

# Preliminary

Fiscal Note

2021-2022 Legislative Session

**SF3373 - 0 - Cambridge Assessment International Education**

Chief Author: **Zach Duckworth**  
 Committee: **Education Finance And Policy**  
 Date Completed:  
 Agency: Education Department

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact	X	

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)	Biennium			Biennium		
	Dollars in Thousands	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
General Fund	-	-	31	31	31	31
<b>Total</b>	-	-	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Biennial Total</b>			<b>31</b>			<b>62</b>

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
General Fund	-	-	.2	.2	.2
<b>Total</b>	-	-	<b>.2</b>	<b>.2</b>	<b>.2</b>

**LBO Analyst's Comment**

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

**LBO Signature:** Alyssa Holterman Rosas      **Date:** 3/9/2022 6:59:31 AM  
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## State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

\*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

<b>State Cost (Savings) = 1-2</b>		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
General Fund	-	-	-	31	31	31
<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Biennial Total</b>				<b>31</b>		<b>62</b>
<b>1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*</b>						
General Fund	-	-	-	31	31	31
<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Biennial Total</b>				<b>31</b>		<b>62</b>
<b>2 - Revenues, Transfers In*</b>						
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Biennial Total</b>				-		-

## Bill Description

This bill adds Cambridge Assessment International Education as a program on par with Advanced Placement and the International Baccalaureate Programs.

## Assumptions

There is a \$4.5 million capped appropriation for the existing AP and IB programs, \$4 million for exam fees and \$500,000 for teacher professional development. This proposal does not propose adding additional funds. Therefore, any portion that would go to support Cambridge would decrease the amounts going to the other two programs. As a result, exam fees for AP/IB courses would increase for non-free and reduced price lunch students. It would also reduce the amount that districts would be reimbursed for AP/IB teacher professional development.

The \$4 million appropriation for exam fees is currently allocated 75% to AP courses and 25% for IB courses. These percentages will need to be adjusted and this bill does not address how they should change.

Cambridge would need to establish a Minnesota Advisory Board, as MDE meets with the Advisory Boards of IB and AP to determine the priorities and costs associated with teacher professional development.

It is important to note that AP, IB and the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) credit policies were written in consultation with Minnesota State and are listed in detail under [Board policy 3.35 Credit for Prior Learning](#). Cambridge would need to consult with Minnesota State in order to set a passing score of the Cambridge Assessment for college credits, with the requirement of Minnesota State to award credit for Cambridge Assessments, as required in statutes 120b.13 Subd. 3a. College Credit and 120b.131 CLEP. Subd. 3. College Credit.

MDE would need to work with Minnesota State to help determine a passing score for Cambridge Assessments in order to award college credit. This would be considered a normal part of a current employee position, and there would be no additional cost for MDE.

Cambridge student participant and exam data would need to be collected for the Rigorous Course Taking Report and will take additional support in the Data and Analytics division. A .20 FTE Education Specialist II is needed beginning in FY2023 to address these additional requirements.

## Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

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MDE Staff	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
Education Specialist II (0.20 FTE)	\$30,064	\$30,064	\$30,064

## Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

Additional staff cost would be ongoing.

## Local Fiscal Impact

A school (public, online, charter, private) must be authorized to offer the Cambridge curriculum and assessments. There is an application and approval process. The application fee for interested schools is currently \$1,423. Specific teacher training for new Cambridge teachers will cost approx. \$500 per registration.

The student exam fees and teacher training costs may be partially covered by the current \$4.5 million appropriation for existing (AP/IB) programs.

A student who attends a non-Cambridge school may register to take the exam from an approved Cambridge school.

## References/Sources

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/>

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