

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5647

To authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to support fire safety education programs on college campuses.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 16, 2020

Mr. PASCARELL (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. BOST, Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. MALINOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to support fire safety education programs on college campuses.

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 “Campus Fire Safety  
5 Education Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The purpose of this Act is to help provide fire safety  
8 education and training to students attending institutions  
9 of higher education.

1 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-  
4 trator” means the Administrator of the United  
5 States Fire Administration of the Federal Emer-  
6 gency Management Agency.

7 (2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
8 ty” means an institution of higher education, or con-  
9 sortium of institutions of higher education located in  
10 the same State, in a collaborative partnership with  
11 a nonprofit organization or a public safety depart-  
12 ment. Such a collaborative partnership may also in-  
13 clude a social fraternity or sorority exempt from tax-  
14 ation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue  
15 Code of 1986, the active membership of which con-  
16 sists primarily of students enrolled at the institution  
17 or institutions.

18 (3) FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The  
19 term “fire safety education program” means a pro-  
20 gram that provides fire safety and prevention activi-  
21 ties.

22 (4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
23 term “institution of higher education” has the  
24 meaning given to such term in section 101 of the  
25 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).



1 (d) GRANT PERIOD.—Grants under this Act shall be  
2 awarded for not longer than a 2-year period, and may be  
3 renewed for an additional 2-year period, at the Secretary’s  
4 discretion.

5 (e) GRANT SIZE.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
7 the Secretary shall ensure that grants awarded  
8 under this Act are of sufficient size and scope to en-  
9 able eligible entities to carry out all required activi-  
10 ties and otherwise meet the purpose of this Act.

11 (2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—An eligible entity may  
12 not be awarded more than \$250,000 per fiscal year  
13 under this Act.

14 (f) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—An eligible entity re-  
15 ceiving a grant under this Act shall provide non-Federal  
16 matching funds in an amount equal to not less than 25  
17 percent of the costs of the activities for which assistance  
18 is sought. Such non-Federal matching funds may be in  
19 cash or in-kind.

20 (g) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made  
21 available under this Act shall be used to supplement, not  
22 supplant, other Federal, State, or private funds that would  
23 otherwise be expended to carry out fire safety education  
24 programs.

1 **SEC. 5. REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.**

2 (a) REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity  
3 receiving a grant under this Act shall use grant funds to  
4 initiate, expand, or improve a fire safety education pro-  
5 gram that—

6 (1) in the case of an eligible entity that is an  
7 institution of higher education, reaches, to the ex-  
8 tent practicable, all students enrolled in the institu-  
9 tion of higher education, including students living  
10 on-campus and off-campus;

11 (2) is carried out in a manner to ensure max-  
12 imum exposure to, increase awareness of, and effec-  
13 tuate change in behavior with respect to fire safety  
14 by students through—

15 (A) conducting outreach to students at a  
16 minimum of twice per academic year (at the be-  
17 ginning of the fall and spring semesters, or the  
18 equivalent); and

19 (B) measures that provide fire safety infor-  
20 mation to any student upon the request of the  
21 student;

22 (3) includes minimum instruction with respect  
23 to—

24 (A) awareness of fire behavior;

25 (B) mechanisms of fire injury and death;

26 (C) common ignition scenarios;

1 (D) fire safety systems such as automatic  
2 fire sprinklers;

3 (E) fire alarms;

4 (F) fire extinguishers;

5 (G) importance of means of egress;

6 (H) fire prevention techniques that may  
7 prevent a fire from occurring (such as candle  
8 safety, cooking safety, and smoking safety); and

9 (I) fire safety actions to be taken if a fire  
10 occurs to minimize the potential for death, in-  
11 jury, and property damage (such as knowing  
12 how to use a fire extinguisher, how to put out  
13 a cooking fire, calling 911, and evacuating);  
14 and

15 (4) includes a mechanism for carrying out the  
16 evaluations described in subsection (b).

17 (b) EVALUATIONS.—Not later than 6 months after  
18 the end of an eligible entity's grant period, the eligible en-  
19 tity shall—

20 (1) conduct an evaluation on the effectiveness  
21 of the program carried out by the eligible entity in  
22 increasing awareness or improving fire safety behav-  
23 ior at such eligible entity; and

1           (2) prepare and submit to the Secretary a re-  
2           port on the results of the evaluation conducted by  
3           the entity.

4 **SEC. 6. REPORTS.**

5           (a) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 12  
6           months after the date of receipt of the first report sub-  
7           mitted pursuant to section 5(b)(2) and annually there-  
8           after, the Secretary shall provide to Congress a report that  
9           includes the following:

10           (1) The number and types of eligible entities re-  
11           ceiving assistance under this Act.

12           (2) The fire safety education programs being  
13           implemented with assistance under this Act and the  
14           costs of such programs.

15           (3) Any other information determined by the  
16           Secretary to be useful in evaluating the overall effec-  
17           tiveness of the program established under this Act in  
18           improving the fire safety knowledge of college stu-  
19           dents.

20           (b) BEST PRACTICES REPORT.—The Secretary, in  
21           consultation with the Administrator, shall use the infor-  
22           mation provided under subsection (a) to publish a report  
23           of best practices for initiating, expanding, or improving  
24           fire safety education programs that shall be made avail-

1 able to all institutions of higher education and other inter-  
2 ested parties.

3 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4       There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
5 this Act \$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2021  
6 through 2025.

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