

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9521

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the eligibility of students to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program, establish college student food insecurity demonstration programs, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

Mrs. HAYES (for herself, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. BUSH, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. OMAR, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. TRONE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. EVANS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

## A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the eligibility of students to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program, establish college student food insecurity demonstration programs, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
3 “Student Food Security Act of 2024”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR NUTRITION ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAMS

Sec. 101. Eligibility of students to participate in supplemental nutrition assist-  
ance program.

Sec. 102. Communication of information on student eligibility for nutrition as-  
sistance programs.

Sec. 103. Demonstration program.

TITLE II—REDUCING STUDENT FOOD INSECURITY

Sec. 201. Data sharing.

Sec. 202. Questions on basic needs in national postsecondary student aid study.

Sec. 203. Grants to support the basic needs of students.

Sec. 204. Effective date.

6 **TITLE I—STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**  
7 **FOR NUTRITION ASSISTANCE**  
8 **PROGRAMS**

9 **SEC. 101. ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN**  
10 **SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE**  
11 **PROGRAM.**

12 (a) DEFINITION OF HOUSEHOLD.—Section 3(m)(4)  
13 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.  
14 2012(m)(4)) is amended—

15 (1) by striking “(4) In no event” and inserting  
16 the following:

17 “(4) INSTITUTION OR BOARDING HOUSE.—

1           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
2           subparagraph (B), in no event”; and

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

4           “(B) STUDENTS.—An individual (including  
5           any dependents of the individual) may con-  
6           stitute a household if the individual is a student  
7           and resident of an institution of higher edu-  
8           cation (as defined in section 102 of the Higher  
9           Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)).”.

10          (b) ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS.—Section 6 of the  
11 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015) is  
12 amended—

13           (1) in the section heading, by inserting  
14           “**QUALIFICATIONS AND**” after “**ELIGIBILITY**”;

15           (2) in subsection (d)(2)(C)—

16                   (A) by inserting “who is” after “student”;

17                   (B) by striking “half time” and inserting  
18                   “half-time”; and

19                   (C) by striking “(except” and all that fol-  
20                   lows through “section)” and inserting “(as de-  
21                   termined by the school, training program, or in-  
22                   stitution of higher education, as applicable) and  
23                   meets the requirements for eligibility under sub-  
24                   section (e)”; and

25           (3) in subsection (e)—

- 1 (A) in paragraph (3)—
- 2 (i) in subparagraph (B), by redesignig-
- 3 nating clauses (i) and (ii) as subclauses (I)
- 4 and (II), respectively, and indenting appro-
- 5 priately; and
- 6 (ii) by redesignating subparagraphs
- 7 (A) through (D) as clauses (i) through
- 8 (iv), respectively, and indenting appro-
- 9 priately;
- 10 (B) in paragraph (5), by redesignating
- 11 subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and
- 12 (ii), respectively, and indenting appropriately;
- 13 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (1)
- 14 through (8) as subparagraphs (A) through (H),
- 15 respectively, and indenting appropriately;
- 16 (D) in subparagraph (D) (as so redesignig-
- 17 nated), by striking “20” and inserting “10”;
- 18 (E) in subparagraph (E)(ii) (as so redesignig-
- 19 nated), by striking “paragraph (4)” and insert-
- 20 ing “subparagraph (D)”;
- 21 (F) in subparagraph (G) (as so redesignig-
- 22 nated), by striking “or” at the end after the
- 23 semicolon;

1 (G) in subparagraph (H) (as so redesignig-  
2 nated), by striking the period at the end and in-  
3 serting a semicolon;

4 (H) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
5 (A) (as so redesignated), by striking “(e) No in-  
6 dividual” and all that follows through “indi-  
7 vidual—” and inserting the following:

8 “(e) QUALIFICATIONS FOR STUDENTS.—A student  
9 enrolled in any recognized school, training program, or in-  
10 stitution of higher education (as defined in section 102  
11 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002))  
12 shall be eligible to participate in the supplemental nutri-  
13 tion assistance program if—

14 “(1) the student satisfies the other require-  
15 ments of this section; and

16 “(2) the student—”; and

17 (I) in paragraph (2) (as so designated), by  
18 adding at the end the following:

19 “(I) is eligible to participate in a State or  
20 federally financed work study program, includ-  
21 ing the program authorized under part C of  
22 title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
23 (20 U.S.C. 1087–51 et seq.);

