AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 5
OFFERED BY MR. COURTNEY OF CONNECTICUT

In title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as proposed to be amended by section 601(a) of the amendment, redesignate part F as part G and insert after part E the following (and redesignate provisions accordingly):

“PART F—A WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION

“Subpart 1—Grants to Support STEM Education

“SEC. 6571. PURPOSE.

“The purpose of this subpart is to improve student academic achievement in STEM subjects by—

“(1) improving instruction in such subjects from preschool through grade 12;

“(2) improving student engagement in, and increasing student access to, courses in such subjects;

“(3) improving the quality and effectiveness of classroom instruction by recruiting, training, and supporting effective teachers and providing robust tools and supports for students and teachers in such subjects;
“(4) implementing and integrating college and career ready standards in STEM subjects and assessments aligned with those standards;

“(5) closing student achievement gaps, and preparing more students for postsecondary education and careers, in such subjects; and

“(6) Recognizing that STEM subjects are diverse and that STEM education programs must expose students to content and skills in a host of constantly changing and evolving content areas.

“SEC. 6572. GRANTS; ALLOTMENTS.

“(a) RESERVATIONS.—

“(1) In general.—From the amounts appropriated under section 6581 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall reserve—

“(A) $35,000,000 for a STEM Master Teachers Corps program under section 6575;

“(B) 3 percent to carry out activities described in section 6575 and technical assistance to States, including technical assistance with implementation of programs consistent with the purpose of this subpart; and

“(C) if funds are not awarded by formula, as described in subsection (c)(1), 5 percent for
State capacity-building grants in accordance with paragraph (2).

“(2) CAPACITY-BUILDING GRANTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In any year for which funding is distributed competitively, as described in subsection (b)(1), the Secretary may award 1 capacity-building grant to each eligible entity that does not receive a grant under subsection (b), on a competitive basis, to enable such States to become more competitive in future years.

“(B) DURATION.—Grants awarded under subparagraph (A) shall be for a period of 1 year.

“(b) COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year for which the amount appropriated to carry out this subpart is less than $250,000,000, the Secretary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to enable such eligible entities to carry out the activities described in this subpart.

“(2) DURATION.—Grants awarded under this subsection shall be for a period of not more than 3 years.

“(3) RENEWAL.—
“(A) IN GENERAL.—If an eligible entity demonstrates progress, as measured by the metrics reported in section 6576(a)(5), the Secretary may renew a grant for an additional 2-year period.

“(B) REDUCED FUNDING.—Grant funds awarded under subparagraph (A) shall be awarded at a reduced amount.

“(c) FORMULA GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year for which the amount appropriated to carry out this subpart is equal to or more than $250,000,000, the Secretary shall award grants to States, based on the formula described in paragraph (2).

“(2) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall allot to each State—

“(A) an amount that bears the same relationship to 35 percent of the excess amount as the number of individuals ages 5 through 17 in the State, as determined by the Secretary on the basis of the most recent satisfactory data, bears to the number of those individuals in all such States, as so determined; and

“(B) an amount that bears the same relationship to 65 percent of the excess amount as
the number of individuals ages 5 through 17 from families with incomes below the poverty line, in the State, as determined by the Secretary on the basis of the most recent satisfactory data, bears to the number of those individuals in all such States, as so determined.

“(3) FUNDING MINIMUM.—No State receiving an allotment under this subsection may receive less than one-half of 1 percent of the total amount allotted under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year.

“(4) REALLOTMENT OF UNUSED FUNDS.—If a State does not successfully apply for or receive an allotment under this subsection for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall reallocate the amount of the State’s allotment to the remaining States in accordance with this subsection.

“SEC. 6573. APPLICATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity desiring a grant under this subpart, whether through a competitive grant under section 6572(b) or through an allotment under section 6572(c), shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may require.

“(b) CONTENTS.—At a minimum, an application submitted under subsection (a) shall include the following:
“(1) A description of how grant funds will be used by the eligible entity.

“(2) A description of how the eligible entity has involved a variety of stakeholders in the development of the application and a description of how the State or eligible entity will continue to involve stakeholders in any education reform efforts related to STEM subject instruction.

“(3) A description of the steps the eligible entity will take to ensure that programs implemented by the subgrantees use evidence-based strategies, ensure high-quality curricula, and provide high-quality professional development.

“(4) An assurance that the eligible entity, in making awards under section 6574(c), will give priority to subgrantees that—

“(A) propose to serve students in schools in need of improvement and persistently low achieving schools; or

“(B) propose to serve schools with a high percentage or number of students that are eligible for free or reduced price lunch under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).
"(5) A description of how the eligible entity’s activities and subgrants will be coordinated with other Federal, State, and local programs and activities, including career and technical education programs authorized under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

"(6) A review of the industry and business workforce needs in the State in jobs that require knowledge or training in STEM subject areas and a description of how that review will inform efforts to improve education in STEM subjects.

"(7) A description of how the eligible entity will allocate funds in a manner that will provide services to both elementary schools and secondary schools.

"(8) A description of the technical assistance that the eligible entity will provide to subgrantees to support the activities undertaken by the subgrantees, including—

"(A) activities to employ multi-tiered systems of support to provide early intervening services and to increase student achievement in STEM subjects;

"(B) activities to ensure increased access for students who are traditionally underrep-
represented in STEM subject fields (including female students, minority students, students who are limited English proficient, students who are children with disabilities, and students from low-income families) to high-quality courses and other learning experiences;

“(C) implementing evidence-based programs of instruction based on college and career ready standards and high-quality assessments in the identified subjects; and

“(D) developing curricula consistent with the principles of universal design for learning as defined in section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

“(9) A description of the key data metrics that will be used and reported annually under section 6576(a)(5), that shall include—

“(A) student academic achievement on mathematics and science State academic assessments and student growth; and

“(B) for diploma granting schools, graduation rates.

“(10) Assurances that the eligible entity will monitor implementation of approved subgrantee plans.
“SEC. 6574. AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.

