24 (C)(ii); and

(iv) meet with an on-campus career advisor or participate in a career services event once each semester (or equivalent term) or under an alternate schedule, as determined by the institution.

(C) Provides a program advisor to each eligible student participating in such program who—

(i) provides comprehensive academic and personal advising to the eligible student, including—

(I) the creation and implementation of an academic plan for the student to graduate from a program of study at the eligible institution within 150 percent of the normal time for graduation from such program;

(II) taking steps to enable an eligible student referred to remedial courses to complete college mathematics and English in their first year; and

(III) assisting the eligible student with developing and achieving academic goals, including creating strong

1 transfer pathways that demonstrate  
2 programmatic transfer for students  
3 interested in transferring to a 4-year  
4 institution of higher education;

5 (ii) after the eligible student partici-  
6 pating in such program completes a semes-  
7 ter (or equivalent term), creates for the eli-  
8 gible student a needs-based advising sched-  
9 ule that indicates, based on the eligible  
10 student's academic performance, the fre-  
11 quency with which such eligible student  
12 shall be required to meet with a program  
13 advisor for each subsequent semester (or  
14 equivalent term) of program participation;

15 (iii) has a caseload of not more than  
16 300 eligible students;

17 (iv) tracks the attendance of the eligi-  
18 ble student at the meetings described in  
19 clauses (ii), (iii), and (iv) of subparagraph  
20 (B);

21 (v) monitors the academic progress of  
22 the eligible student; and

23 (vi) provides each eligible student who  
24 meets the requirements of subparagraph  
25 (B), on at least a monthly basis, with fi-

1           nancial incentives support that will en-  
2           hance student success.

3           (D) Provides tutoring, academic support,  
4           and career services at no cost to eligible stu-  
5           dents participating in such program, and may  
6           reserve places in select courses for such eligible  
7           students in order to create community within  
8           cohorts of eligible students.

9           (E) Provides information to eligible stu-  
10          dents participating in such program about the  
11          eligibility of such students for assistance under  
12          the supplemental nutrition assistance program  
13          under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7  
14          U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) and the program of block  
15          grants for States for temporary assistance for  
16          needy families established under part A of title  
17          IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et  
18          seq.).

19          (2) ELIGIBLE STUDENT.—The term “eligible  
20          student” means a student enrolled at an eligible in-  
21          stitution who—

22                (A) on the date such eligible student would  
23                begin participation in a community college stu-  
24                dent success program at such eligible institu-  
25                tion—

1 (i) is enrolled in a program of study  
2 leading to an associate degree that pre-  
3 pares students to transfer to a 4-year in-  
4 stitution of higher education or advance in  
5 the labor market;

6 (ii) is carrying a full-time academic  
7 workload during each Fall and Spring se-  
8 mester (or equivalent terms) during which  
9 the student participates in such program;

10 (iii) takes at least 20 degree-applica-  
11 ble, non-remedial credits in a given aca-  
12 demic year; and

13 (iv) is—

14 (I) a first-time undergraduate  
15 student; or

16 (II) a continuing or transfer stu-  
17 dent with not more than 15 credits  
18 and a minimum grade point average  
19 of 2.0 (or its equivalent);

20 (B) if the student is eligible for financial  
21 aid under title IV of the Higher Education Act  
22 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.), has com-  
23 pleted the Free Application for Federal Student  
24 Aid or other common financial reporting form



1 under section 483(a) of such Act (20 U.S.C.  
2 1090(a)); and

3 (C) meets any other requirements estab-  
4 lished by the institution.

5 (3) FULL-TIME ACADEMIC WORKLOAD.—The  
6 term “full-time academic workload”, when used with  
7 respect to a semester or equivalent term, means at  
8 least 12 credits (or the equivalent).

9 **SEC. 102. COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS GRANT**  
10 **PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

11 From the amounts appropriated under section 109,  
12 the Secretary of Education shall establish and carry out  
13 the community college student success grant program to  
14 award grants under sections 103 and 104, on a competi-  
15 tive basis, to eligible institutions to plan and implement  
16 community college student success programs designed to  
17 increase—

18 (1) the rate at which program participants from  
19 a program of study at such eligible institution grad-  
20 uate within 150 percent of the normal time for grad-  
21 uation;

22 (2) transfer rates of program participants; and

23 (3) the number of credits that a program par-  
24 ticipant takes that apply to a degree in the partici-  
25 pant’s desired major.

1 **SEC. 103. GRANTS TO PLAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE STU-**  
2 **DENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) **PLANNING GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**—From the  
4 amounts appropriated to carry out this section under sec-  
5 tion 109 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall award plan-  
6 ning grants for such fiscal year, on a competitive basis,  
7 to eligible institutions to develop plans for community col-  
8 lege student success programs.

9 (b) **DURATION.**—A grant awarded under this section  
10 shall be for a 1-year period.