1           “(J)(i) is not an independent student (as  
2 defined in section 480(d) of the Higher Edu-  
3 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(d))); and

4           “(ii)(I) has a student aid index of not more  
5 than 0, as determined in accordance with part  
6 F of title IV of the Higher Education Act of  
7 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087kk et seq.); or

8           “(II) meets the financial eligibility criteria  
9 for receiving a maximum Federal Pell Grant  
10 under subpart 1 of part A of title IV of the  
11 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
12 1070a et seq.)—

13           “(aa) regardless of whether the stu-  
14 dent has completed the Free Application  
15 for Federal Student Aid described in sec-  
16 tion 483 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 1090); and

17           “(bb) which may be determined by a  
18 State using the income of the student, as  
19 determined under—

20           “(AA) the supplemental nutrition  
21 assistance program or another Fed-  
22 eral or State means-tested program;  
23 or

24           “(BB) another reasonable simpli-  
25 fying assumption; or

1           “(K)(i) is an independent student (as de-  
2           fined in section 480(d) of the Higher Education  
3           Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(d))); and

4           “(ii) is a member of a household otherwise  
5           eligible to participate in the supplemental nutri-  
6           tion assistance program.”.

7 **SEC. 102. COMMUNICATION OF INFORMATION ON STUDENT**  
8           **ELIGIBILITY FOR NUTRITION ASSISTANCE**  
9           **PROGRAMS.**

10       (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11           (1) COLLEGE STUDENT.—The term “college  
12           student” means a student enrolled in an institution  
13           of higher education.

14           (2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
15           term “institution of higher education” has the  
16           meaning given the term in section 102 of the Higher  
17           Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

18           (3) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means  
19           the supplemental nutrition assistance program es-  
20           tablished under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008  
21           (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.).

22           (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
23           the Secretary of Agriculture.

24       (b) STRATEGIES REPORT.—Not later than 180 days  
25       after the effective date of this title, the Secretary shall

1 submit to Congress a report that describes the strategy  
2 to be used by the Secretary—

3 (1) to increase the awareness of State agencies  
4 and institutions of higher education about—

5 (A) college student food insecurity;

6 (B) the eligibility of college students and  
7 their families for the program; and

8 (C) the procedures and resources available  
9 to college students who are not participating in  
10 the program to access benefits under the pro-  
11 gram;

12 (2) to identify—

13 (A) existing or potential informational,  
14 educational, policy, and psychological barriers  
15 to enrolling in the program and barriers to  
16 complying with program requirements;

17 (B) mitigation strategies with respect to  
18 those barriers; and

19 (C) opportunities for collaboration with the  
20 Department of Education, the Department of  
21 Housing and Urban Development, the Depart-  
22 ment of Health and Human Services, and other  
23 relevant Federal agencies; and

24 (3) to update the State Outreach Plan Guid-  
25 ance under subsection (c).



1 (c) UPDATED STATE OUTREACH PLAN GUIDANCE.—

2 Not later than 90 days after the Secretary submits to Con-  
3 gress a report under subsection (b), the Secretary shall  
4 publish an updated State Outreach Plan Guidance that—

5 (1) describes existing data on college student  
6 food insecurity;

7 (2) describes the manner in which college stu-  
8 dents can access the supplemental nutrition assist-  
9 ance program;

10 (3) recommends outreach activities to address  
11 college student food insecurity and encourages  
12 States to conduct those and other outreach activi-  
13 ties;

14 (4) provides a template for a State to submit  
15 information to the Secretary describing the outreach  
16 activities being carried out by the State to address  
17 college student food insecurity; and

18 (5) contains updated guidance based on the  
19 contents of that report.

20 **SEC. 103. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**

21 Section 17 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008  
22 (7 U.S.C. 2026) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
23 lowing:

24 “(o) COLLEGE STUDENT FOOD INSECURITY DEM-  
25 ONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

1           “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

2                   “(A) COLLEGE STUDENT.—The term ‘col-  
3           lege student’ means a student enrolled in an in-  
4           stitution of higher education.

5                   “(B) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—The  
6           term ‘demonstration program’ means the dem-  
7           onstration program established under para-  
8           graph (2).

9                   “(C) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-  
10          CATION.—

11                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘institu-  
12          tion of higher education’ has the meaning  
13          given the term in section 101 of the High-  
14          er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
15          1001).

