

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3449

To provide low-income individuals with opportunities to enter and follow a career pathway in the health professions, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 7, 2023

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To provide low-income individuals with opportunities to enter and follow a career pathway in the health professions, 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 section may be cited as the “Pathways to Health
5 Careers Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CAREER PATHWAYS THROUGH HEALTH PROFES-**
2 **SION OPPORTUNITY GRANTS.**

3 Effective October 1, 2023, section 2008 of the Social
4 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397g) is amended to read as
5 follows:

6 **“SEC. 2008. CAREER PATHWAYS THROUGH HEALTH PRO-**
7 **FESSION OPPORTUNITY GRANTS.**

8 “(a) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible en-
9 tity desiring a grant under this section for a project shall
10 submit to the Secretary an application for the grant, that
11 includes the following:

12 “(1) A description of how the applicant will use
13 a career pathways approach to train eligible individ-
14 uals for health professions that pay well or will put
15 eligible individuals on a career path to an occupation
16 that pays well, under the project.

17 “(2) A description of the adult basic education
18 and literacy activities, work readiness activities,
19 training activities, and case management and career
20 coaching services that the applicant will use to assist
21 eligible individuals to gain work experience, connec-
22 tion to employers, and job placement, and a descrip-
23 tion of the plan for recruiting, hiring, and training
24 staff to provide the case management, mentoring,
25 and career coaching services, under the project di-

1 rectly or through local governmental, apprenticeship,
2 educational, or charitable institutions.

3 “(3) In the case of an application for a grant
4 under this section for a demonstration project de-
5 scribed in subsection (c)(2)(B)(i)(I)—

6 “(A) a demonstration that the State in
7 which the demonstration project is to be con-
8 ducted has in effect policies or laws that permit
9 certain allied health and behavioral health care
10 credentials to be awarded to people with certain
11 arrest or conviction records (which policies or
12 laws shall include appeals processes, waivers,
13 certificates, and other opportunities to dem-
14 onstrate rehabilitation to obtain credentials, li-
15 censure, and approval to work in the proposed
16 health careers), and a plan described in the ap-
17 plication that will use a career pathway to as-
18 sist participants with such a record in acquiring
19 credentials, licensing, and employment in the
20 specified careers;

21 “(B) a discussion of how the project or fu-
22 ture strategic hiring decisions will demonstrate
23 the experience and expertise of the project in
24 working with job seekers who have arrest or
25 conviction records or employers with experience

1 working with people with arrest or conviction
2 records;

3 “(C) an identification of promising innova-
4 tions or best practices that can be used to pro-
5 vide the training;

6 “(D) a proof of concept or demonstration
7 that the applicant has done sufficient research
8 on workforce shortage or in-demand jobs for
9 which people with certain types of arrest or
10 conviction records can be hired;

11 “(E) a plan for recruiting students who
12 are eligible individuals into the project; and

13 “(F) a plan for providing post-employment
14 support and ongoing training as part of a ca-
15 reer pathway under the project.

16 “(4) In the case of an application for a grant
17 under this section for a demonstration project de-
18 scribed in subsection (c)(2)(B)(i)(II)—

19 “(A) a description of the partnerships,
20 strategic staff hiring decisions, tailored program
21 activities, or other programmatic elements of
22 the project, such as training plans for doulas
23 and other community health workers and train-
24 ing plans for midwives and other allied health
25 professions, that are designed to support a ca-

1 reer pathway in pregnancy, birth, or post-
2 partum services; and

3 “(B) a demonstration that the State in
4 which the demonstration project is to be con-
5 ducted recognizes doulas or midwives, as the
6 case may be.

7 “(5) A demonstration that the applicant has ex-
8 perience working with low-income populations, or a
9 description of the plan of the applicant to work with
10 a partner organization that has the experience.

11 “(6) A plan for providing post-employment sup-
12 port and ongoing training as part of a career path-
13 way under the project.

