

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 4508
OFFERED BY MR. NORCROSS OF NEW JERSEY**

Strike sections 101 and 102.

Redesignate part G of title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as proposed to be amended by section 306, as part H of title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

Redesignate section 306 as section 307.

After section 305, insert the following:

1 SEC. 306. COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS.

2 Title III (20 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.) is further amended
3 by inserting after part F, the following:

4 **“PART G—COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT**
5 **SUCCESS**

6 **“SECTION 381. SHORT TITLE.**

7 “This part may be cited as the ‘Community College
8 Student Success Act’.

9 **“SEC. 382. COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS**
10 **GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

11 “From the amounts appropriated under section 390,
12 the Secretary of Education shall establish and carry out

1 the community college student success grant program to
2 award grants under sections 383 and 384, on a competi-
3 tive basis, to eligible institutions to plan and implement
4 community college student success programs designed to
5 increase—

6 “(1) the rate at which eligible students grad-
7 uate from a program of study at such eligible insti-
8 tution within 150 percent of the normal time for
9 graduation; and

10 “(2) transfer rates of eligible students.

11 **“SEC. 383. GRANTS TO PLAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE STU-
12 DENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS.**

13 “(a) **PLANNING GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**—From the
14 amounts appropriated to carry out this section under sec-
15 tion 390 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall award plan-
16 ning grants for such fiscal year, on a competitive basis,
17 to eligible institutions to develop plans for community col-
18 lege student success programs.

19 “(a) **DURATION.**—A grant awarded under this sec-
20 tion shall be for a 1-year period.

21 “(b) **PEER REVIEW PROCESS; PRIORITY.**—In award-
22 ing grants under this section for a fiscal year, the Sec-
23 retary shall—

24 “(1) carry out a peer review process that—

1 “(A) requires that each application sub-
2 mitted under subsection (d) be peer reviewed by
3 a panel of readers composed of individuals se-
4 lected by the Secretary, which shall include—

5 “(i) not less than 50 percent of read-
6 ers—

7 “(I) who are not employees of the
8 Federal Government; and

9 “(II) who have relevant research
10 or practical experience with respect to
11 student support programs designed to
12 increase graduation rates and transfer
13 rates at public 2-year institutions of
14 higher education; and

15 “(ii) to the maximum extent prac-
16 ticable, individuals who are members of
17 groups underrepresented in higher edu-
18 cation, including African Americans, His-
19 panics, Native Americans, Alaska Natives,
20 Asian Americans, and Native American
21 Pacific Islanders (including Native Hawai-
22 ians); and

23 “(B) ensures that no individual assigned
24 under subparagraph (A) to review an applica-
25 tion has any conflict of interest with regard to

1 that application that may make the individual
2 unable to impartially conduct such review; and

3 “(2) give priority to eligible institutions that
4 are eligible to receive funding under this title or title
5 V.

6 “(c) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution desiring a
7 grant under this section shall submit an application to the
8 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing
9 such information as the Secretary may require, which shall
10 include—

11 “(1) the graduation rate and transfer rate for
12 the most recent academic year for which data are
13 available for eligible students and all students, re-
14 spectively;

15 “(2) an analysis of how implementing a commu-
16 nity college student success program may improve
17 the graduation rate or transfer rate for eligible stu-
18 dents; and

19 “(3) an analysis of the methods the eligible in-
20 stitution has previously used to improve the gradua-
21 tion rate or transfer rate with respect to eligible stu-
22 dents and all students, respectively.

23 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institution that re-
24 ceives a grant under this section shall use the grant to

1 develop a plan to implement a community college student
2 success program at the eligible institution.

3 “(e) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
4 on which an eligible institution receives a grant under this
5 section, such eligible institution shall submit to the Sec-
6 retary a report that includes—

7 “(1) a plan for implementing a community col-
8 lege student success program at the eligible institu-
9 tion, including—

10 “(A) the ambitious outcome goals for
11 achieving significant improvements in gradua-
12 tion rates and transfer rates for eligible stu-
13 dents and all students, respectively, as such
14 rates are defined by the eligible institution, in
15 consultation with the Secretary, before the end
16 of the grant period;

17 “(B) the number of such eligible students
18 who will participate in such program, including
19 how such eligible students will be identified, re-
20 ferred, and selected, in cases where the interest
21 in the program is larger than the budget for the
22 program;

23 “(C) the demographics (including income,
24 race, and gender) of such eligible students; and

1 “(D) based on the most recent academic
2 year for which data are available, disaggregated
3 by eligible students and all students—

4 “(i) graduation rates;

5 “(ii) transfer rates;

6 “(iii) retention rates;

