

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2303

To authorize funding to expand and support enrollment at institutions of higher education that sponsor construction and manufacturing-oriented registered apprenticeship programs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2021

Ms. CRAIG (for herself and Mr. STAUBER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To authorize funding to expand and support enrollment at institutions of higher education that sponsor construction and manufacturing-oriented registered apprenticeship 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 “Supporting Appren-  
5 ticeship Colleges Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMMUNITY OUTREACH GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated  
8 under subsection (f), the Secretary of Education shall pro-

1 vide grants to eligible entities for the purposes of expand-  
2 ing or supporting potential student and employer outreach  
3 carried out by such entities with respect to the construc-  
4 tion and manufacturing-oriented registered apprenticeship  
5 programs offered by such entities.

6 (b) AMOUNTS.—The total grant amount made to an  
7 eligible entity under this section may not exceed \$500,000.

8 (c) USE OF GRANTS.—An eligible entity that receives  
9 a grant under this section shall use such grant for the  
10 outreach described in subsection (a), which shall include  
11 the following:

12 (1) Outreach to high schools, for the purpose of  
13 educating students, parents, guardians, and faculty  
14 on the benefits of enrolling in the construction and  
15 manufacturing-oriented registered apprenticeship  
16 program offered by the eligible entity.

17 (2) Outreach to local businesses and other po-  
18 tential employers for the purpose of educating such  
19 employers on the benefits of hiring graduates of  
20 such program, which shall—

21 (A) primarily target relationship building  
22 with potential employers in rural, exurban, and  
23 suburban areas; and

1 (B) seek to maximize the number of stu-  
2 dents who work in such areas after completing  
3 such program.

4 (3) Outreach to local workforce development  
5 boards for the purpose of reaching nontraditional  
6 student populations and prioritizing local needs.

7 (d) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible enti-  
8 ty seeking a grant under this section shall submit an appli-  
9 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and  
10 containing such information as the Secretary may require.

11 (e) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-  
12 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities  
13 that demonstrate outreach efforts targeted at increasing  
14 program enrollment for rural, first generation, minority,  
15 and nontraditional students, or other students from  
16 underrepresented population.

17 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
18 are authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 to carry out  
19 this section for each of the fiscal years 2021 through  
20 2025.

21 **SEC. 3. STUDENT SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM FOR EX-**  
22 **PANDED ACADEMIC ADVISING.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts appropriated  
24 under subsection (g), the Secretary of Education shall pro-

1 vide grants to eligible entities for the activities described  
2 in subsection (d).

3 (b) AMOUNTS.—The total grant amount made to an  
4 eligible entity under this section may not exceed \$500,000.

5 (c) MULTIPLE GRANTS PERMITTED.—An eligible en-  
6 tity may receive a grant under sections 2 and 3.

7 (d) USE OF GRANTS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that re-  
9 ceives a grant under this section shall use such  
10 grant for advising and support services to enrollees  
11 of construction and manufacturing-oriented reg-  
12 istered apprenticeship programs offered by such en-  
13 tity to increase retention and persistence for stu-  
14 dents.

15 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—Such advising and sup-  
16 port services shall include the following:

17 (A) Expanding academic advising pro-  
18 grams that provide services to students, includ-  
19 ing the following:

20 (i) Career advising and professional  
21 development.

22 (ii) Support for English as a second  
23 language students.

24 (iii) Information and resource sys-  
25 tems.

1 (iv) Mentoring systems.

2 (v) Other such programs.

3 (B) Expanding student support programs  
4 that provide services to students, including the  
5 following:

6 (i) Health and family-related services,  
7 including substance abuse disorder and  
8 mental health counseling.

9 (ii) Support for first-generation stu-  
10 dents.

11 (iii) Childcare support.

12 (iv) Other such programs.

13 (v) In the case of an eligible entity  
14 that is a construction and manufacturing-  
15 oriented registered apprenticeship pro-  
16 gram, maintaining its accreditation by a  
17 nationally recognized accrediting agency or  
18 association recognized by the Secretary of  
19 Education pursuant to part H of title IV  
20 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
21 U.S.C. 1099a et seq.),

22 (e) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible enti-  
23 ty seeking a grant under this section shall submit an appli-  
24 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and  
25 containing such information as the Secretary may require.