14 “(7) A description of the support services that
15 the applicant will provide under the project, includ-
16 ing a plan for how child care and transportation
17 support services will be guaranteed and, if the appli-
18 cant will provide a cash stipend or wage supplement,
19 how the stipend or supplement would be calculated
20 and distributed.

21 “(8) A certification by the applicant that the
22 project development included—

23 “(A) consultation with a local workforce
24 development board established under section

1 107 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
2 tunity Act;

3 “(B) consideration of apprenticeship and
4 pre-apprenticeship models registered under the
5 Act of August 16, 1937 (also known as the
6 ‘National Apprenticeship Act’);

7 “(C) consideration of career pathway pro-
8 grams in the State in which the project is to be
9 conducted; and

10 “(D) a review of the State plan under sec-
11 tion 102 or 103 of the Workforce Innovation
12 and Opportunity Act.

13 “(9) A description of the availability and rel-
14 evance of recent labor market information and other
15 pertinent evidence of in-demand jobs or worker
16 shortages.

17 “(10) A certification that the applicant will di-
18 rectly provide or contract for the training services
19 described in the application.

20 “(11) A commitment by the applicant that, if
21 the grant is made to the applicant, the applicant
22 will—

23 “(A) during the planning period for the
24 project, provide the Secretary with any informa-
25 tion needed by the Secretary to establish ade-

1 quate data reporting and administrative struc-
2 ture for the project;

3 “(B) hire a person to direct the project not
4 later than the end of the planning period appli-
5 cable to the project;

6 “(C) accept all technical assistance offered
7 by the Secretary with respect to the grant;

8 “(D) participate in peer technical assist-
9 ance conferences as are regularly scheduled by
10 the Secretary; and

11 “(E) provide all data required by the Sec-
12 retary under subsection (g).

13 “(b) PREFERENCES IN CONSIDERING APPLICA-
14 TIONS.—In considering applications for a grant under this
15 section, the Secretary shall give preference to—

16 “(1) applications submitted by applicants to
17 whom a grant was made under this section or any
18 predecessor to this section;

19 “(2) applications submitted by applicants who
20 have business and community partners in each of
21 the following categories:

22 “(A) State and local government agencies
23 and social service providers, including a State
24 or local entity that administers a State program
25 funded under part A of this title;

1 “(B) institutions of higher education, ap-
2 prenticeship programs, and local workforce de-
3 velopment boards established under section 107
4 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
5 Act; and

6 “(C) health care employers, health care in-
7 dustry or sector partnerships, labor unions, and
8 labor-management partnerships;

9 “(3) applications that include opportunities for
10 mentoring or peer support, and make career coach-
11 ing available, as part of the case management plan;

12 “(4) applications which describe a project that
13 will serve a rural area in which—

14 “(A) the community in which the individ-
15 uals to be enrolled in the project reside is lo-
16 cated;

17 “(B) the project will be conducted; or

18 “(C) an employer partnership that has
19 committed to hiring individuals who successfully
20 complete all activities under the project is lo-
21 cated;

22 “(5) applications that include a commitment to
23 providing project participants with a cash stipend or
24 wage supplement; and

1 “(6) applications which have an emergency cash
2 fund to assist project participants financially in
3 emergency situations.

4 “(c) GRANTS.—

5 “(1) COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—

6 “(A) GRANT AUTHORITY.—

7 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in
8 consultation with the Secretary of Labor
9 and the Secretary of Education, may make
10 a grant in accordance with this paragraph
11 to an eligible entity whose application for
12 the grant is approved by the Secretary, to
13 conduct a project designed to train low-in-
14 come individuals for allied health profes-
15 sions, health information technology, physi-
16 cians assistants, nursing assistants, reg-
17 istered nurse, advanced practice nurse,
18 emergency medical technicians, para-
19 medics, and other professions considered
20 part of a health care career pathway
21 model.

