

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1608

To prepare young people in disadvantaged situations for a competitive future.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 6, 2009

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. FRANKEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To prepare young people in disadvantaged situations for a competitive future.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Reengaging Americans in Serious Education by Uniting
6 Programs Act”.

7 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for
8 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Purpose.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.
- Sec. 4. Grants authorized.
- Sec. 5. Application.

- Sec. 6. Priority.
- Sec. 7. Selection criteria.
- Sec. 8. Use of funds.
- Sec. 9. Accountability, performance measures, and evaluation.
- Sec. 10. Technical assistance and best practices.
- Sec. 11. Authorization of appropriations.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 The purposes of this Act are—

3 (1) to prepare young people in disadvantaged
4 situations for a competitive future; and

5 (2) to challenge and support young people who
6 have dropped out of secondary school to—

7 (A) attain a secondary school diploma;

8 (B) attain a 2-year or 4-year credential
9 from a recognized postsecondary educational in-
10 stitution, an industry recognized credential, or
11 certification from a registered apprenticeship
12 program; and

13 (C) secure and succeed in a family-sup-
14 porting career.

15 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

16 In this Act:

17 (1) **DISABILITY.**—The term “disability” has the
18 meaning given the term in section 3 of the Ameri-
19 cans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
20 12102).

21 (2) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term “eligible enti-
22 ty” means a partnership that includes—

1 (A) a mayor, or appropriate chief executive
2 officer of general purpose local government, of
3 the community to be assisted under the grant
4 awarded under section 4;

5 (B) a representative of—

6 (i) each local educational agency serv-
7 ing the community to be assisted under the
8 grant;

9 (ii) the local juvenile justice system
10 serving the community;

11 (iii) the local criminal justice system
12 serving the community;

13 (iv) the local workforce system serving
14 the community;

15 (v) the local housing agency serving
16 the community;

17 (vi) the local mental health agency
18 serving the community; and

19 (vii) the local child welfare agency
20 serving the community;

21 (C) a representative of a State agency
22 serving youth in the community to be assisted
23 under the grant;

1 (D) not less than 1 representative of an in-
2 stitution of higher education, which may include
3 a community college;

4 (E) a representative of—

5 (i) a local secondary school;

6 (ii) not less than 1 community-based
7 organization;

8 (iii) a public or private, nonprofit
9 agency providing services to young people;

10 (iv) a labor management committee;

11 and

12 (v) a business; and

13 (F) young people in disadvantaged situa-
14 tions, and parents or caregivers of young people
15 in disadvantaged situations.

16 (3) FEDERAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUN-
17 CIL.—The term “Federal Youth Development Coun-
18 cil” means the Federal Youth Development Council
19 established under the Tom Osborne Federal Youth
20 Coordination Act (Public Law 109–365; 120 Stat.
21 2594).

22 (4) HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTHS.—The
23 term “homeless children and youths” has the mean-
24 ing given the term in section 725 of the McKinney-
25 Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a).

1 (5) IN A DISADVANTAGED SITUATION.—The
2 term “in a disadvantaged situation”, when referring
3 to an individual, includes an individual who—

4 (A) has left secondary school without ob-
5 taining a secondary school diploma;

6 (B) is attending secondary school and is at
7 risk of leaving secondary school without obtain-
8 ing a secondary school diploma; or

9 (C)(i) has a secondary school diploma or
10 its recognized equivalent; and

11 (ii) faces a barrier to employment or does
12 not have the skills to obtain employment or
13 enter postsecondary education.

14 (6) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
15 term “institution of higher education” has the
16 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher
17 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

18 (7) ONE-STOP CENTER.—The term “one-stop
19 center” means a one-stop center described in section
20 134(c) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29
21 U.S.C. 2864(c)).

22 (8) POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.—The term
23 “postsecondary education” means—

24 (A) a 4-year program of instruction, or not
25 less than a 1-year program of instruction that

1 is acceptable for credit toward a baccalaureate
2 degree, offered by an institution of higher edu-
3 cation; or

4 (B) a certificate or registered apprentice-
5 ship program at the postsecondary level offered
6 by an institution of higher education or a non-
7 profit educational institution.

