

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2670

To award career pathways innovation grants to local educational agencies and consortia of local educational agencies, to provide technical assistance within the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education to administer the grants and support the local educational agencies with the preparation of grant applications and management of grant funds, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to support community college and industry partnerships, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 23, 2019

Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To award career pathways innovation grants to local educational agencies and consortia of local educational agencies, to provide technical assistance within the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education to administer the grants and support the local educational agencies with the preparation of grant applications and management of grant funds, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to support community college and industry partnerships, 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.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “21st Century Work-
3 force Partnerships Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **ESEA DEFINITIONS.**—The terms “elemen-
7 tary school”, “high school”, “local educational agen-
8 cy”, “middle grades”, and “secondary school” have
9 the meanings given the terms in section 8101 of the
10 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
11 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

12 (2) **BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY PARTNER.**—The
13 term “business or industry partner” means—

14 (A) a business;

15 (B) an industry or sector partnership, as
16 defined in section 3 of the Workforce Innova-
17 tion and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102);

18 (C) an association of multiple businesses
19 or other employers in an in-demand industry
20 sector or occupation, as defined in section 3 of
21 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
22 (29 U.S.C. 3102);

23 (D) a community partner;

24 (E) an intermediary organization; or

25 (F) a labor management training partner-
26 ship.

1 (3) CAREER PATHWAY.—The term “career
2 pathway” has the meaning given the term in section
3 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
4 (29 U.S.C. 3102).

5 (4) COMMUNITY PARTNER.—The term “com-
6 munity partner” means a nonprofit organization or
7 a State, local, or tribal government entity that has
8 expertise—

9 (A) in the planning and delivery of edu-
10 cation, career training, and related programs;

11 (B) in forging coordination and coopera-
12 tion between educators and other members of
13 the community;

14 (C) in training educators and other
15 deliverers of educational services;

16 (D) in development and implementation of
17 data systems that measure the progress of stu-
18 dents, schools, and institutions of higher edu-
19 cation, or career pathways programs; or

20 (E) in delivering an increase in earnings,
21 family incomes, or family resources.

22 (5) ELIGIBLE AGENCY.—The term “eligible
23 agency” means—

24 (A) a local educational agency;

1 (B) a consortium of local educational agen-
2 cies or an agent operating on behalf of the con-
3 sortium; or

4 (C) a school operated or funded by the Bu-
5 reau of Indian Education.

6 (6) INDIAN.—The term “Indian” has the mean-
7 ing given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-
8 Determination and Education Assistance Act (25
9 U.S.C. 5304).

10 (7) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
11 term “institution of higher education” has the
12 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher
13 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

14 (8) INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATION.—The term
15 “intermediary organization” means a nonprofit orga-
16 nization that has expertise in training, forging pub-
17 lic-private partnerships, systems development, capac-
18 ity-building, improving scalability, and evaluation.

19 (9) LABOR MANAGEMENT TRAINING PARTNER-
20 SHIP.—The term “labor management training part-
21 nership” means an independent organization jointly
22 controlled by employers and unions that supports
23 workforce training and development.

24 (10) NATIVE HAWAIIAN.—The term “Native
25 Hawaiian” has the meaning given the term in sec-

1 tion 6207 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
2 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7517).

3 (11) PROGRAM OF STUDY.—The term “pro-
4 gram of study” means a State approved career and
5 technical education program of courses that articu-
6 lates between secondary and postsecondary school.

7 (12) REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PRO-
8 GRAM.—The term “registered apprenticeship pro-
9 gram” means a program registered under the Act of
10 August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the “National
11 Apprenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29
12 U.S.C. 50 et seq.).

13 (13) SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP.—The term “school
14 partnership” means a partnership that—

15 (A) shall include, at a minimum—

16 (i) an eligible agency; and

17 (ii) one or more business or industry
18 partners; and

19 (B) may also include one or more of the
20 following partners:

21 (i) A community-based organization.

22 (ii) A joint labor-management part-
23 nership.

24 (iii) An institution of higher edu-
25 cation.

