

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5146

To amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to establish the American Technical Training Grant Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2018

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut (for herself, Mr. MACARTHUR, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. QUIGLEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to establish the American Technical Training Grant Program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Technical Education
5 Creates High-Paying Careers Act of 2018” or the “TECH
6 Careers Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMERICAN TECHNICAL TRAINING GRANT PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Carl D. Perkins
4 Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C.
5 2371 et seq.) is amended—

6 (1) by inserting before section 201 the fol-
7 lowing:

8 **“PART A—TECH PREP PROGRAM”;**

9 and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new part:

11 **“PART B—AMERICAN TECHNICAL TRAINING**
12 **GRANT PROGRAM**

13 **“SEC. 221. ESTABLISHMENT OF AMERICAN TECHNICAL**
14 **TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM.**

15 “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary of
16 Education, in coordination with the Secretary of Labor,
17 shall develop and implement a grant program, to be known
18 as the American Technical Training Grant Program, to
19 award competitive grants to eligible entities for supporting
20 the establishment, redesign, or expansion of job training
21 programs that enable economically disadvantaged students
22 to enter into and advance along career pathways that lead
23 to jobs in high-skill, high-wage, or high-demand occupa-
24 tions.

25 “(b) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For pur-
26 poses of this part, the term ‘eligible entity’ means an insti-

1 tution of higher education that offers career and technical
2 education programs that can be completed in 2 years or
3 less or a consortium of such institutions.

4 “(c) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that desires a
5 grant under this part shall submit an application to the
6 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing
7 such information as the Secretary may require.

8 “(d) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In awarding grants
9 under this part, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible
10 entities that—

11 “(1) would serve a large proportion of job train-
12 ing program participants who are from economically
13 disadvantaged families;

14 “(2) would provide training for an industry sec-
15 tor or occupation in high demand;

16 “(3) demonstrate potential for a high percent-
17 age of job training program participants to secure
18 employment after completion of such entity’s job
19 training program; or

20 “(4) meet such other criteria as the Secretary
21 considers appropriate.

22 “(e) PARTNERSHIPS.—

23 “(1) REQUIRED PARTNERSHIPS.—Before
24 awarding a grant to an eligible entity under this

1 part, the Secretary shall verify that the eligible enti-
2 ty has entered into a partnership agreement with—

3 “(A) a local workforce development board;

4 “(B) one or more employers with a work-
5 force need in a high-skill, high-wage, or high-
6 demand industry; and

7 “(C) an industry organization or other
8 intermediary representing the industry sector or
9 occupation for which the job training program
10 provides training.

11 “(2) SEPARATE ENTITIES NOT REQUIRED.—In
12 meeting the partnership requirements of subpara-
13 graphs (A) through (C) of paragraph (1), an eligible
14 entity shall not be required to partner with a sepa-
15 rate entity for purposes of each such subparagraph.

16 “(3) ADDITIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—In addition
17 to being in the partnerships described in paragraph
18 (1), an eligible entity may be in a partnership
19 with—

20 “(A) a nonprofit organization or other
21 training provider, including an apprenticeship
22 program registered with the Department of
23 Labor;

24 “(B) an institution of higher education
25 that—

1 “(i) offers a baccalaureate degree; and

2 “(ii) has an articulation agreement

3 with the eligible entity;

4 “(C) a community-based organization;

5 “(D) a State, regional, or local economic
6 development agency;

7 “(E) a secondary school; or

8 “(F) a local educational agency.

9 “(f) REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity
10 that receives a grant under this part shall use the grant
11 funds to—

12 “(1) establish, redesign, or expand a job train-
13 ing program that—

14 “(A) leads to an industry recognized cre-
15 dential or certification at the post-secondary
16 level or to an associate degree;

17 “(B) trains job training program partici-
18 pants for a regionally in-demand industry sec-
19 tor or occupation;

20 “(C) addresses through embedded remedi-
21 ation the needs of job training program partici-
22 pants for remediation or attainment of basic
23 skills;

24 “(D) provides academic credit to job train-
25 ing program participants for prior learning, if

1 applicable, including academic credit for courses
2 completed in a foreign country by a foreign pro-
3 fessional or recognition of such professional's
4 foreign degree or certification;

5 “(E) provides student support services,
6 such as career guidance and academic coun-
7 seling, intake assessments to determine pro-
8 gram fit, and other services; and

9 “(F) is accessible to nontraditional stu-
10 dents through alternative scheduling;

11 “(2) conduct high-quality, independent evalua-
12 tions of the job training program's activities; and

13 “(3) provide work-based learning opportunities
14 for job training program participants.

