

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION

S.F. No. 2075

(SENATE AUTHORS: FATEH)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/27/2023	1124	Introduction and first reading Referred to Higher Education
04/11/2023	3526a	Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Finance HF substituted in committee HF2073

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to higher education; providing funding and policy related changes for the

1.3 Office of Higher Education, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, the

1.4 University of Minnesota, and the Mayo Clinic; creating and modifying certain

1.5 scholarships and student aid programs; establishing the Minnesota Commitment

1.6 to Higher Education tuition free program; creating a direct admissions program;

1.7 requiring reports; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections

1.8 135A.137, subdivisions 2, 3; 136A.031, subdivision 3; 136A.101, subdivisions

1.9 5a, 7; 136A.121, subdivisions 6, 9, 13; 136A.1241, subdivision 5; 136A.125,

1.10 subdivision 4; 136A.126, subdivision 4; 136A.1312; 136A.1791, subdivision 3a;

1.11 136A.246, subdivisions 5, 6, 8; 136F.38, subdivision 3; 175.45, subdivision 1;

1.12 354B.23, subdivision 3; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes,

1.13 chapters 135A; 136A.

1.14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.15 style="text-align:center">**ARTICLE 1**

1.16 style="text-align:center">**APPROPRIATIONS**

1.17 Section 1. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

1.18 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies

1.19 and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the general fund,

1.20 or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose.

1.21 The figures "2024" and "2025" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under

3.1 residing in or near the city of Bemidji to assist
 3.2 students with the scholarships under
 3.3 Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.126, and
 3.4 with other information about financial aid for
 3.5 which the students may be eligible. This
 3.6 appropriation includes funding to administer
 3.7 the American Indian scholarship program.

3.8 **Subd. 8. Tribal College Grants** 3,150,000 3,150,000

3.9 (a) For Tribal college assistance grants under
 3.10 Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1796.

3.11 (b) In addition to grants made pursuant to
 3.12 Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1796, the
 3.13 commissioner shall use this appropriation to
 3.14 make grants of \$1,000,000 each to Leech Lake
 3.15 Tribal College, White Earth Tribal College,
 3.16 and Red Lake Nation Tribal College, to be
 3.17 used for the Tribal colleges' general operations
 3.18 and maintenance expenses. A Tribal college
 3.19 must use grant funds received under this
 3.20 section to supplement, not supplant, any
 3.21 existing funding. By September 30, 2024, each
 3.22 Tribal college receiving a grant under this
 3.23 paragraph must submit a report to the
 3.24 commissioner of the Office of Higher
 3.25 Education and to the chairs and ranking
 3.26 minority members of the legislative
 3.27 committees with jurisdiction over higher
 3.28 education finance and policy. The report must
 3.29 include an accurate and detailed account of

4.1	<u>Subd. 9. Intervention for College Attendance</u>		
4.2	<u>Program Grants</u>	<u>1,942,000</u>	<u>1,142,000</u>
4.3	<u>For the intervention for college attendance</u>		
4.4	<u>program under Minnesota Statutes, section</u>		
4.5	<u>136A.861.</u>		
4.6	<u>\$300,000 in fiscal year 2024 is for providing</u>		
4.7	<u>onetime catalyst funding on a competitive</u>		
4.8	<u>basis to postsecondary institutions, nonprofit</u>		
4.9	<u>organizations, and local government</u>		
4.10	<u>organizations to create or enhance supports,</u>		
4.11	<u>navigation, and precollege services for</u>		
4.12	<u>students who were formerly incarcerated.</u>		
4.13	<u>The commissioner may use no more than three</u>		
4.14	<u>percent of this appropriation to administer the</u>		
4.15	<u>intervention for college attendance program</u>		
4.16	<u>grants.</u>		
4.17	<u>Subd. 10. Student-Parent Information</u>	<u>122,000</u>	<u>122,000</u>
4.18	<u>Subd. 11. Get Ready!</u>	<u>180,000</u>	<u>180,000</u>
4.19	<u>Subd. 12. Minnesota Education Equity</u>		
4.20	<u>Partnership</u>	<u>45,000</u>	<u>45,000</u>
4.21	<u>Subd. 13. Midwest Higher Education Compact</u>	<u>115,000</u>	<u>115,000</u>
4.22	<u>Subd. 14. United Family Medicine Residency</u>		
4.23	<u>Program</u>	<u>501,000</u>	<u>501,000</u>
4.24	<u>For a grant to United Family Medicine</u>		
4.25	<u>residency program. This appropriation shall</u>		
4.26	<u>be used to support up to 21 resident physicians</u>		
4.27	<u>each year in family practice at United Family</u>		
4.28	<u>Medicine residency programs and shall</u>		
4.29	<u>prepare doctors to practice family care</u>		

5.1 treatment of patients in a cost-effective
 5.2 manner.

5.3 Subd. 15. MnLINK Gateway and Minitex 5,905,000 5,905,000

5.4 Subd. 16. Statewide Longitudinal Education
 5.5 Data System 2,550,000 2,550,000

5.6 Subd. 17. Hennepin Healthcare 645,000 645,000

5.7 For transfer to Hennepin Healthcare for
 5.8 graduate family medical education programs
 5.9 at Hennepin Healthcare.

5.10 Subd. 18. College Possible 550,000 550,000

5.11 (a) This appropriation is for immediate transfer
 5.12 to College Possible to support programs of
 5.13 college admission and college graduation for
 5.14 low-income students through an intensive
 5.15 curriculum of coaching and support at both
 5.16 the high school and postsecondary levels.

5.17 (b) This appropriation must, to the extent
 5.18 possible, be proportionately allocated between
 5.19 students from greater Minnesota and students
 5.20 in the seven-county metropolitan area.

5.21 (c) This appropriation must be used by College
 5.22 Possible only for programs supporting students
 5.23 who are residents of Minnesota and attending
 5.24 colleges or universities within Minnesota.

5.25 (d) By February 1 of each year, College
 5.26 Possible must report to the chairs and ranking
 5.27 minority members of the legislative
 5.28 committees and divisions with jurisdiction

6.1 number of existing partner high schools; the
 6.2 geographic distribution of participants; the
 6.3 number of high school and college students
 6.4 specifically supported by the appropriations
 6.5 funds; the percentages of students who applied
 6.6 to college, were admitted into college, and
 6.7 enrolled in college from the previous program
 6.8 year; the number of college graduates
 6.9 supported by the appropriation funding in the
 6.10 previous program year; and a list of all
 6.11 communities and partner institutions
 6.12 benefiting from coaching and support through
 6.13 College Possible programming.

6.14 (e) The base is \$0 for fiscal year 2026 and
 6.15 thereafter.

6.16 **Subd. 19. Spinal Cord Injury and Traumatic**
 6.17 **Brain Injury Research Grant Program**

3,000,000

3,000,000

6.18 For transfer to the spinal cord and traumatic
 6.19 brain injury grant account in the special
 6.20 revenue fund under Minnesota Statutes,
 6.21 section 136A.901, subdivision 1.

6.22 The commissioner may use no more than three
 6.23 percent of the amount transferred under this
 6.24 subdivision to administer the grant program.

6.25 **Subd. 20. Summer Academic Enrichment**
 6.26 **Program**

750,000

750,000

6.27 For summer academic enrichment grants under
 6.28 Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.091.

6.29 The commissioner may use no more than three

7.1	<u>For transfer to the Dual Training Competency</u>		
7.2	<u>Grants account in the special revenue fund</u>		
7.3	<u>under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.246,</u>		
7.4	<u>subdivision 10. The base for this transfer is</u>		
7.5	<u>\$2,132,000 for fiscal year 2026 and thereafter.</u>		
7.6	<u>\$132,000 each year is for transfer to the</u>		
7.7	<u>Department of Labor and Industry.</u>		
7.8	<u>Subd. 22. Campus Sexual Assault Reporting</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
7.9	<u>For the sexual assault reporting required under</u>		
7.10	<u>Minnesota Statutes, section 135A.15.</u>		
7.11	<u>Subd. 23. Campus Sexual Violence Prevention</u>		
7.12	<u>and Response Coordinator</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>
7.13	<u>For the Office of Higher Education to staff a</u>		
7.14	<u>campus sexual violence prevention and</u>		
7.15	<u>response coordinator to serve as a statewide</u>		
7.16	<u>resource providing professional development</u>		
7.17	<u>and guidance on best practices for</u>		
7.18	<u>postsecondary institutions. \$50,000 each year</u>		
7.19	<u>is for administrative funding to conduct</u>		
7.20	<u>trainings and provide materials to</u>		
7.21	<u>postsecondary institutions.</u>		
7.22	<u>Subd. 24. Emergency Assistance for</u>	<u>7,550,000</u>	<u>7,550,000</u>
7.23	<u>Postsecondary Students</u>		
7.24	<u>(a) \$7,550,000 the first year and \$7,550,000</u>		
7.25	<u>the second year are for emergency assistance</u>		
7.26	<u>for postsecondary students. Of this</u>		
7.27	<u>appropriation:</u>		
7.28	<u>(1) \$5,000,000 the first year and \$5,000,000</u>		
7.29	<u>the second year are for the Minnesota State</u>		

8.1 Minnesota for direct emergency grants to
8.2 students;

8.3 (3) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
8.4 second year are for the Office of Higher
8.5 Education to allocate emergency grant funds
8.6 to Minnesota Tribal Colleges and eligible
8.7 nonprofit institutions as defined under
8.8 Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.103, located
8.9 in Minnesota with a demonstrable homeless
8.10 student population. The Office of Higher
8.11 Education shall develop a plan to distribute
8.12 funds to institutions and provide guidance as
8.13 to how grants are disbursed to students. The
8.14 commissioner shall determine the application
8.15 process and the grant amounts; and

8.16 (4) \$50,000 per year may be used by the
8.17 commissioner for the administrative costs
8.18 associated with this section.

