



Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

---

# Unemployment Insurance Aid Report 2024

January 15, 2024

# Unemployment Insurance Aid Report 2024

## Purpose

This report fulfills the annual reporting requirement in Laws of Minnesota 2023, Chapter 41, Article 2, Section 32. Section 32 states:

By January 15 of each year, the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and the Office of Higher Education, in consultation with the Department of Employment and Economic Development, must each report to the higher education committees of the legislature the balances in unemployment insurance aid accounts and information about the annual changes in reimbursable costs for higher education workers receiving unemployment insurance benefits. To the extent possible, the report must break out the costs by campus and major job classes. The report must be filed according to Minnesota Statutes, section 3.195.

## Changes in Eligibility for Minnesota Unemployment Insurance

Laws of Minnesota 2023, Chapter 55, Article 1, Section 30, amended Minnesota Unemployment Insurance law (Minnesota Statutes Chapter 268) to expand potential eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits to some educational employees between academic years. Applicants who worked for an educational institution in a capacity other than an instructional, research, or principal administrative capacity, may now be eligible for unemployment benefits between academic years. Based on the number of seasonal employees in non-instructional faculty and classified work capacities at Minnesota State colleges and universities, Minnesota State was included in the newly created Postsecondary Unemployment Insurance Aid program.

## Postsecondary Unemployment Insurance Aid Program

The Postsecondary Unemployment Insurance Aid program was created in Laws of Minnesota 2023, Chapter 41, and has been codified in Minnesota Statute, Section 268.193. Eligible postsecondary institutions are the University of Minnesota; any college or university governed by the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities; and Leech Lake Tribal College, White Earth Tribal College, or Red Lake Nation Tribal College.

Beginning in fiscal year 2024, listed institutions are eligible to receive unemployment insurance aid as follows:

For each fiscal year, an eligible entity's aid is the difference between fiscal year 2022's unemployment insurance costs and the current year's unemployment insurance costs, as reflected in the unemployment insurance employer accounts

maintained by the state. If the total eligible unemployment insurance aid for a fiscal year is greater than the annual appropriation for that year, the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities or the commissioner of the Office of Higher Education, as applicable, must proportionately reduce the aid payment to each eligible entity.

For each year of the 2024-2025 biennium, Chapter 41 appropriated \$809,000 to Board of Trustees for aid to Minnesota State institutions.

### **Balance in the Unemployment Insurance Aid Account**

Fiscal year 2024 is the first year for which aid may be disbursed. Because the law directs the aid to be calculated after the year's final unemployment costs have been paid, the entire appropriated amount of \$809,000 remains as the balance in Minnesota State's account.

### **Changes in Reimbursable Costs for Workers Receiving Unemployment Insurance Benefits**

The Postsecondary Unemployment Insurance Aid program operates on a state fiscal year basis, July through June of each year. Because a state fiscal year covers portions of two summers between academic years, it is too soon to report changes in eligible unemployment claims. Unemployment billing for the quarter ending June 30, 2024, will be paid by July 31, 2024. After that date, institution-specific differences will be calculated comparing fiscal year 2024 costs with the reference year, 2022, and aid awards will be determined based on those differences.