

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5252

To amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to award competitive grants for the purpose of developing, offering, improving, and providing educational or career pathway programs for workers, to direct the Secretary of Education to establish a program that awards grants to State coalitions that build or expand career pathways programs in schools within the State, and to establish a program that awards grants to eligible agencies to carry out career pathways programs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

Mr. HARDER of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to award competitive grants for the purpose of developing, offering, improving, and providing educational or career pathway programs for workers, to direct the Secretary of Education to establish a program that awards grants to State coalitions that build or expand career pathways programs in schools within the State, and to establish a program that awards grants to eligible agencies to carry out career pathways 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Connecting Students  
5 to Great Jobs Act”.

6 **TITLE I—SHORT-TERM ACCEL-**  
7 **ERATED RESKILLING TRACKS**  
8 **CAREER PATHWAYS**

9 **SEC. 101. START PATHWAYS TO CAREERS FUND.**

10 Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
11 Act (29 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.) is amended by adding at  
12 the end the following:

13 **“Subtitle F—START Pathways to**  
14 **Careers Fund**

15 **“SEC. 199. START PATHWAYS TO CAREERS PROGRAM.**

16 “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—Not later than the end  
17 of the first full fiscal year after the date of enactment of  
18 the Connecting Students to Great Jobs Act, from funds  
19 appropriated under section 200(a)(1), the Secretary of  
20 Labor (in coordination with the Secretary of Education)  
21 shall award competitive grants to eligible entities described  
22 in subsection (c) for the purpose of developing, offering,  
23 improving, and providing educational or career pathway  
24 programs for workers.

25 “(b) DURATION.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries may award  
2           a grant to an eligible entity for not more than a 6-  
3           year period.

4           “(2) CONTINUATION OF GRANTS.—At the end  
5           of the initial 3-year grant period for a grant award-  
6           ed to an eligible entity under this section, the Sec-  
7           retary shall evaluate, using the performance indica-  
8           tors under subsection (h), each program for which  
9           the eligible entity was awarded such grant to deter-  
10          mine if eligible entity is eligible to receive such grant  
11          for an additional 3-year grant period.

12          “(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

13                 “(1) PARTNERSHIPS WITH EMPLOYERS OR AN  
14                 EMPLOYER OR INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP.—

15                         “(A) GENERAL DEFINITION.—For pur-  
16                         poses of this section, an ‘eligible entity’ means  
17                         any of the entities described in subparagraph  
18                         (B) (or a consortium of any of such entities) in  
19                         partnership with local employers or a local em-  
20                         ployer or local industry partnership rep-  
21                         resenting multiple employers.

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

24                                 “(i) a junior college or a community  
25                                 college (as defined under section 316 of

1 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
2 U.S.C. 1059c) to mean public 2-year State  
3 institutions of higher education at which  
4 the highest degree that is predominantly  
5 awarded to students is an associate's de-  
6 gree, including 2-year tribally controlled  
7 colleges);

8 “(ii) a 4-year public institution of  
9 higher education (as defined in section  
10 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of  
11 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))) that offers 2-  
12 year degrees, and that will use funds pro-  
13 vided under this section for activities at  
14 the certificate and associate degree levels;  
15 or

16 “(iii) a postsecondary vocational insti-  
17 tution, as defined in section 102(c) of the  
18 Higher Education Act of 1965.

19 “(2) ADDITIONAL PARTNERS.—

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

1 in the partnership described in paragraph (1)  
2 one or more of the organizations described in  
3 subparagraph (B). Each eligible entity that in-  
4 cludes one or more such organizations shall col-  
5 laborate with the State or local board in the  
6 area served by the eligible entity.

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

9 “(i) A provider of adult education (as  
10 defined in section 203) or an institution of  
11 higher education (as defined in section 101  
12 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
13 U.S.C. 1001)).

14 “(ii) A community-based organization.

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

17 “(iv) A State board that oversees  
18 higher education.

19 “(v) A State educational agency (as  
20 defined in section 8101 of the Elementary  
21 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
22 U.S.C. 7801)).

23 “(vi) An elementary school or sec-  
24 ondary school (as such terms are defined  
25 in section 8101 of the Elementary and

1 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
2 U.S.C. 7801)).

3 “(vii) A local educational agency (as  
4 defined in section 8101 of the Elementary  
5 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20  
6 U.S.C. 7801)).

7 “(viii) A State-based education fo-  
8 cused nonprofit.

9 “(ix) An educational service agency  
10 (as defined in section 8101 of the Elemen-  
11 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965  
12 (20 U.S.C. 7801)).

13 “(x) Any other not-for-profit or com-  
14 munity-based organization, with a proven  
15 record on job training (as determined by  
16 the Secretaries), that the Secretaries con-  
17 sider appropriate.

18 “(d) EDUCATIONAL OR CAREER PATHWAY PRO-  
19 GRAM.—For purposes of this section, the Governor of the  
20 State in which at least one of the entities described in sub-  
21 section (c) of an eligible entity is located shall establish  
22 criteria for an educational or career training pathway pro-  
23 gram leading to a recognized postsecondary credential for  
24 which an eligible entity submits a grant proposal under  
25 subsection (e).

1       “(e) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity seeking a  
2 grant under this section shall submit an application con-  
3 taining a grant proposal, for an educational or career  
4 pathway program leading to a recognized postsecondary  
5 credential, to the Secretaries at such time and containing  
6 such information as the Secretaries determine is required.