11 (c) **PEER REVIEW PROCESS; PRIORITY.**—In award-  
12 ing grants under this section for a fiscal year, the Sec-  
13 retary shall—

14 (1) carry out a peer review process that—

15 (A) requires that each application sub-  
16 mitted under subsection (d) be peer reviewed by  
17 a panel of readers composed of individuals se-  
18 lected by the Secretary, which shall include—

19 (i) not less than 50 percent of read-  
20 ers—

21 (I) who are not employees of the  
22 Federal Government; and

23 (II) who have relevant research  
24 or practical experience with respect to  
25 student support programs designed to  
26 increase graduation rates and transfer

1 rates at public 2-year institutions of  
2 higher education; and

3 (ii) to the maximum extent prac-  
4 ticable, individuals who are members of  
5 groups underrepresented in higher edu-  
6 cation, including African Americans, His-  
7 panics, Native Americans, Alaska Natives,  
8 Asian Americans, and Native American  
9 Pacific Islanders (including Native Hawai-  
10 ians), and individuals with disabilities; and

11 (B) ensures that no individual assigned  
12 under subparagraph (A) to review an applica-  
13 tion has any conflict of interest with regard to  
14 that application that may make the individual  
15 unable to impartially conduct such review; and

16 (2) give priority to eligible institutions that are  
17 eligible to receive funding under title III or V of the  
18 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1051 et  
19 seq.; 20 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

20 (d) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution desiring a  
21 grant under this section shall submit an application to the  
22 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing  
23 such information as the Secretary may require, which shall  
24 include—

1           (1) the graduation rate, the number of credits  
2           completed (disaggregated by remedial credits and  
3           college-level credits for each program of study), and  
4           the transfer rate for the most recent academic year  
5           for which data are available for eligible students and  
6           all students, respectively;

7           (2) an analysis of how implementing a commu-  
8           nity college student success program may improve  
9           the graduation rate or transfer rate for eligible stu-  
10          dents; and

11          (3) a description of the methods the eligible in-  
12          stitution has previously used to improve the gradua-  
13          tion rate or transfer rate with respect to eligible stu-  
14          dents and all students, respectively.

15          (e) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institution that re-  
16          ceives a grant under this section shall use the grant to  
17          develop a plan to implement a community college student  
18          success program at the eligible institution.

19          (f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
20          on which an eligible institution receives a grant under this  
21          section, such eligible institution shall submit to the Sec-  
22          retary a report that includes—

23               (1) a plan for implementing a community col-  
24               lege student success program at the eligible institu-  
25               tion, including—

1 (A) the sufficiently ambitious outcome  
2 goals for achieving significant improvements in  
3 graduation rates and transfer rates for program  
4 participants and all students, respectively, be-  
5 fore the end of the grant period;

6 (B) the number of such eligible students  
7 who will participate in such program in relation  
8 to the amount of funding provided, including—

9 (i) how such eligible students will be  
10 identified, referred, and selected in cases  
11 where the interest in the program is larger  
12 than the budget for the program; and

13 (ii) a plan to ensure that economically  
14 disadvantaged students receive priority;

15 (C) based on the most recent academic  
16 year for which data are available, disaggregated  
17 by eligible students and all students—

18 (i) graduation rates;

19 (ii) transfer rates; and

20 (iii) average number of credits earned,  
21 including remedial and college-level credits,  
22 by associate degree earners;

23 (D) an analysis of the financial needs of el-  
24 igible students based on the Free Application  
25 for Federal Student Aid;

1 (E) a description of how the eligible insti-  
 2 tution will effectively staff a community college  
 3 student success program; and

4 (F) a timeline for the implementation of  
 5 such program;

6 (2) a budgetary analysis that includes—

7 (A) a description of how the eligible insti-  
 8 tution will provide non-Federal funds for such  
 9 program under section 104(d); and

10 (B) a description of how the eligible insti-  
 11 tution will continue to fund such program after  
 12 the end of the grant period for the grant  
 13 awarded to the institution under section 104;  
 14 and

15 (3) such other information as the Secretary  
 16 may require.

17 **SEC. 104. GRANTS TO IMPLEMENT COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
 18 **STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS.**

19 (a) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appro-  
 21 priated to carry out this section under section 109  
 22 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall award grants  
 23 for such fiscal year, on a competitive basis, to eligi-  
 24 ble institutions awarded a grant under section 103

1 to implement community college student success pro-  
2 grams.

3 (2) CONSULTATION.—In awarding grants under  
4 this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall con-  
5 sult with the independent evaluator before finalizing  
6 which eligible institutions will receive such a grant  
7 for such fiscal year.

8 (b) REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTION.—To be eligible  
9 to receive a grant under this section, an eligible institution  
10 shall meet the following requirements:

11 (1) The eligible institution was awarded a grant  
12 under section 103 at least 1 year before such eligible  
13 institution submits an application under subsection  
14 (e).

15 (2) The eligible institution submits an applica-  
16 tion under subsection (e).

17 (3) The eligible institution demonstrates, on the  
18 date of the application described in subsection (e),  
19 the availability of non-Federal funding for the  
20 matching funds required under subparagraphs (A),  
21 (B), and (C) of subsection (d)(1).

22 (c) DURATION.—A grant awarded under this section  
23 shall be for a 5-year period.

24 (d) NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
2           graph (2), an eligible institution awarded a grant  
3           under this section shall contribute in cash from non-  
4           Federal sources, the following:

5                   (A) For the second year of the grant pe-  
6                   riod, an amount equal to 10 percent of the cost  
7                   of carrying out the community college student  
8                   success program at the institution for such  
9                   year.