1 (iv) A State board or local board (as
 2 such terms are defined in section 3 of the
 3 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
 4 (29 U.S.C. 3102)).

5 (v) An apprenticeship college (as de-
 6 fined as an institution partnership that is
 7 registered under the Act of August 16,
 8 1937 (commonly known as the “National
 9 Apprenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664, chapter
 10 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.) and is an insti-
 11 tution of higher education (as defined in
 12 section 101(a) of the Higher Education
 13 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))).

14 (vi) Any other entity that the Sec-
 15 retary, after consultation with the Sec-
 16 retary of Labor, considers appropriate.

17 (14) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
 18 means the Secretary of Education.

19 **SEC. 3. SECONDARY SCHOOL TO CAREER PATHWAYS INNO-**
 20 **VATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

21 (a) CAREER PATHWAYS INNOVATION GRANT PRO-
 22 GRAM ESTABLISHED.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made avail-
 24 able to carry out this section, the Secretary, after
 25 consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall es-

1 establish a career pathways innovation grant program,
2 through which the Secretary shall award grants, on
3 a competitive basis, to eligible agencies for the pur-
4 pose of addressing the specialized skill needs of busi-
5 ness and industry by carrying out programs of study
6 or career pathways programs, featuring school part-
7 nerships, that support career pathways in high
8 school or career exploration in the middle grades,
9 leading to higher subsequent employment and job
10 quality.

11 (2) DURATION.—A grant awarded under this
12 section—

13 (A) shall be for a period of 3 years; and

14 (B) may be renewed for one additional 2-
15 year period, if the eligible agency demonstrates
16 sufficient progress in achieving the goals of the
17 initial grant.

18 (b) APPLICATION.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible agency desiring a
20 grant under this section shall submit to the Sec-
21 retary an application at such time, in such manner,
22 and containing such information as the Secretary
23 may require.

1 (2) CONTENTS; PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT.—

2 The application submitted under paragraph (1) shall
3 include—

4 (A) an initial partnership agreement, en-
5 tered into by the eligible agency and all mem-
6 bers of the school partnership, that—

7 (i) specifies the duties and responsibil-
8 ities of each partner;

9 (ii) describes the commitment of re-
10 sources or materials to be provided by each
11 partner toward the school partnership, en-
12 suring that the business or industry part-
13 ners in the school partnership provide an
14 amount of resources, in cash or in-kind, to-
15 ward the activities supported under the
16 grant that equals or exceeds the amount
17 contributed by the eligible agency and the
18 amount to be provided by the grant under
19 this section; and

20 (iii) describes how the overall goals of
21 the school partnership align with any
22 statewide, regional, or local workforce de-
23 velopment strategies in existence at the
24 time of the application, including those es-
25 tablished under the Workforce Innovation

1 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et
2 seq.) or the Carl D. Perkins Career and
3 Technical Education Act of 2006 (20
4 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

5 (B) a description of how the eligible agency
6 and members of the school partnership will col-
7 laborate to ensure the quality of the career
8 pathways program offered under the grant, in-
9 cluding any program that leads to an industry-
10 recognized credential or postsecondary credit
11 leading to a degree or certification in a career
12 pathway;

13 (C) identification of the goals and meas-
14 ures used to define progress toward student
15 outcomes, which may align with existing goals
16 and measurement provided under the Elemen-
17 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
18 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), the Carl D. Perkins Ca-
19 reer and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20
20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), and the Workforce Inno-
21 vation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et
22 seq.); and

23 (D) a strategic plan describing the role
24 and activities of the eligible agency and all
25 members of the school partnership in sup-

1 porting how the program will be sustained fol-
2 lowing the end of the grant.

3 (3) METHODS THAT MEASURE JOB QUALITY.—

4 The application submitted under paragraph (1) may
5 include a description of how the school partnership
6 will experiment with methods that measure job qual-
7 ity.