7       “(f) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-  
8 tion, the Secretaries shall give priority to eligible entities  
9 that—

10               “(1) include a partnership, with local employers  
11 or a local employer or local industry partnership,  
12 that—

13                       “(A) pays a portion of the costs of edu-  
14 cational or career pathway programs; or

15                       “(B) creates a career pathway by sup-  
16 porting employers who hire individuals who  
17 have attained a recognized postsecondary cre-  
18 dential resulting from the educational or career  
19 training pathway program of the eligible entity;

20               “(2) enter into a partnership with a labor orga-  
21 nization or labor-management training program to  
22 provide, through the program, technical expertise for  
23 occupationally specific education necessary for a rec-  
24 ognized postsecondary credential leading to an occu-

1       pation in a local high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand  
2       industry sector or occupation;

3           “(3) are focused on serving individuals with  
4       barriers to employment, students who are veterans  
5       including, active duty servicemembers who are other-  
6       wise eligible for educational assistance under chapter  
7       30 of title 38, United States Code, spouses of mem-  
8       bers of the Armed Forces, children of members of  
9       the Armed Forces, and incumbent workers who are  
10      low-skilled and who need to increase their work-re-  
11      lated skills;

12          “(4) include any eligible entities serving areas  
13      with high unemployment rates; and

14          “(5) are eligible entities that include an institu-  
15      tion of higher education eligible for assistance under  
16      title III or V of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
17      (20 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.; 20 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

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

20          “(1) The development, offering, improvement,  
21      and provision of educational or career pathway pro-  
22      grams, that provide relevant job training for skilled  
23      occupations, that lead to recognized postsecondary  
24      credentials, that will meet the needs of employers in  
25      high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand sectors or occu-



1 pations (such as nursing, health care, agriculture,  
2 horticulture, food, natural resources, fire science,  
3 building trades, labor, computer science, and infor-  
4 mation technology) and that may include registered  
5 apprenticeship programs, on-the-job training pro-  
6 grams, and programs that support employers in up-  
7 grading the skills of their workforce.

8 “(2) The development and implementation of  
9 policies and programs to expand opportunities for  
10 students to earn a recognized postsecondary creden-  
11 tial, including a degree, in high-skill, high-wage, or  
12 in-demand industry sectors or occupations, including  
13 by—

14 “(A) facilitating the transfer of academic  
15 credits between institutions of higher education,  
16 including the transfer of academic credits for  
17 courses in the same field of study;

18 “(B) expanding articulation agreements  
19 and policies that guarantee transfers between  
20 such institutions, including through common  
21 course numbering and use of a general core  
22 curriculum;

23 “(C) developing or enhancing student sup-  
24 port services; and

1           “(D) establishing policies and processes for  
2           assessing and awarding course credit for work-  
3           related learning.

4           “(3) The creation of career pathway programs  
5           that provide a sequence of education and occupa-  
6           tional training that leads to a recognized postsec-  
7           ondary credential, including a degree, including pro-  
8           grams that—

9           “(A) blend basic skills and occupational  
10          training;

11          “(B) facilitate means of transitioning par-  
12          ticipants from non-credit occupational, basic  
13          skills, or developmental coursework to for-credit  
14          coursework within and across institutions;

15          “(C) build or enhance linkages, including  
16          the development of dual enrollment programs  
17          and early college high schools, between sec-  
18          ondary education or adult education programs  
19          (including programs established under the Carl  
20          D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act  
21          of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) and title II  
22          of this Act);

23          “(D) are innovative programs designed to  
24          increase the provision of training for students,  
25          including students who are members of the Na-

1           tional Guard or Reserves, to enter high-skill,  
2           high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors or oc-  
3           cupations;

4           “(E) support paid internships that will  
5           allow students to simultaneously earn credit for  
6           work-based learning and gain relevant employ-  
7           ment experience in a high-skill, high-wage, or  
8           in-demand industry sector or occupation, which  
9           shall include opportunities that transition indi-  
10          viduals into employment; and

11          “(F) develop competency-based education  
12          programs that offer an outcome-oriented ap-  
13          proach through which recognized postsecondary  
14          credentials are awarded based on successful  
15          demonstration of skills and proficiency.

16          “(4) A Pay-for-Success program that leads to a  
17          recognized postsecondary credential, for which an el-  
18          igible entity—

19               “(A) enters into a partnership with an in-  
20               vestor, such as a philanthropic organization  
21               that provides funding for a specific project to  
22               address a clear and measurable educational or  
23               career training need in the area to be served  
24               under the grant; and

1           “(B) agrees to be reimbursed under the  
2           grant only if the project achieves specified per-  
3           formance outcomes and criteria agreed to by  
4           the Secretary.

5   **“SEC. 200. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

6           “(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

7           “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be  
8           appropriated such sums as may be necessary to  
9           carry out the program established by section 199.  
10          Funds appropriated under this subsection shall re-  
11          main available until the end of the 5th full fiscal  
12          year after the date of enactment of the Connecting  
13          Students to Great Jobs Act.

14          “(2) ADMINISTRATIVE COST.—Not more than 5  
15          percent of the amounts made available under para-  
16          graph (1) may be used by the Secretaries for Fed-  
17          eral administration of the program described in that  
18          subsection, including providing technical assistance  
19          and carrying out evaluations for the program de-  
20          scribed in that subsection.

21          “(3) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY.—The funds ap-  
22          propriated pursuant to paragraph (1) for a fiscal  
23          year shall be available for Federal obligation for that  
24          fiscal year and the succeeding 4 fiscal years.

1       “(b) SECRETARIES DEFINED.—In this subtitle, the  
2 term ‘Secretaries’ means the Secretary of Labor and the  
3 Secretary of Education.”.

4       **SEC. 102. START (SHORT-TERM ACCELERATED RESKILLING**  
5                               **TRACKS) PATHWAYS TO CAREERS FEDERAL**  
6                               **PELL GRANTS.**

7       (a) AMENDMENTS FOR AWARD YEARS BEGINNING  
8 ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2021, AND ENDING NOT  
9 LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2023.—Section 401 of the Higher  
10 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–1) is amended  
11 by adding at the end the following:

12       “(k) START FEDERAL PELL GRANT APPLICA-  
13 TIONS.—

14               “(1) IN GENERAL.— For the award years be-  
15 ginning on or after October 1, 2021, and ending not  
16 later than June 30, 2023, the Secretary shall carry  
17 out a program through which the Secretary shall  
18 award START Federal Pell Grants to students in el-  
19 igible short-term programs.