8 (9) REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—

9 The term “registered apprenticeship program”
10 means an industry skills training program at the
11 postsecondary level that combines technical and the-
12 oretical training through structured on-the-job learn-
13 ing with related instruction (in a classroom or
14 through distance learning) while an individual is em-
15 ployed, working under the direction of qualified per-
16 sonnel or a mentor, and earning incremental wage
17 increases aligned to enhanced job proficiency, result-
18 ing in the acquisition of a nationally recognized and
19 portable certificate, under a plan approved by the
20 Office of Apprenticeship of the Department of Labor
21 or by a State agency recognized by the Department
22 of Labor.

23 (10) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term “sec-
24 ondary school” has the meaning given the term in

1 section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
2 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

3 (11) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
4 means the Secretary of Labor.

5 (12) YOUNG PEOPLE.—The term “young peo-
6 ple” means individuals who are between the ages of
7 14 and 24, inclusive, at the time of commencement
8 of participation in services funded through a grant
9 under section 4.

10 **SEC. 4. GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
12 with the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Health
13 and Human Services, the Secretary of Housing and Urban
14 Development, the Attorney General of the United States,
15 the Federal Youth Development Council, and leaders in
16 the field of working with young people in disadvantaged
17 situations, shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to
18 eligible entities to enable the eligible entities to pay the
19 costs of—

20 (1) developing and implementing a strategy to
21 identify young people in disadvantaged situations;
22 and

23 (2) providing such young people with support
24 needed to—

25 (A) graduate from secondary school;

1 (B) attain a postsecondary credential, in-
2 cluding a 2-year or 4-year credential from an
3 institution of higher education, an industry-rec-
4 ognized credential, or certification from a reg-
5 istered apprenticeship program; and

6 (C) secure and succeed in a family-sup-
7 porting career.

8 (b) MINIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall
9 award a grant under this section in an amount that—

10 (1) is appropriate to achieve the goals and im-
11 plement the activities described in the application
12 submitted under section 5; and

13 (2) is not less than \$1,000,000 per year.

14 (c) DURATION OF GRANT.—A grant under this sec-
15 tion shall be awarded for a period of 5 years, and may
16 be renewed at the discretion of the Secretary based on the
17 effective performance of the eligible entity under the pre-
18 ceding grant in accordance with the levels of performance
19 determined by the eligible entity and the Secretary pursu-
20 ant to section 9(b).

21 (d) EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF
22 FUNDS.—The Secretary shall ensure an equitable and ap-
23 propriate distribution of grants awarded under this section
24 among eligible entities—

1 (1) serving urban, rural, and suburban areas;
2 and

3 (2) with varying degrees of experience and ex-
4 pertise in serving young people in disadvantaged sit-
5 uations.

6 (e) FISCAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE AGENTS.—An eli-
7 gible entity shall choose an entity to be the fiscal agent
8 and an entity to be the administrative agent for the grant
9 funds received under this section.

10 (f) EXISTING PARTNERSHIP.—An existing workforce,
11 education, or youth development partnership, coalition, or
12 organization may serve as the eligible entity for the pur-
13 poses of grants under this section if the partnership, coal-
14 ition, or organization includes, or modifies the members of
15 the partnership, coalition, or organization to include, the
16 individuals required to be included in the eligible entity
17 under section 3(2).

18 **SEC. 5. APPLICATION.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that desires a
20 grant under section 4 shall submit an application to the
21 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing
22 such information as the Secretary may require.