22 “(ii) GUARANTEE OF GRANTEES IN
23 EACH STATE AND THE DISTRICT OF CO-
24 LUMBIA.—For each grant cycle, the Sec-
25 retary shall award a grant under this para-

1 graph to at least 2 eligible entities in each
2 State that is not a territory, to the extent
3 there are a sufficient number of applica-
4 tions submitted by the entities that meet
5 the requirements applicable with respect to
6 such a grant. If, for a grant cycle, there
7 are fewer than 2 such eligible entities in a
8 State, the Secretary shall include that in-
9 formation in the report required by sub-
10 section (g)(2) that covers the fiscal year.

11 “(B) GUARANTEE OF GRANTS FOR INDIAN
12 POPULATIONS.—From the amount reserved
13 under subsection (i)(2)(B) for each fiscal year,
14 the Secretary shall award a grant under this
15 paragraph to at least 10 eligible entities that
16 are an Indian tribe, a tribal organization, or a
17 tribal college or university, to the extent there
18 are a sufficient number of applications sub-
19 mitted by the entities that meet the require-
20 ments applicable with respect to such a grant.

21 “(C) GUARANTEE OF GRANTEEES IN THE
22 TERRITORIES.—From the amount reserved
23 under subsection (i)(2)(C) for each fiscal year,
24 the Secretary shall award a grant under this
25 paragraph to at least 2 eligible entities that are

1 located in a territory, to the extent there are a
 2 sufficient number of applications submitted by
 3 the entities that meet the requirements applica-
 4 ble with respect to such a grant.

5 “(2) GRANTS FOR DEMONSTRATION
 6 PROJECTS.—

7 “(A) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary,
 8 in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and
 9 the Secretary of Education (and, with respect
 10 to demonstration projects of the type described
 11 in subparagraph (B)(i)(I), the Attorney Gen-
 12 eral) shall make a grant in accordance with this
 13 subsection to an eligible entity whose applica-
 14 tion for the grant is approved by the Secretary,
 15 to conduct a demonstration project that meets
 16 the requirements of subparagraph (B).

17 “(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements
 18 of this subparagraph are the following:

19 “(i) TYPE OF PROJECT.—The dem-
 20 onstration project shall be of 1 of the fol-
 21 lowing types:

22 “(I) INDIVIDUALS WITH ARREST
 23 OR CONVICTION RECORDS DEM-
 24 ONSTRATION.—The demonstration
 25 project shall be of a type designed to

1 provide education and training for eli-
2 gible individuals with arrest or convic-
3 tion records to enter and follow a ca-
4 reer pathway in the health professions
5 through occupations that pay well and
6 are expected to experience a labor
7 shortage or be in high demand.

8 “(II) MATERNAL MORTALITY CA-
9 REER PATHWAY DEMONSTRATION.—

10 The demonstration project shall be of
11 a type designed to provide education
12 and training for eligible individuals to
13 enter and follow a career pathway in
14 the field of pregnancy, childbirth, and
15 post-partum, in a State that recog-
16 nizes doulas or midwives and that
17 provides payment for services provided
18 by doulas or midwives, as the case
19 may be, under private or public health
20 insurance plans.

21 “(ii) DURATION.—The demonstration
22 project shall be conducted for not less than
23 5 years.

1 “(C) MINIMUM ALLOCATION OF FUNDS
2 FOR EACH TYPE OF DEMONSTRATION
3 PROJECT.—

4 “(i) INDIVIDUALS WITH ARREST OR
5 CONVICTION RECORDS DEMONSTRA-
6 TIONS.—Not less than 25 percent of the
7 amounts made available for grants under
8 this paragraph shall be used to make
9 grants for demonstration projects of the
10 type described in subparagraph (B)(i)(I).

11 “(ii) MATERNAL MORTALITY CAREER
12 PATHWAY DEMONSTRATIONS.—Not less
13 than 25 percent of the amounts made
14 available for grants under this paragraph
15 shall be used to make grants for dem-
16 onstration projects of the type described in
17 subparagraph (B)(i)(II).

