

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4041

To support local educational agencies in addressing the student mental health crisis.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 21, 2024

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TESTER, and Ms. HASSAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To support local educational agencies in addressing the student mental health crisis.

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 “Creating Access and
5 Resources in Education for Student Mental Health Act”
6 or the “CARE for Student Mental Health Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

8 The purposes of this Act are to address the student
9 mental health crisis by—

1 (1) increasing the number of, and diversifying,
2 school-based mental health services providers; and

3 (2) supporting local educational agencies in re-
4 cruiting, hiring, retaining, and diversifying school-
5 based mental health services providers to meet the
6 mental health needs of students.

7 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) **ESEA DEFINITIONS.**—The terms “child
10 with a disability”, “educational service agency”, “el-
11 elementary school”, “English learner”, “evidence-
12 based”, “institution of higher education”, “local
13 educational agency”, “other staff”, “outlying area”,
14 “paraprofessional”, “professional development”,
15 “school leader”, “secondary school”, “specialized in-
16 structional support personnel”, “Secretary”,
17 “State”, and “State educational agency” have the
18 meaning given those terms in section 8101 of the
19 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
20 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

21 (2) **ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.**—The term “eligi-
22 ble institution” means an institution of higher edu-
23 cation that offers a program of study in—

1 (A) school psychology that prepares stu-
 2 dents in such program for a State credential as
 3 a school psychologist;

4 (B) school counseling that prepares stu-
 5 dents in such program for a State credential as
 6 a school counselor;

7 (C) school social work that prepares stu-
 8 dents in such program for a State credential as
 9 a school social worker;

10 (D) another school-based mental health
 11 field that prepares students in such program
 12 for a State license or credential as a school-
 13 based mental health services provider under
 14 State law or regulation, as determined by the
 15 Secretary; or

16 (E) any combination of study described in
 17 subparagraphs (A) through (D) that prepares
 18 students in such program for a State credential
 19 as a school based mental health services pro-
 20 vider.

21 (3) HIGH-NEED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-
 22 CY.—

23 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “high-need
 24 local educational agency” means a local edu-
 25 cational agency that, as of the date on which an

1 application is submitted for a grant under this
2 Act—

3 (i)(I) has a locale code of 32, 33, 41,
4 42, or 43, as determined by the Secretary;
5 or

6 (II) is in the highest quartile of local
7 educational agencies, as determined by the
8 State educational agency, in a ranking of
9 all local educational agencies in the State,
10 ranked in descending order by the number
11 or percentage of children in each such
12 agency counted under section 1124(c) of
13 the Elementary and Secondary Education
14 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6333(c)); and

15 (ii) does not meet 2 or more of the
16 following ratios:

17 (I) A ratio of 1 full-time equiva-
18 lent school counselor for every 250
19 students.

20 (II) A ratio of 1 full-time equiva-
21 lent school psychologist for every 500
22 students.

23 (III) A ratio of 1 full-time equiv-
24 alent school social worker for every
25 250 students.

1 (B) ESA.—The term “high-need local edu-
2 cational agency” includes an educational service
3 agency acting on behalf of 1 or more local edu-
4 cational agencies described in subparagraph
5 (A).

6 (4) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”
7 means any Indian tribe identified as such by the
8 Secretary of the Interior under section 104 of the
9 Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994
10 (25 U.S.C. 5131).

11 (5) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The
12 term “minority-serving institution” means an insti-
13 tution of higher education that is an eligible institu-
14 tion under section 371(a) of the Higher Education
15 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

16 (6) SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH PARTNER-
17 SHIP.—The term “school-based mental health part-
18 nership” means a partnership that—

19 (A) is between an eligible institution and 1
20 or more local educational agencies;

21 (B) prepares students enrolled in the eligi-
22 ble institution to obtain a State credential as a
23 school-based mental health services provider;
24 and

1 (C) is designed to increase the number or
2 diversity of school-based mental health services
3 providers in schools served by local educational
4 agencies in order to meet recommended ratios
5 of students to full-time equivalent school-based
6 mental health services providers in those
7 schools, such as by—