7 “(iv) rates of completion of remedial
8 courses for students required to complete
9 such courses; and

10 “(v) average number of credits at-
11 tempted and average number of credits
12 earned;

13 “(E) an analysis of the financial needs of
14 the eligible students described in subparagraph
15 (B);

16 “(F) an analysis of how the eligible institu-
17 tion will collaborate across departments at the
18 institution and with external partners to imple-
19 ment a community college student success pro-
20 gram, including the detailed roles and respon-
21 sibilities of each potential external partner (in-
22 cluding each investor, State or local government
23 entity, or other stakeholder);

1 “(G) a description of how the eligible insti-
2 tution will effectively staff a community college
3 student success program; and

4 “(H) a timeline for the implementation of
5 such program;

6 “(2) a budgetary analysis that includes—

7 “(A) a description of how the eligible insti-
8 tution will—

9 “(i) provide non-Federal funds for
10 such program under subsection (d) of sec-
11 tion 384; and

12 “(ii) meet the requirement of sub-
13 section (b)(3) of such section; and

14 “(B) a description of how the eligible insti-
15 tution will continue to fund such program after
16 the end of the grant period for the grant
17 awarded to the institution under section 384;

18 “(3) a description of the data system the eligi-
19 ble institution will use to track and evaluate the
20 progress of eligible students participating in such
21 program;

22 “(4) an analysis of the institutional barriers
23 that may hinder implementing such program at such
24 eligible institution; and

1 “(5) such other information as the Secretary
2 may require.

3 **“SEC. 384. GRANTS TO IMPLEMENT COMMUNITY COLLEGE**
4 **STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS.**

5 “(a) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—
6 From the amounts appropriated to carry out this section
7 under section 390 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall
8 award grants for such fiscal year, on a competitive basis,
9 to eligible institutions awarded a grant under section 383
10 to implement community college student success pro-
11 grams.

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

13 “(2) CONSULTATION.—In awarding grants
14 under this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary
15 shall consult with the independent evaluator before
16 finalizing which eligible institutions will receive such
17 a grant for such fiscal year.

18 “(b) REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTION.—To be eligi-
19 ble to receive a grant under this section, an eligible institu-
20 tion shall meet the following requirements:

21 “(1) The eligible institution was awarded a
22 grant under section 383 at least 1 year before such
23 eligible institution submits an application under sub-
24 section (e).

1 “(2) The eligible institution submits an applica-
2 tion under subsection (e).

3 “(3) The eligible institution demonstrates, on
4 the date of the application described in subsection
5 (e), the availability of non-Federal funding for the
6 matching funds required under subparagraphs (A),
7 (B), and (C) of subsection (d)(1).

8 “(c) DURATION.—A grant awarded under this section
9 shall be for a 5-year period.

10 “(d) NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
12 graph (2), an eligible institution awarded a grant
13 under this section shall contribute in cash from non-
14 Federal sources, the following:

15 “(A) For the second year of the grant pe-
16 riod, an amount equal to 20 percent of the cost
17 of carrying out the community college student
18 success program at the institution for such
19 year.

20 “(B) For the third year of the grant pe-
21 riod, an amount equal to 40 percent of the cost
22 of carrying out such program for such year.

23 “(C) For the fourth year of the grant pe-
24 riod, an amount equal to 60 percent of the cost
25 of carrying out such program for such year.

1 “(D) For the fifth year of the grant pe-
2 riod, an amount equal to 80 percent of the cost
3 of carrying out such program for such year.

4 “(2) EXCEPTION.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding para-
6 graph (1), with respect to an exempt institution
7 awarded a grant under this section, for each
8 year of the grant period beginning with the sec-
9 ond year through the fifth year, the Secretary
10 shall not require the institution to make a cash
11 contribution from non-Federal sources in an
12 amount that is greater than the amount equal
13 to 5 percent of the cost of carrying out the
14 community college student success program at
15 the institution for such year.

16 “(B) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this
17 paragraph:

18 “(i) EXEMPT INSTITUTION.—The
19 term ‘exempt institution’ means an eligible
20 institution that is a—

21 “(I) Tribal college or university;

22 or

23 “(II) an institution located in the
24 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam,
25 American Samoa, the United States

1 Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of
2 the Northern Mariana Islands, the
3 Republic of the Marshall Islands, the
4 Federated States of Micronesia, or the
5 Republic of Palau.

6 “(ii) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVER-
7 SITY.—The term ‘Tribal college or univer-
8 sity’ has the meaning given the term in
9 section 316.