8.19 (b) The funds must be used for emergency
8.20 grants to students to meet immediate student
8.21 needs that could result in a student not
8.22 completing the term or their program
8.23 including, but not limited to, emergency
8.24 housing, food, and transportation. Institutions
8.25 shall minimize any negative impact on student
8.26 financial aid resulting from the receipt of
8.27 emergency funds.

8.28 (c) The commissioner must not distribute the
8.29 funds under this section until the Office of

9.1 (d) At the end of each biennium, institutions
 9.2 must return any unused funds to the Office of
 9.3 Higher Education.

9.4 **Subd. 25. Grants to Student Teachers in**
 9.5 **Shortage Areas**

500,000

500,000

9.6 For grants to student teachers in shortage areas
 9.7 under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1275.

9.8 The commissioner may use no more than three
 9.9 percent of the appropriation for administration
 9.10 of the program.

9.11 **Subd. 26. Grants to Underrepresented Student**
 9.12 **Teachers**

1,125,000

1,125,000

9.13 For grants to underrepresented student teachers
 9.14 under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1274.

9.15 The commissioner may use no more than three
 9.16 percent of the appropriation for administration
 9.17 of the program.

9.18 **Subd. 27. Teacher Shortage Loan Repayment**

1,075,000

1,075,000

9.19 For transfer to the teacher shortage loan
 9.20 repayment account in the special revenue fund
 9.21 under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1791,
 9.22 subdivision 8.

9.23 The commissioner may use no more than three
 9.24 percent of the amount transferred under this
 9.25 subdivision to administer the program. The
 9.26 base is \$200,000 for fiscal year 2026 and
 9.27 thereafter.

9.28 **Subd. 28. Large Animal Veterinarian Loan**

10.1	<u>Subd. 29. Agricultural Educators Loan</u>		
10.2	<u>Forgiveness</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
10.3	<u>For transfer to the agricultural education loan</u>		
10.4	<u>forgiveness account in the special revenue</u>		
10.5	<u>fund under Minnesota Statutes, section</u>		
10.6	<u>136A.1794, subdivision 2.</u>		
10.7	<u>Subd. 30. Aviation Degree Loan Forgiveness</u>		
10.8	<u>Program</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
10.9	<u>For transfer to the aviation degree loan</u>		
10.10	<u>forgiveness program account in the special</u>		
10.11	<u>revenue fund under Minnesota Statutes,</u>		
10.12	<u>section 136A.1789, subdivision 2.</u>		
10.13	<u>Subd. 31. Grants for Students with Intellectual</u>		
10.14	<u>and Developmental Disabilities</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>
10.15	<u>For grants for students with intellectual and</u>		
10.16	<u>developmental disabilities under Minnesota</u>		
10.17	<u>Statutes, section 136A.1215.</u>		
10.18	<u>Subd. 32. Loan Repayment Assistance Program</u>	<u>55,000</u>	<u>55,000</u>
10.19	<u>For a grant to the Loan Repayment Assistance</u>		
10.20	<u>Program of Minnesota to provide education</u>		
10.21	<u>debt relief to attorneys with full-time</u>		
10.22	<u>employment providing legal advice or</u>		
10.23	<u>representation to low-income clients or support</u>		
10.24	<u>services for this work.</u>		
10.25	<u>Subd. 33. Minnesota Independence College and</u>		
10.26	<u>Community</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>
10.27	<u>For a grant to Minnesota Independence</u>		
10.28	<u>College and Community for need-based</u>		
10.29	<u>scholarships and tuition reduction. Beginning</u>		

11.1	<u>Subd. 34. Student Loan Debt Counseling</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>
11.2	<u>For student loan debt counseling under</u>		
11.3	<u>Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1788.</u>		
11.4	<u>The Office of Higher Education may use no</u>		
11.5	<u>more than three percent of the appropriation</u>		
11.6	<u>to administer the student loan debt counseling</u>		
11.7	<u>program.</u>		
11.8	<u>Subd. 35. Hunger-Free Campus Grants</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>
11.9	<u>(a) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000</u>		
11.10	<u>the second year are for the Hunger-Free</u>		
11.11	<u>Campus program under Minnesota Statutes,</u>		
11.12	<u>section 135A.137.</u>		
11.13	<u>(b) \$500,000 the first year is for grants not to</u>		
11.14	<u>exceed \$25,000 to institutions for equipment</u>		
11.15	<u>necessary to operate an on-campus food</u>		
11.16	<u>pantry. The commissioner shall establish an</u>		
11.17	<u>application and process for distributing the</u>		
11.18	<u>grant funds. This appropriation is available</u>		
11.19	<u>until June 30, 2026.</u>		
11.20	<u>Subd. 36. Fostering Independence Higher</u>		
11.21	<u>Education Grants</u>	<u>4,747,000</u>	<u>4,916,000</u>
11.22	<u>(a) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the</u>		
11.23	<u>second year are for a grant to the Foster</u>		
11.24	<u>Advocates Nonprofit Organization for an</u>		
11.25	<u>education support and wraparound service</u>		
11.26	<u>program that provides assistance and support</u>		
11.27	<u>to individuals who were in foster care at the</u>		
11.28	<u>age of 13 or later, and for individuals who are</u>		

12.1	<u>education journey through high school</u>		
12.2	<u>graduation and institutions of higher</u>		
12.3	<u>education. This is a onetime appropriation.</u>		
12.4	<u>(b) \$4,247,000 the first year and \$4,416,000</u>		
12.5	<u>the second year are for grants to eligible</u>		
12.6	<u>students under Minnesota Statutes, section</u>		
12.7	<u>136A.1241. The base under this paragraph is</u>		
12.8	<u>\$4,416,000 for fiscal year 2026 and thereafter.</u>		
12.9	<u>The Office of Higher Education may use no</u>		
12.10	<u>more than three percent of the appropriation</u>		
12.11	<u>to administer grants.</u>		
12.12	<u>Subd. 37. Concurrent Enrollment Grants</u>	<u>340,000</u>	<u>340,000</u>
12.13	<u>For concurrent enrollment grants under</u>		
12.14	<u>Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.91.</u>		
12.15	<u>Subd. 38. Student Parent Support Initiative</u>	<u>6,668,000</u>	<u>6,182,000</u>
12.16	<u>(a) \$6,330,000 the first year and \$5,844,000</u>		
12.17	<u>the second year are for grants to support</u>		
12.18	<u>student parents under Minnesota Statutes,</u>		
12.19	<u>section 136A.1251. This is a onetime</u>		
12.20	<u>appropriation. These appropriations are</u>		
12.21	<u>available until June 30, 2026.</u>		
12.22	<u>(b) \$338,000 the first year and \$338,000 the</u>		
12.23	<u>second year are for administrative and</u>		
12.24	<u>promotion costs. The base is \$338,000 for</u>		
12.25	<u>fiscal year 2026 and 2027 for the appropriation</u>		
12.26	<u>under this paragraph.</u>		
12.27	<u>Subd. 39. Director of Tribal Relations</u>	<u>134,000</u>	<u>143,000</u>
12.28	<u>Subd. 40. Direct Admissions Program</u>	<u>500,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>

13.1 \$4,032,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$4,032,000
 13.2 in fiscal year 2025 are for transfer to the Board
 13.3 of Regents of the University of Minnesota.

13.4 \$4,468,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$4,468,000
 13.5 in fiscal year 2025 are for transfer to the Board
 13.6 of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges
 13.7 and Universities.

13.8 **Subd. 42. Higher Education Public Service**
 13.9 **Feasibility Study**

75,000

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13.10 For the commissioner of the Office of Higher
 13.11 Education to conduct a feasibility study on
 13.12 creating and implementing a Minnesota
 13.13 service initiative. By October 31, 2023, the
 13.14 commissioner shall report to the chairs and
 13.15 ranking minority members of the legislative
 13.16 committees with jurisdiction over higher
 13.17 education on the feasibility of creating and
 13.18 implementing a Minnesota service initiative
 13.19 to increase student civic engagement. The
 13.20 report must include but is not limited to
 13.21 information about the program design,
 13.22 implementation challenges and
 13.23 recommendations, outcomes, and the
 13.24 feasibility of scaling the program over time.

13.25 **Subd. 43. Child Development Associate Pathway**

475,000

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13.26 For transfer to the Board of Trustees of the
 13.27 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities to
 13.28 develop a transparent pathway for current
 13.29 child development associate credential holders

14.1 statewide advisory committee to advise the
 14.2 project development.

14.3 **Subd. 44. Minnesota Commitment to Higher**
 14.4 **Education**

496,000

177,105,000

14.5 (a) \$176,903,000 the second year is transferred
 14.6 from the general fund to the account in the
 14.7 special revenue fund under Minnesota
 14.8 Statutes, section 136A.1465, subdivision 6.
 14.9 The base for the transfer under this paragraph
 14.10 is \$49,306,000 in fiscal year 2026 and
 14.11 thereafter.

14.12 (b) \$496,000 the first year and \$202,000 the
 14.13 second year are appropriated from the general
 14.14 fund to the commissioner of the Office of
 14.15 Higher Education for administrative and
 14.16 promotion expenses to implement and direct
 14.17 the scholarship awards under Minnesota
 14.18 Statutes, section 136A.1465.

14.19 **Subd. 45. Inclusive Higher Education Technical**
 14.20 **Assistance Center**

1,000,000

1,000,000

14.21 (a) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
 14.22 second year are to enter into a contract
 14.23 establishing the Inclusive Higher Education
 14.24 Technical Assistance Center under Minnesota
 14.25 Statutes, section 135A.161.