8 (i) recruiting, preparing, or respecial-
9 izing students enrolled in the eligible insti-
10 tution's school-based mental health pro-
11 vider program of study to obtain a State
12 credential as, and to be employed as, a
13 school-based mental health services pro-
14 vider;

15 (ii) expanding supervised opportuni-
16 ties for students enrolled in such program
17 of study to complete required field work,
18 credit hours, internships, or related train-
19 ing in order to meet State credentialing re-
20 quirements as a school-based mental health
21 services provider in schools served by a
22 local educational agency; and

23 (iii) recruiting and retaining grad-
24 uates of eligible institutions who have ob-
25 tained a State credential as a school-based

1 mental health services provider, to provide
2 school-based mental health services related
3 to prevention, early identification, and in-
4 dividualized intervention in schools served
5 by a local educational agency.

6 (7) SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
7 PROVIDER.—The term “school-based mental health
8 services provider” has the meaning given the term in
9 section 4102 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
10 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7112).

11 **SEC. 4. STRENGTHENING THE PIPELINE OF SCHOOL-BASED**
12 **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDERS.**

13 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to in-
14 crease the number or diversity of school counselors, school
15 social workers, school psychologists, and other school-
16 based mental health services providers to serve students
17 enrolled in schools served by local educational agencies.

18 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF GRANTS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made avail-
20 able to carry out this section and not reserved under
21 paragraph (2), the Secretary shall award grants, on
22 a competitive basis, to eligible institutions to support
23 school-based mental health partnerships, in accord-
24 ance with subsection (d).

1 (2) RESERVATIONS.—From the total amount
2 made available to carry out this section for any fis-
3 cal year, the Secretary shall reserve not more than
4 2 percent to support program administration, tech-
5 nical assistance, data collection, and dissemination
6 of best practices under this section.

7 (3) DURATION AND RENEWALS.—

8 (A) DURATION.—A grant awarded under
9 this section shall be for a period of not more
10 than 5 years.

11 (B) RENEWAL.—The Secretary may renew
12 a grant awarded under this section if the eligi-
13 ble institution demonstrates to the Secretary
14 that the eligible institution is effectively using
15 funds to significantly expand the pipeline of
16 school counselors, school social workers, school
17 psychologists, and other mental health profes-
18 sionals who meet State credentialing standards
19 as a school-based mental health services pro-
20 vider.

21 (4) GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY.—In awarding
22 grants under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall en-
23 sure that, to the extent practicable and in accord-
24 ance with paragraph (6), grants are distributed
25 among eligible institutions that will serve geographi-

1 cally diverse areas, including urban, suburban, and
2 rural areas.

3 (5) SUFFICIENT SIZE AND SCOPE.—Each grant
4 awarded under this section shall be of sufficient size
5 and scope to allow the grantee to carry out the pur-
6 pose of this section.

7 (6) PRIORITIES.—In awarding grants under
8 paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give priority to—

9 (A) minority-serving institutions, including
10 historically Black colleges and universities (de-
11 fined as “part B institutions” under section
12 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
13 U.S.C. 1061) and Tribal Colleges or Univer-
14 sities (as defined in section 316 of such Act (20
15 U.S.C. 1059c)); and

16 (B) eligible institutions that seek to form
17 a school-based mental health partnership with a
18 high need local educational agency.

19 (7) TIMELINE.—In carrying out the competitive
20 process described in paragraph (1), the Secretary
21 shall—

22 (A) to the greatest extent practicable, en-
23 sure that an eligible institution receives not less
24 than 90 days to submit an application described
25 in subsection (c); and

1 (B) to the greatest extent practicable, pro-
2 vide technical assistance to eligible institutions
3 and to local educational agencies that are or
4 may be part of a school-based mental health
5 partnership, in applying for grants under this
6 section, including by—

7 (i) disseminating the application
8 under this section to all State educational
9 agencies and providing guidance, to the ex-
10 tent practicable, to ensure accurate identi-
11 fication of local educational agencies that
12 may participate in a school-based mental
13 health partnership;

