

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1655

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility to certain short-term workforce programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2023

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Ms. NORTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility to certain short-term workforce programs.

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 “Jobs to Compete Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. WORKFORCE PELL GRANTS.**

6 Section 401 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
7 U.S.C. 1070a), as amended by section 703 of the FAFSA
8 Simplification Act (title VII of division FF of Public Law

1 116–260), is further amended by adding at the end the
2 following:

3 “(k) WORKFORCE PELL GRANTS PROGRAM.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For award year 2025–2026
5 and each succeeding award year, the Secretary shall
6 award grants (referred to as a ‘Workforce Pell
7 Grants’) to eligible students under paragraph (2) in
8 accordance with this subsection.

9 “(2) ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.—To be eligible to
10 receive a Workforce Pell Grant under this subsection
11 for any period of enrollment, a student shall meet
12 the eligibility requirements for a Federal Pell Grant
13 under this section, except that the student—

14 “(A) notwithstanding the eligibility re-
15 quirements with respect to the program of
16 study, shall be enrolled, or accepted for enroll-
17 ment, in an eligible workforce program de-
18 scribed in section 481(b)(3), offered by an eligi-
19 ble institution of higher education (as defined
20 in section 481(b)(3)(F)); and

21 “(B) notwithstanding the eligibility re-
22 quirements with respect to the first under-
23 graduate baccalaureate course of study under
24 subsection (d)(1) may have completed such first
25 undergraduate baccalaureate course of study,

1 but shall not have received a postbaccalaureate
2 degree.

3 “(3) TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AWARDS.—

4 The Secretary shall award Workforce Pell Grants
5 under this subsection in the same manner and with
6 the same terms and conditions as the Secretary
7 awards Federal Pell Grants under subsection (b), ex-
8 cept that a student who is eligible for a grant equal
9 to less than the amount of the minimum Federal
10 Pell Grant because the eligible workforce program in
11 which the student is enrolled or accepted for enroll-
12 ment is less than an academic year (in hours of in-
13 struction or weeks of duration) may still be eligible
14 for a Workforce Pell Grant.

15 “(4) PREVENTION OF DOUBLE BENEFITS.—No
16 eligible student described in paragraph (2) may, for
17 the same period of enrollment, receive both a grant
18 under this subsection and a Federal Pell Grant
19 under subsection (b) or (c).

20 “(5) INCLUSION IN TOTAL ELIGIBILITY PE-
21 RIOD.—Any period during which a student receives
22 a Workforce Federal Pell Grant under this sub-
23 section shall be included in calculating the student’s
24 period of eligibility for Federal Pell Grants under
25 subsection (d), and the eligibility requirements re-

1 credit hours) offered during a minimum of
2 8 weeks, but less than 15 weeks;

3 “(ii) in a case in which the State in
4 which the program is located, or a Federal
5 agency, has established the minimum num-
6 ber of clock hours (or an equivalent num-
7 ber of credit hours) required for the train-
8 ing provided by such program, does not ex-
9 ceed by more than 50 percent such min-
10 imum number of clock hours (or credit
11 hours);

12 “(iii) is a career and technical edu-
13 cation program at an eligible institution of
14 higher education;

15 “(iv) provides an education aligned
16 with the requirements of high-skill, high-
17 wage, or in-demand industry sectors or oc-
18 cupations (including in nontraditional
19 fields) in the State or local area in which
20 the program is provided, as determined by
21 an accrediting agency or association recog-
22 nized by the Secretary pursuant to section
23 496(a)(4)(C), after validation of such de-
24 termination by—

1 “(I) the State board or local
2 board that serves such State or local
3 area;

4 “(II) the eligible agency for such
5 State, on the basis of the sectors or
6 occupations in such State that such
7 eligible agency identifies under section
8 122(d)(13)(C) of the Carl D. Perkins
9 Career and Technical Education Act
10 of 2006;

11 “(III) the eligible agency for such
12 State, on the basis of the results of
13 the comprehensive needs assessment
14 submitted to the agency under section
15 134(b)(1) of the Carl D. Perkins Ca-
16 reer and Technical Education Act of
17 2006 with respect to the local area in
18 which the program is provided; or