1 (f) REPORT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that re-  
3 ceives a grant under this section shall submit to the  
4 Secretary a report on—

5 (A) the activities supported by the grant;

6 (B) the number of students participating  
7 in the activities supported by the grant;

8 (C) any progress made in achieving the  
9 goals of the program supported by the grant, in  
10 general, and measuring in particular—

11 (i) the effectiveness of the grant in ex-  
12 panding overall enrollment and program  
13 completion rates; and

14 (ii) the effectiveness of the grant in  
15 expanding enrollment and program comple-  
16 tion rates for underrepresented popu-  
17 lations; and

18 (D) such other information as the Sec-  
19 retary determines to be appropriate.

20 (2) TIMELINE FOR SUBMISSION OF REPORT.—

21 The report under paragraph (1) shall be submitted  
22 to the Secretary not later than 180 days after the  
23 date on which the eligible entity concludes the activi-  
24 ties supported by the grant under this section.

1 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
3 \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2021 through  
4 2025.

5 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this Act:

7 (1) CONSTRUCTION AND MANUFACTURING-ORI-  
8 ENTED APPRENTICESHIP COLLEGE.—The term  
9 “construction and manufacturing-oriented appren-  
10 ticeship college” means—

11 (A) an institution of higher education that  
12 is a sponsor of a construction and manufac-  
13 turing-oriented registered apprenticeship pro-  
14 gram; or

15 (B) a construction and manufacturing-ori-  
16 ented registered apprenticeship program.

17 (2) CONSTRUCTION AND MANUFACTURING-ORI-  
18 ENTED REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—  
19 The term “construction and manufacturing-oriented  
20 registered apprenticeship program” means a reg-  
21 istered apprenticeship program that—

22 (A) provides coursework and training in  
23 preparation for employment in the construction  
24 or manufactory industry (such as employment

1 as a painter, drywall finisher, glazier, or glass-  
2 worker);

3 (B)(i) leads to a recognized postsecondary  
4 credential other than a certificate of completion  
5 of an apprenticeship; or

6 (ii) awards credits that can be applied to-  
7 ward a recognized postsecondary credential; and

8 (C) is accredited by a nationally recognized  
9 accrediting agency or association recognized by  
10 the Secretary of Education pursuant to part H  
11 of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
12 (20 U.S.C. 1099a et seq.).

13 (3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
14 ty” means a construction and manufacturing-ori-  
15 ented apprenticeship college.

16 (4) FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT.—  
17 The term “first generation college student” has the  
18 meaning given the term in section 402A(h) of the  
19 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a–  
20 11(h)).

21 (5) HIGH SCHOOL.—The term “high school”  
22 has the meaning given the term in section 8101 of  
23 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of  
24 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).



1           (6) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
2       term “institution of higher education” has the  
3       meaning given the term in section 101(a) of the  
4       Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

5           (7) OUTREACH.—The term “outreach” means  
6       communications and relationship-building opportuni-  
7       ties undertaken by an eligible entity.

8           (8) RECOGNIZED POSTSECONDARY CREDEN-  
9       TIAL.—The term “recognized postsecondary creden-  
10      tial” has the meaning given the term in section 3 of  
11      the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
12      U.S.C. 3102).

13          (9) REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—  
14      The term “registered apprenticeship program”  
15      means an apprenticeship program registered under  
16      the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as  
17      the “National Apprenticeship Act”; 50 Stat. 664,  
18      chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.).

19          (10) SECOND LANGUAGE.—The term “second  
20      language” means any language other than English,  
21      including Braille and American Sign Language.

22          (11) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”  
23      means the Secretary of Education.

24          (12) UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATION.—The  
25      term “underrepresented population” means an indi-

- 1       vidual who is from a group whose gender, ethnic
- 2       background, or national origin is not traditionally
- 3       represented in registered apprenticeship programs.

