



GRAD Act

Growing Reputable Academic Departments

*Led by Representatives Jennifer McClellan (VA-04),
Alma Adams (NC-12) and Yvette Clarke (NY-09)*

About the GRAD Act:

The GRAD Act would expand the number of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs) eligible to receive federal funding for graduate-level STEM programs.

The GRAD Act Would:

The GRAD Act would amend language in sections 723 and 724 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include unlisted institutions with qualified master's degree programs.

The Importance of the GRAD Act:

Currently, only enumerated universities are eligible for funding to support graduate-level STEM programs, which excludes unlisted HBCUs and PBIs across the country.

HBCUs and PBIs drive innovation and serve as key partners in both rural and urban communities, yet they have been historically undervalued and underfunded. This bill ensures that HBCUs and PBIs can deliver high-quality education to all students and prepare the next generation of STEM professionals.

Endorsements:

This bill has been cosponsored by Reps. Andre Carson, Troy Carter, Steve Cohen, Danny Davis, Cleo Fields, Valerie Foushee, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Hank Johnson, Summer Lee, Terri Sewell, Lateefah Simon and Eugene Vindman, and endorsed by the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCf) and the United Negro College Fund (UNCF).