20               “(2) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Each START  
21 Federal Pell Grant awarded under this subsection  
22 shall have the same terms and conditions, and be  
23 awarded in the same manner, as a Federal Pell  
24 Grant awarded under subsection (a), except as fol-  
25 lows:

1           “(A) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY.—A student  
2           who is eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant  
3           under this subsection is a student who—

4                   “(i) has not yet attained a bacca-  
5                   laureate degree or postbaccalaureate de-  
6                   gree; and

7                   “(ii) is enrolled, or accepted for en-  
8                   rollment, in an eligible short-term program  
9                   at an institution of higher education.

10           “(B) GRANT AMOUNT.—The amount of a  
11           START Federal Pell Grant awarded under this  
12           subsection for an eligible student shall be deter-  
13           mined under subsection (b)(2)(A), except  
14           that—

15                   “(i) subsection (b)(4) shall be applied  
16                   by substituting ‘5 percent’ for ‘ten per-  
17                   cent’; and

18                   “(ii) no increase shall be calculated  
19                   under subsection (b)(7)(B) for such stu-  
20                   dent.

21           “(C) INCLUSION IN DURATION LIMITS.—  
22           Any period during which a student receives a  
23           START Federal Pell Grant under this sub-  
24           section shall be included in calculating the stu-  
25           dent’s period of eligibility for Federal Pell

1 Grants under subsection (c), and any regula-  
2 tions under such subsection regarding students  
3 who are enrolled in an undergraduate program  
4 on less than a full-time basis shall similarly  
5 apply to students who are enrolled in an eligible  
6 short-term program at an eligible institution on  
7 less than a full-time basis.

8 “(D) EFFECT ON DISCONTINUED PARTICI-  
9 PATION.—An eligible student who receives a  
10 START Federal Pell Grant under this sub-  
11 section shall receive such grant during the pe-  
12 riod in which the student is enrolled in a short-  
13 term program for which the student receives  
14 such grant and is making satisfactory academic  
15 progress, without regard to whether the short-  
16 term program ceases to be eligible for participa-  
17 tion in the START Federal Pell Grant program  
18 under this subsection.

19 “(3) ELIGIBLE SHORT-TERM PROGRAM RE-  
20 QUIREMENTS.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—To be an eligible  
22 short-term program for purposes of this sub-  
23 section, the Secretary shall determine that a  
24 short-term program meets the following:

1 “(i) The short-term program is made  
2 available to workers in the geographic area  
3 in which the program is offered.

4 “(ii) The short-term program pre-  
5 pares participants for employment oppor-  
6 tunities in high-skill, high-wage, or in-de-  
7 mand sectors or occupations in such geo-  
8 graphic area.

9 “(iii) The short-term program meets  
10 any other requirements that the Secretary  
11 determines appropriate.

12 “(B) TERMINATION OF ELIGIBLE SHORT-  
13 TERM PROGRAM STATUS.—A short-term pro-  
14 gram may cease to be an eligible short-term  
15 program for purposes of this subsection if not  
16 less than 2 annual evaluations under paragraph  
17 (4) for such program demonstrate that the pro-  
18 gram does not meet the performance outcomes  
19 established by the Secretary on the metrics de-  
20 scribed in paragraph (4)(B)(ii).

21 “(4) EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS.—

22 “(A) REPORTS.—Not later than 3 years  
23 after the date that the first Federal Pell Grant  
24 is awarded under this subsection, and on an an-  
25 nual basis thereafter, the Secretary, in con-



1           sultation with the Director of the Institute of  
2           Education Sciences, shall evaluate each short-  
3           term program participating under this sub-  
4           section in accordance with subparagraph (B),  
5           and report the results of such evaluation to the  
6           authorizing committees.

7           “(B) EVALUATION OF PROGRAMS.—An  
8           evaluation of a short-term program under sub-  
9           paragraph (A) shall—

10                   “(i) evaluate the extent to which such  
11                   short-term program meets the require-  
12                   ments under paragraph (3); and

13                   “(ii) include both qualitative and  
14                   quantitative evidence of—

15                           “(I) the program’s alignment  
16                           with workforce needs, including place-  
17                           ment and retention in jobs related to  
18                           the training provided by the program;

19                           “(II) the effect, if any, this pro-  
20                           gram has on matriculation of students  
21                           attending 4-year institutions;

22                           “(III) the extent to which stu-  
23                           dents have sought a higher credential  
24                           or degree or military service;

1 “(IV) employment rates after  
2 program completion;

3 “(V) earnings (either average  
4 earnings of completers or the share of  
5 completers earning more than the av-  
6 erage high school graduate);

7 “(VI) program completion rates;  
8 and

9 “(VII) rates of continued edu-  
10 cation of those who have completed  
11 the program.

12 “(5) SUNSET.—The Secretary shall not have  
13 the authority to award Federal Pell Grants under  
14 this subsection after the date that is 7 years after  
15 the date of enactment of the Connecting Students to  
16 Great Jobs Act.