23 (b) CONTENTS.—An application submitted under this
24 section shall include—

1 (1) a description of the eligible entity submit-
2 ting the application, including a description of the
3 fiscal agent and the administrative agent for the
4 grant;

5 (2) a description of the strategy that the eligi-
6 ble entity will use to carry out the purpose of this
7 Act, which shall include—

8 (A) a well-developed education component,
9 which may include an emphasis on basic lit-
10 eracy and the skills needed in science, tech-
11 nology, engineering, and mathematics;

12 (B) a work preparation component, which
13 may include a hands-on internship, work experi-
14 ence, or national or community service, that
15 promotes the development of applied skills such
16 as oral and written communication, teamwork,
17 leadership, and critical thinking; and

18 (C) a youth support component, including
19 the array of comprehensive support services
20 that will—

21 (i) address the challenges that caused
22 the young people in disadvantaged situa-
23 tions to leave school without a secondary
24 school diploma;

1 (ii) remove barriers to and support
2 the attainment of—

3 (I) the graduation of such young
4 people from secondary school;

5 (II) a postsecondary credential,
6 including a 2-year or 4-year credential
7 from an institution of higher edu-
8 cation, an industry-recognized creden-
9 tial, or certification from a registered
10 apprenticeship program; and

11 (III) success in a family-sup-
12 porting career; and

13 (iii) provide appropriate case manage-
14 ment to ensure young people achieve the
15 purposes described in section 2;

16 (3) a needs assessment of the community to be
17 assisted under the grant, including—

18 (A) an estimate of the number of young
19 people in disadvantaged situations in the com-
20 munity; and

21 (B) an assessment of resources available in
22 the community that can help such young peo-
23 ple—

- 1 (i) address the challenges that caused
2 such young people to leave school without
3 a secondary school diploma;
- 4 (ii) return to an appropriate edu-
5 cational setting;
- 6 (iii) attain a secondary school di-
7 ploma;
- 8 (iv) attain a postsecondary credential,
9 including a 2-year or 4-year credential
10 from an institution of higher education, an
11 industry-recognized credential, or certifi-
12 cation from a registered apprenticeship
13 program; and
- 14 (v) secure and succeed in a family-
15 supporting career;
- 16 (4) a plan for identifying and engaging young
17 people in disadvantaged situations and connecting
18 such young people with a continuum of comprehen-
19 sive and coordinated resources that can help such
20 young people attain a secondary school diploma, a
21 recognized postsecondary credential, including a 2-
22 year or 4-year credential from an institution of high-
23 er education, an industry-recognized credential, or
24 certification from a registered apprenticeship pro-

1 gram, and secure and succeed in a family-supporting
2 career, including a description of—

3 (A) the needs of such young people that
4 will be met by the eligible entity through the
5 grant;

6 (B) the identities, roles, and capacity of
7 the partners in the eligible entity to fulfill the
8 needs described in subparagraph (A), including
9 a description of the role to be played by—

10 (i) secondary schools and postsec-
11 ondary institutions in constructing edu-
12 cation programming;

13 (ii) the local workforce system, includ-
14 ing one-stop career centers and businesses,
15 in developing and implementing the work-
16 force preparation activities; and

17 (iii) youth serving systems, including
18 the juvenile justice system, and other com-
19 munity-based organizations in providing
20 outreach, support, and direct service;

21 (C) a plan to leverage non-Federal (includ-
22 ing in-kind) resources and a plan for sustain-
23 ability beyond the grant period;

24 (D) the services to be provided through the
25 grant to carry out the strategy described in

1 paragraph (2) and a description of the process
2 that will be used to award subgrants and con-
3 tracts under section 7 for the provision of such
4 services;

5 (E) the research and evidence base indi-
6 cating why the selected strategy and selection of
7 services will be effective in meeting the com-
8 prehensive needs of the young people in dis-
9 advantaged situations identified in the commu-
10 nity;

11 (F) the goals, intended outcomes, and per-
12 formance measures of the eligible entity's strat-
13 egy in accordance with the performance meas-
14 ures under section 9(b);

15 (G) a statement of concurrence on the ap-
16 plication, signed by the partners in the eligible
17 entity, that outlines the specific roles and re-
18 sponsibilities of the partners as the roles and
19 responsibilities relate to the functioning of the
20 eligible entity; and

21 (H) a plan to create, or include an exist-
22 ing, youth advisory council, that is composed of
23 young people in disadvantaged situations from
24 the community to be served, to make rec-

