

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7421

To authorize a Law Enforcement Education Grant program to encourage students to pursue a career in law enforcement.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 6, 2022

Mrs. FISCHBACH (for herself, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To authorize a Law Enforcement Education Grant program to encourage students to pursue a career in law enforcement.

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 “Law Enforcement  
5 Education Grant Program Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. LAW ENFORCEMENT EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 Part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of  
8 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.) is amended by inserting  
9 at the end of subpart 7 the following new subpart:

1     **“Subpart 8—Law Enforcement Education Grants**

2     **“SEC. 420. LAW ENFORCEMENT EDUCATION GRANT PRO-**  
3             **GRAM ESTABLISHED.**

4             “(a) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—

5                 “(1) PAYMENTS REQUIRED.—The Secretary is  
6             authorized to carry out a Law Enforcement Edu-  
7             cation Grants program to pay to each law enforce-  
8             ment candidate who is selected by the Secretary, on  
9             a competitive basis, to participate in such program,  
10            a Law Enforcement Education Grant in the amount  
11            of \$4,000 for each year during which that candidate  
12            is eligible.

13                 “(2) REFERENCES.—Grants made under para-  
14             graph (1) shall be known as ‘Law Enforcement Edu-  
15             cation Grants’.

16                 “(3) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to  
17             be appropriated \$28,000,000 for fiscal year 2022  
18             and each subsequent fiscal year to provide Law En-  
19             forcement Education Grants in accordance with this  
20             subpart.

21                 “(b) DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS TO LAW ENFORCE-  
22             MENT CANDIDATES.—Payments under this subpart shall  
23             be made, in accordance with regulations promulgated by  
24             the Secretary for such purpose, in such manner as will  
25             best accomplish the purposes of this subpart.

26                 “(c) REDUCTIONS IN AMOUNT.—

1           “(1) PART-TIME STUDENTS.—In any case  
2           where a law enforcement candidate attends an eligi-  
3           ble institution on less than a full-time basis (includ-  
4           ing a law enforcement candidate who attends an eli-  
5           gible institution on less than a half-time basis) dur-  
6           ing any year, the amount of a grant under this sub-  
7           part for which that law enforcement candidate is eli-  
8           gible shall be reduced in proportion to the degree to  
9           which that law enforcement candidate is not attend-  
10          ing on a full-time basis, in accordance with a sched-  
11          ule of reductions established by the Secretary for the  
12          purposes of this subpart, computed in accordance  
13          with this subpart. Such schedule of reductions shall  
14          be established by regulation and published in the  
15          Federal Register in accordance with section 482 of  
16          this Act.

17           “(2) NO EXCEEDING COST.—The amount of a  
18           grant awarded under this subpart, in combination  
19           with Federal student assistance and other student  
20           assistance the law enforcement candidate may re-  
21           ceive, shall not exceed the cost of attendance (as de-  
22           fined in section 472) at the eligible institution at  
23           which that law enforcement candidate is in attend-  
24           ance.

25           “(d) PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANTS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The period during which a  
2 student may receive grants under this subpart shall  
3 be the period required for the completion of the first  
4 associate or baccalaureate course of study related to  
5 law enforcement or criminal justice being pursued by  
6 the law enforcement candidate at the eligible institu-  
7 tion at which the law enforcement candidate is in at-  
8 tendance, except that—

9           “(A) any period during which the law en-  
10 forcement candidate is enrolled in a noncredit  
11 or remedial course of study as described in  
12 paragraph (2) shall not be counted for the pur-  
13 pose of this paragraph; and

14           “(B) the total amount that a law enforce-  
15 ment candidate may receive under this subpart  
16 shall not exceed \$16,000.

17           “(2) REMEDIAL COURSE.—Nothing in this sub-  
18 part shall be construed to exclude from eligibility  
19 courses of study which are noncredit or remedial in  
20 nature (including courses in English language acqui-  
21 sition) which are determined by the eligible institu-  
22 tion to be necessary to help the law enforcement  
23 candidate be prepared for the pursuit of a first asso-  
24 ciate or baccalaureate degree or, in the case of  
25 courses in English language instruction, to be nec-

1        essary to enable the law enforcement candidate to  
2        utilize already existing knowledge, training, or skills.

3        **“SEC. 421. APPLICATIONS; ELIGIBILITY; SELECTION.**

4        “(a) APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall periodi-  
5        cally set dates by which students shall file applications to  
6        complete for grants under this subpart. Each student de-  
7        siring to compete for a grant under this subpart for any  
8        year shall file an application containing such information  
9        and assurances as the Secretary may determine necessary  
10       to enable the Secretary to carry out the functions and re-  
11       sponsibilities of this subpart.