8 (c) AWARD BASIS.—In awarding grants under this
9 section, the Secretary shall—

10 (1) ensure that, to the extent practicable based
11 on the applications received under subsection (b)—

12 (A) not less than 15 percent of the grant
13 funds available to carry out this section are
14 awarded to rural eligible agencies; and

15 (B) not less than 5 percent of the grant
16 funds available to carry out this section are
17 awarded to eligible agencies that serve a sub-
18 stantial percentage of Indian or Native Hawai-
19 ian children; and

20 (2) except to the extent necessary to comply
21 with paragraph (1), give priority to—

22 (A) any eligible agency whose school part-
23 nership includes an institution of higher edu-
24 cation offering postsecondary credits, or an en-
25 tity offering a registered apprenticeship pro-

1 gram that is articulated through secondary
2 school programming counting towards the reg-
3 istered apprenticeship requirements, through
4 the career pathways program under the grant;

5 (B) any eligible agency whose career path-
6 ways program—

7 (i) in a high school, offers concurrent
8 enrollment opportunities for postsecondary
9 credit; or

10 (ii) leads to a recognized postsec-
11 ondary credential, as defined in section 3
12 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
13 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102); and

14 (C) any eligible agency whose career path-
15 ways programs are focused on serving low-in-
16 come students (defined as eligible for benefits
17 under the free and reduced price school lunch
18 program established under the Richard B. Rus-
19 sell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C.
20 1751 et seq.)), out-of-school youth, students
21 with disabilities, students experiencing home-
22 lessness, students who are English language
23 learners, students who have low levels of lit-
24 eracy, or youth who are in or have aged out of
25 the foster care system.

1 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—

2 (1) REQUIRED USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible
3 agency receiving grant funds under this section shall
4 use grant funds to build or expand a career path-
5 ways program featuring school partnerships that
6 supports career pathways in high school or career
7 exploration in the middle grades.

8 (2) PERMISSIVE USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible
9 agency receiving grant funds under this section may
10 use grant funds either during or outside of the
11 school day or school year—

12 (A) to hire a designated career pathways
13 partnership coordinator to seek out and build
14 relationships with business or industry partners
15 to foster and manage the school partnerships
16 supported under the grant;

17 (B) for the costs of new equipment, infra-
18 structure (such as facilities, technology, and
19 staffing), or transportation related to the career
20 pathways program;

21 (C) to recruit, or assist with State licen-
22 sure and credential requirements, career and
23 technical education teachers, and others imple-
24 menting career pathways programs;

1 (D) to train or support the professional de-
2 velopment of career and technical education
3 teachers, and others implementing career path-
4 ways programs, including providing externship
5 opportunities for educators to spend time in in-
6 dustry;

7 (E) for youth apprenticeship, pre-appren-
8 ticeship training, internship, or experiential
9 learning opportunities;

10 (F) to provide, as part of the career path-
11 ways program, coursework that awards postsec-
12 ondary credit at no cost to high school students;

13 (G) to support development of curricula
14 that offer industry-recognized credentials; and

15 (H) to experiment with methods that
16 measure job quality.

17 (e) REQUIREMENTS.—

18 (1) MATCHING FUNDS.—An eligible agency that
19 receives a grant under this section shall provide, to-
20 ward the cost of the activities assisted under the
21 grant and from non-Federal sources, an amount
22 equal to or greater than the amount of the grant.
23 Such matching amount may be in cash or in-kind
24 (including leveraged staff time) and shall include
25 support from business or industry partners of a

1 school partnership in accordance with the partner-
2 ship agreement described in subsection (b)(2).

3 (2) PARTICIPATION OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY
4 PARTNER.—In any case where a business or indus-
5 try partner included in an initial partnership agree-
6 ment described in subsection (b)(2)(A) withdraws
7 from a school partnership supported under a grant
8 under this section, the eligible agency shall notify
9 the Secretary immediately of the withdrawal and of
10 the eligible agency’s plan for obtaining a comparable
11 business or industry partner.

12 (f) REPORTS.—

13 (1) ELIGIBLE AGENCY REPORTS.—

14 (A) INTERIM REPORTS.—By not later than
15 18 months after receiving a grant under this
16 section, the eligible agency shall submit a report
17 to the Secretary demonstrating that the eligible
18 agency is achieving sufficient progress toward
19 the goals of the grant.