1 ommendations regarding the services to be pro-
2 vided under the grant;

3 (5) a description of the system that will be put
4 in place to—

5 (A) provide case management, counseling,
6 intensive placement and follow-up services,
7 adult advocacy, or mentoring to help young peo-
8 ple in disadvantaged situations and their fami-
9 lies access the various systems, resources, and
10 supports necessary to ensure such young peo-
11 ple’s success; and

12 (B) ensure that young people receiving
13 services through the grant will receive individ-
14 ualized case management to ensure that the
15 young people achieve the purposes described in
16 section 2(2), including—

17 (i) an assessment of needs;

18 (ii) coordination of appropriate serv-
19 ices; and

20 (iii) academic preparation and support
21 for entry, persistence, and completion of
22 postsecondary education;

23 (6) a description of how the eligible entity will
24 ensure that every young person served under the
25 grant receives comprehensive services, including re-

1 ceiving not less than 1 workforce preparation service
2 as described in section 7(b)(1), not less than 1 edu-
3 cation support service as described in section
4 7(b)(2), and not less than 1 youth support service
5 as described in section 7(b)(3), until the young per-
6 son—

7 (A) attains a secondary school diploma, a
8 2-year or 4-year credential from an institution
9 of higher education, an industry-recognized cre-
10 dential, or certification from a registered ap-
11 prenticeship program; and

12 (B) secures and succeeds in a family-sup-
13 porting career;

14 (7) a description of how the strategy to be im-
15 plemented under the grant will identify, engage, and
16 provide services to young people in disadvantaged
17 situations who—

18 (A) are or were previously homeless chil-
19 dren and youths;

20 (B) were previously under the care and
21 placement responsibility of the State agency re-
22 sponsible for administering a plan under parts
23 B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act
24 (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq., 670 et seq.);

1 (C) were under the custody of the State's
2 juvenile justice system or criminal justice sys-
3 tem; or

4 (D) have a disability;

5 (8) a description of how public and private serv-
6 ices that exist on the date of submission of the ap-
7 plication will be coordinated and integrated in order
8 to implement and sustain the strategy under the
9 grant;

10 (9) a description of how Federal, State, and
11 local private and public funds will be leveraged, co-
12 ordinated, and integrated in order to implement the
13 strategy under the grant;

14 (10) a description of how the strategy to be im-
15 plemented under the grant strengthens, and does not
16 duplicate, efforts within the community to be served
17 under the grant that are funded under chapter 4 of
18 subtitle B of title I of the Workforce Investment Act
19 of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2851 et seq.); and

20 (11) a description of how the strategy to be im-
21 plemented under the grant aligns with the efforts of
22 the local educational agency serving the community
23 assisted under the grant to improve secondary
24 schools, including efforts focused on—

1 (A) students who are off-track to an on-
2 time graduation; and

3 (B) recuperative strategies.

4 (c) EXISTING PLANS, ASSESSMENTS, AND STRATE-
5 GIES.—Plans, needs assessments, and strategies that have
6 been developed by an eligible entity or the partners in the
7 eligible entity may be used to satisfy the requirements of
8 this section if such plans, needs assessments, or strate-
9 gies—

10 (1) include the information required by this sec-
11 tion, or can be modified to include the information
12 required by this section; and

13 (2) are submitted to the Secretary with such
14 modifications.

15 **SEC. 6. PRIORITY.**

16 In awarding grants to eligible entities under section
17 4, the Secretary shall give priority to applications from
18 eligible entities proposing—

19 (1) to serve areas with disproportionately high
20 numbers or percentages of young people who have
21 left secondary school without obtaining a secondary
22 school diploma or its recognized equivalent;

23 (2) to serve areas with high concentrations of
24 young people in families whose family income is not
25 more than 200 percent of the poverty line (as deter-

1 mined under section 673(2) of the Community Serv-
2 ices Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2)); and

3 (3) to serve areas with high numbers or per-
4 centages of young people who are unemployed or un-
5 deremployed.

