

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9896

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include certain licensure, certification, and aviation training costs in the determination of the cost of attendance of a student, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2026

Mrs. BEATTY (for herself, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. BACON, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. GRIJALVA, Mr. FIGURES, and Mr. QUIGLEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include certain licensure, certification, and aviation training costs in the determination of the cost of attendance of a student, and for other purposes.

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 “Workforce Innovation
5 for Next-Gen in Skies Act of 2026” or the “WINGS Act
6 of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. COST OF ATTENDANCE.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 472 of the Higher Edu-
3 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ll) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) in paragraph (13), by striking “; and”
6 and inserting a semicolon;

7 (B) in paragraph (14), by striking the pe-
8 riod and inserting “; and”; and

9 (C) by adding at the end the following new
10 paragraph:

11 “(15) for a student enrolled in a qualifying
12 aviation-related program of study, reasonable costs
13 associated with licensure, certification, or aviation
14 training related to such program (as determined by
15 the institution), including—

16 “(A) aviation laboratory training fees;

17 “(B) the cost of instructional hours in an
18 aircraft or simulator, or ground instruction;

19 “(C) the cost of aviation training materials
20 and equipment;

21 “(D) exam and licensing fees, including
22 the cost of a practical test; or

23 “(E) other fees that are directly incurred
24 as part of aviation training.”;

25 (2) in subsection (c), by striking “14” and in-
26 serting “15”; and

1 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
2 section:

3 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 “(1) CIP CODE.—The term ‘CIP code’ means
5 the 6-digit taxonomic identification code assigned by
6 an institution of higher education to a specific pro-
7 gram of study at the institution, determined by the
8 institution in accordance with the Classification of
9 Instructional Programs published by the National
10 Center for Education Statistics.

11 “(2) QUALIFYING AVIATION-RELATED PROGRAM
12 OF STUDY.—The term ‘qualifying aviation-related
13 program of study’ means a program of study—

14 “(A) that has been assigned a CIP code—

15 “(i) that begins with 49.01;

16 “(ii) that is 47.0607, 47.0608, or
17 47.0609; or

18 “(iii) identified by the Secretary as re-
19 lating to preparing students for employ-
20 ment in the aviation industry; and

21 “(B) that awards an associate’s degree or
22 a bachelor’s degree upon completion of the pro-
23 gram.”.

24 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
25 subsection (a) shall take effect on July 1, 2027, and apply

1 with respect to award year 2027–2028 and each subse-
2 quent award year, as determined under the Higher Edu-
3 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.).

4 **SEC. 3. PROFESSIONAL STUDENT.**

5 Section 455(a)(4)(C)(ii) of the Higher Education Act
6 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087e(a)(4)(C)(ii)) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “program of study that” and all
8 that follows and inserting “program of study that—
9 ”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(I) awards a professional de-
12 gree, as defined under section 668.2
13 of title 34, Code of Federal Regula-
14 tions (as in effect on the date of en-
15 actment of this paragraph), upon
16 completion of the program; or

17 “(II) provides the training de-
18 scribed in part 141 of title 14, Code
19 of Federal Regulations (or any suc-
20 cessor regulations).”.

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