

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-54
OFFERED BY MS. HOULAHAN OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the end of title LVIII of division E, add the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CYBER AND DIGITAL**
2 **SERVICE ACADEMY.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.—**

4 (1) **IN GENERAL.—**The Secretary of Defense, in
5 consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security
6 and the Director of the Office of Personnel
7 Management, shall establish a program to provide financial
8 support for pursuit of programs of education
9 at institutions of higher education that have been
10 designated as a Center of Academic Excellence in
11 Cyber Education as defined in section 2200e of title
12 10, United States Code, in covered disciplines.

13 (2) **DESIGNATION.—**The program established
14 under paragraph (1) shall be known as the “Department
15 of Defense Cyber and Digital Service Academy” (in this section the “Program”).

16
17 (3) **COVERED DISCIPLINES.—**For purposes of
18 the Program, a covered discipline is a discipline that

1 the Secretary of Defense determines is critically
2 needed and is cyber- or digital technology-related,
3 including the following:

4 (A) Cyber-related arts and sciences.

5 (B) Cyber-related engineering.

6 (C) Cyber-related law and policy.

7 (D) Applied analysts-related sciences, data
8 management, and digital engineering, including
9 artificial intelligence and machine learning.

10 (E) Such other disciplines relating to
11 cyber, cybersecurity, digital technology, or sup-
12 porting functions as the Secretary of Defense
13 considers appropriate.

14 (b) PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND COMPONENTS.—

15 The Program shall—

16 (1) provide scholarships through institutions of
17 higher education described in subsection (a)(1) to
18 students who are enrolled in programs of education
19 at such institutions leading to degrees or specialized
20 program certifications in covered disciplines;

21 (2) prioritize the placement of scholarship re-
22 cipients fulfilling the post-award employment obliga-
23 tion under this section; and

1 (3) coordinate with the Cyber Scholarship Pro-
2 gram as authorized in chapter 112 of title 10,
3 United States Code.

4 (c) SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS.—

5 (1) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—Each scholar-
6 ship under the Program shall be in such amount as
7 the Secretary determines is necessary to pay all edu-
8 cational expenses incurred by that person, including
9 tuition, fees, cost of books, laboratory expenses, and
10 expenses of room and board, for the pursuit of the
11 program of education for which the assistance is
12 provided under the Program. The Secretary shall en-
13 sure that expenses paid are limited to those edu-
14 cational expenses normally incurred by students at
15 the institution of higher education involved.

16 (2) SUPPORT FOR INTERNSHIP ACTIVITIES.—
17 The financial assistance for a person under this sec-
18 tion may also be provided to support internship ac-
19 tivities of the person in the Department of Defense
20 in periods between the academic years leading to the
21 degree for which assistance is provided the person
22 under the Program.

23 (3) PERIOD OF SUPPORT.—Each scholarship
24 under the Program shall be for not more than 5
25 years.

1 (4) ADDITIONAL STIPEND.—Students dem-
2 onstrating financial need, as determined by the Sec-
3 retary, may be provided with an additional stipend
4 under the Program.

5 (d) POST-AWARD EMPLOYMENT OBLIGATIONS.—
6 Each scholarship recipient, as a condition of receiving a
7 scholarship under the Program, shall enter into an agree-
8 ment under which the recipient agrees to work for a period
9 equal to the length of the scholarship, following receipt
10 of the student's degree or specialized program certifi-
11 cation, in the cyber- and digital technology-related mis-
12 sions of the Department, in accordance with the terms and
13 conditions specified by the Secretary in regulations the
14 Secretary shall promulgate to carry out this subsection.

15 (e) HIRING AUTHORITY.—In carrying out this sec-
16 tion, specifically with respect to enforcing the obligations
17 and conditions of employment under subsection (d), the
18 Secretary may use an authority otherwise available to the
19 Secretary for the recruitment, employment, and retention
20 of civilian personnel within the Department, including au-
21 thority under section 1588f of title 10, United States
22 Code.