18 “(3) GRANT CYCLE.—The grant cycle under
19 this section shall be not less than 5 years, with a
20 planning period of not more than the 1st 12 months
21 of the grant cycle. During the planning period, the
22 amount of the grant shall be in such lesser amount
23 as the Secretary determines appropriate.

24 “(d) USE OF GRANT.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An entity to which a grant
2 is made under this section shall use the grant in ac-
3 cordance with the approved application for the
4 grant.

5 “(2) SUPPORT TO BE PROVIDED.—

6 “(A) REQUIRED SUPPORT.—A project for
7 which a grant is made under this section shall
8 include the following:

9 “(i) An assessment for adult basic
10 skill competency, and provision of adult
11 basic skills education if necessary for
12 lower-skilled eligible individuals to enroll in
13 the project and go on to enter and com-
14 plete post-secondary training, through
15 means including the following:

16 “(I) Establishing a network of
17 partners that offer pre-training activi-
18 ties for project participants who need
19 to improve basic academic skills or
20 English language proficiency before
21 entering a health occupational train-
22 ing career pathway program.

23 “(II) Offering resources to enable
24 project participants to continue ad-
25 vancing adult basic skill proficiency

1 while enrolled in a career pathway
2 program.

3 “(III) Embedding adult basic
4 skill maintenance as part of ongoing
5 post-graduation career coaching and
6 mentoring.

7 “(ii) A guarantee that child care is an
8 available and affordable support service for
9 project participants through means such as
10 the following:

11 “(I) Referral to, and assistance
12 with, enrollment in a subsidized child
13 care program.

14 “(II) Direct payment to a child
15 care provider if a slot in a subsidized
16 child care program is not available or
17 reasonably accessible.

18 “(III) Payment of co-payments
19 or associated fees for child care.

20 “(iii) Case management plans that in-
21 clude career coaching (with the option to
22 offer appropriate peer support and men-
23 toring opportunities to help develop soft
24 skills and social capital), which may be of-
25 fered on an ongoing basis before, during,

1 and after initial training as part of a ca-
2 reer pathway model.

3 “(iv) A plan to provide project partici-
4 pants with transportation through means
5 such as the following:

6 “(I) Referral to, and assistance
7 with enrollment in, a subsidized trans-
8 portation program.

9 “(II) If a subsidized transpor-
10 tation program is not reasonably
11 available, direct payments to subsidize
12 transportation costs.

13 “(v) In the case of a demonstration
14 project of the type described in subsection
15 (c)(2)(B)(i)(I), access to legal assistance
16 for project participants for the purpose of
17 addressing arrest or conviction records and
18 associated workforce barriers.

19 “(B) ALLOWED SUPPORT.—The goods and
20 services provided under a project for which a
21 grant is made under this section may include
22 the following:

23 “(i) A cash stipend.

1 “(ii) A reserve fund for financial as-
2 sistance to project participants in emer-
3 gency situations.

4 “(iii) Tuition, and training materials
5 such as books, software, uniforms, shoes,
6 and hair nets, and personal protective
7 equipment.

8 “(iv) In-kind resource donations such
9 as interview clothing and conference at-
10 tendance fees.

11 “(v) Assistance with accessing and
12 completing high school equivalency or adult
13 basic education courses as necessary to
14 achieve success in the project and make
15 progress toward career goals.

16 “(vi) Assistance with programs and
17 activities, including legal assistance,
18 deemed necessary to address arrest or con-
19 viction records as an employment barrier.

20 “(vii) Other support services as
21 deemed necessary for family well-being,
22 success in the project, and progress toward
23 career goals.

24 “(3) TRAINING.—A project for which a grant is
25 made under this section shall train project partici-

1 pants to earn a recognized postsecondary credential
2 (including an industry-recognized credential, and a
3 certificate awarded by a local workforce development
4 board established under section 107 of the Work-
5 force Innovation and Opportunity Act) that is
6 awarded in recognition of attainment of measurable
7 technical or occupational skills necessary to gain em-
8 ployment or advance within an occupation, and shall
9 provide each project participant with a number of
10 hours of the training equal to—

11 “(A) not less than the number of hours of
12 training required for certification in that level
13 of skill by the State in which the project is con-
14 ducted; or

15 “(B) if there is no such requirement, such
16 number of hours of training as the Secretary
17 finds is necessary to achieve that skill level.