14 (ii) supporting eligible institutions in
15 identifying prospective local educational
16 agencies with whom to partner in a school-
17 based mental health partnership that may
18 be supported by a grant under this section;

19 (iii) provide timely notice about the
20 competitive process under this section, on
21 the same day that a notice inviting applica-
22 tions is published in the Federal Register;

23 (iv) making publicly available tem-
24 plates for sample letters of intent described
25 in subsection (c)(5) and model application

1 materials on the same day that a notice in-
2 viting applications is published in the Fed-
3 eral Register; and

4 (v) addressing questions or concerns
5 from the field in a timely manner, as well
6 as offering multiple opportunities,
7 webinars, or other efforts to engage eligible
8 institutions and local educational agencies
9 that are or may be part of a school-based
10 mental health partnership with an eligible
11 institution.

12 (c) APPLICATION.—An eligible institution applying
13 for a grant under subsection (b)(1) shall submit an appli-
14 cation to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
15 accompanied by such information as the Secretary may
16 require, which shall include—

17 (1) a description of the prevalent mental health
18 or substance use and misuse concerns facing stu-
19 dents enrolled in schools served by local educational
20 agencies that will be part of the school-based mental
21 health partnership (referred to in this section as
22 “participating local educational agencies”), and, if
23 applicable, challenges related to high rates of chronic
24 absenteeism in those schools;

1 (2) the extent to which the proposed school-
2 based mental health partnership will address the
3 challenges described in paragraph (1);

4 (3) a description of how the eligible institution
5 will increase the number or diversity of school-based
6 mental health services providers in participating
7 local educational agencies through the establishment
8 and operation of a school-based mental health part-
9 nership, including a description of such partnership's
10 strategies to—

11 (A) recruit, prepare, respecialize, retrain,
12 or diversify the students enrolled in school-
13 based mental health programs of study in order
14 to help such students to obtain a State creden-
15 tial and be employed as school-based mental
16 health services providers in schools served by
17 local educational agencies; and

18 (B) provide supervised opportunities to
19 place students enrolled in the eligible institution
20 in schools served by a participating local edu-
21 cational agency to complete required field work,
22 credit hours, internships, or related training to
23 meet State credentialing requirements as a
24 school-based mental health services provider, in-
25 cluding a description of the factors the partner-

1 ship will consider when determining the schools
2 in which to place those students;

3 (4) a description of how the school-based men-
4 tal health partnership will increase the capacity of
5 participating local educational agencies to provide
6 evidence-based comprehensive school-based mental
7 health services, accessible to all students, to address
8 the concerns described in paragraph (1), and, if ap-
9 plicable, how such services will best meet the diverse
10 population of students to be served;

11 (5) if applicable, a description of how the
12 school-based mental health partnership will collabo-
13 rate with State, regional, and local public health
14 agencies (including mental health agencies), the
15 State Medicaid agency, child welfare agencies, or
16 other related public and private agencies that pro-
17 vide mental health services to support the activities
18 of the school-based mental health partnership; and

19 (6) a preliminary letter of intent, signed by
20 each eligible institution and each participating local
21 educational agency in the school-based mental health
22 partnership described in paragraph (3), that details
23 the financial, programmatic, and long-term commit-
24 ment of the institution or agency, with respect to the
25 strategies described in the application.

1 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institution that re-
2 ceives a grant under subsection (b)(1) shall use such funds
3 to establish and operate the school-based mental health
4 partnership described in subsection (c)(3) to increase the
5 number or diversity of school-based mental health services
6 providers and support the recruitment, preparation, respe-
7 cialization, retraining, or diversification of students en-
8 rolled in school-based mental health programs of study,
9 in order to help such students to obtain a State credential
10 and be employed as school-based mental health services
11 providers in schools served by local educational agencies,
12 by engaging in 1 or more of the following:

13 (1) Establishing a new, or expanding an exist-
14 ing, program of study in school psychology, school
15 counseling, school social work, or another school-
16 based mental health field that prepares students to
17 obtain a State credential and be employed as a
18 school-based mental health services provider. Funds
19 may be used to—

20 (A) support recruitment and retention of
21 new or additional faculty;

22 (B) purchase training materials;

23 (C) develop and disseminate materials to
24 recruit potential students;

1 (D) offer financial support to enrolled stu-
2 dents; or

3 (E) carry out any other activity necessary
4 to establish or expand such a program of study.