10 “(e) APPLICATION.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible institution de-
12 siring a grant under this section shall submit an ap-
13 plication to the Secretary at such time, in such man-
14 ner, and containing such information as the Sec-
15 retary may require, which shall include a copy of the
16 report described in section 383(e).

17 “(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBLE INSTITU-
18 TIONS THAT REAPPLY.—An institution that submits
19 an application under paragraph (1) that is not the
20 first application submitted by such institution under
21 such paragraph shall include the following in such
22 application:

23 “(A) The number of applications such eli-
24 gible institution has submitted under paragraph

1 (1) and the dates on which such applications
2 were submitted.

3 “(B) A description of the changes the eligi-
4 ble institution has made since the most recent
5 application submitted under paragraph (1) to
6 improve the plan to implement a community
7 college student success program at such eligible
8 institution.

9 “(3) REVIEW.—Not later than 60 days after re-
10 ceiving an application under this subsection, the Sec-
11 retary shall approve or deny such application.

12 “(f) REQUIRED USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institu-
13 tion that receives a grant under this section shall use the
14 grant funds to—

15 “(1) implement a community college student
16 success program;

17 “(2) regularly review—

18 “(A) data to monitor the academic
19 progress of eligible students participating in
20 such program; and

21 “(B) the meeting and program participa-
22 tion requirements described in section
23 420AA(1); and

24 “(3) cover the employment of administrators
25 for the program whose sole job shall be to admin-

1 ister the program, without regard to whether the
2 employment is full-time or less than full-time.

3 “(g) PERMISSIBLE USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible in-
4 stitution that receives a grant under this section may use
5 the grant to—

6 “(1) establish or expand a data tracking system
7 that includes early alerts to complete the regular re-
8 views required under subsection (f)(2);

9 “(2) provide eligible students participating in
10 the community college student success program for
11 which the grant is awarded with financial assistance
12 to cover the costs described in paragraph (2), (3), or
13 (8) of section 472;

14 “(3) establish or expand career development
15 services for such students, such as career workshops
16 or career counseling;

17 “(4) establish or expand tutoring services for
18 such students; and

19 “(5) provide financial support for eligible stu-
20 dents participating in such program to enroll in
21 courses offered during enrollment periods that are
22 outside the fall and spring semesters (or equivalent
23 terms).

24 “(h) REPORTS.—An eligible institution that receives
25 a grant under this section shall—

1 “(1) not less than once for each year of the
2 grant period, submit to the Secretary an annual per-
3 formance report for such year of the grant period,
4 and when data is available, compares such year with
5 the each of the 2 years preceding the date on which
6 the grant was awarded—

7 “(A) the demographics of the eligible stu-
8 dents participating in the community college
9 student success program;

10 “(B) the average number of credits at-
11 tempted and average number of credits earned,
12 rate of retention, rate of degree completion, and
13 transfer rates of such eligible students;

14 “(C) the graduation rate of such eligible
15 students within—

16 “(i) 100 percent of the normal time
17 for graduation;

18 “(ii) 150 percent of the normal time
19 for graduation; and

20 “(iii) 200 percent of the normal time
21 graduation;

22 “(D) an analysis of the implementation
23 and progress of such program based on the am-
24 bitious outcome goals described in the report
25 submitted by the institution under section

1 383(e)(1)(A), including challenges to and
2 changes made to such program; and

3 “(E) if according to the analysis under
4 subparagraph (D), the program is not on track
5 to meet such ambitious outcome goals, a de-
6 scription of the plans to adjust the program to
7 improve the performance of the program; and

8 “(F) the participation of such eligible stu-
9 dents in tutoring, career services, and meetings
10 with program advisors;

11 “(G) for the report for the third year of
12 the grant period, the plan to meet the non-Fed-
13 eral contribution requirement under subsection
14 (d)(1)(D);

15 “(H) for the report for the fourth year of
16 the grant period, a description of—

17 “(i) the source of the funds to meet
18 the non-Federal contribution requirement
19 under subsection (d)(1)(D);

20 “(ii) the plans to continue to fund
21 such program after the grant period ends;
22 and

23 “(iii) the plans to use this program as
24 a catalyst for institution-wide reform with

1 respect to graduation rates and transfer
2 rates for all students; and

3 “(2) not later than 6 years after the date on
4 which the eligible institution received such grant,
5 submit a final report to the Secretary that includes
6 an analysis of—

7 “(A) the factors that contributed to the
8 success or failure of the community college stu-
9 dent success program in meeting the ambitious
10 outcome goals described in the report submitted
11 by the institution under section 383(e)(1)(A);

12 “(B) the challenges faced in attempting to
13 implement such program;

14 “(C) information on how to improve such
15 program;

16 “(D) whether the program has created an
17 institution-wide reform with respect to graduate
18 rates and transfer rates for all students, and if
19 so, how such reform was created; and

20 “(E) how the eligible institution will con-
21 tinue to fund such program after the end of the
22 grant period.