6 **SEC. 7. SELECTION CRITERIA.**

7 The Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities
8 under section 4 based on selection criteria that includes
9 the following:

10 (1) **BEST PRACTICES OR RESEARCH.**—The ex-
11 tent to which the application submitted by an eligi-
12 ble entity under section 5 is rooted in documented
13 best practices or research.

14 (2) **INTEGRATION.**—The extent to which the
15 application demonstrates the integration of multiple
16 services into a comprehensive, coordinated con-
17 tinuum that meets the holistic needs of young peo-
18 ple, including health services, mental health services,
19 housing, civic opportunities, job readiness, work ex-
20 perience, school readiness, reenrollment in school,
21 and connections to family and community.

22 (3) **LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY INVOLVE-**
23 **MENT.**—The extent to which the application dem-
24 onstrates the leadership and substantive involvement
25 of the business community, the mayor or appropriate

1 chief executive officers of the general purpose local
2 government, and the public and nonprofit sectors of
3 the community served by the grant.

4 (4) LEVERAGING AND SUSTAINABILITY.—The
5 extent to which the application demonstrates that re-
6 sources from multiple sources will be leveraged to
7 implement the grant, and the extent to which the
8 application demonstrates a plan for sustainability
9 beyond the grant period.

10 **SEC. 8. USE OF FUNDS.**

11 (a) SUBGRANTS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity receiving
13 a grant under section 4 shall use the grant funds—

14 (A) to award subgrants and contracts to
15 community-based organizations and other enti-
16 ties to enable the organizations and entities to
17 provide a comprehensive array of coordinated
18 activities that will—

19 (i) support the educational, vocational,
20 social, emotional, and civic needs of young
21 people in disadvantaged situations; and

22 (ii) allow such young people to grad-
23 uate from secondary school, attain a post-
24 secondary credential, including a 2-year or
25 4-year credential from an institution of

1 higher education, an industry-recognized
2 credential, or certification from a reg-
3 istered apprenticeship program, and secure
4 and succeed in a family-supporting career;

5 (B) for training, technical assistance, and
6 professional development for the organizations
7 and entities that is offered by local or national
8 organizations;

9 (C) for coordinating the overall effort of
10 the eligible entity; or

11 (D) for the reasonable costs associated
12 with the administration and oversight of the
13 grants under section 4.

14 (2) USE OF SUBGRANT FUNDS.—Each organi-
15 zation or entity receiving a subgrant or contract
16 under this Act—

17 (A) shall use the subgrant or contract
18 funds to carry out a workforce preparation
19 service, an education support service, or a youth
20 support service, described in paragraphs (1),
21 (2), and (3) of subsection (b), respectively; and

22 (B) may use the subgrant or contract
23 funds to carry out an activity described in para-
24 graph (4) or (5) of subsection (b).

1 (b) ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES.—The services and ac-
2 tivities referred to in subsection (a)(2) include the fol-
3 lowing:

4 (1) WORK AND CAREER PREPARATION.—

5 (A) WORKFORCE PREPARATION.—Job
6 training, youth entrepreneurship, technological
7 and vocational skill building, meaningful intern-
8 ship and apprenticeship opportunities, and
9 other workforce preparation activities developed
10 in partnership with the business community and
11 other employers.

12 (B) EXPOSURE AND PREPARATION FOR
13 CAREERS.—Strategies that will expose young
14 people in disadvantaged situations to, and pre-
15 pare such young people for, careers, including
16 careers in high-growth, high-demand industries
17 that require the use of science, technology, engi-
18 neering, and mathematics skills.

19 (C) APPLIED SKILLS.—Strategies that pro-
20 mote the development of applied skills in such
21 young people, including oral and written com-
22 munication, teamwork, leadership, critical
23 thinking, and a commitment to social and civic
24 responsibility, including service-learning activi-
25 ties.

1 (D) COMPENSATION.—Compensation for
2 employment opportunities for such young peo-
3 ple, including summer and year-round employ-
4 ment opportunities, national and community
5 service, service-learning, and work experience.

