



AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: To extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility for certain short-term programs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—119th Cong., 1st Sess.

**AMENDMENT N<sup>o</sup> 2697**By Kaine \_\_\_\_\_ of H. Con.To: Amr No 2360 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ and

11  
Page(s)

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Kaine to the  
amendment (No. 2360) proposed by Mr. GRAHAM

For himself and  
Baldwin  
Blunt Rochester  
Cortez Masto  
Kelly

Viz:

- 1 Strike section 83002 and insert the following:
- 2 **SEC. 83002. EXTENDING FEDERAL PELL GRANT ELIGI-**
- 3 **BILITY OF CERTAIN SHORT-TERM PRO-**
- 4 **GRAMS.**
- 5 (a) JOB TRAINING FEDERAL PELL GRANT PRO-
- 6 GRAM.—Section 401 of the Higher Education Act of 1965
- 7 (20 U.S.C. 1070a) is amended by adding at the end the
- 8 following:
- 9 “(k) JOB TRAINING FEDERAL PELL GRANT PRO-
- 10 GRAM.—
- 11 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

1           “(A) ELIGIBLE CAREER PATHWAY PRO-  
2           GRAM.—The term ‘eligible career pathway pro-  
3           gram’ means a program that—

4                   “(i) meets the requirements of section  
5                   484(d)(2);

6                   “(ii) is listed on the provider list  
7                   under section 122(d) of the Workforce In-  
8                   novation and Opportunity Act;

9                   “(iii) is part of a career pathway, as  
10                  defined in section 3 of that Act; and

11                  “(iv) is aligned to a program of study  
12                  as defined in section 3 of the Carl D. Per-  
13                  kins Career and Technical Education Act  
14                  of 2006.

15           “(B) ELIGIBLE JOB TRAINING PRO-  
16           GRAM.—

17                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible  
18                   job training program’ means a career and  
19                   technical education program at an institu-  
20                   tion of higher education that—

21                           “(I) provides not less than 150,  
22                           and not more than 600, clock hours of  
23                           instructional time over a period of not  
24                           less than 8 weeks and not more than  
25                           15 weeks;

1                   “(II) provides training aligned  
2 with the requirements of high-skill,  
3 high-wage, or in-demand industry sec-  
4 tors or occupations in the State or  
5 local area, as determined by an indus-  
6 try or sector partnership;

7                   “(III) is a program of training  
8 services, and provided through an eli-  
9 gible training provider, as described  
10 under section 122(d) of the Workforce  
11 Innovation and Opportunity Act;

12                   “(IV) provides a student, upon  
13 completion of the program, with a rec-  
14 ognized postsecondary credential that  
15 is recognized by employers in the rel-  
16 evant industry, including credentials  
17 recognized by industry or sector part-  
18 nerships in the relevant industry in  
19 the State or local area where the in-  
20 dustry is located and the job training  
21 program is provided;

22                   “(V) has been determined by the  
23 institution of higher education (after  
24 validation of that determination by an  
25 industry or sector partnership) to pro-

1           vide academic content, an amount of  
2           instructional time, and a recognized  
3           postsecondary credential that are suf-  
4           ficient to—

5                   “(aa) meet the hiring re-  
6                   quirements of potential employ-  
7                   ers; and

8                   “(bb) satisfy any applicable  
9                   educational prerequisite require-  
10                  ment for professional licensure or  
11                  certification, so that the student  
12                  who completes the program and  
13                  seeks employment qualifies to  
14                  take any licensure or certification  
15                  examination needed to practice or  
16                  find employment in an occupa-  
17                  tion that the program prepares  
18                  students to enter;

19                  “(VI) may include integrated  
20                  education and training;

21                  “(VII) may be offered as part of  
22                  an eligible career pathway program;

23                  “(VIII) does not exceed by more  
24                  than 50 percent the minimum number  
25                  of clock hours required for training if

1 the State has established such a re-  
2 quirement; and

3 “(IX) shall include institutional  
4 credit articulation for a student en-  
5 rolled in a noncredit job training pro-  
6 gram.

7 “(ii) APPROVAL BY THE SEC-  
8 RETARY.—In the case of a program that is  
9 seeking to establish eligibility as an eligible  
10 job training program under this subpara-  
11 graph, the Secretary shall make a deter-  
12 mination about whether the program meets  
13 the requirements of this subparagraph not  
14 more than 60 days after the date on which  
15 such program is submitted for consider-  
16 ation as an eligible job training program.

17 “(iii) ADDITIONAL ASSURANCE.—The  
18 Secretary shall not determine that a pro-  
19 gram is an eligible job training program in  
20 accordance with clause (ii) unless the Sec-  
21 retary receives a certification from the ap-  
22 propriate State board containing an assur-  
23 ance that the program meets the require-  
24 ments of clause (i).

1           “(C) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDU-  
2           CATION.—The term ‘institution of higher edu-  
3           cation’ means—

4                   “(i) an institution of higher education,  
5                   as defined in section 101; or

6                   “(ii) a postsecondary vocational insti-  
7                   tution, as defined in section 102(c).