16                   “(ii) INCLUSION.—The term ‘institu-  
17          tion of higher education’ includes a post-  
18          secondary vocational institution (as defined  
19          in section 102 of the Higher Education  
20          Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)).

21                   “(2) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—Pursuant to  
22          subsection (b), the Secretary, in collaboration with  
23          the Secretary of Education, shall establish a dem-  
24          onstration program under which the Secretary shall

1 carry out demonstration projects in accordance with  
2 paragraph (3)—

3 “(A) to decrease student food insecurity at  
4 institutions of higher education; and

5 “(B) to reduce barriers to college students  
6 fully utilizing supplemental nutrition assistance  
7 program benefits at institutions of higher edu-  
8 cation available to college students and their  
9 families.

10 “(3) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—To carry  
11 out the demonstration program, the Secretary shall  
12 carry out demonstration projects that test the fol-  
13 lowing new supplemental nutrition assistance pro-  
14 gram delivery methods:

15 “(A) Allowing a college student receiving  
16 supplemental nutrition assistance program ben-  
17 efits—

18 “(i) to use those benefits to purchase  
19 prepared foods from a campus dining hall,  
20 on-campus store, or other on-campus mer-  
21 chant or provider that typically sells pre-  
22 pared meals and participates in the stu-  
23 dent meal program at the institution of  
24 higher education at which the student is  
25 enrolled; and

1                   “(ii) to be exempt from requirements  
2                   to purchase a campus meal plan as part of  
3                   the attendance of the college student at the  
4                   institution of higher education.

5                   “(B) Allowing a college student to use an  
6                   EBT card or a campus-specific card at any of  
7                   the locations described in subparagraph (A)(i)  
8                   or a retailer authorized under section 9.

9                   “(4) PROJECT LIMIT.—

10                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
11                   carry out not more than 10 demonstration  
12                   projects under the demonstration program si-  
13                   multaneously.

14                   “(B) INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary shall  
15                   carry out not more than 1 demonstration  
16                   project under the demonstration program at  
17                   any single institution of higher education.

18                   “(5) PRIORITY.—In selecting an institution of  
19                   higher education at which to carry out a demonstra-  
20                   tion project, the Secretary shall give priority to an  
21                   institution of higher education—

22                   “(A) at which not less than 25 percent of  
23                   enrolled students are students that are eligible  
24                   to receive a Federal Pell Grant under subpart

1           1 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education  
2           Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a et seq.); or

3           “(B) that is described in section 371(a) of  
4           the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
5           1067q(a)).

6           “(6) PROJECT ADMINISTRATION.—

7           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
8           establish criteria and parameters for selecting,  
9           operating, monitoring, and terminating each  
10          demonstration project under the demonstration  
11          program.

12          “(B) PRICES CHARGED.—The Secretary  
13          shall ensure that prices charged by food pro-  
14          viders participating in a demonstration project  
15          under the demonstration program are com-  
16          parable to prices charged by those food pro-  
17          viders prior to participation.

18          “(7) PROJECT TERMINATION.—To the max-  
19          imum extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure  
20          that the termination of a demonstration project  
21          under the demonstration program shall not cause  
22          sudden adverse changes, including a reduction of in-  
23          stitutional financial aid or the elimination of benefits  
24          under the supplemental nutrition assistance pro-

1       gram, for students participating in the demonstra-  
2       tion project.

3               “(8) PROGRAM TERMINATION.—The demonstra-  
4       tion program shall terminate on the date that is 10  
5       years after the date on which the demonstration pro-  
6       gram is established.

7               “(9) EVALUATION.—For the duration of the  
8       demonstration program, the Secretary shall, in col-  
9       laboration with the Director of the Institute of Edu-  
10      cation Sciences, conduct an annual evaluation of  
11      each demonstration project carried out under the  
12      demonstration program during the year covered by  
13      the evaluation, including an analysis of the extent to  
14      which the project is meeting the desired outcomes,  
15      which include reduction in food insecurity and im-  
16      proved academic performance.