“(a) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—Each eligible entity that receives a grant under this subpart shall use not more than 5 percent of the grant funds to carry out each of the following activities:

“(1) Providing technical assistance to subgrantees as described in section 6573(b)(7) and technical assistance to subgrantees that are prioritized in section 6574(d), including subgrantees that serve low-capacity rural and urban areas by—

“(A) informing those subgrantees that they have a priority for competing for grants under section 6574(b); and

“(B) providing subgrantees who do not receive a grant under section 6574(c) technical assistance so that they may re-compete in following competitions.

“(2) Identifying and supporting high-quality professional development and other comprehensive systems of support for teachers and school leaders to promote high-quality instruction and instructional leadership in the identified subjects, aligned to college and career ready standards where applicable.

“(3) Disseminating information, including making publicly available on the websites of the State
educational agency, on promising practices to improve student achievement in STEM subject areas.

“(b) PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Each eligible entity that receives a grant under this subpart may use the grant funds to carry out 1 or more of the following activities:

“(1) Recruiting qualified teachers and instructional leaders who are trained in identified subjects, including teachers who have transitioned into the teaching profession from a career in a STEM field.

“(2) Providing induction and mentoring services to new teachers in identified subjects.

“(3) Developing instructional supports, such as curricula and assessments, which shall be evidence-based and aligned with State academic standards and may include online education.

“(4) Training personnel of subgrantees to use data systems to continuously improve student achievement in STEM subjects and use the data to better target curriculum and instruction to meet the needs of each student.

“(c) SUBGRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity that receives a grant under this subpart shall award subgrants, on a competitive basis, to eligible subgrantees.
“(2) Minimum Subgrant.—An eligible entity shall award subgrants under this subsection that are of sufficient size and scope to support high-quality, evidence-based, effective programs that are consistent with the purpose of this subpart.

“(3) Subgrantee Application.—Each subgrantee desiring a subgrant under this subsection shall submit an application to the eligible entity at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the eligible entity may require, including, at a minimum:

“(A) A description of the needs identified by the subgrantee, based on a needs assessment which shall include—

“(i) data for elementary school and secondary school grades, as applicable and to the extent that such data are available, on—

“(I) student achievement in science and mathematics, including such data collected in accordance with the State academic assessments;

“(II) science and mathematics teacher evaluation results or ratings;
“(III) student access to mathematics and science courses needed to enroll in credit-bearing coursework at institutions of higher education in the State;

“(IV) access to science and mathematics courses for student pre-kindergarten through grade 12 attending schools prioritized under section 6574(d);

“(V) the percentage of students successfully—

“(aa) completing Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses in science and mathematics subjects; or

“(bb) completing rigorous postsecondary education courses in science and mathematics subjects;

“(VI) rates of college remediation in mathematics; and

“(VII) teacher shortages and teacher distribution among the local
educational agencies and schools
served by the subgrantee in science
and mathematics subjects; and

“(ii) an analysis of the implementa-
tion of any multi-tiered systems of support
that have been employed by the local edu-
cational agency served by the subgrantee
to address the learning needs of students
in any STEM subjects.

“(B) A description of the activities that
the subgrantee will carry out based on the find-
ings of the needs assessment described in sub-
paragraph (A), and how such activities will im-
prove teaching and student academic achieve-
ment in the identified subjects, in a manner
consistent with evidence-based research.

“(C) A description of how the subgrantee
will use funds provided under this subsection to
serve students and teachers in schools
prioritized under section 6574(d).

“(D) A description of how funds provided
under this subsection will be coordinated with
other Federal, State, and local programs and
activities, including career and technical edu-
cation programs authorized under the Carl D.

“(E) If the subgrantee is working with outside partners, a description of how such outside partners will be involved in improving instruction and increasing access to high-quality learning experiences in the identified subjects.

“(4) SUBGRANTEE USE OF FUNDS.—

“(A) REQUIRED USE OF FUNDS.—Each subgrantee that receives a subgrant under this subsection shall use the subgrant funds to carry out activities for students from preschool through grade 12, consistent with the analysis and the activities described in the subgrantee’s application, which shall include—

“(i) high-quality teacher and instructional leader recruitment, support, evaluation, and professional development in the identified subjects;

“(ii) professional development, which may include development and support for instructional coaches, to enable teachers and instructional leaders to increase student achievement in identified subjects, through—
“(I) implementation of classroom assessments; and

“(II) differentiation of instruction in identified subjects for all students, including for students with disabilities and students who are English learners;

“(iii) activities to—

“(I) improve the content knowledge of teachers; and

“(II) facilitate professional collaboration, which may include providing time for such collaborations;

“(iv) training to principals and teachers in implementing STEM subject initiatives, particularly in the areas of—

“(I) utilizing data;

“(II) assessing the quality of STEM subject instruction; and

“(III) providing time and support for teachers to plan STEM subject instruction;

“(v) the development, adoption, and improvement of high-quality curricula, as-
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   sessments, materials, and instructional
   supports that—

   “(I) are aligned with State academic standards; and

   “(II) the subgrantee will use to
   improve student academic achievement in identified subjects; and

   “(vi) the development or improvement,
   and implementation, of multi-tiered sys-
   tems of support to provide early inter-
   vening services and to increase student
   achievement in 1 or more of the identified
   subjects.

   “(B) PERMISSIBLE USE OF FUNDS.—In
   addition to the required activities described in
   subparagraph (A), each subgrantee that re-
   ceives a subgrant under this subsection, may
   also use the subgrant funds to—

   “(i) support the participation of low-
   income students in nonprofit competitions
   and out-of-school activities related to
   STEM (such as robotics, science research,
   invention, mathematics, and technology
   competitions), including—
“(I) the purchase of parts and supplies needed to participate in such competitions;

“(II) incentives and stipends for teachers and instructional leaders who are involved in assisting students and preparing students for such competitions, if such activities fall outside the regular duties and responsibilities of such teachers and instructional leaders; and

“(III) paying expenses associated with the participation of low-income students in such local, regional, or national competitions;

“(ii) improve the laboratories of schools served by the subgrantee and provide instrumentation as part of a comprehensive program to enhance the quality of STEM instruction, including—

“(I) purchase, rental, or leasing of equipment, instrumentation, and other scientific educational materials;
“(II) maintenance, renovation, and improvement of laboratory facilities;

“(III) professional development and training for teachers;