10                  (B) For each of the third through fifth  
11                  years of the grant period, an amount equal to  
12                  20 percent of the cost of carrying out such pro-  
13                  gram for the applicable year.

14           (2) EXCEPTION.—

15                   (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding para-  
16                   graph (1), with respect to an exempt institution  
17                   awarded a grant under this section, for each  
18                   year of the grant period beginning with the sec-  
19                   ond year through the fifth year, the Secretary  
20                   shall not require the institution to make a cash  
21                   contribution from non-Federal sources in an  
22                   amount that is greater than the amount equal  
23                   to 5 percent of the cost of carrying out the  
24                   community college student success program at  
25                   the institution for such year.



1 (B) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this  
2 paragraph:

3 (i) EXEMPT INSTITUTION.—The term  
4 “exempt institution” means an eligible in-  
5 stitution that is—

6 (I) a Tribal college or university;  
7 or

8 (II) an institution located in the  
9 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam,  
10 American Samoa, the United States  
11 Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of  
12 the Northern Mariana Islands, the  
13 Republic of the Marshall Islands, the  
14 Federated States of Micronesia, or the  
15 Republic of Palau.

16 (ii) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVER-  
17 SITY.—The term “Tribal college or univer-  
18 sity” has the meaning given the term in  
19 section 316 of the Higher Education Act  
20 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c).

21 (e) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution desiring a  
22 grant under this section shall submit an application to the  
23 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing  
24 such information as the Secretary may require, which shall  
25 include a copy of the report described in section 103(f).

1       (f) REQUIRED USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institu-  
2       tion that receives a grant under this section shall use the  
3       grant funds to—

4               (1) implement a community college student suc-  
5       cess program; and

6               (2) regularly review—

7                       (A) data to monitor the academic progress  
8                       of eligible students participating in such pro-  
9                       gram; and

10                      (B) the meeting and program participation  
11                      requirements described in section 101(1).

12       (g) PERMISSIBLE USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible insti-  
13       tution that receives a grant under this section may use  
14       the grant to—

15               (1) establish or expand a data tracking system  
16       that includes early alerts to complete the regular re-  
17       views required under subsection (f)(2);

18               (2) provide eligible students participating in the  
19       community college student success program for  
20       which the grant is awarded with financial assistance  
21       to cover the costs described in paragraph (2), (3), or  
22       (8) of section 472 of the Higher Education Act of  
23       1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll);

1           (3) establish or expand career development  
2 services for such students, such as career workshops  
3 or career counseling;

4           (4) establish or expand tutoring and academic  
5 support services for such students;

6           (5) cover the costs of employment of adminis-  
7 trators for the program whose sole job shall be to  
8 administer the program, without regard to whether  
9 the employment is full-time or less than full-time;  
10 and

11          (6) provide financial support for eligible stu-  
12 dents participating in such program to enroll in  
13 courses offered during enrollment periods that are  
14 outside the fall and spring semesters (or equivalent  
15 terms).

16 (h) REPORTS.—

17          (1) IN GENERAL.—Using the postsecondary  
18 student data system established under section  
19 132(1) or a successor system (whichever includes the  
20 most recent data) to streamline reporting require-  
21 ments and minimize reporting burdens, and in co-  
22 ordination with the National Center for Education  
23 Statistics, the Secretary shall, on at least an annual  
24 basis, collect data with respect to each community

1 college student success program, including the data  
2 described in paragraph (2).

3 (2) DATA SUBMITTED BY ELIGIBLE INSTITU-  
4 TIONS.—Each eligible institution that receives a  
5 grant under this title shall provide the following to  
6 the Secretary:

7 (A) On an annual basis, such information  
8 as may be necessary for the Secretary to collect  
9 data about—

10 (i) the demographic characteristics of  
11 the eligible students participating in the  
12 community college student success pro-  
13 gram;

14 (ii) the average number of credits at-  
15 tempted and average number of credits  
16 earned, rate of retention, rate of degree  
17 completion, and transfer rates of such eli-  
18 gible students; and

19 (iii) the graduation rate of such eligi-  
20 ble students.

21 (B) An annual performance report for each  
22 year of the grant period that includes—

23 (i) an analysis of the implementation  
24 and progress of such program based on the  
25 ambitious outcome goals described in the

1 report submitted by the institution under  
2 section 103(f)(1)(A), including challenges  
3 to and changes made to such program;

4 (ii) if according to the analysis under  
5 subparagraph (A), the program is not on  
6 track to meet such ambitious outcome  
7 goals, a description of the plans to adjust  
8 the program to improve the performance of  
9 the program;

10 (iii) the participation of such eligible  
11 students in tutoring, academic support, ca-  
12 reer services, and meetings with program  
13 advisors; and

14 (iv) when data is available, informa-  
15 tion that will allow for a comparison of the  
16 data collected for such year under this sub-  
17 paragraph with such data collected for  
18 each of the 2 years preceding the date on  
19 which the grant was awarded.

