

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5004

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the eligibility of students to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program, establish college student food insecurity demonstration programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. MARKEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the eligibility of students to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program, establish college student food insecurity demonstration programs, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Student Food Security Act of 2024”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Sec. 101. Eligibility of students to participate in supplemental nutrition assistance program.

Sec. 102. Communication of information on student eligibility for nutrition assistance programs.

Sec. 103. Demonstration program.

TITLE II—REDUCING STUDENT FOOD INSECURITY

Sec. 201. Data sharing.

Sec. 202. Questions on basic needs in national postsecondary student aid study.

Sec. 203. Grants to support the basic needs of students.

Sec. 204. Effective date.

TITLE I—STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

SEC. 101. ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITION OF HOUSEHOLD.—Section 3(m)(4) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012(m)(4)) is amended—

(1) by striking “(4) In no event” and inserting the following:

“(4) INSTITUTION OR BOARDING HOUSE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), in no event”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(B) STUDENTS.—An individual (including
 2 any dependents of the individual) may con-
 3 stitute a household if the individual is a student
 4 and resident of an institution of higher edu-
 5 cation (as defined in section 102 of the Higher
 6 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)).”.

7 (b) ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS.—Section 6 of the
 8 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015) is
 9 amended—

10 (1) in the section heading, by inserting
 11 “**QUALIFICATIONS AND**” after “**ELIGIBILITY**”;

12 (2) in subsection (d)(2)(C)—

13 (A) by inserting “who is” after “student”;

14 (B) by striking “half time” and inserting
 15 “half-time”; and

16 (C) by striking “(except” and all that fol-
 17 lows through “section)” and inserting “(as de-
 18 termined by the school, training program, or in-
 19 stitution of higher education, as applicable) and
 20 meets the requirements for eligibility under sub-
 21 section (e)”;

22 (3) in subsection (e)—

23 (A) in paragraph (3)—

24 (i) in subparagraph (B), by redesignig-
 25 nating clauses (i) and (ii) as subclauses (I)

1 and (II), respectively, and indenting appro-
 2 priately; and

3 (ii) by redesignating subparagraphs
 4 (A) through (D) as clauses (i) through
 5 (iv), respectively, and indenting appro-
 6 priately;

7 (B) in paragraph (5), by redesignating
 8 subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and
 9 (ii), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

10 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (1)
 11 through (8) as subparagraphs (A) through (H),
 12 respectively, and indenting appropriately;

13 (D) in subparagraph (D) (as so redesign-
 14 ated), by striking “20” and inserting “10”;

15 (E) in subparagraph (E)(ii) (as so redesign-
 16 ated), by striking “paragraph (4)” and insert-
 17 ing “subparagraph (D)”;

18 (F) in subparagraph (G) (as so redesign-
 19 ated), by striking “or” at the end after the
 20 semicolon;

21 (G) in subparagraph (H) (as so redesign-
 22 ated), by striking the period at the end and in-
 23 serting a semicolon;

24 (H) in the matter preceding subparagraph
 25 (A) (as so redesignated), by striking “(e) No in-

1 dividual” and all that follows through “indi-
2 vidual—” and inserting the following:

3 “(e) QUALIFICATIONS FOR STUDENTS.—A student
4 enrolled in any recognized school, training program, or in-
5 stitution of higher education (as defined in section 102
6 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002))
7 shall be eligible to participate in the supplemental nutri-
8 tion assistance program if—

9 “(1) the student satisfies the other require-
10 ments of this section; and

11 “(2) the student—”; and

12 (I) in paragraph (2) (as so designated), by
13 adding at the end the following:

14 “(I) is eligible to participate in a State or
15 federally financed work study program, includ-
16 ing the program authorized under part C of
17 title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965
18 (20 U.S.C. 1087–51 et seq.);

19 “(J)(i) is not an independent student (as
20 defined in section 480(d) of the Higher Edu-
21 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(d))); and

