

(b) Authorization of program

From amounts appropriated to carry out this section, the Secretary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to institutions of higher education, as defined in section 1001(a) of this title, to create workforce bridge programs between developmental courses and for-credit courses in occupational certificate programs that are articulated to degree programs. Such workforce bridge programs shall focus on—

(1) improving developmental education, including English language instruction, by customizing developmental education to student career goals; and

(2) helping students move rapidly from developmental coursework into for-credit occupational courses and through program completion.

(c) Application

An institution of higher education desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

(d) Priorities

The Secretary shall give priority to applications that—

(1) are from institutions of higher education in which not less than 50 percent of the institution's entering first-year students who are subject to mandatory assessment are assessed as needing developmental courses to bring reading, writing, or mathematics skills up to college level; and

(2) propose to replicate practices that have proven effective with adults, or propose to collaborate with adult education providers.

(e) Required activity

An institution of higher education that receives a grant under this section shall use the grant funds to create workforce bridge programs to customize developmental education curricula, including English language instruction, to reflect the content of for-credit occupational certificate or degree programs, or clusters of such programs, in which developmental education students are enrolled or plan to enroll. Such workforce bridge programs shall integrate the curricula and the instruction of the developmental and college-level coursework.

(f) Permissible activities

An institution of higher education that receives a grant under this section may use the grant funds to carry out one or more of the following activities:

(1) Designing and implementing innovative ways to improve retention in and completion of developmental education courses, including enrolling students in cohorts, accelerating course content, dually enrolling students in developmental and college-level courses, tutoring, providing counseling and other supportive services, and giving small, material incentives for attendance and performance.

(2) In consultation with faculty in the appropriate departments, reconfiguring courses offered on-site during standard academic terms for modular, compressed, or other alternative

schedules, or for distance-learning formats, to meet the needs of working adults.

(3) Developing counseling strategies that address the needs of students in remedial education courses, and including counseling students on career options and the range of programs available, such as certificate programs that are articulated to degree programs and programs designed to facilitate transfer to four-year institutions of higher education.

(4) Improving the quality of teaching in remedial courses through professional development, reclassification of such teaching positions, or other means the institution of higher education determines appropriate.

(5) Any other activities the institution of higher education and the Secretary determine will promote retention of, and completion by, students attending institutions of higher education.

(g) Grant period

Grants made under this section shall be for a period of not less than three years and not more than five years.

(h) Technical assistance

The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to recipients of, and applicants for, grants under this section.

(i) Report and summary

Each institution of higher education that receives a grant under this section shall report to the Secretary on the effectiveness of the program in enabling students to move rapidly from developmental coursework into for-credit occupational courses and through program completion. The Secretary shall summarize the reports, identify best practices, and disseminate the information from such summary and identification to the public.

(j) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009 and each of the five succeeding fiscal years.

(Pub. L. 89-329, title VIII, §851, as added Pub. L. 110-315, title VIII, §801, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3421; amended Pub. L. 111-39, title VIII, §801(13), July 1, 2009, 123 Stat. 1956.)

AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 111-39 inserted “to be appropriated” after “authorized”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-39 effective as if enacted on the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-315 (Aug. 14, 2008), see section 3 of Pub. L. 111-39, set out as a note under section 1001 of this title.

PART Q—RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FOR RURAL-SERVING COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

§ 1161q. Grants to rural-serving institutions of higher education**(a) Purposes**

The purposes of this section are—

(1) to increase enrollment and graduation rates of secondary school graduates and non-

traditional students from rural areas at two-year and four-year institutions of higher education, and their articulation from two-year degree programs into four-year degree programs; and

(2) to promote economic growth and development in rural America through partnership grants to consortia of rural-serving institutions of higher education, local educational agencies, and regional employers.

(b) Definitions

For the purposes of this section:

(1) Rural-serving institution of higher education

The term “rural-serving institution of higher education” means an institution of higher education that primarily serves rural areas.

(2) Rural area

The term “rural area” means an area that is defined, identified, or otherwise recognized as rural by a governmental agency of the State in which the area is located.

(3) Nontraditional student

The term “nontraditional student” means an individual who—

(A) delays enrollment in an institution of higher education by three or more years after secondary school graduation;

(B) attends an institution of higher education part-time; or

(C) attends an institution of higher education and—

(i) works full-time;

(ii) is an independent student, as defined in section 1087vv of this title;

(iii) has one or more dependents other than a spouse;

(iv) is a single parent; or

(v) does not have a secondary school diploma or the recognized equivalent of such a diploma.

(4) Regional employer

The term “regional employer” means an employer within a rural area.

(c) Partnership

(1) Required partners

A rural-serving institution of higher education, or a consortium of rural-serving institutions of higher education, that receives a grant under this section shall carry out the activities of the grant in partnership with—

(A) one or more local educational agencies serving a rural area; and

(B) one or more regional employers or local boards (as such term is defined in section 3102 of title 29) serving a rural area.

(2) Optional partners

A rural-serving institution of higher education, or a consortium of rural-serving institutions of higher education, that receives a grant under this section, may carry out the activities of the grant in partnership with—

(A) an educational service agency (as defined in section 7801 of this title); or

(B) a nonprofit organization with demonstrated expertise in rural education at the secondary and postsecondary levels.