20 (B) FINAL REPORTS.—Each eligible agen-
21 cy receiving a grant under this section shall
22 prepare and submit to the Secretary a final re-
23 port regarding the use of funds for the grant,
24 including the outcomes of the activities assisted

1 under the grant, by not later than 90 days after
2 the end of the grant period.

3 (2) SECRETARY REPORTS.—The Secretary shall
4 prepare and submit to Congress, on an annual basis,
5 a report regarding the grant program under this sec-
6 tion that includes a summary of the reports received
7 under paragraph (1) during the preceding year and
8 the outcomes resulting from the use of grant funds.

9 **SEC. 4. CAREER PATHWAYS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the
11 Assistant Secretary of Career, Technical, and Adult Edu-
12 cation, shall—

13 (1) administer and manage the career pathways
14 innovation grants awarded under section 3;

15 (2) provide technical assistance to eligible agen-
16 cies preparing grant applications under section 3(b);
17 and

18 (3) support career pathways partnership coordi-
19 nators, or other personnel of eligible agencies that
20 have received a grant under section 3, in order to
21 ensure that—

22 (A) the eligible agency participates in the
23 required school partnership; and

24 (B) the grant results in positive program
25 outcomes.

1 (b) DESIGNATED PERSONNEL FOR RURAL AND NA-
 2 TIVE-SERVING APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall des-
 3 ignate not less than 1 employee of the Office of Career,
 4 Technical, and Adult Education who will exclusively sup-
 5 port rural and native-serving eligible agencies with the
 6 preparation of grant applications under section 3(b) and
 7 the development of school partnerships necessary to apply
 8 for and implement a grant under section 3.

9 **SEC. 5. COLLEGE TO CAREER PATHWAYS INNOVATION**
 10 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

11 Title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
 12 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
 13 the following:

14 **“PART H—COLLEGE TO CAREER PATHWAYS**
 15 **INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM**

16 **“SEC. 399A. COLLEGE AND INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS PRO-**
 17 **GRAM.**

18 “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—Not later than the end
 19 of the first full fiscal year after the date of enactment of
 20 the 21st Century Workforce Partnerships Act, from funds
 21 appropriated under section 399B, the Secretary (in coordi-
 22 nation with the Secretary of Labor) shall award competi-
 23 tive grants to eligible entities described in subsection (b)
 24 for the purpose of developing, offering, improving, and
 25 providing educational or career training programs for stu-

1 dents, including working students. The grants shall be
 2 awarded for periods of 3 years and may be renewed for
 3 1 additional 2-year period, if the eligible entity dem-
 4 onstrates sufficient progress in achieving the goals of the
 5 initial grant period.

6 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

7 “(1) PARTNERSHIPS WITH EMPLOYERS OR AN
 8 EMPLOYER OR INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP.—

9 “(A) GENERAL DEFINITION.—For pur-
 10 poses of this section, an ‘eligible entity’ means
 11 any of the entities described in subparagraph
 12 (B) (or a consortium of any of such entities) in
 13 partnership with employers or an employer or
 14 industry partnership representing multiple em-
 15 ployers.

16 “(B) DESCRIPTION OF ENTITIES.—The en-
 17 tities described in this subparagraph are—

18 “(i) a community college;

19 “(ii) a 4-year public institution of
 20 higher education (as defined in section
 21 101(a)) that offers 2-year degrees, and
 22 that will use funds provided under this sec-
 23 tion for activities at the certificate and as-
 24 sociate degree levels;

1 “(iii) a Tribal College or University
2 (as defined in section 316(b));

3 “(iv) an apprenticeship college (as de-
4 fined as an institution partnership that is
5 registered under the Act of August 16,
6 1937 (commonly known as the ‘National
7 Apprenticeship Act’; 50 Stat. 664, chapter
8 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.) and is an insti-
9 tution of higher education (as defined in
10 section 101(a))); or

11 “(v) a public or private nonprofit, 2-
12 year institution of higher education (as de-
13 fined in section 102) in the Commonwealth
14 of Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States
15 Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Com-
16 monwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-
17 lands, the Republic of the Marshall Is-
18 lands, the Federated States of Micronesia,
19 or the Republic of Palau.