20 (C) Not later than 6 years after the date  
21 on which the eligible institution received such  
22 grant, a final report to the Secretary that in-  
23 cludes an analysis of—

24 (i) the factors that contributed to the  
25 success or failure of the community college

1 student success program in meeting the  
2 ambitious outcome goals described in the  
3 report submitted by the institution under  
4 section 103(f)(1)(A);

5 (ii) the challenges faced in attempting  
6 to implement such program;

7 (iii) information on how to improve  
8 such program;

9 (iv) whether the program has created  
10 an institution-wide reform with respect to  
11 graduate rates and transfer rates for all  
12 students, and if so, how such reform was  
13 created; and

14 (v) how the eligible institution will  
15 continue to fund such program after the  
16 end of the grant period.

17 **SEC. 105. EVALUATIONS.**

18 (a) INDEPENDENT EVALUATIONS.—Before finalizing  
19 which eligible institutions will receive grants under section  
20 104 for a fiscal year, the Secretary, acting through the  
21 Director of the Institute of Education Sciences, shall enter  
22 into a contract with an independent evaluator—

23 (1) to consult with the Secretary on which eligi-  
24 ble institutions should receive the grants; and

1           (2) to use the What Works Clearinghouse  
2       Standards (without reservations) to evaluate,  
3       throughout the duration of the grant period of such  
4       grants—

5           (A) each community college student suc-  
6       cess program for which such grant is awarded,  
7       including whether the program met its ambi-  
8       tious outcome goals described in the report sub-  
9       mitted by the institution under section  
10      103(f)(1)(A);

11          (B) the average impact of community col-  
12      lege student success programs on graduation  
13      rates, the average number of credits per asso-  
14      ciate degree awarded, and transfer rates for eli-  
15      gible students;

16          (C) the variation in program impacts  
17      across eligible institutions with respect to such  
18      rates; and

19          (D) whether such programs are cost effec-  
20      tive in creating higher graduation rates and  
21      transfer rates of participating eligible students  
22      compared with such rates at eligible institutions  
23      without such programs.

1 (b) RESULTS OF EVALUATIONS.—The results of the  
 2 evaluations under subsection (a) shall be made publicly  
 3 available on the website of the Department of Education.

4 (c) FUNDING FOR EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary  
 5 may reserve not more than 15 percent of the funds appro-  
 6 priated under section 109 for a fiscal year to carry out  
 7 this section for such fiscal year.

8 **SEC. 106. OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

9 (a) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall conduct out-  
 10 reach activities to notify eligible institutions of the avail-  
 11 ability of grants under this title.

12 (b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall  
 13 provide technical assistance—

14 (1) to eligible institutions that may be inter-  
 15 ested in applying for grants under this title, includ-  
 16 ing assistance with applications for such grants; and

17 (2) to eligible institutions awarded grants under  
 18 this title, including assistance with—

19 (A) establishing ambitious outcome goals  
 20 described in section 103(f)(1)(A); and

21 (B) the implementation of a community  
 22 college student success program.

23 (c) FUNDING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR  
 24 EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary may reserve not more  
 25 than 7 percent of the funds appropriated under section



1 109 for a fiscal year for technical assistance under this  
2 section for such fiscal year.

3 **SEC. 107. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

4 Not later than 1 year after the date on which the  
5 Secretary receives the final evaluation results under sec-  
6 tion 105 for eligible institutions that were awarded grants  
7 under section 104 for the same fiscal year, the Secretary  
8 shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

9 (1) the number of grants awarded under section  
10 104 for such fiscal year, and the amount of such  
11 grants;

12 (2) the number of grants awarded under section  
13 103 to eligible institutions that received or would  
14 have been eligible for the grants described in para-  
15 graph (1), and the amount of such grants;

16 (3) the number of grants awarded under section  
17 103 to eligible institutions that would have been eli-  
18 gible, but did not receive the grants described in  
19 paragraph (1);

20 (4) such final evaluation results; and

21 (5) any other information the Secretary may  
22 determine is relevant.

23 **SEC. 108. SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.**

24 Funds awarded to an eligible institution under this  
25 title shall be used only to supplement the amount of funds

1 that would, in the absence of the Federal funds provided  
 2 under this title, be made available from non-Federal  
 3 sources or other Federal sources to carry out the activities  
 4 under this title, and not to supplant such funds.

5 **SEC. 109. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
 7 this title \$10,000,000,000 for fiscal years 2021 through  
 8 2031, to be available until expended.

9 **TITLE II—PART TIME COMMU-**  
 10 **NITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUC-**  
 11 **CESS PROGRAM**

12 **SEC. 201. DEFINITIONS.**

13 In this title:

14 (1) PART TIME COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT  
 15 SUCCESS PROGRAM.—The term “part time commu-  
 16 nity college student success program” means a pro-  
 17 gram carried out by an eligible institution under  
 18 which the eligible institution carries out the fol-  
 19 lowing:

20 (A) Provides students participating in such  
 21 program with an amount that covers the cost of  
 22 tuition and fees that are not covered by any  
 23 Federal, State, or institutional financial assist-  
 24 ance received by the student.