19 “(IV) an industry or sector part-
20 nership convened by or acting in part-
21 nership with the State board or local
22 board that serves such State or local
23 area;

24 “(v) is a program—

1 “(I) provided through an eligible
2 training provider, as described under
3 section 122(d) of the Workforce Inno-
4 vation and Opportunity Act; and

5 “(II) subject to the reporting re-
6 quirements of section 116(d)(4) of the
7 Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
8 tunity Act, or would be subject to
9 such requirements except for a waiver
10 issued to a State under section 189(i)
11 of the Workforce Innovation and Op-
12 portunity Act;

13 “(vi) has been determined by the eligi-
14 ble institution of higher education pro-
15 viding such program (after validation of
16 that determination by at least one of the
17 entities described in subclauses (I) through
18 (IV) of clause (iv)) to provide academic
19 content, an amount of instructional time,
20 competencies, and a recognized postsec-
21 ondary credential that are sufficient to—

22 “(I) meet the hiring requirements
23 of potential employers in the sectors
24 or occupations described in clause
25 (iv); and

1 “(II) satisfy any applicable edu-
2 cational prerequisite requirement for
3 professional licensure or certification
4 in the State or States in which the
5 program is offered, so that a student
6 who completes the program and seeks
7 employment is qualified to practice or
8 find employment in such sectors or oc-
9 cupations that the program prepares
10 students to enter, including, if appli-
11 cable, being qualified to take any rel-
12 evant licensure or certification exami-
13 nations that may be needed to prac-
14 tice such employment;

15 “(vii) subject to subparagraph (E),
16 provides a student, upon completion of the
17 program, with a recognized postsecondary
18 credential that is stackable and portable
19 across multiple employers and geographical
20 areas;

21 “(viii) not later than 18 months after
22 the date the program has been approved as
23 an eligible workforce program under this
24 paragraph, has demonstrated that students
25 who complete the program receive a me-

1 dian increase of 20 percent of median
2 earnings as compared to median earnings
3 of such students prior to enrolling in such
4 program, in accordance with subparagraph
5 (B);

6 “(ix) not later than 18 months after
7 the date the program has been approved as
8 an eligible workforce program under this
9 paragraph, has demonstrated (on the basis
10 of the data collected under section 131(i)
11 and such other information as the Sec-
12 retary may require) that the median earn-
13 ings of students who complete such pro-
14 gram, as calculated in accordance with
15 subparagraph (B)(i)(II), exceed the median
16 earnings for adults who are at least 25
17 years old, but younger than 35 years old,
18 with only high school diploma (or a recog-
19 nized equivalent) in the State in which the
20 program is located, based on data from the
21 Bureau of the Census and approved by the
22 Secretary;

23 “(x) publishes prominently on the
24 website of the institution, and provides a
25 written disclosure to each prospective stu-

1 dent prior to entering into an enrollment
2 agreement for such program (which each
3 such student shall confirm receiving
4 through a written affirmation prior to en-
5 tering such enrollment agreement) con-
6 taining, at a minimum, the following infor-
7 mation calculated, as applicable, in accord-
8 ance with section 131(i), including—

9 “(I) the required tuition and fees
10 of the program;

11 “(II) the difference between re-
12 quired tuition and fees described in
13 subclause (I) and any grant aid
14 (which does not need to be repaid)
15 provided to the student;

16 “(III) the completion rate of the
17 program;

18 “(IV) the employment rates of
19 students who complete the program,
20 measured at approximately 6 months
21 and 1 year, respectively, after comple-
22 tion of the program;

23 “(V) median earnings of students
24 who complete the program, as cal-

1 culated in accordance with subpara-
2 graph (B)(i)(II));

3 “ (VI) median earnings of stu-
4 dents who do not complete the pro-
5 gram, calculated based on earnings
6 approximately 6 months after ceasing
7 enrollment in the program;