14.26 (b) \$750,000 the first year and \$750,000 the
 14.27 second year are transferred from the general
 14.28 fund to the inclusive higher education grant
 14.29 account under Minnesota Statutes, section

15.1	<u>Subd. 46. Postsecondary Student Basic Needs</u>		
15.2	<u>Working Group</u>	<u>44,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
15.3	<u>\$44,000 the first year is to administer the</u>		
15.4	<u>postsecondary student basic needs working</u>		
15.5	<u>group under article 2, section 27, and provide</u>		
15.6	<u>stipends to participants of the working group</u>		
15.7	<u>who are students. A student participant must</u>		
15.8	<u>receive a stipend, as determined by the</u>		
15.9	<u>commissioner, for each meeting the student</u>		
15.10	<u>attends. This is a onetime appropriation.</u>		
15.11	<u>Subd. 47. Minnesota Association of Black</u>		
15.12	<u>Lawyers</u>	<u>350,000</u>	<u>350,000</u>
15.13	<u>(a) \$350,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$350,000</u>		
15.14	<u>in fiscal year 2025 are appropriated from the</u>		
15.15	<u>general fund to the commissioner of the Office</u>		
15.16	<u>of Higher Education for a grant to the</u>		
15.17	<u>Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers to</u>		
15.18	<u>be used for a pilot program supporting black</u>		
15.19	<u>undergraduate students pursuing admission to</u>		
15.20	<u>law school in Minnesota. This is a onetime</u>		
15.21	<u>appropriation.</u>		
15.22	<u>(b) The pilot program under paragraph (a)</u>		
15.23	<u>must:</u>		
15.24	<u>(1) enroll an initial cohort of ten to 20 black</u>		
15.25	<u>Minnesota resident students attending a</u>		
15.26	<u>baccalaureate degree-granting postsecondary</u>		
15.27	<u>institution in Minnesota full time;</u>		
15.28	<u>(2) support each of the program's students with</u>		
15.29	<u>an academic scholarship in the amount of</u>		

- 16.1 (4) provide the program's students free test
16.2 preparation materials, academic support,
16.3 registration for the Law School Admission
16.4 Test (LSAT) examination, and submission of
16.5 test results to law schools in Minnesota.
- 16.6 (c) The Minnesota Association of Black
16.7 Lawyers may use grant funds under paragraph
16.8 (a) for costs related to:
- 16.9 (1) student scholarships;
16.10 (2) academic events and programming,
16.11 including food and transportation costs for
16.12 students;
- 16.13 (3) LSAT preparation materials, courses,
16.14 registrations, and submission of test results to
16.15 law schools in Minnesota; and
- 16.16 (4) hiring staff for the program.
- 16.17 (d) By January 30, 2025, and again by January
16.18 30, 2026, the Minnesota Association of Black
16.19 Lawyers must submit a report to the
16.20 commissioner of the Office of Higher
16.21 Education and to the chairs and ranking
16.22 minority members of the legislative
16.23 committees with jurisdiction over higher
16.24 education finance and policy. The report must
16.25 include an accurate and detailed account of
16.26 the pilot program, its outcomes, and its
16.27 revenues and expenses, including the use of
16.28 all state funds appropriated in paragraph (a).

17.1 article 2, section 28. This is a onetime
 17.2 appropriation.

17.3 Subd. 49. **Agency Administration** 6,498,000 6,724,000

17.4 The base amount for this appropriation for
 17.5 fiscal years 2026 and later is \$6,096,000.

17.6 Subd. 50. **Balances Forward**

17.7 A balance in the first year under this section
 17.8 does not cancel, but is available for the second
 17.9 year.

17.10 Subd. 51. **Transfers**

17.11 The commissioner of the Office of Higher
 17.12 Education may transfer unencumbered
 17.13 balances from the appropriations in this
 17.14 section to the state grant appropriation, the
 17.15 interstate tuition reciprocity appropriation, the
 17.16 child care grant appropriation, the Indian
 17.17 scholarship appropriation, the state work-study
 17.18 appropriation, the get ready appropriation, the
 17.19 intervention for college attendance
 17.20 appropriation, the student-parent information
 17.21 appropriation, the summer academic
 17.22 enrichment program appropriation, the public
 17.23 safety officers' survivors appropriation, and
 17.24 the fostering independence higher education
 17.25 grant program. The commissioner may transfer
 17.26 unencumbered balances from the hunger-free
 17.27 campus appropriations to the emergency
 17.28 assistance for postsecondary students grant.

18.1 programs as needed to meet demand. Transfers
 18.2 from the child care, state work-study, or the
 18.3 hunger-free campus appropriations may only
 18.4 be made to the extent there is a projected
 18.5 surplus in the appropriation. A transfer may
 18.6 be made only with prior written notice to the
 18.7 chairs and ranking minority members of the
 18.8 senate and house of representatives
 18.9 committees with jurisdiction over higher
 18.10 education finance.

18.11 **Sec. 3. BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**
 18.12 **MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND**
 18.13 **UNIVERSITIES**

18.14 **Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation** \$ **932,265,000** \$ **903,242,000**

18.15 The amounts that may be spent for each
 18.16 purpose are specified in the following
 18.17 subdivisions.

18.18 **Subd. 2. Central Office and Shared Services**
 18.19 **Unit**

35,401,000

36,401,000

18.20 For the Office of the Chancellor and the
 18.21 Shared Services Division.

18.22 **Subd. 3. Operations and Maintenance**

877,749,000

847,726,000

18.23 (a) \$38,000,000 the first year and \$81,000,000
 18.24 the second year are to stabilize system
 18.25 operations, maintain academic programs, and
 18.26 keep tuition affordable.

18.27 (b) This appropriation includes \$74,000,000
 18.28 in fiscal year 2024 for onetime campus
 18.29 support. The Board of Trustees must allocate

19.1 onetime appropriation. The base for this
19.2 appropriation in fiscal year 2026 and later is
19.3 \$0.

19.4 (c) \$5,700,000 in fiscal year 2024 and
19.5 \$5,700,000 in fiscal year 2025 are to provide
19.6 supplemental aid for operations and
19.7 maintenance to the president of each two-year
19.8 institution in the system with at least one
19.9 campus that is not located in a metropolitan
19.10 county, as defined in Minnesota Statutes,
19.11 section 473.121, subdivision 4. The board
19.12 shall transfer at least \$158,000 for each
19.13 campus not located in a metropolitan county
19.14 in each year to the president of each institution
19.15 that includes such a campus.

19.16 (d) The Board of Trustees is requested to help
19.17 Minnesota close the attainment gap by funding
19.18 activities which improve retention and
19.19 completion for students of color.

19.20 (e) \$4,500,000 in fiscal year 2024 and
19.21 \$4,500,000 in fiscal year 2025 are for
19.22 workforce development scholarships under
19.23 Minnesota Statutes, section 136F.38. The base
19.24 amount for this appropriation for fiscal year
19.25 2026 and later is \$4,500,000.

19.26 (f) \$300,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$300,000
19.27 in fiscal year 2025 are for transfer to the Cook
19.28 County Higher Education Board to provide
19.29 educational programming, workforce

20.1 served, credit hours delivered, and services
20.2 provided to students.

20.3 (g) \$40,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$40,000
20.4 in fiscal year 2025 to implement the sexual
20.5 assault policies required under Minnesota
20.6 Statutes, section 135A.15.

20.7 (h) \$9,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and
20.8 \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 are for
20.9 enterprise-wide technology, including
20.10 upgrading the Integrated Statewide Record
20.11 System and maintaining enterprise-wide
20.12 technology services. The base for this
20.13 appropriation in fiscal year 2026 and later is
20.14 \$10,000,000.

20.15 (i) \$50,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$50,000 in
20.16 fiscal year 2025 to implement the Z-Degree
20.17 program under Minnesota Statutes, section
20.18 136F.305.

20.19 (j) \$13,000,000 the first year and \$13,000,000
20.20 the second year are to expand student support
20.21 services. This appropriation provides funding
20.22 to campuses to address basic needs insecurity,
20.23 mental health, and other high-need student
20.24 support services by increasing the amount of
20.25 available resources to students. In addition,
20.26 this funding provides systemwide resources
20.27 and coordination, including electronic
20.28 connections for peer support and professional
20.29 clinical support for mental health. These

21.1 (k) \$172,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$349,000
 21.2 in fiscal year 2025 are for costs associated
 21.3 with the increased employer contribution rates
 21.4 for the Higher Education Individual
 21.5 Retirement Account Plan under Minnesota
 21.6 Statutes, section 354B.23, subdivision 3. The
 21.7 base for fiscal year 2026 is \$530,000 and for
 21.8 fiscal year 2027 and later is \$715,000.

21.9 (l) \$482,000 the first year and \$282,000 the
 21.10 second year are to pay the cost of supplies and
 21.11 equipment necessary to provide access to
 21.12 menstrual products for purposes of Minnesota
 21.13 Statutes, section 135A.1365.

21.14 (m) The total operations and maintenance base
 21.15 is \$839,907,000 in fiscal year 2026 and
 21.16 \$840,092,000 in fiscal year 2027.

21.17	<u>Subd. 4. Learning Network of Minnesota</u>	<u>4,115,000</u>	<u>4,115,000</u>
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21.18	<u>Subd. 5. Workforce Development</u>	<u>15,000,000</u>	<u>15,000,000</u>
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21.19 (a) \$10,000,000 the first year and \$10,000,000
 21.20 the second year are to upgrade college and
 21.21 university equipment and learning
 21.22 environments to provide students with
 21.23 state-of-the-art learning opportunities for
 21.24 career and technical education and to enhance
 21.25 applied research laboratories for interactive,
 21.26 hands-on, multidisciplinary approaches to
 21.27 science, technology, engineering, and math
 21.28 education. \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2025

21.29 must be matched with cash or in kind

23.1 treatments and cures to improve the health of
23.2 Minnesotans.

23.3 (b) \$7,800,000 in fiscal year 2024 and
23.4 \$7,800,000 in fiscal year 2025 are for health
23.5 training restoration. This appropriation must
23.6 be used to support all of the following: (1)
23.7 faculty physicians who teach at eight residency
23.8 program sites, including medical resident and
23.9 student training programs in the Department
23.10 of Family Medicine; (2) the Mobile Dental
23.11 Clinic; and (3) expansion of geriatric
23.12 education and family programs.

