

S.F. No. 1594 – Establishes the paramedic scholarship program

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Section 1 Paramedic Scholarship Program

Subd 1 requires the commissioner of the Office of Higher Education to establish a program to provide up to 600 scholarships to students entering paramedic programs by 2026.

Subd 2 specifies the eligibility criteria. A student may receive the scholarship no more than twice.

Subd 3 requires the commissioner to establish an application process and other guidelines for implementation, and the first set of scholarships must be awarded for the 2024-2025 academic year. The scholarship amount is \$5000, paid to the institution in which the student is enrolled.

Subd 4 requires a report by February 2025 and 2026 and lists the information that must be contained in the report.

Subd 5 expires this section on June 30, 2026.

Section 2 appropriates \$3,200,000 in fiscal year 2024 for purposes of section 1. Of this amount, \$3,000,000 is for 600 scholarships, \$100,000 is for promotion of the program and student recruitment, and \$100,000 is for administering the program. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended or June 30, 2026, whichever occurs first.