

S 1288

College for All Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Apr 21, 2021

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Apr 21, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1288>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]

Party: Independent • **State:** VT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 21, 2021
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 14, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 21, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 2730	Identical bill	Apr 21, 2021: Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

College for All Act of 2021

This bill establishes measures to expand access to higher education, including by eliminating tuition and required fees for eligible students, revising the Federal Pell Grant program, and reauthorizing certain programs to assist students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Specifically, the bill provides funding to eliminate tuition and required fees for (1) all students at community colleges and two-year tribal colleges and universities; (2) working- and middle-class students at four-year public institutions of higher education (IHEs) and tribal colleges and universities; and (3) eligible students at private, nonprofit historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and minority-serving institutions.

The bill permanently reauthorizes and otherwise revises the Federal Pell Grant program by

- providing funding to increase the maximum award for each eligible student,
- increasing the duration limit for the use of Pell Grants, and
- allowing students to use their awards to cover living and non-tuition expenses.

Next, the bill makes Dreamer students (i.e., students who have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals status) who entered the United States before the age of 16 and who meet certain educational criteria eligible for federal financial aid.

Further, the bill requires the Department of Education to award grants to underfunded IHEs, HBCUs, and minority-serving institutions for investing in support programs to improve student outcomes (e.g., graduation rates).

The bill also reauthorizes through FY2031 the Federal TRIO Programs and reauthorizes through FY2025 the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 21, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
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