6 (2) EDUCATION SUPPORT.—

7 (A) EDUCATION PROGRAMMING.—Edu-
8 cation programming for such young people, in-
9 cluding assessment, instruction, tutoring, and
10 technology supports to academic instruction.

11 (B) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDU-
12 CATION.—Career and technical education.

13 (C) DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAMS AND
14 EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS.—Participation
15 in dual enrollment programs, early college high
16 schools, and other proven models for supporting
17 the educational achievement of disadvantaged
18 youth.

19 (D) POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIALS.—Pro-
20 grams that provide young people with a postsec-
21 ondary credential from an institution of higher
22 education, a non-profit educational institution
23 that offers an industry recognized credential, or
24 a registered apprenticeship program, which may
25 include attainment of a GED, only if the GED

1 attainment is an element of the pathway toward
2 achieving such credential or certification.

3 (E) TRANSITION SUPPORT.—Support for
4 young people in their transition into and their
5 successful completion of postsecondary edu-
6 cation.

7 (F) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—Financial
8 assistance for such young people for education
9 support services and for higher education.

10 (3) YOUTH SUPPORT.—

11 (A) CASE MANAGEMENT.—Case manage-
12 ment, including using subgrant or contract
13 funds for youth centers to serve as points of ac-
14 cess and continued support.

15 (B) HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, OR DRUG
16 TREATMENT SERVICES.—Health services, men-
17 tal health services, or drug treatment services.

18 (C) HOUSING.—Housing.

19 (D) TRANSPORTATION.—Transportation.

20 (E) CHILDCARE OR FAMILY SUPPORT
21 SERVICES.—Childcare services or family sup-
22 port services.

23 (F) MENTORING ACTIVITIES.—Mentoring
24 activities for such young people, including one-
25 to-one relationship building and tutoring.

1 (4) CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT.—Curriculum
2 development that promotes contextual learning.

3 (5) OTHER SERVICES OR OPPORTUNITIES.—
4 Other services or opportunities that the Secretary or
5 the eligible entity determine will help carry out the
6 purposes of this Act.

7 (c) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS.—An eligible entity re-
8 ceiving a grant under section 4 shall ensure that, of the
9 group of young people in disadvantaged situations who re-
10 ceive the services and participate in the activities described
11 in subsections (a) and (b) under the grant, not less than
12 75 percent of the group shall be young people who—

13 (1) left secondary school without receiving a
14 secondary school diploma; and

15 (2) regardless of educational status—

16 (A) face a barrier to employment or do not
17 have the skills to obtain employment or enter
18 postsecondary education; and

19 (B)(i) are or were previously homeless chil-
20 dren and youths;

21 (ii) were previously under the care and
22 placement responsibility of the State agency re-
23 sponsible for administering a plan under parts
24 B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act
25 (42 U.S.C. 621 et seq., 670 et seq.);

1 (iii) were under the custody of the juvenile
2 justice or criminal justice system; or

3 (iv) have a disability.

4 (d) WAIVER OF MULTIPLE SERVICE REQUIRE-
5 MENT.—The Secretary may waive the requirement of sub-
6 section (a) regarding the provision of a comprehensive
7 array of coordinated activities for an eligible entity receiv-
8 ing a grant under section 4 to permit not more than 25
9 percent of the young people served by the eligible entity
10 under the grant to receive only 1 or more services among
11 the allowable activities described in subsection (b) if the
12 eligible entity determines that such young people only need
13 1 or more such services in order to—

14 (1) attain a secondary school diploma;

15 (2) attain a recognized postsecondary creden-
16 tial, including a 2-year or 4-year credential from an
17 institution of higher education, an industry-recog-
18 nized credential, or certification from a registered
19 apprenticeship program; and

20 (3) secure and succeed in a family-supporting
21 career.