8 “ (VII) the ratio of the amount
9 that is the difference between required
10 tuition and fees and any grant aid
11 provided to the student described in
12 subclause (II) to the median earnings
13 of students described in subclause
14 (V);

15 “ (VIII) an explanation, in clear
16 and plain language that shall be speci-
17 fied by the Secretary, of the ratio de-
18 scribed in subclause (VII); and

19 “ (IX) in the case of a program
20 that prepares students for a profes-
21 sional licensure or certification exam-
22 ination, the share of such students
23 who pass such examinations;

24 “ (xi) prepares students to pursue one
25 or more related certificate or degree pro-

1 grams at one or more institutions of higher
2 education (which may include the eligible
3 institution of higher education providing
4 the eligible workforce program), includ-
5 ing—

6 “(I) by ensuring the acceptability
7 of the credits received under the work-
8 force program toward meeting such
9 certificate or degree program require-
10 ments (such as through an articula-
11 tion agreement as defined in section
12 486A); and

13 “(II) subject to subparagraph
14 (B), by ensuring that a student who
15 completes noncredit coursework in the
16 workforce program, upon completion
17 of the workforce program and enroll-
18 ment in such a related certificate or
19 degree program, will receive academic
20 credit for such noncredit coursework
21 that will be accepted toward meeting
22 such certificate or degree program re-
23 quirements;

24 “(xii) is not offered exclusively
25 through distance education or a cor-

1 response course, except as determined
2 by the Secretary to be necessary, on a tem-
3 porary basis, in connection with a—

4 “(I) major disaster or emergency
5 declared by the President under sec-
6 tion 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Staf-
7 ford Disaster Relief and Emergency
8 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and
9 5191); or

10 “(II) national emergency de-
11 clared by the President under section
12 201 of the National Emergencies Act
13 (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.);

14 “(xiii) includes counseling for students
15 to—

16 “(I) support each such student in
17 achieving the student’s education and
18 career goals; and

19 “(II) ensure that each such stu-
20 dent receives information on—

21 “(aa) the sectors or occupa-
22 tions described in clause (iv) for
23 which the eligible workforce pro-
24 gram provides training (including
25 the median earnings of students

1 who have completed the program,
2 as calculated in accordance with
3 subparagraph (B)(i)(II), and are
4 employed in such sectors or occu-
5 pations);

6 “(bb) the related certificate
7 or degree programs described in
8 clause (xi) for which the work-
9 force program provides prepara-
10 tion; and

11 “(cc) other sources of finan-
12 cial aid or other assistance for
13 any component of the student’s
14 cost of attendance (as defined in
15 section 472);

16 “(xiv) meets requirements that are
17 applicable to a program of training to pre-
18 pare students for gainful employment in a
19 recognized occupation;

20 “(xv) has been offered by an institu-
21 tion for not less than 1 year prior to a de-
22 termination by such agency or association
23 under this paragraph;

24 “(xvi) has a verified completion rate
25 of at least 70 percent, calculated so as to

1 ensure that a student shall be counted as
2 a completion if the student completes the
3 program within 150 percent of the normal
4 time for completion;

5 “(xvii) has a verified a employment
6 placement rate of at least 70 percent, as
7 determined in accordance with the regula-
8 tions of the Secretary;

9 “(xviii) submits to the Secretary, for
10 each institutional fiscal year, disclosures on
11 the expenditures of the program; and

12 “(xix) in the case of a program that
13 has been approved for not less than 4
14 years as an eligible workforce program
15 under this paragraph, for each of the 3
16 most recent fiscal years for which the insti-
17 tution submits the disclosures under clause
18 (xviii), the amount expended by the pro-
19 gram for educational spending is greater
20 than or equal to an amount equal to 1/2
21 of the amount of revenue for such program
22 derived from tuition and fees for such pro-
23 gram.