15 “(g) ALLOWABLE USES OF FUNDS.—In addition to
16 the required uses of funds under subsection (f), an eligible
17 entity that receives a grant under this part may also use
18 the grant funds to support the job training program by—

19 “(1) developing the program curriculum;

20 “(2) engaging employers or industries hire job
21 training program participants;

22 “(3) purchasing supplies;

23 “(4) supporting the professional development of
24 faculty, administrators, and career guidance and
25 academic counselors;

1 “(5) supporting faculty salaries;

2 “(6) providing tuition assistance counseling and
3 financial aid counseling services;

4 “(7) providing services that target disconnected
5 youth;

6 “(8) providing childcare for the children of pro-
7 gram participants during classes, internships, or
8 other activities relating to the job training program;

9 “(9) providing program participants with trans-
10 portation to classes, internships, or other activities
11 relating to the job training program; and

12 “(10) carrying out any other permissible activ-
13 ity consistent with the purposes of this part, as ap-
14 proved by the Secretary.

15 “(h) GRANT AMOUNT.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount of a grant to
17 an eligible entity for a fiscal year shall not exceed
18 \$5,000,000.

19 “(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining the
20 amount of a grant to be awarded to an eligible enti-
21 ty under this part, the Secretary shall consider—

22 “(A) if the grant is for the initial start-up
23 of a job training program or for the expansion
24 of an existing model, with smaller grants
25 awarded for the initial start-up and larger

1 grants awarded for the expansion of an existing
2 model; and

3 “(B) in the case of an application for the
4 expansion of an existing job training program,
5 the extent to which the job training program
6 demonstrates evidence of effectiveness.

7 “(3) MEASURING EFFECTIVENESS.—For pur-
8 poses of paragraph (2)(B), the measure of effective-
9 ness shall include the graduation rates, job place-
10 ment rates, and wages earned by graduates of the
11 job training program.

12 “(i) GRANT DURATION.—

13 “(1) MAXIMUM GRANT PERIOD.—The Secretary
14 shall make a grant award under this part for a pe-
15 riod of not more than 3 years.

16 “(2) MAXIMUM GRANT EXTENSION.—If an eli-
17 gible entity that receives a grant under this part
18 makes substantial progress based on the account-
19 ability and performance indicators described in sub-
20 section (j), the Secretary may extend a grant award
21 for not more than 2 additional years.

22 “(j) ACCOUNTABILITY AND PERFORMANCE INDICA-
23 TORS.—

24 “(1) REQUIRED ACCOUNTABILITY AND PER-
25 FORMANCE INDICATORS.—An eligible entity shall

1 provide annually to the Secretary data on the eligi-
2 ble entity's job training program carried out under
3 this part, including—

4 “(A) the number of program participants;

5 “(B) for such program participants, the
6 core indicators of performance described in
7 clauses (i) through (iv) of section 113(b)(2)(B);

8 “(C) the median earnings of program par-
9 ticipants who have completed the job training
10 program, measured at the time at which post-
11 secondary student placement rates are meas-
12 ured under clause (iv) of section 113(b)(2)(B);
13 and

14 “(D) the percentage of program partici-
15 pants who have completed the job training pro-
16 gram and who, at the time at which postsec-
17 ondary student placement rates are measured
18 under clause (iv) of section 113(b)(2)(B), are
19 employed by an employer that meets the re-
20 quirement under subsection (e)(1)(b).

21 “(2) DISAGGREGATION OF ACCOUNTABILITY
22 AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS.—Such data shall
23 be disaggregated by—

24 “(A) race and ethnicity;

25 “(B) gender;

1 “(C) disability status;

2 “(D) sexual orientation, if feasibly avail-
3 able;

4 “(E) status as an English learner;

5 “(F) status as economically disadvantaged;

6 “(G) status as an individual preparing for
7 employment in an in-demand industry sector or
8 occupation, including individuals from a racial,
9 ethnic, or national origin group that is under-
10 represented in such field; and

11 “(H) status as a military-connected stu-
12 dent.

13 “(3) STUDENT PRIVACY.—The report to the
14 Secretary required under paragraph (1) shall only
15 include data to the extent that such data are suffi-
16 cient to yield statistically reliable information that
17 does not reveal personally identifiable information
18 about an individual student.

