AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE 
TO H.R. 3696 
OFFERED BY MY. Correa 

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
2 This Act may be cited as the “Wounded Warrior 
3 Workforce Enhancement Act”.
4 SEC. 2. ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHECTS EDUCATION IM-
5 PROVEMENT.
6 (a) GRANTS REQUIRED.—
7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans 
8 Affairs shall award grants to eligible institutions to 
9 enable the eligible institutions—
10 (A) to establish a master’s degree program 
11 in orthotics and prosthetics; or 
12 (B) to expand upon an existing master’s 
13 degree program in orthotics and prosthetics, in-
14 cluding by admitting more students, further 
15 training faculty, expanding facilities, or increas-
16 ing cooperation with the Department of Vet-
17 erans Affairs and the Department of Defense.
(2) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority in the award of grants under this section to eligible institutions that have entered into a partnership with a medical center or clinic administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs, a facility administered by the Department of Defense, or a private sector community-based clinic under contract with the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide prosthetic or orthotic care to significant numbers of veterans. Such a partnership shall include the provision of clinical rotations at such medical center, clinic, or facility for the purpose of preparing students to meet the unique needs of veterans with limb loss or chronic limb impairment.

(3) GRANT AMOUNTS.—Grants awarded under this section shall be in amounts of not less than $1,000,000 and not more than $1,500,000.

(b) REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than annually thereafter for two years, the Secretary shall issue a request for proposals from eligible institutions for grants under this section.
(2) PROPOSALS.—An eligible institution that seeks the award of a grant under this section shall submit an application therefor to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may require, including—

(A) demonstration of a willingness and ability to participate in a partnership described in subsection (a)(2); and

(B) a commitment, and demonstration of an ability, to maintain an accredited orthotics and prosthetics education program after the end of the grant period.

e) GRANT USES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible institution awarded a grant under this section shall use grant amounts to carry out any of the following:

(A) Building new or expanding existing orthotics and prosthetics master’s degree programs.

(B) Training doctoral candidates in fields related to orthotics and prosthetics to prepare them to instruct in orthotics and prosthetics programs.
(C) Training faculty in orthotics and prosthetics education or related fields for the purpose of instruction in orthotics and prosthetics programs.

(D) Financial aid that allows eligible institutions to admit additional students to study orthotics and prosthetics.

(E) Funding faculty research projects or faculty time to undertake research in the areas of orthotics and prosthetics for the purpose of furthering their teaching abilities.

(F) Renovation of buildings or minor construction to house orthotics and prosthetics education programs.

(G) Purchasing equipment for orthotics and prosthetics education.

(2) LIMITATION ON CONSTRUCTION.—An eligible institution awarded a grant under this section may use not more than 50 percent of the grant amount to carry out paragraph (1)(F).

(3) ADMISSIONS PREFERENCE.—An eligible institution awarded a grant under this section shall give preference in admission to the orthotics and prosthetics master’s degree programs to veterans, to the extent practicable.
(4) PERIOD OF USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible institution awarded a grant under this section may use the grant amount for a period of three years after the award of the grant.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term "eligible institution" means an educational institution that offers an orthotics and prosthetics education program that—

(A) is accredited by the National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education in cooperation with the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs; or

(B) demonstrates an ability to meet the accreditation requirements for orthotic and prosthetic education from the National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education in cooperation with the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs if the institution receives a grant under this section.

(2) The term "veteran" has the meaning given that term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated $15,000,000 to carry out this section.
(2) Unobligated amounts to be returned to the Treasury.—Any amounts authorized to be appropriated by paragraph (1) that are not obligated by the Secretary as of September 30, 2021, shall be returned to the Treasury of the United States.