“(IV) development of instructional programs designed to integrate the laboratory experience with classroom instruction and to be consistent with college and career ready content standards in STEM subjects;

“(V) training in laboratory safety for school personnel;

“(VI) design and implementation of hands-on laboratory experiences to encourage the interest of students, especially students who are traditionally underrepresented in STEM subject fields (including female students, minority students, students who are limited English proficient, students who are children with disabilities, and students from low-income families) in STEM subjects and help prepare such
students to pursue postsecondary studies in these fields; and

“(VII) assessment of the activities funded under this subparagraph;

“(iii) broaden secondary school students’ access to, and interest in, careers that require academic preparation in 1 or more identified subjects;

“(iv) integrate instruction in the identified subjects with instruction in reading, English language arts, or other core and noncore academic subjects;

“(v) develop and implement a STEAM curriculum, which means the integration of instruction in the identified subjects with instruction in the arts and design; or

“(vi) establish or access online or distance learning programs for STEM subject teachers using evidence-based curricula.

“(C) LIMITATION.—Each subgrantee that receives a subgrant under this subsection shall not expend more than 15 percent of the subgrant funds on the activities described in subparagraph (B).

“(D) MATCHING FUNDS.—
“(i) IN GENERAL.—A State or eligible entity may require an eligible subgrantee receiving a subgrant under this subsection to demonstrate that such subgrantee has obtained a commitment from 1 or more outside partners to match, using non-Federal funds, a portion of the amount of subgrant funds, in an amount determined by the State or eligible entity.

“(ii) REQUIRED MINIMUM.—Notwithstanding clause (i), if an eligible subgrantee partners with an outside partner that is a for-profit entity, such subgrantee shall obtain matching funds from the outside partner in an amount equal to not less than 15 percent of the amount of the subgrant.

“(d) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this subpart, an eligible entity shall give priority to subgrantees proposing to target services to—

“(1) students in schools in need of improvement and persistently low-achieving schools; or

“(2) schools with a high percentage of students that are eligible for free or reduced price lunch
under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).

“SEC. 6575. NATIONAL COORDINATION.

“From the amount reserved under section 6572(a)(1)(B), the Secretary shall consult with the Director of the National Science Foundation and other Federal agencies conducting STEM education programs to enhance such programs and to improve coordination across agencies, such as—

“(1) clarifying the appropriate roles for the Department of Education and the National Science Foundation in the execution of summer workshops, institutes, or partnerships to improve STEM education in elementary and secondary schools; or

“(2) integrating afterschool, out-of-school, and informal education efforts conducted across Federal agencies into strategies for enhancing and improving STEM education.

“SEC. 6576. STEM MASTER TEACHER CORPS PROGRAM.

“(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—From the funds reserved under section 6572(a)(1)(A), the Secretary shall award 1 or more grants, on a competitive basis, to entities described in subsection (b)(1) to enable such entities to establish and operate a one-time STEM master teacher corps program.
“(b) STEM MASTER TEACHER CORPS.—The term ‘STEM master teacher corps’ (referred to in this section as the ‘corps’) means a one-time program—

“(1) that establishes the viability of creating a long-term national-level master teacher corps as a means to recognize and reward accomplished STEM educators;

“(2) operated by 1 or more State educational agencies, or a consortium of local educational agencies, acting in partnership with 1 or more outside partners that have a demonstrated record of success in improving the effectiveness of STEM teachers or increasing the retention of such teachers;

“(3) that selects a group of highly rated teachers (through a process, and for a duration, determined by the entity described in paragraph (1)), as members of the corps, that constitutes not less than 5 percent and not more than 10 percent of elementary school, middle school, and high school teachers who teach STEM subjects and who—

“(A) teach in a participating high-need school in the region served by the entity described in paragraph (1); or

“(B) agree to teach in a participating high-need school in the region served by the en-
tity described in paragraph (1) if accepted as a
member of the corps; and

“(4) that aims to attract, improve, and retain
teachers who teach STEM subjects and to increase
student achievement in such subjects, including by—

“(A) providing instructional leadership re-
sponsibilities for corps members in their
schools, local educational agencies, or States,
such as mentoring beginning STEM teachers
and leading professional development activities
for teachers not participating in the corps;

“(B) providing corps members with re-
search-based professional development on in-
structional leadership and effective teaching
methods for STEM subjects, including coordi-
nating with out-of-school-time and afterschool
programs to provide engaging STEM programs;

“(C) providing each teacher who is a corps
member with a salary supplement of not less
than $10,000 per year, in recognition of such
teacher’s teaching accomplishments, leadership,
and increased responsibilities, for each year
such teacher serves as a member of the corps; and
“(D) building a community of practice among corps members to enable such members to network, collaborate, and to share best practices and resources with each other.

“(c) DURATION.—Grants awarded under this section shall be for a period of not more than 3 years, after which the program under this subsection shall end.

“(d) APPLICATION.—Each entity described in subsection (b)(1) desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may require.

“(e) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Secretary may require a grantee under this section to provide non-Federal matching funds in an amount equal to the amount of grant funds awarded under this section.

“SEC. 6577. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

“(a) ELIGIBLE ENTITY REPORTS.—Each State educational agency receiving an award under section 6573 shall report annually to the Secretary regarding the State educational agency’s progress in addressing the purposes of this subpart. Such report shall include, at a minimum, a description of—

“(1) the professional development activities provided under the award, including types of activities
and entities involved in providing professional development to classroom teachers and other program staff;

“(2) the types of programs and, for children from preschool to kindergarten entry, program settings, funded under the award;

“(3) the ages and demographic information that is not individually identifiable of children served by the programs funded under the award;

“(4) student performance on data metrics identified under section 6573(b)(8) used for STEM initiatives; and

“(5) the outcomes of programs and activities provided under the award.

“(b) ELIGIBLE SUBGRANTEE REPORTS.—Each eligible entity receiving a subgrant under section 6574(e) shall report annually to the State educational agency regarding the eligible entity’s progress in addressing the purposes of this subpart. Such report shall include, at a minimum, a description of—

“(1) how the subgrant funds were used; and

“(2) student performance on relevant program metrics, as identified in the State education agency’s implementation plan under section 6573(b)(8).
“SEC. 6578. SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.