17 “(6) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

18 “(A) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDU-  
19 CATION.—The term ‘career and technical edu-  
20 cation’ has the meaning given the term in sec-  
21 tion 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-  
22 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

23 “(B) HIGH-SKILL; HIGH-WAGE.—The  
24 terms ‘high-skill’ and ‘high-wage’ are used as  
25 such terms are used in the Carl D. Perkins Ca-

1 career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20  
2 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

3 “(C) JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.—The term  
4 ‘job training program’ means a career and tech-  
5 nical education program at an institution of  
6 higher education that—

7 “(i) provides not less than 150 clock  
8 hours of instructional time over a period of  
9 not less than 8 weeks;

10 “(ii) provides training in partnership  
11 with the requirements of employers in the  
12 State or local area, which may include  
13 high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand sectors  
14 or occupations in the State or local area;

15 “(iii) provides a student, upon comple-  
16 tion of the program, with a recognized  
17 postsecondary credential, that is widely  
18 recognized by local employers in the rel-  
19 evant industry, including credentials recog-  
20 nized by industry or sector partnerships in  
21 the State or local area where the industry  
22 is located;

23 “(iv) utilizes work-based and worksite  
24 learning experiences, where appropriate  
25 and available, that—

1                   “(I) are related to the employ-  
2                   ment for which the program provides  
3                   training (such as employment in a  
4                   sector or occupation described in  
5                   clause (ii)); and

6                   “(II) are supervised by an indi-  
7                   vidual with expertise in the field; and

8                   “(v) has been determined by the insti-  
9                   tution of higher education (after validation  
10                  of that determination by an industry or  
11                  sector partnership) to provide academic  
12                  content, an amount of instructional time,  
13                  and a recognized postsecondary credential  
14                  that—

15                  “(I) meet the hiring requirements  
16                  of potential local employers;

17                  “(II) allow the students to apply  
18                  for any licenses or certifications that  
19                  may be required to be employed in the  
20                  local field for which the job training is  
21                  offered;

22                  “(III) may include integrated or  
23                  basic skills courses; and

1 “(IV) may be offered as part of  
2 an eligible local eligible career path-  
3 ways program.

4 “(D) SHORT-TERM PROGRAM.—The term  
5 ‘short-term program’ means—

6 “(i) a career and technical education  
7 program that provides more than 320  
8 clock hours and less than 600 clock hours  
9 of instruction;

10 “(ii) an educational or career pathway  
11 program that is part of a career pathway;  
12 or

13 “(iii) a job-training program.

14 “(E) WIOA TERMS.—The terms ‘career  
15 pathway’, ‘in-demand industry sector or occupa-  
16 tion’, and ‘recognized postsecondary credential’  
17 have the meanings given the terms in section 3  
18 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity  
19 Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).”.

20 (b) AWARD YEARS BEGINNING ON OR AFTER JULY  
21 1, 2023.—Section 401 of the Higher Education Act of  
22 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–1), as amended by section 703  
23 of the FAFSA Simplification Act (title VII of division FF  
24 of Public Law 116–260), is further amended by adding  
25 at the end the following:

1       “(k) START FEDERAL PELL GRANT APPLICA-  
2 TIONS.—

3               “(1) IN GENERAL.—For the award years begin-  
4 ning on or after July 1, 2023, the Secretary shall  
5 carry out a program through which the Secretary  
6 shall award START Federal Pell Grants to students  
7 in eligible short-term programs.

8               “(2) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Each START  
9 Federal Pell Grant awarded under this subsection  
10 shall have the same terms and conditions, and be  
11 awarded in the same manner, as a Federal Pell  
12 Grant awarded under subsection (a), except as fol-  
13 lows:

14               “(A) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY.—A student  
15 who is eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant  
16 under this subsection is a student who—

17                       “(i) has not yet attained a bacca-  
18 laurate degree or postbaccalaureate de-  
19 gree; and

20                       “(ii) is enrolled, or accepted for en-  
21 rollment, in an eligible short-term program  
22 at an institution of higher education.

23               “(B) GRANT AMOUNT.—The amount of a  
24 START Federal Pell Grant awarded under this

1 subsection for an eligible student shall be deter-  
2 mined under subsection (b)(1), except that—

3 “(i) subsection (a)(2)(F) shall be ap-  
4 plied by substituting ‘5 percent’ for ‘ten  
5 percent’; and

6 “(ii) (b)(5)(A)(i) shall not apply in  
7 calculating the total maximum Federal Pell  
8 Grant award for such student.

9 “(C) INCLUSION IN DURATION LIMITS.—

10 Any period during which a student receives a  
11 START Federal Pell Grant under this sub-  
12 section shall be included in calculating the stu-  
13 dent’s period of eligibility for Federal Pell  
14 Grants under subsection (c), and any regula-  
15 tions under such subsection regarding students  
16 who are enrolled in an undergraduate program  
17 on less than a full-time basis shall similarly  
18 apply to students who are enrolled in an eligible  
19 short-term program at an eligible institution on  
20 less than a full-time basis.

21 “(D) EFFECT ON DISCONTINUED PARTICI-  
22 PATION.—An eligible student who receives a  
23 START Federal Pell Grant under this sub-  
24 section shall receive such grant during the pe-  
25 riod in which the student is enrolled in a short-

1 term program for which the student receives  
2 such grant and is making satisfactory academic  
3 progress, without regard to whether the short-  
4 term program ceases to be eligible for participa-  
5 tion in the START Federal Pell Grant program  
6 under this subsection.

7 “(3) ELIGIBLE SHORT-TERM PROGRAM RE-  
8 QUIREMENTS.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—To be an eligible  
10 short-term program for purposes of this sub-  
11 section, the Secretary shall determine that a  
12 short-term program meets the following:

13 “(i) The short-term program is made  
14 available to workers in the geographic area  
15 in which the program is offered.

16 “(ii) The short-term program pre-  
17 pares participants for employment oppor-  
18 tunities in high-skill, high-wage, or in-de-  
19 mand sectors or occupations in such geo-  
20 graphic area.

21 “(iii) The short-term program meets  
22 any other requirements that the Secretary  
23 determines appropriate.

24 “(B) TERMINATION OF ELIGIBLE SHORT-  
25 TERM PROGRAM STATUS.—A short-term pro-



1           gram may cease to be an eligible short-term  
2           program for purposes of this subsection if not  
3           less than 2 annual evaluations under paragraph  
4           (4) for such program demonstrate that the pro-  
5           gram does not meet the performance outcomes  
6           established by the Secretary on the metrics de-  
7           scribed in paragraph (4)(B)(ii).

