



MINNESOTA STATE

30 East 7th Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

651-201-1800
888-667-2848

February 1, 2019

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645 State Office Building
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Dear Sir or Madam,

Enclosed please find (2) two hard copies of a report required by Minnesota Statutes § 2017 Minnesota Session Law, Chapter 89, Article 2, Section 17 concerning Workforce Development Scholarship program offered by Minnesota State. Copies of this report, *"2018 Workforce Development Scholarship Program: Report to the Legislature,"* were delivered to The Honorable Tim Walz, Governor of State of Minnesota; Representative Connie Bernardy, Chair of the Higher Education Finance & Policy Division Committee; Representative Bud Nornes, Ranking Minority Member of the Higher Education Finance and Policy Division; Senator Paul Anderson, Chair of the Higher Education Finance & Policy Committee; and Senator Gregory Clausen, Ranking Minority Member of the Higher Education Finance & Policy Committee.

Please contact me, mary.rothchild@minnstate.edu if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mary Rothchild, Senior System Director for Workforce Development

c: Ron Anderson, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
Melissa Fahning, Government Relations





February 1, 2019

Academic and Student Affairs

*Legislative Report:
Workforce Development Scholarship
Program*

Minnesota State

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP PILOT

Chapter 89, Article 2, Section 17 [136F.38] WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2017, the Legislature created the Workforce Development Scholarship program and appropriated \$1 million in FY2019 to Minnesota State to encourage students to enroll in high-demand programs at all state colleges. Minnesota State launched the program in 2018 as a pilot scholarship program with a goal of awarding \$2,500 scholarships to 400 new students.

The following activities took place to implement the program:

- Discussion with Minnesota State college presidents in September 2017
- Campus point of contact identified
- Campus contacts reported local strategies for distribution of funds
- Campus recruitment occurred between December 2017 and February 2018
- Scholarship awards announced in March 2018
- Scholarship recipients began FY19 fall term in August 2018

Through the consultation process, the following pilot program requirements were developed and implemented:

- Students must be enrolled or declared into (1) advanced manufacturing; (2) agriculture; (3) health care services; or (4) information technology programs.
- Identification of applicable programs are up to the college's discretion
- Students must be entering high-demand occupations upon graduation (using DEED's index of current demand of 3 stars or more)
- Students must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 credits per term
- Student must maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA
- Distribution of scholarship funds shall be split evenly between the two terms
- Preference for students with financial need
- Student must be Minnesota residents

Additional program elements:

Colleges were asked to **leverage state scholarship funds** to create partnership opportunities with campuses supporters, especially local chambers of commerce and local employers, whereby funding could be matched to create additional scholarships or a second year of support for initial recipients.



Colleges were also asked to identify **new students or recent high school graduates** to grow enrollments and recruit individuals for the four industry areas specified in the legislation, and also to reach out to a **diversity of students or non-traditional students** for certain career fields, e.g., females in manufacturing or information technology or males in health care.

Program Outcomes

While most scholarship recipients declared a program of study in one of the four specified industry areas, some students were enrolled as pre-majors (such as pre-nursing or pre-dental technician) and are included in the counts for the related industry area.

Twenty-eight scholarship recipients were enrolled in closely-related, technical fields of study and these scholarship recipients are accounted for in a general category called “technical fields.” Some of these majors include: automotive technician, construction fields, electrical line worker, etc. Colleges determined that these program areas met a high employment need in their local or regional communities or were closely related to the four specified industry areas.

In addition, four students are enrolled as liberal arts majors. These students are likely awaiting acceptance into a technical program, so do not have that program area specified in their major of record.

Detailed data on scholarship awards by college and by program area are provided in the attached Tables 1 and 2, respectively.

Private Support

Many colleges raised additional funds to supplement the funding provided by the State of Minnesota. The Minnesota Precision Manufacturing Association donated \$30,000 to support students in the manufacturing industry cluster. These funds were distributed to 15 colleges in the amount of \$2,000 to supplement scholarships provided by the Workforce Development Scholarship fund. Each receiving college committed to distribute MPMA scholarship funds in increments of \$500 per student to students enrolling in a manufacturing training program.

Other colleges reported that their college foundation raised funds to supplement state funding. For example, Riverland College reported that their foundation worked with “business partners in our communities to secure matches for 18 of our Workforce Development Scholarships totaling \$45,000. For the fall semester of 2018, \$22,500 was awarded to our students.” Pine Technical College raised \$10,000 for the 2018 – 2019 academic year, as well. A complete accounting of private donations will be available at the end the fiscal year in July 2019.

Scholarship Recipient Testimonials

Many students provided feedback on the value of the scholarship program. Several examples are:

"My dream has always been to work in the physical therapy industry but it hasn't been possible to go back to school because of competing demands and financial constraints. This scholarship has given me the ability to afford to go back to school and achieve my dream."

Student, Anoka Ramsey Community College

"The relief I felt when I received the news of my selection was incredible. I am so grateful for this scholarship which has allowed me to avoid much of the debt I would have incurred otherwise. This scholarship has also allowed me to work fewer hours which is invaluable to me as both a mother and full time student. With all of the responsibilities I have it would have been incredibly difficult to work more hours and have time for homework and studying. Because of this scholarship I was able to achieve a 4.0 GPA last semester. I will be forever grateful for this opportunity. Thank you!!"

