

ROADMAP TO COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS

Background

On January 30, 2024, Democrats on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce unveiled the [Roadmap to College Student Success](#), a package of six previously introduced bills to address college affordability, access, and student support. The package serves as the Democrats' response to the Republican-authored [College Cost Reduction Act](#), which passed out of the committee on a party-line vote the next day. This high-level summary outlines the major elements of the package, and committee Democrats [created a webpage](#) detailing the six bills.

Summary

[Lowering Obstacles to Achievement Now \(LOAN\) Act \(H.R. 1731\)](#)

Date introduced: March 22, 2023

Sponsor: Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA) and Rep. Frederica Wilson (D-FL)

Support: Only Democratic co-sponsors

- Title I: Increases the maximum Pell Grant award to \$14,000; increases Pell access for recipients of means-tested benefits; expands Pell eligibility to DACA recipients; increases to 18 the number of semesters students can access Pell grants; and allows graduate students to use remaining Pell eligibility for their degree, among other changes.
- Title II: Makes graduate and professional students eligible to receive federal direct Stafford loans; repeals origination fees on loans; requires prepayments be applied to loans with the highest interest rates; authorizes the Secretary of Education to take action to support borrowers with delinquent or rehabilitating loans; reduces the requirement of 120 payments for Public Service Loan Forgiveness to 96 payments; and removes the requirement that borrowers must be in a public service job at the time forgiveness is granted, among other things.
- Title III: Eliminates interest capitalization on student loans.
- Title IV: Sets loan interest rates to a rate equal to 10-year Treasury notes at a maximum of 5 percent and enables borrowers with preexisting loans to take advantage of this policy.

[America's College Promise Act \(H.R. 5998\)](#)

Date introduced: October 19, 2023

Sponsor: Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez (D-NM)

Support: Only Democratic co-sponsors

- Title I: Creates the America's College Promise Federal-State Partnership to cover tuition and fees for two years of community and technical college for eligible students. It also covers tuition and fees for eligible students at Tribal Colleges and Universities.
- Title II: Establishes a grant program for institutions to use to improve enrollment, retention, transfer, completion rates, or labor market outcomes of underserved student populations.

- Title III: Creates grant programs for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Minority-Serving Institutions to use to encourage students to enroll in and complete a bachelor's degree.

[Pell to Grad Act \(H.R. 961\)](#)

Date introduced: February 9, 2023

Sponsor: Rep. Haley Stevens (D-MI)

Support: Only Democratic co-sponsors

- Increases from 12 to 16 the number of semesters eligible students may receive a Pell Grant.
- Allows eligible students who received Pell Grants during their undergraduate education and have remaining eligible semesters to use their remaining eligibility toward a graduate degree.

[College Transparency Act \(H.R. 2957\)](#)

Date introduced: April 27, 2023

Sponsor: Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL) and Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR)

Support: Bipartisan

- Requires the National Center for Education Statistics to develop and maintain a postsecondary student-level data system with privacy protections to evaluate student enrollment patterns, progression, completion, and outcomes, and higher education costs and financial aid; provide accurate, complete, and customizable information for students and families; and reduce the reporting burden on institutions of higher education (IHE), among other requirements.
- Establishes the Postsecondary Student Data System Advisory Committee to determine the elements included, and how to include them, in the data system.
- Requires IHEs to collect and submit the required data to select federal institutions.

[Respond, Innovate, Succeed, and Empower \(RISE\) Act \(H.R. 2401\)](#)

Date introduced: March 30, 2023

Sponsor: Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR)

Support: Bipartisan

- Requires IHEs to accept certain types of documentation, such as individualized education program plans, Section 504 plans, and others, as sufficient to establish that an individual has a disability.
- Requires IHEs to make information regarding student disabilities transparent and to disseminate it to students and parents.
- Authorizes \$10 million for the National Center for Information and Technical Support for Postsecondary Students with Disabilities.
- Mandates IHEs submit to the Department of Education (ED) data regarding undergraduate students enrolled who are formally registered with disabilities.

[Opportunity to Address College Hunger Act \(H.R. 309\)](#)

Date introduced: January 12, 2023

Sponsor: Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR)

Support: Only Democratic co-sponsors

- Requires IHEs that participate in Federal Work-Study to notify eligible students of their potential eligibility to receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.
- Requires ED to assist in the development of notifications that IHEs would share with students and issue guidance to IHEs on how to identify and communicate with students who are likely eligible for SNAP benefits.