23 **“SEC. 385. EVALUATIONS.**

24 “(a) INDEPENDENT EVALUATIONS.—Before final-
25 izing which eligible institutions will receive grants under

1 section 384 for a fiscal year, the Secretary, acting through
2 the Director of the Institute of Education Sciences, shall
3 enter into a contract with an independent evaluator—

4 “(1) to consult with the Secretary on which eli-
5 gible institutions should receive the grants; and

6 “(2) to use the What Works Clearinghouse
7 Standards (without reservations) to evaluate,
8 throughout the duration of the grant period of such
9 grants—

10 “(A) each community college student suc-
11 cess program for which such grant is awarded,
12 including whether the program met its ambi-
13 tious outcome goals described in the report sub-
14 mitted by the institution under section
15 383(e)(1)(A);

16 “(B) the average impact of community col-
17 lege student success programs on graduation
18 rates and transfer rates for eligible students;

19 “(C) the variation in program impacts
20 across eligible institutions with respect to such
21 rates; and

22 “(D) whether such programs lead to higher
23 graduation rates and transfer rates of eligible
24 students per dollar spent for such students by

1 such institutions compared with such rates at
2 eligible institutions without such programs.

3 “(b) **RESULTS OF EVALUATIONS.**—The results of the
4 evaluations under subsection (a) shall be made publicly
5 available on the website of the Department of Education.

6 “(c) **FUNDING FOR EVALUATIONS.**—The Secretary
7 may reserve not more than 15 percent of the funds appro-
8 priated under section 390 for a fiscal year to carry out
9 this section for such fiscal year.

10 **“SEC. 386. OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

11 “(a) **OUTREACH.**—The Secretary shall conduct out-
12 reach activities to notify eligible institutions of the avail-
13 ability of grants under this part.

14 “(b) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary shall
15 provide technical assistance—

16 “(1) to eligible institutions that may be inter-
17 ested in applying for grants under this part, includ-
18 ing assistance with applications for such grants; and

19 “(2) to eligible institutions awarded grants
20 under this part, including assistance with—

21 “(A) establishing ambitious outcome goals
22 described in section 383(e)(1)(A); and

23 “(B) the implementation of a community
24 college student success program.

1 “(c) FUNDING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR
2 EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary may reserve not more
3 than 7 percent of the funds appropriated under section
4 390 for a fiscal year for technical assistance under this
5 section for such fiscal year.

6 **“SEC. 387. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

7 “Not later than 1 year after the date on which the
8 Secretary receives the final evaluation results under sec-
9 tion 385 for eligible institutions that were awarded grants
10 under section 384 for the same fiscal year, the Secretary
11 shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

12 “(1) the number of grants awarded under sec-
13 tion 384 for such fiscal year, and the amount of
14 such grants; and

15 “(2) the number of grants awarded under sec-
16 tion 383 to eligible institutions that received or
17 would have been eligible for the grants described in
18 paragraph (1), and the amount of such grants; and

19 “(3) such final evaluation results.

20 **“SEC. 388. SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.**

21 “Funds awarded to an eligible institution under this
22 part shall be used only to supplement the amount of funds
23 that would, in the absence of the Federal funds provided
24 under this part, be made available from non-Federal

1 sources or other Federal sources to carry out the activities
2 under this part, and not to supplant such funds.

3 **“SEC. 389. DEFINITIONS.**

4 “In this part:

5 “(1) COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS
6 PROGRAM.—The term ‘community college student
7 success program’ means a program carried out by
8 an eligible institution under which the institution
9 carries out the following:

10 “(A) Provides eligible students partici-
11 pating in such program with an amount that
12 covers the cost of tuition and fees that are not
13 covered by any Federal, State, or institutional
14 financial assistance received by the student.

15 “(B) Requires eligible students partici-
16 pating in such program to—

17 “(i) be enrolled in the eligible institu-
18 tion and carry a full-time academic work-
19 load during each fall and spring semester
20 (or equivalent terms) during which the stu-
21 dent participates in such program;

22 “(ii) if the eligible student is referred
23 to remedial courses or on academic proba-
24 tion, meet, on at least a weekly basis, with
25 a tutor, except that in the case of an eligi-

1 ble student who is academically struggling,
2 but who is not referred to remedial courses
3 or on academic probation, the student may
4 meet with a tutor as often as the program
5 advisor for such student requires;

6 “(iii) meet with a program advisor—

7 “(I) twice each month during the
8 first semester (or equivalent term) of
9 participation in such program; and

10 “(II) as directed by the program
11 advisor in subsequent semesters (or
12 equivalent terms) under subparagraph
13 (C)(ii); and

14 “(iv) meet with an on-campus career
15 advisor or participate in a career services
16 event once each semester (or equivalent
17 term).