24 “(B) MEDIAN EARNINGS INCREASE RE-
25 QUIREMENT.—

1 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clauses
2 (ii) and (iii), the Secretary shall, using the
3 data collected under section 131(i) and
4 such other information as the Secretary
5 may require, determine whether a work-
6 force program meets the requirements of
7 subparagraph (A)(viii) with respect to
8 whether the students who complete the
9 program receive a median increase of 20
10 percent of such students’ median earnings.
11 For the purposes of this paragraph, the
12 Secretary shall determine such percentage
13 increase by calculating the difference be-
14 tween—

15 “(I) the median earnings of stu-
16 dents who enroll in such program, cal-
17 culated based on earnings approxi-
18 mately 6 months prior to enrollment;
19 and

20 “(II) the median earnings of stu-
21 dents who complete such program,
22 calculated based on earnings approxi-
23 mately 6 months after completing
24 such program, subject to clause (ii).

1 “(ii) EXCLUSION.—An eligible institu-
2 tion of higher education offering a pro-
3 gram has been approved as an eligible
4 workforce program under this paragraph
5 may exclude from the calculation under
6 clause (i)(II) any students who are enrolled
7 in any eligible program (as such term is
8 defined in this subsection) at the time that
9 earnings are evaluated under clause (i)(II).

10 “(iii) DATE OF EFFECT.—The re-
11 quirement under this paragraph shall take
12 effect beginning on the date that is 18
13 months after the date the program has
14 been approved as an eligible workforce pro-
15 gram under this paragraph.

16 “(C) APPEALS PROCESS.—The Secretary
17 shall establish an appeals process to permit any
18 program has been approved as an eligible work-
19 force program under this paragraph to submit
20 alternate earnings data to comply with subpara-
21 graph (A)(ix) or subparagraph (B), provided
22 that such data are statistically rigorous, accu-
23 rate, comparable, and representative of students
24 who receive a Workforce Pell Grant, and enroll
25 in and complete the program.

1 “(D) APPROVAL BY THE SECRETARY.—

2 “(i) INITIAL ELIGIBILITY.—

3 “(I) IN GENERAL.—In the case
4 of a program that is seeking to estab-
5 lish initial eligibility as an eligible
6 workforce program under this para-
7 graph, the Secretary shall make a de-
8 termination whether the program
9 meets the requirements of this para-
10 graph not more than 120 days after
11 the date on which such program is
12 submitted for consideration as an eli-
13 gible workforce program. If the Sec-
14 retary determines the program meets
15 the requirements of this paragraph,
16 the Secretary shall grant an initial pe-
17 riod of approval of 2 years.

18 “(II) ADDITIONAL STATE ASSUR-
19 ANCE.—The Secretary shall not deter-
20 mine that a program is an eligible
21 workforce program in accordance with
22 subclause (I) unless the Secretary re-
23 ceives a certification from the State in
24 which the eligible workforce program
25 is provided, containing an assurance

1 that the program meets the require-
2 ments of clauses (iv) through (vi) of
3 subparagraph (A).

4 “(ii) RENEWAL OF APPROVAL BY THE
5 SECRETARY.—An eligible workforce pro-
6 gram that desires to continue eligibility as
7 an eligible workforce program after the pe-
8 riod of initial approval described in clause
9 (i), or the subsequent period described in
10 this clause, shall submit a renewal applica-
11 tion to the Secretary (with such informa-
12 tion as the Secretary may require), not
13 more than 270 days and not less than 180
14 days before the end of the previous ap-
15 proval period. If the Secretary determines
16 the program meets such requirements, the
17 Secretary shall grant another period of ap-
18 proval for 3 years.

19 “(iii) REVOCATION OF APPROVAL BY
20 THE SECRETARY.—If at any time the Sec-
21 retary determines that a program pre-
22 viously approved under clause (i) or (ii) is
23 no longer meeting any of the requirements
24 of an eligible workforce program described
25 in this subsection, the Secretary—

1 “(I) shall deny a subsequent re-
2 newal of approval in accordance with
3 clause (ii) for such program after the
4 expiration of the approval period;

5 “(II) may withdraw approval for
6 such program before the expiration of
7 the approval period;

8 “(III) shall ensure students who
9 enrolled in such programs have access
10 to transcripts for completed
11 coursework without a fee or monetary
12 charge and without regard to any bal-
13 ance owed to the institution; and

14 “(IV) shall prohibit such pro-
15 gram and any substantially similar
16 program, from being considered an el-
17 igible workforce program described in
18 this subsection for a period of not less
19 than 5 years.