1 (B) Requires students participating in  
2 such program to—

3 (i) be enrolled in not less than 12  
4 credits at the eligible institution as a de-  
5 gree-seeking student during each fall and  
6 spring semester (or equivalent terms) dur-  
7 ing which the student participates in such  
8 program;

9 (ii) if the student is referred to reme-  
10 dial or corequisite courses or on academic  
11 probation, meet, not less than on a weekly  
12 basis, with a tutor or appropriate academic  
13 support, except that in the case of a stu-  
14 dent who is academically struggling, but  
15 who is not referred to remedial courses or  
16 on academic probation, the student may  
17 meet with a tutor as often as the program  
18 advisor for such student requires;

19 (iii) meet with a program advisor—

20 (I) twice each month during the  
21 first semester (or equivalent term) of  
22 participation in such program; and

23 (II) as directed by the program  
24 advisor in subsequent semesters (or

1                   equivalent terms) under subparagraph

2                   (C)(ii); and

3                   (iv) meet with a career advisor or par-  
4                   ticipate in a career services event not less  
5                   than once each semester (or equivalent  
6                   term).

7                   (C) Provides a program advisor to each  
8                   student participating in such program who—

9                   (i) provides comprehensive academic,  
10                  career, and personal advising to the stu-  
11                  dent, such as—

12                  (I) the creation and implementa-  
13                  tion of an academic plan for the stu-  
14                  dent to graduate from a program of  
15                  study at the eligible institution within  
16                  150 percent of the normal time for  
17                  graduation from such program;

18                  (II) if an eligible student is re-  
19                  ferred to remedial or corequisite  
20                  courses, taking steps to enable the  
21                  student to complete college mathe-  
22                  matics and English within the first 30  
23                  credit hours; and

24                  (III) assisting the student with  
25                  developing and achieving academic

- 1 goals, including creating strong trans-  
2 fer pathways that demonstrate pro-  
3 grammatic transfer for students inter-  
4 ested in transferring to a 4-year insti-  
5 tution of higher education;
- 6 (ii) after the student participating in  
7 such program completes a semester (or  
8 equivalent term), creates for the student a  
9 needs-based advising schedule that indi-  
10 cates, based on the student's academic per-  
11 formance, the frequency with which such  
12 student shall be required to meet with a  
13 program advisor for each subsequent se-  
14 mester (or equivalent term) of program  
15 participation;
- 16 (iii) has a caseload of not more than  
17 300 students;
- 18 (iv) tracks the attendance of the stu-  
19 dent at the meetings described in clauses  
20 (ii), (iii), and (iv) of subparagraph (B);
- 21 (v) monitors the academic progress of  
22 the student; and
- 23 (vi) provides each student who meets  
24 the requirements of subparagraph (B), on  
25 not less than a monthly basis, with finan-

1           cial incentives, such as a transportation  
2           pass, a gas card, or a grocery card.

3           (D) Provides tutoring, academic support,  
4           and career services at no cost to students par-  
5           ticipating in such program, and may reserve  
6           places in select courses for such students in  
7           order to create community within cohorts of  
8           students.

9           (E) Provides information to eligible stu-  
10          dents participating in such program about the  
11          eligibility of such students for assistance under  
12          the supplemental nutrition assistance program  
13          under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7  
14          U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) and the program of block  
15          grants for States for temporary assistance for  
16          needy families established under part A of title  
17          IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et  
18          seq.).

19          (2) ELIGIBLE STUDENT.—The term “eligible  
20          student” means a student enrolled at an eligible in-  
21          stitution who—

22                (A) on the date such eligible student would  
23                begin participation in a part time community  
24                college student success program at such eligible  
25                institution—

1 (i) is enrolled in a program of study  
2 leading to an associate degree that pre-  
3 pares students to transfer to a 4-year in-  
4 stitution of higher education or advance in  
5 the labor market; and

6 (ii) is—

7 (I) a first-time undergraduate  
8 student; or

9 (II) a continuing or transfer stu-  
10 dent with not more than 15 credits  
11 and a minimum grade point average  
12 of 2.0 (or its equivalent);

13 (B) completes not less than 24 credits, at  
14 least 20 of which must be degree-applicable, at  
15 the eligible institution as a degree-seeking stu-  
16 dent during each academic year during which  
17 the student participates in the part time com-  
18 munity college student success program;

19 (C) if the student is eligible for financial  
20 aid under title IV of the Higher Education Act  
21 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.), has com-  
22 pleted the Free Application for Federal Student  
23 Aid or other common financial reporting form  
24 under section 483(a) of such Act (20 U.S.C.  
25 1090(a)); and

1 (D) meets any other requirements estab-  
 2 lished by the institution.

3 (3) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The  
 4 term “minority-serving institution” means an insti-  
 5 tution described in section 371(a) of the Higher  
 6 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

7 **SEC. 202. PART TIME COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUC-**  
 8 **CESS GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

9 From the amounts appropriated under section 209,  
 10 the Secretary of Education shall establish and carry out  
 11 the part time community college student success grant  
 12 program to award grants under sections 203 and 204, on  
 13 a competitive basis, to eligible institutions to plan and im-  
 14 plement part time community college student success pro-  
 15 grams for eligible students that are designed to increase—

16 (1) the rate at which program participants  
 17 graduate from a program of study at such eligible  
 18 institution within 150 percent of the normal time for  
 19 graduation;

20 (2) transfer rates of program participants; and

21 (3) the number of credits that a program par-  
 22 ticipant takes that apply to a degree in the partici-  
 23 pant’s desired major.