“Funds received under this subpart shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, funds that would otherwise be used for activities authorized under this subpart.

“SEC. 6579. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.

“A State that receives funds under this subpart for a fiscal year shall maintain the fiscal effort provided by the State for the subjects supported by the funds under this subpart at a level equal to or greater than the level of such fiscal effort for the preceding fiscal year.

“SEC. 6580. DEFINITIONS.

“In this subpart:

“(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible entity’ means a State educational agency in partnership with—

“(A) another State educational agency;

“(B) a consortium of State educational agencies; or

“(C) the State agencies that oversee childcare programs, state-funded prekindergarten, and part C of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

“(2) ELIGIBLE SUBGRANTEE.—The term ‘eligible subgrantee’ means—

“(A) a local educational agency;
“(B) 1 or more local educational agencies providing early learning programs, or 1 or more public or private early learning programs, serving children from preschool through kindergarten entry, such as a Head Start agency, a child care program, or a State-funded pre-kindergarten program, as appropriate;

“(C) an educational service agency serving more than 1 local educational agency;

“(D) a consortium of local educational agencies; or

“(E) any of the entities described in sub-paragraphs (A) through (D) working in partnership with an outside partner.

“(3) Multi-tiered system of support.—

The term ‘multi-tiered system of support’ means a comprehensive system of differentiated supports that includes evidence-based instruction, universal screening, progress monitoring, formative assessments, research-based interventions matched to student needs and educational decisionmaking using student outcome data.

“(4) Outside partner.—The term ‘outside partner’ means an entity that has expertise and a demonstrated record of success in improving student
learning and engagement in the STEM subjects, including any of the following:

“(A) A nonprofit or community-based organization, such as an Indian tribe.

“(B) A business.

“(C) A nonprofit cultural organization, such as a museum or learning center.

“(D) An institution of higher education.

“(E) An educational service agency.

“(F) Another appropriate entity.

“(5) STEM SUBJECTS.—The term ‘STEM Subjects’ means the subjects of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, including other academic subjects that build on or are integrated with these subjects, such as statistics, computer science, and environmental literacy, the arts and design, or other subjects a State identifies as important to the workforce of the State.

“SEC. 6581. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subpart $500,000,000 for fiscal year 2016 and such sums as may be necessary for subsequent fiscal years.
“Subpart 2—Transforming Education Through Technology Grants

“SEC. 6601. PURPOSES.

“The purposes of this subpart are to—

“(1) improve the achievement, academic growth, and college-and-career readiness of students who have developed the ability to think critically, apply knowledge to solve complex problems, work collaboratively, communicate effectively, be self-directed, and be responsible digital citizens;

“(2) ensure all students have access to individualized, rigorous, and engaging digital learning experiences;

“(3) ensure that educators have the knowledge and skills to develop and implement digital learning curriculum, use technology effectively in order to personalize and strengthen instruction, and effectively create, deliver, and utilize assessments to measure student outcomes and support student success;

“(4) ensure that administrators have the leadership, management, knowledge, and skills to design, develop, and implement a school or local educational agency-wide digital age learning environment; and

“(5) improve the efficiency and productivity of education through technology.
“SEC. 6602. E-RATE RESTRICTION.

“Funds awarded under this subpart may be used to address the networking needs of a recipient of such funds for which the recipient is eligible to receive support under the E-rate program, except that such funds may not be duplicative of support received by the recipient under the E-rate program.

“SEC. 6603. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING PURCHASING.

“Nothing in this subpart shall be construed to permit a recipient of funds under this subpart to purchase goods or services using such funds without ensuring that the purchase is free of any conflict of interest between such recipient, or any partner of such recipient, and the person or entity receiving such funds.

“SEC. 6604. DEFINITIONS.

“In this subpart:

“(1) DIGITAL LEARNING.—The term ‘digital learning’ means any instructional practice that effectively uses technology to strengthen a student’s learning experience and encompasses a wide spectrum of tools and practices, including—

“(A) interactive learning resources that engage students in academic content;

“(B) access to online databases and other primary source documents;
“(C) the use of data to personalize learning and provide targeted supplementary instruction;

“(D) student collaboration with content experts and peers;

“(E) online and computer-based assessments;

“(F) digital content, adaptive, and simulation software or courseware,

“(G) online courses, online instruction, or digital learning platforms;

“(H) mobile and wireless technologies for learning in school and at home;

“(I) learning environments that allow for rich collaboration and communication;

“(J) authentic audiences for learning in a relevant, real world experience;

“(K) teacher participation in virtual professional communities of practice; and

“(L) hybrid or blended learning, which occurs under direct instructor supervision at a school or other location away from home and, at least in part, through online delivery of instruction with some element of student control over time, place, path, or pace.
“(2) Eligible Technology.—The term ‘eligible technology’ means modern information, computer, and communication technology hardware, software, services, or tools, including computer or mobile hardware devices and other computer and communications hardware, software applications, systems and platforms, and digital and online content, courseware, and online instruction and other online services and supports, including technology that is interoperable and is in accordance with principles of universal design for learning.

“(3) Students with Disabilities.—The term ‘students with disabilities’ means students with disabilities as defined under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

“(4) Student Technology Literacy.—The term ‘student technology literacy’ means student knowledge and skills in using contemporary information, communication, and learning technologies in a manner necessary for successful employment, lifelong learning, and citizenship in the knowledge-based, digital, and global 21st century, including, at a minimum, the ability to—
“(A) effectively communicate and collaborate;

“(B) analyze and solve problems;

“(C) access, evaluate, manage, and create information and otherwise gain information literacy;

“(D) demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes; and

“(E) carry out the activities described in subparagraphs (A) through (D) in a safe and ethical manner.