19 “(4) PUBLICATION OF DATA.—The Secretary
20 shall aggregate the data received under paragraph
21 (1) and publish such aggregation so that it is rea-
22 sonably available to the public.

23 “(5) FUNDS RESERVED FOR DATA COLLECTION
24 AND DISSEMINATION.—An eligible entity that re-
25 ceives a grant under this part may reserve not more

1 than 3 percent of the grant amount to administer
2 the collection, disaggregation, and reporting of the
3 data received under paragraph (1).

4 “(k) RESERVED FUNDS.—

5 “(1) FUNDS RESERVED FOR RURAL, TRIBAL,
6 OR OUTLYING AREAS.—The Secretary shall reserve
7 not less than 1 percent and not more than 10 per-
8 cent of the funds appropriated under subsection (n)
9 to carry out this part for a fiscal year for making
10 awards to eligible entities located in rural, tribal, or
11 outlying areas.

12 “(2) FUNDS RESERVED FOR HISTORICALLY
13 BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER
14 MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary
15 shall reserve not less than 1 percent and not more
16 than 10 percent of the funds appropriated under
17 subsection (n) to carry out this part for a fiscal year
18 for making awards to eligible entities listed in para-
19 graphs (1) through (7) of section 371(a) of the
20 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
21 1067q(a)).

22 “(l) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity that re-
24 ceives a grant under this part shall secure, toward
25 the cost of establishing, redesigning, or expanding a

1 job training program under this part, from non-Fed-
2 eral sources, an amount as determined by the Sec-
3 retary for such eligible entity, except that such
4 amount shall not exceed an amount equal to 25 per-
5 cent of such grant.

6 “(2) NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—The non-
7 Federal contribution may be—

8 “(A) in cash or in the form of in-kind con-
9 tributions that are directly related to the pur-
10 pose for which the grant was made; and

11 “(B) from a State government, local gov-
12 ernment, nonprofit organization, or business.

13 “(m) FEDERAL FUNDS TO SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUP-
14 PLANT, NON-FEDERAL FUNDS.—An eligible entity receiv-
15 ing a grant under this part shall use Federal funds re-
16 ceived under this part only to supplement the funds that
17 would, in the absence of such Federal funds, be made
18 available from non-Federal sources for the support of the
19 job training programs assisted under this part, and not
20 to supplant such funds.

21 **“SEC. 222. DEFINITIONS.**

22 “In this part:

23 “(1) CAREER PATHWAY.—The term ‘career
24 pathway’ has the meaning given that term in the

1 section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
2 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

3 “(2) DISCONNECTED YOUTH.—The term ‘dis-
4 connected youth’ has the meaning given that term in
5 section 526(a) of the Consolidated Appropriations
6 Act, 2014 (42 U.S.C. 12301 note).

7 “(3) IN-DEMAND INDUSTRY SECTOR OR OCCU-
8 PATION.—The term ‘in-demand industry sector or
9 occupation’ has the meaning given that term in sec-
10 tion 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
11 Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

12 “(4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
13 The term ‘institution of higher education’—

14 “(A) has the meaning given the term in
15 section 101 of the Higher Education Act of
16 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001); and

17 “(B) has the meaning given the term in
18 section 102(e) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1002),
19 except that such term only includes postsec-
20 ondary vocational institutions that provide an
21 educational program for which the institutions
22 award an industry-recognized certificate or cer-
23 tification.

24 “(5) MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT.—The
25 term ‘military-connected student’ means a student

1 that is the child of a person serving in the Armed
2 Forces.

3 “(6) NONTRADITIONAL STUDENT.—The term
4 ‘nontraditional student’ has the meaning given that
5 term in section 861(b) of the Higher Education Act
6 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1161q(b)).”.

7 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents
8 in section 1(b) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
9 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 note) is
10 amended—

11 (1) by inserting before the item relating to sec-
12 tion 201 the following new item:

“PART A—TECH PREP PROGRAM”;

13 and

14 (2) by inserting after the item relating to sec-
15 tion 206 the following new items:

“PART B—AMERICAN TECHNICAL TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM

“Sec. 221. Establishment of American Technical Training Grant Program.

“Sec. 222. Definitions.”.

16 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Part A of title II
17 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education
18 Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2371 et seq.), as designated by
19 this Act, is amended by striking “this title” each place
20 it appears and inserting “this part”.

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