8           “(4) EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS.—

9                   “(A) REPORTS.—Not later than 3 years  
10           after the date that the first Federal Pell Grant  
11           is awarded under this subsection, and on an an-  
12           nual basis thereafter, the Secretary, in con-  
13           sultation with the Director of the Institute of  
14           Education Sciences, shall evaluate each short-  
15           term program participating under this sub-  
16           section in accordance with subparagraph (B),  
17           and report the results of such evaluation to the  
18           authorizing committees.

19                   “(B) EVALUATION OF PROGRAMS.—An  
20           evaluation of a short-term program under sub-  
21           paragraph (A) shall—

22                           “(i) evaluate the extent to which such  
23                           short-term program meets the require-  
24                           ments under paragraph (3); and

1 “(ii) include both qualitative and  
2 quantitative evidence of—

3 “(I) the program’s alignment  
4 with workforce needs, including place-  
5 ment and retention in jobs related to  
6 the training provided by the program;

7 “(II) the effect, if any, this pro-  
8 gram has on matriculation of students  
9 attending 4-year institutions;

10 “(III) the extent to which stu-  
11 dents have sought a higher credential  
12 or degree or military service;

13 “(IV) employment rates after  
14 program completion;

15 “(V) earnings (either average  
16 earnings of completers or the share of  
17 completers earning more than the av-  
18 erage high school graduate);

19 “(VI) program completion rates;  
20 and

21 “(VII) rates of continued edu-  
22 cation of those who have completed  
23 the program.

24 “(5) SUNSET.—The Secretary shall not have  
25 the authority to award Federal Pell Grants under

1       this subsection after the date that is 7 years after  
2       the date of enactment of the Connecting Students to  
3       Great Jobs Act.

4           “(6) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

5               “(A) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDU-  
6               CATION.—The term ‘career and technical edu-  
7               cation’ has the meaning given the term in sec-  
8               tion 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-  
9               nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).

10              “(B) HIGH-SKILL; HIGH-WAGE.—The  
11              terms ‘high-skill’ and ‘high-wage’ are used as  
12              such terms are used in the Carl D. Perkins Ca-  
13              reer and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20  
14              U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

15              “(C) JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.—The term  
16              ‘job training program’ means a career and tech-  
17              nical education program at an institution of  
18              higher education that—

19                      “(i) provides not less than 150 clock  
20                      hours of instructional time over a period of  
21                      not less than 8 weeks;

22                      “(ii) provides training in partnership  
23                      with the requirements of employers in the  
24                      State or local area, which may include

1 high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand sectors  
2 or occupations in the State or local area;

3 “(iii) provides a student, upon comple-  
4 tion of the program, with a recognized  
5 postsecondary credential, that is widely  
6 recognized by local employers in the rel-  
7 evant industry, including credentials recog-  
8 nized by industry or sector partnerships in  
9 the State or local area where the industry  
10 is located;

11 “(iv) utilizes work-based and worksite  
12 learning experiences, where appropriate  
13 and available, that—

14 “(I) are related to the employ-  
15 ment for which the program provides  
16 training (such as employment in a  
17 sector or occupation described in  
18 clause (ii)); and

19 “(II) are supervised by an indi-  
20 vidual with expertise in the field; and

21 “(v) has been determined by the insti-  
22 tution of higher education (after validation  
23 of that determination by an industry or  
24 sector partnership) to provide academic  
25 content, an amount of instructional time,

1 and a recognized postsecondary credential  
2 that—

3 “(I) meet the hiring requirements  
4 of potential local employers;

5 “(II) allow the students to apply  
6 for any licenses or certifications that  
7 may be required to be employed in the  
8 local field for which the job training is  
9 offered;

10 “(III) may include integrated or  
11 basic skills courses; and

12 “(IV) may be offered as part of  
13 an eligible local eligible career path-  
14 ways program.

15 “(D) SHORT-TERM PROGRAM.—The term  
16 ‘short-term program’ means—

17 “(i) a career and technical education  
18 program that provides more than 320  
19 clock hours and less than 600 clock hours  
20 of instruction;

21 “(ii) an educational or career pathway  
22 program that is part of a career pathway;  
23 or

24 “(iii) a job-training program.

“(E) WIOA TERMS.—The terms ‘career pathway’, ‘in-demand industry sector or occupation’, and ‘recognized postsecondary credential’ have the meanings given the terms in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).”.

## **TITLE II—SCHOOL TO CAREER PATHWAYS**

### **SEC. 201. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds the following:

(1) In every congressional district, career and technical education programs and career-connected pathways programs play a vital role in ensuring workers remain competitive in high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand career fields, including computer science, robotics, information technology, health care, and the skilled trades, all of which have hundreds of thousands of job openings across the United States.

(2) Every student should have access to career and technical education opportunities to learn how their academic background will prepare them for postsecondary education and a career.

(3) Curriculum and course offerings should not be based on the assumption that every student has

1 the same academic needs, interests, and goals. In-  
2 stead, schools should prepare students for their indi-  
3 vidualized career goals by providing opportunities for  
4 students to discover and delve into their interests.  
5 These opportunities may include career and tech-  
6 nical education, personalized learning, apprentice-  
7 ships, early college and dual enrollment, and lan-  
8 guage immersion programs.

9 (4) Specifically, career and technical education  
10 and dual enrollment programs integrate classroom  
11 learning with technical, job-specific skills to prepare  
12 students for high-skill careers in industries such as  
13 information technology, manufacturing, health  
14 science, nursing, medical professions, construction,  
15 engineering, and more. Under the Carl D. Perkins  
16 Vocational and Technical Education Act (20 U.S.C.  
17 2301 et seq.), States receive funding to integrate ca-  
18 reer pathway programs with academic learning for  
19 students who choose to enroll in career and technical  
20 education programs.

21 (5) Career and technical education programs  
22 currently serve 12,500,000 high school and college  
23 students and boast a high school graduation rate of  
24 about 90 percent, which is 15 percent higher than  
25 the national average.

