

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1403

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to award grants to accredited public institutions of higher education, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 2, 2023

Mr. MULLIN (for himself and Ms. ROSEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to award grants to accredited public institutions of higher education, and for other purposes.

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 “Medical Student Edu-
5 cation Authorization Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. EDUCATION PROGRAM TO SUPPORT PRIMARY**
 2 **HEALTH CARE FOR MEDICALLY UNDER-**
 3 **SERVED COMMUNITIES.**

4 Part B of title VII of the Public Health Service Act
 5 (42 U.S.C. 293 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
 6 the following:

7 **“SEC. 742. EDUCATION PROGRAM TO SUPPORT PRIMARY**
 8 **HEALTH CARE FOR MEDICALLY UNDER-**
 9 **SERVED COMMUNITIES.**

10 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, acting
 11 through the Administrator of the Health Resources and
 12 Services Administration, shall establish a grant program
 13 to award grants to accredited public institutions of higher
 14 education to carry out the activities described in sub-
 15 section (d) for the purposes of—

16 “(1) expanding and supporting education for
 17 medical students who are preparing to become physi-
 18 cians; and

19 “(2) preparing and encouraging each such stu-
 20 dent trained by a grantee to serve in a Tribal, rural,
 21 or medically underserved community as a primary
 22 care physician after completing residency training.

23 “(b) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to be eligible to receive
 24 a grant under this section, an accredited public institution
 25 of higher education shall—

1 “(1) be located in a State that is in the top
2 quintile of States by a projected shortage of primary
3 care physicians, as determined by the Secretary; and

4 “(2) submit an application to the Secretary at
5 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
6 formation as the Secretary may require, that in-
7 cludes—

8 “(A) a certification that such institution
9 will use amounts provided to the institution
10 through the grant to carry out the activities de-
11 scribed in subsection (d); and

12 “(B) a description of how such institution
13 will carry out such activities.

14 “(c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-
15 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to accredited public
16 institutions of higher education that meet the eligibility
17 requirements of subsection (b) and—

18 “(1) are located in a State with not fewer than
19 2 Indian Tribes or Tribal organizations (as such
20 terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-De-
21 termination and Education Assistance Act); and

22 “(2) have established, or demonstrate plans to
23 establish, a public-private partnership that supports
24 the purposes described in subsection (a).

1 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives
2 a grant under this section shall, as appropriate, use the
3 funds made available under such grant to carry out the
4 following activities:

5 “(1) Support or expand community-based and
6 experiential training for medical students who will
7 practice in or serve Tribal, rural, and medically un-
8 derserved communities.

9 “(2) Develop and operate programs to train
10 medical students in the provision of primary care
11 services, which may include developing training pro-
12 grams and activities that—

13 “(A) emphasize care for Tribal, rural, or
14 medically underserved communities;

15 “(B) are applicable to primary care prac-
16 tice with respect to individuals from Tribal,
17 rural, or medically underserved communities;

18 “(C) support the use of telehealth tech-
19 nologies and practices;

20 “(D) integrate mental health and sub-
21 stance use disorder care into primary care prac-
22 tice, including prevention and treatment of
23 opioid use disorders and other substance use
24 disorders; and

25 “(E) promote interdisciplinary training.

1 “(3) Increase the capacity of faculty to develop
2 and operate programs described in paragraph (2).

3 “(4) Develop or expand strategic partnerships,
4 such as public-private partnerships, to improve
5 health outcomes for individuals from Tribal, rural,
6 and medically underserved communities, which part-
7 nerships may include—

8 “(A) federally recognized Tribes, Tribal
9 Colleges or Universities (as such term is defined
10 in section 316 of the Higher Education Act of
11 1965), and Tribal organizations (as such term
12 is defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Deter-
13 mination and Education Assistance Act);

14 “(B) Federally-qualified health centers;

15 “(C) rural health clinics;

16 “(D) health facilities or programs operated
17 by or in accordance with a contract or grant
18 with the Indian Health Service; and

19 “(E) primary care clinics.

20 “(5) Develop a plan, as appropriate, for fol-
21 lowup with graduates, including with respect to spe-
22 cialties, as applicable.

23 “(6) Develop, implement, and evaluate methods
24 to improve recruitment and retention of medical stu-

1 dents from Tribal, rural, and medically underserved
2 communities.

3 “(7) Train and support instructors to serve
4 Tribal, rural, and medically underserved commu-
5 nities.

6 “(8) Prepare medical students for transition
7 into primary care residency training and future
8 practice.

9 “(9) Provide scholarships to medical students.

10 “(e) GRANT PERIOD.—A grant under this section
11 shall be awarded for a period of not more than 5 years.

12 “(f) GRANT AMOUNT.—Each fiscal year, the amount
13 of a grant made to an eligible entity under this section
14 shall be not less than \$1,000,000.

15 “(g) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary
16 shall, as appropriate, require that an eligible entity receiv-
17 ing a grant under this section provide non-Federal match-
18 ing funds, which may be in cash or in kind, in an amount
19 equal to or greater than 10 percent of the total amount
20 of Federal funds provided through the grant each fiscal
21 year.

22 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
23 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section

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1 \$150,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through
2 2025.”.

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