5 (2) Expanding supervised opportunities for stu-
6 dents enrolled in school-based mental health pro-
7 grams of study to be placed in schools served by a
8 participating local educational agency in order to
9 complete required field work, credit hours, intern-
10 ships, or related training required to obtain a State
11 credential as a school-based mental health service
12 provider.

13 (3) Developing pathways for staff, particularly
14 diverse and multilingual staff, of local educational
15 agencies to receive necessary education and training
16 to obtain a credential as a school-based mental
17 health services provider.

18 (4) Supporting activities to diversify the school-
19 based mental health services provider workforce, in-
20 cluding multilingual school-based mental health serv-
21 ices providers.

22 (5) Providing stipends or other financial assist-
23 ance for students enrolled in school-based mental
24 health programs of study, and supporting required

1 field work, credit hours, internships, or related train-
2 ing in local educational agencies.

3 (6) Supporting collaborations with State, re-
4 gional, and local public health agencies (such as
5 State substance abuse agencies and State mental
6 health agencies), State Medicaid agencies, commu-
7 nity health centers, child welfare agencies, and other
8 related public and private agencies that provide
9 mental health services to support activities under
10 this subsection.

11 (e) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

12 (1) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each eligible institution
13 that receives a grant under subsection (b)(1) shall
14 submit a public report to the Secretary on an annual
15 basis and publish such report in a clear and easily
16 accessible format on the website of the eligible insti-
17 tution. Such report shall contain, at a minimum, the
18 following information:

19 (A) The number of postsecondary students
20 enrolled in relevant programs of study operated
21 by the eligible institution and any increases in
22 student enrollment or faculty in such programs
23 of study from the prior year.

24 (B) The number of such postsecondary
25 students supported under the grant.

1 (C) If applicable, the number of such eligi-
2 ble institutions that met their goal of increasing
3 the diversity of school-based mental health serv-
4 ices providers.

5 (D) The number of such postsecondary
6 students supported under the grant who were
7 placed in a school served by a participating
8 local educational agency—

9 (i) for training; or

10 (ii) for employment.

11 (E) The ratios of students to full-time
12 equivalent school-based mental health services
13 providers, disaggregated by profession to the
14 extent practicable, at schools served by a par-
15 ticipating local educational agency in the school
16 year immediately preceding the first year of the
17 grant and in the most recent year of the grant.

18 (F) The number of school-based mental
19 health services providers employed by partici-
20 pating local educational agencies, disaggregated
21 by the number of such employees who grad-
22 uated from an eligible institution and obtained
23 a credential as and were placed into employ-
24 ment as a school-based mental health services
25 provider.

1 (2) SECRETARY'S REPORT.—Not later than 3
2 years after receiving the reports described in para-
3 graph (1), and every 2 years thereafter, the Sec-
4 retary shall submit a report to the Committee on
5 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Sen-
6 ate and the Committee on Education and the Work-
7 force of the House of Representatives and make the
8 report publicly available in a clear and easily acces-
9 sible format on the website of the Department of
10 Education. Such report shall include a summary of
11 the reports submitted by eligible institutions and
12 identify best practices related to—

13 (A) improving, expanding, and diversifying
14 preparation programs for school counselors,
15 school psychologists, school social workers, and
16 other school-based mental health services pro-
17 viders; and

18 (B) supporting the recruitment and prepa-
19 ration of school-based mental health services
20 providers, including effective respecialization
21 and retraining programs.

22 (f) DISAGGREGATION OF DATA.—Disaggregation of
23 data shall not be required under this section when the
24 number is insufficient to yield statistically reliable infor-

1 mation or the results would reveal personally identifiable
2 information about an individual.