17              “(10) REPORT.—For the duration of the dem-  
18      onstration program, the Secretary shall submit to  
19      the Committees on Agriculture, Nutrition, and For-  
20      estry and Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
21      of the Senate and the Committees on Agriculture  
22      and Education and Labor of the House of Rep-  
23      resentatives an annual report that includes—

1           “(A) a description of each demonstration  
2 project carried out under the demonstration  
3 program during the year covered by the report;

4           “(B) the evaluation conducted under para-  
5 graph (9); and

6           “(C) recommendations for legislation to  
7 improve the supplemental nutrition assistance  
8 program to better serve college students.

9           “(11) WAIVER AND MODIFICATION AUTHOR-  
10 ITY.—

11           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
12 graph (B), the Secretary may, as may be nec-  
13 essary solely to carry out the demonstration  
14 program—

15           “(i) waive any provision under this  
16 Act, including—

17           “(I) the requirement relating to  
18 local sales tax under section 4(a);

19           “(II) requirements relating to the  
20 issuance and use of supplemental nu-  
21 trition assistance program benefits  
22 under section 7; and

23           “(III) requirements for approval  
24 of retail food stores under section 9;  
25 and

1           “(ii) modify the definitions under this  
2           Act for the purposes of the demonstration  
3           program, including the definitions of the  
4           terms ‘food’, ‘household’, and ‘retail food  
5           store’ under section 3.

6           “(B) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may  
7           not waive a provision or modify a definition  
8           under subparagraph (A) if the waiver or modi-  
9           fication will—

10           “(i) cause increased difficulty for any  
11           household to apply for or access supple-  
12           mental nutrition assistance program bene-  
13           fits; or

14           “(ii) reduce the value of those benefits  
15           for any household.

16           “(12) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—  
17           There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-  
18           retary such sums as are necessary to carry out this  
19           subsection.”.

## 20       **TITLE II—REDUCING STUDENT** 21       **FOOD INSECURITY**

### 22       **SEC. 201. DATA SHARING.**

23           (a) AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of Education, in  
24           coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Sec-  
25           retary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary



1 of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of the  
2 Treasury, and the head of any other applicable Federal  
3 or State agency, shall maintain agreements—

4           (1) to securely share data among the respective  
5 Federal agencies of such Secretaries in order to  
6 identify students who have applied for Federal fi-  
7 nancial aid and who are enrolled at institutions of  
8 higher education (as defined in section 102 of the  
9 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002))  
10 who may be eligible for federally funded programs to  
11 support basic needs through—

12           (A) the supplemental nutrition assistance  
13 program established under the Food and Nutri-  
14 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), a nu-  
15 trition assistance program carried out under  
16 section 19 of such Act (7 U.S.C. 2028), or a  
17 nutrition assistance program carried out by the  
18 Secretary of Agriculture in the Northern Mar-  
19 iana Islands;

20           (B) the supplemental security income pro-  
21 gram under title XVI of the Social Security Act  
22 (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.);

23           (C) the program of block grants to States  
24 for temporary assistance for needy families

1 under part A of title IV of the Social Security  
2 Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);

3 (D) the special supplemental nutrition pro-  
4 gram for women, infants, and children estab-  
5 lished by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act  
6 of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786);

7 (E) the Medicaid program under title XIX  
8 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et  
9 seq.);

10 (F) Federal housing assistance programs,  
11 including tenant-based assistance under section  
12 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937  
13 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)), and public housing, as  
14 defined in section 3(b)(1) of such Act (42  
15 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(1));

16 (G) Federal child care assistance pro-  
17 grams, including assistance under the Child  
18 Care and Development Block Grant Act of  
19 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.) and the Child  
20 Care Access Means Parents in School Program  
21 under section 419N of the Higher Education  
22 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070e);

23 (H) the free and reduced price school  
24 lunch program established under the Richard

1 B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42  
2 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.);

3 (I) refundable credit for coverage under a  
4 qualified health plan under section 36B of the  
5 Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

6 (J) the Earned Income Tax Credit under  
7 section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code of  
8 1986;

9 (K) the Child Tax Credit under section 24  
10 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or

11 (L) any other federally funded program de-  
12 termined by the Secretary to be appropriate;  
13 and

14 (2) to coordinate efforts to provide assistance to  
15 institutions of higher education to facilitate the en-  
16 rollment of eligible students in the programs de-  
17 scribed in paragraph (1).

