

SB2441



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

SB2441

Introduced 2/26/2021, by Sen. Mattie Hunter

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 1315/15

Amends the Illinois Youthbuild Act. In language providing that the Secretary of Human Services shall make grants to applicants for the purpose of carrying out approved Youthbuild programs, deletes language providing that the grantmaking is subject to appropriation. Effective July 1, 2021.

LRB102 11578 KTG 16912 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Youthbuild Act is amended by
5 changing Section 15 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 1315/15)

7 Sec. 15. Program requirements. The Secretary shall~~7~~
8 ~~subject to appropriation,~~ make grants to applicants for the
9 purpose of carrying out Youthbuild programs as approved under
10 this Section. All programs funded pursuant to the provisions
11 of this Section shall reflect strong youth and community
12 involvement. In addition, funding provided under this Section
13 shall be used by each Youthbuild program to provide, at a
14 minimum, the following services:

15 (a) Acquisition, rehabilitation, acquisition and
16 rehabilitation, or construction of housing and related
17 facilities to be used for the purpose of providing home
18 ownership for disadvantaged persons, residential housing
19 for homeless individuals, and low-income and very
20 low-income families, or transitional housing for persons
21 who are homeless, have disabilities, are ill, are
22 deinstitutionalized, or have special needs, and
23 rehabilitation or construction of community facilities

1 owned by not-for-profit or public agencies.

2 (b) Integrated education and job skills training
3 services and activities which are evenly divided within
4 the program, with 50% of students' time spent in
5 classroom-based instruction, counseling, and leadership
6 development instruction and 50% of their time spent in
7 experiential training on the construction site. The
8 programs shall include, at a minimum, the following
9 elements:

10 (1) An education component which includes basic
11 skills instruction, secondary education services, and
12 other activities designed to lead to the attainment of
13 a high school diploma or its equivalent. The
14 curriculum for this component shall include math,
15 language arts, vocational education, life skills
16 training, social studies related to the cultural and
17 community history of the students, leadership skills,
18 and other topics at the discretion of the programs.
19 Bilingual services shall be available for individuals
20 with limited-English proficiency. The desired minimum
21 teacher to student ratio shall be one teacher for
22 every 18 students.

23 (2) A work experience and skills training
24 component program that includes the construction and
25 rehabilitation activities described in subsection (a).
26 The process of construction must be coupled with

1 skills training and with close on-site supervision by
2 experienced trainers. The curriculum for this
3 component shall contain a set of locally agreed upon
4 skills and competencies that are systematically
5 taught, with a student's mastery assessed individually
6 on a regular, ongoing basis. Safety skills shall be
7 taught at the outset. The desired trainer to student
8 ratio shall be one trainer for every 7 students. The
9 work experience and skills training component shall be
10 coordinated to the maximum extent feasible with
11 preapprenticeship and apprenticeship programs.

12 (3) Assistance in attaining post secondary
13 education and required financial aid shall be made
14 available to participants prior to graduation.

15 (c) Counseling services designed to assist
16 participants to positively participate in society, which
17 should include all of the following if necessary:
18 outreach, assessment, and orientation; individual and peer
19 counseling; life skills training, drug and alcohol abuse
20 education and prevention; and referral to appropriate drug
21 rehabilitation, medical, mental health, legal, housing,
22 and other services and resources in the community. The
23 desired counselor to participant ratio shall be one
24 counselor for every 28 students.

25 (d) Leadership development training that provides
26 participants with meaningful opportunities to develop

1 leadership skills such as decision making, problem
2 solving, and negotiating. The program must also encourage
3 participants to develop strong peer group ties that
4 support their mutual pursuit of skills and values.

5 All programs must establish a youth council in which
6 participants are afforded opportunities to develop public
7 speaking and negotiating skills, and management and policy
8 making participation in specific aspects of the program.

9 (e) Stipends and wages. A training subsidy, living
10 allowance, or stipend that will be no less than minimum
11 wage must be provided to program participants for the time
12 spent at the worksite in construction training. For those
13 participants who receive public assistance, this training
14 subsidy, living allowance, or stipend will not affect
15 their housing benefits, medical benefits, child care
16 benefits or food stamp benefits. Stipends and wages may be
17 distributed in a manner that offers incentives for good
18 performance.

19 (f) Full time participation in a Youthbuild program
20 shall be offered for a period of not less than 6 months and
21 not more than 24 months.

22 (g) A concentrated effort shall be made to find
23 construction, construction-related, and nonconstruction
24 jobs for all graduates of the program who have performed
25 well. The skills training curriculum shall provide
26 participants with basic preparation for seeking and

1 maintaining a job. Follow-up counseling and assistance in
2 job-seeking shall also be provided to participants for at
3 least 12 months following graduation from the program.

4 (h) All programs serving 28 trainees or more are
5 required to have a full-time director responsible for the
6 coordination of all aspects of the Youthbuild program.

7 (Source: P.A. 95-524, eff. 8-28-07.)

8 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
9 2021.