

and communications technologies that will contribute to enhancing or facilitating the availability and affordability of advanced communications services for all people of the United States. Areas of research to be supported may include research on—

- (A) affordable broadband access, including wireless technologies;
- (B) network security and reliability;
- (C) communications interoperability;
- (D) networking protocols and architectures, including resilience to outages or attacks;
- (E) trusted software;
- (F) privacy;
- (G) nanoelectronics for communications applications;
- (H) low-power communications electronics;
- (I) implementation of equitable access to national advanced fiber optic research and educational networks in noncontiguous States; and
- (J) such other related areas as the Director finds appropriate.

(2) Centers

The Director shall award multiyear grants, subject to the availability of appropriations and on a merit-reviewed competitive basis, to institutions of higher education, nonprofit research institutions affiliated with institutions of higher education, or consortia of either type of institution to establish multidisciplinary Centers for Communications Research. The purpose of the Centers shall be to generate innovative approaches to problems in information and communications technology research, including the research areas described in paragraph (1). Institutions of higher education, nonprofit research institutions affiliated with institutions of higher education, or consortia receiving such grants may partner with 1 or more government laboratories, for-profit entities, or other institutions of higher education or nonprofit research institutions.

(3) Funding allocation

The Director shall increase funding for the basic research activities described in paragraph (1), which shall include support for the Centers described in paragraph (2), in proportion to the increase in the total amount appropriated to the Foundation for research and related activities for the fiscal years 2008 through 2010.

(4) Report to Congress

The Director shall transmit to Congress, as part of the President's annual budget submission under section 1105 of title 31, a report on the amounts allocated for support of research under this section for the fiscal year during which such report is submitted and the levels proposed for the fiscal year with respect to which the budget submission applies.

(Pub. L. 110-69, title VII, § 7024(b), Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 689.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The High-Performance Computing Act of 1991, referred to in par. (1), is Pub. L. 102-194, Dec. 9, 1991, 105 Stat. 1594. Title I of the Act is classified generally to subchapter I (§ 5511 et seq.) of chapter 81 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of

this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5501 of Title 15 and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the America COMPETES Act, also known as the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Act, and not as part of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 which comprises this chapter.

DEFINITIONS

For definitions of terms used in this section, see section 7001 of Pub. L. 110-69, set out as a note under section 1862o of this title.

§ 1862o-11. Repealed. Pub. L. 114-329, title II, § 204(a)(3)(B), Jan. 6, 2017, 130 Stat. 2999

Section, Pub. L. 110-69, title VII, § 7031(b), Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 711, related to evaluation and report by Director on STEM programs.

§ 1862o-12. Hispanic-serving institutions undergraduate program

(a) In general

The Director shall award grants on a competitive, merit-reviewed basis to Hispanic-serving institutions (as defined in section 1101a of title 20) to enhance the quality of undergraduate STEM education at such institutions and to increase the retention and graduation rates of students pursuing associate's or baccalaureate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

(b) Program components

Grants awarded under this section shall support—

- (1) activities to improve courses and curriculum in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;
- (2) faculty development;
- (3) stipends for undergraduate students participating in research; and
- (4) other activities consistent with subsection (a), as determined by the Director.

(c) Instrumentation

Funding for instrumentation is an allowed use of grants awarded under this section.

(Pub. L. 110-69, title VII, § 7033, Aug. 9, 2007, 121 Stat. 711; Pub. L. 114-329, title III, § 315(a), Jan. 6, 2017, 130 Stat. 3016.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the America COMPETES Act, also known as the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Act, and not as part of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 which comprises this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

2017—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 114-329 amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Director is authorized to establish a new program to award grants on a competitive, merit-reviewed basis to Hispanic-serving institutions (as defined in section 1101a of title 20) to enhance the quality of undergraduate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education at such institutions and to increase the retention and graduation rates of students pursuing associate's or baccalaureate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.”