20 “(2) ADDITIONAL PARTNERS.—

21 “(A) AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL
22 PARTNERS.—In addition to partnering with em-
23 ployers or an employer or industry partnership
24 representing multiple employers as described in
25 paragraph (1)(A), an entity described in para-

1 graph (1) may include in the partnership de-
2 scribed in paragraph (1) one or more of the or-
3 ganizations described in subparagraph (B).
4 Each eligible entity that includes one or more
5 such organizations shall collaborate with the
6 State board or local board in the area served by
7 the eligible entity.

8 “(B) ORGANIZATIONS.—The organizations
9 described in this subparagraph are as follows:

10 “(i) A provider of adult education (as
11 defined in section 203 of the Adult Edu-
12 cation and Family Literacy Act (29 U.S.C.
13 3272)) or an institution of higher edu-
14 cation (as defined in section 101).

15 “(ii) A community-based organization.

16 “(iii) A joint labor-management part-
17 nership.

18 “(iv) A State board or local board.

19 “(v) A State higher education board.

20 “(vi) An elementary school or sec-
21 ondary school, as defined in section 8101
22 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
23 cation Act of 1965.

24 “(vii) Any other organization that the
25 Secretaries consider appropriate.

1 “(c) EDUCATIONAL OR CAREER TRAINING PRO-
2 GRAM.—For purposes of this section, the Governor of the
3 State in which at least one of the entities described in sub-
4 section (b)(1)(B) of an eligible entity is located shall es-
5 tablish criteria for an educational or career training pro-
6 gram leading to a recognized postsecondary credential that
7 leads to higher subsequent employment and job quality for
8 which an eligible entity submits a grant proposal under
9 subsection (d).

10 “(d) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity seeking a
11 grant under this section shall submit an application con-
12 taining a grant proposal, for an educational or career
13 training program leading to a recognized postsecondary
14 credential, to the Secretaries at such time and containing
15 such information as the Secretaries determine is required,
16 including—

17 “(1) a detailed description of—

18 “(A) the extent to which the educational or
19 career training program described in the grant
20 proposal aligns with—

21 “(i) an overall strategic plan devel-
22 oped by the eligible entity or entities;

23 “(ii) a statewide, regional, or local
24 workforce development plan in existence at
25 the time of the application, including a

1 plan established under the Workforce Inno-
2 vation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
3 3101 et seq.) or the Carl D. Perkins Ca-
4 reer and Technical Education Act of 2006
5 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

6 “(iii) in-demand industry sectors or
7 occupations, as defined by the State or
8 designated governing board, as appro-
9 priate, or postsecondary credit leading to a
10 degree or certification in a career pathway;
11 and

12 “(iv) goals and measurement used to
13 define progress toward student outcomes
14 in existence on the date of submission,
15 which may align with the Carl D. Perkins
16 Career and Technical Education Act of
17 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), and the
18 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
19 (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.);

20 “(B) the extent to which the program will
21 meet the needs of employers in the area for
22 skilled workers in in-demand industry sectors or
23 occupations;

1 “(C) the extent to which the program will
2 meet the educational or career training needs of
3 students in the area;

4 “(D) the specific educational or career
5 training program and how the program meets
6 the criteria established under subsection (e), in-
7 cluding the manner in which the grant will be
8 used to develop, offer, improve, and provide the
9 educational or career training program;

10 “(E) any previous experience of the eligible
11 entity in providing educational or career train-
12 ing programs, the absence of which shall not
13 automatically disqualify an eligible institution
14 from receiving a grant under this section;

15 “(F) how the program leading to the cre-
16 dential meets the criteria described in sub-
17 section (e); and

18 “(G) how attaining the credential will help
19 participants reach higher subsequent employ-
20 ment and job quality; and

21 “(2) a detailed plan on how the entity will en-
22 sure that the program will meet the performance
23 measures described in subsection (g), and an assur-
24 ance that the entity will annually submit to the Sec-
25 retary information on the performance of the pro-

1 gram on the performance measures described in sub-
2 section (g).