18 (b) INFORMATION ON FEDERALLY FUNDED PRO-  
19 GRAMS TO SUPPORT BASIC NEEDS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 483 of the Higher  
21 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090) is amended  
22 by adding at the end the following:

23 “(e) INFORMATION ON FEDERALLY FUNDED PRO-  
24 GRAMS TO SUPPORT BASIC NEEDS.—

25 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

1           “(A) BENEFIT PROGRAM.—The term ‘ben-  
2           efit program’ means a program described in  
3           any of subparagraphs (A) through (L) of sec-  
4           tion 201(a)(1) of the Student Food Security  
5           Act of 2024.

6           “(B) ELIGIBLE STUDENT.—The term ‘eli-  
7           gible student’ means any student who, as a re-  
8           sult of information submitted on the application  
9           for Federal student financial aid, has been de-  
10          termined by the Secretary (in consultation with  
11          the heads of applicable Federal agencies) to be  
12          potentially eligible for a benefit program.

13          “(2) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—For each  
14          year for which an eligible student submits an appli-  
15          cation for Federal student financial aid, the Sec-  
16          retary shall send, in written and electronic form, to  
17          the eligible student information regarding potential  
18          eligibility for assistance under, and application proc-  
19          ess for, benefit programs.

20          “(3) INCLUSION.—The information provided  
21          under paragraph (2) shall include a description of  
22          the appropriate State or Federal resources to which  
23          to apply for each benefit program.”.

24          “(2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Edu-  
25          cation shall consult with the Secretary of Agri-

1 culture, the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-  
2 ices, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Develop-  
3 ment, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the head  
4 of any other applicable Federal or State agency, in  
5 designing the written and electronic communication  
6 regarding potential eligibility for assistance under,  
7 and application process for, the benefit programs (as  
8 defined in subsection (e)(1) of section 483 of the  
9 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090)).

10 (c) FURTHER INFORMATION ON FEDERALLY FUND-  
11 ED PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT BASIC NEEDS.—Section 483  
12 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090)  
13 is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a)(2)(E)—

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

17 (B) in clause (ii), by striking the period at  
18 the end and inserting “; and”; and

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

20 “(iii) an authorization under subpara-  
21 graph (D) and disclosing the information  
22 as described in clause (ii), the Secretary  
23 shall provide the applicant with notification  
24 of the appropriate Federal or State re-  
25 sources necessary to apply for Federal and

1 State programs that support basic needs.”;

2 and

3 (2) in subsection (c)(3)—

4 (A) by striking “may enter” and inserting  
5 “shall enter”; and

6 (B) by inserting “, and shall consult with  
7 the heads of applicable Federal agencies in de-  
8 signing the written and electronic communica-  
9 tion regarding potential eligibility for assistance  
10 under such programs” after “may be eligible”.

11 (d) REPORT.—The Secretary of Education, in coordi-  
12 nation with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of  
13 Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Health  
14 and Human Services, the Secretary of the Treasury, and  
15 the head of any other applicable Federal or State agency,  
16 shall prepare and submit to Congress a report that pre-  
17 sents summary statistics on students who have applied for  
18 Federal financial aid and who are enrolled at institutions  
19 of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the High-  
20 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)) and are expe-  
21 riencing student food insecurity and housing insecurity,  
22 disaggregated by race and ethnicity, income quintile, sta-  
23 tus as a first generation college student, Federal Pell  
24 Grant eligibility status, disability status, status as a stu-  
25 dent parent, sex (including sexual orientation and gender

1 identity), and other subgroups, as determined by such  
2 heads of agencies.

3 **SEC. 202. QUESTIONS ON BASIC NEEDS IN NATIONAL POST-**  
4 **SECONDARY STUDENT AID STUDY.**

5 The Secretary of Education shall permanently add to  
6 the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study validated  
7 questions that measure food security, housing security,  
8 and homelessness.

9 **SEC. 203. GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE BASIC NEEDS OF STU-**  
10 **DENTS.**

11 Title VIII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
12 U.S.C. 1161a et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
13 the following:

14 **“PART BB—GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE BASIC**  
15 **NEEDS OF STUDENTS**

16 **“SEC. 899. GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE BASIC NEEDS OF STU-**  
17 **DENTS.**

18 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 “(1) BASIC NEEDS.—The term ‘basic needs’,  
20 with respect to a student, means the physiological  
21 and safety necessities that are central conditions for  
22 the student to learn, including—

23 “(A) nutritious and sufficient food;

1           “(B) safe, secure, and adequate housing  
2           (including to sleep, to study, to cook, and to  
3           shower);

4           “(C) health care to promote sustained  
5           mental and physical well-being;

6           “(D) high-quality and affordable childcare;

7           “(E) affordable technology and internet ac-  
8           cess;

9           “(F) accessible transportation;

10          “(G) personal hygiene and clothing; and

11          “(H) other costs described in paragraphs  
12          (2) through (14) of section 472(a).