“(5) TECHNOLOGY READINESS SURVEY.—The term ‘technology readiness survey’ means a survey completed by a local educational agency that provides standardized information comparable to the information collected through the technology readiness survey administered under the Race to the Top Assessment program under section 14006 of division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–5) on the quantity and types of technology infrastructure and access available to the students served by the local educational agency, including computer devices, Internet connectivity,
operating systems, related network infrastructure, data systems, and—

“(A) requiring—

“(i) an internal review of the degree to which instruction, additional student support, and professional development is delivered in digital formats, media, and platforms and is available to students and educators at any time;

“(ii) an internal review of the ability of educators to use assessments and other student data to personalize and strengthen instruction and identify professional development needs and priorities; and

“(iii) any other information required by the State educational agency serving the local educational agency; and

“(B) may include an assessment of local community needs to ensure students have adequate on-line access and access to devices for school-related work during out-of-school time.

“SEC. 6605. TECHNOLOGY GRANTS PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.

“(a) In general.—From the amounts appropriated under section 6611, the Secretary shall award State Grants for Technology Readiness and Access (in this title
referred to as ‘grants’) to State educational agencies to strengthen State and local technological infrastructure and professional development that supports digital learning through State activities under section 6607(c) and local activities under section 6608(c).

“(b) GRANTS TO STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—

“(1) RESERVATIONS.—From the amounts appropriated under section 6611 for any fiscal year, the Secretary shall reserve—

“(A) three-fourths of 1 percent for the Secretary of Interior to provide assistance under this title for schools operated or funded by the Bureau of Indian Education; and

“(B) 1 percent to provide assistance under this title to the outlying areas.

“(2) GRANTS.—From the amounts appropriated under section 6611 for any fiscal year and remaining after the Secretary makes reservations under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make a grant for the fiscal year to each State educational agency with an approved application under section 6606 in an amount that bears the same relationship to such remainder as the amount the State educational agency received under part A of title I for such year bears to the amount all State educational
agencies with an approved application under section 6606 received under such part (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.) for such year.

“(c) MINIMUM.—The amount of a grant to a State educational agency under subsection (b)(2) for a fiscal year may not be less than one-half of 1 percent of the total amount made available for grants to all State educational agencies under such subsection for such year.

“(d) REALLOTMENT OF UNUSED FUNDS.—If any State educational agency does not apply for a grant under subsection (b)(2) for a fiscal year, or does not use its entire grant under subsection (b)(2) for such year, the Secretary shall reallocate the amount of the State educational agency’s grant, or the unused portion of the grant, to the remaining State educational agencies that use their entire grant amounts under subsection (b)(2) for such year.

“(e) MATCHING FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A State educational agency that receives a grant under subsection (b)(2) shall provide matching funds, from non-Federal sources, in an amount equal to 20 percent of the amount of grant funds provided to the State educational agency to carry out the activities supported by the grant. Such matching funds may be provided in cash or in-kind, except that any such in-kind contributions
shall be provided for the purpose of supporting the State educational agency’s activities under section 6608(c).

“(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the matching requirement under paragraph (1) for a State educational agency that demonstrates that such requirement imposes an undue financial hardship on the State educational agency.

“SEC. 6606. STATE APPLICATIONS.

“(a) APPLICATION.—To receive a grant under section 6605(b)(2), a State educational agency shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require and containing the information described in subsection (b).

“(b) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted under subsection (a) shall include the following:

“(1) A description of how the State educational agency will meet the following goals:

“(A) Use technology to ensure all students achieve college-and-career readiness and technology literacy, including by providing high-quality education opportunities to economically or geographically isolated student populations.

“(B) Provide educators with the tools, devices, content, and resources to—
“(i) significantly improve teaching and learning, including support to increase personalization for and engagement of students in pursuit of college-and-career readiness and technology literacy; and

“(ii) develop and use assessments to improve instruction, including instruction consistent with the principles of universal design for learning, as described in section 5429(b)(21), and instruction for students with disabilities and English-language learners.

“(C) Ensure administrators and school leaders have the flexibility and capacity to develop and manage systems to carry out activities described in subparagraphs (A) and (B), and support administrators and school leaders in utilizing technology to promote equity and increase efficiency and productivity.

“(D) Enable local educational agencies to build the technological capacity and infrastructure (including through local purchasing of eligible technology), necessary for the full implementation of on-line assessments for all stu-
students, (including students with disabilities and English-language learners) and to—

“(i) ensure the interoperability of data systems and eligible technology; and

“(ii) carry out subparagraphs (A) through (C).

“(2) A description of the results of the technology readiness in the State as determined by local educational agency responses to the technology readiness survey, including—

“(A) the status of the ability of each local educational agency served by the State educational agency to meet the goals described in section 6608(b)(1);

“(B) an assurance that not less 90 percent of the local educational agencies served by the State educational agency have completed and submitted the technology readiness survey to the State educational agency; and

“(C) an assurance that the results of the technology readiness survey for each such local educational agency are made available to the Secretary and the public through the Website of the local educational agency.
“(3) A description of the plan for the State educational agency to support each local educational agency served by the State educational agency in meeting the goals described in section 6608(b)(1) not later than 3 years after the local educational agency completes the technology readiness survey by addressing the readiness gaps identified in such survey.

“(4) A description of the State’s process for the adoption, acquisition, distribution, and use of content, how the State will ensure integrity of such processes, and how such processes support the goals under paragraph (1) or how a State will change such processes to support such goals, and how the State will ensure content quality.

“(5) A description of how the State educational agency will ensure its data systems and eligible technology are interoperable.

“(6) An assurance that the State educational agency will consider making content widely available through open educational resources when making purchasing decisions with funds received under this title.
“(7) A description of the State’s student technology literacy standards and the technology standards for teachers and administrators.

“(8) An assurance that subgrant awards under section 6608 will be carried out by the local educational agency staff with responsibility for leadership, coordination, and implementation of instructional and other classroom technologies.

“(9) A description of how the State educational agency will award subgrants to local educational agencies under section 6608.

“(10) A description of the process, activities, and performance measures, that the State educational agency will use to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of the grant and subgrants funds awarded under this subpart across the State and in each local educational agency.

“(11) A description of how the State educational agency will, in providing technical and other assistance to local educational agencies, give priority to the local educational agencies proposing to target services to—

“(A) students in schools in need of improvement and persistently low-achieving schools; and
“(B) schools with a high percentage of students that are eligible for free or reduced price lunch under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).

“(12) A description of how the State educational agency consulted with local educational agencies in the development of the State educational agency’s application under this subsection.