23.13 (c) \$4,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and
23.14 \$4,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 are for the
23.15 Minnesota Discovery, Research, and
23.16 InnoVation Economy funding program for
23.17 cancer care research.

23.18 (d) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$500,000
23.19 in fiscal year 2025 are for the University of
23.20 Minnesota, Morris branch, to cover the costs
23.21 of tuition waivers under Minnesota Statutes,
23.22 section 137.16.

23.23 (e) \$374,000 the first year and \$110,000 the
23.24 second year are to pay the cost of supplies and
23.25 equipment necessary to provide access to
23.26 menstrual products for purposes of article 2,
23.27 section 2.

23.28 (f) The total operations and maintenance base
23.29 for fiscal year 2026 and later is \$665,028,000

24.1 **(a) Agriculture and Extension Service** 42,922,000 42,922,000

24.2 For the Agricultural Experiment Station and
24.3 the Minnesota Extension Service:

24.4 (1) the agricultural experiment stations and
24.5 Minnesota Extension Service must convene
24.6 agricultural advisory groups to focus research,
24.7 education, and extension activities on producer
24.8 needs and implement an outreach strategy that
24.9 more effectively and rapidly transfers research
24.10 results and best practices to producers
24.11 throughout the state;

24.12 (2) this appropriation includes funding for
24.13 research and outreach on the production of
24.14 renewable energy from Minnesota biomass
24.15 resources, including agronomic crops, plant
24.16 and animal wastes, and native plants or trees.
24.17 The following areas should be prioritized and
24.18 carried out in consultation with Minnesota
24.19 producers, renewable energy, and bioenergy
24.20 organizations:

24.21 (i) biofuel and other energy production from
24.22 perennial crops, small grains, row crops, and
24.23 forestry products in conjunction with the
24.24 Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI);

24.25 (ii) alternative bioenergy crops and cropping
24.26 systems; and

24.27 (iii) biofuel coproducts used for livestock feed;

24.28 (3) this appropriation includes funding for the

- 25.1 planting, tilling, harvesting, and processing
25.2 equipment necessary for this project;
- 25.3 (4) this appropriation includes funding for
25.4 research efforts that demonstrate a renewed
25.5 emphasis on the needs of the state's agriculture
25.6 community. The following areas should be
25.7 prioritized and carried out in consultation with
25.8 Minnesota farm organizations:
- 25.9 (i) vegetable crop research with priority for
25.10 extending the Minnesota vegetable growing
25.11 season;
- 25.12 (ii) fertilizer and soil fertility research and
25.13 development;
- 25.14 (iii) soil, groundwater, and surface water
25.15 conservation practices and contaminant
25.16 reduction research;
- 25.17 (iv) discovering and developing plant varieties
25.18 that use nutrients more efficiently;
- 25.19 (v) breeding and development of turf seed and
25.20 other biomass resources in all three Minnesota
25.21 biomes;
- 25.22 (vi) development of new disease-resistant and
25.23 pest-resistant varieties of turf and agronomic
25.24 crops;
- 25.25 (vii) utilizing plant and livestock cells to treat
25.26 and cure human diseases;
- 25.27 (viii) the development of dairy coproducts;

26.1 (xi) developing animal agriculture that is
 26.2 capable of sustainably feeding the world;
 26.3 (xii) consumer food safety education and
 26.4 outreach;
 26.5 (xiii) programs to meet the research and
 26.6 outreach needs of organic livestock and crop
 26.7 farmers; and
 26.8 (xiv) alternative bioenergy crops and cropping
 26.9 systems; and growing, harvesting, and
 26.10 transporting biomass plant material; and
 26.11 (5) by February 1, 2025, the Board of Regents
 26.12 must submit a report to the legislative
 26.13 committees and divisions with jurisdiction
 26.14 over agriculture and higher education finance
 26.15 on the status and outcomes of research and
 26.16 initiatives funded in this paragraph.

26.17 **(b) Health Sciences**

29,204,000

9,204,000

26.18 (1) \$346,000 each year is to support up to 12
 26.19 resident physicians in the St. Cloud Hospital
 26.20 family practice residency program. The
 26.21 program must prepare doctors to practice
 26.22 primary care medicine in rural areas of the
 26.23 state. The legislature intends this program to
 26.24 improve health care in rural communities,
 26.25 provide affordable access to appropriate
 26.26 medical care, and manage the treatment of
 26.27 patients in a more cost-effective manner. The
 26.28 remainder of this appropriation is for the rural

27.1	<u>medicine, research, clinical translation, and</u>		
27.2	<u>commercialization.</u>		
27.3	<u>(2) \$20,000,000 the first year is for programs</u>		
27.4	<u>at the University of Minnesota Medical School</u>		
27.5	<u>Campus on the CentraCare Health System</u>		
27.6	<u>Campus in St. Cloud. This appropriation may</u>		
27.7	<u>be used for tuition support, a residency</u>		
27.8	<u>program, a rural health research program, a</u>		
27.9	<u>program to target scholarships to students from</u>		
27.10	<u>diverse backgrounds, and a scholarship</u>		
27.11	<u>program targeted at students who will practice</u>		
27.12	<u>in rural areas. This appropriation is available</u>		
27.13	<u>June 30, 2027, and must be spent on the</u>		
27.14	<u>CentraCare Health System Campus in the</u>		
27.15	<u>greater St. Cloud area.</u>		
27.16	<u>(c) College of Science and Engineering</u>	<u>1,140,000</u>	<u>1,140,000</u>
27.17	<u>For the geological survey and the talented</u>		
27.18	<u>youth mathematics program.</u>		
27.19	<u>(d) System Special</u>	<u>9,181,000</u>	<u>9,181,000</u>
27.20	<u>(1) For general research, the Labor Education</u>		
27.21	<u>Service, Natural Resources Research Institute,</u>		
27.22	<u>Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, Bell</u>		
27.23	<u>Museum of Natural History, and the</u>		
27.24	<u>Humphrey exhibit. The base is \$8,181,000 for</u>		
27.25	<u>fiscal year 2026 and thereafter.</u>		
27.26	<u>(2) \$4,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and</u>		
27.27	<u>\$4,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 are for the</u>		
27.28	<u>Natural Resources Research Institute to invest</u>		

28.1 The base for fiscal year 2026 and later is

28.2 \$3,000,000.

28.3 **(e) University of Minnesota and Mayo**

28.4 **Foundation Partnership**

7,991,000

7,991,000

28.5 This appropriation is for the following

28.6 activities:

28.7 (1) \$7,491,000 in fiscal year 2024 and

28.8 \$7,491,000 in fiscal year 2025 are for the

28.9 direct and indirect expenses of the

28.10 collaborative research partnership between the

28.11 University of Minnesota and the Mayo

28.12 Foundation for research in biotechnology and

28.13 medical genomics. An annual report on the

28.14 expenditure of these funds must be submitted

28.15 to the governor and the chairs of the legislative

28.16 committees responsible for higher education

28.17 finance by June 30 of each fiscal year.

28.18 (2) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$500,000

28.19 in fiscal year 2025 are to award competitive

28.20 grants to conduct research into the prevention,

28.21 treatment, causes, and cures of Alzheimer's

28.22 disease and other dementias.

28.23 **Subd. 5. Academic Health Center**

28.24 The appropriation for Academic Health Center

28.25 funding under Minnesota Statutes, section

28.26 297F.10, is estimated to be \$22,250,000 each

28.27 year.

28.28 **Sec. 5. MAYO CLINIC**

29.1 The state must pay a capitation each year for
 29.2 each student who is a resident of Minnesota.
 29.3 The appropriation may be transferred between
 29.4 each year of the biennium to accommodate
 29.5 enrollment fluctuations. It is intended that
 29.6 during the biennium the Mayo Clinic use the
 29.7 capitation money to increase the number of
 29.8 doctors practicing in rural areas in need of
 29.9 doctors.

29.10 **Subd. 3. Family Practice and Graduate**
 29.11 **Residency Program**

1,134,000

1,134,000

29.12 The state must pay stipend support for up to
 29.13 27 residents each year.

ARTICLE 2

HIGHER EDUCATION PROVISIONS

29.16 Section 1. **[135A.121] AMERICAN INDIAN SCHOLARS.**

29.17 Subdivision 1. Establishment. The American Indian Scholars program is established
 29.18 to provide a first-dollar tuition and fee free pathway for eligible Minnesota American Indian
 29.19 students to complete an undergraduate education.

29.20 Subd. 2. Eligibility. To be eligible each year for the program a student must:

29.21 (1) be enrolled in an undergraduate certificate, diploma, or degree program at the
 29.22 University of Minnesota or a Minnesota state college or university;

29.23 (2) be either (i) a Minnesota resident for resident tuition purposes who is an enrolled
 29.24 member or citizen of a federally recognized American Indian Tribe or Canadian First Nation,
 29.25 or (ii) an enrolled member or citizen of a Minnesota Tribal Nation, regardless of resident
 29.26 tuition status; and

29.27 (3) have not (i) obtained a baccalaureate degree, or (ii) been enrolled for 180 credits or

30.1 programs for students eligible under subdivision 2; provide student supports for eligible
30.2 students; and administer these programs.

30.3 Subd. 4. **Reports.** (a) Each institution receiving funds under this section must annually
30.4 report to the commissioner of the Office of Higher Education the following:

30.5 (1) how the systems or institutions have administered, distributed, and awarded the
30.6 funds;

30.7 (2) enrollment and graduation data for all eligible students, including applicants and
30.8 recipients of funds; and

30.9 (3) the aggregate awarded financial aid information for all recipients of funds under this
30.10 program.

30.11 (b) Using the data submitted to the office by institutions pursuant to paragraph (a), as
30.12 well as other data available to the office, the office shall provide the following on its website
30.13 by placing a prominent link on its website home page:

30.14 (1) information made available in a searchable database, including but not limited to
30.15 persistence and completion, debt of graduates, employment and wage information, and other
30.16 relevant data for each institution subject to paragraph (a); and

30.17 (2) other information and links that are useful to students and parents who are in the
30.18 process of selecting a college or university.