23 (f) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a scholar-
24 ship under this section, an individual shall—

1 (1) be a citizen or lawful permanent resident of
2 the United States;

3 (2) demonstrate a commitment to a career in
4 improving the security of information technology;

5 (3) have demonstrated a high level of com-
6 petency in relevant knowledge, skills, and abilities,
7 as defined by the national cybersecurity awareness
8 and education program under section 303 of the Cy-
9 bersecurity Enhancement Act of 2014 (15 U.S.C.
10 7443);

11 (4) be a full-time student, or have been accept-
12 ed as a full-time student, in a program leading to a
13 degree or specialized program certification in a cov-
14 ered discipline at an institution of higher education;

15 (5) enter into an agreement accepting and ac-
16 knowledging the post award employment obligations,
17 pursuant to section (d);

18 (6) accept and acknowledge the conditions of
19 support under section (g); and

20 (7) accept all terms and conditions of a scholar-
21 ship under this section and meet such other require-
22 ments for a scholarship as determined by the Sec-
23 retary.

24 (g) CONDITIONS OF SUPPORT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receiving a
2 scholarship under this section, a recipient shall agree
3 to provide the Office of Personnel Management (in
4 coordination with the Department of Defense) and
5 the institutions of higher education described in sub-
6 section (a)(1) with annual verifiable documentation
7 of post-award employment and up-to-date contact in-
8 formation.

9 (2) TERMS.—A scholarship recipient under the
10 Program shall be liable to the United States as pro-
11 vided in subsection (i) if the individual—

12 (A) fails to maintain an acceptable level of
13 academic standing at the applicable institution
14 of higher education, as determined by the Sec-
15 retary;

16 (B) is dismissed from the applicable insti-
17 tution of higher education for disciplinary rea-
18 sons;

19 (C) withdraws from the eligible degree pro-
20 gram before completing the Program;

21 (D) declares that the individual does not
22 intend to fulfill the post-award employment ob-
23 ligation under this section;

1 (E) fails to maintain or fulfill any of the
2 post-graduation or post-award obligations or re-
3 quirements of the individual; or

4 (F) fails to fulfill the requirements of para-
5 graph (1).

6 (h) MONITORING COMPLIANCE.—As a condition of
7 participating in the Program, an institution of higher edu-
8 cation described in subsection (a)(1) shall—

9 (1) enter into an agreement with the Secretary
10 to monitor the compliance of scholarship recipients
11 with respect to their post-award employment obliga-
12 tions; and

13 (2) provide to the Secretary and the Director of
14 the Office of Personnel Management, on an annual
15 basis, the post-award employment documentation re-
16 quired under subsection (g)(1) for scholarship recipi-
17 ents through the completion of their post-award em-
18 ployment obligations.

19 (i) AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT.—

20 (1) LESS THAN 1 YEAR OF SERVICE.—If a cir-
21 cumstance described in subsection (g)(2) occurs be-
22 fore the completion of 1 year of a post-award em-
23 ployment obligation under the Program, the total
24 amount of scholarship awards received by the indi-

1 vidual under the Program shall be considered a debt
2 to the Government and repaid in its entirety.

3 (2) 1 OR MORE YEARS OF SERVICE.—If a cir-
4 cumstance described in subparagraph (D) or (E) of
5 subsection (g)(2) occurs after the completion of 1 or
6 more years of a post-award employment obligation
7 under the Program, the total amount of scholarship
8 awards received by the individual under the Pro-
9 gram, reduced by the ratio of the number of years
10 of service completed divided by the number of years
11 of service required, shall be considered a debt to the
12 Government and repaid in accordance with sub-
13 section (j).

14 (j) REPAYMENTS.—A debt described in subsection (i)
15 shall be subject to repayment, together with interest there-
16 on accruing from the date of the scholarship award, in
17 accordance with terms and conditions specified by the Sec-
18 retary in regulations promulgated to carry out this sub-
19 section.

