

HR 10455

Debt-Free College Act of 2026

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Sep 16, 2026

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

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce. (Sep 16, 2026)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/10455>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]

Party: Democratic • State: WI • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Davis, Donald G. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Fields, Cleo [D-LA-6]	D · LA		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. García, Jesús G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Goldman, Daniel S. [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-34]	D · TX		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-36]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. McGarvey, Morgan [D-KY-3]	D · KY		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Simon, Lateefah [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Sep 16, 2026
Rep. Balint, Becca [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Oct 15, 2026

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 16, 2026

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 S 5403	Related bill	Sep 15, 2026: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
119 HR 3923	Cross-Congress related bill	Jun 7, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.
119 S 1848	Cross-Congress related bill	Jun 7, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
119 HR 2804	Cross-Congress related bill	Apr 22, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.
119 S 1263	Cross-Congress related bill	Apr 21, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Summary (as of Sep 16, 2026)

Debt-Free College Act of 2026

This bill establishes measures to cover the unmet financial need of students who are enrolled at certain institutions of higher education (IHEs). *Unmet financial need* refers to the difference between a student's cost of attendance and the student's student aid index, plus any federal, state, and local sources of grant aid. In addition, the bill makes certain Dreamer students (i.e., students who have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals status and who entered the United States before the age of 16) eligible for federal financial aid.

First, the bill requires the Department of Education (ED) to award grants for state-federal partnerships with a goal of providing debt-free college for all eligible students at in-state public IHEs. *Eligible student* refers to an individual who (1) is enrolled or is eligible to enroll in an in-state public IHE, and (2) completes a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or demonstrates eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant through state or institutional financial aid eligibility forms.

Next, the bill requires ED to award grants to historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions to cover the unmet financial need of enrolled students.

ED must establish an office to administer grants and provide oversight.

In addition, the bill makes Dreamer students who entered the United States before the age of 16 who meet certain educational criteria eligible for federal student aid.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 16, 2026:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 16, 2026:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legilist.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legilist.com/learn

Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

legilist.com/api

Public data belongs to the public. — legilist.com