3 “(e) CRITERIA FOR AWARD.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Grants under this section
5 shall be awarded based on criteria established by the
6 Secretaries, that include the following:

7 “(A) A determination of the merits of the
8 grant proposal submitted by the eligible entity
9 involved to develop, offer, improve, and provide
10 an educational or career training program to be
11 made available to students.

12 “(B) An assessment of the likely employ-
13 ment opportunities available in the area to indi-
14 viduals who complete an educational or career
15 training program that the eligible entity pro-
16 poses to develop, offer, improve, and provide.

17 “(C) An assessment of prior demand for
18 training programs by individuals eligible for
19 training and served by the eligible entity, as
20 well as availability and capacity of existing (as
21 of the date of the assessment) training pro-
22 grams to meet future demand for training pro-
23 grams.

1 “(2) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this
2 section, the Secretaries shall give priority to eligible
3 entities that—

4 “(A) include a partnership, with employers
5 or an employer or industry partnership, that—

6 “(i) pays a portion of the costs of
7 educational or career training programs;

8 “(ii) agrees to hire individuals who
9 have attained a recognized postsecondary
10 credential resulting from the educational or
11 career training program of the eligible en-
12 tity; or

13 “(iii) include an educational entity
14 that has sought and received bonding au-
15 thority to fund partnerships program;

16 “(B) enter into a partnership with a labor
17 organization or labor-management training pro-
18 gram to provide, through the program, tech-
19 nical expertise for occupationally specific edu-
20 cation necessary for a recognized postsecondary
21 credential leading to a skilled occupation in an
22 in-demand industry sector or occupation;

23 “(C) are focused on serving individuals
24 with barriers to employment, students who are
25 veterans, spouses of members of the Armed

1 Forces, individuals who are basic-skills defi-
2 cient, and first-generation college students;

3 “(D) include any eligible entities serving
4 areas with high unemployment rates;

5 “(E) are eligible entities that include an
6 institution of higher education eligible for as-
7 sistance under this title or title V; and

8 “(F) ensure geographic diversity, including
9 appropriate representation of rural areas.

10 “(f) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds awarded under
11 this section shall be used for one or more of the following:

12 “(1) The development, offering, improvement,
13 and provision of educational or career training pro-
14 grams, that provide relevant job training for skilled
15 occupations, that lead to recognized postsecondary
16 credentials, that will meet the needs of employers in
17 in-demand industry sectors or occupations, and that
18 may include registered apprenticeship programs, on-
19 the-job training programs, and programs that sup-
20 port employers in upgrading the skills of their work-
21 force.

22 “(2) The development and implementation of
23 policies and programs to expand opportunities for
24 students to earn a recognized postsecondary creden-

1 tial, including a degree, in in-demand industry sec-
2 tors or occupations, including by—

3 “(A) facilitating the transfer of academic
4 credits between institutions of higher education,
5 including the transfer of academic credits for
6 courses in the same field of study;

7 “(B) expanding access to college-level,
8 transferable coursework, which may include co-
9 ordination related to transfers of credit between
10 institutions or common course numbering or
11 use of a general core curriculum;

12 “(C) developing or enhancing student sup-
13 port services programs; and

14 “(D) establishing policies and processes for
15 assessing and awarding course credit for work-
16 related learning.

17 “(3) The creation of career pathways programs
18 that provide a sequence of education and occupa-
19 tional training that leads to a recognized postsec-
20 ondary credential, including a degree, including pro-
21 grams that—

22 “(A) blend basic skills and occupational
23 training;

24 “(B) facilitate means of transitioning par-
25 ticipants from non-credit occupational, basic

1 skills, or developmental coursework to for-credit
2 coursework within and across institutions;

3 “(C) build or enhance linkages, including
4 the development of dual enrollment programs
5 and early college high schools, between sec-
6 ondary education or adult education programs
7 (including programs established under the Carl
8 D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act
9 of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) and title II
10 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
11 Act (29 U.S.C. 3271 et seq.);