18 “(C) Provides a program advisor to each
19 eligible student participating in such program
20 who—

21 “(i) provides comprehensive academic
22 and personal advising to the eligible stu-
23 dent, including—

24 “(I) the creation and implemen-
25 tation of an academic plan for the

1 student to graduate from a program
2 of study at the eligible institution
3 within 150 percent of the normal time
4 for graduation from such program;

5 “(II) if an eligible student is re-
6 ferred to remedial courses, encour-
7 aging such student to complete such
8 courses as quickly as possible; and

9 “(III) assisting the eligible stu-
10 dent with developing and achieving
11 academic goals, including creating
12 strong transfer pathways that dem-
13 onstrate programmatic transfer for
14 students interested in transferring to
15 a 4-year institution of higher edu-
16 cation;

17 “(ii) after the eligible student partici-
18 pating in such program completes a semes-
19 ter (or equivalent term), creates for the eli-
20 gible student a needs-based advising sched-
21 ule that indicates, based on the eligible
22 student’s academic performance, the fre-
23 quency with which such eligible student
24 shall be required to meet with a program

1 advisor for each subsequent semester (or
2 equivalent term) of program participation;

3 “(iii) has a caseload of not more than
4 150 eligible students;

5 “(iv) tracks the attendance of the eli-
6 gible student at the meetings described in
7 clauses (ii), (ii), and (iv) of subparagraph
8 (B);

9 “(v) monitors the academic progress
10 of the eligible student; and

11 “(vi) provides each eligible student
12 who meets the requirements of subpara-
13 graph (B), on at least a monthly basis,
14 with financial incentives, such as a trans-
15 portation pass or a gas card.

16 “(D) Provides free tutoring and career
17 services to eligible students participating in
18 such program, and may reserve places in select
19 courses for such eligible students in order to
20 create community within cohorts of eligible stu-
21 dents.

22 “(2) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term ‘eli-
23 ble institution’ means a public 2-year institution of
24 higher education.

1 “(3) ELIGIBLE STUDENT.—The term ‘eligible
2 student’ means a student enrolled at an eligible in-
3 stitution who—

4 “(A) on the date such eligible student
5 would begin participation in a community col-
6 lege student success program at such eligible
7 institution—

8 “(i) is enrolled in a program of study
9 leading to an associate degree;

10 “(ii) is enrolled at such institution
11 and carrying a full-time academic workload
12 during each fall and spring semester (or
13 equivalent terms) during which the student
14 participates in such program;

15 “(iii) is—

16 “(I) a first-time undergraduate
17 student; or

18 “(II) a continuing or transfer
19 student with not more than 15 credits
20 and a minimum grade point average
21 of 2.0 (or its equivalent); and

22 “(iv) is considered by the eligible in-
23 stitution to need no more than two reme-
24 dial courses; and

1 “(B) if the student is eligible for financial
2 aid under title IV, has completed the Free Ap-
3 plication for Federal Student Aid or other com-
4 mon financial reporting form under section
5 483(a); and

6 “(C) meets any other requirements estab-
7 lished by the institution.

8 “(4) FULL-TIME ACADEMIC WORKLOAD.—The
9 term ‘full-time academic workload’, when used with
10 respect to an semester or equivalent term, means at
11 least 12 credits (or the equivalent).

12 “(5) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
13 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
14 meaning given the term in section 101.

15 “(6) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means
16 the Secretary of Education.

17 “(7) TRANSFER RATE.—The term ‘transfer
18 rate’, when used with respect to students enrolled in
19 a program of study at an eligible institution, means
20 the rate at which such students transfer to a 4-year
21 institution of higher education.

22 **“SEC. 390. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), there
24 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this chapter

1 \$1,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 and each of the 5 suc-
2 ceeding fiscal years.

3 “(b) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The amount authorized to
5 be appropriated under paragraph (1) for fiscal year
6 2020 and each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years shall
7 be deemed increased by the annual adjustment per-
8 centage.

9 “(2) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term
10 ‘annual adjustment percentage’, as applied to a fis-
11 cal year, means the estimated percentage change in
12 the Consumer Price Index (as determined by the
13 Secretary, using the definition in section 478(f)) for
14 the most recent calendar year ending before the be-
15 ginning of that fiscal year.”.

