

COLLEGE WORK-STUDY

(The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964—Title I-C)

PART I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

1. Objectives

To provide financial assistance to institutions of higher education for the support of part-time employment opportunities for financially needy college students, particularly students from low-income families.

2. Operation

The Office of Education administers Federal grants to colleges and universities. These will finance up to 90 percent of student wages in work-study programs through August 1967, and 75 percent thereafter. The colleges arrange for work opportunities either on campus or in nonprofit organizations off campus.

All public and private nonprofit institutions of higher education, including junior colleges, which are accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency may participate in the work-study program. Other institutions may be eligible for participation under provisions of section 441 of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

A student may work under the work-study program for not more than 15 hours in any week in which classes are in session, and not more than 40 hours in any other week (summer or other vacation periods). A student may work on campus for the college in a variety of ways—as a laboratory assistant or library aid, in food service or in grounds maintenance. Off campus he may work in activities such as those supported by a community action program of the Economic Opportunity Act or in other activities in health, education, recreation, and welfare.

3. History

Title I-C of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, enacted on August 20, 1964, as Public Law 88-452, authorized grants to institutions of higher education to assist in the operation of work-study programs of part-time employment for students. By February 1965 the first students were employed under this program, and by the end of spring the program covered work-study projects in 674 colleges and universities. At that time grants totaled more than \$12 million, and the number of students from low-income families employed in part-time jobs under the program had reached 38,015.

The program continued to expand in fiscal year 1966 with 783 institutions of higher education approved for 1965 summer programs and 1,120 approved for 1965 fall programs. An estimated 40,000 students in summer programs and more than 100,000 in fall programs benefited from college work-study programs.

In 1965 the act was amended by the Economic Opportunity Act Amendments and by the Higher Education Act. These amendments transferred the authority to administer the program from the Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity to the Commissioner of Education and established a basis for expanding the number of student and institutional participants.