

H.R. 3398, Pathways to Health Careers Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Ways and Means on October 22, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2020	2020-2024	2020-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	2	900	2,201
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase in the Deficit	2	900	2,201
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	0	0
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes	Mandate Effects	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030?	< \$5 billion	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No

H.R. 3398 would reauthorize and amend the Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) program and would provide \$100 million in 2020—\$85 million for the grant program and \$15 million for administrative costs and technical assistance related to the expansion of the program. Beginning in 2021, the bill would expand the program and would provide \$425 million for each year from 2021 through 2025. The expanded program would provide grants to:

- Train low-income individuals for careers in the health professions,
- Create demonstration projects to train individuals for careers in the pregnancy, childbirth, or postpartum fields, and
- Create demonstration projects to provide education and training in the health professions for individuals with arrest or conviction records.

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 3398 will be enacted around the end of 2019. Section 1501 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-59) reauthorized HPOG through November 21, 2019, which CBO estimated would provide \$12 million in 2020. Thus, CBO estimates that in 2020, enacting H.R. 3398 would increase budget authority by \$73 million for the grant program—\$85 million in the bill minus the \$12 million already provided—and \$15 million for administrative expenses. (The bill specifies that amounts provided for HPOG in any prior act be charged to the appropriation in H.R. 3398.)

Estimated outlays for the program in 2020 are based on historical spending patterns and are net of the outlays CBO estimated for section 1501 of P.L. 116-59. Beginning in 2021, CBO expects that the rate of spending would slow relative to historical spending patterns because of the program expansion. CBO estimates that enacting the bill would cost \$2.2 billion over the 2020-2029 period. The costs of the legislation fall within budget function 500 (education, training, employment, and social services.)

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget-reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. The net changes in outlays that are subject to those pay-as-you-go procedures are shown in Table 1.

Table 1.
CBO’s Estimate of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Effects of H.R. 3398

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars										2020-2024	2020-2029
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029		
Estimated Budget Authority	88	425	425	425	425	425	0	0	0	0	1,788	2,213
Estimated Outlays	2	57	169	298	374	417	412	285	136	51	900	2,201

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3398 would not increase on-budget deficits by more than \$5 billion in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jennifer Gray. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.