20 “(E) EXCEPTIONS FOR CERTAIN PRO-
21 GRAMS.—The requirements of subparagraph
22 (A)(ix)(II) and the requirement that a program
23 be stackable (as described in subparagraph
24 (A)(vii)) shall not apply to any program seeking
25 approval as an eligible workforce program

1 under this paragraph with respect to which at
2 least one of the entities described in subclauses
3 (I) through (IV) of subparagraph (A)(iv) deter-
4 mines—

5 “(i) prepares students for employment
6 in an occupation for which there is only
7 one recognized postsecondary credential;
8 and

9 “(ii) provides students with such a
10 credential upon completion of such pro-
11 gram.

12 “(F) ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN
13 FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM.—A program
14 that has been approved as an eligible workforce
15 program under this paragraph is an eligible
16 program for purposes of part D only if such
17 program consists of at least 300 clock hours of
18 instruction, but less than 600 clock hours of in-
19 struction (or an equivalent number of credit
20 hours) offered during a minimum of 10 weeks,
21 but less than 15 weeks.

22 “(G) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

23 “(i) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDU-
24 CATION.—The term ‘career and technical
25 education’ has the meaning given the term

1 in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career
2 and Technical Education Act of 2006.

3 “(ii) EDUCATIONAL SPENDING.—

4 “(I) IN GENERAL.—The term
5 ‘educational spending’ means amounts
6 expended on instruction or instruc-
7 tional activities, academic support,
8 and support services.

9 “(II) EXCLUSIONS.—The term
10 ‘educational spending’ does not in-
11 clude amounts expended on recruiting
12 activities, advertising, or other pre-en-
13 rollment expenditures.

14 “(iii) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION OF
15 HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ‘eligible
16 institution of higher education’ means an
17 institution of higher education (as defined
18 in section 102) that—

19 “(I) is approved by an accred-
20 iting agency or association that meets
21 the requirements of section
22 496(a)(4)(C); and

23 “(II) has not been subject, dur-
24 ing any of the preceding 5 years, to—

1 “(aa) any suspension, emer-
2 gency action, or termination of
3 programs under this title;

4 “(bb) any adverse action by
5 the institution’s accrediting agen-
6 cy or association; or

7 “(cc) any action by the
8 State to revoke a license or other
9 authority to operate.

10 “(iv) MEDIAN EARNINGS.—The term
11 ‘median earnings’ means the median
12 annualized earnings, calculated using earn-
13 ings for a pay period, month, quarter, or
14 other time period deemed appropriate by
15 the Secretary.

16 “(v) WIOA DEFINITIONS.—The terms
17 ‘industry or sector partnership’, ‘in-de-
18 mand industry sector or occupation’, ‘rec-
19 ognized postsecondary credential’, ‘local
20 board’, and ‘State board’ have the mean-
21 ings given such terms in section 3 of the
22 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
23 Act.”.

24 (b) SUNSET OF LOAN ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN
25 SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS.—Section 481(b)(2) of the

1 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1088(b)(2)) is
2 amended by adding at the end the following—

3 “(C) No program may be determined eligi-
4 ble under this paragraph on or after the date
5 that is 60 days after the date on which the Sec-
6 retary approves the first workforce program for
7 purposes of the Workforce Pell Grants Program
8 under section 401(k).”.