22 “(ii)(I) has a student aid index of not more
23 than 0, as determined in accordance with part
24 F of title IV of the Higher Education Act of
25 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087kk et seq.); or

“(II) meets the financial eligibility criteria for receiving a maximum Federal Pell Grant under subpart 1 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a et seq.)—

“(aa) regardless of whether the student has completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid described in section 483 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 1090); and

“(bb) which may be determined by a State using the income of the student, as determined under—

“(AA) the supplemental nutrition assistance program or another Federal or State means-tested program; or

“(BB) another reasonable simplifying assumption; or

“(K)(i) is an independent student (as defined in section 480(d) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(d))); and

“(ii) is a member of a household otherwise eligible to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program.”.

1 **SEC. 102. COMMUNICATION OF INFORMATION ON STUDENT**
2 **ELIGIBILITY FOR NUTRITION ASSISTANCE**
3 **PROGRAMS.**

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) COLLEGE STUDENT.—The term “college
6 student” means a student enrolled in an institution
7 of higher education.

8 (2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
9 term “institution of higher education” has the
10 meaning given the term in section 102 of the Higher
11 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

12 (3) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means
13 the supplemental nutrition assistance program es-
14 tablished under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
15 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.).

16 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
17 the Secretary of Agriculture.

18 (b) STRATEGIES REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
19 after the effective date of this title, the Secretary shall
20 submit to Congress a report that describes the strategy
21 to be used by the Secretary—

22 (1) to increase the awareness of State agencies
23 and institutions of higher education about—

24 (A) college student food insecurity;

25 (B) the eligibility of college students and
26 their families for the program; and

1 (C) the procedures and resources available
 2 to college students who are not participating in
 3 the program to access benefits under the pro-
 4 gram;

5 (2) to identify—

6 (A) existing or potential informational,
 7 educational, policy, and psychological barriers
 8 to enrolling in the program and barriers to
 9 complying with program requirements;

10 (B) mitigation strategies with respect to
 11 those barriers; and

12 (C) opportunities for collaboration with the
 13 Department of Education, the Department of
 14 Housing and Urban Development, the Depart-
 15 ment of Health and Human Services, and other
 16 relevant Federal agencies; and

17 (3) to update the State Outreach Plan Guid-
 18 ance under subsection (c).

19 (c) UPDATED STATE OUTREACH PLAN GUIDANCE.—

20 Not later than 90 days after the Secretary submits to Con-
 21 gress a report under subsection (b), the Secretary shall
 22 publish an updated State Outreach Plan Guidance that—

23 (1) describes existing data on college student
 24 food insecurity;

1 (2) describes the manner in which college stu-
 2 dents can access the supplemental nutrition assist-
 3 ance program;

4 (3) recommends outreach activities to address
 5 college student food insecurity and encourages
 6 States to conduct those and other outreach activi-
 7 ties;

8 (4) provides a template for a State to submit
 9 information to the Secretary describing the outreach
 10 activities being carried out by the State to address
 11 college student food insecurity; and

12 (5) contains updated guidance based on the
 13 contents of that report.

14 **SEC. 103. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**

15 Section 17 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
 16 (7 U.S.C. 2026) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 17 lowing:

18 “(o) COLLEGE STUDENT FOOD INSECURITY DEM-
 19 ONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

20 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

21 “(A) COLLEGE STUDENT.—The term ‘col-
 22 lege student’ means a student enrolled in an in-
 23 stitution of higher education.

24 “(B) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—The
 25 term ‘demonstration program’ means the dem-

1 onstration program established under para-
2 graph (2).

3 “(C) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-
4 CATION.—

5 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘institu-
6 tion of higher education’ has the meaning
7 given the term in section 101 of the High-
8 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
9 1001).

10 “(ii) INCLUSION.—The term ‘institu-
11 tion of higher education’ includes a post-
12 secondary vocational institution (as defined
13 in section 102 of the Higher Education
14 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)).