Student, Anoka Ramsey Community College

"Living a college student life has taught me many interesting lessons. One of them is that money is essential while you are in the process of becoming an adult. You start paying the apartment rent, your food, and the school books and you realize that living alone is harder than what you thought it was going to be. I am very grateful for the Workforce Development Scholarship because it has helped me in my financial problems and has made me focus on my studies. Right now I'm doing very well in college. My grade point average is above three, and I will keep working to get better grades. Thank you for giving me this financial opportunity, it is absolutely helping me through this new phase in my life."

Student, Cybersecurity Virtualization & Networking, Alexandria Technical and Community College

"This scholarship has helped me tremendously! With this scholarship I don't have to worry much about money for my schooling. Because of the scholarship, I am able to focus a lot more on my school work and studies and have been able to get better grades because of it. It has opened new doors for me and because it has been offered to me it has given me great confidence in what I can do with my schooling."

Student, Health & Fitness, Alexandria Technical and Community College

"As an aside, the WDS funds have very much helped our students, and probably have contributed to relieving our program of its struggles. I extend the warmest of thanks to all involved in securing that opportunity for our students. The contribution will yield positive results in our future workforce!"

Anna Fellegy, Ph.D., Vice President of Academic Affairs, Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College

Future Annual Reports

Several reporting requirements are not available this year, since students have just completed the first semester of their academic program. In future years, as required by the originating legislation, we will provide information on:

- 1) the number of scholarship recipients who completed a program of study or certification
- 2) the number of scholarship recipients who secured employment by their graduation date and those who secured employment within three months of their graduation date
- 3) a list of occupations scholarship recipients are entering
- 4) the number of students who were denied a scholarship

For additional information:

Mary Rothchild, Ph.D.
Senior System Director, Workforce Development
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
mary.rothchild@minnstate.edu
651.201.1672

**Table 1. Fall 2018* Credit Enrolled Workforce Development Scholarship
 Recipients: Headcount and Total Dollars Awarded
 Minnesota State Colleges**

Short Formal Name	Headcount	Total Dollars Awarded	Average Award
Alexandria Technical and Community College	14	\$17,500	\$1,250.00
Anoka Technical College	12	\$13,500	\$1,125.00
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	16	\$20,000	\$1,250.00
Central Lakes College	14	\$17,500	\$1,250.00
Century College	17	\$25,500	\$1,500.00
Dakota County Technical College	5	\$6,250	\$1,250.00
Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College	11	\$13,750	\$1,250.00
Hennepin Technical College	21	\$24,750	\$1,178.57
Hibbing Community College	5	\$6,250	\$1,250.00
Inver Hills Community College	2	\$2,500	\$1,250.00
Itasca Community College	5	\$6,250	\$1,250.00
Lake Superior College	14	\$17,500	\$1,250.00
Mesabi Range College	4	\$5,000	\$1,250.00
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	14	\$18,500	\$1,321.43
Minnesota State College Southeast	16	\$21,000	\$1,312.50
Minnesota State Community and Technical College	28	\$33,500	\$1,196.43
Minnesota West Community and Technical College	22	\$28,500	\$1,295.45
Normandale Community College	14	\$17,500	\$1,250.00
North Hennepin Community College	14	\$17,500	\$1,250.00
Northland Community and Technical College	15	\$18,750	\$1,250.00
Northwest Technical College - Bemidji	11	\$13,750	\$1,250.00
Pine Technical and Community College	17	\$21,250	\$1,250.00
Rainy River Community College	2	\$2,500	\$1,250.00
Ridgewater College	17	\$22,250	\$1,308.82
Riverland Community College	21	\$26,750	\$1,273.81
Rochester Community and Technical College	14	\$18,500	\$1,321.43
Saint Paul College	15	\$18,750	\$1,250.00
South Central College	17	\$21,000	\$1,235.29
St. Cloud Technical and Community College	16	\$21,000	\$1,312.50
Vermilion Community College	4	\$5,000	\$1,250.00
Colleges Total	397	\$502,250	\$1,265.11

* Fall 2018 data are preliminary.

**Table 2. Count of Fall 2018* Credit Enrolled Workforce Development
Scholarship Recipients by Program Group
Minnesota State Colleges**

Workforce Development Program Group	Headcount
Advanced Manufacturing	104
Agriculture	23
Health Care Services	174
Information Technology	74
Unduplicated within four Workforce Development Program Groups	366
Other Technical Program	28
Liberal Arts and Sciences, Undeclared Technical Major	4
Total Unduplicated	397

* Fall 2018 data are preliminary.

Additional Notes:

Headcount within each program group is unduplicated, but since some students declare multiple major programs within a single semester, counts may be duplicated across the program groups. Not all declared student major programs could be crosswalked to one of the four program groups listed in the statute, so two additional groups were created for reporting.

"Other Technical Program" was created to accommodate declared majors that are technical in nature but do not clearly crosswalk to one of the four workforce program groups.

"Liberal Arts and Sciences; Undeclared Technical Major" was created to include the small number of students whose only declared major was the Liberal Arts and Science AA degree program. Occasionally these students are awaiting acceptance in to a technical program, so don't yet have the technical program declared as their major.