1 **SEC. 203. GRANTS TO PLAN PART TIME COMMUNITY COL-**  
 2 **LEGE STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) **PLANNING GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**—From the  
 4 amounts appropriated to carry out this section under sec-  
 5 tion 209 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall award plan-  
 6 ning grants for such fiscal year, on a competitive basis,  
 7 to eligible institutions to develop plans for part time com-  
 8 munity college student success programs.

9 (b) **DURATION.**—A grant awarded under this section  
 10 shall be for a 1-year period.

11 (c) **PEER REVIEW PROCESS; PRIORITY.**—In award-  
 12 ing grants under this section for a fiscal year, the Sec-  
 13 retary shall—

14 (1) carry out a peer review process that—

15 (A) requires that each application sub-  
 16 mitted under subsection (d) be peer reviewed by  
 17 a panel of readers composed of individuals se-  
 18 lected by the Secretary, which shall include—

19 (i) not less than 50 percent of read-  
 20 ers—

21 (I) who are not employees of the  
 22 Federal Government; and

23 (II) who have relevant research  
 24 or practical experience with respect to  
 25 student support programs designed to  
 26 increase graduation rates and transfer

1 rates at public 2-year institutions of  
2 higher education; and

3 (ii) to the maximum extent prac-  
4 ticable, individuals who are members of  
5 groups underrepresented in higher edu-  
6 cation, including African Americans, His-  
7 panics, Native Americans, Alaska Natives,  
8 Asian Americans, and Native American  
9 Pacific Islanders (including Native Hawai-  
10 ians), and individuals with disabilities; and

11 (B) ensures that no individual assigned  
12 under subparagraph (A) to review an applica-  
13 tion has any conflict of interest with regard to  
14 that application that may make the individual  
15 unable to impartially conduct such review; and

16 (2) give priority to eligible institutions that are  
17 eligible to receive funding under title III or V of the  
18 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1051 et  
19 seq.; 20 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

20 (d) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution desiring a  
21 grant under this section shall submit an application to the  
22 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing  
23 such information as the Secretary may require, which shall  
24 include—

1           (1) the graduation rate, the number of credits  
2           completed (disaggregated by remedial credits and  
3           college-level credits for each program of study), and  
4           the transfer rate for the most recent academic year  
5           for which data are available for eligible students and  
6           all students, respectively;

7           (2) an analysis of how implementing a commu-  
8           nity college student success program may improve  
9           the graduation rate or transfer rate for eligible stu-  
10          dents; and

11          (3) a description of the methods the eligible in-  
12          stitution has previously used to improve the gradua-  
13          tion rate or transfer rate with respect to eligible stu-  
14          dents and all students, respectively.

15          (e) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institution that re-  
16          ceives a grant under this section shall use the grant to  
17          develop a plan to implement a part time community college  
18          student success program at the eligible institution for eli-  
19          gible students.

20          (f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
21          on which an eligible institution receives a grant under this  
22          section, such eligible institution shall submit to the Sec-  
23          retary a report that includes—

1           (1) a plan for implementing a community col-  
2       lege student success program at the eligible institu-  
3       tion, including—

4           (A) the sufficiently ambitious outcome  
5       goals for achieving significant improvements in  
6       graduation rates and transfer rates for program  
7       participants and all students, respectively, as  
8       such rates are defined by the eligible institu-  
9       tion, in consultation with the Secretary, before  
10      the end of the grant period;

11          (B) the number of such eligible students  
12      who will participate in such program, includ-  
13      ing—

14           (i) how such eligible students will be  
15      identified, referred, and selected, in cases  
16      where the interest in the program is larger  
17      than the budget for the program; and

18           (ii) a plan to ensure that economically  
19      disadvantaged students receive priority;

20          (C) based on the most recent academic  
21      year for which data are available, disaggregated  
22      by eligible students and all students—

23           (i) graduation rates;

24           (ii) transfer rates; and

1 (iii) average number of credits earned,  
 2 including remedial and college-level credits,  
 3 by associate degree earners;

4 (D) an analysis of the financial needs of el-  
 5 igible students based on the Free Application  
 6 for Federal Student Aid;

7 (E) a description of how the eligible insti-  
 8 tution will effectively staff a community college  
 9 student success program; and

10 (F) a timeline for the implementation of  
 11 such program;

12 (2) a budgetary analysis that includes—

13 (A) a description of how the eligible insti-  
 14 tution will provide non-Federal funds for such  
 15 program under section 204(d); and

16 (B) a description of how the eligible insti-  
 17 tution will continue to fund such program after  
 18 the end of the grant period for the grant  
 19 awarded to the institution under section 204;  
 20 and

21 (3) such other information as the Secretary  
 22 may require.

23 **SEC. 204. GRANTS TO IMPLEMENT PART TIME COMMUNITY**  
 24 **COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS.**

25 (a) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appro-  
2           priated to carry out this section under section 209  
3           for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall award grants  
4           for such fiscal year, on a competitive basis, to eligi-  
5           ble institutions awarded a grant under section 203  
6           to implement part time community college student  
7           success programs.