(d) Grants authorized

(1) In general

From amounts made available under subsection (g), the Secretary is authorized to award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible rural-serving institutions of higher education or a consortium of such institutions, to carry out the activities described in subsection (f).

(2) Duration

A grant awarded under this section shall be awarded for a period not to exceed three years.

(3) Maximum and minimum grants

No grant awarded under this section shall be less than \$200,000.

(4) Special considerations

In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall give special consideration to applications that demonstrate the most potential and propose the most promising and innovative approaches for—

(A) increasing the percentage of graduates of rural secondary schools attending rural-serving institutions of higher education;

(B) meeting the employment needs of regional employers with graduates of rural-serving institutions of higher education; and

(C) improving the health of the regional economy of a rural area through a partnership of local educational agencies serving the rural area, rural-serving institutions of higher education, and regional employers.

(5) Limitation

A rural-serving institution of higher education shall not receive more than one grant under this section.

(e) Applications

Each rural-serving institution of higher education desiring a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

(f) Required use of funds

A rural-serving institution of higher education that receives a grant under this section shall use grant funds for at least three of the following four purposes:

(1) To improve postsecondary enrollment rates for rural secondary school students at rural-serving institutions of higher education, which may include—

(A) programs to provide students and families with counseling related to applying for postsecondary education, and Federal and State financial assistance for postsecondary education;

(B) programs that provide students and families of rural high schools access and exposure to campuses, classes, programs, and internships of rural-serving institutions of higher education, including covering the cost of transportation to and from such institutions; and

(C) other initiatives that assist students and families in applying for and developing

interest in attending rural-serving institutions of higher education.

(2) To increase enrollment rates of nontraditional students in degree programs at rural-serving institutions of higher education, which may include—

(A) programs to provide nontraditional students with counseling related to applying for postsecondary education, and Federal and State financial assistance for postsecondary education;

(B) community outreach initiatives to encourage nontraditional students to enroll in a rural-serving institution of higher education; and

(C) programs to improve the enrollment of nontraditional students in two-year degree programs and the transition of nontraditional students articulating from two-year degree programs to four-year degree programs.

(3) To create or strengthen academic programs at rural-serving institutions of higher education to prepare graduates to enter into high-need occupations in the regional and local economies.

(4) To provide additional career training to students of rural-serving institutions of higher education in fields relevant to the regional economy.

(g) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009 and each of the five succeeding fiscal years.

(Pub. L. 89-329, title VIII, §861, as added Pub. L. 110-315, title VIII, §801, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3423; amended Pub. L. 113-128, title V, §512(n)(6), July 22, 2014, 128 Stat. 1711; Pub. L. 114-95, title IX, §9215(oo)(12), Dec. 10, 2015, 129 Stat. 2180.)

AMENDMENTS

2015—Subsec. (c)(2)(A). Pub. L. 114-95 made technical amendment to reference in original act which appears in text as reference to section 7801 of this title.

2014—Subsec. (c)(1)(B). Pub. L. 113-128 substituted “local boards (as such term is defined in section 3102 of title 29)” for “local boards (as such term is defined in section 2801 of title 29)”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2015 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 114-95 effective Dec. 10, 2015, except with respect to certain noncompetitive programs and competitive programs, see section 5 of Pub. L. 114-95, set out as a note under section 6301 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2014 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 113-128 effective on the first day of the first full program year after July 22, 2014 (July 1, 2015), see section 506 of Pub. L. 113-128, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3101 of Title 29, Labor.

PART R—CAMPUS-BASED DIGITAL THEFT PREVENTION

§ 1161r. Campus-based digital theft prevention

(a) Program authority

From the amounts appropriated under subsection (d), the Secretary may make grants to

institutions of higher education, or consortia of such institutions, and enter into contracts with such institutions, consortia, and other organizations, to develop, implement, operate, improve, and disseminate programs of prevention, education, and cost-effective technological solutions, to reduce and eliminate the illegal downloading and distribution of intellectual property. Such grants or contracts may also be used for the support of higher education centers that will provide training, technical assistance, evaluation, dissemination, and associated services and assistance to the higher education community as determined by the Secretary and institutions of higher education.

(b) Awards

Grants and contracts shall be awarded under this section on a competitive basis.

(c) Applications

An institution of higher education or a consortium of such institutions that desires to receive a grant or contract under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing or accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require by regulation.

(d) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009 and each of the five succeeding fiscal years.

(Pub. L. 89-329, title VIII, §871, as added Pub. L. 110-315, title VIII, §801, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3425.)

PART S—TRAINING FOR REALTIME WRITERS

§ 1161s. Program to promote training and job placement of realtime writers

(a) Authorization of grant program

(1) In general

From the amounts appropriated to carry out this section, the Secretary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities under paragraph (2) to promote training and placement of individuals, including individuals who have completed a court reporting training program, as realtime writers in order to meet the requirements for closed captioning of video programming set forth in section 613 of title 47 and the rules prescribed thereunder.

(2) Eligible entities

For purposes of this section, an eligible entity is a court reporting program that—

(A) has a curriculum capable of training realtime writers qualified to provide captioning services;

(B) is accredited by an accrediting agency or association recognized by the Secretary; and

(C) is participating in student aid programs under subchapter IV of this chapter and part C of subchapter I of chapter 34 of title 42.

(3) Priority in grants

In determining whether to make grants under this section, the Secretary shall give a