18 “(4) INCLUSION OF TANF RECIPIENTS.—In the
19 case of a project for which a grant is made under
20 this section that is conducted in a State that has a
21 program funded under part A of title IV, at least 10
22 percent of the eligible individuals to whom support
23 is provided under the project shall meet the income
24 eligibility requirements under that State program,
25 without regard to whether the individuals receive

1 benefits or services directly under that State pro-
2 gram.

3 “(5) INCOME LIMITATION.—An entity to which
4 a grant is made under this section shall not use the
5 grant to provide support to a person who is not an
6 eligible individual.

7 “(6) PROHIBITION.—An entity to which a grant
8 is made under this section shall not use the grant
9 for purposes of entertainment, except that case man-
10 agement and career coaching services may include
11 celebrations of specific career-based milestones such
12 as completing a semester, graduation, or job place-
13 ment.

14 “(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide
16 technical assistance—

17 “(A) to assist eligible entities in applying
18 for grants under this section;

19 “(B) that is tailored to meet the needs of
20 grantees at each stage of the administration of
21 projects for which grants are made under this
22 section;

23 “(C) that is tailored to meet the specific
24 needs of Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and
25 tribal colleges and universities;

1 “(D) that is tailored to meet the specific
2 needs of the territories;

3 “(E) that is tailored to meet the specific
4 needs of eligible entities in carrying out dem-
5 onstration projects for which a grant is made
6 under this section; and

7 “(F) to facilitate the exchange of informa-
8 tion among eligible entities regarding best prac-
9 tices and promising practices used in the
10 projects.

11 “(2) PEER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CON-
12 FERENCES.—The Secretary shall hold peer technical
13 assistance conferences for entities to which a grant
14 is made under this section or was made under the
15 immediate predecessor of this section.

16 “(f) EVALUATION OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, by
18 grant, contract, or interagency agreement, conduct
19 rigorous and well-designed evaluations of the dem-
20 onstration projects for which a grant is made under
21 this section.

22 “(2) REQUIREMENT APPLICABLE TO INDIVID-
23 UALS WITH ARREST OR CONVICTION RECORDS DEM-
24 ONSTRATION.—In the case of a project of the type
25 described in subsection (c)(2)(B)(i)(I), the evalua-

1 tion shall include identification of successful activi-
2 ties for creating opportunities for developing and
3 sustaining, particularly with respect to low-income
4 individuals with arrest or conviction records, a
5 health professions workforce that has accessible
6 entry points, that meets high standards for edu-
7 cation, training, certification, and professional devel-
8 opment, and that provides increased wages and af-
9 fordable benefits, including health care coverage,
10 that are responsive to the needs of the workforce.

11 “(3) REQUIREMENT APPLICABLE TO MATERNAL
12 MORTALITY CAREER PATHWAY DEMONSTRATION.—
13 In the case of a project of the type described in sub-
14 section (c)(2)(B)(i)(II), the evaluation shall include
15 identification of successful activities for creating op-
16 portunities for developing and sustaining, particu-
17 larly with respect to low-income individuals and
18 other entry-level workers, a career pathway that has
19 accessible entry points, that meets high standards
20 for education, training, certification, and profes-
21 sional development, and that provides increased
22 wages and affordable benefits, including health care
23 coverage, that are responsive to the needs of the
24 birth, pregnancy, and post-partum workforce.

1 “(4) RULE OF INTERPRETATION.—Evaluations
2 conducted pursuant to this subsection may include a
3 randomized controlled trial, but this subsection shall
4 not be interpreted to require an evaluation to include
5 such a trial.