1 **SEC. 9. ACCOUNTABILITY, PERFORMANCE MEASURES, AND**
2 **EVALUATION.**

3 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to es-
4 tablish an accountability system, comprised of the activi-
5 ties described in this section, in order to—

6 (1) assess the effectiveness of grants under sec-
7 tion 4 in helping disadvantaged youth—

8 (A) attain a secondary school diploma;

9 (B) attain a 2-year or 4-year credential
10 from an institution of higher education, an in-
11 dustry recognized credential, or certification
12 from a registered apprenticeship program; and

13 (C) secure and succeed in a family-sup-
14 porting career;

15 (2) identify and disseminate effective practices
16 to strengthen performance; and

17 (3) maximize the return on investment of Fed-
18 eral funds in activities assisted pursuant to a grant
19 under section 4.

20 (b) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—For each eligible entity, per-
22 formance measures shall consist of the indicators of
23 performance described in paragraph (2) and the
24 level of performance described in paragraph (3).

1 (2) INDICATORS OF PERFORMANCE.—The indi-
2 cators of performance referred to in paragraph (1)
3 shall consist of the following:

4 (A) INTERIM INDICATORS.—

5 (i) YOUTH PARTICIPATION.—Youth
6 participation in activities funded under sec-
7 tion 4.

8 (ii) YOUTH PROGRESS.—Youth
9 progress towards attainment of a sec-
10 ondary school diploma.

11 (iii) YOUTH ATTAINMENT.—Youth at-
12 tainment of a secondary school diploma.

13 (B) TRANSITIONAL INDICATORS.—

14 (i) DIPLOMA, AND ENTRANCE INTO
15 EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT.—Youth ac-
16 quisition of a secondary school diploma,
17 and entrance into postsecondary education
18 or employment.

19 (ii) CREDENTIAL.—Youth attainment
20 of 1 or more recognized postsecondary cre-
21 dentials, which may include a certificate, a
22 license, a journey-status card, or an asso-
23 ciate degree or baccalaureate degree.

24 (C) LONG-TERM INDICATORS.—

1 (i) EMPLOYMENT, DIPLOMA, AND CRE-
2 DENTIAL.—Employment of individuals who
3 participated in activities funded under sec-
4 tion 4, attained a secondary school di-
5 ploma, and attained 1 or more recognized
6 credentials, which may include a certifi-
7 cate, license, journey-status card, or asso-
8 ciate degree or baccalaureate degree.

9 (ii) INITIAL WAGE OR SALARY
10 LEVEL.—The initial wage or salary level of
11 individuals described in clause (i).

12 (3) LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE.—For each indi-
13 cator of performance described in paragraph (2), the
14 Secretary, in coordination with the eligible entity,
15 shall determine a level of performance expressed in
16 objective, quantifiable, and measurable form and in
17 a way to show the progress of the eligible entity to-
18 ward continuously improving performance.

19 (4) ELIGIBLE ENTITY MEASURES.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity
21 that receives a grant under section 4 shall reach
22 agreement with the Secretary on the levels of
23 performance for the years covered by the grant.
24 The levels of performance shall take into ac-
25 count the economic conditions of the area

1 served, youth characteristics, secondary school
2 graduation rates, and the activities or services
3 provided under the grant.

4 (B) ADJUSTMENTS.—If unanticipated cir-
5 cumstances arise resulting in a significant
6 change in the economic conditions, youth char-
7 acteristics, secondary school graduation rates,
8 or activities or services provided in the commu-
9 nity served under the grant, then the eligible
10 entity may request that the Secretary adjust
11 the level of performance for the eligible entity.

12 (c) ASSURANCE.—Each eligible entity that receives a
13 grant under section 4 shall provide an assurance to the
14 Secretary, as part of the application submitted under sec-
15 tion 5, that the eligible entity will—

16 (1) report progress toward achieving the indica-
17 tors under subsection (b) beyond the grant period
18 for young people served under the grant; and

19 (2) use funds provided under the grant for such
20 progress reporting.

