

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4608

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to create the Pell Plus program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 4, 2019

Mr. KILMER (for himself, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to create the Pell Plus program.

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 “Pell Plus Act of 2019”.

5 **SEC. 2. PELL PLUS PROGRAM.**

6 Section 401(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
7 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(b)) is amended by adding at the end
8 the following:

9 “(9) PELL PLUS PROGRAM.—(A) For each
10 award year for which a student receives a Federal

1 Pell Grant and meets the requirements of subpara-
2 graph (B), the Secretary shall award such student
3 an additional Federal Pell Grant in an amount equal
4 to the amount of the student's Federal Pell Grant
5 award determined under paragraph (2)(A) for such
6 award year.

7 “(B) A student meets the requirements of this
8 subparagraph, if the student—

9 “(i) during the award year during which
10 the student receives the additional Federal Pell
11 Grant under subparagraph (A)—

12 “(I) is enrolled in the student's first
13 undergraduate baccalaureate course of
14 study at a Pell Plus institution; and

15 “(II) is maintaining progress toward
16 completion of such course of study in not
17 more than a total of 4 academic years; and

18 “(ii) has completed 4 semesters, or the
19 equivalent, of such course of study.

20 “(C) The period during which a student re-
21 ceives an additional Federal Pell Grant under sub-
22 paragraph (A) shall be included in calculating the
23 duration limits with respect to such student under
24 subsection (c)(5), and to the extent that such period
25 was a fraction of a semester or the equivalent, only

1 that same fraction of such semester or equivalent
2 shall count towards such duration limits.

3 “(D) For purposes of this paragraph, a Pell
4 Plus institution is an eligible institution for purposes
5 of this subpart that—

6 “(i) notifies the Secretary that the institu-
7 tion desires to participate in the program under
8 this paragraph;

9 “(ii) agrees to provide, to each student re-
10 ceiving an additional Federal Pell Grant under
11 subparagraph (A), for each award year for
12 which the student receives such additional Fed-
13 eral Pell Grant—

14 “(I) a notification about whether the
15 student is maintaining the progress toward
16 completion required under subparagraph
17 (B)(i)(II); and

18 “(II) an amount of funds—

19 “(aa) equal to such additional
20 Federal Pell Grant; and

21 “(bb) using the resources of the
22 institution, such as—

23 “(AA) an institutional grant
24 or scholarship;

1 “(BB) through a tuition or
2 fee waiver; or

3 “(CC) foundation or other
4 charitable organization funds;
5 and

6 “(iii) the Secretary determines meets the
7 requirements of this subparagraph.”.

8 **SEC. 3. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES.**

9 Section 485(a)(1) of the Higher Education Act of
10 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(a)(1)) is amended—

11 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-
12 graph (U); and

13 (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-
14 paragraph (V) and inserting “; and”; and

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

16 “(W) in the case of an institution that is
17 a Pell Plus institution under section 401(b)(9),
18 any applicable information with respect to the
19 institution’s participation in the program under
20 such section.”.

21 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

22 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
23 with respect to award year 2020–2021 and each suc-
24 ceeding award year.

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