

essary for fiscal year 2009 and each of the five succeeding fiscal years.

(Pub. L. 89-329, title VIII, §835, as added Pub. L. 110-315, title VIII, §801, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3420.)

PART O—COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

§ 1161o. College partnership grants authorized

(a) Grants authorized

From the amount appropriated to carry out this section, the Secretary shall award grants to eligible partnerships for the purposes of developing and implementing articulation agreements.

(b) Eligible partnerships

For purposes of this part, an eligible partnership shall include at least two institutions of higher education, or a system of institutions of higher education, and may include either or both of the following:

- (1) A consortia of institutions of higher education.
- (2) A State higher education agency.

(c) Priority

The Secretary shall give priority to eligible partnerships that—

- (1) are located in a State that has employed strategies described in section 1093a(b)(1) of this title; or
- (2) include—
 - (A) one or more junior or community colleges (as defined by section 1058(f) of this title) that award associate's degrees; and
 - (B) one or more institutions of higher education that offer a baccalaureate or post-baccalaureate degree not awarded by the institutions described in subparagraph (A) with which it is partnered.

(d) Mandatory use of funds

Grants awarded under this part shall be used for—

- (1) the development of policies and programs to expand opportunities for students to earn bachelor's degrees, by facilitating the transfer of academic credits between institutions and expanding articulation and guaranteed transfer agreements between institutions of higher education, including through common course numbering and general education core curriculum;
- (2) academic program enhancements; and
- (3) programs to identify and remove barriers that inhibit student transfers, including technological and informational programs.

(e) Optional use of funds

Grants awarded under this part may be used for—

- (1) support services to students participating in the program, such as tutoring, mentoring, and academic and personal counseling; and
- (2) any service that facilitates the transition of students between the partner institutions.

(f) Prohibition

No funds provided under this section shall be used to financially compensate an institution for the purposes of entering into an articulation agreement or for accepting students transferring into such institution.

(g) Applications

Any eligible partnership that desires to obtain a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information or assurances as the Secretary may require.

(h) Definition

For purposes of this section, the term “articulation agreement” means an agreement between institutions of higher education that specifies the acceptability of courses in transfer toward meeting specific degree requirements.

(i) 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, §841, as added Pub. L. 110-315, title VIII, §801, Aug. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 3420; amended Pub. L. 111-39, title VIII, §801(12), July 1, 2009, 123 Stat. 1956.)

AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 111-39 substituted “1093a(b)(1)” for “1093a(d)”.

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 P—JOBS TO CAREERS

§ 1161p. Grants to create bridges from jobs to careers

(a) Purpose

The purpose of this section is to provide grants on a competitive basis to institutions of higher education for the purpose of improving developmental education to help students move more rapidly into for-credit occupational courses and into better jobs that may require a certificate or degree.

(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—