20 (k) COLLECTION OF REPAYMENT.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—In the event that a scholar-
22 ship recipient is required to repay the scholarship
23 award under the Program, the institution of higher
24 education providing the scholarship shall—

1 (A) determine the repayment amounts and
2 notify the recipient, the Secretary, and the Di-
3 rector of the Office of Personnel Management
4 of the amounts owed; and

5 (B) collect the repayment amounts within
6 a period of time as determined by the Sec-
7 retary.

8 (2) RETURNED TO TREASURY.—Except as pro-
9 vided in paragraph (3), any repayment under this
10 subsection shall be returned to the Treasury of the
11 United States.

12 (3) RETAIN PERCENTAGE.—An institution of
13 higher education may retain a percentage of any re-
14 payment the institution collects under this sub-
15 section to defray administrative costs associated with
16 the collection. The Secretary shall establish a single,
17 fixed percentage that will apply to all eligible enti-
18 ties.

19 (1) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—

20 (1) EVALUATION.—The Secretary, in coordina-
21 tion with the Director of the Office of Personnel
22 Management, shall periodically evaluate and make
23 public, in a manner that protects the personally
24 identifiable information of scholarship recipients, in-
25 formation on the success of recruiting individuals for

1 scholarships under the Program and on hiring and
2 retaining those individuals in the Department of De-
3 fense workforce, including information on—

4 (A) placement rates;

5 (B) where students are placed, including
6 job titles and descriptions;

7 (C) salary ranges for students not released
8 from obligations under this section;

9 (D) how long after graduation students are
10 placed;

11 (E) how long students stay in the positions
12 they enter upon graduation;

13 (F) how many students are released from
14 obligations; and

15 (G) what, if any, remedial training is re-
16 quired.

17 (2) REPORTS.—The Secretary, in coordination
18 with the Office of Personnel Management, shall sub-
19 mit, not less frequently than once every two years,
20 to Congress a report, including—

21 (A) the results of the evaluation under
22 paragraph (1);

23 (B) the disparity in any reporting between
24 scholarship recipients and their respective insti-
25 tutions of higher education; and

1 (C) any recent statistics regarding the size,
2 composition, and educational requirements of
3 the relevant Department of Defense workforce.

4 (3) RESOURCES.—The Secretary, in coordina-
5 tion with the Director of the Office of Personnel
6 Management, shall provide consolidated and user-
7 friendly online resources for prospective scholarship
8 recipients, including, to the extent practicable—

9 (A) searchable, up-to-date, and accurate
10 information about participating institutions of
11 higher education and job opportunities related
12 to the field of cybersecurity; and

13 (B) a modernized description of cybersecu-
14 rity careers.

15 (m) ALLOCATION OF FUNDING.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not less than 50 percent of
17 the amount available for financial assistance under
18 this section for a fiscal year shall be available only
19 for providing financial assistance for the pursuit of
20 programs of education referred to in subsection
21 (b)(1) at institutions of higher education that have
22 established, improved, or are administering pro-
23 grams of education in cyber disciplines under the
24 grant program established in section 2200b of title

1 10, United States Code, as determined by the Sec-
2 retary of Defense.

3 (2) ASSOCIATES DEGREES.—Not less than five
4 percent of the amount available for financial assist-
5 ance under this section for a fiscal year shall be
6 available for providing financial assistance for the
7 pursuit of an associate degree at an institution de-
8 scribed in paragraph (1).

9 (n) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—In order to help identify
10 workforce needs and trends relevant to the Program, the
11 Secretary may establish a board of directors for the Pro-
12 gram that consists of representatives of Federal depart-
13 ments and agencies.

14 (o) COMMENCEMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary
15 shall commence the Program as early as practicable, with
16 the first scholarships awarded under the Program for the
17 academic year beginning not later than the Fall semester
18 of 2024.

