

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4945

To direct the Secretary of Education to award grants for new agricultural education programs in secondary schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 8, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. PANETTA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Education to award grants for new agricultural education programs in secondary schools.

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 “Growing Opportunities
5 in Agriculture Act” or the “GO Ag Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR NEW AGRICULTURAL EDU-**
7 **CATION PROGRAMS.**

8 (a) GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award,
10 on a competitive basis, grants to eligible entities to

1 support the creation of new agricultural education
2 programs in secondary schools.

3 (2) GRANT DURATION.—A grant awarded under
4 this section may not exceed a 5-year grant period.

5 (b) APPLICATION.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under
7 this section, an eligible entity shall submit an appli-
8 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such man-
9 ner, and containing such information as the Sec-
10 retary may require, including—

11 (A) an identification and the role with re-
12 spect to each program to be funded under the
13 grant of any eligible partners of the eligible en-
14 tity, including an assurance the grant under
15 this section will not be used to prepare students
16 for employment with solely one or more of such
17 eligible partners;

18 (B) an assurance that each program that
19 will receive assistance under the grant is not
20 yet in operation and such grant will be used to
21 start such program;

22 (C) a description of the grant budget, how
23 each program will fund necessary expenses for
24 the program not covered by the grant (such as
25 any funds to be provided by State, local, or pri-

1 vate entities), and how the eligible entity will
2 continue each such program after the grant is
3 exhausted;

4 (D) a description of how grant will directly
5 benefit students, including special populations,
6 served by the eligible entity;

7 (E) a description of how each such pro-
8 gram will be coordinated with the activities car-
9 ried out under section 124 or 135 of the Carl
10 D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act
11 of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2344; 2355);

12 (F) a description of how each such pro-
13 gram reflects the needs of regional, State, or
14 local employers, as demonstrated by the com-
15 prehensive needs assessment under section
16 134(c) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Tech-
17 nical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C.
18 2354(c)) carried out by the eligible entity; and

19 (G) an assurance that the eligible entity
20 will—

21 (i) provide information to the Sec-
22 retary, as requested, for the evaluation
23 under subsection (d) and any evaluations
24 that the Secretary may carry out; and

1 (ii) make data available to third par-
2 ties for validation, in accordance with ap-
3 plicable data privacy laws, including sec-
4 tion 444 of the General Education Provi-
5 sions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g, commonly
6 known as the “Family Educational Rights
7 and Privacy Act of 1974”).

8 (2) PROCESS.—The Secretary shall create a
9 process for evaluating applications submitted under
10 paragraph (1) and determining the amount of each
11 grant for successful applications, except that in no
12 case may an eligible entity receive a grant exceeding
13 \$100,000.

14 (c) USES OF FUNDS.—Each eligible entity receiving
15 a grant under this section shall use such grant for the
16 creation of new agricultural education programs in sec-
17 ondary schools, which may include—

18 (1) curriculum development and delivery, in-
19 cluding classroom or laboratory instruction, work-
20 based learning, and leadership education delivered
21 through career and technical student organizations;

22 (2) the purchase of equipment, technology, and
23 course materials; and

24 (3) other costs the Secretary may determine to
25 be eligible.

1 (d) EVALUATION AND ANNUAL REPORT.—Each eligi-
2 ble entity receiving a grant under this section shall provide
3 for an independent evaluation of the activities carried out
4 using such grant and submit to the Secretary an annual
5 report that includes—

6 (1) a description of how the grant was used;

7 (2) the performance of each program assistance
8 with such grant with respect to, at a minimum, the
9 performance indicators described under section 113
10 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Edu-
11 cation Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2323), as applicable,
12 and disaggregated—

13 (A) by subgroups of students described in
14 section 1111(c)(2)(B) of the Elementary and
15 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
16 6311(c)(2)(B)); and

17 (B) by each special population; and

18 (3) a quantitative analysis of the effectiveness
19 of each such program.

20 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 (1) AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.—The term
22 “agricultural education” means career and technical
23 education that is focused on agriculture, including
24 classroom or laboratory instruction, work-based

1 learning, and leadership education delivered through
2 career and technical student organizations.

3 (2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
4 ty” has the meaning given the term “eligible recipi-
5 ent” in section 3(21)(A) of the Carl D. Perkins Ca-
6 reer and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20
7 U.S.C. 2302(21)(A)).

8 (3) ELIGIBLE PARTNER.—The term “eligible
9 partner” means—

10 (A) an institution of higher education or a
11 consortium of such institutions; or

12 (B) a community stakeholder relevant to a
13 program to be funded under this section, in-
14 cluding a labor organization, a local or regional
15 business or industry, or a local workforce devel-
16 opment board.

17 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
18 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
19 \$5,000,000, to remain available through fiscal year 2028.

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