8           “(D) INSTITUTIONAL CREDIT ARTICULA-  
9           TION.—The term ‘institutional credit articula-  
10           tion’ means an institution of higher education  
11           provides a student who has completed a non-  
12           credit program with the equivalent academic  
13           credit that may be applied to a subsequent  
14           credit-bearing certificate or degree program  
15           upon enrollment in such program at such insti-  
16           tution.

17           “(E) WIOA DEFINITIONS.—The terms ‘in-  
18           dustry or sector partnership’, ‘in-demand indus-  
19           try sector or occupation’, ‘recognized postsec-  
20           ondary credential’, and ‘State board’ have the  
21           meanings given such terms in section 3 of the  
22           Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

23           “(2) IN GENERAL.—For the award year begin-  
24           ning on July 1, 2026, and each subsequent award  
25           year, the Secretary shall carry out a program

1 through which the Secretary shall award Federal  
2 Pell Grants to students in eligible job training pro-  
3 grams (referred to as a 'job training Federal Pell  
4 Grant'). Each eligible job training Federal Pell  
5 Grant awarded under this subsection shall have the  
6 same terms and conditions, and be awarded in the  
7 same manner, as other Federal Pell Grants awarded  
8 under subsection (b), except as follows:

9           “(A) A student who is eligible to receive a  
10 job training Federal Pell Grant under this sub-  
11 section is a student who—

12                   “(i) has not yet attained a  
13 postbaccalaureate degree;

14                   “(ii) attends an institution of higher  
15 education;

16                   “(iii) is enrolled, or accepted for en-  
17 rollment, in an eligible job training pro-  
18 gram at such institution of higher edu-  
19 cation; and

20                   “(iv) meets all other eligibility re-  
21 quirements for a Federal Pell Grant (ex-  
22 cept with respect to the type of program of  
23 study, as provided in clause (iii)).

24           “(B) The amount of a job training Federal  
25 Pell Grant for an eligible student shall be deter-

1           mined under subsection (b), except that not-  
2           withstanding subsection (b)(1)(B) a student  
3           who is eligible for less than the minimum Fed-  
4           eral Pell Grant for an academic year in which  
5           the student is enrolled in an eligible program  
6           full time may still be eligible for a Federal Pell  
7           Grant.

8           “(3) INCLUSION IN TOTAL ELIGIBILITY PE-  
9           RIOD.—Any period during which a student receives  
10          a job training Federal Pell Grant under this sub-  
11          section shall be included in calculating the student’s  
12          period of eligibility for Federal Pell Grants under  
13          subsection (d), and the eligibility requirements re-  
14          garding students who are enrolled in an under-  
15          graduate program on less than a full-time basis shall  
16          similarly apply to students who are enrolled in an el-  
17          igible job training program at an eligible institution  
18          on less than a full-time basis.”.

19          (b) ACCREDITING AGENCY RECOGNITION OF ELIGI-  
20          BLE JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS.—Section 496(a)(4) of the  
21          Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1099b(a)(4))  
22          is amended—

23                 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and”  
24                 after the semicolon;



1 (2) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by inserting “and”  
2 after the semicolon; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) if such agency or association has or seeks to include within its scope of recognition the evaluation of the quality of institutions of higher education participating in the job training Federal Pell Grant program under section 401(k), such agency or association shall, in addition to meeting the other requirements of this subpart, demonstrate to the Secretary that, with respect to such eligible job training programs (as defined in that subsection)—

“(i) the agency or association’s standards include a process for determining if the institution has the capability to effectively offer an eligible job training program; and

19 “(ii) the agency or association re-  
20 quires a demonstration that the program—

21 “(I) has identified each recog-  
22 nized postsecondary credential offered  
23 and the corresponding industry or sec-  
24 tor partnership that actively recog-  
25 nizes each credential in the relevant

1 industry in the State or local area  
2 where the industry is located; and

3 “(II) provides the academic con-  
4 tent and amount of instructional time  
5 that is sufficient to—

6 “(aa) meet the hiring re-  
7 quirements of potential employ-  
8 ers; and

9 “(bb) satisfy any applicable  
10 educational prerequisites for pro-  
11 fessional licensure or certification  
12 requirements so that the student  
13 who completes the program and  
14 seeks employment qualifies to  
15 take any licensure or certification  
16 examination that is needed to  
17 practice or find employment in  
18 an occupation that the program  
19 prepares students to enter.”.

20 (c) INTERAGENCY DATA SHARING.—The Secretary  
21 of Education shall coordinate and enter into a data shar-  
22 ing agreement with the Secretary of Labor to ensure ac-  
23 cess to data related to indicators of performance collected  
24 under section 116 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-  
25 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141). Under such data sharing

1 agreement, the Commissioner of the National Center for  
2 Education Statistics shall collect and review the contents  
3 of performance reports for eligible providers of training  
4 services described in section 116(d)(4) of that Act not less  
5 frequently than once each year.

6 (d) MINIMUM FEDERAL PELL GRANT.—Section  
7 401(a)(2)(F) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
8 U.S.C. 1070a(a)(2)(F)) is amended by striking “10 per-  
9 cent” and inserting “5 percent”.

10 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section, and the amend-  
11 ments made by this section, shall take effect on July 1,  
12 2026.