15 “(2) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—Pursuant to
16 subsection (b), the Secretary, in collaboration with
17 the Secretary of Education, shall establish a dem-
18 onstration program under which the Secretary shall
19 carry out demonstration projects in accordance with
20 paragraph (3)—

21 “(A) to decrease student food insecurity at
22 institutions of higher education; and

23 “(B) to reduce barriers to college students
24 fully utilizing supplemental nutrition assistance
25 program benefits at institutions of higher edu-

1 cation available to college students and their
2 families.

3 “(3) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—To carry
4 out the demonstration program, the Secretary shall
5 carry out demonstration projects that test the fol-
6 lowing new supplemental nutrition assistance pro-
7 gram delivery methods:

8 “(A) Allowing a college student receiving
9 supplemental nutrition assistance program ben-
10 efits—

11 “(i) to use those benefits to purchase
12 prepared foods from a campus dining hall,
13 on-campus store, or other on-campus mer-
14 chant or provider that typically sells pre-
15 pared meals and participates in the stu-
16 dent meal program at the institution of
17 higher education at which the student is
18 enrolled; and

19 “(ii) to be exempt from requirements
20 to purchase a campus meal plan as part of
21 the attendance of the college student at the
22 institution of higher education.

23 “(B) Allowing a college student to use an
24 EBT card or a campus-specific card at any of

1 the locations described in subparagraph (A)(i)
2 or a retailer authorized under section 9.

3 “(4) PROJECT LIMIT.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
5 carry out not more than 10 demonstration
6 projects under the demonstration program si-
7 multaneously.

8 “(B) INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary shall
9 carry out not more than 1 demonstration
10 project under the demonstration program at
11 any single institution of higher education.

12 “(5) PRIORITY.—In selecting an institution of
13 higher education at which to carry out a demonstra-
14 tion project, the Secretary shall give priority to an
15 institution of higher education—

16 “(A) at which not less than 25 percent of
17 enrolled students are students that are eligible
18 to receive a Federal Pell Grant under subpart
19 1 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education
20 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a et seq.); or

21 “(B) that is described in section 371(a) of
22 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
23 1067q(a)).

24 “(6) PROJECT ADMINISTRATION.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
2 establish criteria and parameters for selecting,
3 operating, monitoring, and terminating each
4 demonstration project under the demonstration
5 program.

6 “(B) PRICES CHARGED.—The Secretary
7 shall ensure that prices charged by food pro-
8 viders participating in a demonstration project
9 under the demonstration program are com-
10 parable to prices charged by those food pro-
11 viders prior to participation.

12 “(7) PROJECT TERMINATION.—To the max-
13 imum extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure
14 that the termination of a demonstration project
15 under the demonstration program shall not cause
16 sudden adverse changes, including a reduction of in-
17 stitutional financial aid or the elimination of benefits
18 under the supplemental nutrition assistance pro-
19 gram, for students participating in the demonstra-
20 tion project.

21 “(8) PROGRAM TERMINATION.—The demonstra-
22 tion program shall terminate on the date that is 10
23 years after the date on which the demonstration pro-
24 gram is established.

1 “(9) EVALUATION.—For the duration of the
2 demonstration program, the Secretary shall, in col-
3 laboration with the Director of the Institute of Edu-
4 cation Sciences, conduct an annual evaluation of
5 each demonstration project carried out under the
6 demonstration program during the year covered by
7 the evaluation, including an analysis of the extent to
8 which the project is meeting the desired outcomes,
9 which include reduction in food insecurity and im-
10 proved academic performance.

11 “(10) REPORT.—For the duration of the dem-
12 onstration program, the Secretary shall submit to
13 the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition, and For-
14 estry and Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
15 of the Senate and the Committees on Agriculture
16 and Education and the Workforce of the House of
17 Representatives an annual report that includes—

18 “(A) a description of each demonstration
19 project carried out under the demonstration
20 program during the year covered by the report;

21 “(B) the evaluation conducted under para-
22 graph (9); and

23 “(C) recommendations for legislation to
24 improve the supplemental nutrition assistance
25 program to better serve college students.