13          “(2) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—

14                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘community  
15                 college’ means—

16                         “(i) a public institution of higher edu-  
17                         cation at which—

18                                 “(I) the highest degree awarded  
19                                 is an associate degree; or

20                                 “(II) an associate degree is the  
21                                 most frequently awarded degree, in-  
22                                 cluding a 2-year Tribal College or  
23                                 University (as defined in section 316);



1 “(ii) a public postsecondary vocational  
2 institution (as defined in section 102(c));  
3 or

4 “(iii) at the designation of the Sec-  
5 retary, in the case of a State in which  
6 there is no community college operated or  
7 controlled by the State that meets a defini-  
8 tion under clause (i) or (ii), a college or  
9 similarly defined and structured academic  
10 entity—

11 “(I) that was in existence on  
12 July 1, 2023;

13 “(II) within a public 4-year insti-  
14 tution of higher education; and

15 “(III) at which—

16 “(aa) the highest degree  
17 awarded is an associate degree;  
18 or

19 “(bb) an associate degree is  
20 the most frequently awarded de-  
21 gree.

22 “(3) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term ‘eligi-  
23 ble institution’ means an institution of higher edu-  
24 cation (as defined in section 101 or 102(a)(1)(B)).

25 “(b) PLANNING GRANTS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award  
2           planning grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible  
3           institutions to enable the eligible institutions to con-  
4           duct research and planning in accordance with para-  
5           graph (2)—

6                   “(A) to reduce incidences of—

7                           “(i) student food insecurity;

8                           “(ii) student housing insecurity; and

9                           “(iii) students experiencing homeless-  
10                   ness; and

11                   “(B) to meet other basic needs of students.

12           “(2) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible institution receiv-  
13           ing a grant under this subsection shall use grant  
14           funds to carry out the following activities:

15                   “(A) Establish a basic needs steering com-  
16                   mittee that will be—

17                           “(i) responsible for developing and ap-  
18                           proving the basic needs strategy described  
19                           in subparagraph (C); and

20                           “(ii) comprised of relevant campus  
21                           stakeholders, such as—

22                                   “(I) students who have experi-  
23                                   enced challenges in meeting basic  
24                                   needs;

1 “(II) student government rep-  
2 resentatives;

3 “(III) staff of the eligible institu-  
4 tion representing the areas of student  
5 financial aid, housing, dining, student  
6 affairs, academic advising, equity sup-  
7 port services, accessibility services,  
8 campus security, legal services, and  
9 health and well-being services (includ-  
10 ing counseling or psychological serv-  
11 ices);

12 “(IV) faculty;

13 “(V) relevant administrators, in-  
14 cluding local human services adminis-  
15 trators;

16 “(VI) community-based and  
17 other nonprofit organizations; and

18 “(VII) representatives from local  
19 governmental agencies.

20 “(B) Conduct research regarding—

21 “(i) the level of unmet basic needs at  
22 the eligible institution, disaggregated by  
23 race and ethnicity, income quintile, status  
24 as a first generation college student (as de-  
25 fined in section 402A(h)), Federal Pell

1 Grant eligibility status, disability status,  
2 status as a student parent, sex (including  
3 sexual orientation and gender identity), or  
4 other subgroup as determined by the eligi-  
5 ble institution;

6 “(ii) the presence of institutional bar-  
7 riers (such as award displacement) and  
8 current institutional interventions to ad-  
9 dress basic needs insecurity;

10 “(iii) the presence of administrative  
11 barriers for students in applying, certifying  
12 eligibility, and renewing applications for  
13 means-tested benefits, and interventions to  
14 address such barriers;

15 “(iv)(I) the resources and activities  
16 available to address basic needs of stu-  
17 dents, both on campus and off campus, as  
18 of the date of the research; and

19 “(II) the impact of such resources and  
20 activities; and

21 “(v) opportunities for coordination  
22 and collaboration between the eligible insti-  
23 tution and government or community-  
24 based organizations, such as—