8           (2) CONSULTATION.—In awarding grants under  
9           this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall con-  
10          sult with the independent evaluator described in sec-  
11          tion 205(a) before finalizing which eligible institu-  
12          tions will receive such a grant for such fiscal year.

13          (b) REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTION.—To be eligible  
14          to receive a grant under this section, an eligible institution  
15          shall meet the following requirements:

16               (1) The eligible institution was awarded a grant  
17               under section 203 not less than 1 year before such  
18               eligible institution submits an application under sub-  
19               section (e).

20               (2) The eligible institution submits an applica-  
21               tion under subsection (e).

22               (3) The eligible institution demonstrates, on the  
23               date of the application described in subsection (e),  
24               the availability of non-Federal funding for the

1 matching funds required under subparagraphs (A),  
2 (B), and (C) of subsection (d)(1).

3 (c) DURATION.—A grant awarded under this section  
4 shall be for a 5-year period.

5 (d) NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
7 graph (2), an eligible institution awarded a grant  
8 under this section shall contribute in cash from non-  
9 Federal sources the following:

10 (A) For the second year of the grant pe-  
11 riod, an amount equal to 10 percent of the cost  
12 of carrying out the part time community college  
13 student success program for eligible students at  
14 the institution for such year.

15 (B) For each of the third year through  
16 fifth years of the grant period, an amount equal  
17 to 20 percent of the cost of carrying out such  
18 program for the applicable year.

19 (2) EXCEPTION.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding (1),  
21 with respect to an exempt institution awarded  
22 a grant under this section, for each year of the  
23 grant period beginning with the second year  
24 through the fifth year, the Secretary shall not  
25 require the institution to make a cash contribu-

tion from non-Federal sources in an amount that is greater than the amount equal to 5 percent of the cost of carrying out the part time community college student success program at the institution for such year.

(B) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph:

(i) EXEMPT INSTITUTION.—The term “exempt institution” means an eligible institution that is—

(I) a Tribal College or University; or

(II) an institution located in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau.

(ii) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The term “Tribal College or University” has the meaning given the term in section 316 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c).



1 (e) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution desiring a  
 2 grant under this section shall submit an application to the  
 3 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing  
 4 such information as the Secretary may require, which shall  
 5 include a copy of the report described in section 203(f).

6 (f) REQUIRED USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institu-  
 7 tion that receives a grant under this section shall use the  
 8 grant funds to—

9 (1) implement a part time community college  
 10 student success program; and

11 (2) regularly review—

12 (A) data to monitor the academic progress  
 13 of eligible students participating in such pro-  
 14 gram; and

15 (B) the meeting and program participation  
 16 requirements described in section 201(1).

17 (g) PERMISSIBLE USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible insti-  
 18 tution that receives a grant under this section may use  
 19 the grant to—

20 (1) establish or expand a data tracking system  
 21 that includes early alerts to complete the regular re-  
 22 views required under subsection (f)(2);

23 (2) provide eligible students participating in the  
 24 part time community college student success pro-  
 25 gram for which the grant is awarded with financial

1 assistance to cover the costs described in paragraph  
 2 (2), (3), or (8) of section 472 of the Higher Edu-  
 3 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll);

4 (3) establish or expand career development  
 5 services for such eligible students, such as career  
 6 workshops or career counseling;

7 (4) establish or expand tutoring and academic  
 8 support services for such eligible students;

9 (5) cover the costs of employment of adminis-  
 10 trators for the program whose sole job shall be to  
 11 administer the program, without regard to whether  
 12 the employment is full-time or less than full-time;  
 13 and

14 (6) provide financial support for such eligible  
 15 students participating in such program to enroll in  
 16 courses offered during enrollment periods that are  
 17 outside the fall and spring semesters (or equivalent  
 18 terms).

19 (h) REPORTS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Using the postsecondary  
 21 student data system established under section  
 22 132(1) or a successor system (whichever includes the  
 23 most recent data) to streamline reporting require-  
 24 ments and minimize reporting burdens, and in co-  
 25 ordination with the National Center for Education

1       Statistics, the Secretary shall, on at least an annual  
2       basis, collect data with respect to each community  
3       college student success program, including the data  
4       described in paragraph (2).

5               (2) DATA SUBMITTED BY ELIGIBLE INSTITU-  
6       TIONS.—Each eligible institution that receives a  
7       grant under this title shall provide the following to  
8       the Secretary:

9               (A) On an annual basis, such information  
10       as may be necessary for the Secretary to collect  
11       data about—

12               (i) the demographic characteristics of  
13       the eligible students participating in the  
14       part time community college student suc-  
15       cess program;

16               (ii) the average number of credits at-  
17       tempted and average number of credits  
18       earned, rate of retention, rate of degree  
19       completion, and transfer rates of such eli-  
20       gible students; and

21               (iii) the graduation rate of such eligi-  
22       ble students.