“(13) An assurance that the State educational agency will provide matching funds as required under section 6605(e).

“(14) A description of how the State educational agency will ensure that funds received under this title is not duplicative of support received under the E-rate program.

“(15) An assurance that the State educational agency, in making awards under section 6608, to improve equity of technology resources, will expend funds first to local educational agencies that—

“(A) serve students in schools identified as persistently low achieving or in need of improvement to remedy resource inequities; or

“(B) serve schools with a high percentage of students that are eligible for free or reduced price lunch under the Richard B. Russell Na-
tional School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).

“(16) An assurance that the State educational agency will protect the privacy and safety of students and teachers, consistent with requirements of section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g) (commonly known as the ‘Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974’).

“SEC. 6607. STATE USE OF GRANT FUNDS.

“(a) Reservation for Subgrants to Support Technology Infrastructure.—Each State educational agency that receives a grant under section 6605(b)(2) shall expend not less 90 percent of the grant amount for each fiscal year to award subgrants to local educational agencies in accordance with section 6608.

“(b) Reservation for State Activities.—

“(1) In general.—A State educational agency shall reserve not more than 10 percent of the grant received under section 6605(b)(2) for the State activities described in subsection (e).

“(2) Grant administration.—Of the amount reserved by a State educational agency under paragraph (1), the State educational agency may reserve not more than 1 percent or 3 percent, in the case of a State educational agency awarding subgrants
under section 6608(a)(2), for the administration of
the grant under this title, except that a State edu-
cational agency that forms a State purchasing con-
sortium under subsection (d)—

“(A) may reserve an additional 1 percent
to carry out the activities described in sub-
section (d)(1); and

“(B) shall receive direct approval from the
local educational agencies receiving subgrants
under section 6608(a) from the State edu-
cational agency prior to reserving more than
the additional percentage authorized under sub-
paragraph (A) to carry out the activities de-
scribed in subsection (d)(1).

“(c) PRIORITY.—In awarding subgrants under this
subpart, the State educational agency shall give priority
to local educational agencies proposing to target services
to—

“(1) students in schools in need of improvement
or persistently low-achieving schools; and

“(2) schools with a high percentage or number
of students that are eligible for free or reduced price
lunch under the Richard B. Russell National School
Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).
“(c) STATE ACTIVITIES.—A State educational agency shall use funds described in subsection (b) to carry out each of the following:

“(1) Except for the awarding of subgrants in accordance with section 6608, activities described in the State educational agency’s application under section 6606(b).

“(2) Providing technical assistance to local educational agencies to—

“(A) identify and address technology readiness needs;

“(B) redesign curriculum and instruction, improve educational productivity, and deliver computer-based and online assessment;

“(C) use technology, consistent with the principles of universal design for learning to support the learning needs of all students including students with disabilities and English-language learners;

“(D) support principals to have the expertise to evaluate teachers’ proficiency in implementing digital tools for teaching and learning; and

“(E) build capacity of individual school and local educational agency leaders.
“(3) Developing or utilizing research-based or innovative strategies for the delivery of specialized or rigorous academic courses and curricula through the use of technology, including digital learning technologies and assistive technology.

“(4) Integrating and coordinating activities under this title with other educational resources and programs across the State.

“(5) Disseminating information, including making publicly available on the websites of the State educational agency promising practices to improve technology instruction, and acquiring and implementing technology tools and applications.

“(6) Ensuring that teachers, paraprofessionals, library and media personnel, specialized instructional support personnel, and administrators possess the knowledge and skills to use technology—

“(A) for curriculum redesign to change teaching and learning and improve student achievement;

“(B) for formative and summative assessment administration, data analysis, and to personalize learning;

“(C) to improve student technology literacy;
“(D) to expand the range of supports and accommodations available to English-language learners and students with disabilities; and

“(E) for their own ongoing professional development and for access to teaching resources and tools.

“(7) Coordinating with teacher and school leader preparation programs to—

“(A) align digital learning teaching standards; and

“(B) provide ongoing professional development for teachers and school leaders that is aligned to State student technology standards and activities promoting college-and-career readiness.

“(d) PURCHASING CONSORTIA.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A State educational agency receiving a grant under section 6605(b)(2) may—

“(A) form a State purchasing consortium with 1 or more State educational agencies receiving such a grant to carry out the State activities described in clause, including purchasing eligible technology;
“(B) encourage local educational agencies to form local purchasing consortia under section 6608(c)(4); and

“(C) promote pricing opportunities to local educational agencies for the purchase of eligible technology that are—

“(i) negotiated by the State educational agency or the State purchasing consortium of the State educational agency; and

“(ii) available to such local educational agencies.

“(2) Restrictions.—A State educational agency receiving a grant under section 6605(b)(2) may not—

“(A) except for promoting the pricing opportunities described in paragraph (1)(C), make recommendations to local educational agencies for or require use of any specific commercial products and services by local educational agencies;

“(B) require local educational agencies to participate in a State purchasing consortia or local purchasing consortia; or
“(C) use more than the reservation amount authorized for the administration of the grant under subsection (b) to carry out the activities described in paragraph (1), unless the State educational agency receives approval in accordance with subsection (b)(2)(B).

“SEC. 6608. LOCAL SUBGRANTS.

“(a) SUBGRANTS.—

“(1) GRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—From the grant funds provided under section 6605(b)(2) to a State educational agency that are remaining after the State educational agency makes reservations under section 6608(b) for any fiscal year and subject to paragraph (2), the State educational agency shall award subgrants for the fiscal year to local educational agencies served by the State educational agency and with an approved application under subsection (b) by allotting to each such local educational agency an amount that bears the same relationship to the remainder as the amount received by the local educational agency under part A of title I for such year bears to the amount received by all such local educational agencies under such part for such year, except that no
local educational agency may receive less than $5,000.

“(2) COMPETITIVE GRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—If the amount of funds appropriated under section 6611 is less than $500,000,000 for any fiscal year, a State educational agency—

“(A) shall not award subgrants under paragraph (1); and

“(B) shall—

“(i) award subgrants, on a competitive basis, to local educational agencies based on the quality of applications submitted under (b), including—

“(I) the level of technology readiness as determined by the technology readiness surveys completed by local educational agencies submitting such applications; and

“(II) the technology plans described in subsection (b)(3) and how the local educational agencies with such plans will carry out the alignment and coordination described in such subsection; and
“(ii) ensure that such subgrants are of sufficient size and scope to carry out the local activities described in subsection (c).