9 **SEC. 4. DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION RELATED**
10 **TO WORKFORCE PELL.**

11 Section 131 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
12 U.S.C. 1015) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
13 lowing:

14 “(i) **INTERAGENCY DATA COORDINATION AND DATA**
15 **COLLECTION RELATED TO WORKFORCE PELL.—**

16 “(1) **INTERAGENCY DATA COORDINATION.—**The
17 Secretary shall coordinate with the Secretary of
18 Labor to ensure access to data necessary to imple-
19 ment this subsection that is not otherwise available
20 to the Secretary, including such data related to indi-
21 cators of performance collected under section 116 of
22 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

23 “(2) **DATA ON ELIGIBLE WORKFORCE PRO-**
24 **GRAMS.—**Except as provided under paragraph (3),
25 the Secretary, in coordination with the National

1 Center for Education Statistics, the Secretary of
2 Labor, and each institution of higher education of-
3 fering an eligible workforce program for which the
4 Secretary awards Workforce Federal Pell Grants
5 under section 401(k), shall, on an annual basis and
6 using, to the greatest extent practicable, data other-
7 wise available to the Secretary, collect, verify, and
8 make publicly available on the College Scorecard, or
9 any similar successor website, information with re-
10 spect to such eligible workforce program, including,
11 at a minimum, the following:

12 “(A) the length of the program (as meas-
13 ured in clock hours, credit hours, or weeks);

14 “(B) the number and demographics of stu-
15 dents who enroll in the program during the
16 most recent academic year for which data is
17 available, disaggregated by—

18 “(i) sex;

19 “(ii) race and ethnicity;

20 “(iii) classification as a student with a
21 disability;

22 “(iv) income quintile, as defined by
23 the Secretary;

24 “(v) military or veteran benefit status;

1 “(vi) status as a first-time student or
2 transfer student from another institution;

3 “(vii) status as a first generation col-
4 lege student;

5 “(viii) status as parent or guardian of
6 1 or more dependent children;

7 “(ix) status as a confined or incarcerated
8 individual, as defined under section
9 484(t)(1)(A); and

10 “(x) status as a recipient of a Work-
11 force Federal Pell Grant;

12 “(C) the number and demographics,
13 disaggregated by the categories listed in sub-
14 paragraph (B), of students who—

15 “(i) complete the program within 150
16 percent of the normal time for completion
17 of such program; and

18 “(ii) do not complete the program;

19 “(D) the required tuition and fees of the
20 program;

21 “(E) the median earnings (as defined in
22 section 481(b)(3)(F)) of students,
23 disaggregated by the categories listed in sub-
24 paragraph (B), who—

1 “(i) complete the program, calculated
2 based on earnings approximately 6 months
3 after completing such program; and

4 “(ii) do not complete the program,
5 calculated based on earnings approximately
6 6 months after ceasing enrollment in such
7 program; and

8 “(F) outcomes of the students who com-
9 plete the program, disaggregated by the cat-
10 egories listed in subparagraph (B), with respect
11 to—

12 “(i) the median time for completion of
13 such students;

14 “(ii) the employment rates of such
15 students—

16 “(I) 6 months after completion of
17 such program; and

18 “(II) 1 year after completion of
19 such program;

20 “(iii) in the case of a program that
21 prepares students for a professional licen-
22 sure or certification examination, the per-
23 centage of such students who pass such ex-
24 aminations;

1 “(iv) the percentage of such students
2 who enroll in a certificate or degree pro-
3 gram at the institution of higher education
4 offering the program within 1 year of com-
5 pleting such program;

6 “(v) the percentage of such students
7 who transfer to another institution of high-
8 er education within 1 year of completing
9 such program; and

10 “(vi) the percentage of such students
11 who complete a subsequent certificate or
12 degree program at any institution of high-
13 er education within 6 years of completing
14 such program.

15 “(3) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding any other
16 provision of this subsection—

17 “(A) if disclosure of any data under para-
18 graph (1) is prohibited from disclosure due to
19 applicable privacy restrictions under State or
20 Federal privacy laws or regulations, the Sec-
21 retary may take such steps as the Secretary de-
22 termines necessary to provide meaningful
23 disaggregated student demographic or outcome
24 information, including combining categories;

1 “(B) an institution may submit, and the
2 Secretary may publish, data required to be col-
3 lected under paragraph (2) that is obtained
4 through a State Unemployment Insurance
5 Agency or through other supplemental means,
6 in lieu of any additional data collection, pro-
7 vided that such data are statistically rigorous,
8 accurate, comparable, and representative;

