

HR 3221 Title V Community College Initiative (Obama Proposal)

Sections 501 - 504

Provides \$630,000,000 for FY 2010 – 2013 to community colleges:

Secretary of ED, in coordination with Secretary of Labor, to award competitive 4- year grants (with benchmarks) , minimum of \$1 million to increase transfer, certificate or industry-recognized credential leading to a skilled occupation in a high-demand industry:

- Innovative programs

Or

- Programs of demonstrated effectiveness as designated by ED, Labor or other research

Priorities shall be given to applicants that enter into partnerships with philanthropic organizations with expertise in areas; businesses that design and implement specified programs and pay a portion of costs and agree to hire individuals completing degrees, certificate or credential programs.

Priority is placed on policies and programs that:

1. Facilitate transfer
2. Expand articulation agreements and guaranteed transfer agreements through common course numbering and general core curriculum
3. Expand or create academic and training programs that provide relevant job-skill training (apprenticeships/worksite learning and training)
4. Establish Student Support services
5. Create workforce programs that provide a sequence of education and occupational training leading to industry-recognized credentials
6. Build or enhance linkages to early college and dual enrollment programs

Benchmarks:

- Closing gaps in enrollment and completion rates
- Addressing local and regional workforce needs
- Establishing Articulation agreements
- Improving comprehensive employment and educational outcomes of postsecondary education and training programs
- Reporting to the Secretary regarding these matters

Provides \$630,000,000 for FY 2014 – 2019 to States:

Secretary of Education, in coordination with Secretary of Labor, to award competitive 6-year grants to eligible States to implement systematic reform of junior and community Colleges located in the State. If

the State has not made demonstrable progress in achieving the benchmarks by 3rd year, the grant will be terminated.

State Match: The amount of the Federal share shall not be greater than ½ of the costs of the reform. Hardship Waivers shall be available.

Supplement, not Supplant clause.

Benchmarks and reporting to Secretary of Education required.

Section 505

Provides \$50,000,000 for 2010 – 2013 for competitive 4 – year grants for Secretary to develop the Learning and Earning Research Center by entering into contracts with:

IHEs, philanthropic organizations and other appropriate entities to develop, evaluate and disseminate free high-quality online training, high school courses, and postsecondary education courses with demonstrated expertise in:

- Data collection;
- Data analysis; and,
- Econometrics, postsecondary education and workforce development research.

The Center is to develop: peer-reviewed metrics to help consumers make sound education and training choices; standardized data elements, definitions and data-sharing protocols to make it possible for data systems related to postsecondary be linked and interoperable in order to distribute best practices; standards and processes for facilitating sharing of data in a manner that safeguards students and still have common metrics to measure the education and employment outcomes of students attending junior or community colleges; and transparent data systems.