30.19 **Sec. 2. [135A.1365] ACCESS TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS.**

30.20 The Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities shall, and the
30.21 Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota is requested to, provide students with
30.22 access to menstrual products at no charge. The products must be available in restrooms used
30.23 by students. For purposes of this section, "menstrual products" means pads, tampons, or
30.24 other similar products used in connection with the menstrual cycle.

30.25 **Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 135A.137, subdivision 2, is amended to read:**

30.26 **Subd. 2. Designation approval.** (a) The statewide student associations representing the

31.1 ~~(b) The University of Minnesota Student Association at each institution shall create an~~
31.2 ~~application process and an award and provide final approval for the designation at each~~
31.3 ~~University of Minnesota institution.~~

31.4 ~~(c) The Minnesota Association of Private College Students and the Student Advisory~~
31.5 ~~Council member representing Tribal colleges pursuant to section 136A.031, subdivision 3,~~
31.6 ~~shall create an application process and an award and provide final approval for the designation~~
31.7 ~~at each nonprofit degree-granting institution.~~

31.8 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 135A.137, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

31.9 Subd. 3. **Competitive grant.** (a) Institutions eligible for a grant under this subdivision
31.10 include public postsecondary institutions, nonprofit private postsecondary institutions, and
31.11 Tribal colleges.

31.12 (b) The commissioner shall establish a competitive grant program to distribute grants
31.13 to eligible institutions to meet and maintain the requirements under subdivision 1, paragraph
31.14 (a). Initial grants shall be made to institutions that have not earned the designation and
31.15 demonstrate a need for funding to meet the hunger-free campus designation requirements.
31.16 Sustaining grants shall be made to institutions that have earned the designation and
31.17 demonstrate both a partnership with a local food bank or organization that provides regular,
31.18 on-campus food distributions and a need for funds to maintain the requirements under
31.19 subdivision 1, paragraph (a).

31.20 (c) The commissioner shall give preference to applications for initial grants and to
31.21 applications from institutions with the highest number of federal Pell Grant eligible students
31.22 enrolled. The commissioner shall consider the head count at the institution when awarding
31.23 grants. The maximum grant award for an initial institution designation is ~~\$8,000~~ \$25,000.
31.24 The maximum grant award for sustaining an institution designation is ~~\$5,000~~ \$15,000.

31.25 (d) The commissioner, in collaboration with student associations representing eligible
31.26 institutions, shall create an application process and establish selection criteria for awarding
31.27 the grants.

32.1 Sec. 5. [135A.161] INCLUSIVE HIGHER EDUCATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
32.2 CENTER.

32.3 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section and section 135A.162, the
32.4 following terms have the meanings given.

32.5 (b) "Center" means the Inclusive Higher Education Technical Assistance Center.

32.6 (c) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Office of Higher Education.

32.7 (d) "Comprehensive transition and postsecondary program for students with intellectual
32.8 disabilities" means a degree, certificate, or nondegree program that is offered by an institution
32.9 of higher education for students with intellectual disabilities and approved by the United
32.10 States Department of Education.

32.11 (e) "Director" means the director of the Inclusive Higher Education Technical Assistance
32.12 Center.

32.13 (f) "Inclusive higher education" means institution-approved access to higher education
32.14 for students with an intellectual disability that allows for the same rights, privileges,
32.15 experiences, benefits, and outcomes that result from a college experience the same as a
32.16 matriculating student, resulting in a meaningful credential conferred by the institution of
32.17 higher education. Inclusive higher education includes:

32.18 (1) academic access and inclusive instruction;

32.19 (2) person-centered planning;

32.20 (3) career development;

32.21 (4) campus engagement;

32.22 (5) self-determination;

32.23 (6) paid internships and employment;

32.24 (7) on- or off-campus living, when available to other students;

32.25 (8) campus community clubs, events, and activity participation;

33.1 and technical assistance supporting evidence-based and student-centered research and
33.2 practice for inclusive higher education initiatives for students with intellectual disabilities.

33.3 (h) "Office" means the Office of Higher Education.

33.4 (i) "Student with an intellectual disability" means a student with an intellectual disability
33.5 as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 34, section 668.231.

33.6 Subd. 2. **Establishment.** The commissioner must contract with the Institute on
33.7 Community Integration at the University of Minnesota to establish the Inclusive Higher
33.8 Education Technical Assistance Center. The purpose of the center is to increase access to
33.9 self-sustaining postsecondary education options across Minnesota for students with an
33.10 intellectual disability to earn meaningful credentials through degree, certificate, and
33.11 nondegree initiatives leading to competitive integrated employment, genuine community
33.12 membership, and more independent living. The center must:

33.13 (1) coordinate and facilitate the statewide initiative to expand and enhance inclusive
33.14 higher education opportunities;

33.15 (2) provide expertise in inclusive higher education for students with an intellectual
33.16 disability;

33.17 (3) provide technical assistance:

33.18 (i) to Minnesota institutions of higher education;

33.19 (ii) to local education agencies; and

33.20 (iii) as requested by the commissioner; and

33.21 (4) provide information to students with intellectual disabilities and their families.

33.22 Subd. 3. **Director; advisory committee.** (a) The center must name a director.

33.23 (b) The center must make hiring decisions based on the Institute on Community
33.24 Integration's values of diversity and inclusion of staff with disabilities.

33.25 (c) The director must appoint an advisory committee and seek the committee's review
33.26 and recommendations on broad programmatic direction. The advisory committee must be

34.1 (3) document existing and potential funding sources; and

34.2 (4) identify obstacles and barriers to students with an intellectual disability to access
34.3 inclusive higher education opportunities.

34.4 Subd. 4. **Responsibilities.** (a) The center must advise and offer technical assistance to
34.5 all Minnesota institutions of higher education planning or offering an inclusive higher
34.6 education initiative to operate in accordance with federal requirements, the model Program
34.7 Accreditation Standards for Postsecondary Education Programs for Students with Intellectual
34.8 Disabilities, and guiding principles for inclusive higher education as developed by the
34.9 National Coordinating Center.

34.10 (b) The center must monitor federal and state law related to inclusive higher education
34.11 and notify the governor, the legislature, and the Office of Higher Education of any change
34.12 in law which may impact inclusive higher education.

34.13 (c) The center must provide technical assistance to institutions of higher education,
34.14 administrators, faculty, and staff by:

34.15 (1) offering institution faculty and staff training and professional development to start,
34.16 operate, or enhance their inclusive higher education initiative;

34.17 (2) providing faculty and staff with information, training, and consultation on the
34.18 comprehensive transition and postsecondary program requirements, model Program
34.19 Accreditation Standards for Postsecondary Education Programs for Students with Intellectual
34.20 Disabilities, and guiding principles;

34.21 (3) organizing and offering learning community events, an annual inclusive higher
34.22 education conference and community of practice events to share best practices, provide
34.23 access to national experts, and address challenges and concerns;

34.24 (4) assisting institutions of higher education with identifying existing or potential funding
34.25 sources for the institution of higher education, student financial aid, and funding for students
34.26 with an intellectual disability; and

34.27 (5) advising faculty and staff with an inclusive higher education option of specific grant

- 35.1 (2) technical assistance and training provided by the center, the National Coordinating
35.2 Center, and key stakeholder organizations and agencies; and
35.3 (3) mentoring, networking, and employment opportunities.

35.4 **Sec. 6. [135A.162] INCLUSIVE HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS.**

35.5 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** (a) The commissioner of the Office of Higher Education
35.6 in collaboration with the director of the Inclusive Higher Education Technical Assistance
35.7 Center must establish a competitive grant program for Minnesota institutions of higher
35.8 education to develop new or enhance existing inclusive higher education initiatives to enroll
35.9 or increase enrollment of students with an intellectual disability. The commissioner and
35.10 director must collaborate to establish the grant program framework, including:

- 35.11 (1) minimum grant requirements;
35.12 (2) application format;
35.13 (3) criteria for evaluating applications;
35.14 (4) grant selection process;
35.15 (5) milestones and accountability; and
35.16 (6) reporting.

35.17 (b) The commissioner must send a description of the competitive grants, including
35.18 materials describing the grant purpose and goals, an application, compliance requirements,
35.19 and available funding to each institution of higher education that meets the requirements
35.20 of subdivision 2, clauses (1) and (2).

35.21 Subd. 2. **Eligible grantees.** A public or nonprofit postsecondary two-year or four-year
35.22 institution is eligible to apply for a grant under this section if the institution:

- 35.23 (1) is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission; and
35.24 (2) meets the eligibility requirements under section 136A.103.

35.25 Subd. 3. **Application.** (a) Applications must be made to the commissioner on a form

36.1 (1) offers the necessary supports to students with an intellectual disability to access the
36.2 same rights, privileges, experiences, benefits, and outcomes of a typically matriculating
36.3 student;

36.4 (2) includes the development of a meaningful credential for students with an intellectual
36.5 disability to attain upon successful completion of the student's postsecondary education;

36.6 (3) adopts admission standards that do not require a student with an intellectual disability
36.7 to complete a curriculum-based, achievement college entrance exam that is administered
36.8 nationwide;

36.9 (4) ensures that students with an intellectual disability:

36.10 (i) have access and choice in a wide array of academic courses to enroll in for credit or
36.11 audit that align with the student's interest areas and are attended by students without
36.12 disabilities;

36.13 (ii) have the option to live on or off campus in housing that is available to typically
36.14 matriculating students;

36.15 (iii) have access and support for genuine membership in campus life, including events,
36.16 social activities and organizations, institution facilities, and technology; and

36.17 (iv) are able to access and utilize campus resources available to typical matriculating
36.18 students;

36.19 (5) provides students with an intellectual disability with the supports and experiences
36.20 necessary to seek and sustain competitive integrated employment;

36.21 (6) develops and promotes the self-determination skills of students with an intellectual
36.22 disability;

36.23 (7) utilizes peer mentors who support enrolled students with an intellectual disability in
36.24 academic, campus engagement, residence life, employment, and campus clubs and
36.25 organizations;

36.26 (8) provides professional development and resources for university professors and

36.27 instructors to utilize universal design for learning and differentiated instruction that supports

37.1 (b) Eligible institutions of higher education may apply for funding in subsequent years
37.2 for up to a total of ten years of funding.