9 “(C) to the extent that another provision
10 of this Act, or any regulation prescribed under
11 this Act, requires the same reporting or collec-
12 tion of data that is required under paragraph
13 (2), the Secretary may consider the reporting
14 under such provision or regulation to satisfy the
15 requirements of paragraph (2); and

16 “(D) the Secretary, in consultation with
17 the Secretary of Labor, may modify or waive
18 the requirements to disaggregate data by the
19 categories listed in paragraph (2)(B) for data
20 described in subparagraphs (E) and (F)(iii) of
21 paragraph (2) to align with the reporting re-
22 quirements of section 116(d)(4) of the Work-
23 force Innovation and Opportunity Act, stream-
24 line reporting requirements, and minimize re-
25 porting burdens.”.

1 **SEC. 5. ACCREDITING AGENCY DETERMINATION OF ELIGI-**
2 **BILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE WORK-**
3 **FORCE PELL GRANTS PROGRAM.**

4 (a) RECOGNITION OF ACCREDITING AGENCY OR AS-
5 SOCIATION.—Section 496(a)(4) of the Higher Education
6 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1099b(a)(4)) is amended—

7 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and”
8 after the semicolon;

9 (2) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by inserting “and”
10 after the semicolon; and

11 (3) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(C) if such agency or association has or
13 seeks to include within its scope of recognition
14 the evaluation of the quality of institutions of
15 higher education offering an eligible workforce
16 program for purposes of the Workforce Federal
17 Pell Grant program under section 401(k), such
18 agency or association shall, in addition to meet-
19 ing the other requirements of this subpart,
20 demonstrate to the Secretary that, with respect
21 to such eligible workforce programs—

22 “(i) the agency or association’s stand-
23 ards include a process for determining if
24 the institution has the capability to effec-
25 tively offer an eligible workforce program;
26 and

1 “(ii) the agency or association re-
2 quires a demonstration that the program—

3 “(I) has identified each recog-
4 nized postsecondary credential offered
5 in the relevant industry in the State
6 or local area where the industry is lo-
7 cated; and

8 “(II) provides academic content,
9 an amount of instructional time, com-
10 petencies, and a recognized postsec-
11 ondary credential sufficient to satisfy
12 any applicable educational require-
13 ment for professional licensure or cer-
14 tification in the State or States in
15 which the program is offered, so that
16 a student who completes the program
17 and seeks employment is qualified to
18 practice or find employment in the
19 sectors or occupations that the pro-
20 gram prepares students to enter, in-
21 cluding, if applicable, being qualified
22 to take any relevant licensure or cer-
23 tification examinations that may be
24 needed to practice such employment.”.

1 (b) ADDITIONAL NACIQI REVIEW MEETINGS.—For
2 the purpose of preparing for the implementation of the
3 Workforce Pell Grant program under section 401(k) of the
4 Higher Education Act of 1965 (as added by section 4),
5 in addition to the meetings required under section
6 114(d)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
7 U.S.C. 1011c(d)(1)), the National Advisory Committee on
8 Institutional Quality and Integrity (as established by such
9 section 114) shall, through 2025, hold meetings to evalu-
10 ate the additions to the scope of recognition of accrediting
11 agencies and associations with respect to an eligible work-
12 force program for purposes of the Workforce Pell Grants
13 program (in accordance with section 481(b)(3) of the
14 Higher Education Act of 1965, as added by section 3).

15 (c) INTERIM ACCREDITATION AUTHORITY.—

16 (1) NOTIFICATION.—Beginning on the date of
17 enactment of this Act, a qualified accrediting agency
18 or association which seeks to include within its scope
19 of recognition the evaluation of the quality of insti-
20 tutions offering eligible workforce programs for the
21 purposes of the Workforce Pell Grants program,
22 may include within its scope of recognition the eval-
23 uation of such institutions if the accrediting agency
24 or association—

1 (A) submits to the Secretary a notification
2 of the agency's or association's intent to add
3 the evaluation of such institutions to its scope
4 of recognition; and

5 (B) includes with such notification an ex-
6 planation of how the agency or association in-
7 tends to meet the criteria under section
8 496(a)(4)(C) of the Higher Education Act of
9 1965 (as added by subsection (a)) with respect
10 to the evaluation of institutions for purposes of
11 the Workforce Pell Grants program.

