

HR 1603

Physician Assistant Higher Education Modernization Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Mar 17, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. (Mar 17, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1603>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Apr 17, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 17, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Physician Assistant Higher Education Modernization Act of 2017

This bill amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to assist qualified individuals in receiving the education and training needed to become a physician assistant.

Graduate students enrolled in physician assistant education programs are eligible for: (1) increased Unsubsidized Stafford Loan limits, and (2) loan forgiveness programs for those who serve in areas of national need upon graduation.

The Department of Education (ED) must:

- provide Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Predominantly Black Institutions with grants to fund physician assistant studies at the masters level,
- prioritize the awarding of grants for physician assistant education programs at the postbaccalaureate level that will benefit Hispanics and low-income students, and
- provide grants to prepare certified physician assistants to become faculty members in accredited graduate-level physician assistant education programs.

In addition, ED is authorized to award grants to rural-serving institutions of higher education for: (1) increasing enrollment and graduation rates of students from rural areas in postbaccalaureate physician assistant education programs, and (2) training physician assistants in rural areas through the creation and expansion of physician assistant education programs in rural areas.

ED may also award grants to physician assistant education programs for enhancing the programs and improving patient safety by supporting the purchase of new infrastructure and technology.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 17, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 17, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.