37.3 (c) Receipt of grant funds does not preclude nor replace the provision of accommodation
37.4 for enrolled students with disabilities.

37.5 Subd. 4. **Grant account.** An inclusive higher education grant account is created in the
37.6 special revenue fund for depositing money appropriated to or received by the commissioner
37.7 for the program. Money deposited in the account is appropriated to the commissioner, does
37.8 not cancel, and is continuously available for grants under this section. The commissioner
37.9 may use up to five percent of the amount deposited into the account for the administration
37.10 of this section.

37.11 Subd. 5. **Grant awards.** (a) The commissioner must award grants to eligible institutions
37.12 of higher education on a competitive basis using criteria established in collaboration with
37.13 the center. The commissioner must consider and prioritize applicants that have submitted
37.14 for or received a comprehensive transition and postsecondary program designation, or
37.15 applicants with documented progress or intent toward submitting for federal approval. An
37.16 eligible institution of higher education may apply annually for and receive up to \$200,000
37.17 per year for four years and \$100,000 in subsequent years pending performance and the
37.18 funding limitation in subdivision 3, paragraph (b).

37.19 (b) A grant recipient must:

37.20 (1) adopt the model Program Accreditation Standards for Postsecondary Education
37.21 Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities and the inclusive higher education
37.22 guiding principles as developed by the National Coordinating Center;

37.23 (2) provide a 25 percent match for the grant funds, either monetary or in-kind; and

37.24 (3) collaborate with the Office of Higher Education, the center, and key stakeholders in
37.25 the development of the inclusive higher education initiative.

37.26 Subd. 6. **Grantee reporting.** By August 1 and January 1 following a fiscal year in which
37.27 a grant was received and for five years thereafter, the grantee must submit a report to the

37.28 director that includes the status and outcomes of the initiative funded. The report must

38.1 (3) initiative goals and outcomes;

38.2 (4) student attainment rate;

38.3 (5) graduated student employment rates and salary levels at year one and year five after
38.4 completion; and

38.5 (6) additional performance indicators or information established under subdivision 1,
38.6 paragraph (a), clauses (5) and (6).

38.7 Subd. 7. **Reporting.** The director must evaluate the development and implementation
38.8 of the Minnesota inclusive higher education initiatives receiving a grant under this section.
38.9 The director must submit an annual report by October 1 on the progress to expand Minnesota
38.10 inclusive higher education options for students with intellectual disabilities to the
38.11 commissioner and chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with
38.12 jurisdiction over higher education policy and finance. The report must include statutory and
38.13 budget recommendations.

38.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2023, except that the reporting
38.15 requirements under subdivision 7 are effective July 1, 2024.

38.16 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.031, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

38.17 Subd. 3. **Student Advisory Council.** (a) A Student Advisory Council (SAC) to the
38.18 office is established. The members of SAC shall include: the chair of the University of
38.19 Minnesota student senate; the state chair of the Minnesota State University Student
38.20 Association; the president of the Minnesota State College Student Association and an officer
38.21 of the Minnesota State College Student Association, one in a community college course of
38.22 study and one in a technical college course of study; a student who is enrolled in a private
38.23 nonprofit postsecondary institution, to be elected by students enrolled in Minnesota Private
38.24 College Council institutions; a student who is enrolled in a private career school, to be
38.25 elected by students enrolled in Minnesota private career schools; and a student who is
38.26 enrolled in a Minnesota tribal college to be elected by students enrolled in Minnesota tribal
38.27 colleges. If students from the private career schools or tribal colleges do not elect a

39.1 (b) The office shall inform the SAC of all matters related to student issues under
39.2 consideration. The SAC shall report to the office quarterly and at other times that the SAC
39.3 considers desirable. The SAC shall determine its meeting times, but it shall also meet with
39.4 the office within 30 days after the commissioner's request for a meeting.

39.5 (c) The SAC shall:

39.6 (1) bring to the attention of the office any matter that the SAC believes needs the attention
39.7 of the office;

39.8 (2) fulfill the requirements under section 135A.137, subdivision 2;

39.9 (3) make recommendations to the office as it finds appropriate; and

39.10 ~~(3)~~ (4) approve student appointments by the office for each advisory group as provided
39.11 in subdivision 4.

39.12 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.101, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

39.13 Subd. 5a. **Assigned family responsibility.** "Assigned family responsibility" means the
39.14 amount of a family's contribution to a student's cost of attendance, as determined by a federal
39.15 need analysis. For dependent students, the assigned family responsibility is 79 percent of
39.16 the parental contribution. If the parental contribution is less than \$0, the assigned family
39.17 responsibility is 100 percent of the parental contribution. For independent students with
39.18 dependents other than a spouse, the assigned family responsibility is 71 percent of the student
39.19 contribution. For independent students without dependents other than a spouse, the assigned
39.20 family responsibility is 35 percent of the student contribution. If the student contribution is
39.21 less than \$0, the assigned family responsibility is 100 percent of the student contribution.
39.22 For a student registering for less than full time, the office shall prorate the assigned family
39.23 responsibility using the ratio of the number of credits the student is enrolled in to the number
39.24 of credits for full-time enrollment.

39.25 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.101, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

39.26 Subd. 7. **Student.** "Student" means a person who is enrolled for at least ~~three credits~~

40.1 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.121, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

40.2 Subd. 6. **Cost of attendance.** (a) The recognized cost of attendance consists of: (1) an
40.3 allowance specified in law for living and miscellaneous expenses, and (2) an allowance for
40.4 tuition and fees equal to the lesser of the average tuition and fees charged by the institution,
40.5 or a tuition and fee maximum if one is established in law. If no living and miscellaneous
40.6 expense allowance is established in law, the allowance is equal to ~~109~~ 115 percent of the
40.7 federal poverty guidelines for a one person household in Minnesota for nine months. If no
40.8 tuition and fee maximum is established in law, the allowance for tuition and fees is equal
40.9 to the lesser of: (1) the average tuition and fees charged by the institution, and (2) for
40.10 two-year programs, an amount equal to the highest tuition and fees charged at a public
40.11 two-year institution, or for four-year programs, an amount equal to the highest tuition and
40.12 fees charged at a public university.

40.13 (b) For a student registering for less than full time, the office shall prorate the cost of
40.14 attendance ~~to the actual number of credits for which the student is enrolled~~ using the ratio
40.15 of the number of credits the student is enrolled in to the number of credits for full-time
40.16 enrollment.

40.17 (c) The recognized cost of attendance for a student who is confined to a Minnesota
40.18 correctional institution shall consist of the tuition and fee component in paragraph (a), with
40.19 no allowance for living and miscellaneous expenses.

40.20 (d) For the purpose of this subdivision, "fees" include only those fees that are mandatory
40.21 and charged to full-time resident students attending the institution. Fees do not include
40.22 charges for tools, equipment, computers, or other similar materials where the student retains
40.23 ownership. Fees include charges for these materials if the institution retains ownership. Fees
40.24 do not include optional or punitive fees.

40.25 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.121, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

40.26 Subd. 9. **Awards.** An undergraduate student who meets the office's requirements is
40.27 eligible to apply for and receive a grant in any year of undergraduate study unless the student
40.28 has obtained a baccalaureate degree or ~~previously has been enrolled full time or the equivalent~~

41.1 institution is only eligible for the tuition and fee maximums established by law for two-year
41.2 institutions.

41.3 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.121, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

41.4 Subd. 13. **Deadline.** The deadline for the office to accept applications for state grants
41.5 for a term is ~~30 days after the start of that term~~ June 30 of the fiscal year for which the
41.6 student applies for a grant.

41.7 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.1241, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

41.8 Subd. 5. **Foster grant amount; payment; opt-out.** (a) Each student shall be awarded
41.9 a foster grant based on the federal need analysis. Applicants are encouraged to apply for all
41.10 other sources of financial aid. The amount of the foster grant must be equal to the applicant's
41.11 recognized cost of attendance after ~~deducting~~ accounting for:

41.12 (1) ~~the student aid index as calculated by~~ results of the federal need analysis;

41.13 (2) the amount of a federal Pell Grant award for which the applicant is eligible;

41.14 (3) the amount of the state grant;

41.15 (4) the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant;

41.16 (5) the sum of all Tribal scholarships;

41.17 (6) the amount of any other state and federal gift aid;

41.18 (7) the Education and Training Voucher Program;

41.19 (8) extended foster care benefits under section 260C.451;

41.20 (9) the amount of any private grants or scholarships, excluding grants and scholarships
41.21 provided by the private institution of higher education in which the eligible student is
41.22 enrolled; and

41.23 (10) for public institutions, the sum of all institutional grants, scholarships, tuition
41.24 waivers, and tuition remission amounts.

42.1 (d) An eligible private institution that does not opt out under paragraph (c) and accepts
42.2 the student's application to attend the institution must provide institutional grants,
42.3 scholarships, tuition waivers, or tuition remission in an amount equal to the difference
42.4 between:

42.5 (1) the institution's cost of attendance as calculated under subdivision 4, paragraph (b),
42.6 clause (1); and

42.7 (2) the sum of the foster grant under this subdivision and the sum of the amounts in
42.8 paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (9).

42.9 (e) An undergraduate student who is eligible may apply for and receive a foster grant
42.10 in any year of undergraduate study unless the student has obtained a baccalaureate degree
42.11 or previously has been enrolled full time as defined in section 136A.101, subdivision 7a,
42.12 or the equivalent for eight semesters or the equivalent, or received a foster grant for five
42.13 years, whichever occurs first. A foster grant must not be awarded to a student for more than
42.14 three years for a two-year degree, certificate, or diploma, or five years for a four-year
42.15 undergraduate degree.