12 (2) REVIEW OF SCOPE OF CHANGES.—Upon re-
13 ceipt of a notification from an accrediting agency or
14 association under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall
15 direct the National Advisory Committee on Institu-
16 tional Quality and Integrity (as established by sec-
17 tion 114 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
18 U.S.C. 1011c)) to evaluate, at the next available
19 meeting of such Committee, the addition to the
20 scope of recognition of the agency or association and
21 to advise the Secretary with respect to whether the
22 agency or association meets the criteria under sec-
23 tion 496(a)(4)(C) of the Higher Education Act of
24 1965 (as added by subsection (a)).

1 (3) TERMINATION OF INTERIM AUTHORITY.—

2 The interim authority under this subsection for an
3 agency or association to include within its scope of
4 recognition the evaluation of the quality of institu-
5 tions offering eligible workforce programs for the
6 purposes of the Workforce Pell Grants program shall
7 terminate on the earlier of—

8 (A) the date that is 5 years after the date
9 of enactment of this Act; or

10 (B) the date on which the Secretary deter-
11 mines whether such agency or association meets
12 the criteria under section 496(a)(4)(C) of the
13 Higher Education Act of 1965 (as added by
14 subsection (a)).

15 (4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

16 (A) QUALIFIED ACCREDITING AGENCY OR
17 ASSOCIATION.—The term “qualified accrediting
18 agency or association” means an accrediting
19 agency or association recognized by the Sec-
20 retary under section 496 of the Higher Edu-
21 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1099b) that
22 seeks, for the first time, to add to its scope of
23 recognition the evaluation of the quality of in-
24 stitutions offering an eligible workforce pro-

1 gram for purposes of the Workforce Pell Grants
2 program.

3 (B) WORKFORCE PELL GRANTS PRO-
4 GRAM.—The term “Workforce Pell Grants pro-
5 gram” means the Workforce Pell Grant pro-
6 gram under section 401(k) of the Higher Edu-
7 cation Act of 1965 (as added by section 2).

8 **SEC. 6. WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT**
9 **AMENDMENT.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—

11 (1) ELIGIBLE TRAINING PROVIDER REPORTS.—
12 Section 116(d)(4) of the Workforce Innovation and
13 Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(d)(4)) is amend-
14 ed—

15 (A) in subparagraph (E), by striking
16 “and” after the semicolon;

17 (B) in subparagraph (F), by striking the
18 period and inserting “; and”; and

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

20 “(G) for programs of study of an eligible
21 provider participating in the Workforce Federal
22 Pell Grant program under section 401(k) of the
23 Higher Education Act of 1965 such information
24 related to employment and earnings as may be
25 required under section 481(b)(3), including in-

1 formation relating to the total earnings increase
2 under section 481(b)(3)(B), except that the
3 sanctions for failure to report under subsection
4 (f)(1)(B) of this section shall not apply to this
5 subparagraph.”.

6 (2) INTERAGENCY DATA COORDINATION.—Sec-
7 tion 116(i) of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
8 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(i)) is amended by add-
9 ing at the end the following:

10 “(4) INTERAGENCY DATA COORDINATION FOR
11 WORKFORCE FEDERAL PELL GRANT PROGRAM.—The
12 Secretary of Labor shall coordinate with the Sec-
13 retary of Education to ensure access to data nec-
14 essary to implement sections 401(k) and 481(b)(3)
15 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
16 1070a(k); 1088(b)(3)) that is not otherwise available
17 to the Secretary of Education, which may include
18 data related to unemployment insurance, wage infor-
19 mation, employment-related outcomes, and indica-
20 tors of performance collected under this section.”.

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