“(3) Definition of Local Educational Agency for Certain Fiscal Years.—For purposes of awarding subgrants under paragraph (2), the term ‘local educational agency’ means—

“(A) a local educational agency;

“(B) an educational service agency; or

“(C) a local educational agency and an educational service agency.

“(b) Application.—A local educational agency that desires to receive a subgrant under subsection (a) shall submit an application to the State at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the State educational agency may require, including—

“(1) a description of how the local educational agency will—

“(A) carry out the goals described in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of section 6605(b)(1); and

“(B) enable schools served by the agency to build the technological capacity and infrastructure (including through local purchasing of eligible technology), necessary for the full imple-
mentation of on-line assessments for all stu-
dents (including students with disabilities and
English-language learners) and to—

“(i) ensure the interoperability of data
systems and eligible technology; and

“(ii) carry out the goals described in
subparagraphs (A) through (C) of section
6605(b)(1); and

“(C) align activities funded under this sub-
part with school improvement plans, when ap-
plicable;

“(2) a description of the results of the tech-
nology readiness survey completed by the local edu-
cational agency and a description of the plan for the
local educational agency to meet the goals described
in paragraph (1) within 3 years of completing the
survey;

“(3) a description of the local educational agen-
cy’s technology plan to carry out paragraphs (1) and
(3) and how the agency will align and coordinate the
activities under this section with other activities
across the local educational agency;

“(4) a description of the team of educators that
will coordinate and carry out the activities under
this section, including individuals with responsibility
and expertise in instructional technology, teachers that specialize in supporting students with disabilities and English-language learners, school leaders, technology officers, and staff responsible for assessments and data analysis;

“(5) a description of how the local educational agency will evaluate teachers’ proficiency and progress in implementing technology for teaching and learning;

“(6) a description of how the local educational agency will ensure that principals have the expertise to evaluate teachers’ proficiency and progress in implementing technology for teaching and learning and the interoperability of data systems and eligible technology;

“(7) a description of the local educational agency’s procurement process and process for the creation, acquisition, distribution, and use of content, how the local educational agency will ensure integrity of such processes, and how such processes support the goals described in paragraph (1) or how a local educational agency will change such processes to support such goals, and how the local educational agency will ensure content quality;
“(8) a description of how the local educational agency will carry out activities under subsection (e);

“(9) a description of how the subgrant funds received under subsection (a) will be coordinated with and supported by other Federal, State, and local funds to support activities under this subpart;

“(10) a description of how the local educational agency will ensure that the subgrant received under subsection (a) is not duplicative of support received under the E-rate program; and

“(11) an assurance that the local educational agency will protect the privacy and safety of students and teachers, consistent with requirements section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g) (commonly known as the ‘Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974’).

“(c) USE OF FUNDS.—

“(1) TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE.—Subject to paragraph (3), a local educational agency receiving a subgrant under subsection (a) shall use not less than 40 percent of such funds to support activities for the acquisition of eligible technology needed to—

“(A) except for the activities described in paragraph (2), carry out activities described in
the application submitted under subsection (b),
including purchasing devices, equipment, and
software applications, and improving
connectivity to and within schools; and

“(B) address readiness shortfalls identified
under the technology readiness survey com-
pleted by the local educational agency.

“(2) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR DIG-
ITAL LEARNING.—Subject to paragraph (3), a local
educational agency receiving a subgrant under sub-
section (a)—

“(A) shall use not less than 35 percent of
such funds to carry out—

“(i) digital age professional develop-
ment opportunities for teachers, para-
professionals, library and media personnel,
specialized instructional support personnel,
technology coordinators, and administra-
tors in the effective use of modern infor-
mation and communication technology
tools and digital resources to deliver in-
struction, curriculum and school classroom
management, including for classroom
teachers to assess, support, and provide
engaging student learning opportunities,
including professional development that—

“(I) is ongoing, sustainable, and scalable;

“(II) is participatory;

“(III) includes communication and regular interactions with instructors, facilitators, and peers and is directly related to up-to-date teaching methods in content areas;

“(IV) includes strategies and tools for improving communication with parents and family engagement;

“(V) may be built around active professional learning communities or online communities of practice or other tools that increase collaboration among teachers across schools, local educational agencies, or States; and

“(VI) may contain on-demand components, such as instructional videos, training documents, or learning modules;

“(ii) ongoing professional development in strategies, pedagogy, and assessment in
the core academic subjects that involve the
use of technology and curriculum redesign
as key components of supporting effective,
innovative teaching and learning, and im-
proving student achievement;

“(iii) ongoing professional develop-
ment in the use of educational technologies
to ensure every educator achieves and
maintains technology literacy, including
possessing and maintaining the knowledge
and skills to use technology—

“(I) across the curriculum for
student learning;

“(II) for real-time data analysis
and online or digital assessment to en-
able individualized instruction; and

“(III) to develop and maintain
student technology literacy;

“(iv) ongoing professional develop-
ment for school leaders to provide and pro-
mote leadership in the use of—

“(I) educational technology to en-
sure a digital-age learning environ-
ment, including the capacity to lead
the reform or redesign of curriculum,

instruction, assessment; and

“(II) data through the use of technology in order to increase student learning opportunity, student technology literacy, student access to technology, and student engagement in learning; and

“(v) a review of the effectiveness of the professional development and regular intervals of learner feedback and data; and

“(B) may use such funds for—

“(i) the use of technology coaches to work directly with teachers, including through the preparation of teachers as technology leaders or master teachers—

“(I) who are provided with the means to serve as experts and to create professional development opportunities for other teachers in the effective use of technology; and

“(II) who may leverage technologies, such as distance learning and online virtual educator-to-educator peer communities, as a means to
support ongoing, participatory professional growth around the integration of effective educational technologies;

“(ii) innovative approaches to ongoing professional development such as non-standard achievement recognition strategies, including digital badging, gamification elements, use of learner-created learning objects, integration of social and professional networking tools, rating and commenting on learning artifacts, and personalization of professional development; and

“(iii) any other activities required to carry out the local educational agency’s technology plan described in subsection (b)(4).