1           “(I) the local office that admin-  
2           isters benefits under the supplemental  
3           nutrition assistance program estab-  
4           lished under the Food and Nutrition  
5           Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.)  
6           and carries out employment and train-  
7           ing programs under that Act, or the  
8           temporary assistance for needy fami-  
9           lies program and subsidized programs  
10          that meet the work requirements  
11          under part A of title IV of the Social  
12          Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);

13           “(II) organizations that partici-  
14          pate in the Federal work-study pro-  
15          gram under part C of title IV; or

16           “(III) low-income housing assist-  
17          ance organizations, including such or-  
18          ganizations assisting with tenant-  
19          based assistance under section 8(o) of  
20          the United States Housing Act of  
21          1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)), and pub-  
22          lic housing (as defined in section 3(b)  
23          of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b))).

1           “(C) Develop a basic needs strategy that  
2 describes the means by which the eligible insti-  
3 tution will—

4           “(i) seek to address or meet the basic  
5 needs of students through on-campus and  
6 off-campus providers; and

7           “(ii) incorporate the research con-  
8 ducted under subparagraph (B), including  
9 with respect to the subgroups identified  
10 under clause (i) of that subparagraph, into  
11 the basic needs strategy.

12           “(D) Implement the strategy described in  
13 subparagraph (C), including by—

14           “(i) conducting outreach to encourage  
15 students to participate in programs that  
16 provide basic needs or reduce basic needs  
17 insecurity;

18           “(ii) educating students about Fed-  
19 eral, State, local, and Tribal assistance  
20 programs, supporting student applications  
21 for those programs, and providing case  
22 management and training for students to  
23 maximize the assistance that students and  
24 their families receive to reduce basic needs  
25 insecurity;

1           “(iii) coordinating and collaborating  
2           with Federal, State, local, and Tribal agen-  
3           cies or community-based organizations;

4           “(iv) hiring and training personnel to  
5           build infrastructure and implement pro-  
6           gramming to reduce basic needs insecurity  
7           at the eligible institution; and

8           “(v) carrying out other matters deter-  
9           mined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

10          “(3) GRANT AMOUNTS; DURATION.—

11           “(A) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant  
12           under this subsection shall be not more than  
13           \$75,000.

14           “(B) DURATION.—A grant under this sub-  
15           section shall be for a period of not more than  
16           2 years.

17          “(4) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after  
18           the end of the planning grant period under this sub-  
19           section, each eligible institution that receives such a  
20           grant shall submit to the Secretary a report that de-  
21           scribes the outcomes of the planning grant, regard-  
22           less of whether the eligible institution intends to  
23           apply for an implementation grant.

24          “(c) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

25           “(1) AWARD.—

1           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
2           award implementation grants, on a competitive  
3           basis, to eligible institutions to enable the eligi-  
4           ble institutions to develop infrastructure to  
5           meet the basic needs of students by—

6                   “(i) implementing—

7                           “(I) a basic needs strategy devel-  
8                           oped under subsection (b)(2)(C); or

9                           “(II) another existing basic needs  
10                          plan approved by the Secretary; and

11                          “(ii) carrying out the activities de-  
12                          scribed in paragraph (2).

13           “(B) ONGOING EXTERNAL FUNDING.—To  
14           be eligible to receive an implementation grant  
15           under this paragraph, an eligible institution  
16           shall identify, in the application for the grant,  
17           an ongoing non-Federal funding mechanism to  
18           support the activities carried out using grant  
19           funds after the expiration of the grant period.

20           “(2) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible institution receiv-  
21           ing a grant under this subsection shall use the grant  
22           funds to carry out at least 2 of the following activi-  
23           ties:

24                          “(A) Providing to eligible students free or  
25                          subsidized food, secure sleeping arrangements,



1 temporary housing, priority access to existing  
2 on-campus child care, and other basic needs.

3 “(B) Conducting outreach to students to  
4 reduce stigma associated with, and educate and  
5 encourage students to participate in, programs  
6 and services (including programs and services  
7 provided through grant funding) to meet basic  
8 needs.