12 “(D) are innovative programs designed to
13 increase the provision of training for students,
14 including students who are members of the Na-
15 tional Guard or Reserves, to enter skilled occu-
16 pations in in-demand industry sectors or occu-
17 pations;

18 “(E) support paid internships that will
19 allow students to simultaneously earn credit for
20 work-based learning and gain relevant employ-
21 ment experience in an in-demand industry sec-
22 tor or occupation, which shall include opportu-
23 nities that transition individuals into employ-
24 ment; and

1 “(F) develop competency-based education
2 programs that offer an outcome-oriented ap-
3 proach through which recognized postsecondary
4 credentials are awarded based on successful
5 demonstration of skills and proficiency.

6 “(4) The development and implementation of—

7 “(A) a Pay-for-Performance program that
8 leads to a recognized postsecondary credential,
9 for which an eligible entity agrees to be reim-
10 bursed under the grant primarily on the basis
11 of achievement of specified performance out-
12 comes and criteria agreed to by the Secretary;
13 or

14 “(B) a Pay-for-Success program that leads
15 to a recognized postsecondary credential, for
16 which an eligible entity—

17 “(i) enters into a partnership with an
18 investor, such as a philanthropic organiza-
19 tion that provides funding for a specific
20 project to address a clear and measurable
21 educational or career training need in the
22 area to be served under the grant; and

23 “(ii) agrees to be reimbursed under
24 the grant only if the project achieves speci-

1 fied performance outcomes and criteria
2 agreed to by the Secretary.

3 “(5) The development of a multiple measures of
4 job quality dashboard that experiments with dif-
5 ferent metrics to measure job quality.

6 “(g) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
8 lish performance measures for the programs carried
9 out under this section.

10 “(2) MEASURES.—The performance measures
11 shall consist of—

12 “(A) indicators of performance, including
13 the number of program participants who are in
14 unsubsidized employment during the second
15 quarter after exit from the program;

16 “(B) a level of performance for each indi-
17 cator described in subparagraph (A); and

18 “(C) analysis of the income of program
19 participants during the second quarter after
20 exit from the program compared to the dis-
21 tribution of earnings across the workforce in
22 the State and the region during that same time
23 period.

24 “(3) MONITORING PROGRESS.—The Secretary
25 shall monitor the progress of eligible entities that re-

1 ceive grants under this section in ensuring that their
2 programs meet the performance measures.

3 **“SEC. 399B. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-
5 propriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out
6 the program established by section 399A. Funds appro-
7 priated under this subsection shall remain available until
8 the end of the 5th full fiscal year after the date of enact-
9 ment of the 21st Century Workforce Partnerships Act.

10 “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE COST.—Not more than 5 per-
11 cent of the amounts made available under subsection (a)
12 may be used by the Secretaries for Federal administration
13 the program described in that subsection, including pro-
14 viding technical assistance and carrying out evaluations
15 for the program described in that subsection.

16 “(c) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY.—The funds appro-
17 priated pursuant to subsection (a) for a fiscal year shall
18 be available for Federal obligation for that fiscal year and
19 the succeeding 4 fiscal years.

20 **“SEC. 399C. DEFINITIONS.**

21 “In this part:

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The terms ‘basic skills defi-
23 cient’, ‘in-demand industry sector or occupation’, ‘in-
24 dividual with a barrier to employment’, ‘local board’,
25 ‘recognized postsecondary credential’, and ‘State

1 board' have the meanings given the terms in section
2 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
3 (29 U.S.C. 3102).

4 “(2) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term ‘com-
5 munity college’ has the meaning given the term ‘jun-
6 ior or community college’ in section 312(f).

7 “(3) EDUCATIONAL OR CAREER TRAINING PRO-
8 GRAM.—The term ‘educational or career training
9 program’ means—

10 “(A) a career pathways program, as de-
11 fined in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation
12 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102); or

13 “(B) a program with an integrated edu-
14 cation and training approach, as defined in sec-
15 tion 203 of the Adult Education and Family
16 Literacy Act (29 U.S.C. 3272).”.

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