1 “(11) WAIVER AND MODIFICATION AUTHOR-
2 ITY.—

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
4 graph (B), the Secretary may, as may be nec-
5 essary solely to carry out the demonstration
6 program—

7 “(i) waive any provision under this
8 Act, including—

9 “(I) the requirement relating to
10 local sales tax under section 4(a);

11 “(II) requirements relating to the
12 issuance and use of supplemental nu-
13 trition assistance program benefits
14 under section 7; and

15 “(III) requirements for approval
16 of retail food stores under section 9;
17 and

18 “(ii) modify the definitions under this
19 Act for the purposes of the demonstration
20 program, including the definitions of the
21 terms ‘food’, ‘household’, and ‘retail food
22 store’ under section 3.

23 “(B) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may
24 not waive a provision or modify a definition

under subparagraph (A) if the waiver or modification will—

“(i) cause increased difficulty for any household to apply for or access supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits; or

“(ii) reduce the value of those benefits for any household.

“(12) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection.”.

TITLE II—REDUCING STUDENT FOOD INSECURITY

SEC. 201. DATA SHARING.

(a) AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of Education, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the head of any other applicable Federal or State agency, shall maintain agreements—

(1) to securely share data among the respective Federal agencies of such Secretaries in order to identify students who have applied for Federal financial aid and who are enrolled at institutions of

1 higher education (as defined in section 102 of the
2 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002))
3 who may be eligible for federally funded programs to
4 support basic needs through—

5 (A) the supplemental nutrition assistance
6 program established under the Food and Nutri-
7 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), a nu-
8 trition assistance program carried out under
9 section 19 of such Act (7 U.S.C. 2028), or a
10 nutrition assistance program carried out by the
11 Secretary of Agriculture in the Northern Mar-
12 iana Islands;

13 (B) the supplemental security income pro-
14 gram under title XVI of the Social Security Act
15 (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.);

16 (C) the program of block grants to States
17 for temporary assistance for needy families
18 under part A of title IV of the Social Security
19 Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);

20 (D) the special supplemental nutrition pro-
21 gram for women, infants, and children estab-
22 lished by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act
23 of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786);

1 (E) the Medicaid program under title XIX
2 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et
3 seq.);

4 (F) Federal housing assistance programs,
5 including tenant-based assistance under section
6 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937
7 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)), and public housing, as
8 defined in section 3(b)(1) of such Act (42
9 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(1));

10 (G) Federal child care assistance pro-
11 grams, including assistance under the Child
12 Care and Development Block Grant Act of
13 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.) and the Child
14 Care Access Means Parents in School Program
15 under section 419N of the Higher Education
16 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070e);

17 (H) the free and reduced price school
18 lunch program established under the Richard
19 B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42
20 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.);

21 (I) refundable credit for coverage under a
22 qualified health plan under section 36B of the
23 Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

1 (J) the Earned Income Tax Credit under
 2 section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code of
 3 1986;

4 (K) the Child Tax Credit under section 24
 5 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or

6 (L) any other federally funded program de-
 7 termined by the Secretary to be appropriate;
 8 and

9 (2) to coordinate efforts to provide assistance to
 10 institutions of higher education to facilitate the en-
 11 rollment of eligible students in the programs de-
 12 scribed in paragraph (1).

13 (b) INFORMATION ON FEDERALLY FUNDED PRO-
 14 GRAMS TO SUPPORT BASIC NEEDS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 483 of the Higher
 16 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090) is amended
 17 by adding at the end the following:

18 “(e) INFORMATION ON FEDERALLY FUNDED PRO-
 19 GRAMS TO SUPPORT BASIC NEEDS.—

20 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

21 “(A) BENEFIT PROGRAM.—The term ‘ben-
 22 efit program’ means a program described in
 23 any of subparagraphs (A) through (L) of sec-
 24 tion 201(a)(1) of the Student Food Security
 25 Act of 2024.