“(3) MODIFICATION OF FUNDING ALLOCATIONS.—A State educational agency may authorize a local educational agency to modify the percentage of the local educational agency’s subgrant funds required to carry out the activities described in paragraphs (1) or (2) if the local educational agency demonstrates that such modification will assist the
local educational agency in more effectively carrying out such activities.

“(4) PURCHASING CONSORTIA.—Local educational agencies receiving subgrants under subsection (a) may—

“(A) form a local purchasing consortia with other such local educational agencies to carry out the activities described in this subsection, including purchasing eligible technology; and

“(B) use such funds for purchasing eligible technology through a State purchasing consortia under section 6607(d).

“SEC. 6609. REPORTING.

“(a) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—Each local educational agency receiving a subgrant under section 6608 shall submit to the State educational agency that awarded such subgrant an annual report the meets the requirements of subsection (c).

“(b) STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—Each State educational agency receiving a grant under section 6605(b)(2) shall submit to the Secretary an annual report that meets the requirements of subsection (c).
“(c) REPORT REQUIREMENTS.—A report submitted
under subsection (a) or (b) shall include, at a minimum,
a description of—

“(1) the status of the State education agency’s
plan described in section 6606(b)(3) or local edu-
cation agency’s technology plan under section
6608(b)(4), as applicable;

“(2) the categories of eligible technology ac-
quired and types of programs funded under this title
and how such technology is being used;

“(3) the professional development activities
funded under this title, including types of activities
and entities involved in providing such professional
development; and

“(4) information on the impact of the grant on
students and student outcomes, such as—

“(A) the number of and demographic in-
formation about students who are served under
this subpart;

“(B) student achievement, student growth,
and graduation rates of such students;

“(C) college-and-career readiness data
about such students, such as rates of credit ac-
cumulation, course taking and completion, and

college enrollment and persistence;
“(D) student attendance and participation rates;

“(E) student engagement and discipline;

“(F) school climate and teacher working conditions;

“(G) increases in inclusion of students with disabilities and English-language learners; and

“(H) such other information the Secretary may require or other information State educational agencies or local educational agencies served under this subpart propose to include, as approved by the Secretary.

“SEC. 6610. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECT AGENCY-EDUCATION.

“(a) Program established.—From the amounts appropriated under section 6611, the Secretary of Education may reserve up to 5 percent to—

“(1) establish and carry out the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Education (in this section referred to as ‘ARPA-ED’) to—

“(A) identify and promote advances in learning, fundamental and applied sciences, and engineering that may be translated into new learning technologies;
“(B) develop, test, and evaluate new learning technologies and related processes; and
“(C) accelerate transformational technological advances in education;
“(2) convene an advisory panel under subsection (d); and
“(3) carry out the evaluation and dissemination requirements under subsection (e).
“(b) APPOINTMENTS.—
“(1) DIRECTOR.—ARPA–ED shall be under the direction of the Director of ARPA–ED, who shall be appointed by the Secretary.
“(2) QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS.—The Secretary shall appoint, for a term of not more than 4 years, qualified individuals who represent scientific, engineering, professional, and other personnel with expertise in carrying out the activities described in this section to positions in ARPA–ED, at rates of compensation determined by the Secretary, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, except that such rates of compensation shall not to exceed the rate for level I of the Executive Schedule under section 5312 of such title.
“(c) FUNCTIONS OF ARPA–ED.—Upon consultation with the advisory panel convened under subsection (d), the
Secretary shall select public and private entities to carry out the activities described in subsection (a)(1) by—

“(1) awarding such entities grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, or cash prizes; or

“(2) entering into such other transactions with such entities as the Secretary may prescribe in regulations.

“(d) ADVISORY PANEL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall convene an advisory panel to advise and consult with the Secretary, Director, and the qualified individuals appointed under subsection (b)(2) on—

“(A) ensuring that the awards made and transaction entered into under subsection (c) are consistent with the purposes described in subsection (a)(1); and

“(B) ensuring the relevance, accessibility, and utility of such awards and transactions to education practitioners.

“(2) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS.—The Secretary shall appoint the following qualified individuals to serve on the advisory panel:

“(A) Education practitioners.

“(B) Experts in technology.
“(C) Specialists in rapid gains in student achievement and school turnaround.

“(D) Specialists in personalized learning.

“(E) Researchers, including at least one representative from a comprehensive center established under 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9602) or the regional laboratories system established under section 174 of the Education Sciences Reform Act (20 U.S.C. 9564).

“(F) Other individuals with expertise who will contribute to the overall rigor and quality of ARPA–ED.

“(3) APPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the panel convened under this subsection and any appointee to such panel shall not be considered an ‘employee’ under section 2105 of title 5, United States Code.

“(e) EVALUATION AND DISSEMINATION.—

“(1) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall obtain independent, periodic, and rigorous evaluation of—

“(A) the effectiveness of the processes ARPA–Ed is using to achieve the purposes described in subsection (a)(1);
“(B) the relevance, accessibility, and utility of the awards made and transactions entered into under subsection (c) to education practitioners; and

“(C) the effectiveness of the projects carried out through such awards and transactions, using evidence standards developed in consultation with the Institute of Education Sciences, and the suitability of such projects for further investment or increased scale.

“(2) DISSEMINATION AND USE.—The Secretary shall disseminate information to education practitioners, including teachers, principals, and local and State superintendents, on effective practices and technologies developed under ARPA–ED, as appropriate, through—

“(A) the comprehensive centers established under 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 9602);

“(B) the regional laboratories system established under section 174 of the Education Sciences Reform Act (20 U.S.C. 9564); and

“(C) such other means as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.
“(f) ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding section 437(d) of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232(d)), the Secretary shall establish such processes as may be necessary for the Secretary to manage and administer ARPA–ED, which are not constrained by other Department of Education-wide administrative requirements that may prevent ARPA–ED from carrying out the purposes described in subsection (a)(1).

SEC. 6611. AUTHORIZATION.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subpart $500,000,000 for fiscal year 2016 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.”.