3 (g) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made
4 available to an eligible institution through a grant under
5 this section shall be used only to supplement and not sup-
6 plant, any State, local, or non-Federal funds that would
7 otherwise be used to carry out the activities described
8 under this section.

9 (h) MULTIPLE GRANTS TO SINGLE INSTITUTION.—
10 In awarding grants under subsection (b)(1), the Secretary
11 may award multiple grants to a single eligible institution
12 if the Secretary determines that—

13 (1) the eligible institution submitted a high-
14 quality application for each distinct program of
15 study, such as a program related to school psy-
16 chology or school social work; and

17 (2) each award would support students enrolled
18 in distinct programs of study in related school-based
19 mental health services fields.

20 (i) PROHIBITION.—A local educational agency that
21 enters a school-based mental health partnership with an
22 eligible institution that receives funds under this section
23 shall not be eligible to participate in another school-based
24 mental health partnership with another eligible institution

1 that receives funds under this section until the original
2 grant period has ended.

3 (j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
5 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years
6 2025 through 2029.

7 **SEC. 5. SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES GRANT**
8 **PROGRAM.**

9 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to sup-
10 port high-need local educational agencies in recruiting,
11 hiring, retaining, and diversifying school-based mental
12 health services providers to expand access to school-based
13 mental health services for students enrolled in schools
14 served by such agencies.

15 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF GRANTS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made avail-
17 able to carry out this section and not reserved under
18 paragraph (2), the Secretary shall award grants, on
19 a competitive basis, to high-need local educational
20 agencies, in accordance with this section.

21 (2) RESERVATIONS.—From the total amount
22 made available to carry out this section for a fiscal
23 year, the Secretary shall—

1 (A) reserve not more than 2 percent of
2 such amount for program administration, tech-
3 nical assistance, and data collection;

4 (B) reserve 1 percent for the Secretary of
5 the Interior for schools operated or funded by
6 the Bureau of Indian Education, in accordance
7 with the purpose of this section; and

8 (C) reserve 1 percent for allotments for
9 payments to the outlying areas, to be distrib-
10 uted among those outlying areas on the basis of
11 their relative need, as determined by the Sec-
12 retary, in accordance with the purpose of this
13 section.

14 (3) DURATION AND RENEWALS.—

15 (A) DURATION.—A grant awarded under
16 this section shall be for a period of not more
17 than 5 years.

18 (B) RENEWAL.—The Secretary may renew
19 a grant awarded under this section for a period
20 of not more than 2 years.

21 (4) DIVERSITY OF PROJECTS.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
23 graph (B), in awarding grants under paragraph
24 (1), the Secretary shall ensure that, to the ex-
25 tent practicable, grants are distributed among

1 high-need local educational agencies that will
2 serve geographically diverse areas, including
3 urban, suburban, and rural areas.

4 (B) RURAL LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGEN-
5 CIES.—In awarding grants under paragraph
6 (1), the Secretary shall ensure that, to the
7 greatest extent practicable, not less than 30
8 percent of the amounts made available to carry
9 out this section that remain after making res-
10 ervations under paragraph (2) are awarded to
11 high-quality applications submitted by high-
12 need local educational agencies to support rural
13 high-need local educational agencies described
14 in section 3(3)(A)(i)(I).

15 (5) SUFFICIENT SIZE AND SCOPE.—Each grant
16 awarded under paragraph (1) shall be of sufficient
17 size and scope to allow the high-need local edu-
18 cational agency receiving the grant to carry out the
19 purpose of this section.

20 (6) TIMELINE.—In carrying out the competitive
21 process under this subsection, the Secretary shall—

22 (A) to the greatest extent practicable, en-
23 sure that high-need local educational agencies
24 have not less 90 days to submit an application;

1 (B) to the greatest extent practicable, send
2 a communication to every high-need local edu-
3 cational agency containing notice of the applica-
4 tion and the award deadline; and

5 (C) to the greatest extent practicable, pro-
6 vide technical assistance to high-need local edu-
7 cational agencies, including by—

8 (i) addressing questions or concerns
9 from the field in a timely manner, as well
10 as offering multiple opportunities,
11 webinars, or other efforts to engage local
12 educational agencies about the application
13 process; and

14 (ii) publishing not less than 3 exam-
15 ples of grant applications from geographi-
16 cally diverse locales, including not less than
17 1 such example from a rural high-need
18 local educational agency described in sec-
19 tion 3(3)(A)(i)(I).