1           (6) Career-connected learning programs, which  
2           integrate college preparatory academics, technical  
3           training, work-based learning, and support, have had  
4           positive outcomes for students.

5           (7) According to the Association for Career and  
6           Technical Education, 6 out of 10 students plan to  
7           pursue a career related to the career-connected  
8           learning programs they are exploring in high school.

9           (8) Many skills-based industries have chron-  
10          ically struggled to fill open positions, as they face an  
11          increasing number of retiring baby boomers as well  
12          as a lack of qualified candidates with technical skills.  
13          For instance, of the 3,400,000 manufacturing jobs  
14          expected to open over the next decade, 2,000,000  
15          are projected to go unfilled, accounting for approxi-  
16          mately 9 percent, or \$2,400,000,000, in forgone  
17          yearly revenue.

18          (9) While career and technical education models  
19          have been piloted across the United States, grant  
20          programs need to be expanded to not only encourage  
21          additional school districts to offer students opportu-  
22          nities for career-connected learning, including ap-  
23          prenticeships, and project-based learning pathways  
24          but also to combat this severe skills-gap and reme-  
25          diate this economic pitfall.



1           (10) Career and technical education programs  
2           should incentivize school districts to offer summer  
3           internships or course credit through opportunities  
4           created by business and community partnerships.

5 **SEC. 202. STATE SKILLS EDUCATION COALITIONS.**

6           (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 90 days  
7           after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
8           of Education shall award grants to States to establish a  
9           statewide career pathways coalition (in this section re-  
10          ferred to as a “coalition”).

11          (b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—Any State agency respon-  
12          sible for carrying out educational programs in a State  
13          shall be eligible for a grant awarded under subsection (a).

14          (c) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds made available under  
15          such a grant shall be used for—

16               (1) convening employers to discuss local work-  
17               force needs and trends;

18               (2) reaching out to local and regional public or  
19               private partners and conducting research into local  
20               workforce needs and trends;

21               (3) promoting skill standards and career paths  
22               that match local employers’ needs;

23               (4) helping to improve and govern the work-  
24               force development system;

1           (5) bringing together businesses, faith-based  
2           and community organizations, educational institu-  
3           tions, labor unions, social service agencies, and other  
4           providers to implement programs and policies to im-  
5           prove labor market outcomes;

6           (6) increasing economic mobility for workers;  
7           and

8           (7) increasing awareness of programs and re-  
9           lated economic opportunities.

10          (d) CONDITIONS.—As a condition for receipt of funds  
11          under such a grant, a State agency shall require a coali-  
12          tion to do the following:

13               (1) Develop State plans for how to expand on  
14               existing evidence-based programs that are effectively  
15               providing nontraditional paths to students and rec-  
16               ommendations on new programs that would provide  
17               both academic and real-world work experience (such  
18               as student apprenticeships, dual programs, career-  
19               connected or integrated programs that provide con-  
20               current credit).

21               (2) Establish a statewide career-connected  
22               learning system.

23               (3) Promote diversity among apprentices by  
24               promoting outreach to underrepresented populations  
25               such as women and minorities, youth, individuals

1 with disabilities (as defined in section 3 of the Amer-  
2 icans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.  
3 12102)), and veterans.

4 (4) Provide the Governor of the State and Sec-  
5 retary a list of findings and recommendations of the  
6 coalition regarding the elements of a successful  
7 statewide career-connected learning system.

8 (5) Not later than 18 months after the date of  
9 the enactment of this Act, create a detailed and spe-  
10 cific 4-year action plan for how the State school sys-  
11 tem can implement a statewide career-connected  
12 learning system, with a timeline for the implementa-  
13 tion, and projected funding requirements of such  
14 system.

15 (6) Not later than 2 years after the provision  
16 of such plan, the coalition shall report on the imple-  
17 mentation and success of its plan, including best  
18 practices, and recommendations for improvement.

19 (e) MEMBERSHIP.—

20 (1) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—Each coali-  
21 tion established through funds received under such  
22 a grant shall be comprised of—

23 (A) at least one individual recommended  
24 by the State's Public University Board or its

1 equivalent representatives (as determined by the  
2 Governor); and

3 (B) a minimum of 9 individuals who have  
4 public and private career or technical education  
5 experience, including course instruction, se-  
6 lected by the chief State school officer with ap-  
7 proval from the State Board of Education or its  
8 equivalent and State Public University Board  
9 or its equivalent.

10 (2) COMPOSITION.—The coalition shall be rep-  
11 resentative of the State’s geographical diversity. All  
12 geographical regions (as determined by the chief  
13 State school officer) must be represented by a min-  
14 imum of one education stakeholder and one public or  
15 private industry stakeholder. A regional representa-  
16 tive may be determined by residence or location of  
17 primary employment.

18 (f) TERMINATION.—Federal funds received under  
19 such a grant shall terminate on the day after 6 years from  
20 the enactment of this Act.

21 **SEC. 203. SECONDARY SCHOOL TO CAREER PATHWAYS IN-**  
22 **NOVATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

23 (a) CAREER PATHWAYS INNOVATION GRANT PRO-  
24 GRAM ESTABLISHED.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made avail-  
2           able to carry out this section, the Secretary, after  
3           consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall es-  
4           tablish a career pathways innovation grant program,  
5           through which the Secretary shall award grants, on  
6           a competitive basis, to eligible agencies for the pur-  
7           pose of addressing the specialized skill needs of busi-  
8           ness and industry by carrying out programs of study  
9           and career pathways programs through school part-  
10          nerships that support career pathways in high school  
11          and career exploration in the middle grades.