6 “(g) REPORTS.—

7 “(1) TO THE SECRETARY.—An eligible entity
8 awarded a grant to conduct a project under this sec-
9 tion shall submit interim reports to the Secretary on
10 the activities carried out under the project, and, on
11 the conclusion of the project, a final report on the
12 activities. Each such report shall include data on
13 participant outcomes related to graduation rate,
14 graduation timeliness, credential attainment, em-
15 ployment in health professions, overall employment,
16 earnings, participant demographics, and other data
17 specified by the Secretary.

18 “(2) TO THE CONGRESS.—During each Con-
19 gress, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee
20 on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives
21 and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a re-
22 port—

23 “(A) on the demographics of the partici-
24 pants in the projects for which a grant is made
25 under this section;

1 “(B) on the rate of which project partici-
2 pants completed all activities under the
3 projects;

4 “(C) on the employment credentials ac-
5 quired by project participants;

6 “(D) on the employment of project partici-
7 pants on completion of activities under the
8 projects, and the earnings of project partici-
9 pants at entry into employment;

10 “(E) on best practices and promising prac-
11 tices used in the projects;

12 “(F) on the nature of any technical assist-
13 ance provided to grantees under this section;

14 “(G) on, with respect to the period since
15 the period covered in the most recent prior re-
16 port submitted under this paragraph—

17 “(i) the number of applications sub-
18 mitted under this section, with a separate
19 statement of the number of applications re-
20 ferred to in subsection (b)(5);

21 “(ii) the number of applications that
22 were approved, with a separate statement
23 of the number of such applications referred
24 to in subsection (b)(5); and

1 “(iii) a description of how grants were
2 made in any case described in the last sen-
3 tence of subsection (c)(1)(A)(ii); and

4 “(H) that includes an assessment of the ef-
5 fectiveness of the projects with respect to ad-
6 dressing health professions workforce shortages
7 or in-demand jobs.

8 “(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 “(1) ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSION.—The term
10 ‘allied health profession’ has the meaning given in
11 section 799B(5) of the Public Health Service Act.

12 “(2) CAREER PATHWAY.—The term ‘career
13 pathway’ has the meaning given that term in section
14 3(7) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
15 Act.

16 “(3) DOULA.—The term ‘doula’ means an indi-
17 vidual who—

18 “(A) has completed 60 hours of
19 foundational training;

20 “(B) is certified by an organization that
21 has been established for not less than 5 years
22 and that requires the completion of continuing
23 education to maintain the certification, to pro-
24 vide non-medical advice, information, emotional
25 support, and physical comfort to an individual

1 during the individual’s pregnancy, childbirth,
2 and post-partum period; and

3 “(C) maintains the certification by com-
4 pleting the required continuing education.

5 “(4) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
6 tity’ means any of the following entities that dem-
7 onstrates in an application submitted under this sec-
8 tion that the entity has the capacity to fully develop
9 and administer the project described in the applica-
10 tion:

11 “(A) A local workforce development board
12 established under section 107 of the Workforce
13 Innovation and Opportunity Act.

14 “(B) A State or territory, a political sub-
15 division of a State or territory, or an agency of
16 a State, territory, or such a political subdivi-
17 sion, including a State or local entity that ad-
18 ministers a State program funded under part A
19 of this title.

20 “(C) An Indian tribe, a tribal organization,
21 or a tribal college or university.

22 “(D) An institution of higher education (as
23 defined in the Higher Education Act of 1965).

24 “(E) A hospital (as defined in section
25 1861(e)).

1 “(F) A high-quality skilled nursing facility.

2 “(G) A Federally qualified health center
3 (as defined in section 1861(aa)(4)).

4 “(H) A nonprofit organization described in
5 section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
6 of 1986, a labor organization, or an entity with
7 shared labor-management oversight, that has a
8 demonstrated history of providing health profes-
9 sion training to eligible individuals.

10 “(I) In the case of a demonstration project
11 of the type provided for in subsection
12 (c)(2)(B)(i)(II) of this section, an entity recog-
13 nized by a State, Indian tribe, or tribal organi-
14 zation as qualified to train doulas or midwives,
15 if midwives or doulas, as the case may be, are
16 permitted to practice in the State involved.