12       “(b) DEMONSTRATION OF GRANT ELIGIBILITY.—  
13       Each application submitted under subsection (a) shall con-  
14       tain such information as is necessary to demonstrate that  
15       the applicant is a student who—

16                “(1) is enrolled at an eligible institution;

17                “(2) is an eligible student for purposes of sec-  
18       tion 484;

19                “(3) is completing coursework and other re-  
20       quirements necessary to begin a career in law en-  
21       forcement or criminal justice, or plans to complete  
22       such coursework and requirements prior to grad-  
23       uating; and

24                “(4) has not obtained an associate or bacca-  
25       laureate degree related to law enforcement or crimi-

1       nal justice before receiving a Law Enforcement Edu-  
2       cation grant.

3       “(c) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall award grants  
4       under this subpart competitively on the basis of criteria  
5       determined by the Secretary by regulation.

6       **“SEC. 422. AGREEMENTS TO SERVE.**

7       “(a) SERVICE AGREEMENTS.—Each application  
8       under section 421(a) shall contain or be accompanied by  
9       an agreement by the applicant that—

10           “(1) if selected to be a law enforcement can-  
11          didate, the applicant will—

12                   “(A) serve as a full-time law enforcement  
13                  officer for a total of not less than 4 years with-  
14                  in 8 years after completing the course of study  
15                  for which the candidate received a Law En-  
16                  forcement Education Grant under this subpart;  
17                  and

18                   “(B) submit evidence of such employment  
19                  in the form of a certification by the chief officer  
20                  of the law enforcement agency or department  
21                  employing the candidate upon completion of  
22                  each year of such service;

23           “(2) in the event that a law enforcement can-  
24          didate is determined to have failed or refused to  
25          carry out such service obligation, the sum of the

1 amounts of any Law Enforcement Education Grants  
2 received by such candidate will be treated as a loan  
3 and collected from the candidate in accordance with  
4 subsection (b) and the regulations thereunder; and

5 “(3) contains, or is accompanied by, a plain-  
6 language disclosure form developed by the Secretary  
7 that clearly describes the nature of the Law En-  
8 forcement Education Grant award, the service obli-  
9 gation, and the loan repayment requirements that  
10 are the consequence of the failure to complete the  
11 service obligation.

12 “(b) REPAYMENT FOR FAILURE TO COMPLETE  
13 SERVICE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In the event that law en-  
15 forcement candidate fails or refuses to comply with  
16 the service obligation in the agreement under sub-  
17 section (a), the sum of the amounts of any Law En-  
18 forcement Education Grants received by such can-  
19 didate shall, upon a determination of such a failure  
20 or refusal in such service obligation, be treated as a  
21 Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under  
22 part D of title IV, and shall be subject to repay-  
23 ment, together with interest thereon accruing from  
24 the date the grant is converted to such a Loan, in

1 accordance with terms and conditions specified by  
2 the Secretary in regulations under this subpart.

3 “(2) EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.—The  
4 Secretary shall establish, by regulation, categories of  
5 extenuating circumstances under which a law en-  
6 forcement candidate who is unable to fulfill all or  
7 part of the candidate’s service obligation may be ex-  
8 cused from fulfilling that portion of the service obli-  
9 gation. Such categories shall ensure that a law en-  
10 forcement candidate who is hired and serves as a  
11 full-time law enforcement officer but is unable to ful-  
12 fill part of the candidate’s service obligation due to  
13 medical discharge by a law enforcement agency or  
14 department because of a medical issue resulting  
15 from service as a law enforcement officer shall be ex-  
16 cused from fulfilling the remaining portion of the  
17 service obligation.

18 **“SEC. 423. DEFINITIONS.**

19 “For the purposes of this subpart:

20 “(1) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term ‘eligi-  
21 ble institution’ means an institution of higher edu-  
22 cation, as defined in section 102, that—

23 “(A) provides an associate or baccalaureate  
24 degree in a field related to law enforcement or  
25 criminal justice; and



1           “(B) has been approved by the Police Offi-  
2           cer Standard and Training Board of the State  
3           in which the institution is located or related  
4           State agency.

5           “(2) LAW ENFORCEMENT CANDIDATE.—The  
6           term ‘law enforcement candidate’ means an indi-  
7           vidual who is selected by the Secretary to receive a  
8           Law Enforcement Education Grant under this sub-  
9           part.

10          “(3) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.—The term  
11          ‘law enforcement officer’ means any officer, agent,  
12          or employee of a State, unit of local government, of  
13          Indian tribe who is authorized to supervise the pre-  
14          vention, detection, or investigation of any violation  
15          of criminal law.”.

16 **SEC. 3. REPEAL OF UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY PRO-**  
17 **GRAMS.**

18          Part U of title VIII of the Higher Education Act of  
19 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1161u) is repealed.

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