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

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

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

19          (b) APPLICATION.—

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

1 under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical  
2 Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

3 (2) CONTENTS; PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT.—

4 The application submitted under paragraph (1) shall  
5 include—

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

9 (i) specifies the duties and responsibil-  
10 ities of each partner;

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

22 (iii) describes how the overall goals of  
23 the school partnership align with any  
24 statewide or regional workforce develop-  
25 ment strategies in existence at the time of

1 the application, including those established  
2 under the Workforce Innovation and Op-  
3 portunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) or  
4 the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical  
5 Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et  
6 seq.);

7 (B) a description of how the eligible agency  
8 and members of the school partnership will col-  
9 laborate to ensure the quality of the career  
10 pathways program offered under the grant, in-  
11 cluding any program that leads to an industry-  
12 recognized credential or recognized postsec-  
13 ondary credential earned as part of a career  
14 pathway;

15 (C) identification of the goals and meas-  
16 ures used to define progress toward student  
17 outcomes; and

18 (D) a strategic plan describing the role  
19 and activities of the eligible agency and all  
20 members of the school partnership in sup-  
21 porting how the program will be sustained fol-  
22 lowing the end of the grant.

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

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

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

6                   (B) not less than 5 percent of the grant  
7           funds available to carry out this section are  
8           awarded to eligible agencies that serve a sub-  
9           stantial percentage of Indian or Native Hawai-  
10          ian children; and

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

13                   (A) any eligible agency whose school part-  
14          nership includes an institution of higher edu-  
15          cation offering postsecondary credits, or an en-  
16          tity offering a registered apprenticeship pro-  
17          gram that is articulated through secondary  
18          school programming counting towards the reg-  
19          istered apprenticeship requirements, through  
20          the career pathways program under the grant;  
21          and

22                   (B) any eligible agency whose career path-  
23          ways program—



1 (i) in a high school, offers concurrent  
2 enrollment opportunities for postsecondary  
3 credit; or

4 (ii) leads to an industry-recognized  
5 credential.

6 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—

7 (1) REQUIRED USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible  
8 agency receiving grant funds under this section shall  
9 use grant funds to build or expand a career path-  
10 ways program featuring school partnerships that  
11 supports career pathways in high school and career  
12 exploration in the middle grades.

13 (2) PERMISSIVE USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible  
14 agency receiving grant funds under this section may  
15 use grant funds either during or outside of the  
16 school day or school year—

17 (A) to hire a designated career pathways  
18 partnership coordinator to seek out and build  
19 relationships with business or industry partners  
20 to foster and manage the school partnerships  
21 supported under the grant;

22 (B) for the costs of new equipment, infra-  
23 structure (such as facilities, technology, and  
24 staffing), or transportation related to the career  
25 pathways program;

1 (C) to recruit, or assist with State licen-  
 2 sure and credential requirements, career and  
 3 technical education teachers, and others imple-  
 4 menting career pathways programs;

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

11 (E) for youth apprenticeship, internship, or  
 12 experiential learning opportunities;

13 (F) to provide, as part of the career path-  
 14 ways program, coursework that awards postsec-  
 15 ondary credit at no cost to high school students;  
 16 and

17 (G) to support development of curricula  
 18 that offer industry-certified credentials.

19 (e) REQUIREMENTS.—

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

1 and shall include support from business or industry  
2 partners of a school partnership in accordance with  
3 the partnership agreement described in subsection  
4 (b)(2).

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

14 (f) REPORTS.—

15 (1) ELIGIBLE AGENCY REPORTS.—

16 (A) INTERIM REPORTS.—Not later than 18  
17 months after receiving a grant under this sec-  
18 tion, the eligible agency shall submit a report to  
19 the Secretary demonstrating that the eligible  
20 agency is achieving sufficient progress toward  
21 the goals of the grant, and ensure that data col-  
22 lection aligns with the requirements under the  
23 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Edu-  
24 cation Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.),  
25 and demonstrates how the program advances

1 Perkins Career and Technical Education Act  
2 indicators.

3 (B) FINAL REPORTS.—Each eligible agen-  
4 cy receiving a grant under this section shall  
5 prepare and submit to the Secretary a final re-  
6 port regarding the use of funds from the grant,  
7 including the outcomes of the activities assisted  
8 under the grant, not later than 90 days after  
9 the end of the grant period.

10 (2) SECRETARY REPORTS.—The Secretary shall  
11 prepare and submit to the House Education and  
12 Labor Committee and the Senate Health, Education,  
13 Labor, and Pensions Committee, on an annual basis,  
14 a report regarding the grant program under this sec-  
15 tion that includes a summary of the reports received  
16 under paragraph (1) during the preceding year and  
17 the outcomes resulting from the use of grant funds.

18 **SEC. 204. CAREER PATHWAYS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the  
20 Assistant Secretary of Career, Technical, and Adult Edu-  
21 cation, shall—

22 (1) administer and manage the career pathways  
23 innovation grants awarded under section 203;

1           (2) provide technical assistance to eligible agen-  
 2           cies preparing grant applications under section  
 3           203(b); and

4           (3) support career pathways partnership coordi-  
 5           nators, or other personnel of eligible agencies that  
 6           have received a grant under section 202, in order to  
 7           ensure that—

8                   (A) the eligible agency participates in the  
 9                   required school partnership; and

10                   (B) the grant results in positive program  
 11                   outcomes.

12           (b) DESIGNATED PERSONNEL FOR RURAL AND NA-  
 13           TIVE-SERVING APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall des-  
 14           ignate not less than 1 employee of the Office of Career,  
 15           Technical, and Adult Education who will exclusively sup-  
 16           port rural and native-serving eligible agencies with the  
 17           preparation of grant applications under section 203(b)  
 18           and the development of school partnerships necessary to  
 19           apply for and implement a grant under section 203.

20   **SEC. 205. DEFINITIONS.**

21           In this title:

22                   (1) BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY PARTNER.—The  
 23                   term “business or industry partner” means—

24                           (A) a local public or private business;

25                           (B) a local public or private industry;

1 (C) a sector partnership (which has the  
2 meaning given the term “industry or sector  
3 partnership” in section 3 of the Workforce In-  
4 novation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
5 3102));

6 (D) a community partner; or

7 (E) an intermediary organization.