“(B) ELIGIBLE STUDENT.—The term ‘eligible student’ means any student who, as a result of information submitted on the application for Federal student financial aid, has been determined by the Secretary (in consultation with the heads of applicable Federal agencies) to be potentially eligible for a benefit program.

“(2) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—For each year for which an eligible student submits an application for Federal student financial aid, the Secretary shall send, in written and electronic form, to the eligible student information regarding potential eligibility for assistance under, and application process for, benefit programs.

“(3) INCLUSION.—The information provided under paragraph (2) shall include a description of the appropriate State or Federal resources to which to apply for each benefit program.”.

(2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Education shall consult with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the head of any other applicable Federal or State agency, in designing the written and electronic communication

1 regarding potential eligibility for assistance under,
 2 and application process for, the benefit programs (as
 3 defined in subsection (e)(1) of section 483 of the
 4 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090)).

5 (c) FURTHER INFORMATION ON FEDERALLY FUND-
 6 ED PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT BASIC NEEDS.—Section 483
 7 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090)
 8 is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a)(2)(E)—

10 (A) in clause (i), by striking “and” after
 11 the semicolon;

12 (B) in clause (ii), by striking the period at
 13 the end and inserting “; and”; and

14 (C) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(iii) an authorization under subpara-
 16 graph (D) and disclosing the information
 17 as described in clause (ii), the Secretary
 18 shall provide the applicant with notification
 19 of the appropriate Federal or State re-
 20 sources necessary to apply for Federal and
 21 State programs that support basic needs.”;
 22 and

23 (2) in subsection (c)(3)—

24 (A) by striking “may enter” and inserting
 25 “shall enter”; and

1 (B) by inserting “, and shall consult with
2 the heads of applicable Federal agencies in de-
3 signing the written and electronic communica-
4 tion regarding potential eligibility for assistance
5 under such programs” after “may be eligible”.

6 (d) REPORT.—The Secretary of Education, in coordi-
7 nation with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of
8 Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Health
9 and Human Services, the Secretary of the Treasury, and
10 the head of any other applicable Federal or State agency,
11 shall prepare and submit to Congress a report that pre-
12 sents summary statistics on students who have applied for
13 Federal financial aid and who are enrolled at institutions
14 of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the High-
15 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)) and are expe-
16 riencing student food insecurity and housing insecurity,
17 disaggregated by race and ethnicity, income quintile, sta-
18 tus as a first generation college student, Federal Pell
19 Grant eligibility status, disability status, status as a stu-
20 dent parent, sex (including sexual orientation and gender
21 identity), and other subgroups, as determined by such
22 heads of agencies.

1 **SEC. 202. QUESTIONS ON BASIC NEEDS IN NATIONAL POST-**
 2 **SECONDARY STUDENT AID STUDY.**

3 The Secretary of Education shall permanently add to
 4 the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study validated
 5 questions that measure food security, housing security,
 6 and homelessness.

7 **SEC. 203. GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE BASIC NEEDS OF STU-**
 8 **DENTS.**

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

12 **“PART BB—GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE BASIC**
 13 **NEEDS OF STUDENTS**

14 **“SEC. 899. GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE BASIC NEEDS OF STU-**
 15 **DENTS.**

16 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 “(1) BASIC NEEDS.—The term ‘basic needs’,
 18 with respect to a student, means the physiological
 19 and safety necessities that are central conditions for
 20 the student to learn, including—

21 “(A) nutritious and sufficient food;

22 “(B) safe, secure, and adequate housing
 23 (including to sleep, to study, to cook, and to
 24 shower);

25 “(C) health care to promote sustained
 26 mental and physical well-being;

1 “(D) high-quality and affordable childcare;

2 “(E) affordable technology and internet ac-

3 cess;

4 “(F) accessible transportation;

5 “(G) personal hygiene and clothing; and

6 “(H) other costs described in paragraphs

7 (2) through (14) of section 472(a).

