

### Comparison of Key Provisions of the JOBS and PELL Acts (as introduced)

Two bills have been introduced in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress to extend Pell Grant eligibility to students in short-term workforce education programs. The Jumpstart Our Businesses by Supporting Students (JOBS) Act of 2023 (H.R. 793, S. 161) has been reintroduced with only technical modifications from the legislation as introduced in the last Congress. Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA) is once again a lead cosponsor, now alongside Sen. Mike Braun (R-IN). Spearheading the House bill are Reps. Bill Johnson (R-OH) and Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE).

The Promoting Employment and Lifelong Learning (PELL) Act (H.R. 496) is a new entrant, sponsored by Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY), though it builds on legislation introduced in the last Congress by House Education and Workforce Committee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC).

	JOBS	PELL
<b>Program Name</b>	Job Training Federal Pell Grant Program	Workforce Pell Grants Program
<b>Eligible Program Length</b>	150 – 600 clock hours, over 8 – 15 weeks	150 – 600 clock hours, over 8 – 15 weeks
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Public and non-profit IHEs and postsecondary vocational institutions	All Title IV-eligible institutions
<b>Industry Alignment</b>	Program must provide: training aligned with the requirements of high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors or occupations in the State or local area, as determined by an industry or sector partnership; and students with a recognized postsecondary credential (as defined in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) that is recognized by employers in the relevant industry. The institution must determine that the program (with subsequent validation of that determination by an industry or sector partnership) provides adequate academic content and instructional time, and a recognized postsecondary	Program must provide education aligned with the requirements of in-demand industry sectors or occupations (as defined in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) and meet the hiring requirements of potential employers in those sectors, as determined by the institution's accreditor.

	credential, to meet the hiring requirements of potential employers and satisfy any educational prerequisites for licensure or certification.	
<b>Minimum Time Program Must Exist Before Becoming Pell Eligible</b>	NA	1 year
<b>Earnings Requirement</b>	NA*	Published program tuition and fees in a given award year may not exceed the difference between the median earnings of program completers from 3 years prior (adjusted for regional price disparities) and 150% of the federal poverty line applicable to a single individual
<b>Completion Requirement</b>	NA*	70% verified completion rate (student counts as a completer if he/she finishes the program within 150% of the normal time for completion)
<b>Job Placement Requirement</b>	NA*	70% verified job placement rate
<b>Other Eligibility Requirements</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Program must be on WIOA eligible trainer provider list.</li> <li>2. Program may not exceed more than 50% the minimum number of clock hours required for training if the State has established such a requirement.</li> <li>3. Noncredit programs shall include institutional credit articulation (institutions shall grant academic credit for the work done in the noncredit program to students who subsequently</li> </ol>	NA

	<p>enroll in a credit program).</p> <p>4. An “appropriate State board” must certify to the Department of Education (ED) that the program meets the requirements stated above.</p>	
<b>Relation to Pell Grants</b>	<p>Job Training Pell Grants count towards Pell Grant lifetime eligibility. Baccalaureate degree holders that are otherwise eligible may receive a grant.</p>	<p>Workforce Pell Grants count towards Pell Grant lifetime eligibility. Recipients may not receive a Workforce Pell Grant and a “regular” Pell Grant during the same enrollment period. Baccalaureate degree holders that are otherwise eligible may receive a grant.</p>
<b>Dept. of Ed Approval</b>	<p>Secretary shall make determination regarding program eligibility within 60 days of when it is submitted for consideration.</p>	<p>Secretary may grant new programs provisional eligibility for 3 years. Programs must meet earnings, completion, job placement and other requirements, except that institutions may submit alternate earnings information in lieu of earnings from 3 years prior.</p>
<b>Data Generation and Dissemination</b>	<p>ED must enter into an agreement with the Department of Labor to access data related to WIOA performance indicators (completion, placement, earnings) (see note below).</p>	<p>ED shall annually collect and disseminate on the College Scorecard the information necessary to establish program eligibility generally, and specifically:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Length of the program</li> <li>2. Number of students enrolled in program during the most recent academic year for which data is available</li> <li>3. The percentage of students who complete</li> </ol>

		<p>the program within 150% and 200% of the normal time to completion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. The percentage of completers who are employed not later than 180 days after program completion</li> <li>5. The percentage of completers, 3 years after completion, who earn more than 150% of the federal poverty line for a single individual</li> </ol>
<b>Accreditor Scope of Recognition</b>	<p>Accreditors seeking to include the evaluation of Eligible Job Training Programs within their scope of ED recognition must have standards that include a process to determine if an institution has the capability to effectively offer such a program. The accreditor must require a demonstration that the program has identified each recognized postsecondary credential offered and the corresponding industry or sector partnership that recognizes such credential in the State or local area. The program must also demonstrate to the accreditor that it offers the academic content and instructional time sufficient to meet the needs of employers and any academic prerequisites for licensure and certification.</p>	<p>Accreditors seeking to include the evaluation Workforce Pell Grant programs within their scope of ED recognition must have standards that include a process to determine if an institution has the capability to effectively offer such a program. The accreditor must require a demonstration that the program satisfies the industry alignment, has operated for at least 1 year, and met the completion and placement metrics defined above. The program must also demonstrate that it provides academic content, instructional time, and competencies so that a student who completes the program and seeks employment is qualified to get work in the sector or occupation that the program prepares students to enter.</p>

\*While the JOBS Act does not have direct completion, placement, and earnings metrics as found in the PELL Act, the JOBS Act requirement that programs must be included on the WIOA eligible trainer

provider list means that completion, placement, and earnings information will be collected and reported for these programs. The National Center for Education Statistics is directed to collect and review WIOA program performance reports at least annually.