20 (c) APPLICATION.—A high-need local educational
21 agency applying for a grant under subsection (b)(1) shall
22 submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in
23 such manner, and accompanied by such information as the
24 Secretary may require, which may include—

1 (1) a description of the prevalent mental health
2 or substance use and misuse concerns facing stu-
3 dents enrolled in schools served by the high-need
4 local educational agency, and, if applicable, chal-
5 lenges related to high rates of chronic absenteeism
6 in those schools;

7 (2) a description of the current shortage of
8 school-based mental health services providers in
9 schools served by the high-need local educational
10 agency that will be served under the grant;

11 (3) a description of the applicant’s plan to sup-
12 port recruiting, hiring, retaining, or diversifying
13 school-based mental health services providers in
14 schools served by the high-need local educational
15 agency to be served under the grant;

16 (4) if applicable, a description of the high-need
17 local educational agency’s plan to increase the capac-
18 ity of educators, school leaders, school-based mental
19 health services providers, and other relevant staff to
20 address the needs described in paragraph (1); and

21 (5) an assurance that any school-based mental
22 health services provider, including any provider of-
23 fering telehealth services, provides services in a man-
24 ner consistent with section 444 of the General Edu-
25 cation Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g; commonly

1 known as the “Family Educational Rights and Pri-
2 vacy Act of 1974”) and the Individuals with Disabil-
3 ities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.), as well
4 as all applicable Federal, State, and local laws.

5 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—

6 (1) RECRUITING, HIRING, AND RETAINING
7 SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PRO-
8 VIDERS.—A high-need local educational agency that
9 receives a grant under subsection (b)(1) shall use
10 such funds to carry out 1 or more of the following:

11 (A) Implementing strategies to recruit
12 school-based mental health services providers in
13 schools served by high-need local educational
14 agencies to help mitigate shortages of such pro-
15 viders, such as—

16 (i) salary stipends or other financial
17 incentives;

18 (ii) relocation benefits; and

19 (iii) opportunities for continuing pro-
20 fessional development.

21 (B) Hiring school-based mental health
22 services providers to—

23 (i) provide school-based mental health
24 services to students enrolled in schools

1 served by high-need local educational agen-
2 cies; and

3 (ii) implement evidence-based prac-
4 tices to improve school climate to support
5 positive student mental health.

6 (C) Implementing strategies to retain
7 school-based mental health services providers in
8 schools served by high-need local educational
9 agencies, which may include providing—

10 (i) incentives described in subpara-
11 graph (A); and

12 (ii) ongoing professional development,
13 induction, mentorship, or peer support for
14 school-based mental health services pro-
15 viders.

16 (2) ADDITIONAL USES.—In addition to the ac-
17 tivities described in paragraph (1), a high-need local
18 educational agency that receives a grant under sub-
19 section (b)(1) may also use such funds to increase
20 the capacity of the high-need local educational agen-
21 cy to address student needs described in subsection
22 (c)(1), through activities that may include—

23 (A) providing professional development to
24 school-based mental health services providers,
25 teachers, principals, other school leaders, spe-

1 cialized instructional support personnel, para-
2 professionals, other staff employed by each
3 high-need local educational agency, and to the
4 extent practicable, families, related to—

5 (i) meeting the needs of students at
6 elevated risk of suicide, mental health con-
7 cerns, or substance use and misuse;

8 (ii) implementation of evidence-based
9 school-based mental health services with
10 high fidelity, including such services re-
11 lated to—

12 (I) prevention, early identifica-
13 tion, and individualized intervention;

14 (II) addressing substance use
15 and misuse; and

16 (III) preventing and eliminating
17 any existing stigma in accessing such
18 services;

