

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5146

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to schools of medicine or osteopathic medicine at historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions for the purpose of increasing enrollment of medical students.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

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

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to schools of medicine or osteopathic medicine at historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions for the purpose of increasing enrollment of medical students.

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 Graduate In-
5 vestment Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANDING THE NUMBER OF DOCTORS.**

2 Subpart 3 of part E of title VII of the Public Health
3 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 295f et seq.) is amended by adding
4 at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 779. EXPANDING THE NUMBER OF DOCTORS.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award
7 grants to eligible entities for the purpose of increasing en-
8 rollment of medical students by at least 5 percent each
9 year as compared to the prior year. Grants awarded under
10 this section shall be used for tuition and student fees (ex-
11 cluding living expenses), faculty recruitment and retention
12 (with not more than 20 percent of the cost of salaries cov-
13 ered by such grants), costs associated with equipment (in-
14 cluding acquisition of equipment), and costs associated
15 with clinical training of medical students and preparing
16 and encouraging such students to serve as primary care
17 physicians in medically underserved areas, including rural
18 areas, frontier areas, and jurisdictions of Indian Tribes
19 and Tribal organizations, after completing residency train-
20 ing.

21 “(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive
22 an award under this section, an entity shall—

23 “(1) be—

24 “(A) an accredited school of medicine or
25 an accredited school of osteopathic medicine at
26 a minority-serving institution of higher edu-

1 cation (defined as an institution described in
2 any of paragraphs (1) through (7) of section
3 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965)
4 or a minority-serving institution of higher edu-
5 cation (as so defined) with plans to establish an
6 accredited school of medicine or an accredited
7 school of osteopathic medicine, if such institu-
8 tion provides documentation of such plans, as
9 the Secretary may require;

10 “(B) an accredited school of medicine or
11 an accredited school of osteopathic medicine
12 that, at the time of the application, has an
13 agreement with a historically Black college or
14 university (as defined in paragraph (1) of sec-
15 tion 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of
16 1965) to enroll, in the school of medicine or
17 school of osteopathic medicine, students who
18 have completed their undergraduate education
19 at such minority-serving institution of higher
20 education, provided that such school of medi-
21 cine or school of osteopathic medicine intends to
22 use the award under this section to increase en-
23 rollment of such students in accordance with
24 the threshold described in subsection (a); or

1 “(C) an accredited school of medicine or
2 an accredited school of osteopathic medicine
3 that—

4 “(i) at the time of the application, has
5 an agreement with an Indian Tribe (as de-
6 fined in section 4 of the Indian Self Deter-
7 mination and Education Assistance Act) to
8 provide medical education for American In-
9 dian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian
10 students; or

11 “(ii) an accredited school of medicine
12 or an accredited school of osteopathic med-
13 icine that trains in Tribal communities or
14 otherwise has a history of graduating a
15 high number of physicians who, after com-
16 pletion of residency, practice in Tribal
17 communities in rural or frontier areas; and

18 “(2) submit to the Secretary an application at
19 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
20 formation as the Secretary may require, including
21 information on how the entity will sustain increased
22 enrollment of medical students following the expira-
23 tions of grant funds provided under this section.

24 “(c) GRANT AMOUNTS.—

1 “(1) MINIMUM AWARD; DISBURSEMENTS.—The
2 Secretary shall—

3 “(A) determine the amount of each award
4 under this section, provided that each eligible
5 entity receiving such an award shall receive a
6 minimum amount of \$1,000,000 per year of the
7 5-year grant period; and

8 “(B) disburse the grant amount to each el-
9 igible entity receiving such an award in 5 an-
10 nual increments.

11 “(2) DISTRIBUTION AMONG TYPES OF ELIGIBLE
12 ENTITIES.—In awarding amounts to eligible entities
13 under this section, the Secretary shall disburse grant
14 funding evenly among the following 9 categories
15 (subject to the receipt of applications from eligible
16 entities in each of the categories described in sub-
17 paragraph (A)):

18 “(A) Eligible entities in each category of
19 minority serving institution of higher education
20 described in paragraphs (1) through (7) of sec-
21 tion 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of
22 1965.

23 “(B) Eligible entities described in sub-
24 section (b)(1)(B).

1 “(C) Eligible entities described in sub-
2 section (b)(1)(C).

3 “(3) EVALUATION.—The Secretary may reserve
4 not more than half of one percent of amounts made
5 available under subsection (f) to evaluate the results
6 of the program under this section during and after
7 the grant period, including the number of new med-
8 ical students enrolled, such students’ progression to
9 participate in an accredited internship or medical
10 residency program, and rates of passing the United
11 States Medical Licensing Examination or the Com-
12 prehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examina-
13 tion.

14 “(d) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary
15 shall require each eligible entity receiving an award under
16 this section to provide non-Federal matching funds for
17 each year of the grant period, which may be in cash or
18 in-kind, in an amount equal to 25 percent of the total
19 amount of funds awarded under this section for the appli-
20 cable year. An eligible entity may apply to the Secretary
21 for a waiver of not more than 80 percent of the matching
22 fund amount required for each year the entity receives an
23 award under this section.

24 “(e) REPORTING.—

25 “(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY REPORTING.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity
2 receiving a grant under this section shall sub-
3 mit a report to the Secretary, annually for the
4 duration of the grant period, on activities con-
5 ducted under such grant, including information
6 on the number of new students enrolled, faculty
7 supported, how funds under such grant were
8 used, plans for continuation of the activities in
9 the next budget period, and other information,
10 as the Secretary may require.

11 “(B) CONTENTS.—Each report under sub-
12 paragraph (A) shall include—

13 “(i) an overview of activities con-
14 ducted under such grant;

15 “(ii) associated costs of equipment
16 purchased;

17 “(iii) the number of new students en-
18 rolled in the applicable school of medicine
19 or school of osteopathic medicine per year
20 (including the number of students from ra-
21 cial and ethnic groups underrepresented
22 among medical students and health profes-
23 sions, students who were Federal Pell
24 Grant recipients, and first-generation col-
25 lege students);

1 “(iv) plans for continuation of the ac-
2 tivities in the next fiscal year; and

3 “(v) any other information the Sec-
4 retary may require.

5 “(2) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
6 2 years after the first grants are awarded under this
7 section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee
8 on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the
9 Senate and the Committee on Energy and Com-
10 merce of the House of Representatives a report that
11 includes—

12 “(A) an assessment of the effectiveness of
13 the activities associated with grants made under
14 this section;

15 “(B) a summary of outcomes and best
16 practices and recommendations on the recruit-
17 ment and retention of medical students;

18 “(C) annual enrollment of students at each
19 school of medicine or school of osteopathic med-
20 icine supported by the program; and

21 “(D) summaries, including justification, of
22 the allocations of grant funds made by the Sec-
23 retary.

24 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
25 carry out this section, there are authorized to be appro-

1 priated \$60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through
2 2030, to remain available until expended.

3 “(g) NON-DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS.—The Sec-
4 retary shall ensure that activities carried out under this
5 section do not unnecessarily duplicate efforts of any other
6 Federal program.”.

○