



Minnesota Office of Higher Education
1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55108

May 30, 2024

Representative Gene Pelowski, Chair
Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee
491 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Omar Fateh, Chair
Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3219
95 University Ave. W.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Senator Fateh and Representative Pelowski,

I am writing to notify you that the Office of Higher Education will be making a transfer of funds to meet the growing demand of the Fostering Independence Higher Education Grants program. With a significant increase in eligible and participating students, and rising program expenses, we are planning to transfer \$550,000 from the appropriation for State Work-Study program to the Fostering Independence Higher Education Grants program, as authorized by Laws of Minnesota 2023, Regular Session, Chapter 41, Article 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 55.

This will enable us to cover the increase in the number of students who depend on the Fostering Independence Higher Education Grant program for their financial assistance needs. This reallocation will ensure timely 2024 summer term payments to Fostering Independence Higher Education Grant recipients, vital for their continued success.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dennis Olson Jr.', written in a cursive style.

Dennis Olson Jr.
Commissioner

CC: Senator Zach Duckworth, Representative Marion Rarick, Avery Turman, Nicauris Heredia-Rosario, Sam Parmekar, Owen Wirth, Legislative Reference Library