21 (d) REPORTS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity that re-
23 ceives a grant under section 4 shall annually, for
24 each year of the grant, provide a report to the Sec-
25 retary that includes the progress of the eligible enti-

1 ty in accomplishing the performance measures for
2 the eligible entity. The annual report shall include—

3 (A) information on the progress each eligi-
4 ble entity made in accomplishing its perform-
5 ance measures, disaggregated by the subgroups
6 described in section 1111(b)(2)(C)(v)(II) of the
7 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
8 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b)(2)(C)(v)(II));

9 (B) the costs of the activities supported
10 under the grant under section 4, including—

11 (i) the type of cost, such as cash, per-
12 sonnel, equipment, supplies, or materials,
13 or other cost;

14 (ii) the sources used to pay such
15 costs, such as—

16 (I) funding from other Federal,
17 State, or local public programs; or

18 (II) private sector or philan-
19 thropic contributions; and

20 (iii) the dollar value of the resources
21 leveraged to cover such costs and support
22 the activities;

23 (C) any fiscal and management account-
24 ability information required by the Secretary,

1 which information shall use sound financial and
2 management practices;

3 (D) the characteristics and number of
4 young people in disadvantaged situations served
5 by the services and activities provided under the
6 grant; and

7 (E) the services and supports provided
8 under the grant.

9 (2) VALID AND RELIABLE INFORMATION.—In
10 preparing the reports under this subsection, each eli-
11 gible entity shall establish procedures, consistent
12 with guidelines issued by the Secretary, to ensure
13 that the information contained in the reports is valid
14 and reliable.

15 (e) EVALUATION.—Not later than 90 days after the
16 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall award
17 a grant or a contract to an entity outside the Department
18 of Labor for an evaluation of the activities assisted under
19 the grants awarded under section 4. Such evaluation
20 shall—

21 (1) evaluate a subgroup of eligible entities that
22 received a grant under section 4;

23 (2) include an analysis and documentation of
24 the strategies implemented by the eligible entities as-
25 sisted under the grants awarded under section 4 and

1 the key lessons learned, as such lessons relate to
2 program design, systems coordination, and imple-
3 mentation;

4 (3) measure the outcomes, and progress toward
5 the outcomes, of the strategies implemented under
6 the grants under section 4 in terms of the interim
7 and transitional indicators of performance under
8 subsection (b)(2), and if feasible, the long-term indi-
9 cators of performance under such subsection;

10 (4) document the incremental progress of such
11 young people over time on the outcomes measured
12 under paragraph (3);

13 (5) measure the return on investment resulting
14 from the activities funded with grants under section
15 4; and

16 (6) begin as soon as practicable after the
17 awarding of the grant or contract under this section
18 and continue throughout the duration of the periods
19 of the grants under section 4 so that the plans in-
20 cluded in the applications under section 5 may be in-
21 formed by, and conducive to, the evaluation.

22 **SEC. 10. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND BEST PRACTICES.**

23 The Secretary shall—

24 (1) in consultation with the Federal Youth De-
25 velopment Council and the Coordinating Council on

1 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention estab-
2 lished under section 206 of the Juvenile Justice and
3 Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C.
4 5616), the Shared Youth Vision, and other related
5 agencies, disseminate best practices that emerge
6 from the program assisted under this Act in identi-
7 fying young people in disadvantaged situations, and
8 in implementing effective public and private strate-
9 gies for preparing such young people to be successful
10 students, workers, and citizens during and after im-
11 plementation of the program; and

12 (2) provide, directly or through a grant or con-
13 tract with 1 or more nonprofit organizations selected
14 through a competitive process, training, technical as-
15 sistance, and professional development for organiza-
16 tions serving young people in disadvantaged situa-
17 tions, including organizations serving such young
18 people that do not receive funding under this Act.

19 **SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
21 priated to carry out this Act \$1,000,000,000 for fiscal
22 year 2010 and such sums as may be necessary for each
23 of the fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

1 (b) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts appropriated to
2 carry out this section for each fiscal year, the Secretary
3 shall use—

4 (1) not less than 90 percent of such amount for
5 grants to eligible entities under section 4; and

6 (2) a total of not more than 10 percent of such
7 amount for the evaluation under section 9(b) and
8 the training, technical assistance, and dissemination
9 of best practices under section 10.

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