42.16 (f) Foster grants may be awarded to an eligible student for four quarters, three semesters,
42.17 or the equivalent during the course of a single fiscal year. In calculating the award amount,
42.18 the office must use the same calculation it would for any other term.

42.19 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.125, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

42.20 Subd. 4. **Amount and length of grants.** (a) The maximum award to the applicant shall
42.21 be \$6,500 for each eligible child per academic year, except that the campus financial aid
42.22 officer may apply to the office for approval to increase grants by up to ten percent to
42.23 compensate for higher market charges for infant care in a community.

42.24 (b) Applicants with ~~expected family~~ contributions at or below the qualifying ~~expected~~
42.25 ~~family~~ contribution as determined by the federal need analysis for the federal Pell Grant,
42.26 as determined by the commissioner, qualify for the maximum award. Applicants with
42.27 ~~expected family~~ contributions as determined by the federal need analysis exceeding that

43.1 (2) divided by the number of terms in the academic year; and

43.2 (3) multiplied by the applicable enrollment factor:

43.3 (i) 1.00 for undergraduate students enrolled in 12 or more semester credits or the
43.4 equivalent or for graduate students enrolled in six or more semester credits or the equivalent;

43.5 (ii) 0.75 for undergraduate students enrolled in nine, ten, or 11 semester credits or the
43.6 equivalent or for graduate students enrolled in five semester credits or the equivalent;

43.7 (iii) 0.50 for undergraduate students enrolled in six, seven, or eight semester credits or
43.8 the equivalent or for graduate students enrolled in three or four semester credits or the
43.9 equivalent; and

43.10 (iv) 0.25 for undergraduate students enrolled in at least one but less than six semester
43.11 credits or the equivalent or for graduate students enrolled in one or two semester credits or
43.12 the equivalent.

43.13 (d) Payments shall be made each academic term to the student or to the child care
43.14 provider, as determined by the institution. Institutions may make payments more than once
43.15 within the academic term.

43.16 Sec. 15. [136A.1251] STUDENT-PARENT SUPPORT INITIATIVE.

43.17 Subdivision 1. Grants. (a) To address the needs and support the educational goals of
43.18 expectant and parenting college students across Minnesota, the commissioner shall award
43.19 grants and provide support services to institutions and partnering entities that assist expectant
43.20 parents and parents of young children. Grants shall be awarded to postsecondary institutions,
43.21 professional organizations, community-based organizations, or other applicants deemed
43.22 appropriate by the commissioner. Grants must be used to offer services to support the
43.23 academic goals, health, and well-being of student parents. Services and costs eligible for
43.24 grant funding include but are not limited to:

43.25 (1) program development costs;

43.26 (2) costs related to the start-up of on-campus child care;

44.1 (b) Postsecondary institutions may act as the fiscal agents in partnership with a local
44.2 nongovernmental agency, child care center, or other organization that serves student parents.

44.3 Subd. 2. **Application process.** The commissioner shall develop a grant application
44.4 process. The commissioner shall support projects in a manner that attempts to ensure eligible
44.5 students throughout the state have access to program services.

44.6 Subd. 3. **Health-related supports.** The commissioner, in partnership with the Department
44.7 of Health, shall provide health-related supports. Activities for health-related supports include:

44.8 (1) ensuring programs, services, and materials are medically accurate, age appropriate,
44.9 culturally and linguistically appropriate, and inclusive of all populations;

44.10 (2) working with community health care providers and other service support organizations
44.11 that serve the target population for this program; and

44.12 (3) providing technical assistance and training for institutional parent support center
44.13 staff on how to conduct screenings and referrals for the health concerns of student parents,
44.14 including alcohol misuse, substance use disorders, depression, anxiety, intimate partner
44.15 violence, tobacco and nicotine, and other health concerns.

44.16 Subd. 4. **Report and evaluation.** By August 1 of each odd-numbered year, the
44.17 commissioner shall submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the
44.18 legislative committees with jurisdiction over higher education finance regarding the grant
44.19 recipients and their activities. The report shall include information about the students served,
44.20 the organizations providing services, program activities, program goals, and outcomes.

44.21 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.126, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

44.22 Subd. 4. **Award amount.** (a) Each student shall be awarded a scholarship based on the
44.23 federal need analysis. Applicants are encouraged to apply for all other sources of financial
44.24 aid. The amount of the award must not exceed the applicant's cost of attendance, as defined
44.25 in subdivision 3, after ~~deducting~~ accounting for:

44.26 (1) the ~~expected family contribution as calculated by~~ results of the federal need analysis;

45.1 (6) the sum of all Tribal scholarships;

45.2 (7) the amount of any other state and federal gift aid; and

45.3 (8) the amount of any private grants or scholarships.

45.4 (b) The award shall be paid directly to the postsecondary institution where the student
45.5 receives federal financial aid.

45.6 (c) Awards are limited as follows:

45.7 (1) the maximum award for an undergraduate is \$4,000 per academic year;

45.8 (2) the maximum award for a graduate student is \$6,000 per academic year; and

45.9 (3) the minimum award for all students is \$100 per academic year.

45.10 (d) Scholarships may not be given to any Indian student for more than three years of
45.11 study for a two-year degree, certificate, or diploma program or five years of study for a
45.12 four-year degree program at the undergraduate level and for more than five years at the
45.13 graduate level. Students may acquire only one degree per level and one terminal graduate
45.14 degree. Scholarships may not be given to any student for more than ten years including five
45.15 years of undergraduate study and five years of graduate study.

45.16 (e) Scholarships may be given to an eligible student for four quarters, three semesters,
45.17 or the equivalent during the course of a single fiscal year. In calculating the award amount,
45.18 the office must use the same calculation it would for any other term.

45.19 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.1312, is amended to read:

45.20 **136A.1312 FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATOR, PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT.**

45.21 Nothing in this chapter or in the office's rules shall be interpreted as limiting the ability
45.22 of student financial aid administrators, on the basis of adequate documentation, to ~~make~~
45.23 ~~necessary adjustments to the cost of attendance and expected family contribution~~
45.24 ~~computations~~ adjust a student's dependency status or elements of a student's cost of attendance
45.25 for federal needs analysis calculation to allow for treatment of individual students with
45.26 special circumstances, with the exception of the cost of attendance defined under section

46.1 Sec. 18. [136A.1465] MINNESOTA COMMITMENT TO HIGHER EDUCATION
46.2 ACT.

46.3 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** The following terms have the meanings given:

46.4 (1) "eligible student" means a resident student under section 136A.101, subdivision 8,
46.5 who is enrolled in any public postsecondary educational institution or Tribal college;

46.6 (2) "gift aid" means all financial aid designated for the student's educational expenses,
46.7 including a grant, scholarship, tuition waiver, fellowship stipend, or other third-party
46.8 payment, that is not a loan or pursuant to a work-study program;

46.9 (3) "office" means the Office of Higher Education;

46.10 (4) "public postsecondary educational institution" means an institution operated by this
46.11 state, the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, or a Tribal college;

46.12 (5) "scholarship" means funds to pay 100 percent of tuition and fees remaining after
46.13 deducting grants and other scholarships;

46.14 (6) "Tribal college" means a college defined in section 136A.1796, subdivision 1,
46.15 paragraph (c); and

46.16 (7) "tuition and fees" means the actual tuition and fees charged by an institution.

46.17 Subd. 2. **Conditions for eligibility.** A scholarship may be awarded to an eligible student
46.18 who:

46.19 (1) has completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the state
46.20 aid application;

46.21 (2) has an adjusted gross household income below \$80,000;

46.22 (3) has not earned a baccalaureate degree at the time the scholarship is awarded;

46.23 (4) is enrolled in at least one credit per fall, spring, or summer semester;

46.24 (5) is not participating in the University of Minnesota Promise Plus Free Tuition program;

46.25 and

47.1 (b) For the 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027 academic years, if funds remain after
47.2 scholarships are awarded under paragraph (a), grants shall be awarded to Pell grant eligible
47.3 students in an amount equal to 50 percent of the student's Pell grant. The commissioner
47.4 may adjust the grant amount based on the availability of funds.

47.5 Subd. 3a. **Maintain current levels of institutional assistance.** (a) Commencing with
47.6 the 2023-2024 academic year, a public postsecondary educational institution shall not reduce
47.7 the institutional gift aid offered or awarded to a student who is eligible to receive funds
47.8 under this program unless the student's gift aid exceeds the student's annual cost of
47.9 attendance.

47.10 (b) The public postsecondary educational institution may reduce the institutional gift
47.11 aid offer of a student who is eligible to receive funds under this program by no more than
47.12 the amount of the student's gift aid that is in excess of the student's annual cost of attendance.

47.13 (c) The public postsecondary educational institution shall not consider receipt or
47.14 anticipated receipt of funds under this program when considering a student for qualification
47.15 for institutional gift aid.

47.16 (d) To ensure financial aid is maximized, a public postsecondary educational institution
47.17 is encouraged to implement efforts to avoid scholarship displacement through consultation
47.18 with the Office of Higher Education and students to avoid situations where institutional gift
47.19 aid can only be used for specific purposes.

47.20 Subd. 4. **Duration of scholarship authorized; scholarship paid to institution.** (a)
47.21 Each scholarship is for a period of one semester. A scholarship may be renewed provided
47.22 that the eligible student continues to meet the conditions of eligibility.

47.23 (b) Scholarships may be provided to an eligible student for up to 60 credits for the
47.24 completion of a certificate or an associate degree and up to 120 credits for the completion
47.25 of a bachelor's degree. The maximum credits for which a student is eligible is a total of 120
47.26 credits.

47.27 (c) The commissioner shall determine a time frame by which the eligible student must
47.28 complete the credential.