8 (2) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—The  
9 term “career and technical education” has the  
10 meaning given the term in section 3 of the Carl D.  
11 Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (20  
12 U.S.C. 2302), including:

13 (A) WORK-BASED LEARNING.—The term  
14 “work-based learning” means sustained inter-  
15 actions with industry or community profes-  
16 sionals in real workplace settings, to the extent  
17 practicable, or simulated environments at an  
18 educational institution that foster in-depth,  
19 firsthand engagement with the tasks required in  
20 a given career field, that are aligned to cur-  
21 riculum and instruction.

22 (B) PROGRAM OF STUDY.—The term “pro-  
23 gram of study” means a coordinated, non-  
24 duplicative sequence of academic and technical

1 content at the secondary and postsecondary  
2 level that—

3 (i) incorporates challenging State aca-  
4 demic standards, including those adopted  
5 by a State under section 1111(b)(1) of the  
6 Elementary and Secondary Education Act  
7 of 1965;

8 (ii) addresses both academic and tech-  
9 nical knowledge and skills, including em-  
10 ployability skills;

11 (iii) is aligned with the needs of in-  
12 dustries in the economy of the State, re-  
13 gion, Tribal community, or local area;

14 (iv) progresses in specificity (begin-  
15 ning with all aspects of an industry or ca-  
16 reer cluster and leading to more occupa-  
17 tion-specific instruction);

18 (v) has multiple entry and exit points  
19 that incorporate credentialing; and

20 (vi) culminates in the attainment of a  
21 recognized postsecondary credential.

22 (3) CAREER-CONNECTED LEARNING.—The term  
23 “career-connected learning” means programs that  
24 integrate college preparatory academics, technical  
25 training, work-based learning, and support.

1           (4) CAREER PATHWAY.—The term “career  
2       pathway” means a combination of rigorous and  
3       high-quality education, training, and other services  
4       that—

5           (A) aligns with the skill needs of industries  
6       in the economy of the State or regional econ-  
7       omy involved;

8           (B) prepares an individual to be successful  
9       in any of a full range of secondary or postsec-  
10      ondary education options, including apprentice-  
11      ships registered under the Act of August 16,  
12      1937 (commonly known as the “National Ap-  
13      prenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663;  
14      29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.) (referred to individually  
15      in this Act as an “apprenticeship”, except in  
16      section 171);

17          (C) includes counseling to support an indi-  
18      vidual in achieving the individual’s education  
19      and career goals;

20          (D) includes, as appropriate, education of-  
21      fered concurrently with and in the same context  
22      as workforce preparation activities and training  
23      for a specific occupation or occupational cluster;

24          (E) organizes education, training, and  
25      other services to meet the particular needs of



1 an individual in a manner that accelerates the  
2 educational and career advancement of the indi-  
3 vidual to the extent practicable;

4 (F) enables an individual to attain a sec-  
5 ondary school diploma or its recognized equiva-  
6 lent, and at least 1 recognized postsecondary  
7 credential; and

8 (G) helps an individual enter or advance  
9 within a specific occupation or occupational  
10 cluster.

11 (5) COMMUNITY PARTNER.—The term “com-  
12 munity partner” means a nonprofit organization  
13 that has expertise—

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

16 (B) in forging coordination and coopera-  
17 tion between educators and other members of  
18 the community;

19 (C) in training educators and other  
20 deliverers of educational services; or

21 (D) in development and implementation of  
22 data systems that measure the progress of stu-  
23 dents, schools, and institutions of higher edu-  
24 cation, and career pathways programs.

1           (6) ELIGIBLE AGENCY.—The term “eligible  
2 agency” means—

3                   (A) a local educational agency;

4                   (B) a consortium of local educational agen-  
5 cies or an agent operating on behalf of the con-  
6 sortium; or

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

9           (7) ESEA DEFINITIONS.—The terms “high  
10 school”, “local educational agency”, “middle  
11 grades”, and “secondary school” have the meanings  
12 given the terms in section 8101 of the Elementary  
13 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
14 7801).

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

19           (9) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
20 term “institution of higher education” has the  
21 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher  
22 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

23           (10) INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATION.—The term  
24 “intermediary organization” means a nonprofit orga-  
25 nization that has expertise in training, forging pub-

1       lic-private partnerships, systems development, capac-  
2       ity-building, improving scalability, and evaluation.

3           (11) NATIVE HAWAIIAN.—The term “Native  
4       Hawaiian” has the meaning given the term in sec-  
5       tion 6207 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
6       cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7517).

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;

17                   (ii) instructors and faculty at an eligi-  
18                   ble agency; and

19                   (iii) one or more local business or in-  
20                   dustry partners; and

21           (B) may also include one or more of the  
22      following partners:

23                   (i) A local community-based organiza-  
24                   tion.

1                   (ii) A joint labor-management part-  
2                   nership.

3                   (iii) An institution of higher edu-  
4                   cation.

5                   (iv) A State board or local board (as  
6                   such terms are defined in section 3 of the  
7                   Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
8                   (29 U.S.C. 3102)).

9                   (v) An apprenticeship college (as de-  
10                  fined as an institution partnership that is  
11                  registered under the Act of August 16,  
12                  1937 (commonly known as the “National  
13                  Apprenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664, chapter  
14                  663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.) and is an insti-  
15                  tution of higher education (as defined in  
16                  section 101(a) of the Higher Education  
17                  Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)))).

18                  (vi) Any other entity that the Sec-  
19                  retary, after consultation with the Sec-  
20                  retary of Labor, considers appropriate.

21                  (14) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”  
22                  means the Secretary of Education.

23                  (15) STATE.—The term “State” means each  
24                  State of the United States, the District of Columbia,  
25                  and the territories of Puerto Rico, Guam, American

1 Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, and U.S. Virgin  
2 Islands.

3 (16) STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term  
4 “State educational agency” has the meaning given  
5 the term in section 602 of the Individuals with Dis-  
6 abilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401).

