

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7488

To increase the total maximum Federal Pell Grant, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 29, 2024

Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself and Mr. SCHIFF) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To increase the total maximum Federal Pell Grant, 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 “Degrees Not Debt Act
5 of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF A FED-**
7 **ERAL PELL GRANT.**

8 (a) AWARD YEAR 2024–2025.—Section 401(b)(7)(C)
9 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
10 1070a(b)(7)(C)) is amended—

1 (1) in clause (i)(I), by striking “clause (iv)(II)”
2 and inserting “clause (v)(II)”;

3 (2) in clause (ii)(I), by striking “clause (iv)(II)”
4 and inserting “clause (v)(II)”;

5 (3) in clause (iii)—

6 (A) in the header, by inserting “THROUGH
7 AWARD YEAR 2023–2024” before the period; and

8 (B) by inserting “through award year
9 2023–2024” after “subsequent award year”;

10 (4) by redesignating clause (iv) as clause (v);

11 and

12 (5) by inserting after clause (iii) the following:

13 “(iv) AWARD YEAR 2024–2025.—For
14 award year 2024–2025, the amount deter-
15 mined under this subparagraph for pur-
16 poses of subparagraph (B)(iii) shall be
17 equal to—

18 “(I) \$14,800; reduced by

19 “(II) the maximum Federal Pell
20 Grant for which a student was eligible
21 for the preceding award year, as spec-
22 ified in the last enacted appropriation
23 Act applicable to that year; and

24 “(III) rounded to the nearest
25 \$5.”.

1 (b) AWARD YEAR 2025–2026 AND SUBSEQUENT
2 AWARD YEARS.—

3 (1) AMENDMENT TO AWARD AMOUNT.—Section
4 401(b)(5)(A) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
5 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(b)(5)(A)), as amended by section
6 703 of the FAFSA Simplification Act (title VII of
7 division FF of Public Law 116–260) and section
8 102(b)(1)(A) of the FAFSA Simplification Act
9 Technical Corrections Act (division R of Public Law
10 117–103), is amended to read as follows:

11 “(A)(i) AWARD YEARS 2024–2025 AND 2025–
12 2026.—For award years 2024–2025 and 2025–
13 2026, the total maximum Federal Pell Grant
14 award per student shall be equal to \$14,800,
15 reduced by the amount specified as the max-
16 imum Federal Pell Grant in the last enacted
17 appropriation Act applicable to that award year.

18 “(ii) SUBSEQUENT AWARD YEARS.—For
19 award year 2026–2027, and each subsequent
20 award year, the total maximum Federal Pell
21 Grant award per student shall be equal to the
22 amount that is equal to \$14,800, increased by
23 a percentage equal to the annual adjustment
24 percentage for the award year for which the
25 amount under this subparagraph is being deter-

1 mined, then reduced by the amount specified as
2 the maximum Federal Pell Grant in the last en-
3 acted appropriation Act applicable to that
4 award year.”.

5 (2) DEFINITION.—Section 401(a)(2) of the
6 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
7 1070a(a)(2)), as amended by section 703 of the
8 FAFSA Simplification Act (title VII of division FF
9 of Public Law 116–260), is amended—

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

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

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

15 “(G) the term ‘annual adjustment percent-
16 age’ as applied to an award year, is equal to the
17 estimated percentage change in the Consumer
18 Price Index (as determined by the Secretary,
19 using the definition in section 478(f)) for the
20 most recent calendar year ending prior to the
21 beginning of that award year.”.

22 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
23 by this subsection shall take effect as if included in
24 section 703 of the FAFSA Simplification Act (title
25 VII of division FF of Public Law 116–260) and in

1 accordance with section 701(b) of such Act, as
2 amended by section 102(a) of the FAFSA Sim-
3 plification Act Technical Corrections Act (division R
4 of Public Law 117–103) (including the authorization
5 provided under section 102(c)(1)(A) of such Act).

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