8 “(2) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘community
10 college’ means—

11 “(i) a public institution of higher edu-
12 cation at which—

13 “(I) the highest degree awarded
14 is an associate degree; or

15 “(II) an associate degree is the
16 most frequently awarded degree, in-
17 cluding a 2-year Tribal College or
18 University (as defined in section 316);

19 “(ii) a public postsecondary vocational
20 institution (as defined in section 102(c));
21 or

22 “(iii) at the designation of the Sec-
23 retary, in the case of a State in which
24 there is no community college operated or
25 controlled by the State that meets a defini-

tion under clause (i) or (ii), a college or
similarly defined and structured academic
entity—

“(I) that was in existence on
July 1, 2023;

“(II) within a public 4-year insti-
tution of higher education; and

“(III) at which—

“(aa) the highest degree
awarded is an associate degree;
or

“(bb) an associate degree is
the most frequently awarded de-
gree.

“(3) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term ‘eligi-
ble institution’ means an institution of higher edu-
cation (as defined in section 101 or 102(a)(1)(B)).

“(b) PLANNING GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award
planning grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible
institutions to enable the eligible institutions to con-
duct research and planning in accordance with para-
graph (2)—

“(A) to reduce incidences of—

“(i) student food insecurity;

1 “(ii) student housing insecurity; and

2 “(iii) students experiencing homeless-
3 ness; and

4 “(B) to meet other basic needs of students.

5 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible institution receiv-
6 ing a grant under this subsection shall use grant
7 funds to carry out the following activities:

8 “(A) Establish a basic needs steering com-
9 mittee that will be—

10 “(i) responsible for developing and ap-
11 proving the basic needs strategy described
12 in subparagraph (C); and

13 “(ii) comprised of relevant campus
14 stakeholders, such as—

15 “(I) students who have experi-
16 enced challenges in meeting basic
17 needs;

18 “(II) student government rep-
19 resentatives;

20 “(III) staff of the eligible institu-
21 tion representing the areas of student
22 financial aid, housing, dining, student
23 affairs, academic advising, equity sup-
24 port services, accessibility services,
25 campus security, legal services, and

1 health and well-being services (includ-
 2 ing counseling or psychological serv-
 3 ices);

4 “(IV) faculty;

5 “(V) relevant administrators, in-
 6 cluding local human services adminis-
 7 trators;

8 “(VI) community-based and
 9 other nonprofit organizations; and

10 “(VII) representatives from local
 11 governmental agencies.

12 “(B) Conduct research regarding—

13 “(i) the level of unmet basic needs at
 14 the eligible institution, disaggregated by
 15 race and ethnicity, income quintile, status
 16 as a first generation college student (as de-
 17 fined in section 402A(h)), Federal Pell
 18 Grant eligibility status, disability status,
 19 status as a student parent, sex (including
 20 sexual orientation and gender identity), or
 21 other subgroup as determined by the eligi-
 22 ble institution;

23 “(ii) the presence of institutional bar-
 24 riers (such as award displacement) and

1 current institutional interventions to ad-
2 dress basic needs insecurity;

3 “(iii) the presence of administrative
4 barriers for students in applying, certifying
5 eligibility, and renewing applications for
6 means-tested benefits, and interventions to
7 address such barriers;

8 “(iv)(I) the resources and activities
9 available to address basic needs of stu-
10 dents, both on campus and off campus, as
11 of the date of the research; and

12 “(II) the impact of such resources and
13 activities; and

14 “(v) opportunities for coordination
15 and collaboration between the eligible insti-
16 tution and government or community-
17 based organizations, such as—

18 “(I) the local office that admin-
19 isters benefits under the supplemental
20 nutrition assistance program estab-
21 lished under the Food and Nutrition
22 Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.)
23 and carries out employment and train-
24 ing programs under that Act, or the
25 temporary assistance for needy fami-

1 lies program and subsidized programs
2 that meet the work requirements
3 under part A of title IV of the Social
4 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);

5 “(II) organizations that partici-
6 pate in the Federal work-study pro-
7 gram under part C of title IV; or

8 “(III) low-income housing assist-
9 ance organizations, including such or-
10 ganizations assisting with tenant-
11 based assistance under section 8(o) of
12 the United States Housing Act of
13 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)), and pub-
14 lic housing (as defined in section 3(b)
15 of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b))).