19 (iii) mitigating indirect or secondary
20 trauma experienced by staff employed by
21 the high-need local educational agency and
22 implementing evidence-based programs to
23 promote mental health among such staff;

24 (iv) supporting school-based mental
25 health services providers qualified to sup-

1 port students in languages other than
2 English and children with disabilities;

3 (v) understanding when and how to
4 refer a student to a school-based mental
5 health services provider;

6 (vi) supporting the use of evidence-
7 based practices to address student mental
8 health needs; and

9 (vii) addressing chronic absenteeism;

10 (B) supporting high-need local educational
11 agencies in billing and accessing reimburse-
12 ments under the Medicaid program under title
13 XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396
14 et seq.) and the Children’s Health Insurance
15 Program under title XXI of the Social Security
16 Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.); or

17 (C) other activities that support the devel-
18 opment and implementation of innovative strat-
19 egies to increase access to school-based mental
20 health services in schools served by high-need
21 local educational agencies, which may include
22 increasing access to school-based mental health
23 services provided through telehealth, including
24 ensuring any services provided through tele-

1 health are accessible for children with disabil-
2 ities.

3 (e) DISAGGREGATION OF DATA.—Disaggregation of
4 data shall not be required under this section when the
5 number is insufficient to yield statistically reliable infor-
6 mation or the results would reveal personally identifiable
7 information about an individual.

8 (f) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

9 (1) REPORTING.—Each high-need local edu-
10 cational agency that receives a grant under sub-
11 section (b)(1) shall submit a report to the Secretary
12 on an annual basis and publish such report in a
13 clear and easily accessible format on the website of
14 the high-need local educational agency. Such report
15 shall contain any information required by the Sec-
16 retary and, at a minimum, the following:

17 (A) The number of school-based mental
18 health services providers employed by high-need
19 local educational agencies served under the
20 grant and any increases from the prior year,
21 disaggregated by—

22 (i) the number of each type of such
23 providers who was recruited, hired, or re-
24 tained, with support under this grant; and

1 (ii) the demographics of such pro-
2 viders.

3 (B) The ratio of students to school-based
4 mental health services providers in schools
5 served by high-need local educational agencies
6 served under the grant and the extent to which
7 such ratio has decreased since the start of the
8 grant period.

9 (C) The reduction in the annual attrition
10 rate of school-based mental health services pro-
11 viders employed by high-need local educational
12 agencies served under the grant and the extent
13 to which such attrition rate has decreased since
14 the start of the grant period.

15 (D) A description of the strategies used by
16 high-need local educational agencies served
17 under the grant to implement innovative evi-
18 denced-based strategies to increase access to
19 school-based mental health services and to im-
20 prove school climate for students enrolled in
21 schools served by such agencies.

22 (2) SECRETARY'S REPORTS.—

23 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years
24 after receiving the reports described in para-
25 graph (1), and every 2 years thereafter, the

1 Secretary shall submit a report to the Com-
2 mittee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-
3 sions of the Senate and the Committee on Edu-
4 cation and the Workforce of the House of Rep-
5 resentatives that—

6 (i) includes a summary of the reports
7 submitted by grant recipients under para-
8 graph (1);

9 (ii) identifies effective practices re-
10 lated to the activities supported by the
11 grant program under this section; and

12 (iii) includes an analysis of whether
13 the recipient carried out its plan described
14 in subsection (c)(3).

15 (B) PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.—Not later
16 than 1 month after submitting a report de-
17 scribed in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall
18 publish such report in a clear and easily acces-
19 sible format on the website of the Department
20 of Education.

21 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
23 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years
24 2025 through 2029.

1 **SEC. 6. RULE.**

2 The requirements of section 4001 of the Elementary
3 and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7101)
4 shall apply to an eligible institution, local educational
5 agency, or educational service agency receiving a grant
6 under this Act, or participating in a program that receives
7 funds under this Act, in the same manner as those re-
8 quirements apply to an entity receiving an award under
9 title IV of such Act.

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