48.1 (1) failure to meet satisfactory academic progress as defined in section 136A.101,
48.2 subdivision 10; or

48.3 (2) substantial noncompliance by the eligible student with the requirements of the
48.4 program.

48.5 Subd. 6. **Account established; appropriation.** An account is created in the special
48.6 revenue fund for receiving money to provide scholarship awards. Money deposited in the
48.7 account is appropriated to the commissioner of the Office of Higher Education for scholarship
48.8 awards.

48.9 Subd. 7. **Office administration.** The office is authorized to administer the program. If
48.10 funds are insufficient, the office shall determine the scholarship amount or number of
48.11 scholarships awarded. If a student withdraws or is no longer enrolled during a semester in
48.12 which a scholarship was awarded, the office may determine how this will affect the
48.13 scholarship.

48.14 Subd. 8. **Report.** The commissioner of higher education shall submit a preliminary
48.15 report by September 1, 2025, and an annual report beginning February 15, 2026, to the
48.16 chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over
48.17 higher education, on the details of the program, including the:

48.18 (1) status of the scholarship fund; and

48.19 (2) Minnesota Commitment to Higher Education Act participation data aggregated for
48.20 each eligible institution to show the:

48.21 (i) number of eligible students who received scholarships in the prior academic year;

48.22 (ii) average and total award amounts;

48.23 (iii) summary demographic data on award recipients;

48.24 (iv) total number of students enrolled in eligible institutions in the prior academic year;

48.25 (v) retention rates of participating students; and

48.26 (vi) number of eligible students who graduated with a degree and, for each eligible

49.1 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.1791, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

49.2 Subd. 3a. **Eligibility.** To be eligible for a disbursement under this section, a teacher must
49.3 belong to a racial or ethnic group underrepresented in the Minnesota teacher workforce;
49.4 To the extent that funds are available, eligibility extends to teachers who teach in a rural
49.5 school district; or teach in a license shortage area.

49.6 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.246, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

49.7 Subd. 5. **Grant criteria.** (a) The commissioner shall make at least an approximately
49.8 equal dollar amount of grants for training for employees whose work site is projected to be
49.9 outside the metropolitan area as defined in section 473.121, subdivision 2, as for employees
49.10 whose work site is projected to be within the metropolitan area.

49.11 (b) In determining the award of grants, the commissioner must consider, among other
49.12 factors:

49.13 (1) the aggregate state and regional need for employees with the competency to be
49.14 trained;

49.15 (2) the competency standards developed by the commissioner of labor and industry as
49.16 part of the Minnesota ~~PIPELINE Project~~ dual-training pipeline program;

49.17 (3) the per employee cost of training;

49.18 (4) the additional employment opportunities for employees because of the training;

49.19 (5) the on-the-job training the employee receives;

49.20 (6) the employer's demonstrated ability to recruit, train, and retain employees who are
49.21 recent high school graduates or who recently passed high school equivalency tests;

49.22 (7) projected increases in compensation for employees receiving the training; ~~and~~

49.23 (8) the amount of employer training cost match, if required, on both a per employee and
49.24 aggregate basis; and

49.25 (9) the employer's demonstrated ability to recruit, train, and retain employees who are

50.1 For the purpose of this subdivision, a "large employer" means a business with more than
50.2 \$25,000,000 in annual gross revenue in the previous calendar year.

50.3 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.246, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

50.4 Subd. 8. **Grant amounts.** (a) The maximum grant for an application for the cost of
50.5 training is \$150,000. The maximum grant for an application for trainee support is ten percent
50.6 of the grant amount for the cost of training. The maximum total grant per application is
50.7 \$165,000. A grant may not exceed \$6,000 per year for a maximum of ~~four years~~ \$24,000
50.8 per employee.

50.9 (b) An employee who is attending an eligible training provider that is an institution under
50.10 section 136A.103 must apply for Pell and state grants as a condition of payment for training
50.11 that employee under this section.

50.12 Sec. 23. [136A.84] DIRECT ADMISSIONS PROGRAM.

50.13 Subdivision 1. **Authorization.** The commissioner shall administer the direct admissions
50.14 program in consultation with stakeholders, including Minnesota State Colleges and
50.15 Universities, the University of Minnesota, the Student Advisory Council under section
50.16 136A.031, the Minnesota Department of Education, the Minnesota Association of Secondary
50.17 School Principals, and the Minnesota School Board Association, to automatically offer
50.18 conditional admission into Minnesota public colleges and universities to Minnesota high
50.19 school seniors based on a student's high school grade point average, high school and college
50.20 transcript information, standardized tests, statewide assessments, and other measures as
50.21 determined by stakeholders.

50.22 Subd. 2. **Implementation.** The program shall establish and, to the extent feasible,
50.23 implement a process for leveraging existing kindergarten through grade 12 and higher
50.24 education student information systems to automate the admissions process for students. The
50.25 program must specifically evaluate the impact this process has on outcomes for students
50.26 with lower levels of college knowledge, low-income students, and students from populations
50.27 underserved in higher education. The office shall attempt to achieve statewide representation

51.1 Subd. 4. **Report.** Annually, by February 1, the Office of Higher Education shall report
51.2 to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education
51.3 finance and policy and higher education on activities occurring under this section. The report
51.4 must include but is not limited to information about implementation, recommendations, and
51.5 outcomes.

51.6 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136F.38, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

51.7 Subd. 3. **Program eligibility.** (a) Scholarships shall be awarded only to a student eligible
51.8 for resident tuition, as defined in section 135A.043, who is enrolled in any of the following
51.9 programs of study or certification: (1) advanced manufacturing; (2) agriculture; (3) health
51.10 care services; (4) information technology; (5) early childhood; (6) transportation; ~~or~~ (7)
51.11 construction; (8) education; (9) public safety; or (10) a program of study under paragraph
51.12 (b).

51.13 (b) Each institution may add one additional area of study or certification, based on a
51.14 workforce shortage for full-time employment requiring postsecondary education that is
51.15 unique to the institution's specific region, as reported in the most recent Department of
51.16 Employment and Economic Development job vacancy survey data for the economic
51.17 development region in which the institution is located. A workforce shortage area is one in
51.18 which the job vacancy rate for full-time employment in a specific occupation in a region is
51.19 higher than the state average vacancy rate for that same occupation. The institution may
51.20 change the area of study or certification based on new data once every two years.

51.21 (c) The student must be enrolled for at least nine credits in a two-year college in the
51.22 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system to be eligible for first- and second-year
51.23 scholarships.

51.24 (d) The student is eligible for a one-year transfer scholarship if the student transfers from
51.25 a two-year college after two or more terms, and the student is enrolled for at least nine
51.26 credits in a four-year university in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system.

51.27 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 175.45, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

52.1 rules and are exempt from the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14, and the provisions in
 52.2 section 14.386 concerning exempt rules do not apply.

52.3 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 354B.23, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

52.4 Subd. 3. **Employer contribution rate.** The employer contribution rate on behalf of
 52.5 participants in the individual retirement account plan is ~~six percent~~ the following percentage
 52.6 of salary:

52.7	<u>from July 1, 1993, to June 30, 2023</u>	<u>6</u>
52.8	<u>from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024</u>	<u>6.55</u>
52.9	<u>from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025</u>	<u>7.1</u>
52.10	<u>from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026</u>	<u>7.65</u>
52.11	<u>from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027</u>	<u>7.65</u>
52.12	<u>after June 30, 2027</u>	<u>8.75</u>

52.13 Sec. 27. **POSTSECONDARY STUDENT BASIC NEEDS WORKING GROUP;**
 52.14 **REPORT.**

52.15 Subdivision 1. **Direction.** By September 1, 2023, the commissioner of the Office of
 52.16 Higher Education shall convene a working group on postsecondary student basic needs.
 52.17 The commissioner shall invite representatives from Minnesota State Colleges and
 52.18 Universities, the University of Minnesota, nonprofit private colleges, Tribal colleges and
 52.19 universities, student organizations, faculty and staff bargaining units, state agencies, and
 52.20 other interested parties as determined by the commissioner to participate in the working
 52.21 group.

52.22 Subd. 2. **Duties.** The working group must review, assess, and make specific
 52.23 recommendations on strategies to meet the basic needs of higher education students. The
 52.24 report must include a comprehensive plan on how to identify, assess, and support students
 52.25 who are experiencing housing and food insecurity. The report may also include proposals
 52.26 for substantive and technical amendments to Minnesota Statutes, chapters 135A to 137, and
 52.27 any other laws that relate to higher education. The working group may also make specific

53.1 Sec. 28. REPORT ON MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
53.2 COURSE PLACEMENT PRACTICES.

53.3 Subdivision 1. Review. (a) The Office of Higher Education shall document, review, and
53.4 analyze college admission and course placement policies, practices, and assessments used
53.5 by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. The review shall seek to determine
53.6 if policies, practices, and assessments used have:

53.7 (1) adverse consequences for a student and their family, including burdensome economic
53.8 and related costs of delaying their degree plans;

53.9 (2) hindered the participation of students;

53.10 (3) hindered the placement, retention, or timely college graduation of students; and

53.11 (4) excluded students from admission thereby hindering their full participation in higher
53.12 education.

53.13 (b) The review must consider impacts for various student communities, including but
53.14 not limited to Indigenous students, English as a second language (ESL) students, and students
53.15 of color.

53.16 Subd. 2. Determination. Utilizing the review conducted under subdivision 1, the
53.17 commissioner shall determine whether:

53.18 (1) students, including Indigenous students, ESL students, and students of color, are:

53.19 (i) denied admission;

53.20 (ii) disproportionately assigned to enroll in developmental courses; or

53.21 (iii) delayed or deterred in their educational progress; and

53.22 (2) policies, practices, and instruments:

53.23 (i) are disproportionately reliant on test scores;

53.24 (ii) impose barriers for students in terms of enrollment, retention, and completion; and

53.25 (iii) may be culturally biased.