16 “(C) Develop a basic needs strategy that
17 describes the means by which the eligible insti-
18 tution will—

19 “(i) seek to address or meet the basic
20 needs of students through on-campus and
21 off-campus providers; and

22 “(ii) incorporate the research con-
23 ducted under subparagraph (B), including
24 with respect to the subgroups identified

1 under clause (i) of that subparagraph, into
2 the basic needs strategy.

3 “(D) Implement the strategy described in
4 subparagraph (C), including by—

5 “(i) conducting outreach to encourage
6 students to participate in programs that
7 provide basic needs or reduce basic needs
8 insecurity;

9 “(ii) educating students about Fed-
10 eral, State, local, and Tribal assistance
11 programs, supporting student applications
12 for those programs, and providing case
13 management and training for students to
14 maximize the assistance that students and
15 their families receive to reduce basic needs
16 insecurity;

17 “(iii) coordinating and collaborating
18 with Federal, State, local, and Tribal agen-
19 cies or community-based organizations;

20 “(iv) hiring and training personnel to
21 build infrastructure and implement pro-
22 gramming to reduce basic needs insecurity
23 at the eligible institution; and

24 “(v) carrying out other matters deter-
25 mined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

1 “(3) GRANT AMOUNTS; DURATION.—

2 “(A) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant
3 under this subsection shall be not more than
4 \$75,000.

5 “(B) DURATION.—A grant under this sub-
6 section shall be for a period of not more than
7 2 years.

8 “(4) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after
9 the end of the planning grant period under this sub-
10 section, each eligible institution that receives such a
11 grant shall submit to the Secretary a report that de-
12 scribes the outcomes of the planning grant, regard-
13 less of whether the eligible institution intends to
14 apply for an implementation grant.

15 “(c) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

16 “(1) AWARD.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
18 award implementation grants, on a competitive
19 basis, to eligible institutions to enable the eligi-
20 ble institutions to develop infrastructure to
21 meet the basic needs of students by—

22 “(i) implementing—

23 “(I) a basic needs strategy devel-
24 oped under subsection (b)(2)(C); or

1 “(II) another existing basic needs
2 plan approved by the Secretary; and

3 “(ii) carrying out the activities de-
4 scribed in paragraph (2).

5 “(B) ONGOING EXTERNAL FUNDING.—To
6 be eligible to receive an implementation grant
7 under this paragraph, an eligible institution
8 shall identify, in the application for the grant,
9 an ongoing non-Federal funding mechanism to
10 support the activities carried out using grant
11 funds after the expiration of the grant period.

12 “(2) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible institution receiv-
13 ing a grant under this subsection shall use the grant
14 funds to carry out at least 2 of the following activi-
15 ties:

16 “(A) Providing to eligible students free or
17 subsidized food, secure sleeping arrangements,
18 temporary housing, priority access to existing
19 on-campus child care, and other basic needs.

20 “(B) Conducting outreach to students to
21 reduce stigma associated with, and educate and
22 encourage students to participate in, programs
23 and services (including programs and services
24 provided through grant funding) to meet basic
25 needs.

1 “(C) Educating students about public as-
2 sistance programs (including State and local
3 public assistance programs, the supplemental
4 nutrition assistance program under the Food
5 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et
6 seq.), Federal housing assistance programs, and
7 other income-based Federal assistance pro-
8 grams), supporting student applications for
9 those programs, and providing case manage-
10 ment and training for students to maximize the
11 public assistance that students and their fami-
12 lies receive to meet basic needs.