9 “(C) Educating students about public as-  
10 sistance programs (including State and local  
11 public assistance programs, the supplemental  
12 nutrition assistance program under the Food  
13 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et  
14 seq.), Federal housing assistance programs, and  
15 other income-based Federal assistance pro-  
16 grams), supporting student applications for  
17 those programs, and providing case manage-  
18 ment and training for students to maximize the  
19 public assistance that students and their fami-  
20 lies receive to meet basic needs.

21 “(D) Coordination and collaboration be-  
22 tween the eligible institution and government or  
23 community-based organizations, such as the  
24 local office that administers benefits through  
25 the supplemental nutrition assistance program

1 under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7  
2 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) or a low-income housing  
3 assistance organization.

4 “(E) Purchasing materials, equipment,  
5 transportation, or facilities to reduce incidences  
6 of food and housing insecurity and address the  
7 basic needs of students at the eligible institu-  
8 tion.

9 “(F) Hiring and training personnel to  
10 build and improve basic needs infrastructure  
11 and implement programming to provide assist-  
12 ance in applying for, and accessing, direct sup-  
13 port services, financial assistance, or means-  
14 tested benefits programs to meet the basic  
15 needs of students.

16 “(G) Other activities or services deter-  
17 mined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

18 “(3) GRANT AMOUNTS; DURATION.—

19 “(A) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant  
20 under this subsection shall be not more than  
21 \$1,000,000 for each 5-year period.

22 “(B) DURATION.—A grant under this sub-  
23 section shall be for a period of 5 years.

24 “(4) REPORT.—The Secretary shall prepare  
25 and submit to Congress a report that describes—

1           “(A) the impact on eligible students of  
2 grants provided under this subsection;

3           “(B) the obstacles faced by recipients of  
4 grants under this subsection;

5           “(C) successful outcomes of grants under  
6 this subsection;

7           “(D) best practices for the provision of  
8 basic services to eligible students; and

9           “(E) Federal and State policy barriers to  
10 meeting the basic needs of students at institu-  
11 tions of higher education.

12           “(5) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary shall  
13 disseminate to eligible institutions information about  
14 best practices, as described in paragraph (4)(D).

15           “(6) EVALUATION.—For the purpose of evalu-  
16 ating the effectiveness of funds awarded under this  
17 subsection, the Secretary shall conduct an evaluation  
18 of each grant under this subsection to determine the  
19 impact on students, including improvements in re-  
20 tention, progression, transfer, attainment, and basic  
21 needs security, as applicable.

22           “(d) RESERVATION; PRIORITY; EQUITABLE DIS-  
23 TRIBUTION.—

24           “(1) RESERVATION.—In awarding grants under  
25 subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary shall reserve—

1           “(A) an amount equal to not less than 25  
2           percent of the total amount available for grants  
3           under those subsections for grant awards to  
4           community colleges; and

5           “(B) an amount equal to not less than 25  
6           percent of the total amount available for grants  
7           under those subsections for grant awards to  
8           historically Black colleges and universities,  
9           Tribal Colleges and Universities, and other mi-  
10          nority-serving institutions.

11          “(2) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under  
12          subsection (b) and (c), the Secretary shall give pri-  
13          ority to the following:

14                 “(A) Eligible institutions with respect to  
15                 which not fewer than 25 percent of enrolled  
16                 students are students that are eligible to receive  
17                 a Federal Pell Grant under subpart 1 of part  
18                 A of title IV.

19                 “(B) Eligible institutions described in sec-  
20                 tion 371(a).

21          “(3) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—In awarding  
22          grants under subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary  
23          shall ensure an equitable distribution of grant  
24          awards to eligible institutions in States, based on  
25          State population.

1 “(e) PERSONNEL EXPENSES LIMITATIONS.—

2 “(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—An eligible institu-  
3 tion that receives a planning grant under subsection  
4 (b) may use not more than 50 percent of grant  
5 funds for personnel expenses.

6 “(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—An eligible  
7 institution that receives an implementation grant  
8 under subsection (c) may use not more than 75 per-  
9 cent of grant funds for personnel expenses.

10 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
11 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
12 \$1,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through  
13 2031, of which—

14 “(1) \$40,000,000 is authorized to be appro-  
15 priated to provide planning grants under subsection  
16 (b); and

17 “(2) \$960,000,000 is authorized to be appro-  
18 priated to provide implementation grants under sub-  
19 section (c).”.

20 **SEC. 204. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

21 This title and the amendments made by this title  
22 shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the  
23 date of enactment of this Act.

○