17 “(J) An opioid treatment program (as de-
18 fined in section 1861(jjj)(2)), and other high
19 quality comprehensive addiction care providers.

20 “(5) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term ‘eligible
21 individual’ means an individual whose family income
22 does not exceed 200 percent of the Federal poverty
23 level.

24 “(6) FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL.—The term
25 ‘Federal poverty level’ means the poverty line (as de-

1 fined in section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Rec-
2 onciliation Act of 1981, including any revision re-
3 quired by such section applicable to a family of the
4 size involved).

5 “(7) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—
6 The terms ‘Indian tribe’ and ‘tribal organization’
7 have the meaning given the terms in section 4 of the
8 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
9 Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

10 “(8) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
11 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
12 meaning given the term in section 101 or
13 102(a)(1)(B) of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

14 “(9) MIDWIFE.—The term ‘midwife’ means a
15 midwife who meets, at a minimum, the international
16 definition of the midwife and global standards for
17 midwifery education as established by the Inter-
18 national Confederation of Midwives.

19 “(10) TERRITORY.—The term ‘territory’ means
20 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United
21 States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana
22 Islands, and American Samoa.

23 “(11) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The
24 term ‘tribal college or university’ has the meaning

1 given the term in section 316(b) of the Higher Edu-
2 cation Act of 1965.

3 “(12) TRIBAL MIDWIFE.—The term ‘tribal mid-
4 wife’ means an individual who is recognized by an
5 Indian tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian
6 Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603)) to
7 practice midwifery for the tribe.

8 “(i) FUNDING.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Out of any funds in the
10 Treasury of the United States not otherwise appro-
11 priated, there are appropriated to the Secretary to
12 carry out this section \$425,000,000 for each of fis-
13 cal years 2024 through 2028.

14 “(2) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amount
15 appropriated for a fiscal year under paragraph (1)
16 of this subsection—

17 “(A) 75 percent shall be available for
18 grants under subsection (c)(1)(A);

19 “(B) 4 percent shall be reserved for grants
20 under subsection (c)(1)(B);

21 “(C) 5 percent shall be reserved for grants
22 under subsection (c)(1)(C);

23 “(D) 6 percent shall be available for dem-
24 onstration project grants under subsection
25 (c)(2);

1 “(E) 6 percent, plus all amounts referred
 2 to in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of this
 3 paragraph that remain unused after all grant
 4 awards are made for the fiscal year, shall be
 5 available for the provision of technical assist-
 6 ance and associated staffing; and

7 “(F) 4 percent shall be available for study-
 8 ing the effects of the demonstration and non-
 9 demonstration projects for which a grant is
 10 made under this section, and for associated
 11 staffing, for the purpose of supporting the rig-
 12 orous evaluation of the demonstration projects,
 13 and supporting the continued study of the
 14 short-, medium-, and long-term effects of all
 15 such projects, including the effectiveness of spe-
 16 cific elements of the non-demonstration
 17 projects.

18 “(j) NONAPPLICABILITY OF PRECEDING SECTIONS
 19 OF THIS SUBTITLE.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
 21 graph (2), the preceding sections of this subtitle
 22 shall not apply to a grant awarded under this sec-
 23 tion.

24 “(2) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN LIMITATIONS ON
 25 USE OF GRANTS.—Section 2005(a) (other than para-

1 graphs (2), (3), (5), (6), and (8)) shall apply to a
2 grant awarded under this section to the same extent
3 and in the same manner as such section applies to
4 payments to States under this subtitle.

5 “(k) INCOME DISREGARD.—Amounts paid to an eligi-
6 ble individual as a cash stipend or as emergency assistance
7 under a project for which a grant is made under this sec-
8 tion shall not be considered income for any purpose under
9 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and an entity making
10 such a payment shall not be required to submit an infor-
11 mation return under subtitle F of such Code with respect
12 to the payment.”.

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