13 “(D) Coordination and collaboration be-
14 tween the eligible institution and government or
15 community-based organizations, such as the
16 local office that administers benefits through
17 the supplemental nutrition assistance program
18 under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7
19 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) or a low-income housing
20 assistance organization.

21 “(E) Purchasing materials, equipment,
22 transportation, or facilities to reduce incidences
23 of food and housing insecurity and address the
24 basic needs of students at the eligible institu-
25 tion.

1 “(F) Hiring and training personnel to
 2 build and improve basic needs infrastructure
 3 and implement programming to provide assist-
 4 ance in applying for, and accessing, direct sup-
 5 port services, financial assistance, or means-
 6 tested benefits programs to meet the basic
 7 needs of students.

8 “(G) Other activities or services deter-
 9 mined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

10 “(3) GRANT AMOUNTS; DURATION.—

11 “(A) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant
 12 under this subsection shall be not more than
 13 \$1,000,000 for each 5-year period.

14 “(B) DURATION.—A grant under this sub-
 15 section shall be for a period of 5 years.

16 “(4) REPORT.—The Secretary shall prepare
 17 and submit to Congress a report that describes—

18 “(A) the impact on eligible students of
 19 grants provided under this subsection;

20 “(B) the obstacles faced by recipients of
 21 grants under this subsection;

22 “(C) successful outcomes of grants under
 23 this subsection;

24 “(D) best practices for the provision of
 25 basic services to eligible students; and

1 “(E) Federal and State policy barriers to
2 meeting the basic needs of students at institu-
3 tions of higher education.

4 “(5) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall
5 disseminate to eligible institutions information about
6 best practices, as described in paragraph (4)(D).

7 “(6) EVALUATION.—For the purpose of evalu-
8 ating the effectiveness of funds awarded under this
9 subsection, the Secretary shall conduct an evaluation
10 of each grant under this subsection to determine the
11 impact on students, including improvements in re-
12 tention, progression, transfer, attainment, and basic
13 needs security, as applicable.

14 “(d) RESERVATION; PRIORITY; EQUITABLE DIS-
15 TRIBUTION.—

16 “(1) RESERVATION.—In awarding grants under
17 subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary shall reserve—

18 “(A) an amount equal to not less than 25
19 percent of the total amount available for grants
20 under those subsections for grant awards to
21 community colleges; and

22 “(B) an amount equal to not less than 25
23 percent of the total amount available for grants
24 under those subsections for grant awards to
25 historically Black colleges and universities,

1 Tribal Colleges and Universities, and other mi-
2 nority-serving institutions.

3 “(2) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under
4 subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary shall give pri-
5 ority to the following:

6 “(A) Eligible institutions with respect to
7 which not fewer than 25 percent of enrolled
8 students are students that are eligible to receive
9 a Federal Pell Grant under subpart 1 of part
10 A of title IV.

11 “(B) Eligible institutions described in sec-
12 tion 371(a).

13 “(3) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—In awarding
14 grants under subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary
15 shall ensure an equitable distribution of grant
16 awards to eligible institutions in States, based on
17 State population.

18 “(e) PERSONNEL EXPENSES LIMITATIONS.—

19 “(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—An eligible institu-
20 tion that receives a planning grant under subsection
21 (b) may use not more than 50 percent of grant
22 funds for personnel expenses.

23 “(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—An eligible
24 institution that receives an implementation grant

1 under subsection (c) may use not more than 75 per-
2 cent of grant funds for personnel expenses.

3 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
5 \$1,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through
6 2031, of which—

7 “(1) \$40,000,000 is authorized to be appro-
8 priated to provide planning grants under subsection
9 (b); and

10 “(2) \$960,000,000 is authorized to be appro-
11 priated to provide implementation grants under sub-
12 section (c).”.

13 **SEC. 204. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

14 This title and the amendments made by this title
15 shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the
16 date of enactment of this Act.

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