23               (B) An annual performance report for each  
24       year of the grant period that includes—

1 (i) an analysis of the implementation  
2 and progress of such program based on the  
3 ambitious outcome goals described in the  
4 report submitted by the institution under  
5 section 203(f)(1)(A), including challenges  
6 to and changes made to such program;

7 (ii) if according to the analysis under  
8 subparagraph (A), the program is not on  
9 track to meet such ambitious outcome  
10 goals, a description of the plans to adjust  
11 the program to improve the performance of  
12 the program;

13 (iii) the participation of such eligible  
14 students in tutoring, academic support, ca-  
15 reer services, and meetings with program  
16 advisors; and

17 (iv) when data is available, informa-  
18 tion that will allow for a comparison of the  
19 data collected for such year under this sub-  
20 paragraph with such data collected for  
21 each of the 2 years preceding the date on  
22 which the grant was awarded.

23 (C) Not later than 6 years after the date  
24 on which the eligible institution received such

1 grant, a final report to the Secretary that in-  
2 cludes an analysis of—

3 (i) the factors that contributed to the  
4 success or failure of the community college  
5 student success program in meeting the  
6 ambitious outcome goals described in the  
7 report submitted by the institution under  
8 section 203(f)(1)(A);

9 (ii) the challenges faced in attempting  
10 to implement such program;

11 (iii) information on how to improve  
12 such program;

13 (iv) whether the program has created  
14 an institution-wide reform with respect to  
15 graduate rates and transfer rates for all  
16 students, and if so, how such reform was  
17 created; and

18 (v) how the eligible institution will  
19 continue to fund such program after the  
20 end of the grant period.

21 **SEC. 205. EVALUATIONS.**

22 (a) INDEPENDENT EVALUATIONS.—Before finalizing  
23 which eligible institutions will receive grants under section  
24 204 for a fiscal year, the Secretary, acting through the

1 Director of the Institute of Education Sciences, shall enter  
2 into a contract with an independent evaluator—

3 (1) to consult with the Secretary on which eligi-  
4 ble institutions should receive the grants; and

5 (2) to use the What Works Clearinghouse  
6 Standards (without reservations) to evaluate,  
7 throughout the duration of the grant period of such  
8 grants—

9 (A) each part time community college stu-  
10 dent success program for eligible students for  
11 which such grant is awarded, including whether  
12 the program met its ambitious outcome goals  
13 described in the report submitted by the institu-  
14 tion under section 203(f)(1)(A);

15 (B) the average impact of part time com-  
16 munity college student success programs on  
17 graduation rates, the average number of credits  
18 per associate degree awarded, and transfer  
19 rates for eligible students;

20 (C) the variation in program impacts  
21 across eligible institutions with respect to such  
22 rates; and

23 (D) whether such programs lead to higher  
24 graduation rates and transfer rates of eligible  
25 students per dollar spent for such students by

1           such institutions compared with such rates at  
2           eligible institutions without such programs.

3           (b) RESULTS OF EVALUATIONS.—The results of the  
4           evaluations under subsection (a) shall be made publicly  
5           available on the website of the Department of Education.

6           (c) FUNDING FOR EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary  
7           may reserve not more than 15 percent of the funds appro-  
8           priated under section 209 for a fiscal year to carry out  
9           this section for such fiscal year.

10   **SEC. 206. OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

11           (a) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall conduct out-  
12           reach activities to notify eligible institutions of the avail-  
13           ability of grants under this title.

14           (b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall  
15           provide technical assistance—

16                   (1) to eligible institutions that may be inter-  
17                   ested in applying for grants under this title, includ-  
18                   ing assistance with applications for such grants; and

19                   (2) to eligible institutions awarded grants under  
20                   this title, including assistance with—

21                           (A) establishing ambitious outcome goals  
22                           described in section 203(f)(1)(A); and

23                           (B) the implementation of a part time  
24                           community college student success program.

1       (c) FUNDING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR  
2 EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary may reserve not more  
3 than 7 percent of the funds appropriated under section  
4 209 for a fiscal year for technical assistance under this  
5 section for such fiscal year.

6 **SEC. 207. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

7       Not later than 1 year after the date on which the  
8 Secretary receives the final evaluation results under sec-  
9 tion 205 for eligible institutions that were awarded grants  
10 under section 204 for the same fiscal year, the Secretary  
11 shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

12           (1) the number of grants awarded under section  
13       204 for such fiscal year, and the amount of such  
14       grants;

15           (2) the number of grants awarded under section  
16       203 to eligible institutions that received or would  
17       have been eligible for the grants described in para-  
18       graph (1), and the amount of such grants;

19           (3) the number of grants awarded under section  
20       203 to eligible institutions that would have been eli-  
21       gible but did not receive the grants described in  
22       paragraph (1);

23           (4) such final evaluation results; and

24           (5) any other information the Secretary may  
25       determine is relevant.



1 **SEC. 208. SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.**

2 Funds awarded to an eligible institution under this  
3 title shall be used only to supplement the amount of funds  
4 that would, in the absence of the Federal funds provided  
5 under this title, be made available from non-Federal  
6 sources or other Federal sources to carry out the activities  
7 under this title, and not to supplant such funds.

8 **SEC. 209. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
10 this title \$5,000,000,000 for fiscal years 2021 through  
11 2031, to be available until expended.

○